



March, 2023

Dear Members and Friends,

Your Lake Bluff Yacht Club Board of Directors has been busy planning for an unusual year in 2023. With the South Beach under construction many of our activities will be in different locations this year. The June Beach party and the Lobster Boil will be held in the North Beach pavilion while Sunfish sailing will be available out of Great Lakes Naval Station Marina. Building on the success of last year's young families event, we will once again host a family oriented party, at the North Shelter on July 22nd. Brunch on the Bluff will, of course, remain on the Bluff and the Spring Cocktail Party will once again, thanks to Rob Stelling, be held at the Rust Oleum facility.

There are several issues of importance I would like to bring to your attention as we start the year:

Membership: Dues and storage slot renewal fees are due by May 1, 2023. I know that those of you with storage slots are thinking at this point, "Slot renewal fees? What slot fees? My slot has been torn down." Your Board thought long and hard about this, but what it comes down to is that the cost of building a new Yacht Club facility requires that we ask people who wish to maintain their storage slots to continue to pay to maintain their places.

The club has been saving money for the reconstruction eventuality for years, and we are receiving some funds from the North Shore Water Reclamation District, but the fact of the matter is that given the requirements of Village permitting, architect fees, architectural review and zoning review, along with an inflationary environment, it's not enough. So we are asking the people who benefit the most from the our facility - those that store boats and paddle boards there, to continue to support the club and the rebuilding of the new boathouse by paying their storage fees this year. Doing so will ensure that you continue to have a slot in the facility when we get it built. In accordance with the Club By-Laws, if your slot fees lapse, you will have to reapply for a slot when they become available and we can make no assurances how many will be available at that time.

You can pay your dues either by following the link on the email you received or going to our website, www.lakebluffyachtclub.org and following the link there.

Boating at Lake Bluff Beach in 2023: I have been in discussions with the Park District about what will and will not be possible for our members on the North beach this Summer. Here's what I have learned so far: The North beach will continue to be open, but there will be no sailboats allowed on the North beach this Summer. On weekends, the Park District plans to allow kayaks and paddle boards access to the North beach by having people bring their equipment down the road to the bottom of the bluff, provided construction fencing has not blocked off access to the North beach at the bottom of the bluff. On week days, due to construction traffic, the Park



District will not allow kayaks or paddle boards access to the North beach. On those days the only access to the beach will be via the staircase and they consider it too dangerous to try and maneuver kayaks and paddle boards down those stairs. All of this is still a somewhat fluid situation, dependent upon construction, and I ask that you be understanding as we all work our way through the disruptions.

Sailing in 2023: Even if you are not interested in racing your sailboat, you may be able to store and sail your boat out of Great Lakes Naval Marina. There are some conditions that you will have to meet, such as a security application and storing your boat on a trailer or a dolly, but our discussions with the harbor master so far have indicated that there is room for our sailboats at the venue. We are waiting for final word on cost, so stay tuned for more information.

Looking Forward: Difficult times also bring great opportunities. The previous compound served us well for 60 years and now we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to build a facility that will build on the traditions of the Lake Bluff Yacht Club and create something we can all be proud of that is a credit to the community. This is going to require effort on all of our parts, in planning, fund raising and member involvement. Any and all volunteers are welcome. If you are interested in helping in this time of need, please contact Gretchen Seymour at gretchenseymour@icloud.com

In Conclusion: Thank you for your continued support for our club and I look forward to seeing all of you at the beach, on the water or at one of our social events. As always, if you have questions or comments, please feel free to get in touch; my contact information is below.

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Important Social Dates

Spring Cocktail Party	April 29
Beach barbecue	June 17
Brunch on the Bluff	July 2
Young Families Party	July 22
Sheppard Regatta	August 27
Commodore's Cup	September 4
Lobster Boil	September 23
Annual Meeting & Awards	November 11