

Longwood Lake Newsletter

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May 2009

Annual Meeting 10:00am Saturday, June 20th

Welcome to spring 2009. All of us on the LLCOA board hope to find most, if not all of our members at the annual meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Saturday June 20th at 10:00am at the:

**1ST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
635 BERKSHIRE VALLEY ROAD
WHARTON, NJ**

We will be using the same format - a 10:00 am meeting followed by a noon lunch. We wish to begin on time and ask that all members arrive **before** the official 10:00am start to sign in. Attendance will be taken; voting cards handed out, proxy forms and timber wood forms collected. Our agenda includes:

- Treasurer' Report
- Minutes of 2008 Annual Meeting
- Budget
- Maintenance (Assessment) Fees
- Fish stocking and campfire permit
- Timber Stand Improvement
- Power Line Report
- Dinner Dance
- Summer Picnic
- Road Maintenance
- Elections

The term for the following offices of the board are up for election this year, — Secretary, Treasurer, VP at Large (Aaron). While I know that some of us will continue to serve if that's what the members want, we would certainly welcome some new faces. If you have questions about serving on the Board, give one of us a call. We'd be happy to fill you in.

If you wish to have an issue or item added to the agenda for action at the meeting, please contact Su Klein via email at LLCOASU@aol.com. While we will accept new agenda items up until 9:00 am the day of our annual meeting, Su would appreciate email before the June 1st to add items to the agenda.

For those members who are unable to attend, make sure any proxy statements are correctly filled out and signed. Although a copy of the minutes will be published in the next newsletter, your presence and thoughts are needed at the meeting to insure we have a well-rounded discussion.

FROM the TREASURER

Submitted by Frank Cagnina

The annual assessment (Dues) for 2009 will be increased to \$600.00. The Board felt we needed the increase this year to allow the board to manage our lake, fund maintenance projects, strive for improved water quality, as well as provide social activities for our members. Our social activities contribute to the maintenance of our non-profit status. Please make your check out to L.L.C.O.A and mail to:

*Frank Cagnina
556 Hillsdale Ave.
Hillsdale, NJ 07642.*

Please keep in mind the assessment must be paid by the annual meeting; otherwise a 10% late fee will be added starting July 1st, 2009.

CABIN OWNER MASTER

LIST

I am again including forms to update the information we have on file for each cabin. I am receiving returned mail for some cabins still. If there are any changes to ownership, addresses for mailing list that

are no longer valid, please complete the enclosed form. There are many cabins that have more than one owner listed and some of the addresses are no longer valid. I can only maintain a valid list if the information is given to me so I ask that you complete this form and print clearly, and bring to the annual meeting , or email me at LLCOASU@aol.com the following information: Cabin number, address, phone, and email address of anyone who is a owner of your cabin.

Thank you. Su Klein

CAMP FIRES

By Su Klein

Bob Klein and Mike Rowe have taken care of obtaining the permits from the town which gives us permission to burn campfires, HOWEVER, you still need to call each weekend that you intend to have a campfire. The number to call is 973-697-1300. Tell them you are part of Lower Longwood Lake and you will be having a campfire this weekend. They have our permit numbers on file. If anyone is caught having a campfire who did not call our permit can be taken away for the season. So please remember to call. I am listing some rules for campfires.

1. You cannot burn rubbish, garbage, fallen

leaves, yard or trade waste by open burning.

2. The cabin owner is responsible for actions of friends operating under our permit and for any fire which may result, whether you are there or not.
3. Fire must be attended at all times and be constructed so as to prevent escape.
4. Fires must be fully extinguished before leaving.

TO CHECK FOR ANY CURRENT RESTRICTIONS LOG ON TO WWW.NJWILDFIRE.ORG

DUMPSTERS

By Kim Huron

This year we will again have cleanup dumpster available for our lake members in early July. They will be placed in three locations: Freddie's Field, the old dump on the back road and on Yellow Road.

Please adhere to the following rules for the dumpsters:

1. DO NOT put any food garbage in the cleanup dumpsters, it is not allowed and will attract skunks, bears and other animals.
2. These dumpsters are for general cleanup only. They are NOT for your construction waste or for cleaning out a cabin (this also includes the regular dumpsters) You need to get your own dumpster for this. A

mattress, a piece of furniture, an old grill, general debris, etc. is OK. (NO PROPANE TANKS)

3. DO NOT put leaves, branches, logs, etc. in the cleanup or the regular dumpsters; this should go in the woods.
4. DO NOT put concrete, cement blocks, etc in the Blue Road dumpsters; these items make the dumpster too heavy going over the bridge.

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

Submitted by Pat Pagano

This years Dinner Dance will be on Saturday, Sept 12, 2009 at 7pm at The Lafayette House. There is no special theme this year... just come and eat and have a good time!!

ANNUAL MOVIE

By Pat Pagano

CASTING CALL...CREW CALL...EVERYONE CALL...

We have not come up with an idea for this year's movie, but as usual, we can use help. Last year we had several new comers to the screen... and they were good!! We also need some help behind the scenes. We shoot our movie from the last weekend of August thru the last weekend of Sept., mainly Saturday, Saturday night and Sunday afternoons. Email me or Eva-Lee.....Thanks.

MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

By Pat Pagano

Ok... so many people have expressed an interest in seeing the movies that we do here at the lake. Last year communications got fouled up so we'll try it again this year. The Association has bought a huge screen which will be put up in Freddie's Field. Right now...we have chosen Saturday night July 11, 2009 for our first "Lake Viewing". The movie will be last year's version of "The Monster Squad". It's rated "G" but may be a little spooky for youngsters under 5 yrs old.

Since we are not sure about how many will attend and how this will all work out, we ask that anyone who would like to come, please, let us know in advance. Bring your own seating, blankets, drinks, snacks, etc. The movie is about 1 hr & 30 min with an intermission. We plan to start as soon as it gets dark, which will be about 8:30pm.

Important: We will need to borrow a generator and some lights for the backfield, and a couple of volunteers to help set up.

You can let us know who and how many will be attending by either emailing me or signing up at the annual meeting. My email is snowpagano@aol.com

BASS STOCKING

Mike Rowe will again be stocking the lake with Bass and other fish in June.

SELLING YOUR CABIN?

As our Master Deed reads, "There is an approval process with respect to the sale, mortgaging or other transfer of title of the units. This includes but is not limited to requiring the prospective purchaser of any unit to submit an application to the Board of Trustees."

So what do you do?

1. Get an application from Lois Roland or Eva-Lee Baird longwoodlakecabinowners@gmail.com
2. Have the prospective purchaser fill it out.
3. Give the application to an officer.

The officers will set up an interview with the prospective purchasers. The seller cannot be present. The interview is a two-way process. We want some information from the purchasers (mostly about income), and we want to make sure that people understand the LLCOA community before they decide to dive in. Does any of this sound scary? All interviews so far have resulted in sales.

TREES TO BE CUT ALONG BERKSHIRE VALLY ROAD

The Asplundh Tree Expert Comany has been hired by the Power Company to trim and if necessary cut down trees that might damage the power lines along Berkshire Valley Road. We asked that they leave low-growing vegetation such as azaleas, rhododendrons and dogwood. They said they would. The work should be finished in May.

ACCEPTABLE RECYCLING

Food and beverage containers, which are glass, aluminum, steel, or tin food and beverage containers
 Plastic bottles, jugs and jars with recyclable symbol on container. Please remember to remove lids and rinse out containers.

Newspapers and magazines bundled and tied with string or twine (not tape or wire) or they can be placed in brown paper bags. Also, junk mail, mixed paper, paperboard and cardboard placed in brown paper bags. Corrugated cardboard boxes must be flattened and tied with string

Do not put garbage in the recycling containers.

UNACCEPTABLE RECYCLING (ITEMS FOR THE DUMPSTER)

NO Plastic bags

NO waxed or coated containers (milk cartons, juice boxes, ice cream containers, etc)

NO broken glass, window glass, mirrors, dishes, ceramics, flower pots

NO pie tins, aluminum foil, clothes hangers, pots, pans

NO yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, cream cheese containers, butter tubs

NO deli containers, food trays, plastic utensils

NO toys and plant trays

GARBAGE

Put all garbage in the dumpsters and close the lids. If you can't put the garbage inside the dumpster, then take it home with you. Please do not put it on the ground. We also ask you to break up wooden items such as dressers and shelves into small pieces for placement in the dumpster or to burn at a campfire

THE DUMPSTER AREA IS NOT A DUMP

YOU MUST DISPOSE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS YOURSELF DO NOT PUT THEM IN OR AT THE DUMPSTER AREA

Do NOT bring any vegetation waste such as branches, logs, leaves, grass clippings, brush, etc. to the dumpster area.

Do NOT bring cement blocks, cinder blocks, bricks, rocks, etc. to the dumpster area

NO CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

Construction material can be taken to the Jefferson Twsp. Recycling Center by appointment, Saturdays between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. To make an appointment, call 973-697-2522 Monday through Thursday. One level pick-up truckload is allowed per week; bring your tax bill, as proof of residency is required

NO TIRES (Tires can be taken to the Parsippany Transfer Station by calling (973) 808-9651

NO BATTERIES (Batteries can be taken to a place that sells batteries)

NO PROPANE TANKS (Tanks can be taken to Eastern Propane for recycling or disposal)

NO MOTOR OIL (Oil can be taken to a place that sells motor oil)

NO HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous waste (including motor oil) can be taken to the Morris County M.U.A. (by appointment only; call 973-829-8006)



ANNUAL PICNIC ~

Barn Dance and Pig Roast Saturday ~ August 8, 2009 ~ 1 pm to 11 pm (rain or shine)

Got a hankerin' for a rowdy, rootin', tootin' good time? Bout time fer a good ol' fashioned country barn dance. Put on your 'Sunday-best', swing yer partner, and *do-si-do* over to Freddie's Field. We'll have a knee-slappin' good ol' time.

HAVE PIG WILL TRAVEL will prepare TWO MEALS this year.

- Old Fashioned Picnic from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
- Pig Roast with Grilled Chicken from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

All for one low price! BYOB! Prepaid reservations due by July 31.

There will be pony rides for the kids, games for all, hay bale steeple chase, photo ops thanks to Emmet McConnell, Cake Contest (...pigs??), popular desserts by Joey Fodor, square dancing and music thanks to Paul & Rick Ingis, and musical fun and dancing for the whole family by DJ - Ruben Green of SoundSational ~ back popular demand! And plenty more surprises!

You can help to make this a memorable picnic. Please volunteer: receive reservations & checks, check-in table (45-minute commitment per volunteer), children and adult games, and grounds set-up & clean-up. Watch for final details and reservation forms ... available at the annual meeting, or mailed if you cannot attend the meeting. For questions, information and **to volunteer**, please contact:

Vicki Lynne and Jim Morgan, One School Street, Califon, NJ 07830 908.832.9544 or
vlmorgan@embarqmail.com (cabin #192)

Grading, Drainage, Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for Northwest Side of Berkshire Valley Road

Soil from surrounding hillsides has been flowing into Longwood Lake for years. To some extent this is just nature at work, but at times activity by human beings makes the problem worse. Increased ATV traffic stripped vegetation from an overgrown woods road running along the hill on the northwest side of Berkshire Valley Road. Once the ground was bare, heavy rains washed soil downhill creating one enormous trench where the road had been and another trench running straight down the hill. The soil that came out of these trenches is now in Longwood Lake.

A bit of history:

Morris County hired the engineering firm Van Cleef Associates to devise a plan for controlling erosion and managing drainage Berkshire Valley Road. On Friday, December 7, 2007 Aaron Lewit, Dick Leigh, and I met with engineers from Morris County and Van Cleef Associates (the county's engineering consultants for the project) to discuss the problem. The first erosion control plan proposed by Van Cleef was to lay a pipe in the trench that runs straight down the hillside, and line the other trench with concrete. The reviewers at the NJ DEP didn't like that plan and neither did we. It would have done nothing to slow the flow of water and would make the woods look like a parking lot. We asked that they restore the hillside by filling the trenches with large cut stone, adding topsoil and re-planting.

After Van Cleef made the first plan and heard our recommendations one of their engineers spent time studying the appropriate topographic map carefully and also hiked around the area. Partly because of his intelligent reporting they gave up on the idea of lining one trench with concrete and putting a pipe in the other. They made a plan to fill the trenches with cut stone and restore vegetation so the water can come down the hill more slowly. That's good because slow moving water carries less silt than speedy water.

Recent developments:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has approved the revised plan and has granted Van Cleef Engineering Associates an exemption to the Highlands Act. This exemption is a step towards enabling Van Cleef to proceed with their project to manage drainage along Berkshire Valley Road and guarantees that they will follow the improved plan as filed.

Morris County's primary concern is to stop dangerous flooding on Berkshire Valley Road. LLCOA's primary concern is to keep soil from washing into Longwood Lake. Fortunately Van Cleef's revised plan (including measures proposed by us) should help greatly to control both flooding and silting. It calls for shunting the water that has been running down the trenches into adjacent wetlands, filling the trenches and re-vegetating the area. So far we don't know when work will start.

We did not get everything we asked for in our negotiations. We had asked for settling basins at the bottom of the hill and instead got a system of filtering the water through wetlands. We had asked that the water be piped below the dam and were told that it would be impossible to get permits to pipe the water onto Green Acres property.

Dick Leigh and Aaron Lewit are at present reviewing the final proposal. The plan looks good. Water from the hillside will flow into the lake as it always has, but in the future should be carrying substantially less silt.

Less silt, less silt, less silt in the lake. That's what we want.

- Eva-Lee Baird

Replacement of PSE&G Power Line

Article for LLCOA Newsletter

PSE&G and other electric utilities are trying to replace the existing high tension lines across our land with new lines that will be twice as high, carrying two circuits and more than twice as many wires. It appears that LLCOA is the single largest property owner in New Jersey along this power line route.

PSE&G plans to add a completely new tower near the rear entry at Longwood Lake Road and replace all the existing towers on or near our property, six towers in all. The replacement of the existing lines will result in a significant lowering of the quality of LLCOA's viewscapes and serious silting of the lake from the erosion that will inevitably accompany the construction. The towers will be twice as tall as those now in place, but because at least the bottom half of each tower is now hidden behind trees, the exposed part of the towers will be three times as great as what we now see. Large machinery will be brought in to dig foundations and erect the towers, and as this equipment is brought up the mountainsides it will destroy the trees and brush that now hold them in place, resulting in serious erosion.

The project is being presented as part of the "greening" of NJ's electric supply, but in fact all it is good for is importing power to New York City from coal-fired plants, the worst form of generation, in Ohio and Pennsylvania. In addition to the impact on our property from the new towers and lines themselves, increased use of coal-fired plants in Pennsylvania will result in a risk of increased air pollution over our area and increased risk of acid rain falling into Longwood Lake.

Substantial opposition to the project has developed, and several towns and local organizations have organized to fight it. Current interveners include the Township of Parsippany, the Township of Fredon, Fredon Township School district, Willow Day Camp, Stop The Lines (a coalition), and Fredon Pals. Jefferson and other local townships are still considering whether to join. Since an April 1st deadline has passed, they cannot join as active interveners, but could still attend meetings and register objections. On the recommendation of the Power Line Committee, the LLCOA Officers voted to join "Stop the Lines" and contribute \$2500 to help with legal fees.

This will not be a quick fight. PSE&G and the PJM Pool (PSE&G's coalition with neighboring utilities) will not give up easily, but the Federal agencies managing the Delaware Watergap National Recreation Site have announced that it may take until June, 2011 for the project to pass through all necessary Federal reviews.

The Power Line Committee currently consists of Kim Huron (officer), Jeff Galloway, Richard Leigh, Aaron Lewitt (officer), Gina Novendstern, and Ken Rosenfeld. We have filed opposition to the lines at the Highlands Council, spoke at the Jefferson Township Council meeting encouraging them to oppose the lines (which they did). We are in communication with other opponents to the lines and LLCOA is joining in with the Stop the Lines group intervention at the Bureau of Public Utilities in opposition to the proposal.

On January 13, 2009 the committee met representatives of PSE&G in order to gather as much information from them on their plans and to give them feedback on our concerns about the lines. The PSE&G folks were clearly unprepared for our expertise and the strong advocacy of LLCOA's powerline committee.

We would welcome any other LLCOA members who would like to help out. Please contact either Ken (kenrosenfeld@nmic.org), 917-558-0271 or Dick (rwleigh@earthlink.net, 646-872-0493) if you are interested.