

# LORDSHIP FATHERS' CLUB

21 1/2 Prospect Drive – Lordship

## Celebrating 69 Years!!! 1947-2016

# www.lordshipfathersclub.com



#### Spring 2016

#### CALENDAR

#### **Club Meetings**

First Wednesday of every month from Sept-June LFC Clubhouse 8:00 pm Sep 2 - Oct 7 - Nov 4 Dec 2 - Jan 6 - Feb 3 Mar 2 - Apr 6 - May 4 - Jun 1

#### **Main Street Festival**

Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> LFC Italian Ice Sale

#### **LFC Beach Picnic**

Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> 12pm-4pm Russian Beach Join us!

#### Bands on the Bluffs July

August Concerts will be on a Sunday, from 5 to 7 PM Exact dates TBD



#### LFC 2016 SUNSHINE RAFFLE 1<sup>st</sup> prize - 4 yankees tickets

It was a winter you really couldn't complain about, but we're still happy to greet spring. Our annual Spring Newsletter is also our kickoff to one of our key fundraisers—the Sunshine Committee Raffle. Enclosed you'll find our 2016 raffle tickets, affording every Lordship resident a chance to win fantastic prizes. This annual fundraiser supports the Club's outreach to the community, and ensures that the Club is able to maintain its full complement of family events throughout the year. We have some excellent prizes again for this year's raffle, including **4 great tickets to a New York Yankees game—an \$800 value!** 

As in previous years, the drawing will be held at the annual LFC Beach Picnic on the bluffs, scheduled for Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Use the enclosed envelope to return raffle ticket stubs, along with a \$1 donation per ticket, to the Lordship Fathers' Club. Additional raffle tickets are available. Please contact any of our board members. Thanks to the following businesses who contributed to our raffle. Their donations, along with the generous participation of the Lordship community, will help make our raffle a success!

Knapp's Landing \* Zack's Frozen Yogurt "The Original" Vazzy's Lighthouse Pizza Luigi's Italian Restaurant of Fairfield Lazy Dog Restaurant \* Sitting Duck Restaurant Vazzy's of Stratford \* 99 Restaurant & Pub Ralph 'n' Rich's of Bridgeport

# **MEMBERSHIP THANK YOU!**

Thank you to all of you who renewed or joined the LFC during our Fall Membership Drive! It's never too late to join or renew, so please send in your membership card, or feel free to fill one out at one of our events and make your donation then. Thank you!!!

#### **CLUB OFFICERS**

Christopher Hewitt President 209-5903 <u>cfh767@hotmail.com</u>

Aaron Martin Vice President (860) 212-1967 dblaronmartino@hotmail.com

Vin Massey Vice President 209-1137 vmassey@optonline.net

Matt Ralabate Vice President 612-0324 mvral11@hotmail.com

Paul Chisholm Treasurer 380-0889 pnchisholm@gmail.com

Larry Haddad Secretary 383-2289 larryhaddad@hotmail.com

Matt Silberger Sergeant at Arms 526-6429 FL290@optonline.net

Jennifer Silberger Sunshine Committee 526-6428 mosaicjenn@optonline.net

## **FALL/WINTER RECAP**

We've had a number of successful (and fun!) events over the past months. Our season kicked off on September 26 with our annual **Fishing Derby**. It was a beautiful, early fall day, and the high tide was perfectly timed for us. We had a number of kids and their parents catching a variety of fish—fluke, sea robin fish, even a skate! Almost everyone caught something, but our three prize winners were: Asher Rosenberg, Danny Brennan, Mason Scruggs.

Next up for us was our annual **Halloween Parade**. Last year, the stars really were aligned, as Halloween came on



a Saturday, so we had the event on Halloween day. Our first and oldest event, this is always one of our most well attended and enjoyable events. We had another great fall day, so the turnout was quite high. There were well

over 150 kids and their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles all gathered to see Lordship fully decked out for Halloween. The Sunshine Committee hosted several craft and activity tables that kept the kids busy. We awarded 5 prizes for the best costumes in these categories: scariest, funniest, most original, cutest, and best group. Remember that "Fish tank"? And how about the "baby" lobster in a pot? Some truly amazing costumes, and we always look forward to seeing what the kids come up with each year.

On Saturday, December 12, we held our annual **Breakfast With Santa**. Our luck continued with a very mild day, so we enjoyed another great turnout. Families enjoyed a hot breakfast of pancakes and sausage, with orange juice, hot chocolate, and coffee. Santa showed up right on time, and patiently noted every last child's Christmas wishes, and posing for formal photos with each family. He stuck around for quite a while, but before he left, Santa promised to be back next year!

Next up on our list, was the **Holiday Decorating Contest**. On Sunday evening, December 21, a little merry band of elves drove around every street of Lordship, judging for the best decked out homes—lights, wreaths, lawn decorations—sky's the limit. There's only one rule: you can't be a repeat winner within the past 5 years. It's never easy picking our favorites, but after a couple hours, we narrowed down our top three: The Elwood & Connole Families at 454 Ocean Avenue, The Menz Family at 54 Washington Parkway, and the Lewis Family at 125 Laurel Street. Congratulations to them all!

Celebrating 69 Years!!! 1947-2016 www.lordshipfathersclub.com

#### **CLUBHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS**

The Lordship Fathers' Club didn't always have a dedicated clubhouse to hold meetings and store our various wares. In 1988, thanks to a generous donation from Bob Branscombe, the Clubhouse was erected.

The roof, original to the Clubhouse, was nearly 30 years old and due for replacing. Chris Barnaby, a member of the club, generously offered to replace the roof at a minimal cost to the club. Well, minimal cost became zero cost, as his family business, LA Barnaby Roofing & Siding, donated all the materials and labor for a brand new roof. We can't thank Chris and LA Barnaby enough for this incredibly generous contribution to the Fathers' Club! Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

Along with the roof, we also installed gutters and downspouts. These will certainly help protect the foundation from any potential water damage. Both improvements are certain to last for decades, and protect the clubhouse, a valuable community asset.



#### FAREWELL, CAPTAIN ED

One of our Vice Presidents, Ed Cubanski, stepped down this past November. After many years of service in the US Coast Guard, Ed decided to retire and gave up his post at the Lordship Lighthouse. We were so fortunate to have Ed and his family as part of our community. Not only was Ed active as a board member and regular volunteer at many of our events, he and his wife Shirley were both active members of the PTA at Lordship School, and also very involved with their two daughter's various sports and extracurricular activities. In his free time, Ed managed to host a few public tours of the Lighthouse giving some long time residents their first chance to walk inside and climb up to the top. The view was free, but having the Cubanski's as our neighbors and friends was priceless. We wish them all the best!

To replace Ed's seat as Vice President, we wish to welcome Aaron Martin to our board. Aaron recently became active with the club, and his timing could not have been better. Congratulations, to Aaron, and we look forward to his contributions!

## **CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST**

We held our third annual Creative Writing Contest in January. The contest is open to all 4th to 8th grade students who attend Lordship school or reside in Lordship. This year, we expanded our prize format and awarded a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize to each grade, for a total of 15 prizes awarded. The students stretched their imaginations to come up with creative stories for one (or more) of these three writing prompts:

- 1. You are a car about to be scrapped. Your life is flashing before your eyes. Describe your history.
- 2. You enter a time machine and can go back to any day in history or forward into the future. Where (and when) do you go, and what happens?
- 3. Your teacher is out sick, and the principal asks you to be the substitute for the day. Describe your day.

Our judges this year were Steven Giroux, 5th grade teacher at Lordship School; Jack Lynch, principal of St. James School; and Larry Haddad, LFC Secretary and resident English major. Please find the top entries from each grade in our special insert included with this newsletter. You are sure to be entertained and impressed with their writing.

The envelope please...and our winners by grade were... 4th: Cooper Nazar, Frankie DeRosa, Michael Lucifora 5th: Rees Stafford, Ciara Roberts, Madelynn Silberger 6th: Ben Casinelli, Frank Rayho 7th: Natalie Pilla, Madison Siegler, Kevin Kelly

8th: Bridget Hewitt, Cassondra Cavallo, Sidney Romano

Congratulations to all our participants! Well done!

## FAMILY NIGHT OUT

For the third year in a row, the generous owners of Goooal Sports—the premiere indoor soccer venue donated an evening rental of their facility. On Tuesday, March 15, starting at 4 PM, around 50+ kids came out to play soccer, dodgeball, and just run around and have fun. After nearly two hours, we figured these kids might be a little low on fuel. Time for a pizza party! We served pizza and cold drinks to the kids and any other family in attendance, before every one called it a day. We've heard the kids had no trouble sleeping that night!

#### The Law Offices of Patricia A. Starkey

108 Lighthouse Avenue, Stratford, CT 06615

Real Estate Closings • Mortgage Refinances • Business Law Wills & Estate Planning • Social Security Disability Law

> Telephone: 203-380-8555 Fax: 203-380-2199 Email : <u>patricia@starkeylaw.com</u>

## LFC EASTER EGG HUNT

Easter came a little earlier this year, so our annual Easter Egg Hunt was on Saturday, March 19. Perhaps our most attended event, the Bluffs were swarming with close to 200 kids—all with their nose to the ground trying to find the golden eggs. Everyone goes home with a milk chocolate bunny, but those lucky kids who find golden eggs get a little cash, too. (Those bunnies, by the way, come from Thompson Chocolates, a local candy company made right in Meriden, Connecticut.)

The chocolate bunnies are a real treat, and a little cash never hurt, but the real excitement is when the Easter Bunny hops on to the scene. Lucky for us he shows up every year, just in time for the Egg Hunt. See you next year, Mr. Bunny!

#### **ANNUAL SPELLING BEE**

Our annual Spelling Bee is open to all 6th graders who attend Lordship School or live in Lordship. The Spelling Bee represents one of our oldest, and one of the first academically oriented events. This year, we held the Spelling Bee on Friday, April 1, at 7 PM in the Lordship School all-purpose room. Students compete for cash prizes for at least the top 5 spellers.

The students get warmed up with three opening rounds, where no one can be eliminated. Then the words get progressively more difficult in each round. The students always do an amazing job, and we really consider them all winners.

Congratulations to all our participants on a fantastic job!



### MAIN STREET FESTIVAL

On Saturday, June 4, the town of Stratford will again be holding its annual Main Street Festival. Always a popular town-wide event, about a 4 block stretch of Main St. becomes part carnival, part bazaar, and part food court. The LFC will be there selling Micalizzi's famous Italian Ice.

This annual fundraiser is one of our important revenue sources, so we always hope for a sunny (and hot) day! Volunteers work shifts throughout the event, scooping and serving ice to passers by. We offer all the classic flavors—cherry, watermelon, and, of course, lemon. We have also offered premium "exotic" flavors like mango and piña colada.

Come on down with your family, stop by our booth, and enjoy an ice or just say hello. We love to see our Lordship neighbors. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us. No special skills required; we'll happily teach you all you need to know about scooping ice!

## LFC BEACH PICNIC

Before you know it, the school year will be coming to an end, and summer will truly be here. We have the perfect way to officially start your summer—Lordship style. Come on down to our annual Beach Picnic. This year it will be on Sunday afternoon, June 12, from noon until 4 PM (or so). Come enjoy delicious, freshly grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, with all the fixings. We'll have some typical picnic sides, watermelon, and plenty of cold drinks. We also hold many activities for the kids. In past years we have had serious dodgeball matches, tug of war, soccer games, and water balloon tosses. One thing is certain—the kids will have a blast!

You are welcome to bring a chair or blanket, but we'll have the rest! Well, no sunscreen, so you may want to pack that, too. We're always open to volunteers, so if you'd like to help out with any aspect of this event, please contact us. We are always happy to have an extra hand with setting up, preparing or serving food, and breaking down and cleaning up afterwards.

See you on the bluffs!



# SUNSHINE COMMITTEE CORNER

The Sunshine Committee, a division of the Lordship Fathers' Club, has been dedicated to establishing a network of



friendly volunteers in our community, extending cheer on special occasions, and encouragement during times of need. The Sunshine Committee continues to reach out to new neighbors, by delivering quilts to newborns, and providing support to those seeking assistance while recovering from an illness or bereaving. The Committee also gathers for the occasional social event. Should you know anyone in Lordship who could use a *ray of sunshine* and you think we could be of some assistance, or if you would like to become a member of the Committee, contact us via the LFC website, or email: sunshine@lordshipfathersclub.com

## **BANDS ON THE BLUFFS**

We are very happy to announce that we will continue with our newest event—Bands on the Bluffs, an outdoor summer concert series. We will kick off the 2016 season with a live band performing from 2 PM to 4 PM at the LFC Beach Picnic on June 12. We will continue the series with concerts on Sundays in July and August, exact dates TBD. Those concerts will be from 5 to 7 PM, just as the sun is getting a little lower, and the bluffs are starting to cool off a touch. Come out and enjoy great live music!

## THANK YOU, LORDSHIP PIZZA

We heard it, and couldn't believe it. Then we saw it, and we still couldn't believe it. After nearly 26 years of serving Lordship and beyond delicious pizzas and dinners, Bo Ernst has retired. Hard to believe we won't be able to get a "St. Patrick's Day Special" this year, loaded with yummy chunks of corned beef. We will truly miss Bo, and his family, and are grateful to them for being ever generous with contributions to our events and raffle, year after year. We wish them all the best!

