



The Lodge  
of the  
Lexington  
Ski Club

# ☘ **THE YODELER** ☘

Read Us Online @ [www.lexski.org](http://www.lexski.org)

March 2026

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

**PRESIDENT:** *Kristen Butler* [president@lexski.org](mailto:president@lexski.org)

**LODGE CHAIR:** *Christian Ehrbar* [lodgechair@lexski.org](mailto:lodgechair@lexski.org)

**MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIRS:** *Ramona/Pablo Filipi-Acosta*  
[membership@lexski.org](mailto:membership@lexski.org)

**SECRETARY:** *Cindy Darcy* [secretary@lexski.org](mailto:secretary@lexski.org)

**TREASURER:** *Chris White* [treasurer@lexski.org](mailto:treasurer@lexski.org)

**COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR:** *Kevin Baker* [info@lexski.org](mailto:info@lexski.org)

**SOCIAL CO-CHAIRS:** *Gant Redmon & Bill Hilton*  
[social@lexski.org](mailto:social@lexski.org)

## LEXSKI MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

March 17 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	<a href="#">Club Business Meeting</a>	Belmont Hill School Chapel Bsmt
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	<a href="#">Club Business Meeting</a>	Location TBD

## LEXSKI EVENTS

March 14	5:00 PM	<a href="#">St. Patrick's Day Celebration</a>	Lodge
March Date TBD	11:30 AM	Cannon Mountain BBQ	Cannon Mtn Slopeside
April 11	TBD	<a href="#">LexSki Wine Tasting 2026</a>	3 Wellington St Unit #1, Boston
April 18-26		April School Vacation Week	
June	TBD	June Cook out	Location TBD

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As our ski season winds down, thank you to everyone who made this winter season so fun-filled! Still more fun to come at the Club: St. Patrick's Day at the club this weekend and the Ski Club barbecue on the slopes of Cannon Mountain with the exact date TBD.

Please join us this coming Tuesday at our monthly membership meeting. Elections are an important part of our volunteer organization. The Nominating Committee has recommended the following slate:

President: Kristen Butler  
 Vice President/Lodge Co-chairs: Ben Forman and Brian Kmetz  
 Treasurer: Chris White  
 Secretary: Cindy Darcy  
 Members at Large:  
 Social Committee Co-chairs: Bill Hilton and Gant Redmon  
 Membership Committee Co-chairs: Ramona Filipi and Pablo Acosta  
 Communications: Irene Gravina

Thank you to Kevin who has been on the board in multiple capacities for more than 6 years. From taking on the Treasurer's role and the Communications role to spearheading multiple improvement projects. Thank you.

Thank you to Christian for the past two years as the Lodge Chair. Thank you for resurrecting the Lodge Committee to have more volunteers actively involved and centralizing information.

Thank you to Patrick for rising to the challenge of cooking for numbers not seen in years!

Thank you to Dan for handling the Kitchen Committee role again. Thank you for laying the groundwork for next year's committee of multiple people to take on the Kitchen Committee role.

*Kristen Butler* ([President@LexSki.org](mailto:President@LexSki.org))

PRESIDENT

## LODGE REPORT

The Lodge Committee has prepared two important surveys and is asking each member family to complete them.

[Survey 1 – Lodge and Work Weekend Feedback](#)

[Survey 2 – Work Weekend Scheduling](#)

Your responses will help the Lodge Committee understand member priorities, improve how work weekends are planned, and provide useful guidance to future Lodge Chairs.

Please take about 20 minutes to complete both surveys within the next few weeks, but before **March 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

Member families with two adult members should complete each survey **once per family**.

Thank you for helping improve how we maintain and run the lodge.

The Lodge Committee will meet **March 26<sup>th</sup> on Zoom at 7:30 PM**.

*Christian Ehrbar ([lodgechair@lexski.org](mailto:lodgechair@lexski.org))*

LODGE CHAIR

## SOCIAL REPORT

**March 14:** [St. Patrick's Day Celebration](#) at the lodge! Come show your green in celebration of this 5<sup>th</sup> century patron saint of Ireland!

**April 11:** [LexSki Wine Tasting 2026](#) (7PM in the City!) Thank you, Gant Redmon for hosting. Gant's stylish abode: **3 Wellington Street, Unit 1, Boston**. Parking is very limited (there may be one or two spots) so public transportation or rideshare are encouraged. The location is just off Mass Ave near Symphony Hall.

**April 18-26<sup>th</sup>** **School Vacation Week**

**June TBD** **Lex Ski June Picnic** – Date and location TBD. We need a host! Let us know if you want to host this spectacular summer kick-off event!

If anyone has suggestions for Saturday theme nights, let us ([social@lexski.org](mailto:social@lexski.org)) know, particularly if you are the host!

*Gant Redmon and Bill Hilton ([social@lexski.org](mailto:social@lexski.org))*

SOCIAL CO-CHAIRS

## TREASURER REPORT

**Bank Account Balances and more updates will be shared at upcoming membership meeting.**

### Trash & Recycling

Please continue to be mindful of our trash and recycling dumpsters. **If you are a weekend host or have bar/dinner duty I would ask that you pay extra attention to the fullness of the dumpsters.** We had a third incident recently where I was not made aware that our trash dumpster needed dumping until it was nearly overflowing. It does take a few days to get Waste Management to make a pickup. If the dumpster appears to be greater than 75% full, please reach out so I can arrange a pickup. You can e-mail me at [treasurer@lexski.org](mailto:treasurer@lexski.org) or by text message at 781-535-2930.

*Chris White ([treasurer@lexski.org](mailto:treasurer@lexski.org))*

TREASURER

## **COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

After seven fantastic years on the E-Board, it's time for me to step down and pass the torch to another member of the club. I'm thrilled that **Irene Gravina** will be taking on the Communications role, and I'm confident she will be a tremendous addition to your E-Board.

Before signing off, I want to express my deep appreciation to the volunteer members who made up the E-Boards I've had the privilege of serving with over these past seven years. I cannot imagine a more dedicated, hardworking, and commendable group of people. The progress and stability LexSki enjoys today are the direct result of these many individuals pulling together, problem-solving creatively, and refusing to let challenges define the club's future.

When I joined the board in 2019, the club was facing a daunting list of problems: the porch had collapsed, major leaks from severe ice dams were damaging the building, the electrical and plumbing systems were aging and unreliable, the oil tanks were on the verge of failure, the common areas were outdated, and the windows and doors were drafty. On top of all that, we had almost no money on hand to address any of these issues. It would have been easy to throw up our hands—but instead, the E-Board showed real determination. They secured funding through a robust insurance settlement and got to work. Through their efforts, and with the help of many members, the building was put back together in time for the 2020 season.

And then, just as we were all catching our breath, COVID-19 hit. Membership shrank, recruitment stalled, and uncertainty became the norm. Yet even in that moment, the E-Board never stopped working to protect the club's future. We secured a government-backed loan from the Small Business Administration and got right back to work again.

Every E-Board over the last seven years stepped up in remarkable ways, and the list of improvements they spearheaded with the help and support of members speaks for itself:

- Both porches were rebuilt.
- The roof was replaced and properly insulated to prevent future ice dams.
- Nearly every window and door in the lodge was replaced.
- Major electrical and plumbing systems were upgraded.
- Two commercial hot water heaters and two oil tanks were replaced.
- Fire alarm and sprinkler systems underwent major upgrades.
- A new commercial kitchen hood was installed.
- The kitchen, dining room, living room, four bathrooms, and two bedrooms were renovated, along with long-awaited new carpeting and furniture.
- A modern Wi-Fi network was installed along with new TVs, exterior cameras, an integrated building smart-monitoring system, EV chargers, and a completely new website.
- Membership not only rebounded but grew rapidly, and today we have a substantial waiting list—a testament to the club's renewed strength and appeal.

These accomplishments belong to the entire community—every volunteer, every board member, and every LexSki member who stuck with the club through these years of rebuilding and uncertainty. Just as importantly, the membership stood behind these efforts. You unanimously supported significant dues increases—based solely on a promise that we would fix the club's many problems and that better days were ahead—and you showed remarkable patience through the disruption, dust, noise, and general chaos that came with so many construction projects.

That promise was kept. Today, the club is stronger, more vibrant, and more financially stable than at any point in my eleven years of membership. I'm proud to have played a small part in that journey, and even prouder to have worked alongside the many people who made it possible.

As we look ahead, it's important to remember that the club's continued success depends on members stepping forward to serve. The E-Board is made up entirely of volunteers, and each new group brings fresh energy, new ideas, and the commitment needed to keep LexSki thriving. I hope many of you will consider taking a turn on the board in the years to come; it is truly one of the most meaningful ways to give back to this community.

Thank you for your trust, your collaboration, and your commitment to this quirky, beloved community. I look forward to cheering on the next chapter of LexSki with all of you!

Kevin Baker ([info@lexski.org](mailto:info@lexski.org))

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**



### **Membership Count:**

We currently have 54 active families, 2 derivative members and 3 alumni families.



### **New Members:**

A warm congratulations and welcome to the club to the Brune, LaCroix-Lepionka and Wendt-Harrison families!!!! Thank you again to the sponsors of these families for helping them through the process and submitting timely letters of recommendation.



### **Wait-List:**

We currently do not have a wait list. We have room for 1 more family until we are at capacity again. There are three more families scheduled for the April eBoard meeting, and one inactive member coming back to active status, so it is highly likely that we will have a wait list for a few months at least until membership renewals in July.



### **Prospective Members**

The following are the ten prospective member families in process:

- **Bennett family:** Andra, Matthew (15), Vlad (12), Madalina (7) from Lexington; Sponsors: Hardman, Forman
- **Norman family:** Anne and Chris, Mikayla (13), Adelaide (11), Claudia (9) and Benny (3) from Lexington, Sponsors: Jahnes, TBD
- **Pastel family:** Gabe and Amanda, Raea (4) and Atley (3) from Beverly. Gabe's family was a member in the early '00s. Sponsors: Curtin, Schopp
- **Sapkota-Buduri:** Archana and Arun, Aria (8) and Asha (5), from Lexington. Sponsors: TBD
- **Tocci family:** Brian and Amanda, from Somerville, MA. Sponsors: Butler, White
- **Guy family:** Marc and Emilia, Delilah (10) and Rowan (6), from Weymouth. Friends of Kmetz since college. Sponsors: Kmetz/TBD
- **Czik family:** Alex, Rebecca, and Faye(1), from Arlington, MA. Sponsors: Acosta-Filipi, Schopp

Prospective families on hold are Barnes-Furutani, Wang, and Doyle. The Wang family is coming out of hold and attending the April eBoard meeting.



### **Errors?**

Spotted an error in the members list? Let us know at [membership@lexski.org](mailto:membership@lexski.org)

Pablo and Ramona Filipi-Acosta [membership@lexski.org](mailto:membership@lexski.org)

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

## SECRETARY REPORT

### Elections:

At the March membership meeting, the membership will elect people to e-board positions. The slate of candidates presented by the Nominating Committee is:

**President:** Kristen Butler

**Vice-President/Lodge Chairs:** Ben Forman and Brian Kmetz (co-chairs)

**Treasurer:** Christopher White

**Secretary:** Cindy Darcy

**Social:** Bill Hilton and Gant Redmon (co-chairs)

**Membership:** Ramona Filipi and Pablo Acosta (co-chairs)

**Communications:** Irene Gravina

### Proposed By-Law Change:

The Lexington Ski Club by-laws, as currently written, allow two people to share the position ONLY if they are spouses and living in the same household. To allow Brian Kmetz and Ben Forman to share the position, the e-board is proposing changing the by-laws to make this possible.

Here is the relevant text:

- V. 1. The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary. Each position may be held by one member or by two members who are spouses residing in the same household and who will share the responsibilities of the position.
- IV. 3. In the absence of the President, or their inability to act, then the Vice-President shall assume the office of President for the unexpired term. Typically, the Vice-President will also function as the Lodge Chair responsible for the lodge maintenance.
- V. 1. The affairs of the Club shall be managed by an Executive Board consisting of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and three other members.

The positions of Social, Membership, and Communications are not spelled out in the by-laws, but are just covered in "three other members."

The change will allow us to make a new position called Vice Lodge Chair (also not listed in the by-laws) and to increase the size of the e-board accordingly. Since Bill Hilton and Gant Redmon will be continuing to share the Social Chair for another year, the size of the e-board will also be increased by one for them.

### **The new proposed by-law text is:**

V.1. The affairs of the Club shall be managed by an Executive Board consisting of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and **five** other members.

This proposal will be discussed and voted on at the March 17 membership meeting, prior to the election of the 2026-27 board.

**Friendly reminder:** Every family is expected to have at least one adult attend EACH membership meeting. Participation, both large and small, is very important to keeping a club like this running well. (And we provide snacks and drinks for the in-person attendees!)

Cindy Darcy ([secretary@lexski.org](mailto:secretary@lexski.org))

SECRETARY

# LODGE FIRE AND SAFETY REMINDERS

## EMERGENCY MEETING LOCATION

If the fire alarm sounds, everyone should quickly exit the lodge and **meet outside at the dumpsters**. This is the Fire Department's recommended spot where we can quickly take attendance and confirm no one is missing. Firefighters will ask right away if everyone is out — gathering in one place ensures we can answer confidently and keep people safe.

## EXITS

**Know the closest exits to your room.** If the fire alarm sounds, don't automatically head for the boot room — use the nearest safe option: dorm stairs, family wing stairs, or hallway stairs. If those are blocked, emergency ladders are also available: There is one on the front porch (on the Old Colony Ski Club side) and one on the rear porch (on the parking lot side). **These ladders are for emergencies only**, but they provide a safe escape if you're trapped.

## CO DETECTORS

The lodge has six **Carbon Monoxide detectors** (one in the kitchen, the bar, the basement near the furnace, and one in each hallway wing of the second floor). If a CO detector alarms, **call 911 immediately and move outside to fresh air** — unlike our fire alarm, our CO detectors don't alert the Fire Department automatically. Remember CO is invisible, odorless, and deadly! The furnace or water heaters could be malfunctioning, and firefighters have the tools to check safely. Always err on the side of caution, and rest assured there isn't a cost to have the fire department respond to confirm if everything is safe.

## AED

An **Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)** is in the boot room. If someone is unresponsive or needs CPR, remove the AED from its cabinet, open the case, and follow the voice prompts. It gives clear, step-by-step instructions — no special training required — and can save a life.

## FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

**Fire extinguishers** are located near all exits. If a small fire breaks out, first call for help and dial **911** or pull the fire alarm — remember fire can spread quickly in an old building. Only attempt to use an extinguisher if you have a clear escape route. Stand 6–8 feet back, pull the pin, aim at the base of the fire, and squeeze the handle. Even if you put the fire out, make sure firefighters are still coming to check for hidden fire or smoldering items.

## KITCHEN HOOD ANSUL SYSTEM

The kitchen hood has a **wet chemical fire suppression system** designed for stove, oven and vent fires. During a kitchen fire, it should activate automatically and notify the Fire Department. If it doesn't, there's a manual pull handle to the right of the kitchen sink — use it immediately to release the system.

## SMOKE

If you open your bedroom door and encounter **smoke**, remember that most bedrooms have alternate exits: porches, windows, or emergency ladders may be a better option. In a real fire, always find the safest, quickest way to exit the building.

## FIRST AID KIT

A **first aid kit** is in the office for bandages and basic supplies. If you notice items running low, notify the Lodge Chair or Treasurer so replacements can be ordered before we run out.

## EMERGENCY EXIT MAPS

Every bedroom door has an **emergency exit map** showing the nearest two exits, along with the location of fire extinguishers, pull stations, and the AED. Review it when you arrive. If you ever find yourself trapped, call **911** immediately and give your exact room location.

## FIREPLACE ASH DISPOSAL

Always dispose of ashes from the fireplace and firepit carefully. Never put ashes in the trash or dumpster and always wait until they've cooled completely. The safe place to discard ash is near the wood line behind the dumpsters — not in our backyard, not near the propane tank, and not along the fence. Once you've spread the ashes, use snow or a rake to make sure they're fully extinguished. Taking this extra step prevents accidental fires and helps keep our lodge safe.