



The Lodge
of the
Lexington
Ski Club

THE YODELER

Read Us Online @ www.lexski.org

October 2024



EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT: *Kristen Butler* president@lexski.org
LODGE CHAIR: *Christian Ehrbar* lodgechair@lexski.org
TREASURER: *Chris White* treasurer@lexski.org
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: *Caren Connell* membership@lexski.org

SOCIAL CHAIR: *Marc Garrigus* social@lexski.org
COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR: *Kevin Baker* info@lexski.org
SECRETARY: *Cindy Darcy* secretary@lexski.org

LEXSKI MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

October 15, 2024	7:30 PM	Octoberfest Meeting	Belmont Hill School Chapel
November 19, 2024	7:30 PM	November Business Meeting	Location TBD

LEXSKI EVENTS

October 18-20, 2024	Hiking Weekend	Garrigus
October 18-20, 2024	Large Group	Gelfand-Nichols
November 14, 2024	LexSki @ the Movies	Garrigus – TICKET REQUIRED!
October 26-27, 2024	Work Weekend	Baker
November 8-10, 2024	Work Weekend	Gelfand-Nichols

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Come join us for Octoberfest! Fall is in the air; the leaves down here are starting to change, and Franconia Notch is gorgeous (Winter can't be far behind).

It is great to see the Club being used during the off-season, please remember to sign-in the book upon your arrival, sign-out upon your departure and send forms to the host/treasurer. If you have guests with you, please make sure to sign-in with them as well and send your payment for guests to the Treasurer.

In April of 2023, every single pair of skis and poles were marked with tape. We have asked for the past 18 months that members remove the tape to indicate they are currently in use. At the November work weekend, we will be removing all the skis and poles that still have tape on them. Please plan accordingly if you have not had the opportunity to remove the tape off your skis and poles. Electric car charger: If you use our electric car charger, please make sure you sign on the clipboard that is on the cart right inside the kitchen door. Members, if your guest uses the electric car charger, you as a member are responsible for recording the usage and the payment as we cannot accept payments of any kind from guests.

We want to congratulate Jordan on his recent engagement and purchase of a house! It does mean that he will not be returning to be our chef for the season (I'm going to miss the lemon curd and blueberry compote!!). We have posted the position out on Indeed with the hopes of having someone in place for the start of the season. If you know of someone who would be interested, please let Chris White and me know so we can follow up with them.

Kristen Butler (President@LexSki.org)

PRESIDENT



Looking south through the Notch from Artist's Bluff

LODGE REPORT

2024 Work Weekends So Far

It has been busy up at the lodge on our work weekends so far. The work this season has been focused on the second floor back wall with new doors, new trim and insulation. Those rooms should be more comfortable than ever this coming Winter season from a temperature perspective. The work weekend teams have tackled several other items inside and outside of the lodge. Thanks to everyone for your help so far.



There's work for everyone at the lodge on a recent work weekend!

Remaining Work Weekends

The next work weekend should be focused on siding the outside of the second floor back wall, finishing and painting the trim and other fun projects. Our final work weekend will be focused on tying up any loose ends on our Summer and Fall projects and the usual cleaning activities that get us ready for Ski Season.

Remaining Work Weekend Dates:

October 26-27 – Hosted by Kevin and Kathy Baker

November 8-10 – Hosted by Jennifer Nichols and Gerald Gelfand

Club Usage

Amidst it all, the club has been seeing more off-season use than ever. It's great to see this awesome resource enjoyed by as many folks as possible. That's why we have it and are working to improve it. If you haven't spent time at the lodge in the off-season (other than a work weekend), there's no better time than the present. While everyone else pays big \$ to stay up North and leaf peep, we can enjoy the spacious club as part of our membership.

Plumbing Concerns

We've had some plumbing issues in a couple rooms, particularly Room 4 and Room 5. We found something in the Room 4 toilet waste pipe that shouldn't have been there, and the Room 5 shower issue was a giant hairball. We think they are all resolved now, but please do not flush anything down the toilets other than toilet paper and try to keep any hair from going down the shower drains. Remind your kids about this as well. The plumbing in some parts of the club is very sensitive to foreign matter and it creates a lot of work when things get backed up.

Large Group Weekends

I don't think there are any large groups planning to use the club scheduled currently but let me know if I missed someone or you plan to take a group up.

Christian Ehrbar (lodgechair@lexski.org)

LODGE CHAIR

SOCIAL REPORT

The Ski Club had a busy summer socially! We closed out the year with our annual cookout, hosted this year by Mike and Kathy. They did a great job and everyone adapted to pouring rain by sheltering in the Fahy's ample 3 car garage! LexSki at the Sox went well with 25 attendees surviving a Red Sox game in July in the blistering heat and sun. Next year we'll do a 4:00 game instead. The Gran Fondo went seamlessly with Mustafa and Janet taking over for Lou and Christine! The many hikers and bikers in attendance had a blast!

Here are the upcoming social events:

Octoberfest Meeting, Oct 15th- 7:30pm, Belmont Hill Chapel - Come enjoy a fall brew with your fellow members and find out how everyone's summers have been! I'll be supplying a variety of beers to enjoy and sample, as well as some light snacks.

LexSki Hiking Weekend (and Music Fest)- Evening of October 18- October 20, Ski Lodge, The date of the annual hiking weekend is the evening of Friday the 18th through October 20th. It happens to be the same weekend that Jerold and Jen are having a larger group of their musician friends up! We'll be sharing the club with their group, and all will be participating in a pot luck meal Saturday night! Each attending family will need to bring an side, salad, or dessert to share, as well as their own grillables for the main meal. I'll be providing bagels and cream cheese for the hikers Saturday morning. As happened in past years, people are encouraged to come up Friday to discuss potential hikes and identify who they'll be hiking with. There generally are groups for easy, medium, and hard hikes. Sometimes there is an "Extremely Hard" hike, as well. If you're comfortable with a musical instrument, bring that as well! RESERVATION FORMS NEEDED BY OCTOBER 14th- Send to Jennifer Nichols and myself.

LexSki Night at the Movies!- November 14th, House of Blues, 6:30 doors open, 7:30 show TICKET REQUIRED- We're changing it up this year! We're headed to the House of Blues to see Teton Gravity Research's "Beyond the Fantasy" (Instead of going to the Warren Miller show at the Somerville Theater). I'll be coordinating a group purchase of seats (\$37/person). Please reach out to me if you're interested with # of tickets needed. I'll also be sending out an e-mail.

I need to co-ordinate with Betsy Stanford and Sue Gardner who have volunteered to help with the 60th Anniversary Celebration! Details to come. **If you're interested in making the dream a reality, please reach out to me.** I definitely will need assistance with this and could use a Special Project Lead.

Also, I'm hoping to form a committee to plan/organize/assist with buying snacks/waters for the monthly meetings, theme weekends at the Lodge during ski season, and other social events locally. If you're interested in planning an event, or helping generally, please let me know!

Marc Garrigus (social@lexski.org)

SOCIAL CHAIR

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

I hope everyone had a great summer! There has been some excellent progress with the roll-out of the new www.lexski.org website. The feedback has been great, and hopefully it will be effective for highlighting the family friendly environment of our club when marketing to new members. I've also worked hard to make the members only area simple and easy to use, so behind the password wall, it should be easy to find what you need quickly. Remember, the site is hosted on a new platform, so you do need to complete a one-time sign-up the first time you login to the Members Area. It's a simple process, and can be done on the login page by clicking "Sign Up" where it says, "New to this site?" If your email

address is on file, I will approve your new sign-up quickly, most likely within 24 hours. So far 75 members have registered for members area access.

As you may have noticed, the new website will have an online store, and we have selected www.printify.com to be our logo item vendor. This is a print-on-demand service, so the club does not need to stock any items or create any minimum orders, and Printify has a [catalog of 950 different items](#), all of which can be customized. This store really can have an unlimited variety of logo items, and can customize your artwork on any items you would like. If you or a family member have an artistic talent, and you would like to see an item added to the store, it is as simple as sending me your digital image or artwork to add to an item. For example, if you want to create an individually designed t-shirts for your work weekend, club event, or to just to wear around the lodge, simply send me a high-quality digital image suitable for the item, and I'll work with you to get it added to the online store. Most items from the www.printify.com catalog are reasonably priced, and the club will make a small profit from these purchases. To start, I have already uploaded a few very basic logo items that can be purchased. Feel free to place an orders and keep an eye out for new items I will add soon!

So far, it's clear that the most liked (and visited) section of the new website is the [Family Photo Directory](#). The directory is accessible to members and advancing prospective members only and lists all our current families with a family photo with first names. This is especially useful right now since we have so many new families that have joined. **About ½ of our families have submitted a photo so far.** Whether you are a brand-new family or a lifelong member, [please submit a photo using this link](#). It simple, takes just about a minute, and it will be useful to help members learn everyone's names. If this is all news to you, I really encourage you to check out the [new website](#) if you haven't already!

Kevin Baker (info@lexski.org)

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We currently have 49 active member families, 2 derivative members, and 3 alumni member families.

The Membership Committee for the 2024-2025 season met at the end of September and has begun both electronic and physical postings to promote the club. Next year, we plan to participate in a local town day event, with Arlington or Lexington being likely options, as we were in Winchester this year. Many thanks to Karen Spira, Leigh Schopp and Karin Moellering for volunteering to join the committee. If any other members are interested in participating, we'd be glad to have you!

As we head into the season, we have six prospective member families, some of whom you may have met last season. Below is a reminder of the families and their sponsors:

- Cantoni family (Winchester, Chan/Fox)
- Dennis family (Lexington, Jahnes/Gardner)
- Eisenman family (Lexington, Hilton/Pearlman)
- Launer family (Arlington, Curtin/O'Donnell)
- Sayre family (Lexington)
- Wang family (Lexington)

A couple of these families entered the process at the end of the season and are still in need of sponsors—please consider volunteering.

Caren Connell membership@lexski.org

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

TREASURER REPORT

The budget for the upcoming year is looking strong. Membership renewals came in above targets resulting in collecting approximately \$111,000 in dues. This exceeded our budgeted amount by approximately \$10,000. This will allow us to continue to make meaningful, and needed, improvements to our physical infrastructure. This will also help to account for anticipated losses of interest income as rates are expected to continue to decline over the coming year.

As a reminder, when visiting the Lodge in the offseason reservations forms are still required. All requests should be sent to the assigned host and cc'ed to the Treasurer. All payments due remain payable upon your departure from the Lodge.

I do have unfortunate news to share, Jordan has informed us that he will be unable to return as our seasonal cook for the upcoming season. In conjunction with the e-board we have posted the position and are actively gathering a pool of candidates for interview. We will continue to keep membership apprised of significant updates on this front.

Below are the balances of club accounts as of June 13, 2024:

Bank Accounts

TDBankNorth Checking	7,600.00
TDBankNorth Savings	95,371.67
Capital Improvements (>\$10k)	59,674.56
Capital Improvements Donations	2,403.00
Emergency Fund (>\$35k)	<u>43,500.00</u>
Total TDBankNorth Savings	<u>\$200,949.23</u>
Total Bank Accounts	\$208,549.23

Chris White (treasurer@lexski.org)

TREASURER

SECRETARY REPORT

May 21, 2024

Membership meeting Minutes

Info: The old website is not sending e-mail to Kevin Baker when people request access to it; please send an e-mail directly to info@lexski.org to request access.

Membership: Prospective members Schopp, Nettleson/Pucasu and Moellering/Kraska have been accepted for membership. Welcome! Erica Tubman and Hugh Reece are in the feedback period. Expect to have one family meeting with the e-board in June.

Caren Connell is checking to see if new members have website access.

The club will have a table at Winchester Town Day on June 1, and volunteers are needed.

Social: The Annual Picnic/BBQ will be on June 21 at the Fahy home.

The weekend of June 20 is the Gran Fondo.

Marc Garrigus is organizing a Red Sox game outing, on July 14. Need at least 15 people (and currently have 8).

Marc Garrigus is setting up a committee to plan for the club's 60th anniversary celebration.

Lodge: The first work weekend run by the McCarthys went well. June 1 is the next Work Weekend. If you are willing to host a work weekend, please contact Christian Ehrbar. If any one wishes to buy out of

the work weekend requirement, the cost is \$250/adult.

Project for this year is replacing exterior lodge doors on the rear motels and doors to the second floor. The doors will all swing out for safety, and lose a lot less heat than the old doors.

Treasurer: Chris White presented the budget committee's proposed budget, which increases dues by \$100 for the first adult in each family/derivative membership. The membership approved the budget. Have budgeted for sprinkler head replacements over the next 2-3 years.

General: Skis and poles in the the attic and basement have tape around them, to be able to identify abandoned items. Please remove the tape from your gear. The November work weekend will toss out taped items.

Attendance: 33 members in attendance.

In person: Keren Hamel, Kevin Baker, Dan Butler, Kristen Butler, Deanna Chan, Sherman Chan, Bev Colby, Frank Colby, Caren Connell, Dan Connell, Cindy Darcy, Christian Ehrbar, Alix Fox, Ian Fox, Marc Garrigus, Jennifer Nichols, Jerold Gelfand, Irene Gravina, Sam Gravina, Peter Hardman, Steve Jahnes, Holly Martin, Kevin Martin, Rita McCarthy, Tom McCarthy, Eric Pearlman, Christine Alaimo, Lou Savarino, Bill Sciaretta, Karen Spira, Chris White

Zoom: Mike Fahy, Betsy Stanford

Guests: Keith Eisenaman, Steve Canham.

Cindy Darcy (secretary@lexski.org)

SECRETARY