

August 2015

VOL XXVII No. 2

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Todd Laudenschlager

The summer season has been favorable for the usage of the lake, pool and recreational facilities. Events went well, although Independence Day festivities were rescheduled due to less than sunny skies.

Our Directors and employees all work diligently to meet members' satisfaction with all we provide. We have had a number of challenges with pool and beach closures. More detailed information can be found in some of the Directors' reports.

During the course of the year, the Long Range Planning Committee and the Directors have put in many hours looking at how we can safeguard the future prosperity of Bear Creek Lakes. I would like to thank the Directors and employees for "over and above" donation of their time and talent to make this summer and this community a great place to be.

If you have any comments to share, please contact me through the office. I look forward to seeing you at the Fall General Membership meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Kathy Wagner

Hope you are all enjoying your Summer. We are currently working on the budget for fiscal year ending 8/31/16 which will be presented at the September 5th meeting. For anyone who was here this past Winter, it will come as no surprise that it was another tough year on the budget. As of the most recent financial statements we are about \$2,500 over what we projected for snow removal materials alone.

Just as with your personal budgets, many of our costs continue to increase. And we try to save wherever possible. We are going to be bringing more of our Accounting functions in-house, are converting to a different version of QuickBooks as part of that process, and anticipate being able to save about \$5,500 per year.

As Marc Beerman reported in last year's Treasurer's Report (and as discussed during the May meeting), capital reserves continues to be a very important focus of our budget process. The anticipated costs of the North Beach repairs really bring home to all of us the importance of setting aside adequate reserves to be able to meet not only our current obligations, but also future needs.

DW Smith Associates, LLC, a professional consulting firm with over 21 years of experience in preparing reserve studies for communities like ours, was engaged by the Board and has been working with the Long Range Planning Committee and the Board over the Summer. They will be presenting their report to the membership at the September 5th meeting.

FROM THE EDITOR

Rich Berger

I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter, which is just one of the ways that BCL homeowners communicate with each other. We also reach you through the website, www.bclca.org, the bulletin boards at the beaches, dam, pool, and boat launch, and even the board you see just before leaving on Indian Trail, just before Cedar Creek Realty.

In order to figure out how best to reach you, we will be conducting a short survey on the website, starting in September. Please take a few minutes to answer our questions and help make BCL communications more effective.

FALL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 10 A.M.

PENN FOREST TWP. VOL FIRE CO #1 Rt. 903

Elect 5 Board Members

Approve 2015-2016 Budget

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Kevin McGrath

I say this every time but I have to say it again, THANK YOU! On behalf of the board, I want to thank all of members who faithfully pay their association dues on time each year! Our dues collections have been strong this year. We will be discussing our new budget at the upcoming meeting.

Each year the board recognizes that a few of our members may be having some hard financial times. If you are struggling to pay your association fees, please let us know so that we can make a payment arrangement. The office sends out both invoices and reminder notices. Please be sure to pay attention when you receive your invoice. We always do our best to work with our members, however once an account goes to the attorney, fees and costs can add up in a hurry.

SECURITY

Bill Malone

As I write this note on July 20th, I am happy to report that I have little to report, just a few traffic and firework citations. Happily, it has been a safe and quiet summer. I want to thank "YOUR" Crime Watch team for all their work in keeping my report so short. I hope you thank them also.

PERMITS

Rich Berger

During the summer, we have had the usual share of miscellaneous construction projects, with a teardown, a couple of houses and major additions underway. If you have any questions about an upcoming project please consult the www.BCLCA.org website under "Documents and Forms" for further information. Our BCLCA rulebook provides further construction requirements and finally, refer to your deed for requirements as to setbacks from your property lines. If you have additional questions, please contact the office.

LAKE/DAM COMMITTEE

Jack McGeehan

We've had a rain-filled summer thus far. Our pool level has been cresting the spillway for most of the summer. The lake continues to get used by many people - swimmers, kayaks/canoes, fishermen, sailors & sunset watchers! This year was the first year since I have been Lake/Dam chairman that we ran out of available boat racks. Great to see them getting used and a bit of advice.... make sure to get your boat rack form in early next year.

As I write this newsletter article we have uncovered a problem with the North Beach swimming area. There is a soft spot of soil in the water within the roped boundary of the swimming area. It is a little too soon to determine why this condition exists and we have reached out to a few experts to help us determine its cause and ultimate solution. We expect to have more information at the fall General Membership meeting.

The Fish Stocking component of our committee met and discussed several issues and the stocking program for this year. We will continue to follow the suggestions for stocking resulting from our fish survey several years ago. It looks like we may be adding additional Walleye to the family this fall! Additionally we may add some forage species (Golden Shiners) or some additional Black Crappies. The Fishery Management Fund Raising team has done a tremendous job and we are devoting those funds for our stocking efforts this year. We are looking keenly at artificial habitat structure for next year. Thanks to everyone who helped with the fundraisers or donated funds to this effort.

The committee also recommended to the Board of Directors a proposal for a Bathymetric survey of the lake (laymen terms; a study of the lake bed contours in elevation). This is vital data that we could use in the event there is a need for future dredging. This Survey would be added to our Long Range Plan that is currently being discussed.

Overall the dam has received a positive inspection as mentioned in a previous report. We still have a small crack in the dam spillway that needs to be repaired. It's superficial in nature and should not cause any alarm. Just routine maintenance for a 50 year-old dam.

All the best for a delightful fall!

POOL COMMITTEE

Steve Sosnowski

We are midway through the season and I am happy to report again that we have not experienced any major issues with the pool operation to date. We strive to have the pool available at all times weather permitting. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Lisa Mills

It is hard to believe that a year has already passed since I was elected to the board.

It has been a fairly quiet year for the Computer Technology Committee with the replacement of the copier in the office and moving the old copier to the maintenance building.

Coming up, we are looking into upgrading some of the phone equipment and service as well as an internet update. These possible changes will make our office work more efficiently which in turn be more productive. The office employees do a great job and these changes should make their jobs a little easier

I'd like to invite you once again to visit our website, www.bclca.org to learn about upcoming events for later this year. While you're on the site take some time to look around on it (you may find out something new about our amazing community!). I would like to give special thanks to Barbara Godshalk, our webmaster who does a wonderful job of keeping everything updated and in order!

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Ken Levitz, Chairman

As the summer season draws to a close and I complete my first year as a Board Member and Environmental Committee Chair, it is time to review and provide an update on several challenges and opportunities we are currently involved with.

PGC Maintenance Facility Construction: The building was completed earlier this summer with what I believe was, overall, a minimal impact on our community, but it has not yet been occupied. Additional tree seedlings were planted at that time to bolster the screen separating us. Electric service was just recently connected and Game Commission personnel are now waiting installation of telephone and data lines. They will then gradually move equipment and activities into the new structure. We will probably see limited activity until next spring. At that time we can expect the regularly assigned personnel to maintain a four-day workweek.

Gypsy Moth Infestation: Impact in our community was varied – ranging from very minor to very destructive. I have begun collecting information dealing with the pest, the likelihood of successive severe seasons and the pros and cons (including expense) of spray treatment – and will be reaching out to fellow members with background or experience for additional input.

North Beach Closure: A potential safety issue involving lake floor soil disturbance in a small segment of the swim area developed in late July, leading to a temporary closure. We are monitoring several lake parameters in order to determine the cause of the problem; while researching environmental permit requirements for any required water encroachment our repairs or remediation will require.

Ongoing Efforts: We have begun to offer sample delivery service to Pottsville Environmental Testing Laboratory for those members wishing to have their well water tested. Please check our website for information including recommended screen and a cost schedule. We are also attempting to make pet waste and disposal in our common areas more convenient. A “test” bag dispenser and container unit has been installed at the boat dock and we are discussing expanding this effort.

RULES COMMITTEE

Bill Allison

As of the Labor Day weekend, I will be rotating off the Bear Creek Lakes Civic Association board. The years on the board have rewarded me with friends, a chance to contribute to the community, and a sense of accomplishment. I recommend to all BCL homeowners to get involved through service to the civic association.

Work of the Rules Committee will continue in the years ahead. Publishing a new edition of the Rule Book, responding to change through rule alterations, maintaining high standards for BCL properties, preventing blighted conditions, and protecting our forest are some of the concerns addressed by Rules.

Thanks to all residents for your cooperation and for sharing the vision of a strong Bear Creek Lakes community.

REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES

PASTA DINNER

We are planning to have another Pasta Dinner with a tentative date of October 9. Watch the website for details. The same volunteers are willing to work again. If you would like to help out and volunteer this year, please call Sue at 570 325-2549 or email me at whiteley@ptd.net.

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10TH ANNUAL BCL COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Ron McCloskey

It appeared that the crowds were down a little from our previous years. The one thing we can't control is the weather. Were there two straight days in June without rain?

A total of 54 homes signed up in time to get on the maps. Another six called while the maps were being printed. Another 10 more got in at the 11th hour, for a total of 70 homes participating. Indian Trail led with 10, followed by White Oak with 8.

Next year's tentative dates are June 25-26. I have a few suggestions for next year:

Talk to your neighbors about participating. Shoppers are drawn to a cluster of homes.

Make sure that you have big visible signs at each intersection directing shoppers to your house.

Price to sell. People love to say, "will you take" or "what are you asking?"

Help shoppers with the maps: tell them "you are here and the next house is this way".

Thanks once again to Barb Godshalk for the making the maps so that the most directionally challenged could read them. Also I would like to give a shout out to Marge Ayers for posting our flyers at numerous locations. I hope I didn't miss anybody, but if I did, "thanks a ton."

Hope we can make our 2016 11th annual yard sale even bigger and better than ever.

INDOOR WALKING PROGRAM

An indoor walking program for men and women began at BCL on September 15th, 2014 and was popular from the start. DVDs produced by Leslie Sansone, who created America's top walking system for fat burning, muscle conditioning and stretching workouts, guided us. As the weather turned cold and snowy, we stayed warm and active in Stewart Hall on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout the winter, rarely missing a day as we were all so close to home!

We continued walking through July and took a break in August. Please join us for fun and socializing when we resume walking in September.

PLACE: Stewart Hall

DATES: Starting September 14, 2015, every Monday and Wednesday

TIME: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Check www.bclca.org for details.

If you have any questions, call Pam Berger (570-732-4245) or Madeline Ligenza (610-392-0829). We hope our second year will be even better!

NEED A SERVICE? PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR ADVERTISERS! THEY SUPPORT OUR NEWSLETTER AND THEY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU HERE AT BEAR CREEK LAKES!

STEWART HALL LIBRARY

The Volunteer Library Ladies have cleaned up the library in the basement of Stewart Hall. WE NEED EVERYONE'S HELP to keep it in good order. Please pay attention to the signs we have put up. It is difficult to get rid of books that are old, dirty, or musty, please don't leave them. While we ordinarily welcome donated books that are current, clean and in good shape, we are temporarily accepting no more books. Because the library is full, new donations require that we throw out existing books to make space. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer call Sue at 570 325-2549 or email me at whiteley@ptd.net.

T.G.I.F.

Diana Bochantic

T.G.I.F. was very successful this summer. Despite several rainy Fridays, Bear Creek residents enjoyed many delicious dishes and lots of fun fellowship. Following dinner, they played bocce and several times the women won!! Although T.G.I.F. ends with Labor Day; we will have our annual Christmas Party on December 18 in Stuart Hall. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy!

TUBING ON THE LAKE

Marty Palmer

The annual Tubing on the Lake took place on Saturday, August 1st. A good time was had by all who tubed and floated from the south beach to the boat dock where hot dogs and cold drinks were waiting for them.

TEEN NIGHT POOL PARTY

Denise and JP Evans

As with many of the early BCL summer events, the Teen Night Pool Party was nearly a casualty of the Great Summer Deluge of 2015. We were spared! As a matter of fact, the skies cleared and the few adventurous souls who came out to swim under the stars had a great time! Uncertain weather, extended school schedules and prior engagements kept the turnout lower than we'd hoped, but it was all worth it. Keep your eyes and ears open for the next one!

A huge thank you to lifeguards Tara Hartman and Dianara Bucior and to Deb Rotter for being our badge checker. Thanks also to Colleen and Ray Bradley and Ginny and Steve Sosnowski for their direction and moral support.

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KIDS' TRIATHLON

Marty Palmer

Great job to all the kids who participated in the Bear Creek Lakes Kids Triathlon held on Saturday July 25th! The Kids' Triathlon consisted of two laps in the pool, biking to South Beach and running on the recreation path back to the Pavilion.

Participants included: Garret Hampton, Gavin Hampton, Kilee Gilbert, Matthew Blake, Renee Blake, Laura Blake, Gavin Strom and Bready Brzowski.

5K RUN/WALK

Marty Palmer

Bear Creek Lakes annual 5K run/walk will be held on Saturday, August 22nd. Please meet at the clubhouse between 8:30 to 8:45 am as the run/walk starts at 9 am with all proceeds going to the local boy scout troop. Awards will be given out to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers for both men and women. Come out for this great fitness activity while enjoying the beautiful sites of our community!

BEAR CREEK LAKES DOUBLES TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Marty Palmer

After a long absence, the doubles tennis tournament was revived on June 7th. Seven teams showed up for competition, which was won by a pair of brothers who shall remain nameless. Thanks to all who participated, and thanks to Edie Boyer for running the tournament.

LADIES LUCHEONS

Lona Nelson and Sue Whiteley



We had another successful season of ladies lunch outings. This past year we went to Bear Creek Café, Trattoria 903, CCTI Restaurant, Sunset Green, P.J. Whelihans, Terra Cotta, Boulder View and Cherry's Family Restaurant just to name a few.

This is a fun activity and a good way to get acquainted with other Bear Creek Lakes ladies. Sue arranges during the winter months and Lona continues arranging for your eating and meeting pleasure during the summer months. Thanks to all that support this activity. Come out and join us – we always look forward to meeting new ladies.

CHILDREN'S FISHING CONTEST

Sandy Benedick

As of this writing (to make the newsletter deadline), the Children's Fishing Contest has not yet been held. Unfortunately, as for many activities this year, it had to be postponed due to rain on the original date. Rescheduled for August 15th, it will be reported on in the Spring Newsletter.

BEAR CREEK LAKES BOOK CLUB

Calling all readers – we have our own Book Club right here in Bear Creek Lakes! We meet every third Tuesday from September through June at 10:00 am in Stewart Hall. This November we will be hosting local author Bill Allison as we discuss his latest novel, *The Apprentice*. All of the books we read and discuss are selected by our members. They are posted on the BCL website. If you enjoy reading and discussing both fiction and nonfiction books, please join us. If you have any questions about Book Club, please call Leta Thompson at (570) 325-2121. Also, if you have an e-reader you can borrow books from the Free Public Library of Philadelphia. Go to their website and request that a library card be sent to you. There is no cost involved. When you get your library card, go online and begin borrowing e-books. They will be sent directly to your e-reader for a specified number of weeks. When the time is up, they are removed from your e-reader. Enjoy!

STEWART HALL/LANDSCAPING

Jack Knorr

Stewart Hall rentals are still steady. Thank you for the clean-up after the rentals. I had no complaints. Please check activities list for any upcoming events at the hall.

I would like to thank the volunteers who helped me on clean-up day and the planting of the flowers. Next spring I hope to schedule these events on a Saturday so I have more volunteers.

At the time of this writing it's only the third week of July so enjoy the rest of the summer and have a safe winter.



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BURGERS AND BEER ON THE BEACH.

Colleen Bradley

The first time event drew a crowd of 64 people. Many thanks go out to Iron Chef Steve and my hubby Iron Chef Ray for working the grill. They served up some tasty burgers for all to enjoy. The fixing bar was a hit and we received some good suggestions on ways to make it ever better. Based on the response we received we intend to hold this event again next year. I would also like to thank all of the others who helped either with set-up, prep work of the toppings, or for supplying the music, thanks again.

SUMMER LIFEGUARD WRAP UP

Colleen Bradley

Well, as I write this we are now half way through our seemingly ever-shrinking summer season. We've enjoyed some really spectacular days at the pool and beaches and have also endured our typical rainy season as well. Our group of lifeguards are bonding well together and developing into a cohesive team. In services have been well received and the additional focus onto their skills has helped to keep them sharp. This year we have added audits in order to maintain a high skill set level. I hope you all had a wonderful summer and were able to take advantage of all the great things our community has to offer.

POOL DAY

Avery Day

This year's Pool Day theme was Carnival and everyone had a blast! The lifeguards would like to thank all of the volunteers that came out to help with this event and for all the hard work the volunteers did. The lifeguards brought the carnival to Bear Creek Lakes with Carnival themed games for them to play as well as enjoying the Carnival themed food, such as a popcorn machine, and other treats that the lifeguards had made. Some kids left our Carnival with fish as pets that they had won as prizes in a Ping Pong Toss and each and every child left with goodie bags filled with toys as well as candy. This year's turnout was great, and we hope to see more kids and their families at our Pool Day in 2016! Everyone have a safe rest of the summer and we hope to see everyone next year at Pool Day 2016!



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LADIES TEA

Pat Stasyk

A wonderful time was had by all the 40 ladies that attended the Tea Party. The hall looked beautiful with its Fall decorations. As always the food was delicious thanks to Sylvia Capozzoli, Mary Knorr, Mary Ewerth and Mary Malone. Our servers were wonderful: thank you Bob Lees, Bill Malone, Jack Knorr, John DiJohn and Alex Stasyk. This was the seventh Tea and I could not have done it without the help of many people over the years. Thanks to everyone - I really appreciate all your help. This was my last year to organize the Tea, so if someone would like to become the chairperson, please let me know.

PIG ROAST

Pat Stasyk

As of the end of June I was sold out of tickets for the Pig Roast. This has always been a successful event. One hundred tickets were sold and I think all one hundred people had a good time - at least I hope they did! The food was good and the rain held off until everyone was home. If you are planning to join us next year order your tickets early. Have a wonderful fall and winter.

COMMUNICATIONS

Pat Stasyk

I hope all of you are enjoying reading the Newsletter. Thank you Rich Berger (the editor) and Fred and Joan Koch (distribution) for a job well done. Thank you to Jack Knorr for listing events on the entrance marquee. Bulletin Boards are for the members of BCL - please put your notice in a plastic sleeve and please take down if the article has been sold or the event is over. Thank you for your cooperation. Enjoy the snow.

MOVIE NIGHT

Margo Schaefer

Sylvia Capozzoli is retiring from the movie business. She and Joe hosted movie nights for six years: selecting the films, preparing the popcorn, and making everyone feel welcome. Their son, Eric, donated the projector in Stewart Hall. We thank the Capozzoli family for their contributions to our community.

Don't despair – movie night will continue! Come to Stewart Hall on the second Saturday of each month to see a movie on the big screen, eat free popcorn, and drink free soda. Showtime is at 7:00 pm, but come a little early to socialize with your neighbors and stake out a prime viewing spot. Did I mention that it's free? (Just show your BCL badge.)

Do you like movies? Could you spare a couple of hours a few times a year? I am looking for volunteers to join me on the movie team. Send me an e-mail: margoschaefer33@gmail.com

BCLCA ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Bob Skiffington and Larry Erra

Our Annual Golf Outing was held on Friday July 3rd, 2015 at White Birch Golf Course. The weather cooperated with a sunny 80-degree day for the forty-eight golfers. This year the format was changed from a Texas Scramble (best drive) to a Scramble where the best ball is played on every shot. The following are the results: 1ST Place won by Bill Walsh, Mike McDermott, Ken Boltman and Dale Boots with a 57. 2ND Place won by Bill English, Bob Bell, Bob Gallagher and Jack McGeehan with a 63. Closest to the pin won by Dale Boots (#2) and Bob Shuler (#13). Longest drive for juniors (#16) won by Jeff Miller. Longest drive for seniors (#17) won by Bob Gallagher. Straightest drive (#18) won by Joe Halenar.

Each team received a raffle ticket and when their number was called one team member picked from the donated prizes (Dom-N-Ali gift certificate, White Birch gift certificate, or golf item from Ed Kresge). Everyone received a hat/shirt courtesy of Oscars Tavern.

Volunteer's interested in helping with this golf outing can contact the BCLCA Office at 570-325-3334 or Bob at bskiffin@gmail.com. Next years golf outing will be held on Friday, July 1, 2016.

OKTOBERFEST

Join Iron Chef Steve and Iron Chef Ray as they host Oktoberfest BCL Style on Saturday October 3rd at the pavilion. Ticket information and more details are to come. Please check out the website in the weeks ahead.

GOLF CART PARADE

The 2015 Golf Cart and Bike Parade went off without a hitch on Sunday, July 5. The parade was postponed from Saturday, due to an all-day rain. We had 22 carts & 19 bikes registered. Winners of the golf carts were: first place Kathi Summers Family, family of Norm & Reiko Summers; second place Dobbs Family, family of Joanne Dantonio; and third place, Ron McCloskey family. Dalton Fine was given an "honorable mention" for his golf cart decorated to honor our Armed Forces. The cart led the parade and was represented by veterans Neil Mullen and Howard Hendrickson. Winners of the bikes were first place Maeve Zeloyle; second place shared by cousins, Grace Montanaro & Chad Black; and third place, Niki Ivan. All winners were given gift certificates from Julio's compliments of our snack cart funds. Our parade even included a special, homemade, cardboard box golf cart driven? (walked) by four teenagers. We extend special thanks to all the volunteers including Linda Kunkel and her judges and volunteers for lining up the carts and bikes and sending off the parade, Greg Schaffling and his crew for traffic control throughout the parade, Pat Stasyk and her shoppers and cooks for grilling the hot dogs and supplying everyone with refreshing drinks, and Beth Schrum and all her volunteers for planning games and giving all the children an afternoon of fun. See you at next year's parade! (For pictures, see our BCL webpage.)



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ADULT FUND RAISING FISHING TOURNAMENT

Sandy Benedick

This year's Adult Fund Raising Fishing Tournament was held on a very chilly, windy morning, Saturday, June 13th. Nine men turned out to fish as the waves kept them moving in directions some did not want to go. Eventually a winner in each category was declared! Dennis Landi won in the Artificial Bait category, with a 2 lb. 15oz. Largemouth Bass. And for the second year in a row, Bill Davenport won in the Live Bait category, with a 2lb. 9oz. Largemouth. Both of their names will be added to the plaque in Stewart Hall. Hopefully the weather will be more cooperative next year and we will have a better turn out! Gary and I would like to give a quick shout out to those who assisted us with the contest, including Todd Wagner, Margo Schaefer, and Dennis McCaig, and to Pat and Alex Stasyk for cooking the hot dogs and for all they do to help make these events happen!

ANGLE PARKING AT THE BOAT DOCK

Sandy Benedick

For those who utilize the boat dock but don't own a trailer, the "Angle Parking" sign at the parking area at the boat dock is there to encourage and allow for maximum parking in the space available, while making it functional for people with trailers. To explain the need for compliance to this, trailers come out of the water from the dock area and angle park with the back of the trailer facing the dock area, which also allows for backing up to the lake to load the boat when preparing to leave. Often cars are noted to be parked the other direction, which blocks vehicles with trailers from using the parking area. Thank you for complying to the "Angle Parking" sign at the Boat Dock by parking in the correct direction!

BOAT TRAILER STICKERS

Sandy Benedick

As proposed by the Lake and Dam Committee, Boat Trailers now must be registered with the office and a BCL sticker will be issued. The sticker is to be applied to the tongue of the trailer, on the driver's side facing outward. This will enable Security to determine the validity of the boat being utilized, since, per the rules, only Members' boats are to be used on the lake. Please take your trailer license number to the office when you pick up your sticker. FYI, Kayaks must also be registered and they too fall under the "Member's only" rule.

Thanks for doing all you can to keep our lake safe!

FISH STOCKING – AND NAME CHANGE: FISHERY MANAGEMENT

Sandy and Gary Benedick

Two plus years ago, an initiative was undertaken by the Lake and Dam Committee to improve fishing opportunities in our lake. A professional company, Aquatic Environmental Consultants, was consulted, and recommendations were received. The lake was subsequently "Electro Fished" to determine species need, and stocking proceeded per the consultant's advice. In 2013, Golden Shiners were introduced as forage fish, and last year, Walleye were stocked. This year's recommendations, per the three year plan, is to stock Walleye again. At this writing, we are in talks with the consultant to determine which additional fish can be added, and are hoping to have enough funds remaining to stock more Golden Shiners, Bass and Black Crappie this fall. Hopefully we will have these decisions by the Fall meeting. Donations are still being accepted, with contributors being acknowledged on the BCL Web site. When writing a check, please put "Fishery Management" instead of "Fish Stocking" on the memo portion of your check, since these funds can then be utilized for stocking and to provide for other needs (cover, etc.) to enhance the fishery. Thank you to all who have donated thus far! Please feel free to check out our page on the web site to see your name acknowledged.



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5TH ANNUAL 5K ARTHRITIS WALK/RUN

Dylan Bradley

As I've returned from my 9th year attending Camp JRA, a camp for children with arthritis, I'm always reminded as to why I continue to host my annual 5k Walk and Run. This reason is to be able to give back to all the children and the Arthritis Foundation, for how much they have taught and given me. This year I donated all of my funds raised to Camp JRA, to help allow for the kids attending to receive the same incredible experience that I continue to receive year after year. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended or donated to my event! Your involvement and donations mean the world to me, and I couldn't thank you enough. I hope that you all will join me again next summer for my 6th annual 5k Walk/Run. Thank you again!

LAKESIDE WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor Bill Thompson

Many of you are old enough to remember the hit song from 1966 by "The Happenings" entitled, "See You in September." Well, I've been reluctant to write this article about our upcoming worship service at South Beach on Labor Day Weekend, Sunday, September 6th, at 10:00 am, because it means summer is soon over, and I'm not ready for it to end. While Labor Day Weekend usually marks the unofficial end of summer and while meteorological fall actually begins on September 21st, at least according to the calendar we will have a few more weeks of summer. Pocono summers are just too short!

We had a good turnout at our beach service on Memorial Day Weekend. The weather was excellent, and we had an unexpected surprise with a flyover by a bald eagle during the service. When it comes to worship, one never knows what will happen. I can't promise beautiful weather or an eagle flyover (who knows, a bear might even join us?), but we will have an opportunity to offer our praise and thanks to God for all the blessings we enjoy, including our beautiful corner of God's creation.

Yes, I hope to "See You in September" at South Beach (weather permitting; if not, at Stewart Hall). In either event we will enjoy refreshments and fellowship afterwards at Stewart Hall.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, what's left of it.

JEWELRY MAKING NIGHT

Wendi Grande

Do you enjoy making jewelry, whether it's beading or working with wire? If so, then join us August 13th at 7pm in Stewart Hall for a fun crafting get together. Bring your beads, tools, etc. and work on your piece while enjoying chatting with other jewelry crafters. Share tips and project ideas. We will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. If you have any questions, please call me at 570-730-9259.

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Wendi Grande

Are you, your loved one, a family member, or friend living with cancer? Whether you are newly diagnosed or a survivor it's always nice to speak to others who are going through the same thing. Come join us on August 24th for our first Cancer Support Group Meeting. Share your story and find strength in a support system while learning how nutrition can play a big role in keeping your strength up and helping to keep your immune system strong. The meeting will be at Stewart Hall and will begin at 7pm. We hope to meet every 4th Monday of the month. For more information or if you have any questions, please call me at 570-730-9259. We look forward to meeting you!

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BCLCA OFFICE
Barb Godshalk

As I'm writing this we're approaching another heat wave and thinking how quickly time passes. Seems like only yesterday I was gazing outside and blinded by everything coated in white and wishing for those days again when these temperatures are hitting 90.

The office is going through changes, to keep up with modern technology and you will be seeing some new invoice formats in the future. If you have stopped by the office recently, you were probably asked to fill out a phone number/email update form. We would appreciate if every member would take the time to provide the office with your current & correct information. A "Member Information Form" is provided in every newsletter for updated information. Phone numbers, mailing addresses and email address must be up to date and accurate for every member. Either fill out the form and mail to us or send us an email with your information; either way, we will appreciate the information. For those who do not have email, please send in the form with "NONE" in the email field.

This year was the first time in many years the request for racks outnumbered the actual racks before Memorial Day weekend. The new 2016 Boat Lottery form is included within this newsletter. Mail or email the form to the office AFTER January 1, 2016. Read over the registration form because the Lake/Dam Committee has made changes.

The registration form must be filled out and signed by the member/owner on file.

The BCL office is on the summer hour's schedule. Beginning Nov 1st our winter hours will be in effect. Keep the cutout included within this newsletter for the office hours, phone numbers, email & web address. Remember to use the BCL website (www.bclca.org). Not only are all the activities included on the BCL calendar, but the hours of the pool are listed too. The pool has different hours during the week and weekends and is posted on the calendar accordingly. Did you misplace your newsletter and need to read it again? It's on the website along with newsletters since 2009. January is here and you want to send in your Boat Lottery form but you can't find it... this will be on the website too.

A final reminder, the busiest time for the BCL office is September through November. We process over 1,000 lots with the annual dues and road maintenance fees during this time.



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If You Are New to Bear Creek Lakes

Rich Berger

I don't have any statistics to substantiate this, but I believe the average new homeowner is primarily a weekend resident, perhaps spending some weeks here in the summer or during the holidays in fall/winter/spring. Bear Creek Lake is a respite from the workweek: quiet and beautiful, with a forest wrapped around a lake.

For many homeowners, the time comes when they want to become involved in our community. How do you get involved? There are many different ways to find out what is going on.

- Read the Newsletter. Twice a year, it reports about upcoming activities and recaps those that have taken place. The BCLCA board members report on news in their areas of responsibility to keep you informed on the goals and challenges we face as a community. Our advertisers support the newsletter and offer services that are very helpful to homeowners.
- Drop by www.bclca.org and keep abreast of what is happening today, this week, this month. Find our BCLCA rulebook and documents and forms that will help guide you through construction projects, or tree removal. Find out when the office is open and whom you should contact for assistance with questions or problems.
- Participate in one of the many activities that are planned and organized with your neighbors and homeowners.
- Start an activity. There may be something that you like to do and others do, too.
- Rent Stewart Hall for a family event (see the office for more details).
- Attend a Board meeting to see how Association business is handled (third Saturday of each month, starting at 9AM – except December)
- Attend a General Meeting – on the Saturday before Memorial Day and before Labor Day. More information is provided in the Newsletter.
- Run for election to the Board

The BCLCA Newsletter

Rich Berger

The Newsletter comes out twice a year, two weeks before each General Meeting. I am always interested in articles that are of interest to other homeowners, news about our members and their families. Photographs will also be considered for inclusion (or for posting on our website). If you have anything that could be included, please email me at rberger5@ptd.net. The deadline for the Spring, 2016 (!) newsletter is April 30th.



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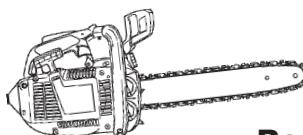
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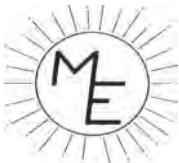


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MEET THE CANDIDATES

Patrick L. Ayers

My wife Marge and I purchased our home 8 years ago. We came up every weekend throughout the year, and became full time residents in June 2014 after our retirement. I had my own business as a carpenter/construction and I also acted as a maintenance mechanic and cut trees for Arcadia University near Philadelphia. Since we have been here we both have met so many wonderful and caring individuals. We like sharing the many amenities that Bear Creek has to offer with our family and friends. My wife and I are members of the neighborhood Crime Watch. I feel I have a lot to offer and want to continue to make BCLCA the jewel of the Poconos.

Rich Berger

I am running for re-election to the Board after serving my first term. Initially, my responsibility was Computer Technologies, but then I took over from Todd in reviewing and approving Permits for new home building and additions. I hope that I have been helpful in seeing that your projects get done as smoothly as possible while complying with our BCLCA requirements.

Pam and I rented in BCLCA for 10 years before having a house built in 2004. We sold our house in NJ in 2013 after I retired after 35 years working as a consulting actuary specializing in pension plans (Pam retired from teaching the year before) and live in BCL full time. I am also the editor of the Newsletter.

Colleen Bradley

I am running for re-election to the Board of Directors. I have been a board member for the last 10 years having served as head of the lifeguards and previously as chair of the landscaping committee. Bear Creek Lakes is a wonderful community to live in and my passion is to help ensure that we continue to provide the very best in services and opportunities for all of our members. My husband and I have raised our 3 sons here and cannot think of another place in Pennsylvania we would rather live.

Margo Schaefer

My husband John and I purchased our BCL vacation home in 2011. After a few years of being "weekenders", we are now lucky enough to be able to split our time between our home here and the other in Chalfont, PA. More and more I find myself opting for the peaceful atmosphere, natural beauty, and recreational amenities of Bear Creek Lakes over the bustle of Central Bucks County.

I have been active in the Community Crime Watch since 2012. Recently retired from a 25-year career as a chemist for Rohm and Haas / Dow Chemical Company, I'm enjoying my interests of running, biking, paddling, yoga, reading, and sewing. I would like to serve on the Board of Directors to help keep our community strong and vibrant.

Bill Malone

My wife Mary and I have been members since 1995 and full timers since 2012. I retired from the Philadelphia Police Department in 2003 after 33 years of service. I also worked for Sears in Northeast Philadelphia for 25 years as a part-time safety officer. I have been on the BCL board since 2003 serving first as the chairman of facilities, then recreation and currently security. I hope to have your support in September.

BCL BOAT RACK LOTTERY REGISTRATION FORM – YEAR 2016

All information must be completed and the form returned to the office
No earlier than January 1, 2016 and no later than March 31, 2016
To be eligible for the lottery

Name: _____

BCL Address: _____

Non-BCL Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Type of Boat/Weight: _____ Sticker #: _____

In order to be eligible to participate in the lottery for a boat rack, I hereby agree to the following terms and conditions concerning the use of the boat racks for the year identified above:

1. Annual boat rack rental fee is \$10.00 payable within 10 days of being notified with your rack assignment.
2. I understand and agree, during any period when the boat is in the boat rack, Bear Creek Lakes Civic Association (hereinafter referred as ("the Association") is not responsible in any manner if the boat is stolen or damaged and I expressly waive any right whatsoever to seek damages from The Association if the boat is stolen or damaged.
3. I agree to remove my boat from the rack area prior to December 1st of the year identified above.
4. I understand and agree, if my boat is not removed by December 1st of the year identified above, the Association has my expressed permission to remove the boat from the boat rack and store it at a storage charge of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per month, which I agree to pay. I also understand and agree, during any period when the boat is stored by the Association, the Association is not responsible in any manner if the boat is stolen or damaged and I expressly waive any right whatsoever to seek damages from the Association if the bot is stolen or damaged.
5. I understand the Association will only store boats for a maximum of nine (9) months and any boat remaining in storage after nine (9) months will be disposed of by the Association as it deems appropriate and I expressly waive any right whatsoever to seek damages from the Association if the boat is disposed of.
6. I understand only one rack will be assigned in the original lottery. Any additional racks may be requested (on separate form) after the Memorial Day weekend of the current year.
7. I agree I am the owner of the property listed above and understand only the member may apply for the boat rack.

Date _____ Registrant _____ Special requests &
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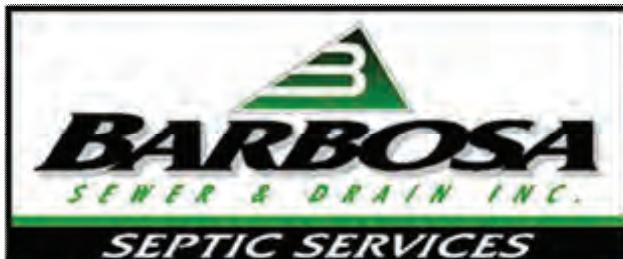
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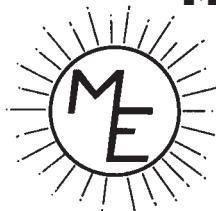
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Member Signature

Date

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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
Permanent Mailing Address		Secondary Mailing Address	
STREET:		STREET:	
CITY/STATE/ZIP		CITY/STATE/ZIP	

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