

Lordship Fathers' Club News



21 1/2 Prospect Drive • Lordship

www.lordshipfathersclub.com



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LFC 63rd Annual Halloween Parade promises fun for all:

Witches, fairies, ghosts, ghouls and that's just the neighbors. It must be time for the Lordship Fathers Club Halloween Parade. Last year's Halloween Parade was creepy, kooky and all together spooky, except for the adorably dressed toddlers. Kids big and small can not wait to go trick-or-treating, so they had a blast getting up early, showing off their costumes to all their friends and running amok. There will be snacks, refreshments and activities. The much anticipated costume contest categories will include: scariest, funniest, most original, cutest, best in parade and best group. Expect the competition to be fierce – werewolf fierce. The afternoon's fun will be topped off with the candy parade, where each child collects enough sweets to keep Stratford dentists in business for years to come. Bring your cameras and bear witness as Lordship is invaded by monsters, super heroes, princesses and kitty cats. The Halloween Parade begins at 1:00 pm Saturday October 31st at the Lordship School ball field (directly behind the Fathers Clubhouse). It promises to be a screamingly good time.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

In May the Lordship Fathers Club awarded four scholarships to deserving high school students.

Katie Simon was awarded the Lordship Fathers Club Scholarship. Emily Moffat was awarded the Isabell Pitts Memorial Scholarship. Hannah Pancak was awarded the Greg Ackley Memorial Scholarship. Sean Driscoll was awarded the Stratford High School Scholarship.

MARK YOUR CALENDER

Club Meetings

Wednesdays:
November 4th
December 2nd
January 6th
8:00 PM
LFC Clubhouse

Halloween Parade

October 31st
1:00pm - 3:00pm
Lordship Field

Breakfast with Santa

December 12th
OLOP Hall

Christmas Lights Contest

December 14 - 21st

Coming soon: Dodge Ball Tournament

SUPPORTING LORDSHIP FOR 63 YEARS

The Lordship Fathers Club was formed in 1947 for the purpose of helping the children of Lordship either directly or through the schools. After World War II most schools in Stratford and across the country formed Fathers Clubs to give the men of the community a vehicle to contribute to the community. The Lordship Fathers Club is the only one left in Stratford and one of the few left in the country. It is believed that the Lordship Fathers Club is the oldest organization of its type in the country.

The LFC recently held the 62nd annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt on the Lordship Bluffs and over 400 children attended. Other events are the LFC Scholarship Program, Breakfast With Santa, Bob Dolyak Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament, Children's Skating Party, 49th annual Sixth Grade Spelling Bee, Good & Welfare Raffle, Christmas Decoration Contest and the LFC's oldest event the 63rd annual Children's Halloween Party in October.

The LFC sponsored the Lordship Little League team which was one of the original 4 teams in the inaugural 1948 Stratford Little League. The LFC also sponsored the Lordship Bombers Pop Warner Midget football team. The LFC ran a variety show from 1950 to 1993 with an encore performance in 1998. The LFC was the first organization of its type to run a blood bank in Stratford.

The Club holds meetings the first Wednesday of each month from September thru June at 8 pm at the LFC Clubhouse at 21 1/2 Prospect Drive between the Lordship Firehouse and Lordship Field. Membership is open to men and women and all are welcome. If you are looking to become a part of the Lordship community and like to volunteer and make new friends, stop in during our next meeting. We need help planning and organizing the various events run by the club for the children of Lordship.

The LFC has revamped our website and added a community calendar. Any organizations that want to list their event, please e-mail the details to: webmaster@lordshipfathersclub.com

Please visit our site at: www.lordshipfathersclub.com

Sunshine Committee Joins Fathers Club

Calling All Lordship Mothers!! The Lordship Fathers Club has formed the Sunshine Committee, a committee of mothers (and anyone else!) who would like to help plan events for our area & work together to support our community.

We will be at the LFC Halloween Parade on October 31st at 1:00pm welcoming volunteers & providing more information for those who might be interested. If you can't make it to the Halloween parade, please visit www.lordshipfathersclub.com or reach Gina Swanson, Chairman at 203-543-0686 or sunshinecommittee@lordshipfathersclub.com or for more information.

LORDSHIP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

The Lordship Fathers Club would like to thank Bob Sammis for his support of the Club throughout the years. Bob and Joyce have retired to Pennsylvania and Bob's position as president of the Lordship Improvement Association could not be filled by just one person. The LIA has elected a new board as follows: President Dennis Tomsheck, Vice President Richard Diedrichsen, Treasurer Bob Schaefer, Secretary Kevin Kelly and Burgess Jean Cody. Tom Halverson will be the LIA historian. The LFC wishes the new board luck and hopes to continue working with the LIA for the betterment of Lordship. The LIA is Lordship's oldest organization, forming in 1925. The LIA was instrumental in the development of Lordship. Through the years they have built roads, monitored the development of housing, established bus lines and protected the public access to Lordship's beaches. They are the trustee for Russian Beach and the bluffs from Lordship Road to Spruce Street which is open to all Lordship residents. Anyone interested in becoming active in the LIA is asked to contact a board member.

LFC HISTORY

FIRST MEETING October 22, 1947

The Lordship Fathers' club will meet Wednesday, 8 p.m. in Lordship School. All men of Lordship are invited to attend. Plans will be made for a Halloween party and dance Oct, 28, in the school. There will be games and prizes. The Father's Club is a new organization. Officers are Martin Tristine, president; Edwin Sargent, vice president; Irving Zar, secretary and treasurer; Clinton Brooks, membership chairman; Frank Weller, publicity chairman; Albert Osman program chairman and Louis Katz, procurement chairman.

January 16, 1948 – LORDSHIP FATHERS SPONSOR NEW TEENAGE GROUP; HALL DONATED BY MERCHANT: Lordship will soon have its own teen age club for social and recreational activities for children of this age group under the sponsorship of the Lordship Fathers Club it was made known this week. Al Tiburzi, Lordship merchant, has donated space over his store in Jefferson Street for the use of both groups for meetings and activities and is donating material to renovate and decorate the hall. Members of the fathers group are providing the manpower and technical knowledge for the project which will include heating, sanitary facilities, partitions and painting of the new quarters. All teenagers of the community are eligible for membership, Martin Tristine, president announced this week. The written approval of parents is required. Charter members of the new group are formulating plans for election of officers and future activities to take place as soon as the new quarters are ready for use. All meetings of the club will be under adult supervision Mr. Tristine said.

FATHERS CLUB SMOKER: April 10, 1952 - The Lordship Fathers Club will hold its first annual "Smoker" Wednesday, April 16 at 8:00 pm at the Fathers Club hall, Pauline Street. Principal speaker will be George "Kiddo" Davis, former New York Giant and Philadelphia baseball player. Other entertainment will include five exhibition boxing bouts by members of the Stratford P.A.L. and moving pictures of the Globetrotters pro ball team.

Refreshments will be served. Invited guests will be the Rev. Buckner Coe, Rev. John Walsh, Mr. Fred Cowles, Mr. Ted Jorkenson and Porky Viera, Central High school basketball star. Marty Tristine will serve as toastmaster. Members of the committee in charge of the affair include: Ed Finnegan, chairman; Ray Lynch, Don Young, Vic Perna and Irv Schofield.

ANNUAL LABOR DAY SOFTBALL GAME

September 9, 1954 – Lordship was on hand en masse to witness the annual softball game between the Lordship Fathers Club and the Lordship Firemen held on the school field Labor Day. The players displayed much ingenuity in their choice of the proper uniforms ranging from long drawers to a hula dancer. The Fathers Club was the victor 5-4. Umpires were Jim Morley, very chi-chi in his Bermuda shorts; Chris Meehan and Pandy Sota. Playing for the Fathers Club were: Jim Canelli, Al Markis, Gene Walsh, Vic Swaller, Bob Stone, Bill Robinson, Harry Eales, Jim McMellon, Bob Thompson, Marty Tristine, Harry Lyons, Jack Jarvis, Stan Heiden, Al Johnson, Ed Finnegan, Ralph Carrano, Don Young and Walt Bulmer.

Dodge Ball comes full Circle

In 2004 the movie "Dodge Ball: a True Under Dog Story" moved Dodge ball from the school gym floor to the Hollywood big screen. Even before that happened, the NADA (National Dodge Ball Association) kept the spirit of the game alive while growing its popularity one town at a time. We at the Lordship Fathers Club are proud to bring that spirit to OUR home town. We will be holding our first dodge ball tournament this coming January. Dates and times will be posted on our web site soon - in the mean time - get a 6 person team together and get ready to play!

Haunted Lordship

NATIVE PAWWAW RELIGIOUS RITE AT STRATFORD POINT

An ancient religious rite called the Pawwaw, was annually celebrated by the Indians and commonly lasted several hours every night for two or three weeks. About 1690, they convened to perform it on Stratford Point. During the nocturnal ceremony the English saw or imagined they saw, devils rise out of the sea wrapped up in sheets of flame and flying round the Indian camp, while the Indians were screaming, cutting and prostrating themselves before their supposed fiery gods. In the midst of the tumult the devils darted in among them, seized several and mounted with them into the air; the cries and groans issuing from whom quieted the rest. In the morning the limbs of the Indians, all shriveled and covered with sulfur were found in different parts of the town. Astonished at these spectacles, the people of Stratford began to think the devils would take up their abode among them and called together all the ministers in the neighborhood to exorcise and lay them. The ministers began and carried on their warfare with prayer, hymns and adulation; but the Pawwaws continued and the devils would not obey. Eventually Mr. Visey the Episcopal minister at New York was able to expel the evil spirits by reading portions of the Holy Scripture. The sea was put into great motion, the Pawwaw stopped and the Indians dispersed and never more held a Pawwaw in Stratford.

THE PHANTOM SHIP OF LORDSHIP:

It is related that Captain John Brooks always blew the whistle of his steamboat when passing Lordship and a horn from the manor responded to the salute. Another vessel associated with Lordship is one referred to as The Phantom Ship. A vessel set sail from Stratford with three men in charge. Their fate never was learned, thought the prow of a ship was washed up on shore and long remained on the Lordship Farm. Then folks used to say that on certain stormy nights, when winds lashed waves to fury, that a certain ghostly ship was seen to ride waves off shore, then to vanish. Imaginative folks are still supposed to be able to get this vision of a vanished ship.

CAPTAIN KIDD:

There are many legends surrounding Lordship and the infamous Captain William Kidd. On July 1, 1894, a monument was erected with proper ceremonies to Captain Kidd at Pleasure Beach, which until a few years earlier was part of Lordship's Long Beach. This is the spot where the pirate buried his treasure in the year 1696. The handsome monument of Captain Kidd stands twenty-five feet high, and is placed on that section of the beach where it is supposed the pirate and his followers landed and buried their treasures.

Hidden Door

Around 1800, Edward DeForest married a daughter of Legrand Cannon, and to this daughter the father gave the house and land at the Point, and Mr. DeForest lived there several years until he killed his wife's slave-woman by stabbing her with a pitchfork, which created much talk, but nothing was done about it.

Later tales of the woman's ghost haunting Stratford Point would lead to the Hidden Door story written by Mrs. J. Lobdell about 1910 or 1911.

BREEZY POINT

The ancient road into Lordship from Colonial times crossed Duck Neck Creek and went up Breezy Point into the heart of Lordship. Breezy Point was considered a haunted place in Colonial times and was avoided at night due to the fear of witches and their minions. Legend has it that they would light fires here to confuse sailors who thought the fires were at Stratford Point which would cause the ships to wreck on the rocks of Lordship. There they could be plundered. Breezy Point gets its name from the almost constant wind that blew unhindered across the marsh from the west.