



The Lodge
of the
Lexington
Ski Club

The Yodeler

Read Online at WWW.LEXSKI.ORG

March 2023

Executive Board

President: *Eric Pearlman* president@lexski.org

Vice President & Lodge Chair:

Dan and Kristen Butler lodgechair@lexski.org

Secretary: *Cindy Darcy* secretary@lexski.org

Treasurer: *Kevin Baker* treasurer@lexski.org

Membership: *Marc Garrigus* membership@lexski.org

Activities: *Mike Sciarretta* social@lexski.org

Communications: *Marsha Fox* info@lexski.org

LexSki Membership Meetings

March 21, 2023 Membership Meeting, Hybrid zoom and in person. Location Belmont Hill School Chapel, 7:30PM

April 25, 2023 Wine Tasting Event, Location TBD

LexSki Events

UPDATE - March 28 Lexski Tuesday Night Social Meetup at Revolution Hall, Lexington, 6:30-8:30PM

April 15-16 First Work Weekend of the year (Butlers are hosting)

July 14-16 Lexski Gran Fondo Weekend (Alaimo-Sevarino are hosting)

President's Report (President@lexski.org)

I cannot believe a year has passed since being elected President. I expressed then that I felt it was the easiest job on the E-Board and after seeing what fellow Board members have accomplished over the course of a year my feelings have been confirmed.

A major renovation of the kitchen and dining area as well of much of the plumbing for rooms above could not have been accomplished without the dedicated effort of Dan and Kristen. It looks beautiful. Marc helped usher in six families who are already bringing new energy to the club with young children and many guests. Marsha is about to cut the ribbon on our new website which we will help get out our message more effectively and Mike has really stepped up the social aspect of the club with an increase in lodge "theme" nights, Tuesday pub nights along with ski movies in local theaters throughout with Winter. Cindy has been a champion on all things "By-Laws" and Kevin has not only saved us thousands in efficiencies throughout the club but will be making us thousands in interest earned by renegotiating of savings account.

What's next?

Coming home after a lively weekend with over forty members and guests I believe that we have moved beyond the Covid hangover and there is no rest for the weary. A major renovation of the living room and several bathrooms is planned starting in April and it will be all hands on deck in order to get this completed before the next ski season. I know we can do it!

During Covid we were lax in enforcing many of the rules while staying at the lodge and I believe the time is right to start enforcing them again. Rules are there for the safety of all members and guests and to share equally in making the experience at the club enjoyable for all. Please take the time (especially new families) to review the lodge rules and By-Laws to familiarize yourself once again.

I look forward to another great year!

Eric Pearlman

President@LexSki.org

Lodge Report (LodgeChair@lexski.org)

The club is in pretty good shape. Thank you to those members who have handled a couple of small projects during the ski season. The place would not run without everyone pitching in from time to time. The one issue that we see is the temperature in Motel 5 F & B. With the added insulation over the last couple of years, the heat does not "run" as long. This leaves that area a little starved for heat. We are looking at options now to adjust over the "off-season" to try and mitigate this issue.

As the season starts to wind down it is time to start thinking about work weekends.

One piece of business we need to get out of the way. Major announcement. There will no longer be Work Weekend leaders. That's right. The new job title will be Work Weekend Warrior. This is a common middle management tactic where we do not give you anything of value. You get a title change, and more responsibility but no raise. Congratulations. Move along.

We will have a work weekend every month starting in April and ending in November (except Aug). The Butler's are looking for Work Weekend Warriors. Please reach out to lodgechair@lexski.org if you are interested in running a work weekend.

Bonuses of being a Work Weekend Warrior:

You get to pick the weekend of your choice.

You get to tell fellow members what to do.

You get to pick the best jobs of the weekend.

You get invited to the exclusive Triple Dub Club.

You get 25% off your LexSki yearly dues or a WWW tee shirt (whichever is cheaper).

If you are planning on a Large weekend, please let us know ASAP. Trying to avoid conflicts between WW and Large Weekends.

April work weekend April 15-16 (Butler run)

LexSki Gran Fondo July 14-16

Butler Large Group: Aug 20-21

This year's large projects will focus on the living room and bathrooms in 2 and 3.

On the April WW, the living room will be emptied and the ceiling(s) will be removed. The bathrooms (2&3) will be gutted to stud. All materials will need to go to the dump.

The following week contractors will start to replace all the plumbing above the living room. Rough electrical will also be performed. Once those jobs are complete, the ceiling will be sound-insulated, similar to the insulation we did in the dining hall. Then the ceiling contractor will install a new ceiling and lights will be installed. We will also replace our well-loved rug. Happy to make 1'x 1' pieces of the current rug available for members as a keepsake.

We will make the living room a safe space to walk thru during the construction. Data has shown us that the club is lightly used in April (right after ski season) and May. The goal is for the living room to be completed before Memorial Day.

The bathrooms in 2 and 3 projects will continue during the non-ski season. The rooms can be used outside of the contractor's schedule. Please use the bathroom in the Dev wing.

Hope to see everyone up at the club before ski season ends.

Dan and Kristen

Lodge Chairs

LodgeChair@LexSki.org

Social Report (Social@lexski.org).

As we finish March and move into April, Betsy and I are doing our best to put together a few fun get togethers.

Upcoming Events:

- **An important update:** Tomorrow's Social event at Revolution Hall will need to be moved to Tuesday the 28th of March due to the incoming storm.
- The annual wine tasting event is scheduled for April 25th. Location TBD
- The Gran Fondo is scheduled this year for the weekend of July 14-16

We look forward to seeing you all at these events, and will be planning many more!

Mike Sciarretta and Betsy Stanford

Social@LexSki.org

Treasurer's Report (Treasurer@lexski.org)

As of 3/12/23:

TD Operating Checking	\$ 7,530.58
EIDL Checking	\$ 24,622.34
TD Operating Money Mkt	\$ 16,388.85
Cap Improvement Fund Money Mkt:	\$ 92,276.73
Cap Improvement Donations Money Mkt:	\$ 2,403.00
Emergency Fund Money Mkt:	\$ 43,500.00

TOTAL FUNDS:	\$186,721.50
SBA Loan Balance: (debt 2.75% APY)	\$164,074.31

The club remains financially stable, and we have sufficient cash on hand for operating expenses through the end of the season. We also have adequate funds on hand to begin a renovation project of the Lodge Living Room, which will hopefully be getting under way in April. I have recently renegotiated the terms of our TD Bank relationship, and for the foreseeable future we should be earning a much more competitive 3.5% APY on our Money Market Accounts. This is great news, as it should earn us some significant additional revenue for this year.

Remember that during ski season, all reservation forms must be processed through the Host for the week instead of being sent to the Treasurer. Only hosts should be sending me forms during the ski season, and hosts must submit the forms to me no later than Thursday after the weekend. Forms are easiest to process if they are scanned and sent to me by email as Adobe pdf files. Members are reminded that all guest or meals fees need to be settled with the host on the last night of your stay, and Venmo remains the preferred payment method. Only members (not guests) may make payments to the Club.

As recycling remains a major expense for the club, please remember to not place any un-flattened cardboard boxes into the recycling dumpster. Crushing your aluminum cans helps too, now that we have installed a can crusher in the bar!

It is that time of year when I ask for volunteers to assist me by participating on the Finance Committee. This committee typically meets once or twice in mid-April to discuss and prepare a budget to present to the membership at the May meeting. There will be lots to work through to keep the club financially strong. If you're interested in being on this committee, please send me an email. I have received interest from Cindy Darcy, Kevin Martin, Mustafa Varoglu, Paul Cotran, and Sam Gravina, and Chris White.

Reminders:

- **Effective 7/1/22, Guest fees increased to \$30/night per adult and \$10 for teens age 13-20.**
- If you are hosting, please make sure all reservation forms use **only** the newest **PURPLE** form.

As always, if you have any questions please reach out.

Kevin Baker
treasurer@lexski.org

Membership Report (Membership@lexski.org)

Please welcome the newest members of the Club! Tsachi Avrahami, Keren Hamel and their children Oren (19) and Ilan (17). They live in Arlington and are happy to be members of the Club.

And, we've got two other prospective member families that have completed their requirements and are going through the "Member Feedback" period. They are Irena Fayngold, and her children Amitai (16) and Moth (14) and Bill and Mea Hilton and their children Danny (21), Liam (19) and Finn (14).

The newly formed Membership Committee (Caren Connell, Kate Colburn, myself, and Christian Ehrbar, with Irene Gravina participating through e-mail) met in late February to discuss how to build awareness of the Club and promote it to new families. Some of our plans:

- We'll be participating in the Arlington, Lexington, and Winchester Town Days
- Making announcements on various town Facebook pages (Arlington Parents, LexWomen, Winchester Fan). If you're aware of any other good pages, please let us know and we can provide you the "blurb" to post. -Maybe LexFun?
- Research posting flyers at ski shops (Ski Haus, Sun N' Ski, Play It Again Sports)
- Ski swaps?
- **If any member family sees a posting on a Facebook Group that asks about ski country lodging, or ski teams, or ski trips, please feel free to respond to it and refer the person to our website!**

We'd also like to propose a couple of changes to the By-Laws to vote on at the May meeting:

- Eliminate "with sponsor family" requirement from the bylaws. All members should feel comfortable hosting a prospective member family.
- Change a "a visit must be 2 nights to count" to "a visit must include a Saturday Dinner and a Sunday breakfast"
- Moving the feedback period from after the prospective member meets with e-board to as soon as the prospective member completes the requirements of meeting attendance and lodge visit.
- Change the requirement of serving on the Lodge Committee for the first year of membership to serving on Lodge *or* Membership Committee.

Thanks!

Marc Garrigus
Membership@LexSki.org

Communication Report (Info@lexski.org)

The new website is ready and will be transferred to the lexski.org URL shortly. Thanks to all that have provided feedback. It is temporarily at this URL: <https://lexski.sitedistrict.com>.

Marsha Fox
Communications
Info@LexSki.org

Secretary Report (Secretary@lexski.org)

January 17, 2023
Membership Meeting
25 members in attendance

Lodge: The Lodge Committee is being started up again, and anyone is welcome to join. (Reminder: new members are required to have at least one adult participate in the committee.)

Finance: We are in good financial shape and have about \$215,000 in the bank. Chris White will become the assistant treasurer to assist Kevin Baker. The Finance Committee needs five volunteers to put together the budget presented at the May meeting. (Meetings are done via Zoom.) Contact Kevin Baker if you would like to volunteer. Live Oak is an on-line bank (FDIC insured) offering 3.5% interest. Kevin Baker contacted TD bank, and they are now offering to give us 3%

interest (up from the previous 0.01%). Please use the current reservation form, and make sure the "Total #" column is correct. Please compact recyclables to save on costs - flatten boxes, and there is new can crusher in the bar. We may switch to bring cardboard to the transfer station, which is free.

Communications: The Yodeler will be out later this week. The new web site is up.

Membership: The Swartz family was at the club this past week end. The Avrahami family will be meeting with the E-board in February.

Social: First bar night was successful. The February one will be at Revolution Hall in Lexington. January 28 will be Burns night at the lodge. There will be a movie night in February, at the lodge, probably the first weekend of February vacation.

Nominations: The nominating committee presented the following slate:

President: Eric Pearlman

VP/Lodge: Butlers

Treasurer: Kevin Baker

Secretary: Cindy Darcy

Membership: Caren Connell

Social: Mike Sciaretta

Communications: Marsha Fox

General: Please remember to clean up after yourself (and your children), especially mugs. Breakfast food is only for breakfast, not for sandwiches to eat later.

Guests: Keren Avarhami, Irena Fayngold, Bill and Mea Hilton, Fernando (2 adults).

Cindy Darcy Secretary