

May 8, 2023

Hello, Ladies of Lake Wallkill!

As always, I start this season's annual letter by thanking everyone who volunteered to run the social activities sponsored by Ladies of the Lake during the off-season since last summer. A special shout-out goes to Eileen Kennedy Gallagher and her family and other team members who truly made the Lake's "Halloween on Columbus Day Weekend" so wonderful for the literally hundreds (!) who attended. A big thanks also goes to Ellen Nietsch who ran the Adult Halloween Costume Party that Saturday night. And, once again, sisters Jenna Mackesy and Nicole Mackesy Lynch organized the Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday, with the assistance of volunteers who stuffed the plastic eggs with candies beforehand. Many thanks to all who helped out - as well as to all who attended.

The summer calendar is still a work in progress. Once the details for swim meets are available later this month, it will be able to be finalized, posted on the Lake website, and email blasted to everyone. In the meantime, here's a heads-up about some of the upcoming events and issues:

The first meeting of Ladies of the Lake will be on Sunday, July 2, at 12 noon at the Clubhouse. This is a very important meeting, as it previews the events on the calendar and lines up volunteers to help with our various Ladies activities. So please try to attend. Subsequent meetings will be on Saturdays: July 15, July 22, August 12 and August 26, tentatively at 10 a.m. but subject to change.

Because July 4th is on a Tuesday, the first card party will be on Monday night, July 3. This will be a combination "Welcome (Back) To The Lake/ Beach Towel" tricky tray event sponsored by Ladies of the Lake. More details will be forthcoming as the summer gets closer, but free tickets in exchange for donations will be available, and we need those donated towels, so please start looking for them now!

The Powder Run on July 4th last year was a huge success, and we are grateful that Laurie and Barry Hohnarth have agreed to once again put that on this year, on Tuesday, July 4th. Watch for email blasts with more details about this and other July 4th weekend events.

Lynne and Barbara LaCarrubba have agreed to handle in-person sales of Lake Wallkill apparel at Regatta this year. Thanks Lynne and Barbara! On July 4th, there will also be a table of left-over apparel from prior years for sale at discounted prices.

Eileen Gallagher updated the Ladies Directory to include people that wanted to be added and provided their contact info last year. She is willing to update it again mid-summer. Copies of the most-current version will be available at Ladies meetings, as will a sign-up sheet for those who want to add their info for future versions. Thanks to Eileen for doing this!

All of our activities require volunteers to step up and help run them. All proceeds from Ladies of the Lake events are used to support the welfare of Lake Wallkill and the many activities for both adults and especially children that make our community so special and, in fact, unique. Many existing volunteers already help out in numerous capacities on numerous activities, and "new blood" is needed to continue to provide them. So here is a CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS for the following:

1. Arts and Crafts. Blanka Foucaud and her daughter, Maggie, have been running this for several years, but want individual parents, or a group of parents, to step up to run the weekly sessions this summer. Blanka will serve as a coordinator only - she will not run the specific programs. So please get in touch with her to see how you can help out to keep this long-standing activity going. If you need her contact information, please text or email me.
2. Story Hour and Story Hour Trip. Thanks to Kiersten Coughlin for running this last summer, but we need someone (or a group) to volunteer for this year. [For details on what's involved, please see the Ladies By-Laws posted on the Lake Wallkill Community website, or contact me].
3. 7-12 Trip. Thanks to Kate Kelly for pulling this trip together on short notice last year, but we need someone to volunteer for this year. [Again, details on what's involved are in the Ladies By-Laws posted on the LWK website].
4. Card Parties. There are 4 "Open" card party nights, 2 before Regatta and 2 after - July 25 (as to which someone has expressed a tentative interest in hosting), August 1, August 8 and August 15. We are looking for volunteers to host one of these card parties - whether to run a tricky tray or raffle, or just provide refreshments and help with the set-up and clean-up. Although some of the card parties have proven to be significant fundraisers, that is NOT necessary. The important thing to note is that we WILL have weekly Tuesday night card parties, whether hosted or not.
5. Annual Clubhouse Dance. Thanks to Nancy Woeckener for running this in past years, but we need someone to run it this year. The dance is scheduled for Saturday, July 22, and the DJ is already lined up. Nancy can provide more details on what is involved in running this fun event for the whole community.
6. Open Board Positions. We are looking for nominees to serve as Second Vice President and Recording Secretary on the Ladies Board, to be voted on at the first meeting on July 2. For details on what's involved, please see the Ladies By-Laws or contact me.

Finally, I want to thank the members of the Board of Ladies of the Lake, as well as all Ladies members, for their help and support as we continue to make our Lake a wonderful "happy place" for all.

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The Board of Ladies of the Lake:

1st Vice President - Laurie Hohnarth
2nd Vice President - OPEN
Treasurer - Gloria Niec
Corresponding Secretary - Ellen Nietsch
Recording Secretary - OPEN