

# LAKE LIMERICK COUNTRY CLUB COMMUNICATOR

*“NO BLARNEY”*

January 2017

Published by Your Board of Directors

## Updates, News, and Briefs...

The “Communicator” is an electronic publication of the LLCC Board of Directors (limited hard copies at the Office, Inn, and Pro-Shop). Call or stop by the office to be sure that we have your email so that you get the latest news. It will be on the web site soon. **The “Communicator” is later than usual this month due to the weather and illness of the writer – apologies.**

### Happy New Year!

The board continues to evaluate customer services provided by our office staff and make changes to improve that service. They are working as a team and continue to find ways to save money and reduce past due receivable accounts.

### Money, Money, Money...

Concurrent with efforts to save money the Board of Directors held their monthly study session on January 7<sup>th</sup> and spent the time examining past practices and evaluating new ways to create financial efficiencies and stability.

In August the board made a commitment to our community to not raise dues or extend assessments until such a time as we could guarantee that we had a thorough understanding of our present financial picture. In addition we determined that a long-range plan created with the support and input of our association members was an integral part of creating and maintaining fiscal health.

At its December meeting the Board scheduled a “Town Meeting” for Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, to receive community creative thinking and input regarding LLCC finances and planning. **That date has been changed to February 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM to allow time to adequately prepare documents.** Please make it a priority to participate in this most important discussion. Your voice is needed!

### Café Rebranding Update

The café is closed for the next couple of months for deep cleaning and redecorating/rebranding. Paul Wagner is heading up a café volunteer committee who will share plans and give an update at the Community Meeting on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Member input will be invited before final decisions are made. In the meantime the Inn is open for breakfast and lunch on Saturdays and for breakfast only on Sundays.

### Weather Reminder

We are in the middle of bitter cold temperatures. Inevitably this means problems with frozen pipes. Be sure that your hose bibs are wrapped and no pipes are exposed. With temperatures predicted to be in the low teens at night for up to two weeks, it does not take long for pipes to freeze especially at elbows and valves.

If you do experience a freezing problem, DON'T use a blow torch or open flame. Every year unlucky homeowners melt plastic pipe or burn down their houses in this way. The best solution is to use a hair dryer. The heat is even, will melt the most stubborn blockages, and will likely save many dollars in damage.

### LLCC Web Site Update

Our antiquated/bandaged computer network system is being stressed to the max as we work to get our web site updated and more user friendly. We are working with our IT specialist and local service providers to upgrade our system soon. Thank you for being patient. Believe it that the board wants this fixed ASAP.

## **Elections Coming April**

The LLCC Election Committee headed by Bonnie Morrow is all geared up for spring elections. There will be three Board of Director positions and two Water Committee positions open. Ballots must be returned no later than April 15, 2017. Declaration of Candidacy paperwork including position responsibilities are available in the office. Completed forms must be returned to the office no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>. This information was inadvertently left out of the December LLCC Newsletter. Election packets/ballots will be mailed in March and candidate information will be included in the March LLCC Newsletter. **Please be sure that the office has your correct mailing address.**

## **Town Meeting Changed to Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>**

In order to provide members with the most up to date and meaningful data the Town Meeting scheduled for January has been rescheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup>, the same day as the regular Board of Directors meeting. The good, the bad, and the ugly will be provided at this meeting so that community members can walk away with a very clear understanding of where we have been, our recovery process, and prospects for our financial future.

## **Thin Ice**

Even though most of January has been below freezing, the ice on the lake is far too thin for anyone to venture out. Please don't take a chance. A man and a young child were observed walking out from shore last week. Fortunately nothing happened. But is a little adventure worth the risk?

## **Closure of the Inn**

We received a complaint from a member about the closure of the Inn the day before Christmas. She was upset that members had to travel out of the immediate area instead of eating at the Inn. We apologize for the inconvenience. The forecast was for snow, and the decision needed to be made early in the day. Just like weather-related school closures, it is impossible to be 100% sure about closing businesses. Darned if you do and darned if you don't. The complaint contained some personal attacks as well which don't need to be shared. Suffice it to say that all board members have been working diligently to provide the best possible service to our members. We get it right lots of the

time but not always, and again we apologize. We are moving toward finding an association manager. However, until that person gets on board and up to speed board members will be handling many of the day-to-day duties. We do ask for your patience.

## **Keeping Up with the Joneses**

Keeping up on bills can be a real challenge. The last thing LLCC wants to do is take collection action against the "Joneses" or anyone else for unpaid dues, assessments, or water bills. If you find yourself falling behind please contact **Rhonda Hunt** in the office right away. She will work with you on a payment plan so that you can get caught up and avoid the misery of collections. The association can't "forgive" a debt, but we will creatively work with you to get you back on track. Ignoring your LLCC bills costs you and the association big bucks that can run into thousands when legal fees are attached.

## **Dining Out**

Chef Michelle continues to offer an inspired menu of favorites with her own culinary touch at the Inn Restaurant Wednesday through Sunday. Now is a great time to get reacquainted with an excellent meal, the best view in the county, and great friends. Our staff is working hard to make your Inn dining experience one that will make you want to come back again and again. **Be sure to make our new weekend breakfasts at the Inn part of your regular routine.**

## **Communications Package**

Much of our computer equipment dates back ten years or more, and the software for payroll, accounting, web site, water, and archiving is far out of date. The Board of Directors has started the process of updating and merging our system to improve communication. So much of the work we do involves record-keeping, and we are very limited in our ability to back up our data and recover from a catastrophic failure if one should occur. We are researching proposals from local communications companies to substantially update our computer, phone, and internet systems. We were amazed to discover that the office needs to make an outside call to contact the pro-shop or the maintenance department. There is no intercom system. We have received three very viable proposals and will be making a decision soon.