



The Weekly News

Property Owners Association
Lake Hayward

August 30, 2024

"The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot."



This newsletter is published for POALH members every Saturday from June 22 to August 31. This year, besides advertising our impressive schedule of events, I've added two sections of events occurring outside of the POALH confines. For those interested in professional sports I've posted schedules of local teams. I also added educational information about nearby towns. I hope some of you have found this useful and informative. Edited by Gary Cohen.

President's Message

I want to extend a heartfelt farewell to all of our seasonal members as we close out this year's final newsletter. Your presence and all of our Members make our community vibrant, and I look forward to welcoming you back next year. And to all of our Members, have a safe and wonderful winter.

I would also like to express a special thank you to our unsung heroes—the volunteers who quietly yet tirelessly dedicate their time and effort to making Lake Hayward a better place. These individuals see a need and step up to address it without seeking recognition. Their selfless contributions are what make our community truly special.

Thank you to our unsung heroes for:

- Weeding the tennis courts and First Beach parking lot gardens
- Tending to the First Beach and Second Beach gardens
- Rebuilding the electric meter enclosure box and the Little Lending Library
- Transporting and disposing of goose droppings
- Blowing off the pavilion
- Mixing and applying environmentally safe poison ivy control
- Repairing the North Reserve Beach dock
- Maintaining vegetation in the North Reserve Beach area
- Removing debris from storm drain grates
- Maintaining the kiosks
- Volunteering for our various events and programs
- Clearing invasive Japanese knotweed and dodder from POALH properties
- Mowing Walk Ways
- Managing the docks and swim lines
- Painting picnic tables
- Repairing tractors
- Monitoring our parking lots
- And all the other tasks that you quietly take upon yourselves to maintain and improve our community

Your efforts, though often unseen, do not go unnoticed. Thank you for all that you do. Our community is truly special because of you.

A special thank you to our volunteer Board of Governors and all of our Committees for their dedication to our community throughout the year.

Our Newsletter Editor and Photographer, Gary Cohen has done an amazing job getting all the news articles and photos out to you, thank you, Gary for all of your hard work.

Take care and I am already looking forward to our next season!

Kind regards,

Laurie

The Locomotives

Coming Friday, August 30th, 7:00 PM

Our last concert of the season.

Upcoming POALH Events

(All events held at the Pavilion)

Aug 30 – 7 PM – The Locomotives

Sept 1 - We canceled the Scavenger Hunt and substituted Trivia.

Sign in will begin at 6:00 PM and Trivia will start at 6:30.

\$5 per person to play.

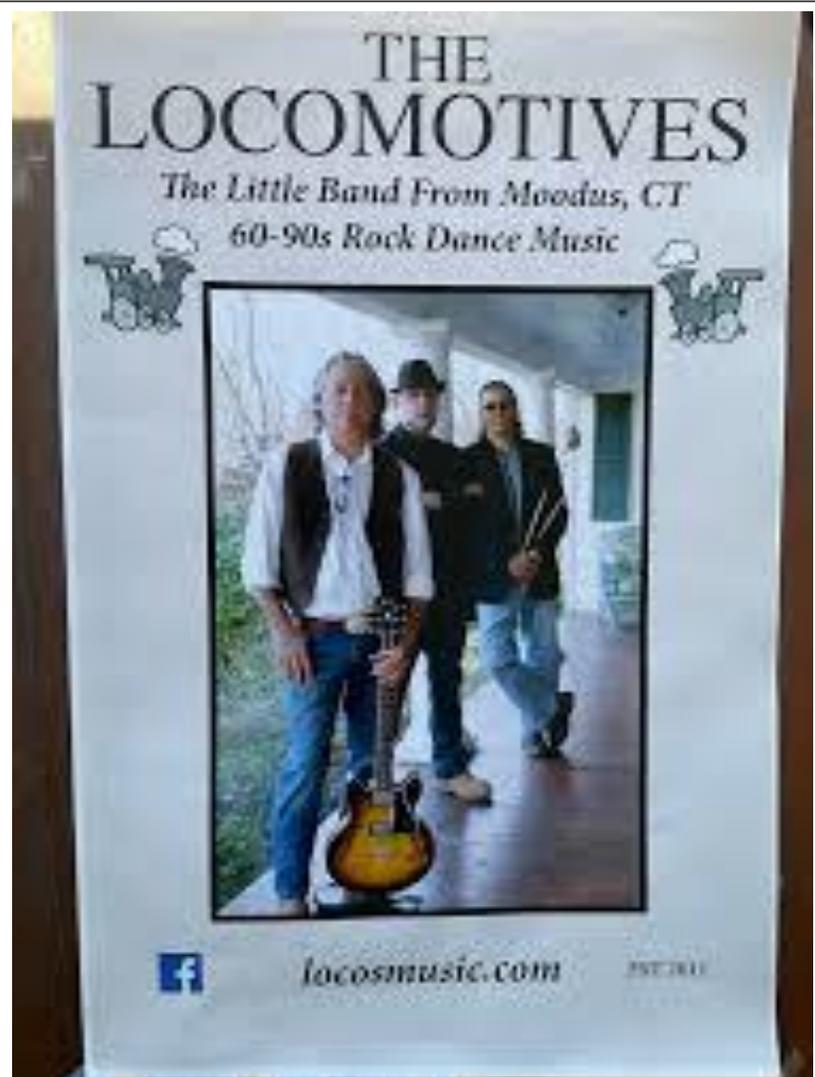
The Locomotives

August 30th – 7:00 PM

Who we are

Anthony Valentino, Ray White and Paul Zemienieski joined together in 2011 to form The Locomotives. We are a fun, professional rock n roll band from Moodus, Connecticut with many years of musical experience. We have a challenging, crowd-pleasing playlist that distinguishes us from other bands.

The combination of skillful vocal harmonies, tasty guitar and solid rhythm is the heart of our band. We offer an interesting mix of acoustic and electric songs and can easily play to a dinner crowd or a dance party. Our musical style ranges from folk to straight out “rock n roll” and spans 4 decades. This musical flexibility along with a small band footprint makes The Locomotives the perfect choice for a variety of venues.



Tax Collector's Corner

Another tax year is drawing to a close. According to our collection software, we've collected 91.49% of all monies owed for the 2024/24 tax year (or, for those from the assessor's office, the 2023 Grand List).

So, what happens to the outstanding 8.5% of unpaid taxes?

By now, anyone who hasn't paid taxes has received a Delinquent Notice. Interest of 3% (1.5% for July and 1.5% for August) has been applied, and there's a warning that an additional 1.5% will be applied for every additional month taxes are delinquent.

The percentage, and how that percentage is applied, are both set in Connecticut State Tax regulations. What if you didn't receive your tax bill? Connecticut regulations and court cases address that too. Tax Collectors are responsible for mailing one notice to the last known address. Beyond that, taxpayers are responsible for knowing taxes are due in July. If you don't receive your taxes, you need to contact the Tax Collector's office and ask for a duplicate of the bill. I have the ability to email or text a copy of any tax bill. I can also calculate any interest due and let you know.

Come September, any outstanding bill-holders receive a formal Demand letter. This is a first step toward Collections. In October, outstanding bill-holders receive both a Demand and an Intent to File Lien. The formal lien is put in place in November. Real Estate taxes constitute an inchoate (unwritten but understood) lien, but a formal lien alerts the Town Clerk and the Building Department that there are outstanding taxes. Both building permits and real estate sales recognize (and require payment of) any outstanding taxes. Another notice that may happen in November is notice of Jeopardy billing. If the bill-holder has been delinquent in two of the previous five years, they will be subject to Jeopardy billing. This means that taxpayer now owes the current year's tax, and an estimate of next year's tax. Again, this is a feature of Connecticut Tax regulation, and recognizes that there is a cost to collecting late taxes.

The last step is Collections, and that happens in January. At that time, any outstanding bill-holders are referred to our Attorney. Of course, the attorney is allowed his fee, which averages \$1,000.

All taxes, fees, interest and attorney's fees are due from the bill-holder, and again, that's Connecticut Tax regulation. So, are there programs for tax relief?

There are two programs administered through the Town of East Haddam. These programs are for qualified veterans or those who have a documented social security disability. If you believe you may qualify for one of these programs, contact the Assessor's Office in East Haddam. They will walk you through the application process and explain how eligibility will reduce the appraised value of your home (which serves to reduce taxes). That lower appraised value also passes to POALH, reducing reducing taxes owed here as well.

Hope this information is helpful.

Local Sporting Events and more

Connecticut's Country Fairs 2024

- Haddam Neck Fair. Sept 1 - 4
- Woodstock Fair – Aug 30 - Sept 2

THERE IS NO OVERNIGHT PARKING
allowed at any of the POALH parking
lots/areas. If you do park at one of the
beaches or parking areas, you MUST
HAVE AN ORANGE HANG TAG. Thank
you, your Board of Governors.



Connecticut Sun Home Schedule

All games at Mohegan Sun Casino

For tickets call 877-SUN-TIXX

- Sep 01 Sunday 01:00 PM vs. Seattle Storm
- Sep 03 Tuesday 07:00 PM vs. Seattle Storm
- Sep 06 Friday 07:30 PM vs. Las Vegas Aces
- Sep 17 Tuesday 07:00 PM vs. Minnesota Lynx
- Sep 19 Thursday 07:00 PM vs. Chicago

A CONVERSATION WITH THE FISH

I was talking to our local fish the other day and they mentioned that there was a lot of sharp, shining material flowing into the lake. The fish excitedly swam to check it out, swallowed it and then realized it was glitter from a popper which gave them terrible heartburn. We ask that all members please refrain from using poppers, confetti balloons, and any other non biodegradable party items at the pavilion or on any of the beaches as this can be damaging to our wildlife, our environment, and our beloved lake. Should you use celebratory biodegradable party items, please ensure that you clean up at the end of your event.

Thank you

Submitted by:

Julia Schiavi

POALH Vice President

3rd Beach Representative



3rd Beach Annual

Potluck Supper

Where: 3rd Beach

Date: Saturday August 31, 2024

Time: 5:00pm

Bring a dish to share, your own personal drinks and a raffle prize. This is a wonderful tradition with an amazing variety of dishes and the perfect way to wrap up your summer at Lake Hayward.



The History of our local towns – Lake Hayward

Lake Hayward, once known as Long Pond (by the Indian tribes who inhabited its shores) and then Shaw Lake, is situated just north of Devil's Hopyard State Park in the northeastern corner of East Haddam and is bordered by the towns of Colchester and Salem. In 1838, Charles Goodyear, of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, and Nathaniel Hayward were partners in a rubber mill which operated in Massachusetts. In 1847, after breaking away from Goodyear's company, Hayward established a factory in Colchester to manufacture shoes. Hayward remained in Colchester until his death in the 1860s. During the time he was residing in Colchester, he purchased land for hunting along Shaw's pond on the north east edge of East Haddam, where a grist mill was operating. After Hayward's death, Shaw's Pond was renamed Lake Hayward in his honor, as well as Hayward Avenue in Colchester.

The eastern shore of Lake Hayward boasts beautiful sunsets and a dirt road that is now a designated scenic route. East side residents are not part of an association since all the residents have either waterfront properties or a right-of-way for lake access. A state owned boat launch is located at the northern section of the east side. Facilities include a small paved ramp, parking for approximately 5 cars and chemical toilets (seasonal). This ramp is used for launching of small boats. Public access is restricted to the launch area.

The west side of the lake, which enjoys wonderful sunrises, has four beaches all covered with clean abundant sand to entice the summer residents. The Property Owners Association of Lake Hayward (POALH) is a chartered body democratically governed by the property owners. Annual dues are assessed each year at the annual association meeting and the town assessment is used as a base. Through mandatory membership, owners enjoy the benefits of well-kept beaches, tennis courts, volleyball, basketball and baseball fields, areas to keep boats, a children's playground, garbage pickup, portalets at the beaches and a pavilion which houses many activities. Most of these fun events are made possible through the support of members of POALH, who voluntarily devote their time and energy. Among other programs, members enjoy potluck suppers, bingo, dances, arts and crafts and Lake Hayward Days.

Lake Hayward Days started in 1930 when Mr. Bassett, an agent for Jas J. Smith Company (the company that developed Lake Hayward as a seasonal community), along with Mr. Grant, Thomas Phillips, Chick Anderson, Ev Johnson and Bob White came up with an idea, and the first "Lake Hayward Days" became an annual tradition. Swimming races were held early in the morning and continued for a good part of the day before the decorated boat contest, kiddy parade, canoe tipping/racing and watermelon fights were held. Our well-known Little Miss Lake Hayward contest, beach carnival and kid/adult games didn't start until much later.

The History of our local towns – (Lake Hayward Continued)

To add to the serenity of Lake Hayward, many years ago gasoline motorboats were banned, and now one can hear only the hum of little electric motors among the chirping of the Lake's peep frogs. During the summer months many enjoy swimming, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, paddle boating, row boating, and sailing, both in sailboats and on sailboards. During the winter months you will see ice fisherman and ice skaters on the lake with an occasional small fire for winter warmth.

The blend of year-round and summer residences work together, and pride is apparent in the well-maintained properties displayed by the vast majority of seasonal (and year-round) residents. With today's zoning regulations, year-round residences are grandfathered in, but any new seasonal conversion to year-round must be on a minimum of a one-half acre lot. This regulation assures that Lake Hayward will remain a predominately seasonal area. Most year-round residents enjoy the busy summer season when friendships are renewed and summer activities begin. They do, however, also admit to enjoying the end of a season – when traffic diminishes, beaches become empty, kayaks, canoes and sailboats vanish for the winter and daily life becomes just a touch less social.

From the beginning, it has justly been said that Lake Hayward is a peaceful, happy and friendly community. In an advertisement when the lake was being developed by the Jas. J. Smith Company it was stated:

“Every man or woman should own some real estate – they should have a place to call their own, where they can spend their summers and pass the days of their vacation to suit themselves, where the children can be taken early and brought back late, brown as berries, and with the robust health that only life in the open can give. No one knows what the future may bring forth. It is such a short drive from your home that you need not go away for an expensive vacation. Stay at home – take day trips to the Lake. Real Estate is an imperishable asset ever increasing in value. It is the most solid security that human integrity has devised. In fact it is the basis of all wealth.”

Lake Hayward is truly a place “where life meets vacation.”