

Lake Forest News



Volume 62

February 2018

NO. 02

From the Office of the President

I'd like to begin by thanking the 2017 Officers and Board of Directors for their service and another fantastic year. As I have said many times in the past our Association is a member run organization, without all of us working together, we cannot continue to thrive. Let's make 2018 the year we turn it around and get each household to commit to volunteer for one project or event. Let's show our commitment to our community by strong participation. Let us show our participation by attending monthly meetings!

There are approximately 56 days until Spring. With that in mind, membership dues are now being accepted. Reminder, if dues are paid after the general meeting in April they are considered late and a late fee will be assessed. Please refer to the invoice within the newsletter.

The club is continuing to book. Lately, there has been an influx of interest and rentals so if anyone is thinking about renting our hall for their event, book it well in advance. Remember that as a member, you receive a \$100 discount.

Keep your eyes open for the LFA project/Spring clean up list. As Spring approaches it's a good time for LFA to keep up on maintenance of our properties. It feels great to spend one day helping improve our community. It's also a great way to meet other members. I believe we are the most amazing community in the city - let's keep it that way.

The annual Installation of Officers & Board of Directors will take place at the February General Meeting (2/7/2018) at **6:30 P.M.** (note the time change for this meeting). The meeting will be accompanied by a potluck dinner followed by our regularly scheduled meeting. Please be sure to contact Nancy for reservations at 203-374-4400. Hope to see you there!!

As always should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at SueLesko@att.net or 203-685-5823.

Sue Lesko, President



February

Feb 7: General Meeting, 7:30
Feb 7th: 2018 Installation of BOB and Officers
Potluck Dinner 6:30-9:30 pm
Feb 22: Board of Directors meeting, 7:30



March

March 7th: General Meeting, 7:30p

The Lake Forest Clubhouse is open for rentals. It's a great place to party, have a meeting or conduct a seminar. Call 203-371-7671 for information. Tell your friends; we're open for business!

Lake Forest Association members receive a \$100 discount on rentals.

The Boat Warden's Corner

The Best Fish to Catch

Over the years people have asked me "What's the best fish to catch?" Without any hesitation at all I would immediately answer Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass. When asked why I'd talk non-stop about the different ways each species fights. How a Largemouth tugs on your line all the way back to the boat. The way a Smallmouth can tail walk and will jump time and time again. I'd go on to describe the thrill of feeling a small tap transmitted from your lure to your hand, setting the hook, and starting to do battle with your quarry. But that was then.

I realize, now, that just because I prefer Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass there are so many other great fish swimming in the water somewhere. Teasing a Trout until it takes an artificial fly that's been cast into a stream. Watching the fish zig and zag, jump and dive and then glide into the net. The voraciousness and strength of a Bluefish that takes a lure while feeding on the surface of the water. Seeing a Pike follow your bait almost all the way back to the boat waiting for the right time to strike and then almost ripping the rod out of your hands as it does. Witnessing the beauty of a two hundred pound Tarpon twisting high in the air its silvery scales shining in the sun with your hook in its mouth.

The list goes on and on.

I'll sum things up this way. Going fishing and catching fish is fun!!!

Need proof? Just the look at the face of someone, young or old, who has just caught their first fish. Striped Bass, Flounder, Sunfish or Crappie. Doesn't matter what kind of fish. They'll be smiling. Now when asked "What's the best fish to catch?" I can answer immediately and without any hesitation at all: *The next one.*

-Matthew Cohen

Cutest Pets of Lake Forest!

Think you've got the bestest kitty? 13/10 good doggo? No matter the species, if you think your beloved critter has the most boop-able snoot in all of Lake Forest, send us a picture, with their name and breed so they can have their rightful 15 minutes (month) of fame! Send all submissions to lakeforestassociation@gmail.com by the 21st day of each month to see your fur-baby in our newsletter!



Maggie Mezzanotte welcomed her new sister, Rain!



Installation of BOB and Officers Potluck Dinner

Please join us in welcoming our 2018 LFA Officers & Board of Directors on **Wednesday – February 7, 2018** for our annual installation dinner. **Dinner will begin at 6:30 P.M.** at the Clubhouse and is a traditional potluck dinner.

Please contact Nancy Teixeira for reservations at 203-374-4400.

Winter animal care

As the colder months approach, animals still need our care. Our furry neighbors feel the cold as deeply as we do. Consider leaving bird seed and please visit this URL to learn how to make inexpensive, insulated shelters for feral cats to help protect them from the elements: <http://alleycatadvocates.org/communitycat-care-center/creating-winter-shelters/> Please do not use cloth in your shelters as it will freeze when wet and will not help keep animals warm.

Beach and Dock Fobs Update

If you have a beach fob from last year you'll use that again this year. Once your dues are paid the fob will be activated. If you have lost your fob or need a replacement fob, the fee is \$25 to cover the cost of the new fob.

From the Kitchen of Betsey Meyer February 2017

This is a tough time of year here in Lake Forest what with the temperature going up and down so frequently. The lake itself froze over beautifully for a short time not quite long enough to be unquestionably safe for skating. I only remember 1 year that it happened when every area of the lake was safe and everyone, young and old, was out there taking advantage and showing off their skating skills. It was early in the 1960's. This year I only saw a few skaters take the chance and go out on the ice. **Always remember the rules of the Lake limit skating to 50 feet from the shore.** The problem, as I'm sure you all realize, is that while there are springs all over this area when rain such as we have had recently occurs, the runoff from all the surrounding area enters the lake and causes there to be a current which runs constantly under the ice and can melt it away not only from the rain itself but from underneath where you least expect the ice to be weakened. Then it looks safe but is actually not. It really was beautiful to see the reflections the smooth surface produced so unexpectedly. I hope some people took pictures! The warmer days and rains have made the ice too treacherous from now on to trust the safety of the ice. **Please keep off the ice even though the temptation is likely to arise! Safety First!** For those of you who actually live on the lake, we recommend leaving handy some means of assisting if someone falls through the ice. **First call 911!** A rope, a long pole or a foam "noodle" could help **after you call 911.** Rescues can be made with your kayak or small boat. Just remember you don't want to add yourself to the problem!

On a lighter note, I always try to give you a new recipe. This one I just acquired today and I'm going to bake it for the Installation dinner. (It was on The CHEW and I hope I got all the ingredients right in my haste!)

HOT BUTTERMILK CAKE (an old Southern specialty)

Butter and flour a bundt or tube pan. Mix together 2 cups flour, 2 t. baking powder and 1 1/2 cups sugar. Set aside. Beat 2 eggs well and set aside. In a large saucepan melt 1 stick of butter. With a whisk add 1 cup of buttermilk. While continuing to whisk add the beaten eggs, then the dry ingredients. Pour the batter into the prepared pan and bake at 350° about 40 minutes or until done. Cool cake a few minutes – maybe 10 – and remove the cake to a plate. Have prepared 1/2 to 3/4 cup buttermilk and a generous teaspoon vanilla. Generously poke holes in the top of the cake and pour the vanilla buttermilk over it allowing it to run down the sides as well. Excess will be absorbed. I hope it works! I'll see you at 6:30 the dinner February 7th! *Betsey*

ICE SAFETY TIPS

1. Never go onto the ice alone. A friend may be able to rescue you or go for help if you fall through the ice.
2. Always keep your pets on a leash. If a pet falls through the ice, do not attempt a rescue. Go for help.
3. Beware of ice covered with snow. Snow can insulate ice and keep it strong, but it also can insulate the ice and keep it from freezing. Snow also can hide cracks as well as weak and open ice.
4. Ice formed over flowing water (including springs under the surface) is generally weaker than ice over still water.
5. Ice seldom freezes or thaws at a uniform rate. It can be 1 foot thick in one spot, and be only 1 inch thick 10 feet away.
6. If a companion falls through the ice and you are unable to reach that person from shore, throw something to them (a rope, tree branch, even jumper cables from the car, etc.). If this doesn't work, go or phone for help before you also become a victim. Get medical assistance for the victim immediately.
7. If you fall in, try not to panic. Turn toward the direction you came from. Place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface, working forward by kicking your feet. Once the ice is solid enough to hold you, and you can pull yourself out, remain lying on the ice (do not stand; lying down spreads your weight across a wider area, lessening the weight on any one spot) and roll away from the hole. Crawl back the way you came, keeping your weight distributed, until you return to solid ice or ground.
8. As the season progresses, plan accordingly and use caution, as the condition of older ice greatly varies and is subject to rapidly changing conditions.

Membership dues for 2018 are currently being accepted. Dues are payable no later than April 4, 2018. Per the By-laws, any payment not received by the 1st meeting in April (4/4/2018) is considered late and a late fee of 15% will automatically be added, there will be no exceptions. In recent years, the late fee has been erroneously accepted in the amount of \$10 whereas the By-laws clearly state 15% (Article 2, Section 3). In addition, any boats that have not been paid for in 2017 will be payable with your 2018 dues. Any Charter Member failing to pay boat fees will be considered not in good standing and are in jeopardy of losing their Charter Membership. Boat fees remain at \$5 per boat (all watercraft with the exception of paddleboards). Anyone paying to register a boat may include the boat fee with their membership dues. Please specify how many boats when submitting payment. Boat stickers will be mailed by the Boat Warden by April 4th or within 48 hours of receipt of dues. Boat stickers will not be available for pick up.

In addition, for those members celebrating their 50th year or more of membership, you are eligible for a Lifetime Membership which carries no fee! Also, for members in good standing of ten consecutive years, a Charter Membership (provides members with a share of ownership in the association) available for no additional fee! By-Laws are available on line at LakeForestAssociation.com for more information on memberships fees. For fee schedule please refer to the 2018 Invoice. Dues can be sent to:

Meaghan Monahan
LFA – Membership Secretary
5 Pinepoint Drive
Bridgeport, CT 06606

**Next General meeting of the Lake Forest Association
March 7th, 7:30pm, at the Clubhouse**

Below are the dates for the upcoming events and meetings in 2018. Please keep this schedule posted so you can attend as many meetings as possible. It takes a village to run the Lake Forest Association and we need your help to make it work for everyone. Please join us at meetings and events and show your support.

- Jan 3rd: General Meeting, 7:30
- Jan 15th: MLK Day
- Jan 17th: BOD meeting, 7:30p
- Feb 7th: BOD Installation Potluck 6:30 pm
- Feb 7th: General Meeting, 7:30p
- Feb 22nd: BOD Meeting, 7:30p
- March 7th: General Meeting, 7:30p
- April 4th: General Meeting, 7:30p
- May 2nd: General Meeting, 7:30p

Special Announcements!

Happy Birthday to:
 Meaghan Monahan, *February 1st*
 Brendan Conroy, *February 2nd*
 Mike Mezzanotte, *February 4th*
 Indiana Wigglesworth, *February 7th*



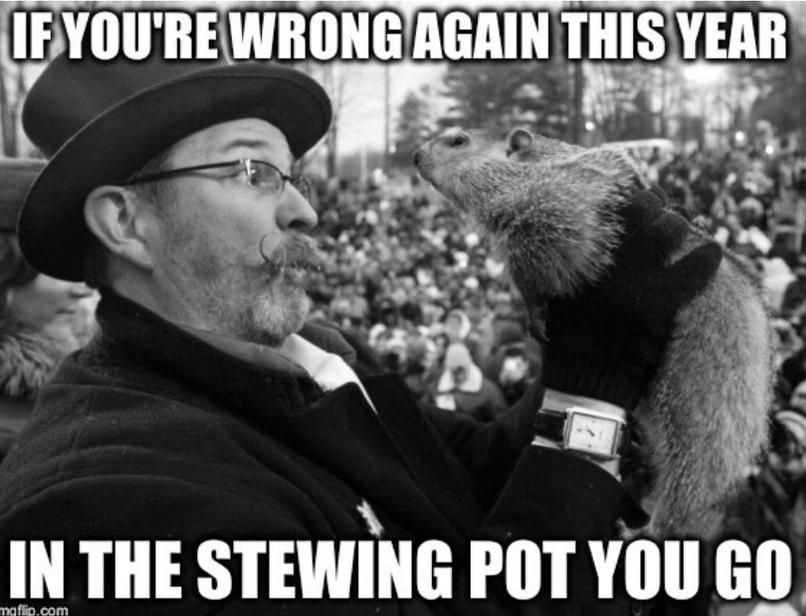
Winter alerts!

Please ensure fire hydrants near your property are free of snow. This saves the fire department precious time in the event of an emergency.

Please beware of ice on the lake! Just because you can see ice does not mean the ice is safe to be on!

Connecticut Based Non-profits **Fundraiser notice!**

The Greater New Haven Cat Project will be hosting its annual Yankee Candle Fundraiser. Yankee Candle will give a portion of proceeds from products purchased through this fundraiser to the GNHCP which will be used to continue their trap/neuter/release feral care program, as well as the care and adoption of cats and kittens. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jesse Kohut at JesseKohut@gmail.com or 203.685.5861 for a catalogue or web link.



Notices and Updates!

2018 Lake Forest Officers & Board of Directors

President – Sue Lesko	<u>Board Members</u>
1 st V. President – Cliff Roberts	Betsey Meyer
2 nd V. President – Gaby Topar	Gladys Imbro
Secretary – Ursula Meyer	Stephanie Henderson
Membership Sec'y – Meaghan Monahan	Irene Castaldo
Treasurer – Brad Topar	Al Pinciario
Past President – Nancy Teixeira	Brian Carey

NOTICE

We are slated to lower the lake at the end of the summer season. If you are a lake front property owner and need to do any repair work to your walls now is the time to start making plans to do so. After the valve is closed the lake will not be lowered for another 3 years (2021). We will be putting this notice in every newsletter from now until September, please plan accordingly.

General Rules Revision

The General Rules Committee will be presenting their revisions and updates at the February General meeting. This is the time to be part of the discussion. Everything that is discussed and voted upon at this meeting will be updated and the final vote will take place at the March General meeting.

Have a birthday or special occasion coming up which you would like to have featured in the LFA newsletter? Please send all announcements to lakeforestassociation@gmail.com by the 21st day of each month ensure your special day can be included in the coming issue!