



Knollcrest News

Knollcrest
Family Community

Volume II, Issue IV

March 2014



Greetings!

The good news is that we made it past St. Patrick's Day and on into spring. The bad news is that almost weekly snowstorms and many days with single digit temperatures made for the snowiest and coldest winter in years.

The severe weather started in early January with the arrival of a polar vortex which produced a record breaking cold snap of single digit and below zero temperatures. The lake froze overnight on January 4th when temps reached -4 and remained frozen well into the last week in March.

New Fairfield Schools used up their allotted 7 snow days by Valentine's day and students had to go to school on Presidents day, February 17, only to have the next day off due to another snowstorm!

In fact, the last week in February was the first full week of school the kids had since January 2nd! (Can't you just hear them telling the story of the winter of 2014 to their future grand-kids now?)

Though some enjoyed getting exercise by cross country skiing and walking on the lake, the ice fishermen were few and far between. Perhaps the cold kept them at bay this year. Or maybe the ice was just too thick!

We have taken some pictures throughout the winter and have included them on the back pages. Grab a hot cocoa and enjoy!

The Knollcrest News strives to keep the community informed of all the happenings in Knollcrest. In doing so, we hope to build and foster the spirit of community that has been the hallmark of Knollcrest for the past 78 years

Thank you to the contributors from our Knollcrest Community who help make this newsletter a true Community effort.

If you missed an issue, they are available at KnollcrestNews.org

Editor:
Rosemary Scott



Did you know?

Did you know that Candlewood Lake is a destination spot for scuba divers?

The lake was created when Connecticut Light and Power decided to create the first large scale operation of pumped storage facilities in the United States. By building the lake and pumping the water into a large turbine the utility could produce electricity.

The residents of the valley were mostly farmers. Some of the land was held by families since before the American Revolution. The electric company had the power of emanate domain and so the farmers sold their land.

In 1926 trees were cleared and several dams were built. The largest of which is on the Northern end in New Milford. Those who were living in the valley were relocated but many of the buildings were left standing and some farming equipment and cars were left behind. The roads were not torn up before the valley was flooded.

In February 1928 water was pumped into the valley from the Housatonic river and on Sept. 29, 1928 the fill was complete.

Candlewood Lake has over 60 miles of shoreline and the lake is 40' deep in most places with the deepest around 80 feet. Scuba divers have reported sightings of roads that lead to the remains of covered bridges, buildings, as well as cars, farm tools and equipment. They have even found Indian artifacts. In later years there were rumors of downed planes found at the bottom of the lake.

The lake got its name from nearby Candlewood Mountain in New Milford which itself was named for the Candlewood tree whose branches were sometimes used as candles by early settlers.



A New Knollcrester

At this time we would like to welcome Ms. Lucille Renjilian of Eastview Road. She has been a temporary resident for a few months and due to her love of the community, decided to make it permanent! Welcome Lucille!



Board of Directors Meeting

The Knollcrest Board of Directors sent out their quarterly report to residents. They have also sent out the new 2014 Survey. This survey had questions of recreation projects along with single garbage pickup. As of the February board meeting, 39 residents have responded to the survey. President Mark Cronk said that the secretary will compile the results by the Budget meeting in May.

The generator project has been completed. The propane tank has been installed and filled and the generator has been placed and hooked up. According to the water director, Steve Plante, the generator will run once a week for 20 or 30 minutes as part of its regular maintenance.

The marina director, Elliott Sears has initiated a kayak, canoe and rowboat identifying project. The goal is to have the names and owners of these vessels so to better organize the space on the rack and along the shoreline.

The drainage issue on Eastview Road was discussed at the February 12, 2014 meeting. A board member brought forward the topic by saying that he thought that the road, on the south end, was pitched improperly thereby causing the drainage problem for the last two homes on the street. Mark Cronk said that the Board would consider the situation and try to find a definitive answer to this ongoing problem.

The Board approved the landscaping contract at the March 12, 2014 Board meeting. They also voted and approved the vendor to remove the road sand.

Elliott Sears also presented the Board with final estimates for the replacement of the north docks (ramp and stringers) at the marina. The Board voted to approve the funds, and work will begin in the upcoming months.



Reflections

At this time we would like to remember those long time Knollcrest residents who have passed away in 2013. Sophia Naryniecki of Southview Road passed away in September and Rev. Arthur Murphy of Eastview Road passed away in December. Sophia was a resident since 1961 and Fr. Murphy was a 40 year resident until the sale of his home last fall.



Knollcrest Family Spotlight

Marilyn (Scott) Radder and her husband Jon of Southview Road have lived in Knollcrest for 24 years now. But Marilyn grew up in Knollcrest. Her family, which included her brother Lee Scott of Eastview, and sister Betty Anne, used to come up to the lake from Brooklyn in the late 1950's, before moving here permanently in the early 1960's.

The Scott family first came to the area when they rented a cottage on Bear Mountain in Danbury. When they decided on a vacation home of their own, they found Knollcrest and purchased one of the few cottages on Eastview Road. At that time there was no water in winter. When they came up on weekends, they had to get their water from one of 2 springs. One spring was on route 39 and the other was on Shortwoods road by Squantz Pond State Park. "The house had no heat" Marilyn said and "our parents used coke in the fireplace which would heat the whole house in the fall when it turned cold."

Lee remembers that his mom would have a guest book for friends to sign when they came up to visit them in the summer at the lake. Their dad had a red and white motor boat that he loved.

The Scotts remodeled and winterized their cottage for year round living in the early 1960's. Marilyn remembers "we had a 60 foot evergreen tree in the yard that had to be removed in order to finish the remodel. My parents donated the tree to W.T. Grant's store (now the Burlington Coat Factory) and they used it for the plaza Christmas tree in 1963."

At that time, Marcus dairy delivered milk, eggs and juice to most of the full time residents in Knollcrest. Her mother would get their meat at the butcher store at Candlewood Corners. Marilyn said that when they went "into the city" (of Danbury,) "we used to have to get dressed up. My sister and I had wear dresses to go grocery shopping at the A & P!"

Since there was no high school in New Fairfield at the time, Marilyn attended Danbury high school. She remembers the Chatterton girls, Betsy and Charlotte, as well as Joy Schoenhart and Jen Gilbert as part of the Knollcrest year round group of kids. Walter Pfeiffer was a summer resident along with Phil Naryniecki and his sister Gail Defeo.

Lee was in the first graduating class at the newly built New Fairfield High School. His class designed the school ring and picked the Rebels as the school mascot. Lee remembers spending his summers with a gang of kids that included Tom Sweeney of Southview (now of Crestway) and his brother Bob, Laura (Curioli) Nemeth, John Stadnyk, John Pierre Kupper and Peter Nemeth, all still living on Eastview.

Marilyn and Lee's mother Elizabeth lived in her home until her death in 2005. In 2007 Lee and his wife Rosemary purchased the home and are back living on the same street where they met as adults in 1982.

Rosemary's family had a summer home on Eastview from 1959 to 2002. Her earliest memories of Knollcrest were of her parents having her take a swimming test from the inner

dock to the outer dock and back without touching the ropes. Once the test was passed, she was allowed to go out to the outer dock by herself. She recalls walking to Green Light (now the Lakeside Deli) where her brothers would get packages of fireworks called “snakes” and rolls of caps for their cap guns.

Marilyn remembers that Rosemary’s mother, Madeline Rice, would ask her to baby sit Rosemary from time to time so that she could open the house for the season or go shopping.

Rosemary’s first memory of Lee was of him giving rides on his Dad’s motorcycle to the kids who were hanging out at the windmill! Marilyn said that “I don’t think Dad knew about that.”

Lee and Rosemary married in 1990 and have three children. Their oldest children, Charlie (22) and Theresa (19) had a great time playing with their cousin Matthew Radder (now married and a new dad) in the summer. They loved swimming and catching “sunnies” at the marina with only a ball of bread for bait. They even spent one summer building a pontoon boat out of big blocks of styrofoam that washed up at the beach after a storm. Mostly, they just enjoyed the freedom of a safe community.

Their youngest child, Maggie is enjoying delivering the newsletter, selling and delivering Girl Scout cookies, and has already passed her swimming test. She spent the winter sledding on the beach road and took her first walk on the ice. But she still can’t wait for summer!

Knollcrest is a very special community, giving each generation their own wonderful memories.



It Takes a Community...

The Knollcrest News would like to give special thanks to Sharon Beers of South View for her contribution to the Squantz article in the December issue of the News. Her knowledge and input on the Squantz Engine Company and its members truly made the article special.

Sharon has let us know that Squantz Firehouse is hosting its annual Chili cook-off this Sunday, March 30th from 1:00 to 4:00. Admission is \$5.00, which entitles you to taste all the offerings and vote on your favorite! Please stop by and support our very own Squantz Fire Department!

Thank you Sharon!



Knollcrest Budget Meeting

The Knollcrest Annual Budget meeting will take place in May at the New Fairfield Senior Center in the center of New Fairfield. The change in meeting place was due to the fact that several residents were unable to attend last year's meeting at the firehouse due to the stairs.

The Board will discuss and finalize the budget at the April 9th Board of Directors meeting and will present the budget to the community in May.

At the March 12, 2014 Board meeting there was much discussion involving garbage pick-up in the community by a single refuse company. President Mark Cronk said he wants to move the issue forward and present the community with a plan for a possible vote at the May budget meeting. One plan that was discussed was to make garbage pick-up an additional charge on the homeowners' tax bill; much like the water fee is for a majority of the community.



Knollcrest Networks

Services Offered

Baby sitter available. American Red Cross Babysitter certified. Loves kids and animals.
Call Amy 203-546-8227

Volunteers Wanted:

The beautification committee is looking for volunteers to help in the spring. Any time you can give would be appreciated! Please call Walter Eppler at 203-746-3277 or email the newsletter at info@knollcrestnews.org

For Rent:

Squantz Fire House second floor. It can be used as a meeting space, banquet hall for graduation parties, first communions, wedding receptions, etc. Come and view our recently remodeled hall with new kitchen and handicapped bathroom.
Reasonable rates available. Please call Steve at 203-746-6285

Community Service Website:

The Knollcrest weather cam and data is available 24/7 on www.k-wx.com

Contributors Wanted:

The Knollcrest News is looking for residents who have extensively remodeled their homes. If you have any information or pictures, please let us know. Contact info@knollcrestnews.org

Would you like to place an ad in the Knollcrest News? Please email ads@knollcrestnews.org and it will be included in our next edition.



Correction

The Knollcrest News wishes to extend our apologies to both Kerry Dodge and the Lennon family. There was an error in the last newsletter in the Beautification article that misspelled their names.

Once again, many thanks to Kerry Dodge of Crestway for his help with the elephant hosta and as well as the Lennon family of Eastview for their hosta donation.

Knollcrest winter 2014:



Knollcrest's resident bald eagle searching the last bit of open water in early January.



a view of the windmill taken from out on the ice



First walk on the ice. Candlewood Isle is in the background

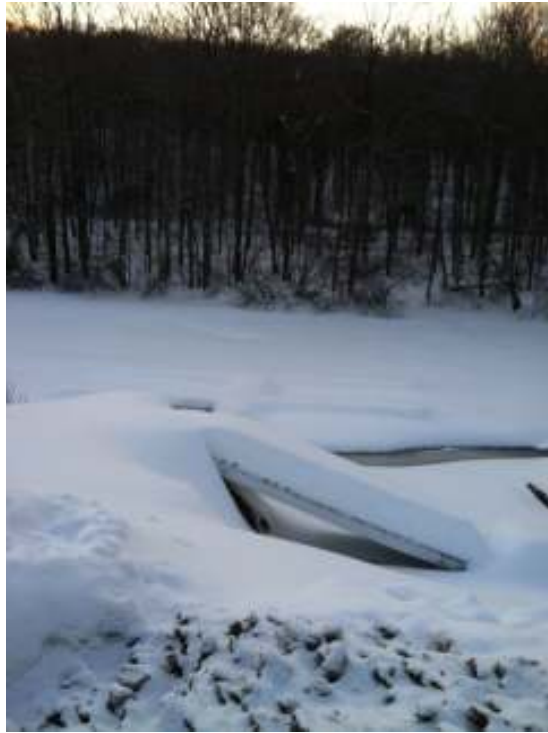
The Marina



The docks full of snow



Kayak rack



The ramp for the north stringers. That's a running stream behind it.



Icicles were abundant



A huge mound of snow closes J Jarvis Moses circle



The beach road



basket ball court



The snow is almost to the bottom of the beach sign!



A view of the beach taken from the ice



The docks and swim buoy frozen in place



Bringing out the big guns to move all the snow



The mound of snow at the Marina