

Nominee for Election to the Nominating Committee

The Star Island Corporation members directly elect members to the Nominating Committee. The Board of Directors submits the slate for that committee to the Corporation members.

The Board of Directors, at its January 2021 meeting, received the recommendation of the Committee on Appointments proposing two Corporation members who will be serving first terms on the Nominating Committee. The Board voted to accept this recommendation. The nominees are:

Jane Clay (FDC) for a first, three-year term
Gary Kunz (LOAS 2) for a first, three-year term.

The Board of Directors, at its February 2021 meeting, received the recommendation of the Committee on Appointments proposing two Corporation members who will be serving second terms on the Nominating Committee. The Board voted to accept this recommendation. The nominees are:

Nick Dembsey (IA) for a second, three-year term
Rodney Lowe (AS 2) for a second, three-year term.

The Board of Directors, at its March 2021 meeting, received the recommendation of the Committee on Appointments proposing one incumbent member of the committee who will begin serving as Co-Chair. The Board voted to accept this recommendation. The nominee is:

Kris LoFrumento (SG1) to serve as Co-Chair

Respectfully submitted,
Star Island Board of Directors

Biographical Sketches of 2021 Nominees

Jane Clay- Within 4 years of discovering Unitarian Universalism and joining Starr King UU Fellowship, Plymouth, NH, Jane Clay became director of religious education, for 8 years, then served in a similar position at the Plymouth Congregational Church for 2 years. She has served on a ministerial search committee at Starr King and then another 2-year interim DRE position. She is now serving on the governing board as vice-president. Jane has attended the Religious Education Conference (now Faith Development) since 2001. She became a co-teacher in the young peoples' program and then served as the registrar for 12 years. During this time, she also served as a delegate to the Council of Conferences. Jane volunteers on the Shops Committee and opening/set-up of shops, and volunteers in the Shops during the season as able. She serves the community of Plymouth as a Supervisor of the Checklist and as the school district treasurer/clerk.

Nick Dembsey has been attending IA since 2002. At that time, given his background in Fire Protection Engineering, he was asked to provide informal advice to the SIC, continuing through 2007 when he served on the Island Opened Late Committee. In 2008, Nick became a member of the Corporation. He has served on the Strategic Facilities Planning Committee from 2009 to 2014, on the Permanent Trust since 2015, and on the Nominating Committee since 2018. He has served on the SIC Board from 2012 to 2021 including two years as Vice-President and two years as President. In 2009, Nick joined the IA committee and in 2011 he served as chair for IA's "Water as a Resource and a Right" conference.

In the non-Star world, Nick is Professor of Fire Protection Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, a Registered Professional Engineer, and a Fellow of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers. Nick is an editorial board member of the peer-reviewed journal Fire and Materials.

Gary Kunz has been attending Life On A Star conferences with his wife Michelle for over 20 years, spending the bulk of those years at LOAS 2. Both of his sons, Ben and Rich, also attended LOAS conferences and worked for a number of years as Pelicans. He and Michelle co-chaired the LOAS 2 conference in 2002 and have served in many conference volunteer positions. He was a LOAS representative of the Council of Conferences for 5 years and served on the Cof C Board in a number of positions.

He is a top-level manager for an IT consulting company that specializes in web enabling business processes. He was a long-time member of the UU congregation at the Morristown (NJ) Unitarian Fellowship, where he served as the Board President and is now a member of the Church of the Larger Fellowship. He and Michelle moved to Palm Beach Gardens, FL in 2011 as part of a company relocation. Michelle and Gary are the proud grandparents of 2 grandchildren and have had the pleasure of having three generations on Star Island together.

Kris LoFrumento has been coming to Star Island since 1986 when as a 9 year old she fell in love with the Spirit and the community that is Star Island. Kris started out attending the Religious Education Week (now LRE) and spent one year at IRAS. Then, became a Pelican, End of Season, in 1994, before completing 5 full seasons as a Pel. Kris began attending the UCC 1 conference, now Star Gathering 1, in 2000 with her former husband, Robby Pletz, and has been back most years as a conferee or guest. Kris has served the Star Island, UCC and SIC in many roles including as co-chairing multiple weeks of conferences - SG 1, Pel Reunion, Clergy Conference, and Family Festival, as the President of SIUCC and ex officio SIC Board Member, as Membership Committee Chair, and Nominating Committee member. Kris has two teenage sons, Nathan, a HS junior who resides in Burrillville, RI with his Dad and William, a HS freshman who resides in Columbus, OH with her. Kris currently serves as the Director of Student Services at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO), an ecumenical graduate theological seminary, where she holds many student-facing roles including convening the UCC Learning Network and a staff supporter of the UU House of Studies. Kris is pursuing a PhD in Higher Education at the University of Toledo, though she has taken a leave of absence during the pandemic.

Rodney Lowe and his wife Sally Russell first discovered Star through friends who kept saying "Trust us, you'll love it." They did, and after getting on the waiting list for All Star 2 with less than 24 hours notice they took their kids, Chris and Bethany to the island for the first time in 1993. They all had a great week which is not easy for a family with an introvert, an extrovert and 5 year old girl and 14 year old boy. So they became regulars and eventually chaired the AS 2 conference in 2003. He became a member of SIC in 2004 and has been a member of the Development Committee for several years including chairing the committee in 2007.