

Spring 2013

VOL. XXV No. I

### THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

It's been a long, rather hard winter here on the Pocono Plateau. I think I remember Todd telling me that we had 19 plow-able (and still counting) snowstorms and several other storms of our typical freezing rain or sleet. We have a busy couple of months ahead of us. It seems as if every Board member is hard at work with a project or two. One of our biggest issues is keeping a watchful eye on the development of the Penn Forest Recreation Park to our immediate east along State Route 903. While the development of the Park will come to some as an improvement for recreational opportunities, we as a Board are steadfast in our desire to ensure that any development does not affect our properties and the recreational assets of Bear Creek Lakes – most notably the water quality of the Lake.

With the Park in mind, the Board has retained a professional Environmental Engineer to review the Land Development Plan with a focus on the Storm Water Management and Erosion and Sediment controls. Our Engineer will be working in harmony with our Aquatic Biologist to develop base line testing, as well as continued testing, of water quality and monitoring of existing storm water conditions.

I hope you enjoy reading through this edition of your Newsletter - I am sure there are many topics of interest that the Board has been discussing over the past few months.

Hope to see everyone in and around the Lake this coming summer.

Jack McGeehan

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The office staff and the Membership Services Committee chairperson are doing a great job with the dues collection. Most of the committee chairpersons are keeping their expenses in line this year. We've had a lot of nuisance snow fall this year, thus keeping maintenance busy.

We're still dealing with the insurance company with the lightning damage near the pool house. This should be resolved soon. The Lake Chairman has been busy getting estimates ready for the spring 2013 repairs and our next big issue will be getting the pool up and running for the summer.

The park across 903 is showing signs of life??

My next issue is to get started on next year's budget and I am looking forward to a long hot summer.

John M Klaiber

## BEAR CREEK LAKES

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WWW.BCLCA.ORG

## SATURDAY, MAY 25th, 10A.M.

SPRING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

PENN FOREST TWP. VOL. FIRE CO #1

RT. 903

Committee Reports & Summer Activities

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE

Kevin McGrath

On behalf of the board, I want to thank all of you who faithfully pay your association dues on time each year! Membership Services works with owners who may be experiencing some short term financial hardship to work out payment plans. We have been very successful in this approach. My committee is comprised of Barb and Jack with ongoing assistance from attorney Tom Nanovic. We are also tasked with the job of working to collect past and unpaid dues from members of the association. We have been fairly successful in this effort and have reduced the amount of outstanding funds owed to BCLCA.

Under Pennsylvania law, the association has a statutory Lien against the property of any owner in BCLCA who does not pay their annual dues in a timely manner. In extreme cases, Attorney Nanovic is instructed by the board to file a lawsuit against owners who have not paid their fees or entered into a payment plan. Clearly this is a last resort for the association and we make every effort to avoid winding up in court. However all owners should be aware that the board has a fiduciary duty to act in the best interests of the entire community and a part of that is filing lawsuits to collect association fees.

I again want to thank the vast majority of owners who pay on time every year. I also want to encourage anyone who may be behind in their dues to contact the office to discuss entering into a payment plan. The worst thing to do is ignore the association. That will result in litigation and increasing costs and fees accruing against your home or lot.

## COMPUTER TECHNOLOGIES COMMITTEE

RICH BERGER

I took over from Bob Skiffington after the summer meeting. Since then, we have replaced our old copier with a new model that also provides faxing and printing capabilities and has a slightly lower monthly cost than the old one. In addition, BCLCA will own the copier at the end of the two-year lease, which may allow us to reduce the monthly cost at the end of the lease.

We will be working to enhance the use of QuickBooks in the office and will be looking into new options with our phone/internet contract when the current contract with Verizon ends in October.

## FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Jack Knorr

It's been a long winter – Welcome to springtime. The hall has been busy as usual with its community activities, book club, Zumba, TGIF and movie nights, etc.

Rentals and community events continue to keep members in contact during the winter months.

Remember to read your activities list, website and bulletin boards to keep in touch with what is coming up this spring and summer.

Please note that Ice Cream Night at the pool will be on Friday, July 5, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

## LIFEGUARD COMMITTEE

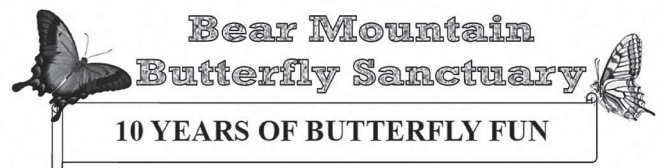
COLLEEN BRADLEY

Hi everyone my name is Colleen Bradley and this is the 2nd year that I'll be in charge of the lifeguards. We have what I think is a great group of guards this year with a mix of seasoned veterans and several new hires. The guards will be working hard to ensure you have a safe and enjoyable experience in our pool and lake. In addition to maintaining their certifications, we will again this year have several in service days. Last year the training sessions were well received and allowed us to focus on specific skills and techniques. Please remember that the guards are here to protect you and your loved ones. The rules that we have in place were enacted by the Board of Directors and are consistent with industry wide standards. When the guards ask you to follow the rules, please remember they have your safety and well-being as well as those of the entire community in mind. I can be reached at my e-mail address raybrad@ptd.net.

## LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

Lawrence Ryals

Hello Everyone, I hope the spring finds everyone thawed out and ready for a great summer. It's time for a little landscaping and we need volunteers. Clean-up Day will be Saturday the 18th of May and we will meet at Bear Creek Office (Stewart Hall) at 9:00am. I look forward to seeing you then. This is a new position for me and if anyone has any ideas please contact me at Lawrence.Ryals@marriott.com and thanks again. Lawrence Ryals



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## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Pat Stasyk

The website, Bulletin Boards and the newsletter are all great ways to communicate with our BCL members. The Bulletin Boards can be used by any member of the BCL community and anyone who advertises in our newsletter. Please take advantage of them.

Also, any member in good standing can attend the monthly board meetings held the 3rd Sat of every month (except Dec.).

Have a nice summer.

## RECREATION COMMITTEE

Pat Stasyk & Marty Palmer

Please check your recreation schedule (found in this newsletter and the calendar on our website) and see all the activities that we have planned. We try to have a variety of activities – hopefully some that will appeal to you. If you have any ideas for an event and are willing to run it, please talk to Marty Palmer or myself, Pat Stasyk and we will give you direction and some help.

We are looking forward to a nice warm summer and seeing you at some of the BCL events. Enjoy the summer!

## LAKE/DAM COMMITTEE

Marc Beerman

The lake was frozen for more than 3 months this winter and many residents enjoyed the activities it offered, including skating, ice fishing, and cross country skiing. Even the sunsets take on a different beauty when looking across the frozen, snow covered lake.

This newsletter is a good opportunity to remind everyone of some of the basic and important rules regarding the lake. The lake has been classified as EV (exceptional value) water quality. This is a rating of which we should all be proud. To help keep it that way, remember that landscape/lawn fertilizers and chemicals will ultimately end up in the lake (and our drinking water.) Whenever possible, you are encouraged to use organic solutions.

Live bait, including minnows, suckers, goldfish, carp, eel, darters, killifishes, chubs, and stone catfish are prohibited in the lake. Fishing is not permitted from the breast of the dam or near any swimming areas. BCL limits the number of fish kept to four within a 24 hour period.

Only registered boats are allowed on the lake. This is important to help curb the spread of invasive aquatic plants. All boats must have valid BCL stickers and members and

guests must wear their BCL badges.

The rules apply to all members and their guests and renters. Please make renters and guests aware of the rules so that we may continue to enjoy all the lake has to offer. Remember the rules of the road on the lake. Exercise caution when approaching other boats and follow the Fish and Boat Commission rules. Reminder - the entire lake has been defined as a "slow- no-wake" zone meaning a maximum speed of 5 mph exists on the lake.

In November, the dam underwent a state mandated video inspection of the "outlet" structure. The good news is the outlet pipe was in good condition. The bad news is the front gate valve was found to be inoperable in a partially closed position. Therefore, this spring we will make the necessary repairs to bring the lake controls back to 100% operating standards.

The 2012 annual lake inspection by Hanover Engineering found no deficiencies and everything looked good.

In January, the state approved our Emergency Action Plan. A notice regarding the plan has been posted in the office. The notice refers to the dam as a High Hazard Dam.

The PA Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Dam Safety, has classified our dam as a High Hazard Dam because the dam is located as to endanger populated areas downstream in the event of a failure. The high hazard rating is no reflection on the condition of the dam. BCLCA, as a dam owner, is required to have a state approved Emergency Action Plan on file and available to the public. A copy is available in the BCLCA office.

One last rule, and probably the most important, remember to have a fun and safe summer! If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please call me at 570-732-4017.

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## HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Jack McGeehan

We are blessed to have a group of dedicated year 'round employees.

The office staff led by Barbara has done an outstanding job. I want to thank her, Pat and Sylvia for all their dedication throughout the year. Not only do they manage the affairs of the Membership, but they tend to the needs of many different Board members and committees when necessary. I for one am grateful for their professionalism.

As I mentioned earlier, the Maintenance Staff - Jim & Colin, have done an exceptional job this past winter. Several storms had them working what appeared to be around the clock. It's not easy in this region of the country; you get hit with a snowstorm and then rain or sleet. They do their best to keep our roads open and they should be commended for a job well done.

In a few short months our staff blossoms three fold as we hire on the lifeguards for the season. Colleen has a lot of returning guards and a few new faces to join the ranks. Remember; help them help you by making sure all of our young family members are supervised by adults when they are at the pool and beaches.

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

Todd Laudenschlager

This past year there has been a decline in the number of permit applications. BCL has issued permits for Additions, Decks, Sheds and one new home. Please feel free to contact me through the office if you have any building or zoning questions or need information on how to apply for a permit. Call the office when beginning a project to see what paperwork must be completed or permits must be received before the start of your project.

Have a wonderful spring and summer.

## ROADS COMMITTEE

Tom Larney

Hi All! After the cold winter I would guess we all are looking forward to the warm weather. I certainly am. After Labor Day the notice to Proceed was given to the tree trimming contractor on 10-9-12 for areas mostly above Behrens Rd. and also a dead tree next to Stewart Hall. Tree trimming is not anticipated to be needed for a couple of years.

Regarding roads, reviews and marking out of the needed paving areas will continue through March, April and May when outgoing proposals will be sent for bids. Speed Bumps will be included in proposals. Note one emergency tree removal (60' high split pine) was needed along Dogwood and removed 3-1-13.

The winters cost for fuel, anti-skid and plowing will restrict some paving. However we will do the most work possible and stay within budget. Thanks in advance for your patience.

## MAINTENANCE COMMITTEES

Todd Laudenschlager

Hats off to Jim Halpin and Colin Trower. Our Maintenance Staff has done an outstanding job maintaining the roads this past winter. We had 12 nuisance storms which really are a nuisance because they take the same amount of time to plow, and use the same amount of anti-skid as a larger snow! Overtime hours were necessary and holiday family functions were postponed or missed. So, when you see them, stop and say thank you for all their hard work. When

they weren't plowing they were kept busy maintaining the facilities, repairing equipment and preparing for spring. They are praying for warmer weather; as I write this the newly painted basketball backboards are being installed. If you have any concerns I can be reached through the office. Hoping for a warm spring!

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Steve Sosnowski

We have been closely watching the progress of the Township recreation park across route 903. They have received their highway occupancy permit and development work has begun. Although the Board does not object to this park in principle, we do want to ensure that it will not have a negative impact on the Bear Creek environment. To that end, we have retained the services of an Environmental Engineer to review the township plans and advise us regarding any mitigating actions we may need to take.

Please help us keep Bear Creek Lakes beautiful. If you see litter along the roadways or in the public areas, please pick it up and discard it appropriately. Thanks and have a great summer.

**Enjoy Your Home!**

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# Rental Equipment



	4 hour Rental	8 Hour Return by 4:30PM	24 Hour Return by 7:30AM	Weekend	Week
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## Cutting & Drilling

Block Cutter (Guillotine)	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 90.00
Cut Saw Blade Wear	min use	\$ 15.00		Per .01 sq. In	\$ 38.50
Cut Saw, 14" Gas (Plus Blade Wear)	\$ 28.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 210.00
Drill, Masonary 1 1/4" SDS (plus Bit)	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 165.00
SDS Bits	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00

## Demo & Compaction

Jackhammer, Electric	\$ 40.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 240.00
Plate Tamper, Gas	\$ 40.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 210.00

## Excavation

Excavator, 8000lb	\$ 175.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 295.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 885.00
Box Blade, 5' X 18 "	\$ 40.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00
Tractor w/attachment	\$ 195.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 960.00

## Lawn & Garden

Blower, Backpack	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 140.00
Core Aerator	\$ 35.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 210.00
Dethatcher, Gas Walk	\$ 28.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 195.00
Landscape Rake 36" Hand	\$ 3.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00
Landscape Rake, 6' 3pt. Hitch	\$ 50.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 195.00
Pressure Washer, 2000 PSI 2 GPM, GAS	\$ 25.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 165.00
Roller 2' tow or hand	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Spreader	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Tiller, Mid Tine	\$ 30.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 210.00
Tiller, Rear Tine	\$ 35.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 240.00

## Plumbing & Pump

Sewer Snake	\$ 28.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00
Tank Locator	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
Tank Locator Lost Tranmitter	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
Video Inspection Camera	\$ 50.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00
Well Pump Puller	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00
Pump, 2" Gas	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00

## Transport / Ladder / Jacks

Equipment Hauler	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 37.50	\$ 75.00
Engine Hoist, folding	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 90.00
Ladder, Folding extension (Little Giant)	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 37.50	\$ 75.00
Stepladder, 6'	\$ 5.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00
Trailer	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 50.00	N/A	N/A
Wheelbarrow	\$ 5.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00

## Tree & Clearing

Chain Saw 12" w/1 gal mix gas & 1 chain	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 175.00
Chain Saw 14" w/1 gal mix gas & 1 chain	\$ 35.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 185.00
Chipper 6" Diesel	\$ 200.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 960.00
Stump Grinder Diesel w/trailer	\$ 200.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 895.00
Tree Pruner, manual	\$ 8.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00

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Weekend Rentals are to be picked up Friday after 4:30PM and returned no later than Monday at 7:30AM.  
One week rentals on metered excavation equipment include up to 40 metered hours, hours over 40 will be pro-rated.

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## SECURITY COMMITTEE

Bill Malone

We made it thru another winter and it was not that bad. Looking forward to a fun filled summer. We had nine break-ins between September and November of last year, eight of which were properties not occupied on a full time basis so we do not know when they occurred. The State Police were notified and are investigating. Security was contacted. It is very important to keep your property safe. Here are some tips to accomplish this: Alarm system, inside lights on timers, outside lighting on sensors, dead bolt locks. Have someone pick up mail and have your driveway plowed. Make sure that the BCL office has your updated contact information. Let's all do our best to keep our community the safest in the Pocono's.

## POOL COMMITTEE

Steve Sosnowski

Hello sun worshippers! Welcome to what I hope will be another great pool season. While it is a dreary mid-March day as I write this report, we have already begun to prepare for the pool opening. Clean-up, equipment inspection and repairs are being scheduled. Let's hope the weather cooperates this summer!

## RULES COMMITTEE

Bill Allison

The BCL Board has addressed two areas of concern this year: one, the completion of building projects in a timely manner; and two, general property maintenance. It has been a concern of the Bear Creek Lakes Civic Association when the building of dwellings, garages, and ancillary structures is not complete after twelve months. The new rule will track construction and encourage a one-year completion date.

The other concern addresses the physical appearance of Bear Creek properties. We all want to protect the quality of life that reflects our values as a community. While the vast majority of Bear Creek property owners spend time and energy to maintain an attractive exterior appearance of their lots, a few detract from the community with litter, overgrown vegetation, or abandoned vehicles, visible to neighbors. Up to now, BCLCA had no rule to protect against and define blight.

Here are the new rules passed at the February 2013 meeting:

Page 25, Rule 16. A Penn Forest Township occupancy permit shall be issued within twelve (12) months of construction commencement, verifying completion of a dwelling or garage. Appeal process: The Board at its discretion may grant an extension.

Property Maintenance Code: All Bear Creek Lakes properties shall be maintained to prevent deleterious effects on the community. Such effects include physical appearance, safety, and public health. Violations shall be subject to penalty after a first warning and fined as littering.

The BCLCA requests owners abate the following nuisances:

Litter: No owner shall permit litter to accumulate on their property. No owner shall accumulate, permit or store items on the exterior of the property such as furniture, laundry, durable goods (refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc.), tires, automotive products, residual waste or construction or demolition debris.

Weeds, grass, and vegetation: No owner shall permit vegetation on the property to grow in such a manner as to create a public nuisance. No cut brush or discarded cut vegetation shall accumulate on a property, creating a fire hazard.

Vehicles: A junked, unregistered, uninspected, inoperative, or abandoned vehicle may not be parked, stored, or left to remain on any lot. BCL properties may not be used for vehicle engine repair, body repair, or painting.

Editor's Note: An updated "Building Regulations and Property Maintenance" page is included in this newsletter. Please add pages 25, 26 and 26a to your rule book.



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### CASUAL DINING - GREAT PUB MENU

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**Sunday Noon-5pm**

**SUBJECT:** Building Regulations and Property Maintenance

**PURPOSE:** To establish rules, regulations and guidance concerning building/construction within the boundaries of Bear Creek Lakes

**RULES**

1. All deed restrictions applicable to lots remain in effect and are incorporated herein as through specifically set forth in these Rules and Regulations. Deed restrictions may be more or less stringent than the building regulations of Penn Forest Township or Bear Creek Lakes Civic Association. In all cases the more stringent of the restrictions will apply.
2. All contractors who perform work within the boundaries of Bear Creek Lakes must be registered with the Civic Association. Contractor work includes, but is not limited to, building, grading/landscaping, home improvements such as additions, roofing, siding, decks, the drilling of wells and the installation of septic systems.
3. Each property is limited to 2 accessory buildings per lot with a combined square footage of 400 square feet. Any exceptions will have to be approved by the BCL Board of Directors whether the accessory buildings are currently in existence or planned for the future. A Penn Forest Twp. Permit must be presented and approved by BCL for all accessory buildings.
4. Any constructions/additions or prefabricated structures will be assessed an architectural/aesthetic/landscaping review fee of \$200.00 or less, based on the scope of the project. This fee is the responsibility of the property owner of record.
5. Each lot owner proposing to build a dwelling and each homeowner who plans an improvement or addition must submit to the Bear Creek Lakes Civic Association the following documents for approval prior to the commencement of the work to be performed:
  - A. Township Zoning & Building Permits
  - B. A complete copy of the owner's deed including deed covenants
  - C. Plot plan of proposed construction including the removal of trees.
  - D. An approved BCLCA driveway installation permit.
  - E. A lot survey for construction of a home or addition. If the Board deems it necessary, it can also be required for the placement of a shed or accessory building.
  - F. A current dated Certificate of Liability Insurance from the contractor's insurance company.
  - G. Approval to commence work will only be given after all of the above has been returned to the BCL office with your check/cash and you receive a copy of the Twp. Bldg. permit with the BCL stamp on it.
  - H. All of the above documents will be reviewed for approval or disapproval within four weeks.
  - I. Building permits must be displayed at building sites in such a manner as to be visible from the road. Property owners are responsible for ensuring that building contractors comply with the BCL Building Regulation
  - J. As a condition of approval for a new dwelling, any addition, or a garage, the lot owner shall deposit with BCLCA financial security to secure completion of the new dwelling, addition or garage in accordance with the deed covenants and these rules and regulations. In the case of a new home, the amount of the financial security shall be \$10,000.00; and in the case of an addition or a garage, the amount of the financial security shall be \$3,000.00.
  - K. Without limitation as to other types of financial security which BCLCA may approve, a performance bond issued by a bonding company acceptable to BCLCA; or, Federal or Commonwealth chartered lending institution irrevocable letters of credit and restrictive or escrow accounts in such lending institutions, shall be deemed acceptable financial security for the purposes of section J above.
  - L. In the event the new dwelling, addition or garage is not completed in accordance with the deed covenants and these rules and regulations, in addition to any other rights or remedies BCLCA may have to enforce such completion, BCLCA may enforce any corporate bond or other security by appropriate legal and equitable remedies.
6. Lot owners must comply with State regulations regarding "wetlands".

7. All developed lots that have drainage and/or run off problems as a result of driveway needs and all new construction will have to be reviewed by the road committee for the determination of drainage pipe needs at the driveway.
8. A driveway permit (\$25.00) is needed prior to paving any new or existing driveway.
9. All homeowners and contractors shall be required to maintain a clean site during construction. All lumber piles are to be neat and orderly at the end of the work day. All construction debris is to be removed and be placed in a dumpster, suitable container or construction vehicle. No construction debris is to be left visible on the construction site at the end of the working day. The covering of debris with tarps is not acceptable. (See list of qualifying accessory buildings on P. 26a)
10. All construction sites must maintain an erosion and sediment control barrier until the construction is complete.
11. All external components of a home construction or addition construction must be completed in 9 months from the date of permit issuance.
12. Prior to construction, contractors and homeowners will receive a detailed plan for preparing and maintaining the site during the period of construction.
13. During any new construction, a porta-potty must be maintained on the site.
14. Homeowners are responsible for ensuring that any damage to BCL roads is repaired/reconstructed according to BCLCA specifications.
15. There shall be no construction by outside contractors prior to 7:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and prior to 9:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. No construction at all is allowed on Memorial Day, Independence Day or Labor Day.
16. A Penn Forest Township occupancy permit shall be issued within twelve (12) months of construction commencement, verifying completion of a dwelling or garage. Appeal process: The Board at its discretion may grant an extension.
17. Property owners desiring to sell their real property, i.e., lots with or without improvements, may post a maximum of three (3) "For Sale" signs or permit real estate agents to post a maximum of three (3) signs during the period when there is a valid real estate listing agreement in force. No sign can be larger than 24"x 24".
18. Building contractor and lawn care/landscaping signs are permissible only during the period the work is in progress. No contractor sign may be larger than nine (9) square feet. Building contractor signs must be removed within nine (9) months of the issuance of the building permit or at the time an Occupancy Permit is received, whichever occurs first. Property owners are responsible for ensuring that contractors comply.
19. The construction and use of outside furnaces for home heating are not permitted in the Bear Creek Lakes Community.
20. Any members not in compliance with deed covenants or BCL regulations may be subject to a "stop work order". See other side for details.
21. To cover extra administrative costs, a surcharge of two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars shall be added to the fee for all permits or approvals required by the Civic Association for any type of activity or conduct, including building/construction permits, shed permits, driveway permits and approval for tree removal, if such activity or conduct is initiated prior to application for a permit or approval.

**Property Maintenance Code:** All Bear Creek Lakes properties shall be maintained to prevent deleterious effects on the community. Such effects include physical appearance, safety, and public health. Violations shall be subject to penalty after a first warning and fined as littering.

The BCLCA requests owners abate the following nuisances:

**Litter:** No owner shall permit litter to accumulate on their property. No owner shall accumulate, permit or store items on the exterior of the property such as furniture, laundry, durable goods (refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc.), tires, automotive products, residual waste or construction or demolition debris.

**Weeds, grass, and vegetation:** No owner shall permit vegetation on the property to grow in such a manner as to create a public nuisance. No cut brush or discarded cut vegetation shall accumulate on a property, creating a fire hazard.

**Vehicles:** A junked, unregistered, uninspected, inoperative, or abandoned vehicle may not be parked, stored, or left to remain on any lot. BCL properties may not be used for vehicle engine repair, body repair, or painting.

### **Information**

1. All above ground fuel tanks should be screened in for aesthetic reasons.
2. Through the deed covenants of Bear Creek Lakes, the right to govern the removal of trees has been given to the Board of Directors. With the cooperation of community members, it has not been necessary to enact rules related to this issue. However, the Board requests that tree removal be limited to the area needed for construction or to maintain a safe environment. The effect of total tree removal on a lot can lead to flooding, eventual pollution of the lake and other related problems.
3. The Board of Directors has approved the following definition for an accessory building- "A structure detached from a principal structure on the same lot and used for a purpose customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal structure or use."
4. Accessory buildings include the following: detached garages (built prior to 9/07); storage sheds; boat/car/ RV storage; shelters, gazebos; swimming pool.
5. All roads in the development were deeded to and are owned by the Civic Association with the appropriate right of way. The deeded road is wider than the paved cart way and the paved cart way is often not located in the exact middle of the deeded road. Before installing any fences or planting any trees or shrubs in the right of way, you should be sure where your property ends and the Assoc. right of way begins. In order to install anything in the right of way (driveways, storm water/drainage facilities) you must obtain prior written approval from the Civic Association.
6. Any fire bans enacted by the Township, County or State Emergency needs, supersedes any of the above regulations.

A Stop Work Order may be issued by any Board Member when (1) construction, alterations. Or repairs (Work") is being done without a required permit; (2) work is being done in violation of or non-compliance with a permit; or, (3) work is being done in violation of or shall state the violation or reason for non-compliance, what must be done to correct the violation or come into compliance, and that the lot owner has the right to appeal the Stop Work Order to the Security Committee within twenty (20) days of issuance.

The Stop Work Order shall be posted at a conspicuous location on the lot and a copy shall be either (1) hand delivered to the lot owner according to the Association's records; or (2) sent by First Class Mail to the lot owner according to the Association's records at the address shown in the Association's records.

Notwithstanding the issuance of a Stop Work Order, the lot owner and/ or the contractor is permitted to take such action as may be reasonably necessary to secure the site and protect against harm or damage to any damage to any person or property, including the Work.

## ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Dave Lautt

My annual plant sale will be Saturday, June 29th from 9-3. As usual, we'll have a nice variety of both indoor and outdoor plants.... Also I have a plethora of gardening books to give away....FREE. Hope to see you all on the 29th. Phone 570-325-2607

David and Marlene Lautt are the proud great-grandparents of OLIVIA MORGAN LAUTT,  
Born January 4, 2013.

## CRIME WATCH

Bill Malone

Crime watch is a program in which neighbors help neighbors. It is all volunteer. We have people who volunteer every week. If you volunteer once or twice a month an hour or two of your time, we would appreciate it. It is a great way to meet people and make new friends. We have a meeting on the third Saturday of the month 12:00 pm in Stewart Hall, please join us. I am thanking you in advance and am looking forward to meeting you. Thanks again, Bill Malone

## WINTER TGIF

Diana Bochantin and Linda Kunkel

As of January 2013, we have started doing TGIF every Friday at 6:00pm in Stewart Hall. It started off slowly, but has been steadily picking up. All are welcomed. Just bring an appetizer, salad, soup, entrée or dessert and your favorite beverage. We have lots of fun and we play games afterwards.

The last get together for the season will be Friday May 17th.

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## WITH SYMPATHY

Edie Boyer

Since I am no longer editor of this newspaper, I do not keep up to date on the deaths of our members. However, there are three that I must mention.

Betsy Boltman, wife of George and mother of Kenneth, Drew and Angela passed away this fall. It was a shock to her family and friends. Betsy had been a member of our community for many years. She helped me with many of the activities we had for the children. She was a member of Roger Stewart's art group as well as our Saturday morning biking group. Our deepest sympathy to her family-we miss Betsy.

Another death we were sorry to hear about was the one of Tom Henry. I remember Tom from my first days at Bear Creek Lakes (1966). Tom served on our Board of Directors in many capacities and did many things for the good of the community. He was very active with our early tennis and volley ball programs. Our sympathy to Delores, his wife, and Pat and Bill, his twin sons as well as their families. For us "old timers" it will be hard to think of Bear Creek Lakes without Tom Henry.

The last death I am writing about is that of Peggy Keegan. Peggy was our association's secretary for 20 years – so we all knew Peggy. She was ill for the past several years and was mostly home-bound so many of you probably did not know her. Her sons grew up at the lake and I believe her late husband was on our board in the very early years of our development. As I write this I do not have access to early records.

It will seem strange to us who knew these three people to know they are no longer with us. They are missed!

Another death I just heard about was that of Victor Focht. Victor was another person who had been associated with Bear Creek Lakes for many years. In the 1980's Victor and his wife gave slide shows, in the recreation hall, of some of their trips. Victor was also an avid fisherman and known for his "homemade" flies. His son-in-law won many of our weekly sailboat races. We send our sympathy to his wife, Joan, and to his daughters, Linda & Beverly and their families.

Editor's Note, Our Sympathy Also Goes out to the Families Of:

Gladys I. Turel, "Sue" 72, of Lower Saucon Township and Bear Creek Lakes, passed away Friday, Dec. 28, in her home. She was the wife of Stanley E. Turel Jr. They celebrated their 49th anniversary last June.

Jennifer J. Shaika, 24, of Lehigh, died unexpectedly on Sunday, February 17, 2013. Granddaughter of Joyce Shaika of Bear Creek Lakes.

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### FISHING CONTEST

Edie Boyer

This year, at the Children's Fishing Tournament, a Sportsmanship Award was presented to Evan Curtin. Evan's grandfather was Michael Bridgeman, who was an avid fisherman at Bear Creek Lake.

In 1970 the Bridgeman's, from Pottstown, PA bought property on Ash Drive. This was their vacation home for many years and their permanent home for a few years.

Michael's favorite fishing spot was in the dam breast area. Michael passed away seven years ago and his family continues to remember him by placing a wreath on a tree near "his spot".

The committee plans to continue this act of presenting a trophy, honoring a different person, each year.

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## LADIES' LUNCHEONS

Edie Boyer

We had another successful season of ladies' lunch outings. This past summer we went to Nick's Lake House, Terra Cottage (record number of 35), Boulder View, Dom N Ali and Blue Ridge Country Club.

This is a fun activity and a good way to get acquainted with other Bear Creek Lakes ladies. Sue Whiteley continues arranging for your eating and meeting pleasure during the winter months. I know many of you are on her Email list. I still do things the old fashion way – phone – and May through October we still meet at South Beach at 12:30 unless you tell me otherwise. Thanks to all who support this activity! Come out and join us this season, we always look forward to meeting new ladies.



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## JUNIOR LIFEGUARD PROGRAM

Colleen Bradley

This year the junior lifeguard program will be brought back into full swing! A new and improved six week program will begin approximately the third week of June, but dates are still under consideration. The program will be instructed by two guards, Avery Day and Dylan Bradley. Participants will be responsible for the costs of the course material. There will be a link available on the BCLCA website.

This course was designed as an introductory class to the official lifeguard certification. Children ages 11-14 are eligible to participate. Class will be held once a week and will run between one to two hours in length. Both water and land exercises will be performed. Junior lifeguards will also assist in pool day activities. An in-depth description of what each class will entail can be found on the website as well.

Pre sign-ups for the course are highly recommended! Please contact Avery or Dylan for more information at either [avery.day@student.jtasd.org](mailto:avery.day@student.jtasd.org) or [dbradley@student.jtasd.org](mailto:dbradley@student.jtasd.org).

\*A reminder that this course does not certify you as an American Red Cross lifeguard and does not guarantee a future employment at BCL. This will however "help" you become a future employee, as long as completion of the class occurs.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Marty Palmer

The annual BCL New Year's Eve Party was sold out once again and was a tremendous success. It was great to see everyone during this festive celebration and we will continue to have this party as long as there is so much interest.

## JULY 4TH GOLF CART & BICYCLE PARADE

Beth Shrum & Todd Lutte

Come out and join us for a great family day at the annual Bear Creek Lakes Golf Cart and Bicycle Parade Saturday July 6th! The competition to show off our American pride and pastimes seems to have this parade getting bigger and better as the years roll by.

The golf carts have kicked it up a notch with creativity and are something to see if you have not attended the parade. The kids love decorating their bikes with high hopes of placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd. There will be hot dogs, soda, and games and prizes for the kids. It's a great time all around filled with wonderful summertime memories.

If you would like to help out with the event, we need lots of volunteers to make the day a success. Any ideas and suggestions are greatly appreciated.

To volunteer or offer suggestions: Please contact: [bearcreeklakes4thjulyparade@gmail.com](mailto:bearcreeklakes4thjulyparade@gmail.com)

Thank you in advance for those of you who volunteer year after year.

## FRIENDS OF BCL

Bob Skiffington

Have you ever wondered what is happening in BCL? Well wonder no more. Anyone that has access to the Internet can see what 120 plus BCLCA neighbors are discussing. "Friends of BCL" is a private Facebook group page. By private it means you have to be in the Facebook "Friends of BCL" group to post comments. Join Facebook "Friends of BCL" and get up to the minute information from your neighbors on what is happening in BCL, Penn Forest Township and neighboring areas. Previous posts have included power outages, road conditions, BCL events, township meetings regarding new businesses (Navitat Zip Line), the new recreation park being developed on 903 and the new turnpike interchange. Members can access/update "Friends of BCL" from anywhere in the world. They can update with their desktop computer, laptop, notebook and phone. If they can get to the Internet they can access "Friends of BCL". If you can get to the Internet you will know the latest and greatest by checking "Friends of BCL"



## EASTER EGG HUNT

Beth Shrum & Todd Lutte

We would like to thank all the children and parents that attended the Bear Creek Lakes Easter Egg Hunt in the park behind the pool on Sunday March 24th.

The Easter Bunny was there to help with the festivities. Special baskets were handed out for the children that found the golden egg in their category.

There were cupcakes for the kids, a jellybean raffle and even pin-the-tail-on-the-bunny.

Thank you to BCL resident Kelly Frantz for her help and thank you to Jennifer Reduzzi and her friend, Christy "The Easter Bunny" for volunteering as well.

Editor's Note-More pictures of the Easter Egg Hunt can be found on our website.

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Bear Creek Lake Office	325-3334
Maintenance Office	325-8270



## CHILDREN'S FISHING TOURNAMENT

Gary Benedick & Bill Seltzer

A great day of fishing, Sat. Aug. 18. We had 21 kids fishing for prizes. All kids that participated went home with prizes; fishing poles, baskets, nets, lures, etc.

Sponsored by BCL and Wacky Worms.

A trophy in honor of deceased Michael Bridgeman was presented.

1st	Bass	Isaia Houser
2nd	Bass	Adrianna Seltzer
3rd	Bass	Madison Seltzer

1st	Sunfish Kevin Jordan
2nd	Sunfish Evan Cramer
3rd	Sunfish Reny Seaver

1st	Perch	Adam Houser
2nd	Perch	Sam Moning
3rd	Perch	Ryan Cramer

Hot dogs and drinks were served. Thanks to Alex Stasyk and friends. Congratulations to all that came out and hope to see you all next year!

Remember: "Early to bed, early to rise, Fish all day, make up lies."

## SWIM DIAPERS AND SWIM PANTS

Colleen Bradley

One of the biggest issues every year concerning our pool and beaches is the use of swim diapers or swim pants. The policy of Bear Creek Lakes is that swim diapers, swim pants and or diapers are permitted only in the "baby pool". Information gathered from the websites of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The American Red Cross, The Mayo Clinic and others all agree on one significant issue. While swimmies, as they are sometimes called may reduce the risk of contamination, they do not eliminate the risk, and merely create a false sense of security. The Board of Directors has enacted this policy to protect the health and welfare of all our members and guests.

## BUNCO

Lona Nelson

Calling all men and women to Stewart Hall for Bunco, a dice game, on the first Wednesday of the month. Check the recreation schedule and the website for dates. Come for a fun evening with fellow neighbors, prizes and refreshments. Call Lona Nelson at 325-2698 for information. Hoping to see many of you there. This is an easy game to learn and play.

\$2.00 donation for refreshments and prizes. Bunco starts June 5th

## MOVIES-MOVIES-MOVIES

Sylvia Capozzoli

We were able to continue Movie Night at Stewart Hall throughout the winter months. It was a great time. All the latest movies were shown from the 2012 production Spiderman to the 2012 production of Les Miserables. Movie Night is scheduled on the 2nd Saturday of the month. This summer those dates are June 8th, July 13th, and August 10th. Look for the movie titles for these dates posted on BCL Website and bulletin boards. So come join us, bring a comfy chair, your BCL badge, have some free popcorn and a free soda and see a free movie.

Editor's note: Where else can you see a FREE movie, while having FREE popcorn & soda, in the comfort of your own chair, with the nicest & friendliest people around!

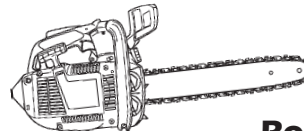
## VALENTINE TEA

Pat Stasyk

Happy Valentine's Day in June – June 8th to be exact. Fill your hearts with love and join us for good food, hot tea and lots of caring and sharing with other ladies of BCL. Space is limited so please call me at 325-3280 and reserve your place.

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## 5K RUN/WALK

Brooke Dobbs and Tiffany Chen

This year the 5K Walk/Run or 3K Walk scheduled for Sunday, August 25 will benefit the Prostate Cancer Foundation. Hi, my name is Brooke Dobbs and for my senior project, my friend Tiffany Chen and I will be organizing the Walk/Run to benefit the PCF in memory of my grandfather, Bob Dantonio. He was a member of the BCL community for over 30 years and a proud member of the board until he passed away in 2010. My grandfather really enjoyed living here and that is why we want to organize this fundraiser for our graduation project to honor him. Our goal is to raise as much money as possible for cancer research. All money raised will go directly to the Prostate Cancer Foundation. More details concerning starting time and registration will follow at a later date.

Thank you!

## MEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

Larry Erra

This year's 25th BCL Men's Golf Tournament will be held at White Birch Golf Course on Friday July 5, 2013. The fee will be \$50.00 per golfer, which includes breakfast, lunch, green fees and cart. Come early for breakfast, 7:30AM and shotgun starts at 9AM. Sign up at the office by June 15th. Looking forward to seeing everyone. Contact Larry Erra 325-2730 or Joe Van Uiter at 325-8526.

## 5K ARTHRITIS WALK

Dylan Bradley

Hello everyone! My name is Dylan Bradley and I will be hosting my 3rd Annual Arthritis walk/run this spring! The event will be held on Sunday May 26th. There will be a 5k walk and run, and a 3k walk. Registration as in years past will be at Stewart Hall. This year I'll be doing things a little differently. Registration for the walk will start at 8:30am with the walk starting at 9:00am. The runners will register at 9:00am and their race will start at 9:30am. For "pre-training", the yellow arrows located throughout Bear Creek are for the 3k walk, and the blue arrows are for the 5k walk/run. The top three male and female place winners for the run will receive trophies. Registration is \$10, and cash or check is accepted. Please make checks payable to the Arthritis Foundation. T-shirts will be available for pre-order for \$15. Please feel free to contact me at 1-610-349-8614 for any questions or t-shirt sales! The registration form is available on the BCLCA website. Thanks for your support and remember, "Kids get Arthritis too!"

Editor's note: Dylan is dedicated and works extremely hard on this event. Please come out and support him.

## THUNDER, LIGHTNING AND POOL CLOSINGS

Colleen Bradley

Another of the areas of concern every year is when we close the pool due to thunder. I've heard many people complain that they did not hear the thunder, or that the noise was a truck out on 903. In order to eliminate some of these issues as well as improve the safety of our facilities we have purchased a new piece of technology from Ambient Weather called Sky Scan. This device is a lightning detection and early warning system that will alert the guards to approaching weather fronts and potentially dangerous conditions. Please heed the guards' directives when they instruct everyone out of the water. Your safety is our biggest concern.

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## TUBING ON THE LAKE

Marty Palmer

The annual Tubing on the Lake will take place on Saturday, July 27th. Please meet at the South Beach at 11 am. We will tube, float or kayak over to the boat dock where lunch (hot dogs and drinks) will be waiting. Everyone participating must bring and wear a flotation device!

## PIG ROAST

Pat Stasyk

July 20th is the date for our annual Pig Roast. The theme this year is "Wear Your Favorite Sports Shirt". It should be fun to see all the different teams represented. The food is always great and it's a wonderful time to meet your neighbors in BCL. Plan to join us at the fun event. Tickets can be obtained from Pat at 325-3280



To commemorate the 50th anniversary of our dam in 2014, the first sale of The Dam Cookbook will be at the BCLCA General May Meeting in 2014.

We know how anxious you all are to begin trying new recipes, and to read more about the history of our community, and see some great photographs, so just remember that

good things come to those who wait! In the meantime, we will continue to accept recipes and notes of history until Friday, September 13, 2013. Your recipes and historical notes may be typed or handwritten. Be sure to include your contact information just in case we need to verify any of the ingredients! Please place your information in an envelope marked BCL Cookbook and take it to the office in Stewart Hall.

If you have any questions, we will have a table set-up at the General Meeting this May. You may also send an e-mail to [bclcookbook@hotmail.com](mailto:bclcookbook@hotmail.com) or telephone Deb at 732-4017. Thank you!

## WATER AEROBIC PROGRAM

Kathy Lunemann

Each year we run a summer program offering a water exercise program. It usually begins mid to late June. This year we are going to try and kick it off on June 17th. The weather determines if this is possible.

The program is open each Monday, Wednesday and Friday and begins promptly at 11 A.M. If the temperature is below 70 degrees or it is raining we do not meet. You may ask why. Well it is not healthy to stretch or pull your muscles in a chilly or cold environment. We follow the 70 degree limit closely.

We've had a lot of fun over the past few years and we look forward to another "warm and sunny" summer with you. Come check it out.

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## TGIF (THANK GOODNESS IT'S FRIDAY)

Kathy Lunemann

TGIF has become a Bear Creek Lakes tradition, this year is no exception. On June 14th we will gather in the covered Pavilion behind the pool area at 6 P.M.

If you are looking to meet with friends or make new ones, please join us. The cost of admission is an appetizer or main dish (your specialty or a casserole) or a dessert. All are welcome. It is also a BYOB.

We follow our socializing and dinner with a friendly game of Bocce. It is usually men vs. women. We have a lot of fun. We look forward to seeing you there.

## BUILDING ON OR IMPROVING YOUR BCLCA PROPERTY

Rich Berger

You may be a new member of Bear Creek Lakes, planning to build a house on a vacant property, or an existing homeowner, wishing to add to your home. Before you do so, you should be aware that the BCLCA requires that certain guidelines be followed. These guidelines are laid out on pages 25, 26 and 30 of the BCLCA rules and regulations and cover the following:

- The restrictions that apply to the placement of buildings on your property.
- Who may perform work within BCLCA
- The need to submit plans to BCLCA for any proposed work
- Standards for the work site during construction
- Time frames for completion of the work
- Rules that apply to accessory buildings (e.g., sheds)

- Drainage requirements
- Written permission prior to removal of any trees on properties in BCLCA

Before you begin a construction project, you should review these rules and make sure that any contractors you engage for work follow the rules in planning, execution and completion of your projects. If you have any questions, the BCLCA Board will be happy to answer them and guide you through the process. These rules have been established and refined over time to strike a balance between the interests of your neighbors in the BCLCA community and the desires of property owners to develop homes suited to their individual needs.

## LADIES BOCCE

Linda Kunkle

Please make a note about ladies bocce on your calendar, Tues & Thurs, 2pm, weather permitting. We don't have an exact startup date but will begin when the weather warms up. Check the website for dates. Anyone interested, call Linda, 325-4236.

Editor's note: This is a great way to get away from those household chores we all so love.

## BCL ANNUAL YARD SALE

Ron McCloskey

Annual Bear Creek Lakes Community is scheduled for June 22nd & 23rd, 9 am to 4pm. No charge to participate. If you would like to be included on the maps please contact Ron McCloskey 570-325-5348 leave message by June 7th at the latest. Thanks

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## DEN'S TOP TEN.....Summer Security Tips

Denis McCaig

10. Think like the burglar. Look at your house objectively and try to find a way in. Ladder left outside? Put it away. While driving around the community on Bear Creek Lakes Crime Watch I see a lot of ladders alongside of garages and sheds. If you can't put them away, lock them up.

9. Doors, windows, locks: The front door is the most likely way to enter your house, but windows left open in the summer while you're at the store or the pool are very tempting for someone looking for some prescription medications. Sliding glass doors are a target for lifting out. Make sure ALL your windows and doors are locked.

8. Keys and key chains: Have a key hidden outside for friends or relatives? I'll bet it's not so hard to find. Don't put your address or name on a key chain. A keychain without an address is useless to a burglar.

7. Do not open your door to strangers. Burglars pose as salespeople or utility company employees. You don't have to open your door for anyone.

6. Light it up! Burglars want a nice dark driveway to approach your house and a dark perimeter of a house to access windows. Exterior lights are a major deterrent. We have electrical contractors in our community who can install motion sensor security lights on your house. Give them a call for an estimate.

5. Get to know your neighbors. It helps to look out for one another. We have a Crime Watch program right here in Bear Creek Lakes that currently has eight or nine active volunteers. In a community of eight hundred lots, that's not very impressive. Call the office and speak with someone about signing up as a Crime Watch volunteer or email

BCLCA@ptd.net.

4. Lawn, papers, junk mail. A neglected, overgrown lawn in the summer is a sure sign that nobody is home. Call a landscaper to cut your grass while you're away.

3. Face Book "Friends": Watch what you post on "friends" Don't announce that you and the family are going on a European vacation. The "friend" reading this might be a burglar.

2. SECURITY ALARMS: Get one...and use it! Nothing beats a security alarm as a deterrent. The State Police are NOT around the corner. A noisy/flashing alarm system will make a burglar leave your house IMMEDIATELY. Call a security company for an estimate.

1. Den's number one summer security tip....call Denis & Ro at CARBON HOME WATCH SERVICES for a home watch estimate. "We'll watch your house when you're away"

Editor's note: Please support our advertisers found in this newsletter and the website. They make our newsletter possible.

## ZUMBA

Ro McCaig

Zumba is a dance fitness program created by a South American dancer and choreographer Alberto "Beto" Perez during the 1990s. Zumba involves aerobic and dance elements. Zumba's choreography incorporates samba, salsa, merengue, mambo and some Bollywood and belly dance moves. It is a fun way to exercise.

Our Bear Creek Lakes Zumba class is led by Naomi Betancourt, a licensed Zumba and fitness instructor. The class is on Fridays from 10:00 – 11:00 at Stewart Hall. The cost is \$5. Please consider joining us to get in shape.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Every Fall, at the General Meeting, there are five Directors of the Board up for election. BCLCA is always looking for new people to run for the Board. There is always the possibility that incumbents may not seek reelection or that a Board member may be leaving the community. Please consider running for the Board and giving back to your community.

To run for the Board you must be a member in good standing. That is, your dues are current and you have no outstanding citations. You must be a member of BCL. That is, you must have a property in BCL with your name on the deed.

The terms are for 3 years and you will be appointed to head a committee by the elected President. For your information, all officers are elected by the Board of Directors at a meeting immediately following the Fall General Meeting.

Interested members should be prepared to submit their resume to the BCLCA office by July.

Editor's note: We apologize if we missed any announcements. Our only information comes from you. If you would like to put something in the newsletter in the future, you can email or mail the article to our office. All address information is included in this Newsletter.



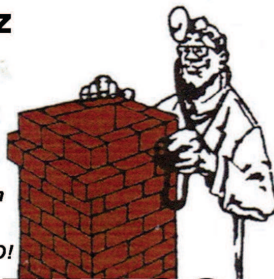
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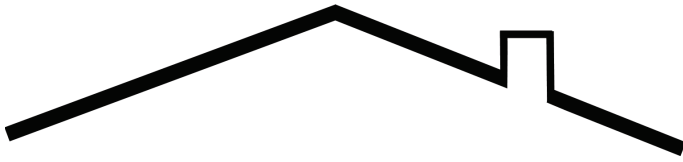


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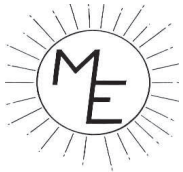
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## Appalachian Trail Thru-Hike

Edie Boyer

We heard that one of our Bear Creek Lakes members hiked the entire Appalachian Trail. We thought it would make a good article for the newsletter. Here is Nate Landon's account of his 2012 thru-hike (Georgia to Maine). Thank you, Nate, for your great article.

### APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Nate Landon

A while back in college I dreamed up this crazy scheme that I wanted to hike the entire Appalachian Trail. Having few funds at the time, I put it on the backburner as a bucket list idea. After graduating and getting my first job, I decided that my 20's was the time to do this, so I began saving. It took a few years to scrape together the money, but this summer I did it. The Appalachian Trail is approximately 2,200 miles long and passes through 14 states. Each year thousands of people of all ages and walks of life set out to try to walk the entire thing within one calendar year. This is known as a thru-hike, and those that try it thru-hikers. The most popular method is to start at its southern terminus at Springer Mountain, Georgia and walk north to Mount Katahdin, Maine. This allows you to start earlier in the year and follow the spring north so water is available easily for most of your trek. About 12% of those who attempt a thru-hike complete it. It took me 5 months.

My hike started on March 11th with a one way ticket to Atlanta and a van ride to the trail head. The first weeks of the hike were probably the most interesting because it felt like the Yukon gold rush. Hundreds of folds with all kinds of things on their backs plowing north into the unknown. I saw folks with 14 days' worth of food, entrenching tools axes, firearms fishing rods, jeans, and 10 pairs of cotton socks. These things were foolish, looking back on it, but we didn't know anything (but thought we knew everything) at the time.

Virginia was the state in which I spent the most time. Since there are 550 miles spent in just that state, it took me a full month to traverse it. The rumor on the trail was "Virginia is flat", well don't you believe it for a second. Virginia is easier than most, but never flat. I can think of maybe 20 miles of the whole trail that was truly flat.

The trail passes right through our area here in Palmerton in the Lehigh Gap. One of the oldest shelters on the trail is located just up the hill from the Route 873 Bridge going to Slatington. In fact some people said that Palmerton was the friendliest town on the trail. The town actually lets hikers stay in the basement of town hall on bunks made by the boy scouts. This is a bigger deal than it sounds. Having a roof over your head, water from a sink 20 feet away that needs no treatment, and most importantly a shower are huge moral boosters. The average thru-hiker is burning 5,000 calories a day and is never taking that much in. Towns are encountered every 4-5 days for most of the trail and offer hikers the opportunity to pig out and re-supply. So if you ever see a person trudging along Route 248 with a pack on their back mid-summer, they are probably thru-hikers and would love a hitch-hike.

New York State was a short leg of only 50 miles or so, but was one of the stranger, and more populated places on

the whole thing since you pass only 50 miles north of New York City on the Hudson. I hit there in mid-June and that was right about the time the summer heat waves started there. I remember a blur of dried up water sources and road crossings; particularly crossing the Palisades and Taconic Parkways. Most places where the Trail crosses major highways route you to over-passes to avoid accidents. Not New York; you walk down a hill right to the edge of the highway, dash across 2 lanes with a pack, jump a Jersey wall, and sprint the other 2 lanes. I wonder if anybody has ever been killed there?

Southern Maine was the hardest part of the trail for me without a doubt. By this point I had already crossed Mt. Washington and the White Mountains of New Hampshire and when I hit the Maine border I thought "Maine, I am done". Not so, I still had 280 miles of Maine to go and we were still crossing 4,000 footers well into it. In my mind I remember thinking "what the hell, if this is going to be like this the rest of the way, I won't make it". By this point I was down nearly 20 pounds from my pre-trail weight. I was never a big guy to start with so that was making itself felt big time. Fortunately Maine's mountains fade out after a while and the last obstacle, the "100 Mile Wilderness", is the last test. By this point I could pound out 20 miles a day continuously without much problem so this was really just one more mental challenge. The mental challenge particularly made itself most felt with endless rain, stream fords, and hoards of mosquitoes that just never quit. The whole trail had mosquitoes, the south had chiggers, and New Jersey had ticks like mad, but Maine mosquitoes are another breed.

On August 18th I finally summited Mt. Katahdin with my father. This was the goal for the entire trek, and likely I should have been crying like an Emmy winner but I just sort of plopped down and stared at that big sign with the 75 or so other people up there (most not thru-hikers). I suppose I did get a little smug in my head thinking "none of you actually walked this whole thing, why are you all getting pictures with the sign at the end of the trail?" I guess whether you are walking 6 miles or 2,200 miles, Mt. Katahdin at 5,268 feet is still a destination.

Well my knees are humbled, my body weight is almost back to normal, I have bullet proof calluses, but most importantly I have checked another thing off the bucket list and saw it through to the end. So on to the next adventure, eh?



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## RECREATION SCHEDULE FOR 2013

(Information for the events will be posted on the bulletin boards and [www.BCLCA.org](http://www.BCLCA.org))

- Wed. May 1 **Sign up for May 8 Ladies Luncheon** - Call office 325-3334 or Edie Boyer 325-4234
- Wed. May 8 **Ladies Luncheon** - Meet at South Beach 12:30pm
- Sat. May 11 **Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Sat. May 18 **Clean Up Day** - 9 AM meet at Stewart Hall, we will have everything you need.
- Sat. May 25 **General Meeting** - Penn Forest Fire House No.1, Rt. 903, 10AM
- Hot Dogs & Flea Market** in picnic area behind the pool after the General Meeting. Please provide your own tables for flea market and craft sales.
- Pool opens weekends** - 11AM-7PM, weather permitting
- Horseshoes & Bocce Ball** - Sat. & Sun. 1 PM - the Bocce Ball Court
- Sun. May 26 **5K Race for Arthritis Foundation** - Registration 8:30 AM at Stewart Hall. \$10.00 Registration Fee. Contact Dylan Bradley 610-349-8614
- Wed. June 5 **Sign up for June 12 Ladies Luncheon** - Call office 325-3334 or Edie Boyer 325-4234
- Bunco** - Stewart Hall - 7-9 PM
- Sat. June 8 **Valentine Tea Party** - 12 PM. Bring your own tea cup and saucer, Seating limited, please confirm by calling Pat at 325-3280
- Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Mon. June 10 **Pool opens full time**. 12-7 PM weekdays, 11 AM - 7 PM weekends
- Wed. June 12 **Ladies Luncheon** - Meet at South Beach 12:30pm
- Fri. June 14 **TGIF** - Bring an appetizer, dessert or comfort food, enough to share with others. Bring your own drinks. Play Bocce after enjoying the food, men against the women. A great way to make new friends. Every Friday for the rest of the season.
- Teen Night** at the Pool 7 - 10pm - Check bulletin boards & website for more details
- Sat. June 15 **Barbershop Quartet** - 7pm @ Stewart Hall - Bring money for 50/50
- Mon. June 17 **Aquarobics** - Every Mon. Wed. Fri. - 11 AM - 12 PM at the pool, weather permitting.
- Sat. June 22 & Sun. June 23 **Progressive Yard Sale** - 9 AM - 3 PM - Look on bulletin boards and website for further information. Call Ron McCloskey 325-5348
- Wed. July 3 **Pool open late** - till 9 PM on Friday & Saturday nights, until Labor Day Weekend.
- Sign up for July 10 Ladies Luncheon** - Call office 325-3334 or Edie Boyer 325-4234
- Bunco** - Stewart Hall - 7-9 PM
- Thurs. July 4 **INDEPENDENCE DAY**
- Fri. July 5 **Men's Golf** - White Birch Golf Course, Tee off 9 AM, \$50.00 Contact Larry Erra at 325-2730 or Joe VanUiter at 325-8526.
- Ice Cream Night** at the Pool - Ice cream & toppings, make your own. 6 PM
- Sat. July 6 **Golf Cart & Bike Parade**-Registration 11 - 12 noon, games and food after the parade. Beth Shrum is the chairperson. Check bulletin boards & website for more details.
- Wed. July 10 **Ladies Luncheon** - Meet at South Beach 12:30pm
- Fri. July 12 **Adult Night** at the Pool - 7 - 10pm
- Sat. July 13 **Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Sat. July 20 **Pool Day** open to **children and their guardians ONLY**. Pool will be closed to all others until 4:30. Wading pool open for very young children. Registration starts at 12 noon. Games commence at 12:30 till 3:30. Pool will close at 3:30 till 4:30 for cleaning. Pool will open from 4:30 till 9 for the entire community. Weather permitting. Please utilize our beautiful beaches during the time the pool is closed to all but our children. There will be no swimming by observers as there are no lifeguards observing the pool and the pool may be used for games with the children

- Sat. July 20 **Pig Roast** - Wear your favorite sports team apparel - Further details will be posted on the bulletin boards & website. ALWAYS a lot of fun!
- Sat. July 27 **Tubing on the Lake** - Meet 11am at South Beach. Life vests are required. Tubes, floats or kayaks are necessary. Will tube to the boat ramp where we will have Hot Dogs & Sodas for the participants.
- Sat. Aug. 3 **Music Night** - NightWind in concert at the Pavilion - 6 to 10pm Free admin. Enjoy a night of music from the 80's & 90's as NightWind rocks the Pavilion! This is a BYOB event. (Bring money for 50/50)
- Fishing Tournament** for the **Children** - Details will be posted later.
- Sun. Aug. 4 **Rain date** for Fishing Tournament
- Wed. Aug. 7 **Sign up for Aug. 14 Ladies Luncheon** - Call office 325-3334 or Edie Boyer 325-4234
- Bunco** - Stewart Hall - 7-9 PM
- Fri. Aug. 9 **Lifeguard Challenge**-Pool will be closed until 1:30 PM, come observe your lifeguards challenge each other in relay races, volleyball, diving exhibitions, etc. Cheer on your favorites.
- Sat. Aug. 10 **Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Wed. Aug. 14 **Ladies Luncheon** - Meet at South Beach 12:30pm
- Sun. Aug. 25 **5K Run, 3K Walk** - Registration 8:30 AM at Stewart Hall - to benefit the PCF in memory of Bob Dantonio
- Sat. Aug. 31 **General Meeting** - Penn Forest Fire House No.1, Rt. 903, 10AM. Elections
- Wed. Sept. 4 **Sign up for Sept. 11 Ladies Luncheon** - Call office 325-3334 or Edie Boyer 325-4234
- Bunco** - Stewart Hall - 7-9 PM
- Wed. Sept. 11 **Ladies Luncheon** - Meet at South Beach 12:30pm
- Sat. Sept. 14 **Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Tues. Sept 17 **Book Club** - Stewart Hall 10 AM. Call Leta Thompson at 570-325-2121 for information
- Wed. Oct. 2 **Sign up for Oct. 9 Ladies Luncheon** - Call office 325-3334 or Edie Boyer 325-4234
- Bunco** - Stewart Hall - 7-9 PM
- Wed. Oct. 9 **Ladies Luncheon** - Meet at South Beach 12:30pm
- Pasta Dinner** - Check bulletin boards & website for further details.
- Sat. Oct. 12 **Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Tues. Oct. 15 **Book Club** - Stewart Hall 10 AM. Call Leta Thompson at 570-325-2121 for information
- Sun. Oct. 27 **Children's Halloween Party** - Watch bulletin boards and website for details
- Sat. Nov. 9 **Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Tues. Nov. 19 **Book Club** - Stewart Hall 10 AM. Call Leta Thompson at 570-325-2121 for information
- Sat. Dec. 14 **Movie Night** -Stewart Hall 7-9 PM Movies are rated PG-13 to R. Free popcorn & soda.
- Tues. Dec. 17 **Book Club Meeting and Luncheon** - Stewart Hall 10:30 AM. Call Leta for information
- Tues. Dec. 31 **Adult New Year's Eve Party** - Watch bulletin boards and website for details.

**Horseshoes & Bocce Ball** - Every Sat. & Sun. at 1 PM, weather permitting, at Bocce ball court

**Ladies Bocce** - Every Tues. & Thurs.at 2PM-weather permitting, at Bocce ball court - Starting June 4

**Movie Night** - 2nd Saturday of every month

**TGIF** - Fridays in the Pavilion, starting June 14 at 6 PM. Bring a dish to share along with your own drinks. All are welcome.

**Book Club** - 3rd Tuesday of the month-Sept until June-10AM in Stewart Hall. Book selections are posted in Library and the website.

**Aquarobics** - Starts June 17 Mon. Wed. Fri. - 11 AM - 12 PM at the pool, weather permitting.

**Zumba** - Every Friday - 10am in Stewart Hall - \$5.00

**Quilters** -Every Mon.- 6:30-9 PM in Stewart Hall.-All are welcome.(During winter months, check website for day & time)

# MEET OUR LIFEGUARDS

## **Avery Day**

My name is Avery Day and this will be my third year guarding at the bear creek lakes facilities. I enjoy lifeguarding at the BCL pool and I can't wait to work another summer again! I am a part of SADD (students against destructive decisions), OLC, and other clubs so I am busy during the school year. My future plans are that I am attending Penn State University to major in early childhood education. Can't wait to see everyone this summer at the pool! LG4L

## **Minke Pfeiffer**

Hi, my name is Minke. This will be my third year working as a lifeguard in Bear Creek Lakes. I am 17 years old and will be a senior at Jim Thorpe. I love playing tennis and giving swimming lessons. I'm so excited for this summer and I cannot wait to see everyone at the pool! LG4L

## **Dianara Bucior**

Hi my name is Dianara Bucior and this is my first year lifeguarding at Bear Creek Lakes. I am 17 years old and will be a senior at Jim Thorpe Area High School in the fall. In school I play soccer for the soccer team and throw for the track team. I enjoy hanging out with my family and friends during my free time. I think working at BCL will be a great experience and I am looking forward to it this summer!

## **Erin Nanovic**

Hi everyone! I'm Erin, and I am returning as a lifeguard at BCL for a sixth year! I am also a returning head lifeguard. I attend Saint Mary's College in Indiana, and I am majoring in Finance and Management with a minor in Political Science. Sadly, I will be a senior this upcoming year, and I will have to leave Saint Mary's. I plan on going to law school after I graduate. I love Notre Dame (if you don't already know), and I love summertime. I cannot wait to see everyone at the pool!

## **Sean Nanovic**

Hi, my name is Sean Nanovic, I'm currently 17 years old and will be a senior at Jim Thorpe. This is my third year guarding at Bear Creek Lakes. I look forward to seeing everyone at the pool and beaches. LG4L

## **Tara Hartman**

Hello, my name is Tara Hartman and I am 18 years old. I am going to be a freshman in college this fall at Kutztown University. This will be my 3rd year lifeguarding. You will most likely see me around the

lake driving my golf cart with my friends. I am a LG4L. The other lifeguards are my family. I am really excited for this summer and hopefully I will see you all around the lake. Have a great and safe summer!

## **Chelsea Smelas**

Hi y'all, my name is Chelsea! This is my second year here being a lifeguard. I attend Wilkes University and major in pre-pharmacy. I'm also a member of the women's basketball team there. I'm looking forward to summer break and spending it at BCL. See you all soon! LG4L

## **Dylan Bradley**

Hi everyone, my name is Dylan and I am 17 years old. This is my third season as a lifeguard for Bear Creek. I will be attending East Stroudsburg University in the fall majoring in Athletic Training. I love to play sports and have fun! I also like going to Starbucks and eating taco pizza! I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer! See you around! LG4L

## **Kyle Bradley**

Hi everyone my name is Kyle Bradley. I'll be one of the head guards again this year and enjoy the challenges and leadership opportunities that come with this role. I've just completed my junior year at Misericordia University where I am enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program. When I am not working here or at St. Luke's as an exercise tech, I like to spend time with my girlfriend Molly. I hope everyone has a great summer season and I'll see you at the pool or beaches. LG4L

## **Brooke Dobbs**

Hi I'm Brooke Dobbs, and I'm a junior at Methacton High School. This will be my second year as a lifeguard here at Bear Creek Lakes. I've been swimming competitively since I was eight years old. I have also been on the varsity swim team at my high school for the past three years. I'm also a member of the National Honor Society at my school, and I'm co-treasurer of the Spanish club. I'm involved in Leo and Key club as well. I'm excited for the summer!!! And I hope to see everyone in the community at the pool or lake.

## **Jake Kunkel**

My name is Jake Kunkel I am 17 years old and from Tamaqua. This is my first year lifeguarding though I have been qualified to lifeguard for 2 years. I will be staying at my grandparents so I can



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# **WHY NOT**

**A BARBERSHOP QUARTET**

**June 15<sup>th</sup>  
7pm  
Stewart Hall**



How does a quartet come to be? Here's one version: The beginning of this quartet started as an impromptu, "temporary" arrangement designed to introduce a young barbershop singer to the contest stage. "WHY NOT?" we said, and a quartet was born. Over the next few years, with a veritable revolving door at the baritone position our configuration changed and finally solidified. And so, we keep singing. WHY NOT?

Now that you know our history, who are we, anyway?

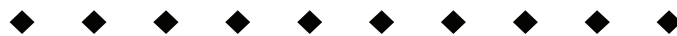
Jason Thompson, our tenor, is a long time barbershopper originally from the Johnny Appleseed District. He sang with the Elyria and Alliance choruses and directed the Cleveland West Suburban chapter until his job as a Social Security disability attorney moved him to the Bensalem PA area, where he joined the Easton PA Brothers In Harmony.

Russ Steger is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade elementary school teacher who got his start in barbershop about 13 years ago with the Brothers In Harmony chorus, soon after moving here from Colorado. Russ got his start as a quartet lead when he had the honor of singing in a quartet with Tony Nasto who is now the Tenor of BHS International Finalists Men-In-Black.

Bassman Garry Warlow is a retired Navy Lieutenant and currently teaching high school in the Neshaminy School District. He got his start in barbershopping more years ago than he will admit to, when former M-AD President Captain Alan Wile took him to his first chapter meeting with the Aloha Chapter in Hawaii. Garry and his wife Carol own a home on Mountain Vw. You may see them walking their yellow lab "Mack"

Every quartet needs a baritone, or at least that's what the folks at Barbershop Harmony Society Headquarters tell us. Just when we needed one the most, along came Doug Pratt, a stable, mature baritone (very unusual qualities for a baritone). Doug sings with the Bryn Mawr Mainliners, in fact Doug is their assistant director and has been around since Moby Dick was a minnow.

WHY NOT? has been competing in the Mid-Atlantic District since 2006 and has finished in the top 10 at the district contest on three occasions.



**WHY NOT? will be performing June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Stewart Hall.**

**Show starts promptly at 7pm**

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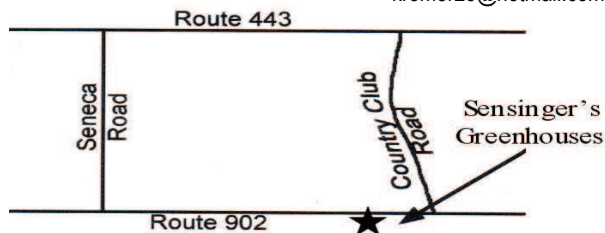
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[ccsalvino@gmail.com](mailto:ccsalvino@gmail.com)

## BEAR CREEK LAKES MEMBER INFORMATION FORM

*Use both sides of this form to update any information and return to the office.*

LOT:	LAST NAME:	BCL ADDRESS:
Member Information		
Owner First Name	Middle Initial	Co-Owner First Name
Middle Initial	Middle Initial	
Permanent Mailing Address		Secondary Mailing Address <small>If second address (Example: Florida), give date range</small>
STREET:		STREET:
CITY/STATE/ZIP		CITY/STATE/ZIP

### OFFICE MANAGER

#### Barbara Godshalk

In every issue of Echoes Around the Lake, we will include a Member Registration Form. We have found that many of the phone numbers we have on file are no longer in service. If the office doesn't have accurate contact information we cannot notify you when there is a problem or concern. To ensure that the office has accurate information (this includes ownership which should match your deed, phone numbers, BCL address, mailing address and emergency contact) please return this form with the updated information.

### **DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP YOUR BADGES AND CAR PASSES BEFORE THE RUSH**

and enjoy the Memorial Day weekend. Don't wait until Saturday May 26th to pick them up and take the chance of waiting in line for an hour or more. This would be wasted time when you could be enjoying time at a picnic, the pool, tennis courts or the beach. Let us help you by coming to the office any Monday, Tuesday, Friday or Saturday 10am-3pm to pick up the badges.

Note: The office WILL NOT BE OPEN on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup> until AFTER the General Meeting. Any changes in time will be listed on our website.

We tried this last year and it worked out very well. On Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday May 24<sup>th</sup>, the office will be open **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** to pick up **BADGES ONLY**. If you would like to take ad-

vantage of this special time, then fill out the appropriate form (on the reverse side) and return it to the office.

When sending any correspondence to the attention of BCLCA (Executive officers, Directors and employees) it must include your name, address and phone number. The BCLCA office currently accepts email, fax and paper correspondence. Fax & paper correspondence must be signed.

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

#### Barbara Godshalk

A big "thank you" to our advertisers, who help make this newsletter possible. To our new advertisers, a "thank you" to you too. A reminder that all the advertisers are listed on our website along with links to their websites. They help support our newsletter and we should help support them.

Just a reminder, the Bulletin Board postings are for our members and businesses that have paid to advertise in this newsletter.

Phone Numbers & Email		
NAME	NUMBER	EMAIL

~ Emergency Contact Information ~		
NAME	RELATIONSHIP	NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

The office will be open Friday evening May 24th 6:30pm - 8pm for **BADGES ONLY**  
**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!!!!**  
 Complete & mail this form to the office by Tuesday May 21st.  
 Or Email your request to BCLCA@PTD.net

Last Name _____	Lot# _____	BCL Address _____
-----------------	------------	-------------------

Preferred time: (Must circle one)    6:30    6:45    7:00    7:15    7:30    7:45    8:00

Times will be confirmed.

Preference - PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ OR EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

The office will be open Sunday May 19th 1pm - 3pm for **BADGES ONLY**  
**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!!!!**  
 Complete & mail this form to the office by Thursday May 16th.  
 Or Email your request to BCLCA@PTD.net

Last Name _____	Lot# _____	BCL Address _____
-----------------	------------	-------------------

Preferred time: (Must circle one)    1:00    1:15    1:30    1:45    2:00    2:15    2:30    2:45    3:00

Times will be confirmed.

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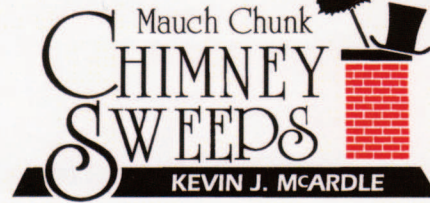
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