



# The Highland Lakes Newsette

A publication of Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association at Highland Lakes, New Jersey © 2014

"All the News That Fits We Print"



Volume 2014 | Issue Number 2 | Saturday, March 1, 2014



Twilight at the north end of the Main Lake. Photo by Emily Ross

## From the President's Desk

BOB HUGHES, PRESIDENT

A mathematician might describe February 2014 as "Snownth, i.e. Snow to the Nth power". We may have gotten more snow in other years (1996 comes to mind), but the unrelenting cold hasn't allowed for the typical melting between events, which now exceed 20 for the season. The recent unavailability of salt has hampered our usual treatment of roads, allowing only for a limited application of crushed stone on hills and some intersections. Our members have shown great patience in the face of what Shakespeare would have called the "Winter of Our Discontent."

Although we expect to exceed our snow plowing budget for the season, we do have ample reserves available.

There was no new business on the Voting Board's agenda for the regular February meeting. For our March 12 workshop, the board is looking forward to continuing discussions and deliberations on several matters:

1. The Buildings and Grounds Committee continues its work on the Clubhouse parking lot. Questions raised at the February workshop will be addressed.
  2. The Ecology and Planning Committees' joint presentation concerning a forestry management project presented at the January workshop will be discussed.
  3. The Planning Committee's presentation concerning HLCC and CA governance presented at the February workshop will be discussed.
- Please keep fighting that old ennui/cabin fever with these March Clubhouse events:
- March 9 – St. Patrick's Family Dinner
  - March 15 – Lakeside Café
  - March 23 Clubhouse Breakfast
  - March 29 Cabin Fever Dance

## Upcoming Events

### March 9

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

### March 23

Breakfast at the Clubhouse

### March 29

Cabin Fever Dance (Adult Dance) Featuring "The Shed"

### April 6

Easter Bunny Brunch

### April 12

Fundraiser Dinner

### April 26

Ecology Committee Clean-up Day



**HLCC MEMBERSHIP**

# CABIN FEVER

# DANCE & SOCIAL

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH**  
**7:30PM - 11:30PM**

ENJOY **LIVE MUSIC** BY THE SHED BAND

**\$10 DONATION** IN ADVANCE AT THE CLUB OFFICE OR AT THE DOOR

**ADULTS ONLY** 21 & OVER

**BYO BEVERAGE** FREE ICE

**HLCC's ANNUAL**

# St. Patrick's Family Dinner

**Sun, March 9th** **5:00-7:00PM**

**TRADITIONAL IRISH BUFFET OF:**

- Shepherds Pie
- Rueben Sandwiches
- Corned Beef & Cabbage
- Hot Dogs for the Kids!

Attendees are encouraged to bring Desserts to share!

**Tickets:**

Adults: \$12 Under 12: \$6

Available at the Club Office or at the Door

Sponsored by *The Clubhouse Committee*

Irish Music by DJ Mark Jizzo

BYO Beverage

Coffee & Tea



## Newsette Article Submissions

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

If you want to submit an article to be published in an upcoming issue of the Newsette, please adhere to the following rules:

Feature articles should be 400-600 words and must include a headline, subheads (where necessary) and an author byline. (Your computer's word processing application likely keeps a running word count, but if you don't know how or where to find it, please refer to the Help tool within that application. To manually calculate the approximate word count for your article, count the number of words in a single paragraph and divide that number by the number of lines in the paragraph to determine the average number of words per line, then multiply that number by the total number of lines in your article.)

All other submissions (including committee meetings, club events, activities, and miscellaneous news) should be 150 words or less, and must include a headline and an author byline.

All submissions must be sent via email to [hlcc@warwick.net](mailto:hlcc@warwick.net). The Newsette is published

on Saturdays, and every effort must be made for articles to be submitted on the Friday before the week of publication. Under no circumstances will submissions be accepted after noon on Monday. **The Newsette is published on the first Saturday of each month** (see the production schedule at <http://hlcc.org/about-hlcc/newsette-archive/newsette-production-schedule/>). If you do not have access to a computer and/or the internet, it is your responsibility to coordinate with someone else on your committee or within your group for assistance. Articles can be typed in the body of the email, or submitted as a Microsoft Word attachment. *Articles that aren't submitted via email won't be accepted.*

The minimum requirement for photos and other artwork is 150 dpi, and all photos and artwork must be submitted electronically. (Historical photos must be scanned so that files can be submitted electronically.) Please attach photos and artwork to the email with the article submission to keep things organized.

## Notice of Meeting of Section 12 Members

### BRIAN MORTON, TRUSTEE SECTION 12

A road drainage project for Section 12 is scheduled for the spring of 2014. The project will begin at 528 Upper Highland Lakes Drive and end at 530 Tranquility Drive. Approximately 1,800 feet of drain pipe and 13 catch basins will be installed. The project will improve the flow of water across the road.

I will be in the Lake Room at the Clubhouse on March 19, 2014 at 7:30 pm for any member of Section 12 to stop by and ask any questions they may have.

## Upcoming Meetings

Building and Grounds - Monday,  
March 17 - 7:30 pm  
Clubhouse - Wednesday,  
March 26 - 7:30 pm  
Ecology - Thursday, March 13 - 7 pm  
Fishing - Thursday, March 13 - 8 pm  
Planning - Tuesday,  
March 4 - 7:30 pm  
Roads - Thursday, March 6 - 7:30 pm

Voting Board Workshop -  
Wednesday, March 12 - 8 pm  
Voting Board Meeting - Friday,  
March 21 - 8 pm  
Annual Meeting - Sunday,  
August 17 - 2 pm  
Since all meetings are subject to change, please verify meeting times by contacting the chairperson of the committee or the Club office prior to the meeting time.



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**[www.earthcare.us](http://www.earthcare.us)**

### Planning A Home Improvement Project

Initial planning should cover both what the project will include, and how much it will cost. What do you need? What do you want? Can you afford what you want? Is it a good investment? Will the improvements fit in with the community?

Do you want to better utilize the space you have, or do you need more space? If you do add space should you go up or out?

Do you need to renovate the home to improve energy efficiency and comfort? Remember, modernizing a cabin is a major undertaking and you may need to correct problems resulting from the original construction.

Also consider the disruption to your life. Can you use the house while the work is being completed, or will you need to find a temporary residence?

You may want help to delineate the alternatives. Keep an open mind; often the best solution is the one you didn't initially consider. Good planning and execution will save you money, time, and increase your satisfaction with the project.

Jim Schriener, Licensed Architect  
**(973) 764-5817**

1110 Lakeside Drive East  
(brown house across from Beach 3)

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Breakfast at the Clubhouse

CAROL HASTIE, CLUBHOUSE CHAIRPERSON

Each breakfast brings out the “regulars” and some new faces to enjoy a delicious breakfast. It is wonderful to see this activity grow. Everyone enjoys the food and the company. It gives everyone some time to catch up with their fellow Highland Lakers. We also make a little money, which will be going to help cover the costs of items for the Clubhouse for all to enjoy.

These delicious meals would not be possible without our chefs! Scrambled Eggs Ray, Bacon and Sausage Bob, Sausage Gravy and Biscuits Russ and Jim, our Pancakes and French Toast queens – Sue and Janet. Our fabulous servers Kathy and Pat and the lovely lady at the door who gladly takes your money, Joyce! All of these people, and a few others who weren’t there, make this breakfast great. But, of course, you make it better because you come down and support us.

The next breakfast is on March 23 from 9 am to 11:30 am See you there!

Easter Bunny Brunch

MELISSA HARDIN, COORDINATOR,  
PLAYGROUP 973-764-1433

This year’s Easter Bunny celebration will be on Sunday, April 6 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Please come on down and enjoy two hours of a pancake breakfast, along with a craft, games and of course a visit from the Easter Bunny! There will also be an egg hunt and of course you can try to find the special hidden golden eggs!



Advanced ticket purchase is encouraged at the Club office. Tickets are priced at \$3.00 for children and \$2.00 for adults. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$4.00 for children and \$3.00 for adults. Everyone is invited to attend to help make this a special and fun event!

Volunteer help is welcomed and children over the age of 11 are encouraged to help as well. There is always room for more helping hands to set up and clean up. If you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions or need further information, you can contact Melissa.

Highland Lakes 5 and Under  
Playgroup - March 2014

MELISSA HARDIN, COORDINATOR,  
PLAYGROUP 973-764-1433  
RENEE ARIAS, ASSISTANT COORDINATOR,  
PLAYGROUP 973-764-0079

Bring your little one down to the Clubhouse every Wednesday and Friday for some 5 and younger fun! Playgroup is Exploring Colors for the month of March. Each month will have a different theme. Each week we will meet from 10:00am-12:00pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Schedule on Wednesdays at the Clubhouse:  
10:00-10:30 Arrival and Free Play  
10:30-11:15 Hands on Activity (Craft, Baking, Painting, etc.)  
11:15-11:30 Snack Time  
11:30-12:00 Group Activity

On Fridays we will meet at different local places outdoors and do activities.

If it is raining we will meet at the Clubhouse. Please come to Playgroup to check out our outings. We look forward to seeing you!



March 2014 Highland Lakes Happenings																																																																																										
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## Concert Series at Highland Lakes Coming Soon

We may still be deep in the middle of what seems to be an unrelenting winter, but spring is on its way (in theory), and with it comes some exciting news for Highland Lakes music fans. The Voting Board recently approved a proposal initiated by members of our community to host a concert series at the Clubhouse.

Although the concert series is still in the planning stages, here's what we already know: The first concert is expected to be scheduled for June, but exact dates have not been determined just yet. The performers will be well-known national touring acts across a variety of genres that are stylistically accessible to young and older members of the community alike. Tickets will be available for purchase exclusively by Club members on both a per-show and entire-series basis at a discounted price—a much smaller number of tickets will be made available to members and the general public at a higher fixed price once Club members had been given an exclusive opportunity to purchase tickets. (Ticket pricing has not been determined yet.)

The organizers of the concert series are currently in the process of purchasing equipment to support the acts that will perform here. Once the gear has been purchased, we will contact representatives of the artists we expect to book, and the schedule will be announced thereafter. Stay tuned for more updates.

## Chit Chat

Would you like to congratulate anyone on their birthday, anniversary, birth of children/grandchildren, marriage, etc.? Please share your special news with all of us by sending the information to the Club office by mail or telephone. We would love hearing from you!

## SIGN UP & Stay Connected

Member participation is critical to maintaining our diverse and vibrant lake community. Please go to [hlcc.org](http://hlcc.org) and look for the E-MAIL SIGN-UP link in the lower-right column.



Register with the Communications Committee to receive timely notices, updates and reminders of various HLCC events and activities. In addition, you'll get critical Club alerts on weather, safety and member issues — all direct to your inbox.

## No Parking on Roads During Snow and Ice Operations

Please be aware that Rule No. 16 of the Club's Rules and Regulations, adopted April 22, 1994, reads as follows:

Whenever snow has fallen or roads become covered with ice and the accumulation is such that it covers the roadway, an emergency shall exist and no vehicle shall be parked on any roadway or portion thereof. This parking prohibition shall remain in effect after the precipitation has ceased until the roads have been plowed and/or sanded sufficiently and to the extent that parking will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

Any unattended vehicle in violation of this Rule will be deemed to be parked without the consent of the Club and may be summonsed and towed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-56.6 and Vernon Township Ordinance 99-12.

Your cooperation is needed to make the winter as easy as possible on your neighbors and the Club. Thank you.

## Next Newsette: April 5, 2014

Newsette articles should be submitted on the Friday before the week of publication. Under no circumstances will submissions be accepted after noon on Monday of the week of publication. Typed submissions must be emailed to the Club office at [hlcc@warwick.net](mailto:hlcc@warwick.net). Sorry – we can only print photographs submitted as .jpg files with a minimum of 150 dpi. Thanks!

## Rules and Regulations

The complete Highland Lakes Country Club Rules and Regulations are published on our website at <http://hlcc.org/members/governance/rules-and-regulations/>. It is every member's responsibility to follow these rules for the health, safety and welfare of all members.

In each issue of the Newsette, we'll focus on one of those rules and site the reasons why that rule is so important for all members.

**3. Badges are not transferable and their unauthorized use is prohibited. For the purpose of this Rule, the term "unauthorized use" shall include, but shall not be limited to the purchasing, lending or distributing of badges for use by any person who is not an active or associate member in good standing of the Club, or by any member of such person's family or by any guest of such person.**

Your badges may not be used by your friends in Highland Lakes who, for failure to pay their dues and assessments, do not have their own badges. Remember, all property owners are members with precisely the same obligations. Dues are only fair when everyone pays them.

## Planning Committee Update

LYN KAPLAN, CHAIRPERSON, PLANNING COMMITTEE

A brief discussion on the article in the current Newsette about the Highland Lakes Community Plan (CP) began this meeting. The CP will soon be on the committee's agenda again, to begin updating it for its next submission to Vernon.

The topic of marketing Highland Lakes was next. Although this had been turned over to the Communications Committee, they have recently gotten a new chairperson and have also been involved in launching the new Newsette. Another joint meeting with this committee will be set up to continue the dialogue.

The remainder of the meeting revolved around the committee's presentation the next night to the Voting Board at its Workshop. The presentation concerns some food for thought for the future in the area of the governance of Highland Lakes.

The next meeting of this committee will be on March 4 at 7:30 pm.

## Come to Ladies' Bunco

Friday, March 7 at 7 pm

MARIAN BENEDICTO, CO-ORDINATOR 973-764-7998  
AND KATHY GRIFONE, CO-COORDINATOR

Come have some fun! Bring snack and \$5  
RSVP (need 6 people to play)



## Bridge Results

By Barbara Eckhart



**Monday afternoon:** 1 to 4:30 pm  
contract bridge at the Clubhouse.

**Thursday afternoon:** 1 pm to completion  
– duplicate or contract bridge at the Club.

**Lessons:** at convenience of students

**Location:** Highland Lakes Country Club Lake Room—year-round

**RESULTS:**

**Jan. 27:** 1. Chris Murray, 2. Joy Logan, 3. Barbara Eckhart, 4. Liz Holda

**Jan. 30:** 1. Dot McAlary, 2. Barbara Eckhart, 3. Chris Murray

**Feb. 3:** Canceled due to weather conditions

**Feb. 6:** Canceled due to weather conditions; Caution comes with age and we are now very cautious!

**Feb. 10:** No Bridge – not enough people (We went from two tables to not enough for one table.)

**Feb. 13:** Canceled due to weather conditions

**Feb. 17:** Canceled due to weather conditions

**Feb. 20:** No Bridge – too few people

**Echos From Eck O Lodge** – February was a lost cause—may March be better?? A special heartfelt thanks to Joy Logan for her help and her computer.

Come one, come all, once or twice. This is a regular HLCC activity and all are welcome. Any questions call Barbara Eckhart 973-764-4305 or Virginia McNulty 973-764-3324.



## Monday Night Adult Ceramics

ANGELA ABRAMS 973-764-3498  
KATHY STRUBE 973-764-4210

Winter is here and the holidays are over. You may be feeling a little blue with all the white on the ground. The green grass and pink, yellow, red and purple flowers seem so far away. Don't wait till spring to put some color in your life. Come on down to the clubhouse on Monday nights at 7:30 and create your own multicolored world.

What...? You say you have no artistic talent, you have no brushes and no paint??? You can't use these statements as excuses. Our instructor, Mary, supplies the brushes and paint. She also supplies a collection of bisque for purchase. Her vast knowledge accumulated over the years, will help you create colorful wares.

All adult members in good standing are welcome. All young people ages 8-15 are also welcome, if accompanied by an adult member. And as with all Highland Lakes activities... please wear your badge. So come down, sit down, and enjoy creating your own masterpiece!!!!



## HLCC Knit Night

PAULA SCHRINER 973-764-5817



Highland Lakes members, please come down to the Clubhouse Lake Room for knit night! Join other needle crafters—although most of us knit, any needle crafter is welcome.

Where: The Lake Room

When: 7 pm - 8:30 pm (ish...we have so much fun, we lose track of time!)

every other Monday evening except on holidays or if otherwise noted. The dates for the upcoming months are: March 3 & 17, April 7 & 21, May 5 & 19, and June 2, 16 and 30.

Want to learn to knit? No time like the present! Don't know what to bring? To get started, pick out a skein of yarn that you like the color and feel of, and make sure it's relatively smooth (not too nubby or furry, at least at first). Pick out a pair of straight needles; try a size 6 or 7. You don't need anything fancy to get started—you can get these materials at stores like Walmart or AC Moore. Refreshments are provided. Please call Paula Schrinier at 973-764-5817 for more information.

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## Morning Exercise

CAROL MONTERO 973-764-5701

Come join us at the Highland Lakes Country Club in the Seckler Room for morning exercise. We will meet three times a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Classes at 8 am will be different every day! Tae bo/pilates/yoga/ or weight-training with aerobics.

Bring light weights and a mat if you have one.



## Last Call - Proposed Dock for Pontoon Boats

KEN BOSCHERT, CHAIRMAN, BOAT AND DOCK COMMITTEE

The voting board is considering the installation of a new dock exclusively for pontoon boats (with a maximum beam of 8 feet). The dock would be located south of Beach 2. Use of the dock would be provided for members in good standing who do not have property on the Main Lake, and would be subject to the lottery system now used for the other Club docks.

The committee and the voting board are looking for an indication of interest in the use of such a dock. If you are interested in the use of such a dock, please contact Ken Boschert at 973-764-9193 or leave him a message including your name, address, phone number, and the dimensions of your pontoon boat. Thank you for assisting in this project.

## Lakeside Café Open Mic

March 15, 2014 @ 8 pm

Artists please sign in by 7 pm

Mark your calendars. Thank you!



*Save the Date*  
**Saturday, July 19, 2014**  
**HL Community Yard Sale**

## Lake Wanda Store

*Celebrating our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

-- Enjoy the lake view seating area --  
Deli, Coffee, Fresh Baked Bread,  
Pastries, Bagels, Pizza, Beer,  
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Video Rental, Convenience Store,  
and More!

Use this coupon to get  
2 large Pizzas for \$20.00 or a  
FREE topping on a large Pizza.  
973 - 764 - 4777



## Club Apparel Sales Benefit

SUE BURUCHIAN

Current Highland Lakes logos/designs available are: "Little Girl Swimmer", "Retro Fisherman", and "Burgee Flag" logos available for t-shirts \$15 and hooded or crew fleece \$25. Additionally, weatherproof burgee flag stickers are available for car windows (1x3) \$5 and boats (5x7) \$7.

Custom orders/items are also available.

Highland Lakes logoed items are benefiting many areas of your Club. OnLine Embroidery is the proud approved embellisher of the Highland Lakes logos and is pleased to help in benefiting Club events/programs. Thank you for your continued support of our HL apparel offerings.

Look for new designs early spring! Contact Sue @ 973-764-LINE for your HL apparel or sticker orders.

## Visit [www.hlcc.org](http://www.hlcc.org) for the latest Highland Lakes news

For the most current news on Highland Lakes events, activities and items of interest, visit the Club's website: [www.hlcc.org](http://www.hlcc.org). Here you will find a current calendar of events, the most recent edition of the HL Newsette, as well as archived editions, beach hours, notification of emergency beach closings, board and committee news, informative articles, photos and so much more.

Go to the website to join the Club's email list, too. Once your membership is verified, you will receive our e-blast and all emergency notifications.

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(845) 986-9080



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Sunset on the east side of the Main Lake. Photo by Emily Ross



Ice at the south end of the Main Lake. Photo by Emily Ross

Winters in Highland Lakes consistently offer natural beauty coupled with a community that is so full of life. These photographs capture moments found this past month around the Main Lake.

Send us your favorite Highland Lakes photos to [HLCC@warwick.net](mailto:HLCC@warwick.net). Please include information about the picture and a photo credit. High res files preferred.



Robins in Tree on a Limb. Photo by Sue Buruchian



Docks at Beach 2 await spring. Photo by Jeff Stoveken



# SAVE THE DATE –TRICKY TRAY & DINNER!

APRIL 12<sup>th</sup> – Doors Open 6PM

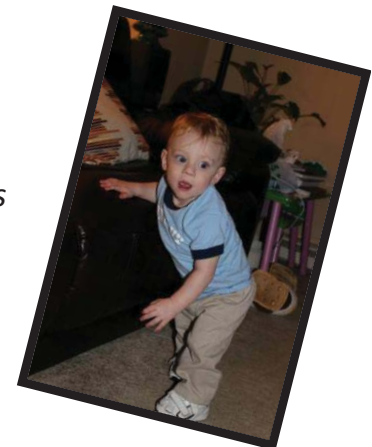
*“...I Get By with A Little Help from My Friends!”* The Beatles

- ♥ Please Support A Benefit Tricky Tray & Italian Buffet Dinner at Highland Lakes Clubhouse!
- ♥ Help us defray medical expenses for Massimo Joseph Cherichella (*Grandchild of Carol & Steve Hastie and son of Maureen Hastie Cherichella and Frank Cherichella*)
- ♥ Tickets \$25. Per person BYOB. Contact Carol Hastie 764-6521 for donation info/tickets!
- ♥ Any donation you are able to contribute, whether it is a discount to a service, a product you have, a gift card, a meal, or a monetary donation will make a difference!
- ♥ All of the proceeds from the event will go towards any expenses the family has from Massimo's medical needs!



## A little information about our little 2 year old fighter...

Massimo was born May 5, 2012 weighing only 1 pound 6 ounces and not even 12 inches long. His gestational age was at 23 weeks, where as a full term baby is 40 weeks. From the beginning Massimo showed us he was a fighter. Early on his body developed a blood clot, which eventually lead to the loss of all five toes and a deformity on one foot with the length of his lower leg to be shorter than the other leg. Massimo needed heart and



abdominal surgery. Massimo spent many weeks on a ventilator to help him breathe. He'll see a specialist at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia for evaluation of his foot and leg where they are planning on numerous surgeries in the future to lengthen his leg and repair his foot. Massimo wears an orthosis boot (AFO) to help him stand and he is learning to walk. This boot has to be checked and adjusted monthly. As he grows he will be in need of a new one every 4-6 months. He requires physical and occupational therapy on a weekly basis. He will be starting speech

therapy shortly. Massimo is a happy baby with a wonderful temperament and personality. He is a fighter!

## Any and All Donations Greatly Appreciated!

**Cherichella c/o Poppe 2037 Lakeside Drive West, Highland Lakes, NJ 07422**

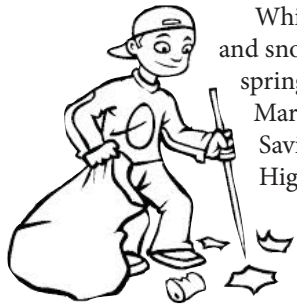
### **Contact any "Team Massimo" Committee Member:**

Carol Hastie. Dawn McLaughlin. Eileen Thompson. Jeanette Emmerich. JoAnne Poppe.  
Joyce & Jack Healy. Judy Norton. Kathy Strube. Maureen Sweeney. Sue Buruchian. Vera Filip



## Ecology Committee Clean-up Day

CAROLE FORTENBACH, COMMITTEE MEMBER



While the weather may still be cold and snow may still be on the ground, spring is fast approaching – officially March 20 – along with Daylight Savings Time arriving March 9. So Highland Lakes roadside clean-up will be here before you know it. Saturday, April 26, from 10 am until noon is the morning to set aside.

The Ecology Committee would really like to see some of our “teens” get involved this year. moms and dads, talk to your teens (and younger children) about this important activity. They are the future of the lakes and our beautiful surrounding area. And for those “high-schoolers” who still need some community service hours for graduation, this is a great way to do it!

So young and older, mark April 26 on your calendar. More details will be in the April Newsette.

## Youth Ecology Stewards (YES) Wanted

BOB REFFELT, CHAIRPERSON, ECOLOGY COMMITTEE



Help identify invasive plants (Water Chestnut)

The Ecology Committee will be starting a new program this year to enlist YES volunteers to help maintain and improve the quality and sustainability of Highland Lakes forests and lakes. If you are a teen, a tween, a college age person, or the parent/grandparent of a young person(s), and are interested in the future of our local environment, please consider attending our next Ecology Committee meeting scheduled for March 13, 2014 at 7 pm in the Lake Room.

We have a diverse list of environmental projects for which younger people, with curious minds and younger/stronger bodies can be of great assistance. This is an opportunity to observe, learn about and serve nature in this wonderful community. If you are interested, but can't make our monthly meetings which are held every second Thursday (weather permitting), please call me at 973-764-6869 for more details.



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## Do you know what the Vernon Coalition Is?

JESSIE JAROS 973-764-0861

Neither did I until a few months ago when I heard about them at a school meeting. The Vernon Coalition is a very important community organization which everyone should be aware of. The coordinator of the program, Annmarie Shafer, gives this information regarding the organization:

“The Vernon Coalition grew out of a grass roots effort when concerned community members became mobilized following the drug overdose deaths of several young people in Vernon. This group of community members approached the Center for Prevention and Counseling in Newton who applied for and received a five-year Drug-Free Communities (DFC) grant, establishing this coalition. The Vernon Coalition, now in its third year, is a



community-based group addressing youth substance abuse issues offering solutions and outcomes to effect change and growth toward a healthier population for everyone.”

If you would like to learn more and/or be a part of this solution, please respond to Annmarie Shafer at [annmarie@centerforprevention.org](mailto:annmarie@centerforprevention.org) and you'll be included on the coalition's email distribution list. Substance abuse costs our community lives, money,

time and the United States economy hundreds of billions of dollars in increased health care costs, crime and lost productivity.

There are a variety of opportunities for everyone to support coalition efforts. Simply receiving emails and forwarding them to friends; “liking” The Vernon Coalition on Facebook; “following” @VernonCoalition on Twitter; posting and sharing coalition prevention information; supporting community recovery efforts; and including healthy messages when you meet with other groups, clubs, organizations or businesses are all ways to help.

I am happy to be a member of this great organization and feel that every responsible parent should make an effort to become involved with this program. Please take a moment to respond to Annmarie at the email above to get on the VC's mailing list. You will receive great updates about ways to help the community and your children. Please also look for more information in the upcoming editions of the Highland Lakes Newsette.

Thank you, Jessie Jaros

### The Highland Lakes Newsette

a publication of

Highland Lakes Country Club  
and Community Association

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## Diving the “Logging Train” of Highland Lakes

BY JOHN HARDING

One persistent legend of Highland Lakes concerns the logging train submerged in the Main Lake since the time eighty years ago when the wooded valley that now forms the lake was being cleared of trees. Like anyone who has heard of this relic, I imagined it might be the kind of steam locomotive with a tall smoke-stack and big, iron spoke wheels that we see in pictures chugging through the redwood forests of the Pacific Northwest pulling cars laden with lumber while belching sparks, smoke and steam.

There is a vehicle underwater but it's really a small tractor, probably diesel-powered. It did indeed run along rails. Ron Dupont, owner of the General Store and local historian has written about it and he has an iron wheel recovered from the vehicle in the back of the store. When I wanted to find out where it might be located in the lake, Ron referred me to a local resident by the name of Bob Meichsner, who had dived the tractor and recovered the wheel. I called him up and he kindly gave me directions to find it, about 100 feet southeast of the end of the island opposite our house. We call the island Bali-Hai for a sign that used to hang on the only house located there. According to our dear, departed neighbor Bud Buell, it was previously called Livingston Island from the original builder of the house.

I suggested to my dive-buddy Dennis, companion of many offshore adventures diving shipwrecks up and down the coast of New Jersey, New York, North Carolina and other farther-flung places that we should dive the locomotive of the lake. We had tried to find it ten years earlier without success although we had been in the general area. The visibility of the lake is little better than zero in August so unless you know exactly where you're looking you could be within arm's-length of it and never know. So one Saturday in August 2010 we asked our good friend, the artist Philip Pearlstein if he would take us on his pontoon boat to find and dive it.

Our equipment was the same as we had used to dive torpedoed freighters, German submarines, wrecked radar towers and the liner Andrea Doria, which lies at 240 feet south of Nantucket. To call it serious overkill would be a serious understatement. However a set of twin steel tanks was all I had available and so Dennis and I set out to do what turned out to be not much more than a ten-foot deep dive clad like “weekend warriors” aboard

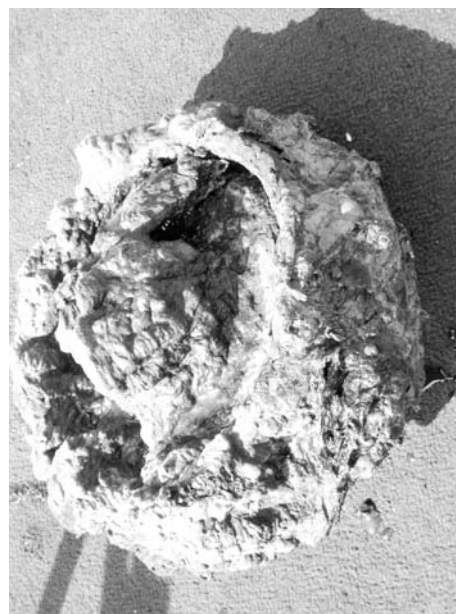


This photograph may give some idea of the original appearance of the Highland Lakes quarry tractor. It ran on rails and had a diesel (or gasoline) engine, like this one restored in England. The tractor was used to pull logs when clearing the valley for the lake. It may have been a little smaller than this although its lower part and wheels have settled into the mud on the lake bottom, lowering the profile. One possible theory is that it was a repurposed quarry tractor or locomotive from one of the stone quarries in this area of New Jersey, maybe even the abandoned quarry behind the A&P store in Vernon.

an offshore dive-boat, my favorite pastime before we bought our house.

After splashing about in the shallow water off Bali-Hai for a while, getting entangled in the fishing line that Philip's young companion kept casting, Dennis appeared head and shoulders above the surface and announced that he might be standing on the wreck. I followed his legs down into the murk and felt a large, complicated object with odd protrusions all covered in rust and soft growth. It was what Dennis and I had come to know from our offshore adventures as a “Braille dive,” where we feel the wreck rather than see it. Down in the soft muck I felt a vaguely round object that came away in my hands. It was heavy. I lifted it up and between us we hauled it onto Philip's boat.

Back at our house I chipped away the encrustation and uncovered a well-preserved cast-iron wheel about twelve inches in diameter that would have run on a rail. It was different from the one Ron has in the General Store. That one is pierced with apertures; this one is solid. It's not unusual for locomotives to have differing wheels but it has led to some conjecture that there could be more than



The encrusted wheel is pulled from down under.

one vehicle at the bottom of the lake, maybe the locomotive and one or more of the cars it pulled? In trying to identify the locomotive I went to various sources and did some research online. There are old mining trains at the nearby Sterling Mining Museum but they have electric motors and were powered by banks of accumulators, like car batteries as there could be no exhaust fumes underground. My best guess is it might have been a repurposed quarry train as there were many quarries in this area.

So the “logging train” in Highland Lakes is most likely a diesel-powered tractor about five feet in height and eight feet long that ran on a track that could have come down from the direction of Alturas Road, running diagonally across the south end of the lake in a roughly east-west direction and culminating in a rise in the ground that now forms the island. To see it you don't need scuba equipment. Choose a calm day in spring when the lake water is still very clear, before the algae clouds it. Keeping to the eastern side of the island, take a bearing south-east from the bleached-out, fallen tree off the southern tip of the island and without causing ripples, slowly float around in your boat or kayak about 100 feet out. Keep looking down carefully. Polarizing sunglasses may help you see a bright, rust-red rectangle approximately two feet by four just a few feet below the surface. It's the top of the engine and if you look carefully you'll see a bent pipe and various engine parts sticking up.



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**Thursdays 7pm**

Hatha Yoga with Beth

**Thursdays 8:30pm**

BNaked Yoga with Beth

**Fridays 7pm**

Clothing Optional Couples Yoga  
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**Saturdays 11am**

Hatha Yoga with Erin

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## The Mighty Seniors

JOYCE HEALY, CHAIRPERSON, SENIORS CLUB

Hi, everyone. I promise not to mention the snow... OOPS!...just did! In any case, the wintry weather doesn't have much chance against our Senior Club.

Sixteen of us enjoyed homemade lasagna, tossed salad, desserts and wonderful company at the February lunch. So, where were you? Oh, wait...I've heard it all before. "I'm not a senior yet." "I'm not old enough yet." "I don't hang around with old people." Cheesh.

If you check the definition of the adjective "mighty",

you will find that it states such things as: having superior power as in a mighty ruler. (and the HL Senior Club definitely rules!); great in importance (I'll bet there are some important seniors in YOUR life who made a difference to you), and the final entry—exceptional as in accomplishments. Need I say more about the countless accomplishments our HL seniors provided to the betterment of our community? So you can't possibly think you wouldn't fit in with our mighty group.

We range in age from late 50's – 80's. One of our members belongs to 13 organizations & clubs! Do YOU have that kind of energy? We're working on building our membership as we've lost more than 13 friends who moved away, became ill, etc. If we don't actively look for interested HL residents, there goes the Senior Club. (Guess how many teens are in the Teen Council??? Our wonderful Teen Council kids "aged-out"...off to college, etc.) They, too, would love to rebuild their ranks.

(Lots of golfers, hikers, fishermen belong to our club, guys).

There's a cabin-fever lunch on Wednesday, March 12 at 12 noon.... at the Clubhouse. There'll be something delish (homemade)...Chef Jack hasn't decided yet, desserts, coffee, tea all for you....oh, yeah...it's free! As teens say: "DUH"...WHY WOULD YOU MISS THAT?

Mark your calendar: March 23, March 29.....READ THE NEWSETTE and find out what's happening.

Need a ride, need a hand with something? Call me. Love ya, Joyce H.

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# About Boating Safely Course Offered

US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Representatives of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be conducting their “About Boating Safely” program at the Clubhouse on Saturday, June 21, 2014. The 8-hour course includes all

New Jersey-specific material as required by law, and upon successful completion, each participant will receive a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary card that entitles them to operate a motorized boat legally in any state that has a mandatory education requirement (the course is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators). In addition, participants will receive the New Jersey Boating Safety Certificate, which is required to obtain a boating license or a boating endorsement on a driver’s license.

The course is only open to Highland Lakes members

so please register with the Club office as soon as possible (no later than June

6) by providing a check for \$45 payable to Highland Lakes Country Club--registrations *will not* be accepted after June 6.

Please be aware that a boat license is a separate document from a boat safety certificate and is required for operation on non-tidal water (water where the tide does not change) in the State of New Jersey. The boat license is not a replacement for a boat safety certificate, it is an additional requirement. Regardless of the type of boat (pontoon, canoe, row boat, etc.), if it has a motor the operator must have their boat license with them at all times. To obtain a boat license, go to your nearest NJ Division of Motor Vehicle Commission Facility. Persons must bring their NJ Boat Safety Certificate with them to apply for a boat license.

Doors open at 8 am, and the course begins promptly at 8:30 am.



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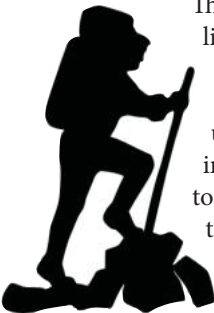
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# Hiking

BOB TAFFER, 973-764-7975 CHRISTINE BILLACK, 973-764-1458



The Highland Lakes Hiking Club would like to extend an invitation to residents of all ages that enjoy hiking in the great outdoors to join us on one of our upcoming monthly hikes. We are an informal, friendly group who look forward to our moderate Sunday hikes along local trails, some of which offer spectacular, or at least picturesque, views.

Hikers will meet at the Clubhouse parking lot at 10:30 a.m. We will either walk from the clubhouse or drive a short distance to the starting point of the hike. It is important that each hiker bring water and lunch and wear appropriate hiking shoes. Most hikes will last an average of 4-5 hours, which includes waiting, lunch break and/or driving time.

Anyone capable of hiking at least 5 miles at a steady, moderate pace is welcome. Hikers may bring their well-behaved dogs, which must be on a leash whenever we walk on a roadway. In the case of inclement weather, including snow or ice on the ground, or temperatures above 90 degrees, we will be unable to hike.

So, get those hiking boots out of the closet and join us for our next hike.

Mar. 16 - Cherry Ridge Circular (modified) - Approx. 6 mile easy hike through Wawayanda State Park, which includes the new Buddha & Split Rock Trails over some varied and interesting terrain.

Apr. 13 - Appalachian Trail: Rt. 284 to Glenwood - Strenuous 7-8 mile hike along the Appalachian Trail, offering beautiful vistas & varied terrain.

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## Red Hat Society/Highland Hatters

PAT WOOTTON, QUEEN, HIGHLAND HATTERS



Red Hat Society Feb Photo

Due to uncooperative weather in December, our holiday celebration was rescheduled to January 11, 2014. Upon entering the Lake Room, we discovered it was Christmas all over again! The room was decorated and holiday music soothed our souls. Thanks to our creative and hardworking chairladies, Doris and Virginia, we began our festivities.

We savored a wonderful catered luncheon, from "soup to nuts". As usual, we found plenty to chat about and enjoyed catching up with good friends. The best treat of the day was being served by Doris's daughter Aileen, and grand-daughter, Jacklyn. We could become very spoiled! Lunch was followed by an interesting and laughable gift exchange. We rang in the New Year with great fun. Heartfelt thanks to Doris Dolan and Virginia McNulty and their assistants for all their efforts in creating a memorable day!

Our February event found us gathered at the home of Joy Logan. The weather was good and we managed to navigate all the mounds of snow. This get-together has become a yearly ritual. We call it our "winter picnic." Joy always makes the afternoon so enjoyable, from cozy warm socks to the Irish coffee! We pool our resources and enjoy barbeque type food.

We usually cook on the deck, but the snow accumulation on Joy's deck did prevent that this year. As usual, we found much to chat about and it was so good to get out and about in the midst of a tough winter. We extend a special thanks and appreciation to Joy for being a great hostess.

Attendees at our January holiday celebration included: Donna Beebe, Marian Benedicto, Irene Boeren, Theresa Deady, Doris Dolan, Jane Hoffman, Claire Ireland, Joy Logan, Dot McAlary, Virginia McNulty, Mary Romme, Judi Sunda, Cathy Tansey, Paula Walk, and myself.

The February picnic-goers included: Marian Benedicto, Jane Hoffman, Claire Ireland, Janet Kaley, Joy Logan, Dot McAlary, Mary Romme, Cathy Tansey, Paula Walk, and myself.

We generally meet every third Saturday, so why not join us. Contact any member, or myself, Queen Pat (973-764-3749), for information.



Red Hat Society Xmas photo

## Attention Sailors Flying Junior Fleet Update

MIKE GILLOOLEY, FLEET CAPTAIN

The Flying Junior fleet will start the 2014 season with 14 boats. Races are held on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. The 2014 season schedule will be available in May or June. The fleet was formed to encourage parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren or any other combination to sail together. It's that time of year when I'm looking to see if anyone has an interest in joining the fleet. If I can get a few people interested in buying boats I can work on finding boats as they're typically sold in groups of 6. There are numerous college sailing programs that use these boats so this is a great opportunity to get your kids involved in a program that may give them a leg up in the college application process.

If you're new to sailing or think it's too difficult or complicated to race, call me. I can be reached at 973-764-4185 or at ybnormal@warwick.net should you have any questions.



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