



The Lodge
of the
Lexington
Ski Club

THE YODELER

Read Us Online @ www.lexski.org

February 2026

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT: *Kristen Butler* president@lexski.org

LODGE CHAIR: *Christian Ehrbar* lodgechair@lexski.org

MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIRS: *Ramona/Pablo Filipi-Acosta*
membership@lexski.org

SECRETARY: *Cindy Darcy* secretary@lexski.org

TREASURER: *Chris White* treasurer@lexski.org

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR: *Kevin Baker* info@lexski.org

SOCIAL CO-CHAIRS: *Gant Redmon & Bill Hilton*
social@lexski.org

LEXSKI MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

****NO FEBRUARY MEETING ****

March 17 7:30 PM [Club Business Meeting](#) Location TBD

LEXSKI EVENTS

March 14 5:00 PM [St. Patrick's Day Celebration](#) Lodge
April 11 TBD [LexSki Wine Tasting 2026](#) Location TBD
April 18-26 April School Vacation Week

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Oh, what a beautiful morning! Oh, what a beautiful day! With February vacation week in process as we speak, the conditions have been spectacular. A bluebird day last Sunday! Make your own pizza night was a huge success with over 65 pizzas produced!

There is no membership meeting this month, we will meet again on March 17th for elections for the 2026-2027 year. Please plan to attend the meeting, as we need a quorum to vote.

Volunteering for the Club enables us to keep up with things, plan, and make the Club better. In the Bylaws there are four committees: Membership Committee, Lodge Committee, Social Committee and Finance Committee. While we require new members to be on committees for the first two years of their membership, the committees are open to all members. Please consider volunteering to be on a committee or running a work weekend this year!

Did You Know?

The bathrooms in 2, 3, 11 and 12 have motion sensor fans to properly vent the bathrooms, and the fans turn off automatically after 10 minutes. Please leave these motion sensors intact; there have been a few times when the sensors have been covered with tape.

Kristen Butler (President@LexSki.org)

PRESIDENT

LODGE REPORT

The Lodge Committee met last week and is finalizing a member survey about work weekends and lodge repair work. Stay tuned and please fill it out promptly to help with our planning this year.

Please let us know who wants to host a work weekend in 2026. We want to plan these early to give people as much notice as possible. This should help get attendance up from where it was last year. Good months are already being taken with Gant Redmon hosting in August (Aug 15th) and Christian Ehrbar hosting in June (Date TBD).

If you have recently joined or are about to join the club, keep in mind that new member families need to have one adult member serve on the Lodge Committee or on the Membership Committee. The next Lodge Committee meeting will be on March 26 at 7:00 PM. We expect to have member surveys back by then and to look at those so we can plan.

Christian Ehrbar (lodgechair@lexski.org)

LODGE CHAIR

SOCIAL REPORT

Jan 24: [Burns Night](#) (Celebration of Scottish Poet Robert Burns with Kilts and Scotch)

Feb 7-8th: [Women's Cross Country Ski Weekend](#) at the lodge.

March 14: [St. Patrick's Day Celebration](#) at the lodge.

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

Gant Redmon and Bill Hilton (social@lexski.org)

SOCIAL CO-CHAIRS

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Emailing the Membership

If you need to send an email to the entire membership, please use the lexski@simplelists.com email address. Please note that there are certain restrictions on LexSki group emails:

- Only members of the LexSki email list can send an email out to the membership. If you attempt to use an unfamiliar email account to send a membership-wide email, it will be automatically rejected.
- Emails cannot have attachments greater than 250kb. If you need to attach a photo or attachment to a membership-wide email, you will likely need to significantly reduce the resolution of the photo or attachment. (An effective way to do this is to use the MS Windows snipping tool and cut/paste your photo or graphic into the email. The snipping tool uses very low resolution).
- All adult members of the club should be on the Simplelists email distribution list. If you need to be added, please contact the Membership Chair, Secretary, or myself to have your email addresses added. Members may manage their email subscription using the link included in the footer of every email.
- To prevent excessive emails, avoid reply-all emails that include the lexski@simplelists.com address unless your response will be relevant to the entire membership.

Securing the Lodge

If you are the last to bed, or the last to leave the lodge, please ensure that the exterior doors have been locked. Please pay special attention to the front Boot Room door when you depart. Occasionally, the automatic lock jams if the door was not pulled closed completely. Please take a moment to check that the door lock has engaged when you are the last to leave the lodge.

Lodge Courtesy

Our club's rules are in place to help keep the lodge welcoming, comfortable, and enjoyable for all members and guests. With the school vacation break behind us, but with some of our busiest winter weekends still ahead, here are a few important reminders:

- **Meal and Bar Duty:** One of the final tasks for any duty should always be taking out the trash and recycling. Please don't leave trash for the next meal crew—especially on Sundays. No trash should be left in the kitchen or bar for our mid-weekers to deal with. And don't forget to use the posted QR codes to view the duty instructions and ensure every required task is completed. When bringing out the trash, please take note if the dumpster is greater than 75% full. If it is, please send the Treasurer a text or email so he can have it serviced.
- **Bar Refrigerators:** Please remove or discard any left-over food from the refrigerators. No food or beverages should be left behind after a weekend.
- **TV Room, Tot Room, Puzzle Table:** If your children have used these spaces during the weekend, please check them before you leave or retire to bed. Toys should be put away in the Tot Room, puzzles & games returned to the office, and the TV Room should be left neat and orderly.
- **End-of-Night Lockup:** If you're among the last to head to bed, please turn off the common area lights, make sure the front and back boot room doors are locked, and ensure the thermostat timer is turned to its longest setting.

Pro Tip: If you're staying in one of the motels, your room key will also unlock the rear boot room door—handy access from the back rooms without walking around the building.

As a reminder, Bedtime (curfew) Hours are as follows:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| i. | <i>Ages 9 and under</i> | <i>9:00 p.m.</i> |
| ii. | <i>Ages 10 thru 12</i> | <i>10:00 p.m.</i> |
| iii. | <i>Ages 13 thru 14</i> | <i>11:00 p.m.</i> |
| iv. | <i>Ages 15 thru 17</i> | <i>11:30 p.m.</i> |

Please note that children are not allowed out of their room before 7:00 a.m. without a responsible adult, and that the TV is not to be on between the hours of 11:00 PM and 7:00 a.m.

Please also review the [January Membership Meeting Minutes below, where additional Lodge Courtesy discussion occurred, and is highlighted.](#)

Club History

I've had exactly zero responses to my last two calls for a volunteer or volunteers to add a few paragraphs to the [Club History](#) page on our website. It's long overdue for a refresh! Originally written in the late 1990s by life-long member **Bruce Sebell**, his essay beautifully captures the club's journey and spirit. If you haven't read it yet, I highly recommend checking it out [here](#)—it's truly a fantastic story of how our club came to be.

Bruce's story will remain fully intact, but I'd like to add updates covering the past 25 years to bring the story up to the present. If you'd be interested in contributing a few paragraphs to this ongoing history, please reach out!!

Kevin Baker (info@lexski.org)

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Count:

We currently have 51 active families, 2 derivative members and 3 alumni families.

New Members:

No new members joined in January, but the eBoard met with the Brodsky/Brune, Wendt/Harrison and LaCroix/Lepionka families in their January meeting, and these families' two-week feedback period expires February 17 (probably at the time or after you read this update). Thank you 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 4 more families until we are at capacity again.

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
- **LaCroix/Lepionka family:** Jennifer and Franz, Helen (12) from Cambridge (referred by Tubman/Reece); Sponsors Tubman/Reece, Kmetz
- **Brodsky/Brune family:** Lasse and Sasha, Alec (8), Oskar (8), Esther (3 months) from Arlington , Sponsors: Garrigus, Spira
- **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
- **Wendt-Harrison:** Troy and Tina, and Hazel (7) from Arlington, MA. Sponsors: TBD
- **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: TBD
- **Czik family:** Alex, Rebecca, and Faye(1), from Arlington, MA. Sponsors: TBD

Prospective families on hold are Barnes-Furutani, Wang, and Doyle

Errors?

Spotted an error in the members list? Let us know at membership@lexski.org

Pablo and Ramona Filipi-Acosta membership@lexski.org

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

TREASURER REPORT

Bank Account Balances 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 or by text message at 781-535-2930.

Chris White (treasurer@lexski.org)

TREASURER

SECRETARY REPORT

Membership Meeting Minutes:

January 20, 2026 – Lexington Ski Club Membership Meeting

Chapel basement meeting room, Belmont Hill School, 280 Prospect St, Belmont, MA

Attendance: **President:** Kristen Butler, **Vice-President:** Christian Ehrbar, **Secretary:** Cindy Darcy, **Treasurer:** Christopher White, **Membership:** Pablo Acosta, **Social:** Bill Hilton & Gant Redmon, **Communications:** Kevin Baker

Members: Cassy Bilton, Dan Butler, Steve Canham, Deanna Chan, Sherman Chan, Beverly Colby, Frank Colby, Dan Connell, Katherine Dennis, Keith Eisenman, Ian Fox, John Gardner, Marc Garrigus, Jerold Gelfand, Irene Gravina, Sam Gravina, Peter Hardman, Steve Jahnes, David Ledwig, Jennifer Nichols, Hugh Reece, Alex Rock, Daniela Rodriguez, Bill Sciarretta, Jeanne Sebell.

Zoom: Dorothy Chiang, Beverly Colby, Frank Colby, Caren Connell, Owen Curtin, Ben Forman, Laura De Muro, Ben Forman, Irene Gravina, Sam Gravina, Keren Hamel, Karin Laviano, Rita McCarthy, Tom McCarthy, Erica Reece, Eran Spira, Bob Sayre, Emily Sayre, Betsy Stanford,

Guests: Lasse Brune, Sasha Brodsky, Franz Lepionka, Jen LaCroix, Troy Wendt, Tina Harrison, Amanda Patel, Gabe Patel

Not represented: Bogosian, Brewer, Cotran/Kelly, Moellering/Kraska, O'Donnell, Osten, Pearlman, Puscasu/Nottleson, Schopp, Sciarretta, Varoglu/Westerhoff, Vogel, Yasaitis

A Quorum was established.

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by President Kristen Butler.

Membership: There are 12 prospective member families currently going through the joining, and we need TEN additional sponsor families. (Each prospective family needs two sponsors; members who have been in the club less than a year cannot sponsor prospective members.) If you are not currently sponsoring anyone, please contact Membership to become a sponsor. Membership is currently at 51 families and 2 derivative members. Three prospective member families are close to completing the joining requirements.

Social: Burns Night will be celebrated at the lodge on January 24 with poetry and Scotch Whiskey tasting. Wear your plaid! Members are welcome to suggest themes for Saturday night's at the lodge. Sunday, February 15 will be the annual Make Your Own Pizza night at the lodge, for both kids and adults. Pizza making will start at 5:00 and keep going until everybody is fed. Adult helpers are very welcome to help manage the chaos.

Communications: The website has been updated with current information. Please refer to website to get the current host information (as changes do sometimes happen), and please let Kevin Baker know of any changes as they arise.

Lodge: Please be careful to lock doors at the lodge before leaving – multiple doors have been found unlocked.

The boiler in the basement needs regular purging. If you don't already know how to do so, ask a more experienced member to show you. The clipboard showing when it was last done is now in the boot room, near the thermostat.

The Lodge Committee met and did a year-end review of how this year went. They are working on survey to send out to the membership. They encourage potential future Lodge Chairs to join the committee.

Treasurer: Woodstock has reassessed all the property values, and as a result our taxes are down compared to last year. (Our property value has increased since the last evaluation, but many other properties

increased by larger percentages, so our property is a smaller percentage of the total value of all properties.)

Volunteers for this year's Finance Committee are wanted. This year will include a meeting in late February to discuss issues such as late fees, and a meeting in April to work on the budget. Contact Chris White to join the committee.

General: Everyone needs to do their part to keep the lodge running smoothly. This means WASHING DISHES that you use away from official mealtimes, following quiet hours (TV off at 11:00 p.m.; lodge quiet time is 11:30 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.), getting your children into bedrooms by posted bedtimes, supervising your children's behavior – no indoor wrestling or playing football. Get your children outside to do active activities, like playing catch with a football or running games. Children are not allowed out of bedrooms without a parent accompanying them. Breakfast ENDS at 8:00 a.m. Do not arrive at 7:58 a.m. and expect full service. (The breakfast workers want to ski, too.) If you linger in the dining room after breakfast ends, make sure to clean your table and any coffee pots and mugs.

President: A housekeeper has been hired to clean the two common bathrooms on the first floor, mop the dining room and kitchen, and vacuum common spaces. She starts work on January 21.

Dan Butler: Many thanks to the many people who volunteered to help keep meals going.

Reservations: February Vacation reservation forms are due by January 26, 9:00 for priority numbers to be honored.

Secretary: When submitting a reservation form during ski season, please list all the rooms that you can possibly use. This makes it easier for the host to assign rooms when the lodge is crowded. Be aware that there is possibility of there being more families that need a bunk (those that have at least one child under age 13) than there are family rooms, particularly for guests. When there is more demand for family rooms than supply, families have the option of splitting up into two room, but an adult must stay in each room. Talk to your guests beforehand to see if they are interested in this option.

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of nominations:

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

Motion 1: (Cindy Darcy/Chris White) To adjourn meeting at 8:20 p.m.

52 in favor / 0 opposed. Motion carries.

November 18, 2025 – Lexington Ski Club Membership Meeting Minutes

Chapel basement meeting room, Belmont Hill School, 280 Prospect St, Belmont, MA

Attendance: **President:** Kristen Butler, **Vice-President:** Christian Ehrbar, **Secretary:** Cindy Darcy, **Treasurer:** Christopher White, **Membership:** Pablo Acosta, **Social:** Bill Hilton & Gant Redmon, **Communications:** Kevin Baker

Members: Tsachi Avrahami, Kathy Baker, Dan Butler, Laura Canham, Beverly Colby, Frank Colby, Jennifer Eisenman, Ian Fox, John Gardner, Marc Garrigus, Jerold Gelfand, Irene Gravina, Sam Gravina, Peter

Hardman, Steve Jahnes, David Ledwig, Eric Pearlman, Alex Rock, Emily Sayre, Matt Schopp, Bill Sciarretta, Jeanne Sebell, Betsy Stanford, Erica Tubman

Zoom: Adalberto Cantoni, Cassy Bilton, Deanna Chan, Derek Chiang, Owen Curtin, Ben Forman, Mea Hilton, Brian Kmetz, Sarah Kmetz, Josh Launer, Oksana Launer, James Laviano, Karin Laviano, Rita McCarthy, Tom McCarthy, Spira

Guests: Franz Lepionka, Jen LaCroix, Lasse Brune, Sasha Brodsky, Brian Tocci, Amanda Tocci

Not represented: Bogosian, Brewer, Cotran/Kelly, Dennis, Moellering/Kraska, O'Donnell, Osten, Puscasu/Nottleson, Rodriguez, Sciarretta, Varoglu/Westerhoff, Vogel, Yasaitis

A Quorum was established.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Kristen Butler.

Treasurer: About \$13,000 was paid out in the last month, and \$11,000 of that was for electrical work. (All the screw in fuses have been replaced with circuit breakers!) The sprinkler head replacement work is nearly done (more than 200 heads) and is the last remaining expected large expense.

During work weekends, please take construction debris to the transfer station for disposal (rather than putting it in the dumpster) as this is much cheaper.

Communications: Prospective Members – please supply a family photo for the website if you have not already done so. Talk to Kevin Baker if you need help with this or getting access to the members area of website.

Lately, there have been occasional problems with the EV chargers at the lodge. If you encounter this, you can probably fix it by opening the left side of the panel (on the north side of the building), turning the switch to off, waiting 5-10 minutes and then turning it back on.

Social: The annual Holiday Party will be on December 16, starting at 6:00 p.m. It is a pot luck dinner.

Lodge: A BIG thank you to for all the work weekend leaders and participants for their work! And especially to Steve Jahnes for leading the effort on rooms 11 and 12. Bills will be going out soon for folks who need to pay the buyout fee for not doing a work weekend.

There will be another work weekend on December 6 and 7, to finish up the work on rooms 11 and 12. Pat Hunt (a former club member) sold the hardwood flooring to the club at cost.

Christian Ehrbar will be having the Lodge Committee meet soon to look back at the past year at what has worked well, what could be improved and what work at the lodge should be planned for.

Membership: The club is at 50 families, and 2 derivative members. There are currently 8 prospective families going through the joining process.

Secretary: When submitting a reservation form during ski season, please list all the rooms that you can possibly use. This makes it easier for the host to assign rooms when the lodge is crowded. Be aware that there is possibility of there being more families that need a bunk (those that have at least one child under age 13) than there are family rooms, particularly for guests. When there is more demand for family rooms than supply, families have the option of splitting up into two room, but an adult must stay in each room. Talk to your guests beforehand to see if they are interested in this option.

Nominating Committee: Names were drawn for this years nomating committee: Karin Moellering, Jan Sciarretta, Sherman Chan, Aran Spira, Gerald Gelfand, Karin Laviano, Lea O'Donnell. (People are welcome to swap the task over to their spouse if the spouse agrees. The committee is tasked with presenting a slate of candidates to the club at the January meeting. Jan Sciarretta will be the chair of the committee.

Motion 1: (Cindy Darcy/Chris White) To adjourn meeting at 8:36 p.m.
48 in favor / 0 opposed. Motion carries.

Cindy Darcy (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.