# LAKE PARSIPPANY PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION





# LPPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**PULKIT DESAI** 

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Don Phelps Raul Carandang Matthew Kilic

# DISTRICT 4 (HOFFMAN BEACH AREA)

Deepa Tailor Harismran Kaur Mary Free

## CLUBHOUSE RENTAL AGENT

Marissa May clubhouserental@ lake-parsippany.org

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

lake-parsippany.org

# BEACH RENTAL AGENT (MAY-SEPT.)

Position Available LPPOABeachRental@ aol.com

# NEWS & VIEWS

### **EDITOR**

Marilyn Ammirata

## **CREATIVE DIRECTOR**

Neha Shah

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Bill Sempier
Christy Hegyi-Gardner,
Katie Vesper
Sebastian Ostolaza
Pulkit Desai
Jenn DeStefano
Marilyo Ammirata

# JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Lake Parsippany Property Owners Association-LPPOA OFFICIAL PAGE

Other information like water test reports, meeting minutes, budgets, events, activities, membership information, and lots more can be found on our website under NEWS. It's a great site to get accurate up to date information about our community.

If you are not receiving email from the LPPOA, please make sure to renew your membership and update your profile with the correct email address.

Don't forget to check your spam folder in case of any unwanted filtering.

Visit our Help page for profile updating assistance

### **JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:**

Lake Parsippany Property Owners Association-L PPOA OFFICIAL PAGE

Please have your current year badge for admission to all meetings and events at the clubhouse The LPPOA Board of Directors will be taking action at all monthly meetings as it relates to financial, operational changes and management of the lake.

VISIT US ONLINE WWW.LAKE-PARSIPPANY.ORG

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Pulkit Desai

The LPPOA is a renewed organization, having gone through changes over the last few years. Many of the things that were done in the past can no longer be done or done at the same pace. We are constantly moving ahead and finding out what will be the new normal going forward.

We now manage many different types of inquiries from 2200 property owners. Many, but not all members are realizing that their obligation to the LPPOA is essential in keeping their property values. At the same time with board members and volunteers, LPPOA is continuing to take steps to bring this community together, particularly with the Events Committee and coming soon, the Welcome Committee. The Events Committee continues to work hard to create events to be enjoyed by the entire membership. The Welcome Committee is working on communications that will welcome new homeowners warmly into our community and let them know what we are all about, and what is open to them as new property owners and new association members.

The 2022 invoices have been sent out. FSR is

receiving calls requesting clarification of the invoices, queries to Jim McCann our property manager, as well as board members. Members now have a way to call and get their questions answered easily with a quick response. However, we've discovered that there are still many questions, regardless of the supporting documents sent along with the statements. Members may not be reading all the information sent out and are just reading the statements, many just want to know what they must pay, with any other supporting documents being discarded. This is something that needs to be corrected for next year. We just need a simpler invoice for next year.

An important item to report on, is that we were able to save a substantial amount of money on insurance by getting the correct coverage. Last year due to turmoil on the board I was not able to dig into the finer details of insurance, specifically why were paying approximately \$75K for insurance. I asked a fellow board member, Raul Carandang, to look into this further. Raul read

The LPPOA is a renewed organization, having gone through changes over the last few years.

# President's Message (Cont.)

the entire policy, all 200 pages several times to understand our coverage. He was relentless with emails, phone calls with several insurance agents and substantial added research to get us a huge savings. The one benefit of the membership structure this year is a reduction in cost due to the number of members who use the beach. We were able to save approximately \$30k and have the same coverage. On behalf of the board and myself personally, I want to thank Raul for his efforts and hard work in saving the LPPOA approximately \$30k. Everyone should appreciate his effort.

The collections process will be started with the help from FSR this month. We will get together with them and review the process which will include 1st and 2nd notices before they go into collections.

Don Phelps will be our beach liaison this year and we are working on opening up Hoffmann beach. We have one manager from last year who is returning and we're looking for an additional Beach Manager, additional guards and Swim Coach. As mentioned last year every community goes through a hiring crunch every few years. While we have been fortunate to have the same people for many years; things inevitably change every few years. People age out, move out, life changes and this problem is cyclical in many lakes in New Jersey.

Regarding the question of credit card fees, I can explain that previously, LPPOA paid this fee directly for credit card processing, which means while LPPOA paid this fee it was really part of the budget that everyone paid. So, in the past if you

paid via a check, you were actually paying for this indirectly. This year if you pay via ACH or paper check you are only paying your actual fee. The credit card fees you see this year go to ClickPay to cover the credit card payment processing fee.

The Dragon Boat Team will be given a contract; they have agreed to our initial terms, however, there are still some details we are working out with them. Basically, they will be allowed to use our facilities for a set sum with a multi-year contract so any changes in the leadership on the board will not impact them and will give them advance notice to walk away from our facilities. I think this is a good thing since we have a group of people who do want to use our lake for their training and provide us with some revenue. This was done because we are now a community of 2200, on paper. Many members are dismissive of easement payments and many fully understand that LPPOA is the only thing in our community that will maintain our property values. So, pass the word and ask people to pay attention. This is our community; time to put all resentments aside and move forward to find a new normal.

To continue to be successful, we need volunteers. None of this would be here if it wasn't for past volunteers. I think we owe it to ourselves and future generations to keep, maintain and improve our Lake Parsippany and all that it offers. Many community members have been volunteering selflessly for years but we need more people to step up, to lend a hand, providing us with new energy and new ideas. We cannot do this alone, and I am again encouraging you all to think about volunteering your time to help!

# **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Marilyn Ammirata, RN, MSN

April is associated with Spring, new beginnings, the trees are 'waking up' and flowers will start to bloom again soon.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

As the weather gets nicer, and our lake 'comes to life' more and more members are walking around the lake, enjoying the view and the fresh air. Although we have said this countless times, safety tips bear repeating. Walking after dark is NOT the same as walking in daylight.

# FOR YOUR SAFETY, PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING RULES AT ALL TIMES:

- Use off-road paths, rather than the street, whenever possible.
- Walk FACING traffic so you can see and react to vehicles. Remember, although 'pedestrians have the right of way', this doesn't mean that you still don't look both ways.
- If cycling, cycle with the flow of traffic.
- Use extra caution when crossing streets.
   Drivers do not expect pedestrians to be out walking at night.
- Wear REFLECTIVE clothing and carry a flashlight.

- Avoid deserted routes, use the same routes used by other walkers and runners.
- Be aware of tripping hazards, it is harder to see uneven sidewalks, roots, rocks, potholes, and trash when its dark. Scan the ground 10-15 feet ahead to see oncoming hazards.
- DO NOT WALK more than two (2) abreast in the roadway (this means parents walking with children as well).

### FOR MOTORISTS DRIVING AROUND THE LAKE:

- Drive safely and be aware of pedestrians
- Slow down around turns and crests where views may be obstructed.
- Be courteous to pedestrians walking around the lake.

A special thanks to Ptl. Remo D'Alessandro, Community Relations Officer/Parsippany-Troy Hills Police Department, for reminding everyone of these basic safety rules:

Email: Rdalessandro@parpolice.com

If I might add, Stay off your cell phone, talking or texting distracts you and can be a safety issue.

April is a month worth celebrating and as we are a diverse community, I'd like to wish all of us Happy Easter, Happy Ramadan, Happy Passover.

# HOW TO SIGN UP FOR CLUBS, HUB LAKES SPORTS, AND OTHER INTERESTS

# Bill Sempier

As the Board, our tech team and FSR work to make improvements to the online website portals, members will need to take a bit of a step back in time for signing up for all opportunities offered to us.

In the meantime, please email the individual club, sports team, or activity organizers. All can be found on the lake's website lake-parsippany.org.

# **SPORTS**

To be eligible for any sports team you must be a Full member in good standing. Good standing means that all fees from 2017 (including late fees) are current and have been paid thru 2022.

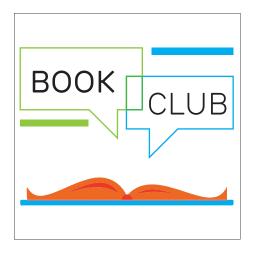
- Horseshoes
- Men's Fast Pitch Softball
- Table Tennis
- Bowling
- Darts
- Swim Team
- Track and Field

#### **CLUBS**

Membership tier requirements are at the discretion of the individual club. However you must be a member in Good Standing.

- Sailing,
- Kayak
- Garden
- Book
- Ladies
- Mens
- Carrom
- Crafts

Other Activities, Events and Questions
Please email General@lake-parsippany.org



# Christie Hegyi Gardner

### **FUTURE BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS:**

APR The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah

The Women of Copper Country MAY by Mary Doria Russel

JUN Still need to choose a selection

JUL American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

AUG Still need to choose a selection

SEP The Book of Lost Friends

by Lisa Wingate

OCT The Woman in the Window by AJ Finn

NOV The Plot Against America

by Philip Roth

**DEC** Still need to choose a selection

# FLIGHT BEHAVIOR

We read 'Flight Behavior' by Barbara Kingsolver. What an author! She hits a lot of topics in bite size pieces that we can easily digest. But don't be fooled! these are some serious subjects she has introduced.

What if something happened in Mexico that altered the normal migration patterns of the Monarch butterfly? (Known as King Billy to some). In this fictional story, the behavior of butterflies has a direct effect on families in an Appalachia region of Tennessee.

The author was inspired by the landslide that occurred in 2010, effecting the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, in Angangueo, Michoacán. (Look it up, it's amazing!)



These delicious cupcakes were made by Melanie Adubato...edible butterflies! Delicious!

# Book Club (Cont.)

The monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus) is one of the most recognizable butterfly species. It was named by early North American settlers, who saw its bright orange colors and thought of the King of England, William of Orange. This connection is even more obvious in Canada, where the monarch is called a "King Billy."

The author has the ability to show multiple perspectives in a very relatable way. Capturing nuances, habits and feelings that are real, no

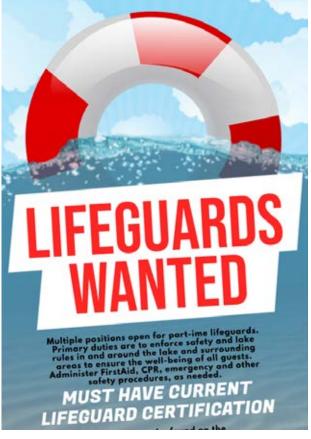
matter where in the world you may live.

Barbara Kingsolver certainly knows of what she writes, she is also a scientist and lives on a farm in southern Appalachia. Plus she is probably the only author to ever write about dilly beans!

We certainly learned a lot and had much to discuss. Let us know what you think of the book!

We meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Contact Christie at chegyi@optonline.net to be put on our mailing list.





# **HUB LAKES**

# Bill Sempier- Hub Lakes Rep

### **WE NEED YOU!**

At the February Hub Lakes meeting I submitted the list of coaches for the '22 season. The list has our known returning coaches. The list includes coaches for:

- Swim team
- Darts
- Track and Field
- Table Tennis
- Men's Softball
- Men's Horseshoes

If there is any interest in fielding additional teams, I must get the name(s) of a person(s) willing to be the team coordinator. The coordinator is the person to make sure there is a full team on the night of a match, and also serves as the contact for the other lakes in the event rescheduling is required.

It would be great for Lake Parsippany to have a strong sports presence in Hub Lakes. WE can easily field teams for:

- Men's Volleyball
- · Women's Volleyball
- · Women's Softball
- · Women's Horseshoes
- · Co-Ed Bowling
- Cornhole is still being discussed, however, no final decision on Go\
   No Go has been reached.

You must sign up for sports teams online when you pay your annual dues. You must be a full Premium member aged 16 or older in good standing and living in the original purchase tract to participate in Hub Lakes Sports.

For questions, please email Bill Sempier at Lakeparsports@ gmail.com

You must be a full Premium member aged 16 or older in good standing and living in the original purchase tract to participate in Hub Lakes Sports.

# **SCHOLARSHIPS**

## ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS

A \$400 Scholarship could be yours. One of our members has made a generous donation for the purpose of helping a student with their college expenses.

Please visit <a href="https://lake-parsippany.org/Scholarship-Fund">https://lake-parsippany.org/Scholarship-Fund</a> to obtain a scholarship application.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 15th for consideration. For questions, please email Bill Sempier at Lakeparsports@gmail.com



All applications must be received by August 15th for consideration.



Katie Vesper, Tarak Bhatt

The events committee is continuing to work hard to put together events for our LPPOA members. Check out what we have been up to!

## **MARCH 2022**

Holi Event took place at Johnson's Beach on 3/20/22. Joy was in the air as everyone celebrated the Festival of Colors!

This year we hosted our second Holi Event at Lake Parsippany. The event was held on Sunday, March 21st. There was a total of 54 property owners that registered for this fun event. Because it was cold on Sunday, 25 property owners attended the event (78 members).



**Committee Chairs:** Brigid Crimmins, Chrystal Immediato, and Katie Vesper **Committee Members:** Marilyn Ammirata, Tarak Bhatt, Jennifer DeStefano, Sangita Desai, Niral Desai, Darshana Kalavadia, Deepa Tailor, Don Phelps, John Scrivens and Bonnie Starr

Everyone who joined had a wonderful time playing with the different Holi colors, the event was further celebrated with Holi music and Indian snacks. Children ages 5-14 had so much fun coloring each other! Justin Musella, Council Member, joined us for this fun event and spent

time getting to know some of the members.

On behalf of the LPPOA, thank you to The Event Committee, esp. Darshana Kalavadia and Deepa Tailor for making this a very successful event!







#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Lake Cleanup Day - Come join the Events Committee and celebrate Earth Day as we clean up our shoreline! Bring gloves and a rake if you have them. LPPOA will provide leaf and contractor bags. Need service hours for school? LPPOA will sign off if you volunteer for this event.

Children's Mother's Day Craft - Make a cute gift for the special caretaker in your life. Registration is limited go to the LPPOA website to choose a 30 min time slot, beginning at 10:00 AM.

FLEA MARKET & COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE -

Calling all vendors! Join us on June 4th (Rain Date June 5th) \$15 if you register BEFORE May 15th - \$20 if you register AFTER May 15th) Bring your own table, tent and whatever you need to make your booth! Thank you to Loren Arrowsmith for helping to lead this event

#### SAVE THE DATE

- Cinco de Mayo Adult Night (May 6)
- Children's Father's Day Craft (June 11th)

# WE NEED YOU!

Many of our events are sponsored by donors throughout the community. If you or someone you know would like to host an event or propose an event idea please let us know!

We would like to thank everyone in the community for your continued support. If you are interested in joining us at our next meeting, please reach out to us at Ippoa.events.committee@gmail.com. We would love to have you attend!



# CYCLISTS RIDE WITH TRAFFIC



DON'T MAKE A
WALL OF PEOPLE
ACROSS AN
ENTIRE SIDE
OF THE ROAD



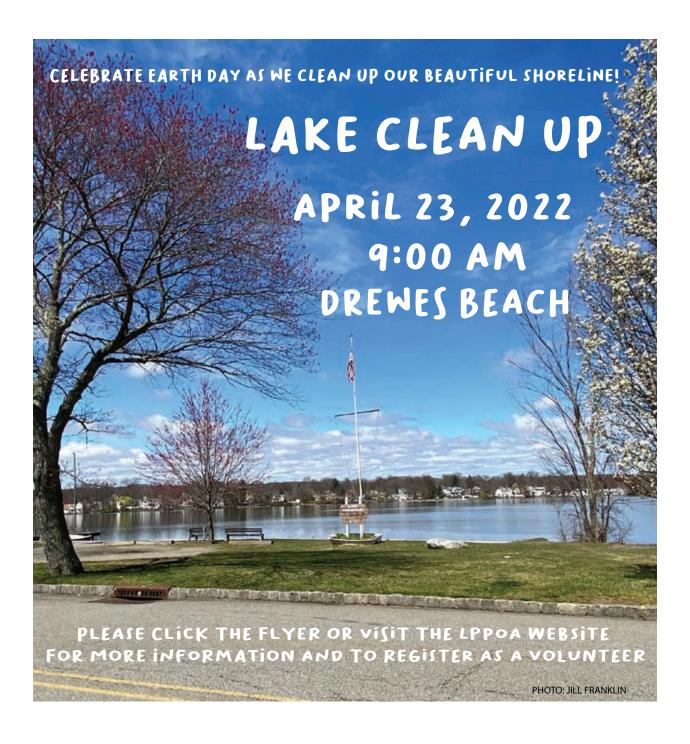
MAINTAIN PROPER SOCIAL DISTANCING



WEAR REFLECTIVE CLOTHING AT NIGHT



WALK FACING TRAFFIC





They say the best gifts are the ones from the heart!

JOIN THE LPPOA EVENTS COMMITTEE AND CREATE A HOMEMADE GIFT FOR THE

SPECIAL MOM, AUNT, GRANDMOTHER OR CAREGIVER IN YOUR LIFE.



Meet us on Saturday, April 30th anytime from 10:00AM-12:00PM at the LPPOA Clubhouse





REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AND LIMITED ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

PLEASE CLICK THE FLYER OR VISIT THE LPPOA WEBSITE TO REGISTER



# Saturday, June 4th from 9am - 4pm

Raindate: June 5th

# **10x10 Spaces for \$15**

(\$15 if you register BEFORE May 15<sup>th</sup>, \$20 if you register AFTER May 15<sup>th</sup>)

Bring your own table, tent and whatever you need to make your booth.

For more information or to reserve a space go to **www.lake-parsippany.org** or call **973-887-4947** with any questions.



Article by Tara Donnelly Submitted by Ellen Law

# HELLO LAKE PARISPPANY RESIDENTS

Ever wonder about that long boat on the lake? Let's us introduce ourselves if you don't already know. We are Pink Lightning Jersey Thunder Dragon Boat team. We area an all women group of paddlers participating in a 2300-year-old sport. Our team is made up of breast cancer survivors and their supporters. The mission of the team is to provide a healthy activity for women survivors of breast cancer. The dragon boat movement for breast cancers survivors started about 20 years ago when research showed it help avoid lymphedema which is often a painful and lasting consequence of breast cancer surgery. The women on the team are of varying ages and athletic abilities who are determined

to thrive following their illness. Our supporters on the team are there to enjoy the sport and share in camaraderie. We practice Monday and Wednesday at 6PM and we are always looking for new members. We would love to have more members of the lake to join us so come out to try paddling with the team. All you need to paddle is an interest in having fun. We supply the all the equipment needed. You just need to show up at the boat house, sign a waiver, show proof of vaccination and you are in the boat! Check out our website for more information.

We can be found at www.pink-lightning.org. Come have some fun this summer.





Ellen Law



# HELLO LAKE PARISPPANY RESIDENTS

I am thrilled to take the helm of the 2022 Lake Parsippany Fishing club. I have been working very closely with Tony Suprum to ensure a productive transition.

# Here's a tentative schedule of upcoming events related to the Fishing Club

- March 31, Thursday 7-9PM Kick off meeting at the Club House to gather ideas and wants and needs of members to form a 5 year plan. Also instruction on how to set up your rod and reel for the new season.
- April 2, Saturday 4:30-5PM Trout stocking at the Boat House (850 Lake Shore Drive). Watch the fish go into the lake AND kiddies can help put the fish into the lake!
- April 28, Thursday 7-9PM at the Club House to review draft of 5 year plan and our path to achieve it!
- May 26, Thursday 7-9PM at the Club House: discussion: TBD
- June 30, Thursday 7-9PM at the Club House: discussion: TBD
- August 25, Thursday, 7-9PM at the Club House: discussion: TBD
- September 29, Thursday, 7-9PM at the Club House; discussion; TBD

# Fishing Club (Cont.)

Thanks a ton to Tony for serving as the chair of the Trout Stocking effort! Lake Parsippany will receive 380 trout ranging from 12-14 inches. In addition will be 9 tagged larger trout. RSVP to fishingclub@njdragonboat.org if you want to sponsor a prize to the Fisher who catches the tagged trout. To date we have a couple tagged fish needing a sponsor..

## 2x 17-19" @ \$25 EACH

- Sponsored by Cam Capuano
   Gift card to Dicks Sporting Goods
- Sponsored by Eva Capuano Gift card to Dicks Sporting Goods

### 2x 19-21" @ \$50 EACH

- Sponsored by NJ Dragon Boat Club Gift card to Walmart
- 2. Sponsored by Dan Nazzaro TBD

### 2x 23-25" @ \$75 EACH

- Sponsored by Pulkit Desai TBD
- 2. NEED a sponsor

# 1x 25+" @ \$100

still looking for a sponsor

# 1 X 25+ TROUT PURCHASED BY TONY SUPRUM'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS WILL HAVE A SPECIAL PRIZE FOR THIS FISH IN MEMORY OF HIS DAD.

To secure the prize, you must send a photo of you with the fish AND the tag, with your address to "FishingClub@njdragonboat.org" and we'll make sure you get the sponsors' gift. Prizes will ONLY BE AWARDED to LPPOA members.

Hope to see all interested veteran and newbie Fishers at our first meeting. Refreshments provided.

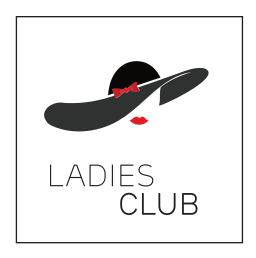
## And, a special note from Tony Suprum:

Reminder, anglers between the ages of 16 to 69, you need a current NJ fishing license to fish Lake Parsippany. If you plan on possessing trout, you also need a trout stamp.

If you have a question about Lake Parsippany's angling special regulations, you can reach out to the fishing club or ask a fellow angler if they know the special regulations.

Below is a website that provides much needed information:

https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/index.htm



Marilyn Ammirata

# THE MORE THE MERRIER!

The LPPOA Ladies Club is a social/service club, which meets the third Thursday of each month, at the LPPOA Clubhouse or a member's home. This club is very busy with fund raising activities that benefit community members.

Recently we held a fund raiser which proved to be a whole lot of fun. We got a TAROT card reader to come to the clubhouse and she did private card readings for all who attended.

We plan on another fund raising event on May 13th, where we plan on making a gorgeous wreath. More to come on that!

We have grown in the last couple of months with new members coming to join us. As they say, the more the merrier! Please consider joining this fun group, as we get together for good times and also for fun events which help out the community.

For information please reach out to Maureen at meomaster@verizon.net

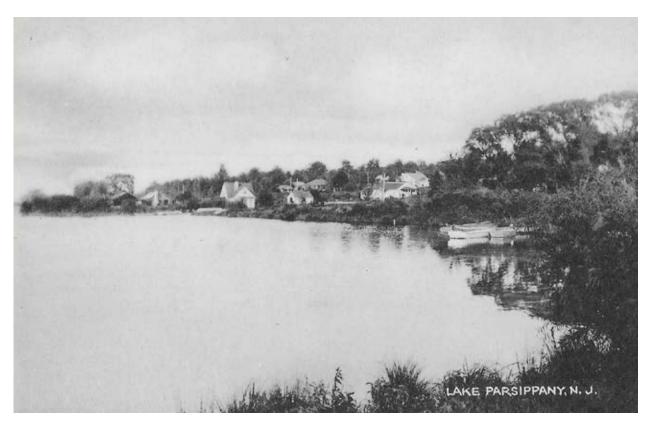


Sebastian Ostolaza

# POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

From the first time I stepped foot into the Lake Parsippany Clubhouse, the history of the lake started to intrigue me. The clubhouse walls are covered with pictures and items from generations of members enjoying this wonderful lake and activities. That glimpse into the association's past left me wanting to learn more about where I live and how this community came to be.

There are group pictures of lifeguards dating back to the 1930's, group pictures of clubs and sports teams from past decades, some early pictures of the lake property with small bungalows, members enjoying activities around the lake, and of course swimming at the



# Time Capsule (Cont.)

beaches. You get the sense that this was where you wanted to be for the summer months.

My favorite items are the postcards that are framed and hanging on the walls. At the time, sending one to your friends and family was the equivalent of posting your vacation pics on Instagram or Facebook. It was a much simpler time and full of fun at Lake Parsippany and you wanted to share that with everyone you knew by sending them a postcard.

I stumbled upon two postcards this past year of early Lake Parsippany and had to have them. They will eventually be framed and hoping they can be displayed at the clubhouse next to many others for all to enjoy. There are no postmarks, and in research it's very hard to establish when

the photos were taken. Both were printed by The Collotype Co., Elizabeth NJ. The company was in business from 1907-1957.

There is record of the same Joerges Beach postcard being sold on eBay a few years ago. The card was in bad shape, but it had a legible postmark of July 27, 1945.

Search for finding a date on the second postcard has come up empty. If you can tell me where this picture was taken from, or have a way to determine a date, I would love to hear from you and update our readers.

If you have some history of Lake Parsippany or old pictures that you would like to share. Please email lppoa.history@gmail.com





Bill Sempier

# DON'T FERTILIZE THE LAKE

In mid-February I saw my neighbor had their lawn service come in and treat their lawn. I questioned that treating frozen ground was even a good idea. A few days later it rained and any of the lawn treatment that didn't absorb into the ground ended up in our lake. Yes its true, any lawn chemicals / fertilizers make their way into the lakes water column. It can get there by storm drain or simply getting into the ground water.

Our Lake is Eutrophic. That means that the water is extremely rich in nutrients, with high biological productivity. These lakes have higher concentrations of phosphorus and chlorophyll and poorer clarity. Typically, they are shallow, often muddy and contain an abundance of aquatic plants.

Too much fertilizer can kill the plant and excess fertilizer can runoff into streams and lakes causing toxic algal blooms (the excessive

growth of algal) that are harmful to aquatic life and even people and their pets. Remember when Lake Hopatcong was closed just a few summers ago.

So what's the big deal? I like my lawn green and healthy. Studies have shown that people over fertilize. The plants can only absorb so much. Just like our bodies if we take to much of a certain vitamin our body simply disposes of it, or it has a toxic effect on us. That overage of fertilizer will make its way into the lake and fertilize the plants we are trying to control.

So what can we do to help? First remember that nearly 1000 acres of township storm water comes into the lake, most coming from the north and east Sides of the lake. Both the south and west sides still drain into waterways so there's still potential for damage and we must be vigilant.

Selecting the correct fertilizer is so important. Many fertilizers, especially starter fertilizer, contain high numbers of phosphorus. That feeds the already high levels in the lake. When selecting any fertilizer always look for one that has a zero as the second number, that zero means no phosphorus. There are many consumer and commercial fertilizers that meet this requirement. If using a landscaper or lawn service, ask them what they are using. Town ordinances are in place and these services must comply with zero phosphorus treatments.

So, what can you do to make sure your lawn care does not harm our lake and health? Follow these basic guidelines to green up your lawn, and not our lake.

# Lake Maintenance and Vitality Committee (Cont.)

I found these 12 points from Lake Barcroft in Virginia's website and thought it worth sharing. As you will see we are not alone in the work to keep all our lakes enjoyable to every member of the community.

The article was titled "Green Up Your Lawn: Not the Lake" and was written by Betsy Washington

## 1) TEST YOUR SOIL

Lawns do not automatically need fertilizing, so it is important to get a soil test to tell you if you need to fertilize or lime your soil. Every responsible lawn service should begin with this simple step and should be willing to share the results of the test with you. Surprisingly, most supposedly "organic" lawn services that I interviewed do not perform soil tests, even though this is a cardinal rule in organic lawn care! Test kits can be obtained at Garden center and taking a soil sample is very easy. The test results will give you specific recommendations for your lawns and save you money and guesswork.

# 2) USE COMPOST TO FERTILIZE

Feed your soil to feed your lawn. Healthy soils are full of soil microorganisms that partner with plants to break down and release nutrients efficiently and create rich, humusrich soil. A healthy soil reduces or even eliminates the need for external fertilizer. Compost and organic mulches enhance the soil web and break down slowly, so that the soil microorganisms can release nutrients just when plants need them, eliminating the threat of excess nutrient runoff. Compost

improves soil tilth by lightening heavy clay soils and bulking up light, loose soils. Get in the habit of applying 1/2 to 1" of compost to your lawn each year.

#### 3) MOW HIGH

Set your lawn mower at 3" and keep your blades sharp. Taller grass crowds out weeds, and encourages deep roots, resulting in a healthier lawn that needs less water. Mow often and never remove more than 1/3 of the grass blade at one time. Reseed any bare areas for full coverage to prevent weeds and erosion and nutrient runoff.

#### 4) LEAVE LAWN CLIPPINGS ON THE LAWN

Consider using a mulching mower. Mulching mowers will chop the grass clippings into tiny pieces that create little or no mess and readily break down into compost. You can reduce your lawn's need for fertilizer by more than 30%, just by allowing grass clippings to decompose in place!

## 5) WATER PROPERLY

Grass lawns naturally go dormant during the hot summer weeks, and will green up again naturally when rains return. If you must water, water deeply and infrequently to promote vigorous root growth that helps your lawn resist drought. This is much better for your trees and shrubs too.

## 6) "GREEN" WITHOUT NITROGEN

Applications of iron can sometimes help "green" up a lawn without the use of nitrogen fertilizers.

# Lake Maintenance and Vitality Committee (Cont.)

#### 7) FERTILIZE AT THE RIGHT TIME

and only when the lawn is actively growing and able to take up nutrients. Fertilize fescue and bluegrass lawns two to three times in fall, between September and early November. Lawns do not need more than 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft in a single application, and no more than 3 lbs. of nitrogen/year. If you miss the fall applications, you can apply .5 lbs./1000 sq ft in early May. Zoysia and Bermuda grass lawns that are brown and dormant in winter should be fertilized in summer. Be sure to remove all fertilizer from walkways and driveways before it can wash

off into storm drains and our lake. In the case of fertilizer – LESS is better!

# 8) NEVER FERTILIZE WHEN THE GROUND IS FROZEN OR GRASS IS DORMANT

Many lawn companies interviewed give "a little boost" of fertilizer and weedkillers or pesticides for good measure in late winter/ early spring and during summer when the lawn is dormant. Preemergent herbicide treatments are routinely combined with an application of fast release nitrogen and most of this will runoff straight into the lake. This is a harmful waste of money and harmful to our lake.





# Lake Maintenance and Vitality Committee (Cont.)

## 9) AVOID FERTILIZERS WITH PHOSPHORUS

Phosphorus has become "persona non grata" in landscaping, especially near streams and lakes because of its harmful effects.

Now there is NO excuse for anyone in Lake Parsippany to add to phosphorus runoff into the lake. If you choose to use fertilizer, use No-PHOS, slow release Nitrogen fertilizer.

Make sure that your lawn service follows this advice!

# 10) USE A FERTILIZER WITH SLOW RELEASE NITROGEN (N)

that is released gradually over time, instead of all at once. Slow release nitrogen is listed as WIN or water insoluble nitrogen. You want a fertilizer with a high percentage of WIN.

### 11) TREAT LAWN PROBLEMS SAFELY

by hand pulling weeds or spot treating pests or weeds. Natural products like corn gluten or vinegar can help eliminate weeds without toxic side effects. Many of the "organic" lawn services that I talked to regularly broadcast

pre-emergent weedkillers over the entire lawn in early spring and again in fall. When I asked why they do this, I was told that customers pay for 6 or 8 visits a year, and expect to see the companies "treating" their lawns each visit. Tell your lawn service to spot treat problems only when necessary or not at all, and to fertilize only at the recommended times with No Phosphorus, slow release nitrogen fertilizer.

# 12) And my personal favorite...

# REDUCE (OR ELIMINATE) YOUR LAWN

and the attending maintenance and pollution woes. Add a natural buffer of native plants around your property, especially to low areas that drain into the lake. Please keep in mind, that all storm runoff in Lake Parsippany runs into the lake or surrounding waterways. We do not have storm drains that carry the runoff elsewhere. Be sure to check out some low maintenance native plants. These vegetated buffer zones prevent erosion and pollution by acting as natural sponges and filters.





Sebastian Ostolaza

# FIRSTS FOR LAKE PARSIPPANY AND HUB LAKES LEAGUE

As a follow-up from last month, we faced our toughest competitor, Cedar Lake, who has been League Champions for the last three years. The match was very close all evening and it came down to either team winning two of the last three games. Our coach put our best players forward and the team won the first two games to seal the win as needed. The final match outcome was very close with a final score of 13-12.

The following week, our team continued with a win over Estling Lake with a final score of 18-7. This is their first year with a dart team in the Hub Lakes League. They have a group of players with great potential and I'm sure they will be a challenge to many as they develop their team for next year.

Our win against Indian Lake was very close. The score of 20-5 doesn't show it, but each game

could have gone to either team. This match will always be remembered and will be talked about for years.

Our rookie starter Connor "The Kid", returned home from medical school and joined the team with his father "Big Daddy" Matt, who has been on the team since the first season. This father son duo are among the top players in the league. Dressed in his scrubs and ready to head out for a night at the ER, "The Kid" scored a 180 in his last game of the night. A "Ton-80" is landing all 3 darts in a triple 20 slot on the dart board, the highest score possible. This was a first for our team, and only seen one other time in league history.

Congratulations have been received from numerous teams and players in the league.

The team had a great match Vs. Mountain Lakes with a 15-10 win. After moving out of state this past year, former coach Randy was in town visiting family and decided to stop by to help the team. Although ineligible to play, he wore his team uniform to show support and intimidate the opposing team with his coaching skills.

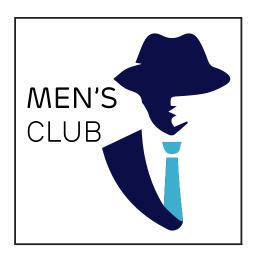
Brian "Big K" hit a once in a lifetime shot with a "Robin Hood" and won his game. In darts, a Robin Hood is when the player makes a throw and the dart lands directly into the back of another dart that's already on the board. The two darts are stuck together with the tip of the second dart stuck in either the shaft or the flight of the first dart. This was another first for our team and probably the league.

# Dart Team (Cont.)

After last week's impressive play, "The Kid" has been retired from the team and a more respectful name is in use. Our very own "Dr. Conner" scored

his second "Ton-80" of the season. This helped take the win of a doubles game for much needed points in the match.





Sebastian Ostolaza

# NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

The Men's Club is a social/service organization. We conduct various fundraisers and events for the benefit of the LPPOA. The group meets socially on a consistent basis and the group gets involved with various LPPOA events.

Our club has recruited two new members this past month. During the recruiting process, there was discussion of a possible volunteer project that holds dear in the hearts of some of our members. We will bring this topic to light at our next meeting on how to best approach this project as volunteers, and hopefully make a difference in the lives of others. Stay tuned for more information.

Please visit the Men's Club page on our website for more information about joining and volunteering. https://lake-parsippany.org/Mens-Club



Marilyn Ammirata

THE LITTLE VIKING CHEERLEADERS ROCKED IT!

There are 16 girls in the Parsippany Little Vikings Competition Cheer team, Giovanna May, Giuliana Federici, Brianna Jasiecki, Liana Nolan and Arianna Schiavone are part of this team and part of our community! This team set out this season with a mission... to compete In Disney!

Despite illness, Covid restrictions and quarantines, these girls practiced 2-3 times a week to make sure they were ready to compete!

If any of you ever saw a cheerleading competition, you will know the amount of time, energy, effort and teamwork goes into being a successful team. In case you don't know, let me tell you just a bit of what is put into this sport...Physical conditioning is essential as stunts and team routines put high amounts of stress and demands on the body,



# Neighborhood News (Cont.)

mental strength is important, as these young athletes must have the ability to relax and focus, their team members all relying on their ability to do just that. These girls show true sportsmanship, a quality that also enhances their entire lives. Respect and Trust are also integral parts of this team. You have to trust your teammates to catch you after they've tossed you in the air! I was a competition cheerleading mom for many years and I saw, first hand, what these kids go thru to be the best they can be. And this team did just that!

The Little Viking Competition Cheerleaders earned first place wins in all their local competitions this season, as well as earning

a bid at the first competition of the season, inviting them to compete in Disney at the Quest Cheerleading championship!

In Disney on day one the girls hit zero deductions and earned their highest score of the season. This performance secured them a spot in the finals on day 2. On day two they gave it their all and they placed third in their age level/ division overall.

The dedication, drive and love these girls have for cheer is absolutely amazing. They have become a true cheer family and lifelong friends! Lifelong friendship, isn't that what life is about?

Congratulations to an incredible team! Cant wait til we see you all next season!









Marilyn Ammirata

# THE CLUB WILL COVER ALL TYPES OF GENRES OF CRAFTING

I love to do creative fun things with other people, but many of my friends said they just weren't crafty. Well, guess what, everyone can be creative, all it takes is a little encouragement and a bit of direction. You'd be surprised what you can do! And more surprised how easy it can be!

Jenn DeStefano and I are very happy to announce to the community that the creation of a new Craft Club was recently approved by the LPPOA. Well, this is not a new club, per se, as years ago Jenn ran a scrapbooking club, but now is the time to regenerate the interest in getting together to craft and have fun!

There are a few details we need to work out.

What we do know:

Crafting is a fun and creative way to get together with and make new friends!

We will be meeting monthly in the clubhouse

There is a definite interest in the community for this kind of club

Clubs are a wonderful way to get together for a night out with people who love being creative!

The club will cover all types of genres of crafting, whether it be painting, scrapbooking, needle point, knitting, rubber stamping, decoupage...the ideas are endless. We would love to see club members take turns hosting the meeting and demonstrate a craft of choice, different demonstrations of different talents will give everyone a chance to look into a new craft or improve their skills on one they are currently learning.

We can also work on our own craft projects and have the meetings focus more on getting together, socializing, and just having fun! We will decide what we want to do when we get together, everyone will have a voice and input in what we do with this club.

Monthly meeting will be on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. Our first meeting is in May.

# For more information, please email me at marilyn.ammirata1@gmail.com





LAKEparsippany property owners association