



Lions Gate News

What's Happening at Lions Gate

Social Activities

Social calendars have been filled with opportunities to meet Lions Gate neighbors and enjoy good food and friendly socializing.

Dine Around, hosted by Joanne and Jack Murphy at Spring House Tavern, always a favorite, was held on Wednesday, September 16.

Joan Niesen coordinated a **Cocktail Party** at the Clubhouse on Friday, October 9. Light snacks and drinks were enjoyed by those who attended. It was a pleasant fall evening for socializing with neighbors.

On Veteran's Day, November 11, Sue McFadden and Mary Lynne Snyder organized a **Veteran's Day Celebration and Pot Luck Dinner**. More than 60 neighbors enjoyed good food while socializing. Bill Tompkins gave a presentation on the American Flag, very appropriate for the event.

Christmas Brunch gets better every year, thanks to all the efforts of Geri and Peter Indrisano, Jean and Steve Kalinger, and Doris McKenna. No one left hungry or disappointed, as there was plenty of good food, lots of Christmas decorations and cheer, and time spent with good Lions Gate neighbors. What a terrific way to start the Christmas holidays!

All social events are coordinated by residents of Lions Gate. If you have ideas for an event, plan to attend the April meeting and volunteer to help with an activity next year.



Picture Credits: Thanks to Larry O'Malley and Bob Pagni for all the great photos!



Proudly maintaining the integrity of the Lions Gate Community

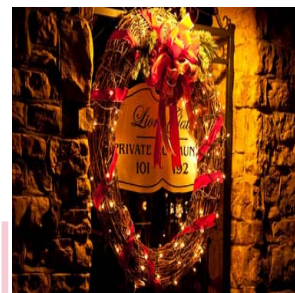
Christmas Luncheons

The LEO luncheon was held on Wednesday, December 9, at Indian Valley Country Club. Thanks again to Brooke Clemens for her organization and arrangements for a wonderful holiday luncheon. The holiday decorations and all the ladies dressed in Christmas colors made it especially festive.

Paul Clemens and Chuck Hintz took care of the men of Lions Gate for their Christmas luncheon. They met Wednesday, December 16 at the Indian Valley Country Club. Chris Nadovich gave a presentation, complete with slides of his very interesting cross-country bicycle trip.

Lions Gate Luncheons

Ladies Eating Out, or **LEO** luncheons are scheduled on the second Tuesday of each month. Notices are posted in advance in each mail room so ladies of Lions Gate can sign up to attend. Already this year the ladies have traveled to the Water Wheel in Doylestown, Ariana's in Montgomeryville, and Hawkeyes in Silverdale. You won't want to miss the next outings this winter!



Important Telephone Numbers

Janice Shearer
215-855-8700
Grosse & Quade
Management Co.

JP Mascaro
800-444-6272
Trash Company

Franconia Township
Police Dept.
215-723-6777

Franconia Township
Municipality
215-723-1137

Indian Valley
Library
215-723-9109

Generations
215-723-5841

Clubhouse
215-799-0730

Activity Center
215-721-6652



Please contact Liz Reichwein, editor, with information, ideas, or articles for future issues.



Lions Gate Board of Directors

Hugh Cullen, President
(Term expires May, 2011)

Al Roman
(Term expires May, 2010)

Thelma Becker
(Term expires May, 2012)

Bill Santulli, Treasurer

Bette Jean Gilbert,
Recording Secretary



Minutes from Meetings

Detailed information from the annual budget meeting is available in each of the mail rooms. Copies of minutes from each board meeting are posted there for our residents to read.

Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. at the Clubhouse.

From the Board of Directors

As you travel around Lions Gate you may be noticing some additions and improvements in the community. At the Clubhouse the columns on the porch were replaced. Screens for the bottom section of windows were purchased, and a new hot water heater was installed in the men’s room to replace the old 40 gallon tank in the attic.

If you’ve attended a social event or board meeting recently you’ve definitely been aware of the new chairs, with padded seats, purchased for the Clubhouse. Thanks to Al Roman, there are chair racks for all the new chairs as well.

At the pool, you may have seen the “Pool Closed” sign during the hours when the new floor robot is working to keep the pool clean. This is also a new purchase.

Contracts have been signed with the following:

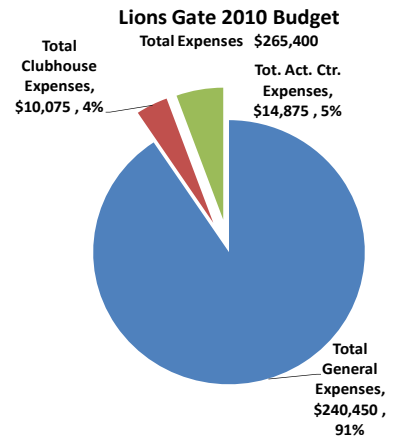
- Grosse & Quade, Management Company
- Kovitch & Son, Landscaping Company
- J.P. Mascaro, Trash Removal
- Gold Hammer Cabling/Construction Company, Snow Removal
- Ever-Clean, Pool Cleaning and Maintenance

The Board of Directors is still actively pursuing grant money to purchase new round tables for the Clubhouse, as well as a large screen television, a new grill, and to extend the deck area at the pool. Grant money has been held back this year because of the long delay in adopting the state budget.

2010 Budget Meeting

Thanks to Larry O’Malley’s excellent Power Point presentation and Hugh Cullen’s explanations, residents attending this meeting were well-informed about the financial situation at Lions Gate.

- For the first time in three years, there is an increase in the monthly fee. Those who participate in automatic deduction will pay \$5 more per month and residents who do not have automatic deduction will pay \$10 more.
- Monthly fees pay for all electric street lighting, fire hydrant fees, and annual crack sealing.
- The majority of the budget, about 91 %, goes to pay trash and snow removal, grounds maintenance, management fees, insurance, utilities, legal fees, and common area repairs.
- Lions Gate association fees remain the lowest of surrounding 55+ communities with all of our amenities. Keeping our monthly costs this low is directly related to all of the repairs, installations, clean-ups, etc. done by volunteers.





Some Important Reminders

Due to the Friday holidays, Christmas and New Year's Day, our trash will be collected on Saturday, December 26 and Saturday, January 2 instead of the regularly scheduled Friday collections.

Please be sure to secure your trash inside the containers as well as in trash bags, especially on very windy nights. It seems that Thursday nights have been unusually rainy and windy.

The Farmers' Almanac predicts a snowy and icy winter for 2009-2010. Your driveway should be clear of any obstruction to allow the snow removal team to do their work.

Have you returned your completed 2010 Census form? Remember to list all members currently living in your house. By federal law, this must be completed to maintain our 55+ status.

Verification of homeowners' insurance also must be provided to the Management Company



C & C Heating and Air Conditioning Company

Included with this issue of the Lions Gate newsletter is advertising information from C & C Heating and Air Conditioning Company. They agreed to pay all postage for mailing newsletters to Lions Gate residents. This is not meant to be an endorsement, but is in return for their donation to defray postage costs.

Remember

February 1, 2010, is the due date for the \$150 capital assessment payment.



Repairs to columns on porch of Clubhouse

Welcome to Newest Lions Gate Residents



David and Linda Gross
159 Taplow

Jon and Carole Burpee
63 Oxford Terrace

Eleanor DiGuiseppe
14 Clifton Court

Winter Travelers Information

It's easy to keep up with Lions Gate events and happenings even though you may be spending your winter months in warmer climates. Make use of our Lions Gate Web site to see pictures from snowfalls you missed, or cold-weather social events, LEO luncheons, and events that will welcome you back when the weather is nicer.

If you do travel south or west or north or east for part of the winter months, it is a good idea to leave behind contact information with your neighbors or with Janice at the Management Company—just in case of an emergency.

All information on our Lions Gate Web site and all email updates are thanks to the fine work of Larry O'Malley. Thanks!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.LIONSGATEHOA.ORG

CHECK FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, AS WELL AS GREAT PICTURES OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND NEWS OF UP-COMING SOCIAL EVENTS!





Lions Gate Volunteers



Lions Gate Volunteers contribute their time and talents to help our community be so well maintained, look terrific, and keep our monthly association fees at the most reasonable level possible.

Once again this year, the spectacular Christmas lights were all put up by our volunteers, who will also be responsible for taking them down.

Thanks also to Thelma Becker and her crew of volunteers who decorated the Clubhouse, inside and outside. Many of the decorations were hand-crafted by Lions Gate residents.

Other jobs completed by the Property Committee in recent weeks included painting the wood barriers in visitor parking areas, installing new light to illuminate the flag at the Clubhouse, sealing cracks on the walking path, and putting up special screening around the perimeter of the pool to keep out debris.

When Ken or Harvey call for help in organizing a Lions Gate Work Party, many residents willingly respond and offer their talents and skills in helping maintain the great over-all appearance of our community. Imagine how expensive it would be to hire maintenance people, electricians, handymen, etc. to complete these projects. Our volunteers also provide their personal touch and special care!



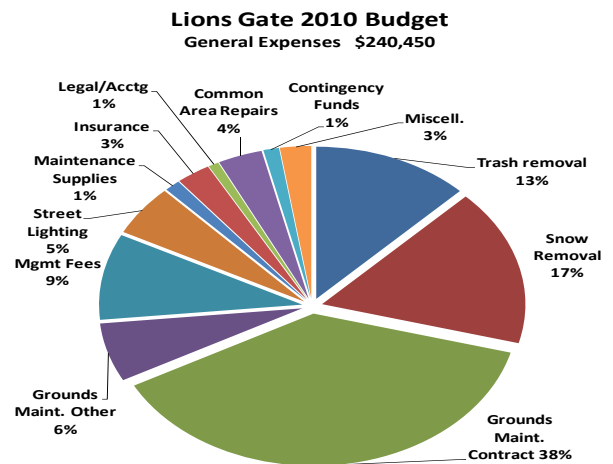
Lions Gate Winter Activities

If you are staying at Lions Gate throughout the winter, remember to check the bulletin board when you pick up mail. Social events are posted and you have a chance to sign up and take part. There are also some regularly scheduled year-round events.

- Ladies' bridge is on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Clubhouse from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- Poker and pinochle games are played weekly on Thursday evenings at the Clubhouse at 7 p.m. Both men and women are welcome to come and play.
- Mah Jongg players meet Monday afternoons at 1 p.m. at the Clubhouse.
- The Book Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Clubhouse. A variety of interesting books are suggested by club members, which are then read and discussed.

Volunteers Needed for Income Tax Assistance Program

The North Penn United Way is in need of volunteers to assist local families in completing their tax returns to properly be eligible for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). All volunteers need to complete a free training program and be available for one 3-hour appointment session per week from January-April 2010. CLE credits are available for attorneys. For more information or to complete an application, visit the North Penn United Way website at www.npuw.org or contact Christa Detweiler at (215) 855-3002 or c.detweiler@npuw.org.



This pie graph is from the Power Point presentation from the November meeting. Landscaping upkeep and snow removal account for more than half of the budget. The relatively low percentage for common area repairs is because of the work of Lions Gate volunteers.