

Lake Forest News



www.lakeforestassociation.com

December 2019

President's Corner

We had a great turnout for the luncheon honoring Betsey Meyer for her many years of service to Lake Forest on Sunday, November 18th at the Clubhouse. Everyone had a great time! I want to thank everyone that attended and volunteered that helped to make this such a successful event. The balance of the mortgage on our Clubhouse is approximately \$8,300 but due to the generosity of our Lake Forest members, we raised over \$3,300 that will be used to pay down our mortgage. If anyone would still like to contribute to the balance, please contact me.

As 2019 comes to a close, I want to recognize that many tasks have gotten completed throughout the year with members volunteering their time and talents. Whatever you have done that has prevented us from incurring expenses (e.g., mowing the lawn, painting the docks, cleaning up the beach, etc.) has saved our Association a lot of money - **THANK YOU!** We encourage all members to be part of our volunteer efforts as this is what keeps our Association costs down. If you don't already volunteer, please consider becoming involved in 2020. We would love for you to be included!

As a reminder, please use caution on the lake in the winter months. The ice may appear frozen but looks are deceiving! Below are upcoming events that we would like you to know about or perhaps volunteer for:



- **Officers' Installation Dinner**—This event will be held on Saturday, January 25th. We are in the process of setting up the event and once plans are finalized, detailed information will be sent out.
- **Pasta Nite**—This event will be hosted by Fred Castaldo, Jr. and plans are in motion for sometime in February. More to come as plans are finalized.
- **Social Committee**—We are looking for some members to join our Social Committee. We need ideas and people to help—this includes our summer members and our new members! Any suggestions? All ideas are welcome-- if interested, please contact me.

The next LFA meeting is on Wednesday, December 4th at the Clubhouse at 7:30 P.M. I hope to see you there. This meeting is a good time to bring up any ideas or concerns you may have or ask any questions. At this time, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year—may it be filled with joy and happiness!



Cliff Roberts, President LFA
(203) 414-4858
Cliff_bpt1@yahoo.com



Happy Holidays

A Special Thank You From Betsey Meyer....

To all who attended or helped in any way to make the luncheon held on November 17th, 2019 such a lovely affair: I am deeply grateful and touched by the effort put forth on my behalf. Thank you especially Nancy and Cliff, and to Gladys, Cookie, Lorraine, Matt, Carol, Karen, Dave, Brendan, the Rastelli brothers, Freddy and the Hammonds for their wonderful sense of loyalty and contribution to this affair which indeed represented the spirit of my love affair with Lake Forest. I can only say a deeply grateful "Thank You" from the bottom of my heart. A wonderful time was had by all and that was a super raffle! My love affair with Lake Forest continues.... Betsey.





Calendar of Events

December:

- 4th Lake Forest Meeting 7:30 P.M.
- 7th Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 18th Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- 21st First Day of Winter
- 22nd Hanukkah Begins  
- 24th Christmas Eve 
- 25th Christmas Day 
- 26th Kwanzaa Begins 
- 30th Hanukkah Ends
- 31st New Year's Eve 

January:

- 1st New Year's Day 
- 7th Orthodox Christmas Day
- 8th Lake Forest Meeting 7:30 P.M. (moved due to 1st being a Holiday)
- 14th Orthodox New Year
- 15th Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- 20th Martin Luther King Day 
- 25th Officers' Installation Dinner at Clubhouse
- Chinese New Year

DID YOU KNOW that feeding the geese actually causes problems for all? Connecticut provides important breeding and wintering habitat for approximately 30 waterfowl species (https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/wildlife/pdf_files/game/NoFeedWF.pdf). Our state abounds with numerous coastal and inland areas that are very important to ducks and geese. Connecticut's natural resources provide waterfowl with the proper nutrients they need throughout the year. Waterfowl have evolved to migrate extraordinary distances without the assistance of people. Artificial feeding can delay this natural phenomenon and encourage some birds to overstay their welcome.

Feeding Causes Problems for All

Feeding creates numerous problems, not only for people, but also for the birds. Well-intentioned people erroneously believe that feeding is beneficial to waterfowl, but it often has negative ecological, environmental, and social consequences. Feeding waterfowl low quality foods, such as bread, chips, or popcorn, does not provide the birds with the necessary nutrients they need for survival. Feeding often results in dietary deficiencies in wild birds. Waterfowl rely on specific nutrients in natural foods to carry on important biological processes. Numerous problems can arise when birds are fed low quality food. They may become malnourished or deficient of vital nutrients, resulting in:

- the development of deformed wings (propeller wings)
- an increased susceptibility to predation
- lowered energy
- a decrease in reproductive rates
- the loss of flight ability
- lowered life expectancy

Feeding Areas Are Unsanitary and Harbor Diseases

Most areas where the public feeding of waterfowl occurs cannot sustain the large concentration of birds that often gather there. This ultimately leads to the accumulation of droppings and feathers, overgrazing of vegetation, soil erosion, and unsanitary conditions. Waterfowl also act as hosts for numerous bacterial agents, including the organism that is responsible for swimmer's itch. Feeding waterfowl can exacerbate this problem by concentrating potential hosts in swimming areas. Large numbers of waterfowl in relatively confined areas also can be responsible for triggering algal blooms, resulting in elevated fecal coliform bacteria and nutrients in the water. These factors cause some of our favorite and most popular recreational areas to become unusable for animals and humans.

Feeding may result in malnourished birds competing for food in crowded, unsanitary areas. Diseases, such as **avian cholera**, **avian influenza (bird flu)**, **botulism**, and **duck viral enteritis**, thrive when these conditions are present. **Aspergillosis** is a fatal disease that kills waterfowl when they eat moldy, rotting grain products. All of these diseases have the potential to kill large numbers of waterfowl.

Feeding Increases Conflicts

Feeding draws birds to areas where conflicts with humans can arise. The constant interaction between humans and waterfowl causes the birds to lose their apprehension of people and their surroundings. Wild animals rely on their instinctive sense of fear for survival. The loss of a bird's fear towards humans often results in the bird exhibiting dangerous and unpredictable behavior towards people. Public safety also becomes an issue when birds congregate near heavily traveled areas, increasing the likelihood of a vehicle strike. Corporations, municipalities, and private landowners often spend large amounts of money to alleviate problems with waterfowl that are often caused by people feeding these birds. By not feeding waterfowl, you are allowing the birds to use our state's natural areas to our benefit and theirs.

Feeding Weakens the Gene Pool

Artificial feeding concentrates domestic and wild waterfowl, significantly increasing the probability of hybridization between them. This leads to the weakening of the gene pool and the overall integrity of the wild waterfowl population. Please keep these items in mind when you think feeding the geese is helpful. Thank you.

Lake Forest Clubhouse
Event Rentals



424 Frenchtown rd
Bridgeport, CT 06606
203-371-7671

Now accepting all major credit cards

lakeforestassociation@gmail.com
www.lakeforestassociation.com
Facebook@Lake Forest
Instagram@Lakeforestclubhouse

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Fastest and quickest way to stay updated with everything that's going on!!! Look us up and send a friend request!!!
Lake Forest Association

Report an issue today!

Bridgeport 311

Have a problem you would like the City to know about? Easy fix!!! Report it on SEECLICKFIX.COM. Get updated information when issue is addressed, worked on, and fixed.

50/50 Raffle winner at the November meeting:
Kevin Tobin (to host December meeting).



From the Desk of our Boat Warden Matt Cohen.....

Carol and I wish every one a great Thanksgiving !!!



Contact any of the following if you have specific questions/concerns:

President	Cliff Roberts (203) 414-4858 cliff_bpt1@yahoo.com
Boat Warden / Boat Stickers	Matt Cohen (203) 243-3219 mcohen@snet.net
Keys/fobs for beach	Gaby Topar @ LFA2ndVP@gmail.com or you may TEXT her at (203) 216-7887
Club rentals	Michele Barnes (203) 371-7671
Sunshine	Lorraine Tobin (203) 372-3044
Newsletter	Karen Pavlik karen.pavlik123@gmail.com
Dam	Bill Barfield (203) 243-3958 WilliamBarfield@icloud.com
Membership	Nancy Teixeira (203) 374-4400 If you see a new home has been purchased in LFA, please contact her so we can welcome them and ask them to join our association.



USEFUL NUMBERS

For Noise complaints/loud music—issues with college students.

- Bridgeport Police Non-emergency number (203) 576-7671, if true emergency, call 911.
- Call Sacred Heart Public Safety Office at (203) 371-7995. They have their own security patrol on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from September to the beginning of May. The college pays for the extra patrol/response from Bridgeport PD in our area. Patrols are not used during the summer so if you have an issue, contact Dean Larry Wielk at the number listed below.
- Call the Dean of Sacred Heart—Dean Larry Wielk at (203) 371-7916 (let him know how many times the same houses have been reported to Police and the same problems exist).
- For other issues with city services-abandoned vehicles, illegal dumping, tree issues, blight public works, etc., or to report a concern, go to www.bridgeport.gov/Bridgeport311.