

The Yodeler

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May 2019

Executive Board

President: *John Pinsky*

Vice President & Lodge Chair: *Peter Hardman*

Secretary: *Cindy Darcy*

Treasurer: *Dan Connell*

Membership: *Lorelle and Les Yee*

Activities: *Eric Pearlman*

Communications: *Ann Redmon*

LexSki Membership Meetings

Meetings of the membership are held on the third Tuesday of the month at First Parish Church, Lexington (by the Green) at 7:30 p.m. in Parker Hall (rear entrance, lower level) unless otherwise noted.

Host families are responsible for bringing a snack and for set-up before and clean-up after each meeting. **If you can't serve, get a sub—in advance.** According to our contract with the church, **no nuts are allowed**, so please be sure that the food you bring is nut free.

May 21, 2019: Stanford, Tamir/Pinsky

June 21, 2019, 6:00-8:00: Picnic, Ann and Gant Redmon's, 11 Saddle Club Road: Turner/Rossi, Varoglu, Vogel

President's Report

Spring is here, and that can only mean one thing—it's work weekend season. We have one work weekend in the books. Peter and his crew did a great job of laying the concrete foundation for the new oil tanks, and we obviously have a lot of work to do this year!

Many members enjoyed the annual wine tasting, reminiscing about the ski season and planning for the future. The move to Friday night for the third straight year was a hit. A sincere thank you to Paul Cotran and Anne Kelly for hosting the party at their home even though they were not there. Thank you to Eric Pearlman for planning a great event even though he didn't attend!

It is budget time, folks. The budget committee has worked hard to figure out how to keep our costs low while managing some increases in costs. Thank you to all who participated in pulling the budget together. Dan will present the budget at the May membership meeting. I urge all members to attend this important meeting. The membership can expect a significant dues increase, as the club needs a lot of work now and in the future.

Also, because the membership level is a pressing concern, we have purchased a booth at Discovery Day in Lexington. This is an annual fair held Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. There are many food vendors and entertainment options, and local businesses and clubs advertise their services. It's a fun event for all those who are around on Memorial Day weekend. We also plan to attend fairs in Arlington and Winchester.

John (jpinsky@one2onebodyscapes.com)

Treasurer's Report

(Editor's note: Because of the delay in putting the Yodeler out, the treasurer's report is outdated. The original report is given here, but the attached budget is the budget as revised after additional money was received from the insurance company.)

As of May 9:

Replacement Reserve:	\$23,500
Upcoming Maintenance:	\$10,337
<u>Operating MM:</u>	<u>\$42,896</u>
Savings account:	\$76,733
<u>Checking account:</u>	<u>\$21,920</u>
Total	\$98,653

This month is all about the budget meeting. First, I want to thank all the members who helped on this effort - Cindy Darcy, Phil Brewer, Christian Ehrbar, Sam Gravina, and Kevin Baker. Their work and insight were much appreciated. Having a few volunteers who bring different perspectives is very helpful.

Although we have received a payment of \$25,000 from our insurance company to cover some of the damage to the club (porch and roof), we do not know if this will be the extent of the claim. Regardless, we need to make repairs on the club to make it safe and dry, to support the 2019/2020 ski season, and to return the club to a state that will attract new members. It should be no surprise that the Finance Committee is recommending increasing the prepayment fees for adults this year. At the E-Board meeting, it was also proposed that the initiation fee be increased to \$1,500. This increase would not apply to those prospective members who are nearly finished with the membership process.

Here is some background on how we determined the increased fee. Based on expenses over the last five years (and biasing it toward averages of the last three years), we estimated expenses for each of the categories shown below. From quotes we received for roof and porch repairs and oil tank replacement, we came up with a repair expense amount of \$85,000. We also assumed we may get an additional \$12,000 from the insurance company. We may know more about this in the next two weeks. Lastly, we put aside three months of operating expenses and four months of loan payments from our bank balance, leaving us with an additional \$70,000 for expenses. We predicted we would bring in about \$38,000 (including the \$12,000 from the insurance claim) before dues and have expenses of \$179,000. The difference of \$141,000 must be made up with member fees and savings or another loan, which we discussed but are not proposing. With \$70,000 coming from savings (since the Finance Committee completed the proposed budget and submitted it to the E-Board, the bank balance has dropped about \$4,000), the club needs to generate \$71,000 from members. This means each adult would have a pre-payment fee of \$1,100. As you can see from the proposed budget (separate document), even with this, there is a shortfall of approximately \$5,500, but we hope our estimates are conservative, as they have been most years.

We all realize this is a large increase, but the club needs repairs, and we do not have sufficient savings to cover this. Also, we are mostly spending money rather than generating income at this time of year. We generate revenue only from meal and room charges (we predict it will probably be less this year than in the past because of the reduced number of rooms) and member fees. It should also be remembered that the fees have been kept the same for the last two years.

Please come to the May budget meeting to discuss and vote on the budget. If you have another plan, be prepared to present it. Please do not simply say the dues are too high without offering a way to make up the shortfall. By the end of the meeting, the club needs to approve a budget so that invoices can be sent by June 1. For the first time, all payments are due by July 1 rather than October 1. I hope that everyone is committed to making the needed repairs and improvements so that the Lexington Ski Club can continue long into the future.

Dan Connell
Treasurer
617-974-0293

Membership Report

The Membership Committee would like to recognize the O'Donnell's, Lia and Leo, who have completed the membership process and will be offered full membership in two weeks unless concerns are raised.

Town Day season begins with Lexington's Discovery Day on Saturday, May 25. We need volunteers to work the booth. The event is from 10:00 to 3:00, and we will need help with both set-up and tear-down. It would be helpful to have 2-hour shifts from 9-4; please let us know if you can work a shift. Town days are a major source of recruitment for the club and are a great way to support the club and be part of a major town event. Contact Les or Lorelle Yee to volunteer.

We are still seeking leads for the other town days including Arlington, Winchester, Bedford, and Burlington.

- Discovery Day (Lexington Town Day), Saturday, May 25
- Winchester Town Day, Saturday, June 1
- Arlington Town Day, Saturday, September 14
- Bedford Town Day, Saturday, September 22
- Burlington Town Day, TBD

Lorelle and Les Yee, Membership Committee Chairs

Social Report

Family Picnic: Friday, June 21, 6:00-8:00 (set-up 5:15)

Ann and Gant Redmon, 11 Saddle Club Road, Lexington

Eric Pearlman, Social Committee Chair
eric@pearlmangroup.com
617-510-0399