

TLIA Newsletter

Happy New Year, Tower Lakes!

Here's to Community Initiatives in 2016!

As we begin a new year of great living in Tower Lakes, the TLIA Board wanted to make you aware of several goals for 2016. The Board manages many day-to-day activities and issues, but these goals will set the agenda and yardstick for the coming year. The initiatives have been discussed, vetted and voted on during the TLIA Board meetings. The Board looks forward to your participation in accomplishing these goals and hearing your voice weighing in throughout the year.

New Tennis Courts

The tennis courts are in very bad shape. At the 2015 annual meeting, the membership voted for approval of an initiative to pledge capital funds based on community contributions. The Board's goal is to construct new courts that will provide a better, safer playing environment. Fundraising efforts have started for the \$50,000 in community support necessary to trigger the \$60,000 from TLIA to total the \$110,000 needed to complete reconstruction of the courts. As of this printing, \$12,700 has been raised. Keep an eye on tia.org for updates. If you're interested in donating to this initiative, contact Mary Magro or Kathy Covek or go directly to the TLICF website donation page www.tower-lakes.org/tennis. *Deadline is February 1.*

Bylaw Revisions

The TLIA Bylaws have some inconsistencies and outdated information. President Randy Young has assigned Vice President Steve Burgoon to undertake a review of the bylaws and develop revisions for updating them. The membership will vote on the revisions in November 2016, at the annual meeting.

Completion of the Special Events Form

The Board will be developing a new and improved "Special Events Form" that allows members in good standing to use the parks for private, not TLIA sponsored, events. Many people use our facilities for special events, weddings, and activities. The old form is in need of an update to allow for greater flexibility for the membership. The form and procedures associated with park use was started in 2015 and will be finalized in 2016. News of the update and its procedures will be forthcoming.

Formation of the Archive Committee

President Young has formed a committee to secure and archive important information in connection with the TLIA Board and various committees. The bylaws require the board keep these records. The goal of the Archive Committee will be to gather, catalog, and maintain these records moving forward. If you have an interest in this initiative, have database experience, or are computer savvy and willing to help, contact Randy Young.

2015 Dues Collection

The Board continues to close the gap of outstanding 2015 association dues. As of this printing, the Board is attempting to collect the \$20,979 which remains outstanding. The 2016 dues

were mailed out just prior to Christmas. If you are having any issue paying this bill prior to the March 1 deadline, please consider setting up a payment plan by calling Linda Kuna. Failure to set up a plan before the due date will result in a fine added to your account.

Silt Removal Final Year

The Lake Committee is in the 5th and final year of the silt removal project. The project has been expertly managed by the Lake Committee and has caused the lake to be in its best shape ever. The next goal is to set up a continuing maintenance project and its funding moving forward.

Grounds and Trees

Tower Lakes is a "Tree City USA" community. Yet over the years, trees have been lost to storms, removed from private and public property, and been taken down due to disease. The Board would like to develop a tree replacement program, including funding for the project. If interested in serving on this committee, contact Grounds Chairman, John Yancey.



SPECIAL NOTE:

TLIA BOARD

The January TLIA meeting has been rescheduled to

Jan. 7, 2016 - 7pm TL Village Hall

Everyone is encouraged to attend!



NOTES FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

RANDY YOUNG, PRESIDENT, TLIA

Happy New Year Everyone!

The new year has begun and we gaze upon it with hopes and dreams for our collective futures. For me, it's about living well, doing good work, and most importantly enjoying family. I especially look forward to doing all that in this wonderful place.

You've read the lead story in the newsletter this month about the TLIA goals for 2016. They are all important and vital objectives but they are not what will make 2016 a break-out year in our community. That will come as we experience community when, as neighbors, we come together for our volunteer days, youth events, social events, and of course our Fourth of July celebration. We experience community every time we walk our dogs, stroll the neighborhood with family and pass each other in cars waving hello, chatting in front yards or gathering in a park.

Tower Lakes is, at its heart, a community of exceptional people. We live life to its fullest in the greatest place imaginable. That's why we choose to live here and it is why we want our children to grow up here. Is it any wonder that generations of families have grown up in Tower Lakes and continue to live here? Not to me!

The emotional value we place in community, each other, and our quality of life is why we live here. We volunteer together, our kids play and go to school together, and we all take pride in how we live our lives helping each other. That's community!

So friends, find your reason to believe in our community, dive deep into it and wrap yourself in its warmth. Discover your way to help improve it. Volunteer, step up, make a new friend, and join the party. We welcome you because we are Tower Lakes Proud!

Enjoy the new year and make it the best it can be with love, togetherness, and family. That's my wish and resolution for 2016. Hope it is yours as well. Happy New Year!

[Read all the president's columns at TLIA.org](http://TLIA.org)



TLIA BOARD

EDITORIAL NOTE: *The November meeting of the TLIA Board was contained within the Annual Meeting of the Membership held on November 8, 2015. This space would normally be reserved for presenting the minutes of the monthly meeting. The minutes of the Annual Meeting will not be approved until the next meeting of the full membership in 2016; however, in an effort to offer full reporting to the membership, printed below are excerpts pertaining to the monthly (November) portion of the meeting. These minutes are unapproved by the Board at the time of printing.*

NOVEMBER MEETING OF TLIA

Board Members:

Jack Johnson, Linda Kuna, Judd Lautenschlager, Mary Magro, Mike Mitchell, Kathy Pattengale, John Yancey, Andrew Young, and Randy Young

Approval of October Minutes

TLIA Board

Motion to approve: Mike Mitchell - Second: John Yancey -

Motion approved.

November Financial Report

	Receipts	Linda Kuna Year-to-Date
October	\$6,114.25	\$253,903.94
2015 Regular Dues	\$2,800.00	\$96,759.00
2015 Senior Dues	360.00	41,345.00
2015 Lake	2,250.00	82,925.00
Collections	450.00	22,682.23
Vacant Lot	0	1,125.00
RFPP	106.25	2,987.50
Miscellaneous	148.00	6,080.21
TOTAL	\$6,114.25	\$253,903.94

Meeting notes continued on p. 7

[READ MORE](#)

[For archive Board Reports, click here.](#)

Next Meeting:

January 7, 2016

February 8, 2016

All recent meeting minutes are archived on the TLIA.org website.

TLIA Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the TL Village Hall.



Someone you should know.. Rick Steffen

There's a calm, cooperative nature to our neighbor, Rick Steffen. Every time you interact with him, he reminds you of a diplomat -- tactful and full of grace. A little known fact, the King of Denmark knighted Rick's Danish grandfather for contributions given in connection with Danish/American relations. So it's no surprise that Rick carries a collaborative gene. He has become a part of the community as neighbor and volunteer and contributing to the greater good. He's exactly what Tower Lakes is about.

Rick was born in Chicago and grew up in Park Ridge, attending Maine Township South High School with Hillary Clinton! He received his B.S. from Southern Illinois University in social studies and started teaching history at the junior high level in Mt. Prospect. After taking graduate classes in guidance and counseling, he became the Dean of Students at the school. With a twist of fate, after moving here three years ago, he re-connected with one of his former students, a Tower Lakes resident!

After teaching, Rick switched gears and moved into sales, working for a commercial kitchen equipment manufacturer. His biggest client was McDonald's Corporation, who subsequently recruited him to lead the kitchen and building systems, purchasing and engineering department as the company expanded internationally. During his time in that role, Rick attended several corporate meetings and once again, through a twist of Tower Lakes' fate, he discovered that Randy Young produced those meetings!

After leaving McDonald's in 2003, Rick worked for United Technologies in a number of roles. He's currently the president of ATOMAMPD, a start-up network and communications software developer based in Volo, or as he calls it, "the silicon bog."

Rick visited Tower Lakes often as his sister, Barb Spicer, and her husband, Tom, raised their family here. When visiting, Rick was drawn to Tower Lakes' natural beauty and great people. He loves anything outdoors: hiking, gardening, golfing, or just walking. Because he feels so strongly about the environment, he's been involved in many volunteer initiatives in Tower Lakes.

Currently, he serves as a Village Trustee, a member of the TLIA Lake Committee and is Chairman of the TLIA Events Committee. Rick is a big believer in volunteerism. "It allows you to leave things better than you found them," says Rick. "It's a way to feel some ownership in the community and meet people with the same passion and desire to use our talents for some good."

Rick holds such love for TL and its natural environment that he and Fran planned their wedding outside, on their lakefront property, affectionately called "The Point." He has been happily married to Fran for a little over a year. It's no coincidence either that Rick's son, Matthew, is the Communications Director for the Illinois Environmental Council. Such love of nature runs through their veins. He looks forward to meeting you; volunteering beside you and calling you neighbor.

SAVE THE DATES

Progressive Dinner

April 2 or 9

July 4th Celebration

July 2, 3, 4, 2016

Chili Cook Off

October 15, 2016



TLIA EVENTS COMMITTEE

Calling all Lifeguards! Calling all Lifeguards!

We know it is cold outside but it is time to start thinking about summer! If you are interested in lifeguarding this summer, please send an email with your name and email address to:

beach@tlia.com. We will then send you an application.



TLIA BEACH

Looking forward to another
great year at the beach!

Do you know a neighbor with an interesting profile?

Someone we should get to know?

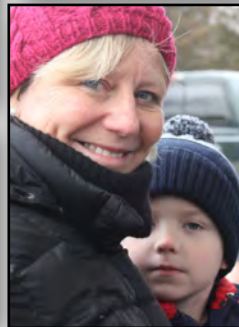
Contact: communications@tlia.org

The Tower Lakes Holiday Spirit in full force...

Youth Committee would like to send a special thank you to *Santa* who graciously visited TL and listened to all of the boys' and girls' special requests! Thank you Jacquie Skurla for the addition of decorations for Santa at the Village Hall! Thank you to all who brought cookies, including TLIA Grounds Beautification Committee to spread the holiday cheer at the alternate location for Santa. Thank you Pati Schaefer for allowing Youth Committee to use your generator for lighting the Carriage and for taking some extra special photos of Santa. Thank you TLIA Foundation for your generous donation from the Shop & Wrap event. We are currently planning this year's events and are looking to make them extra memorable with the generous donations Youth Committee has received. (See page 6 for a list of events.)

TLIA YOUTH COMMITTEE

Santa Visits & Carriage Rides

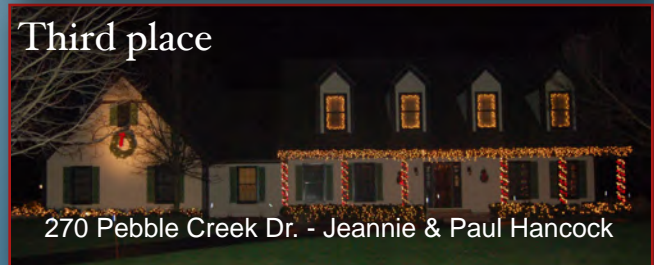


Photos by Pati Schaefer & Caroline Milne

Holiday Decoration Winners!

Congratulations to this year's winners of the Holiday Decoration contest. Each winner will receive food chits for the July 4th celebration.

TLIA EVENTS COMMITTEE



Although the tree lighting ceremony was canceled due to weather, the Grounds Beautification Committee would like to thank a number of people. These elves worked hard erecting and decorating the village trees during the holiday season: Ray Boe, Pat Covek, Judd Lautenschlauger, Mary and Ann Magro, Mark Shircel, and Andrew Young.

TLIA GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION

Tower Lakes Scotch Doubles Bowling

Location: 3D Bowl/Sideouts in Island Lake

Date: Saturday January 30, 2016 **Time:** 4-7PM

Cost: \$30/Couple (Includes bowling, snacks/appetizers, prizes, shoe rental if needed)

Cash bar available

Format: Teams will be determined by random drawing prior to event. In the interest of marital/relational peace, you will not be able to bowl with your spouse or significant other. Two games will be bowled with partners alternating shots.

Following the bowling, in a separate room, the award/prize presentation & hospitality hour (for more "socializing") will be held.

TLIA EVENTS COMMITTEE



Limited spots available... first 24 couples

Tower Lakes' Favorites

Need an electrician? Or a good plumber? Instead of flipping through the yellow pages or conducting a google search, rely on the good word of neighbors.

With the help of the Tower Lakes Neighborhood Yahoo Group (TLNeighbors@yahoo.com), residents have given recommendations on all types of vendors.



The list can be viewed or updated at:
tinyurl.com/tlikes

Need to get a hold of a TLIA Committee?

Here are some easy email contacts:

Beach Committee beach@tlia.org
 TLIA Board board@tlia.org
 Communications Committee communications@tlia.org
 Tennis Court Committee courtcommittee@tlia.org
 Tennis Committee courts@tlia.org
 TLIA Directory directory@tlia.org
 TLIA Dues dues@tlia.org
 Events Committee social@tlia.org
 Geese Management geese@tlia.org
 Lake Committee
lakemanagement@tlia.org
 Grounds Committee parc2@tlia.org
 President president@tlia.org
 Secretary secretary@tlia.org
 Silt Management silt@tlia.org
 Treasurer treasurer@tlia.org
 Vice President vicepresident@tlia.org



Email us with questions!

TLIA YOUTH COMMITTEE

SAVE THE DATES

for 2016:

Here is a list of Youth Committee 2016 events! Clip this and post it on your refrigerator! More dates and events to come. Stay turned.

Easter Egg Hunt

Play Island, Rest Island, Toy Island
 Saturday March 26, 2016
 10 a.m.

End of School Party

Location TBA
 Week of June 1st

Family Movie Night

Soccer Field
 Friday June 24, 2016
 Dusk

Back to School Party

Location TBA
 Week of Aug. 8

Family Campout Barsumian

Saturday September 10, 2016
 Rain date: Sept 24, 2016

Trick-or-Treat Soccer Field

Monday October 31, 2016

Santa

Location TBA
 Sunday December 4, 2016

Please direct all questions/comments to:

youth@tlia.org

New! The Tower Lakes Movie Club

Join us for a movie the 2nd Saturday of each month. (First one: Feb 13)

Drinks, dessert and discussion immediately following the movie at a member's home. Hosting responsibilities rotate.

Interested? Contact Cass Young at:
 847.526.9991 or cass@taptv.com



Try this vegetable: Cauliflower

Article reprinted with permission

In Season: Cauliflowers can be available all year round in the markets; however, they are at their best during winter months.

What to look for: Choose fresh heads with cream white, compact, even heads that feel heavy. Grainy surface and separate heads indicate over maturity, while greenish coloration may be due to over exposure to sunlight. Avoids heads with bruised surfaces indicating poor handling of the flower and those with dark color patches indicating mold disease.

How to clean: Place head upside down, rinse in a large bowl of cold water or salt water brine for about 15-20 minutes to ensure removal of any insects, soil or insecticide sprays. Gently pat dry. Remove tough stem and leaves.

How to store: Store inside the refrigerator set at higher relative humidity. They stay fresh for about a week if stored properly.

How to enjoy it: Enjoy it raw with dips or on salads, or cooked in soups, stews or casseroles.

Benefits:

- Relatively low in calories to help lose weight to manage weight.
- High fiber to help aid in digestion and bowel movements.
- Rich in vitamin C to help the body develop resistance against infectious agents by boosting immunity.
- Good source of mineral such as manganese, copper, iron, calcium and potassium.
- Contains good amounts of many vital B complex vitamins.
- Contains several anti-cancer chemicals which are proven to fight against prostate, breast, cervical, colon, ovarian cancers.



Time for a
change?



Consider a few New Year's Resolutions:

- Set aside 15 minutes of quality time for yourself every day
- Exercise at least 3 times a week for 20 minutes
- Establish a journal to record positive events and experiences
- Celebrate every day
- Read a good book, every month, if possible
- Laugh more and try to see the funny side of life
- Find a realistic balance between work and pleasure
- Take time to listen to good music

TLIA Meeting notes cont'd from p.2

There remains outstanding \$2,449.01 in past dues from 2013 and 2014 accruing to five owner accounts. Two of these accounts (\$950) are currently on payment plans to bring their dues up to date, one property is in foreclosure (\$1,375 and recovery of these past dues is unlikely) and two others are very small amounts (\$124.01).

For 2015, there are 32 accounts that have not been paid in full for a total of \$20,791.24. Of these five have made partial payments (\$1,921 outstanding), three are currently on payment plans (\$2,000) and one is in foreclosure (\$700).

Event Committee

Proposed events for the coming year:

Jan 30, 2015: Scotch Doubles at Sideouts

Spring, 2016: Progressive Dinner

July 2, 3, & 4 (a Monday): 4th of July events

October 15, 2016: Chili Cook-off

Thanks to Joe and Heidi Davey, Henry and Marty Thompson, and Jeff and Julie Kerschner for their years of service on the Social Committee.

Ballot Results 2016 Board

Vice President	Janet Blake
Financial Secretary	Steve Burgoon 212 votes
Members-at-Large	Linda Kuna 219 votes
	Randall Cross 135 votes
	John Yancey 129 votes
One-time \$100 flat fee for late dues	205 yes; 15 no
Property Swap	222 yes; 0 no

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- ◆ *Selling Real Estate for 22 years*
- ◆ *A \$250 donation goes to the TLIA Youth Committee for every home sold in Tower Lakes!*



Cathy Schmidt
Broker Associate

RE/MAX

Of Barrington

847-828-1277

RemaxCathy@msn.com

WWW.CathySchmidtHomes.com

Communications Committee:

Valerie Baartz
Jan Bahr
Randall Cross
Kathy Pattengale
Steve Pattengale
Cassandra Young
Randy Young

Interested in being a part of TLIA Communications?

Contact us for more information.

Communications@tlia.org

TLIA COMMUNICATIONS

YOU can advertise your business or service in the Tower Lakes newsletter and very soon on tlia.org. We have space available at reasonable costs with a dedicated readership to deliver great results! Contact: communications@tlia.org

TLIA COMMUNICATIONS