

The Highland Lakes Newsette

2023

A publication of Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association at Highland Lakes, New Jersey © 2023 "All the News That Fits We Print"

Volume 2023 | Issue Number 18 | December 2, 2023

Long-time Volunteers Welcome New Members

BRENDA FLANAGAN, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

"We've only been here 43 years," Tom Buchney joked — and that got a chuckle from his wife, Ellen. The couple moved to the Beach 1 area of Highland Lakes from Totowa. They needed something affordable — where they could relax and play, and "get back to the country and enjoy living in the woods," as Tom put it. But the Buchneys knew that getting out of "the asphalt jungle situation" would not be easy, because it required a long commute for work before they could enjoy the lake — ice skating, sailing, sleigh riding, and tennis. "You know, we're leaving at — what — six in the morning and coming home at five at night," Ellen recalled.

They didn't get to slow down and really plug into the Highland Lakes community until kids came along, and Ellen left work to be a full-time mom for their son and daughter. "And that's when I got involved in the Clubhouse activities for the children. Back then, it was called the 'Five and Under Gang," Ellen said. The couple started to connect. And have fun. And get involved. It developed naturally.

"You know, dances, social things of that nature," Ellen said. But she joined the Club's Voting Board as a trustee for six years — and served as Secretary. Tom also served as a trustee. His passion as an outdoorsman revolved around infrastructure. "I just got involved out of general interest with some of the committees," Tom explained, "Road committee, initially, when we first moved up here." Folks take for granted that roads and docks and kayak racks will all work smoothly, but it takes stewardship and commitment for all that to function seamlessly.

And in Highland Lakes, volunteers handle almost everything — from infrastructure to social outings. That enables the Club to avoid hiring staff —which saves members from paying higher dues. But there's more to volunteering than keeping the Club affordable. "You know, you become more comfortable and appreciative of what's going on," Ellen said. People develop "a sense of community — which is not really what is happening in the world at large."

But the Buchneys also noticed, families nowadays feel more busy, more pressed for time. And they wonder whether newer members fear joining a committee

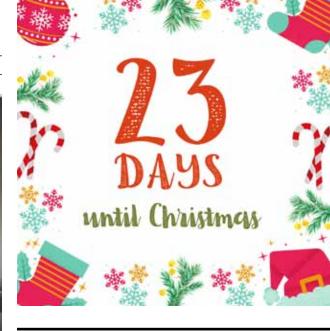


PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLEN BUCHNEY

might lead to over-commitment. "When we look at our committees for the most part, they're made up of people who have been here a very long time," Ellen said. "And I think we really need to find ways to bring in new members, younger members with diverse ideas about where this community is gonna go in the future." The Buchneys want newer members to know — they can contribute at their own pace.

"I never felt that I had to do every activity like, you know, the cleanup day for the lake, for instance. Some years I could do it. Some years, I couldn't. Nobody was knocking on the door saying, where were you last week?" Ellen laughed. "You know, 'You missed the meeting!' or something. That wasn't happening."

The couple's children have also settled in Highland Lakes — joining a community that's grown more diverse by the season. Tom and Ellen urge folks who've moved in to mosey over to the Clubhouse , and check out a committee that interests them. They promise, it's a win-win: "Friendships have built over the years for sure that can't be replaced — and you're richer."

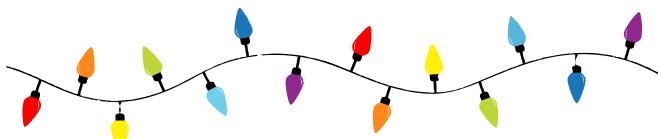


Upcoming Events

December 3 – Holiday Tree Lighting January 11 – College Funding Workshop February 17 – Winter Carnival







Page 2 | December 2, 2023 The Highland Lakes Newsette

About Changes in your Recorded Deed

In planning changes to your ownership of property that would be reflected in the recorded Deed, contacting the Club Office before you do so for guidance is advisable and will eliminate any misunderstandings.

The Club's By-Laws, in part, define Active Members as those who own property in Highland Lakes. When persons take title to property in Highland Lakes when they do not own other Highland Lakes property at that time, even when they join in the ownership of property with someone who currently owns property in Highland Lakes, they automatically become an active member and are required to pay the Initiation Fee. If you are considering adding anyone to your Deed, a wife, parent, child, friend, etc., please be aware of these By-Law requirements.

Sometimes members form a living or family trust as part of their estate planning. However, even this type of trust is a different, and therefore new, owner of property, and the payment of the Initiation Fee is required.

Holiday Office Hours

The Club office will be closed in observance of Christmas on Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26 and will reopen on Wednesday, December 27. We will be closed again on Monday, January 1, 2024, for New Year's Day and will open on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. The office is available to take your calls from 9 am to 4 pm, however it is open to members from 10 am to 3 pm, M-F and Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm. Thank you and have a wonderful holiday season.

Community Notice

REMINDER - Snow Plows

With the snow season soon upon us, remember to NOT PARK in the ROADS ahead of snowfall and winter storms so that the snowplows can travel through our town.

The Highland Lakes Newsette

Highland Lakes Country Club
and Community Association
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Roe Hall, Administrative Assistant
Judy Norton, Editor
Special Thanks to the
Communications Committee and
all our contributors
PO Box 578 - 2240 Lakeside Drive West
Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422
973-764-4366 / Email: info@hlcc.org

Upcoming Meetings

Buildings and Grounds – Tuesday, December 5 – 7 pm Clubhouse Committee – No meeting scheduled at this time Communications Committee – Saturday, January 13 - 10 am Ecology Committee – Wednesday, December 13 – 8 pm Fish Committee – Thursday, December 21 – 7 pm Planning Committee - No meeting scheduled at this time Road Committee – Thursday, December 7 – 7 pm Rules and By-Laws – No meeting scheduled at this time Voting Board Workshop – Wednesday, December 6 – 7:30 pm Voting Board Meeting – Friday, December 15 - 8 pm Since all meetings are subject to change, please confirm meeting times by contacting the chairperson of the committee or the Club Office prior to the meeting time.

Voting Board Roster

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024

Officer		Name	E-Mail		
Preside	ent	Ray Zimmerman	president@hlcc.org		
First Vice President		Lisa Entwistle	firstvp@hlcc.org		
Second Vice President		Patty Thompson	secondvp@hlcc.org		
Treasu	rer	Lou Iannucci	hltreasurer@hlcc.org		
Secreta	ary	Jennifer Ziegler	secretary@hlcc.org		
Section	Section Trustee		E-Mail		
1		Sue Buruchian	trustee1@hlcc.org		
2	Lyle Timpson		trustee2@hlcc.org		
3	Heidi Fuhrmann		Heidi Fuhrmann		trustee3@hlcc.org
4	Joe Sweeney		trustee4@hlcc.org		
5	Julia Campbell		trustee5@hlcc.org		
6	Melissa Hardin		trustee6@hlcc.org		
7	Stuart Blank		trustee7@hlcc.org		
8	Joan Danaher		Joan Danaher		trustee8@hlcc.org
9	Thomas Castiglione		trustee9@hlcc.org		
10	Madeline Hollingsworth		trustee10@hlcc.org		
11	Eric Card		trustee11@hlcc.org		
12	Robert Reffelt		trustee12@hlcc.org		





PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSEPH GASTON



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December 2, 2023 | Page 3 The Highland Lakes Newsette



2023		I	December 2023			2023		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	S M T W T	F S 3 4 10 11 5 17 18 14 15 24 25 21 22 22	Jan 2024 T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30 31		6:30 PM Bunco	2 Private Member Rental		
3 4:00 PM Holiday Tree Lighting Private Member Rental (Lake Room)	2:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Ceramics	9:30 AM Playgroup 7:00 PMArtists Group 7:00 PM Bldgs. & Grnds. Comm. Mtg.	2:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM VB Workshop	8:00 AM -9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 6:30 PM Teen Council 7:00 PM Road Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Stitching	8	9:00 AM Scout Ceremony		
10	2:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Ceramics	9:30 AM Playgroup 6:00 PM-10:00 PM Sr. Club Christmas Party	2:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga	8:00 AM -9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 7:00 PM Stitching	8:00 PM Voting Board Meeting	16 Private Member Rental		
17	2:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Ceramics	9:30 AM Playgroup	2:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga	21 8:00AM-9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 7:00 PM Fish Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Stitching 7:30 PM Chess Club	22	23		
24	25 Merry Christmas	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 2:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga	28 8:00 AM -9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 7:00 PM Stitching	29	30		
31 New Year's Eve								

Holiday Tree Lighting

ROE HALL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/EVENTS COORDINATOR

Our Annual Holiday Tree Lighting will be on Sunday, December 3 at 4 pm. Christmas carols will flood the Clubhouse as holiday revelers get in the spirit for the upcoming festivities. Our very own Chastity Cortijo will be taking family pictures to frame in the crafty holiday frame

available to assemble. We ask that all families bring cookies to share and hot cocoa will be available to keep you warm and toasty. Hope to see you there for the countdown of our tree lighting. Come in your holiday best, bring your cookies, your badge and your holiday spirit!

Adult Ceramics

BELINDA NORTON

Winter Break

If you're thinking about creating a ceramic piece for someone special for Christmas, your last chance will be Monday, December 18. Then we are taking a break for the rest of December and January. We will resume the first Monday in February. Have a safe winter, and we will see you soon.

Annual Craft Fair and Book Sale Buzzing with Shoppers

DORI ZARR

November 4

"You can never go wrong giving someone a book!" The entire Lake Room was filled with every type, size and subject and all at reasonable prices. Crafts were beautiful and creative. The weather was perfect and there was a steady flow of shoppers. What talent all in one place!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARYANN GUNNING AND DORI ZARR







Page 4 | December 2, 2023 The Highland Lakes Newsette

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

HIGHLAND LAKES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Saturday, December 16

Santa and his friends are coming to the Highland Lakes Fire Department on Saturday, December 16, starting at 9:30 am. Santa will be riding through your neighborhood waving to the girls and boys of Highland Lakes. Santa and the volunteers of the Highland Lakes Volunteer Fire Department would like to wish all children a Merry Christmas and to thank everyone who donated to their Annual Fund Drive. So kids, get your warm coats and gloves ready (and boots if it snows) to greet Santa and his friends. If you hear the Christmas music and see the fire truck, come on out and wave hello. Parents please have your cameras ready if you would like to take pictures.











Planning a Retreat

HLCC started as a family retreat. The purpose of each residence was to:

- Provide shelter, security, and privacy
- Operate with low maintenance
- Allow residents to relax and enjoy nature

You can capture that again by planning your projects with:

- multi-use spaces
- natural materials like stone and wood
- simple details

im@highlandarchitectural.com

- views, light, and ventilation in mind.

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Jim Schriner, AIA Licensed Architect (973) 764-5817

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The Highland Lakes Newsette December 2, 2023 | Page 5

Breakfast With Santa – A Smash Hit

PATRICK ECKHART, RECREATION MANAGER

Over 250 friends and family members gathered for our annual Breakfast With Santa event on Saturday, November 25. The kids had the opportunity to write their letters that were mailed to Santa's workshop. Afterwards, they were able to meet and take pictures with the big man himself. Everyone indulged in a tasty breakfast that included a new French toast recipe! Special thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this a memorable and successful event.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PATRICK ECKHART, ROE HALL AND RAY ZIMMERMAN











Vernon Township Housing Market Report - October 2023

"Having grown up in Highland Lakes, I understand the value in this thriving, active community.

Contact me today to discuss a no-cost comparative market analysis for your property."

# B6	gds Avg. Soll	Avg. Do.	son Market	ing Price
1	\$146,175	25	100%	
2	\$234,200	23	102%	
3	\$342,306	25	105%	
4	\$0	0	0%	
5+	\$0	0	0%	
TOWN	\$282,126	24	104%	

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carlyebers.re@gmail.com Licensed in NJ & NY

862-268-2808 cell 973-657-9222 main office



Carly Ebers
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
Highland Lakes Specialist

Page 6 | December 2, 2023 The Highland Lakes Newsette

Fish Stocking Report

MICHAEL EWASKO, CHAIRMAN, FISH COMMITTEE

November 2023

This past Friday morning the delivery truck from Zetts Fish Farm in Drifting, PA arrived at the Clubhouse as scheduled. The truck was fitted with eight oxygenated tanks of juvenile fish just waiting to be released into new waters.

This year's stocking plan was to continue with the releasing of Walleye and Channel Catfish as well as baitfish minnows into all five lakes plus an additional release of Smallmouth Bass.

The order was for 280 Walleye, 1,150 Channel Cats, 4,800 Shiners and 500 Smallmouth Bass. Approximately half of each species were released into our main lake with the remaining half divided equally into our four smaller lakes.

The fingerling size fish all appeared lively and healthy and after just a few moments to re-acclimate, quickly swam off disappearing into the dark waters.

Volunteer members and guests of the Fish Committee aided in the transport of fish from the tank truck to the lakes. Special thanks to Communications Manager, Chastity Cortijo for arranging to have a group of young children present to witness and help in this year's fish stocking.

The HLCC Fish Committee meets every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Lake Room. All members are welcome to attend.



Goodwill Fund Branches Out

NANCY EISENBERG, CO-CHAIR, GOODWILL FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We wanted to share some exciting news. The Goodwill Community Outreach Fund is now officially an IRS tax exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit, which will allow us greater flexibility in serving the community. Donations, gifts, and bequests to the Goodwill Community Outreach Fund are now tax-deductible.

When the Goodwill Fund was established in the '90s, the original intent was to pay dues for community members who experienced a qualifying catastrophic event. Other situations have also arisen from time to time, when we were asked to assist a community member in other ways, but we were unable to help. It was suggested that we form a nonprofit organization to expand our outreach efforts.

Now we can continue to assist with dues payments as in the past in addition to assisting with short-term emergencies and providing educational and advocacy support and outreach to the members of our community.

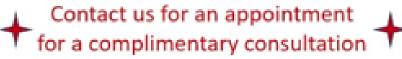
All of this was possible with the support of General Manager, David Martin, and the Voting Board.



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December 2, 2023 | Page 7 The Highland Lakes Newsette

Classified Ads

BOATS/TRAILERS: Old unwanted boats and trailers taken away for free. Also, can move boats from home to dock and shore for reasonable rates. Call Al for details: 973-271-4282

ELECTRIC: Free estimates, insured and bonded. Serving HLCC since 1986 license and permit #8521. Brian Boeren 973-670-4175.

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Security & Compliance **Activity Summary Report -May 2023 - November 2023**

SEAN JARON, SECURITY MANAGER

Below is a summary of recent Security calls/incidents and Compliance Officer activity. This information is provided to keep you informed of the important work being performed on behalf of the community. Please contact security@hlcc.org or call 973-764-4266 with any questions concerning Security or Compliance operations.

		5/1/23 to
Calls/Incidents	Monthly	Date
Police Assist	2	20
Traffic Assist	1	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0	9
Medical Response/Assists	7	79
Fire Response/Assist	5	25
Vandalism/Crimal Activity	0	2
Amenity Checks	373	2527
Badge Violations (Members)	0	5
Trespassing	9	125
Parking Violations	0	21
Prohibited Vehicles	0	48
Dock/Rack Violations	1	9
Noise Complaints	1	21
Domestic/Disorderly	0	0
Animal Complaints	3	37
Property Violations	3	13
Rental Violations	0	17
Tree Removal Inspections	7	71
Tree Preservation	0	1
Staff and Volunteer Direction	0	2
Exterior Lighting	1	1
Open Cases	2	19
Closes Cases	0	5
Current Case Load		36
	415	3101





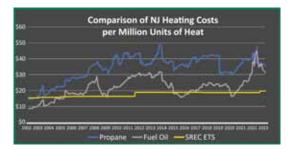


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they have their ETS unit installed you will both receive a \$150 bill credit!

Page 8 | December 2, 2023 The Highland Lakes Newsette







Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday Friday		Saturday
	Happy New Year - Office Closed	7:00 PMArtists Group 7:00 PM Bldgs. & Grnds. Comm. Mtg.	3 5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts	4 8:00 AM -9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 6:30 PM Teen Council 7:00 PM Road Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Stitching	5 6:30 PM Bunco	6
7 Private Member Rental	8 5:00 PM Yoga	9:30 AM Playgroup	10 12:00 PM Sr. Club Lunch 5:00 PM Yoga 7:30 PM VB Workshop	8:00 AM -9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 7:00 PM College Finance Presentation 7:00 PM Stitching	12	10:00 AM Communications Comm. Mtg. Private Member Rental
14	5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts	9:30 AM Playgroup	17 5:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Scouts	8:00 AM -9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 7:00 PM Fish Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Stitching 7:30 PM Chess Club	8:00 PM VB Meeting	20 Scout Ceremony
21	22 5:00 PM Yoga	9:30 AM Playgroup	5:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Book Club 8:00 PM Ecology Comm. Mtg.	25 8:00 AM -9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 7:00 PM Stitching	26	27 Private Member Rental
28	29 5:00 PM Yoga	9:30 AM Playgroup	31 5:00 PM Yoga	Dec 2023 S M T W T 3 4 5 6 7 10 11 12 13 14 17 18 19 20 21 24 25 26 27 28 31	1 2 8 9 4 5 4 15 16 11 12 1 22 23 18 19	Feb 2024 T W T F S 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 10 13 14 15 16 17 20 21 22 23 24 27 28 29



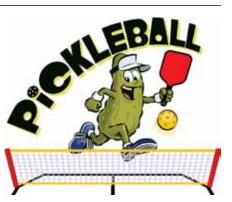
Next Newsette: February 3, 2023

Newsette articles should be submitted on the <u>Friday before</u> the week of publication at noon. Under no circumstances will submissions be accepted after <u>noon on Monday</u> of the week of publication. Typed submissions must be emailed to the Club Office at <u>info@hlcc.org</u>. Sorry – we can only print photographs submitted as .jpg files with a minimum of 150 dpi. Thanks!

Winter Pickleball

KATHI TAYLOR

Ahhhh,
December!
Holidays, family
gatherings,
winter hikes,
skiing, skating
and pickleball.
December is
filled with many
wonderful
activities and
Highland Lakes



Pickleball is one of them. Beginning December and continuing through the spring our hours will be Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 2:00-4:00. There might be days when the courts can't be played on due to a coating of snow or ice so if you aren't already a member of our Team Reach app please contact me so you can join and get the latest weather updates for our group. 973-513-5472 or kathleentaylor@warwick.net



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHI TAYLOR