



LORDSHIP FATHERS' CLUB

21 ½ Prospect Drive – Lordship

Celebrating 68 Years!!! 1947-2015

www.lordshipfathersclub.com



Spring 2015

CALENDAR

Club Meetings

First Wednesday
of every month
from Sept-June
LFC Clubhouse
8:00pm

April 1st - May 6th
- June 3rd -

Main Street Festival

Saturday June 6th
LFC Italian Ice Sale

LFC Beach Picnic

Sunday June 14th
12pm-4pm
Russian Beach
Join us!

Band on the Bluffs

Sunday June 14th
2pm-4pm
Sunday July 19th
5pm-7pm
Sunday August 23rd
5pm-7pm



LFC 2015 SUNSHINE RAFFLE

1ST PRIZE - 4 YANKEES TICKETS

After what certainly felt like a never ending winter, there are finally sure signs of spring. Much of the snow has melted, revealing grass in our yards and on the bluffs again. (We know—hard to believe it!) Spring flowers have even started to miraculously bud, as impossible as that might have seemed just a few short weeks ago. Yes, finally the sub-zero wind chills, freezing cold, and snow are giving way to (relative) warmth and sunny days. Yes, spring is here and we bring you our annual Spring Newsletter. Enclosed you'll find our 2015 Sunshine 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 for this year's raffle, including **4 great tickets to a NY Yankees game!**

The drawing will be held again this year at the annual LFC Beach Picnic on the bluffs, scheduled for Sunday, June 14th. 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, and those interested in improving their chances while further supporting the LFC should contact the Club. 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.

Luigi's Italian Restaurant of Fairfield
Lordship Pizza - Knapp's Landing
Sitting Duck Restaurant - Vazzy's of Stratford
Acapulco's Mexican Restaurant
Marnick's Restaurant
Ralph 'n' Rich's of Bridgeport

CLUB OFFICERS

Matt Silberger

President
526-6429
FL290@optonline.net

Ed Cubanski

Vice President
873-6235
Edward.Cubanski@me.com

Christopher Hewitt

Vice President
209-5903
cfhewitt@optonline.net

Matt Ralabate

Vice President
612-0324
mvr11@hotmail.com

Paul Chisholm

Treasurer
380-0889
pncchisholm@gmail.com

Larry Haddad

Secretary
383-2289
larryhaddad@hotmail.com

John Roberts

Sergeant at Arms
260-4531
John0770@aol.com

Jennifer Silberger

Sunshine
526-6428
mosaicjenn@optonline.net

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 socially on occasion, including an occasional "Girls' Night Out", summer BBQs, or family events for LFC volunteer families, including a recent Family Bowling Night. 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 Sunshine Committee, contact us via the [LFC website](http://www.lfc.org) or email at: sunshine@lordshipfathersclub.com

LFC LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

Cleaning out the garage or basement this spring? Having a tag sale or have some leftovers from a tag sale? Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the LFC.

We are currently looking for:

- Pop-up style canopies
- Folding tables (plastic tops, ideally)
- Folding chairs (plastic or outdoor type)
- Grill utensils—spatulas, forks, tongs, grill brushes
- Large coolers (150 quart or larger)

We would ask that any items are new or nearly new and in very good condition. If you think you have something else that would be beneficial to the Club, please contact us. We're always happy to hear ideas.

LFC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our annual membership drive starts each September, so we are halfway through our 2014/15 season. We would like to thank everyone who has already joined! Your membership dues are a big reason all of our events are possible. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

And if you have not joined yet—it's not too late. You can join online at our [website](http://www.lfc.org) (you can even make your donation with a credit card using our Paypal account). You can also print out a membership card and drop it off or mail it to us—or just come and enjoy our next event and you can fill out a membership card there.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP AWARD



The Lordship Fathers' Club, as a special recognition to members who have a long history as volunteers with the club, proudly awards a "Lifetime Membership". These special members, though they may have served on the board, have not served as President—that is one of our few stipulations.

This past December, during our annual Breakfast with Santa event, at Our Lady of Peace church hall, we happily presented this award to **Richard Diedrichsen**. Richard has been a member of the club for decades, and was active in a number of events from the LFC Beach Picnic to moderating (for 40 years!) the annual Spelling Bee. We are so grateful to Richard for his many, many years of "giving back" to our community. He is a very deserving honoree. Check out our website for an upcoming feature on Richard, in our *Notable Neighbors* page.



FUN NIGHT AT GOOOAL SPORTS

Each winter, the LFC sponsors a family day activity. Some of you may remember from years back when the LFC would host a family day at the Long Beach Rink. Last year, we were generously offered the Gooool Sports venue for this event. [Gooool Sports](http://www.gooool.com) is an indoor soccer facility right here in Stratford (on Honeyspot Road, behind Town Fair Tire). Omar Tork, the owner and manager of the facility, is not your average indoor soccer club owner. He was a professional soccer player for the Syrian national team (a team essentially founded by Omar's father), and has years of professional experience as a player and coach. Gooool's staff is possibly the best in the state, and having it all right here in our backyard is a real treasure. We're very grateful to Omar for generously donating a night of using his venue.

We were back at Gooool Sports again on Monday, March 23. Over 50 kids were able to come out after school and enjoy pick up soccer games, dodgeball, and just plain running around and having fun for about two hours. To replace a few of those calories burned, the LFC served pizza and drinks to all who attended. Judging from the amount of sweaty heads, and laughing kids, it appeared to be quite a successful event.

LORDSHIP SMARTS

On the evening of February 6th, The Lordship Fathers Club sponsored an *all* Lordship Science Expo, LORDSHIP SMARTS. It is open to any student, grades K-12, who resides in Lordship or attends Lordship School. Those who attended the event enjoyed the opportunity to participate in a variety of science based activities and witness the many amazing projects produced by local students.

All students who participated in LORDSHIP SMARTS received a certificate, and more than 20 prizes were delivered over the course of the evening including recognition of the top three exhibits in each of the following categories: Invention, Science through Art, Scientific Experiment, and Scientific Display. Members of the community who attended the event were treated to a special presentation by the Norwalk Maritime Aquarium. Their marine scientists had many small sea creatures on display for the students to observe and learn about. Also present were Stratford High School Science Honor Society students who helped run science demonstrations, sharing their enthusiasm for science with the many participants.

Lordship SMARTS is designed to demonstrate that 'Science can be fun', and to stimulate and nourish a fond interest in science. All children should have a sense of pride and accomplishment derived from participation in a Science Exposition, where the community can gather and appreciate children's efforts in science.

This year's Science, Math, and Arts Expo (SMARTS), hosted by the Lordship Fathers' Club, would not have been so successful if it were not for the dedication and commitment shown by the community volunteers who stepped forward to give so generously of their time. The LFC would like to thank the many volunteers including – Ed Cubanski, Hugh Welch, Peter Carlson, Jamie Stafford, Christina Blais, Janice Moore, Harold Griest, Bud Hewitt, Tom Halverson, Jenn Silberger, Larry Haddad, Paul Chisholm, Chris Hewitt, Kate Koda, Sam Pivarnik, Scientists from the Norwalk Maritime Aquarium, and SHS technology education volunteer coordinator Russ Larson.



55th 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 events, and one of the first academically oriented events. In recent years we have added Lordship SMARTS—a science fair and expo held at Lordship school and open to all Lordship students and any other primary grade students who reside in Lordship. We have also added a Writing Contest for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders.

This year, we held the Spelling Bee on Friday, March 27, at 7 PM in the Lordship School all-purpose room. We had seventeen students participate! They were competing for cash prizes awarded for the first through fifth place finishers.

The students did an outstanding job. The Bee started out slow, with 5 and 6 letter words, just to get the students warmed up, and quickly progressed to longer and harder words. By the final rounds, spellers were taking on 11 letter words such as: *cooperation*, *examination*, and *performance*. Well, it was a performance indeed, as by the end of the Bee, the students had spelled over 220 words, with over a 90% accuracy rate. We ended up with five students tied for 5th place, and so awarded prizes to nine total students. Congratulations to all participants on a fantastic job!

LFC EASTER EGG HUNT



A first day of spring snowstorm couldn't keep us off the bluffs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. But a forecasted "dusting" did result in postponing the Hunt from Saturday to Sunday, March 29. We still kicked off at 1:00 PM. Between the 6 or so inches that fell the week before, and the solid coating that fell Saturday, we felt quite lucky that it all thawed off by hunting time. The grass, though not green, was fairly dry and snow free!

Always a popular event, we had an excellent turnout of hundreds of kids, along with parents, grandparents, maybe some aunts and uncles. The kids had loads of fun combing the bluffs and high beach for hidden eggs. Some lucky and especially observant children found the few golden eggs mixed in with the rest. They gleefully exchanged these for nominal cash prizes. Of course all participants received a chocolate bunny. Apparently, the Easter Bunny made an appearance, too. We've been quite fortunate that he makes time for us during this busy season, and has managed to appear each year.

It was the perfect way to end a very busy week!

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

Last year, we introduced another academically oriented event—a creative writing contest. The contest is open to all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students who attend Lordship school or reside in Lordship. This year, students used their imaginations to come up with creative stories for one (or more) of these three writing prompts:

1. Describe what happens on the day only students show up at school.
2. What would your day be like if you were President of the USA?
3. While walking along the beach, you notice something sticking out of the sand. Describe what it could be.

Our judges volunteering again this year were Steven Giroux, fifth grade teacher at Lordship School; Richard Diedrichsen, retired Bunnell High School English teacher; and Larry Haddad, LFC Secretary and resident English major. They were all very impressed with all the entrees, and the great imagination shown by all the participants. Please find the entrees of our three winners on the special insert included with this newsletter. You are sure to be entertained and impressed with their writing. Enjoy!



BAND ON THE BLUFFS

We are very happy to announce that we will continue with our newest event—Band on the Bluffs, an outdoor summer concert series. We will kick off the 2015 season with a live band performing from 2 PM to 4 PM at the LFC Beach Picnic on June 14. We will continue the series with a concert on Sunday, July 19 and another on Sunday, August, 23. Both of 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. The perfect time to be there for some great live music.

Last year, we had some great bands, starting in June with Larry Haddad on saxophone leading a jazz quartet, then July with the George LeSiv trio playing modern jazz and funk, and finally, Sambeleza, a quartet specializing in Brazilian jazz. This year, we will add some more variety to our series, as we continue to bring great bands to our backyard. This event is made possible by the contributions of our members and is for the enjoyment of all. So pack a cooler, grab some beach chairs or a blanket, and come on down to the bluffs. You're bound to run into some friends from the neighborhood. It's a perfect way to end your weekend!

MAIN STREET FESTIVAL

On Saturday, June 6, the town of Stratford will again be holding its annual Main Street Festival. This has become an increasingly popular event each year, and a great way to kick-off summer. Main Street, from south of the library and north to the "restaurant row" near the train station, closes down. Various vendors and activity booths line the street. And 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 14, 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!

Last year we also added a new component to this event: live music. We continue this year with a live band that will perform during the later half of the picnic, from 2:00 on.

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.

