



MAY 2017

VOL. XXIX, No. 1

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Sosnowski

I am sure that all of you are looking forward to another great summer season at Bear Creek Lakes. I know I am.

Many of you may be asking yourselves "I wonder what those guys and gals on the BCL Board of Directors have been up to all winter?" I am happy to shed some light on that.

Most important, as promised last year, the Board has undertaken the review and update of the BCLCA bylaws. I hope you were able to attend one of the "Town Hall" information sessions we held in April or checked out the slide presentation posted on the BCLCA web. As of this writing we are finalizing the document which will be submitted for formal membership approval. Please refer to Todd Wagner's full report on this subject later in this newsletter.

We have also been busy implementing many other improvement projects including, but not limited to:

- New fencing surrounding the pool area.
- Spill containment tanks for fuel oil and pool chemicals.
- Replacement garage doors for maintenance building
- Replacement of stone retaining wall at boat launch area.

As always, I would be remiss if I did not extend my appreciation to the members of the Board, our employees, and volunteers that continue to go far beyond what is asked to keep Bear Creek Lakes the best community in the Poconos. I look forward to seeing you at the General Meeting in May.

SPRING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 10 AM

PENN FOREST TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1

1387 ROUTE 903, PENN FOREST TOWNSHIP

VOTING ON PROPOSED BYLAWS

TREASURER'S REPORT

Todd Wagner

It has been an active year so far for the Treasurer /Finance Committee function. We have continued the efforts of the previous Treasurer in the continued enhancement of the Treasurer's Report to provide additional information. Summary information is now included in the published Board Minutes in the Members Only section of the BCLCA website to provide information to the Members on the financial performance of BCLCA. The Capital Reserves continue to grow as planned in the Reserve Study conducted in 2015. Below is a schedule of capital improvements completed so far in the current year; the total is just slightly over \$24,000.

Vendor	Work	Capital Reserves	Capital Improvement	Total
Palmerton Garage Doors	Maintenance Building Doors		2,460.00	2,460.00
RJ Walker	Oil Tanks	2,919.15		2,919.15
Palmerton Garage Doors	Maintenance Building Doors		2,460.00	2,460.00
Fast Fence Inc.	Fencing - pool/recreational area		6,500.00	6,500.00
Fast Fence Inc.	Fencing - pool/recreational area		6,500.00	6,500.00
Goldberg Plumbing and Heating	Heating oil tank hookup		935.00	935.00
Goldberg Plumbing and Heating	Heating oil tank hookup		38.00	38.00
New Pig Corp.	Chlorine tank replacement		1,445.94	1,445.94
New Pig Corp.	Chlorine tank replacement		801.66	801.66
		2,919.15	21,140.60	24,059.75

As the Capital Reserves continue to grow, we have begun the investigation of engaging an Investment Advisor to provide guidance in the investment of the reserves. An initial Investment Policy Statement governing the type of investments and the allocation among investment classes (i.e.- Cash, Bonds and fixed income investments, etc.) has been drafted and is under review by the Board. The Finance Committee has also been working on an Accounts Payable policy that will document the vendor invoicing process as well as verifying insurance coverage by Contractors utilized by BCLCA.

There has been limited or no turnout for the "Talk with the Treasurer" sessions generally held the second Saturday of each month, at 11am. The purpose was to have an open forum to go over any questions Members may have on financial related matters of BCLCA. I plan to conduct sessions through May (with the May 13th session on the Capital Reserves). If attendance remains low, I will discontinue the Talk with the Treasurer sessions.

A new collateral bond for the dam required by the state was issued at the end of December, backed by a Letter of Credit issued by Mauch Chunk Trust Company. This resulted in a savings of over \$4,200 in insurance expense from the prior year.

Human Resources

During March, I worked with Colleen Bradley in reviewing and updating the HR forms and New Hire forms required by the Lifeguards in preparation for the extensive hiring process Colleen goes through to staff the Pool for the summer. I have started looking at the Human Resources policies for revamping, as they have not been significantly updated for several years.

Special Projects Committee

By the time you receive and read this, you will know the key project of the Special Projects Committee has been a re-write of the Bylaws, which has been many years in the making. Much information has been published on the Members Only section of the website, and three Town Hall sessions will have been held in April to communicate the reasons for the update and the changes. The members of the Committee (including Margo Schaefer, Jack McGeehan, Bill Alison, Jay Blumenthal) have collectively spent over 200 hours in this effort, and should be thanked by all. I hope that the Members will support this initiative at the May General meeting.

The Special Projects Committee has also been looking at the background checks requirements as result of state regulations. We will be working with the BCLCA's Solicitor over the next couple of months to develop sound and comprehensive policies and practices.

FROM THE EDITOR

Rich Berger

Last August, we conducted a survey of our Members regarding communications, and we received 214 replies electronically and a handful of written replies. Some of the findings:

- The respondents were evenly split between full-time and weekenders
- The newsletter is widely read (178 said they read it all)
- Most of the respondents use the BCLCA website on a regular basis (162 regularly or occasionally)
- A majority had signed up for Members Only access to the website (169 respondents)
- There is some interest in receiving the newsletter in digital form only (68 said they would)
- The bulletin boards are checked regularly by a majority of respondents (155 regularly or occasionally)

Our survey was not scientifically designed but gave us the first snapshot of the effectiveness of communications to our Members. Things change very quickly: use of the Members Only section of the website has increased dramatically since our initial survey.

As usual, this issue contains many items about activities that are planned for the summer (including a calendar listing the events). If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, please contact me at rberger5@ptd.net. We are also interested in any pictures from the summer activities, so send them to me for possible inclusion in our late summer newsletter.

Michael Cataldo

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CUSTOM BUILT HOMES AND RENOVATIONS

RULES

Rich Berger

The big news is the proposed new Bylaws, which should be in Members' hands before this newsletter arrives. In order of precedence, the individual deeds come first, followed by the Bylaws and the Rules. Some features of the Rulebook will now be incorporated in the Bylaws (such as the citation appeals process) and we will follow up with a description in the late summer edition of the newsletter.

There were several changes that were approved by the Board since last year's General Meeting:

- After a successful trial, the permission to launch paddle-powered craft from the right sides of the beaches has now been made permanent. Please observe the signs and respect the property of the Members adjacent to the beaches (please stay off their property!).
- In order to obtain approval for any building project, the Member must provide BCLCA with copies of all permits required by other entities, such as Penn Forest Township and the Department of Environmental Protection.
- The fine for speeding (up to 14 MPH over the limit) has been reduced to \$50 plus \$5 costs, for the first offense.

If you have any questions about the rules, please contact me at rberger5@ptd.net.

MAINTENANCE

Steve Sosnowski & Ken Levitz

With the winter snows finally gone, spring cleanup began late March this year. Our maintenance staff tackled the cleanup of our roads and then moved on to readying our

recreation areas for the busy summer season. This is a very large task, which must be completed in a very short period of time. Wherever possible, they also provide in-house preventive maintenance and repairs on our equipment to help keep operating costs low.

ROADS

Tom Larney

I am sure that everyone is looking for a warm spring and summer. The roads and myself are looking for sun and warm weather.

The filling in of the shoulder area of Hawthorne Drive from Route 903 to Blue Jay had to wait due to snow and ice that would not go away. Some portions of the roadways were identified paving, but the snow, ice and anti-skid material hampered completion of the survey. A timeline has been set that starts road paving after Labor Day.

I wish all a happy and healthy summer.

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PERMITS

Pat Ayers

The season is starting slowly, with not many requests for permits. If you are planning a building project, the main thing to remember is to read the rules and check your deed for required set backs from the roads, boundary lines and the lake (if you have a lakefront). If you have any questions, please call the office and I will help as best I can. Tree cutting of anything larger than 4" diameter (dead or alive) needs a permit at NO cost to you. All

docks on the lake should have a GP-2/3 in their records and those who have such permits should send a copy to the office. I will start looking at properties, to make sure they are in compliance with state waterways laws.

SECURITY

Bill Malone

Well it's that time of year again - the St. Patrick's Day parade is this Sunday. Spring in the air. What happened???? The birds are singing, the bears are out, the kids are playing outside, wait! That was all week, today is Friday and it's snowing!!!

It has been quiet winter thanks to our security company, UAS, and also to the dedication of your Crime Watch members. FIFTEEN of them, that's right, only 15 out of over 700 homes in BCL. Our snowbirds will be returning soon and that number will climb to 20. We need more members, one day a week or a



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month for one or two hours. The Crime Watch committee meets the second Saturday of the month at Stewart Hall at 10am. Please stop in to meet people and join the team.

Speeders please slow down; the speed LIMIT is 15 MPH. Badges are required at ALL BCL FACILITIES. Post all important phone numbers near your home phone and in your cell. I was watching the Today show the other day they said the best alarm system is your neighbor. When going away please let them know so they can keep an eye out. If need be they can call you or the police. We are blessed to live in this beautiful BCL community. Let's keep it that way. Wishing you a safe and happy summer. Hoping to see you all at the May general meeting.

LONG TERM PLANNING

Roger Stewart

Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers and BCL staff, we continue to enjoy the quiet, safety and beauty of our lake and woods. But the winds of change continue to blow about the edges of Bear Creek Lakes -- and not all of it good. Most of you know already about the garage that the State Game Lands planted on the northern edge of our development in 2015 and the 500-foot-high wind turbines that were almost built on our eastern side in 2016.

This year your planning committee is closely watching development of the new Township Park that adjoins us on the east. We're hoping for a quiet park where people can enjoy soccer, tennis, and baseball without lighting the fields at night or generating a lot of noise.

Meanwhile we're continuing the financial planning that started in 2015, to make sure that we maintain our roads, dam, pool, Stewart Hall, and existing beaches. In the future, we'd like to find a safer way for people to walk, bike, or drive golf carts around the lake, and possibly find a way to launch small boats from the west

side of the lake as they do now from the south, east, and north sides.

We'd also like to keep up with what our neighbors are doing, and hopefully avoid unpleasant surprises in the future. Please let me know if some of you would be willing to attend a few monthly meetings a year and meet informally with the rest of the Planning Committee every few months to report and discuss issues. We'd really like to have someone at key Penn Forest Township meetings; someone who knows what's going on in Jim Thorpe, the new bikeway, and Carbon County zoning; and someone in touch with the Pennsylvania Game Lands Commission and the Lehigh Gorge State Park that together adjoin our development on the west. Please call or email me if you can help: Roger Stewart, 408-464-3066, sourlandmtn@yahoo.com.

LAKE AND DAM

Gary Benedick

We are happy to report that the lake has returned to normal levels after a year of lower than average precipitation. Water was flowing over the spillway even before the blizzard in March. Our lake continues to offer us exceptional water quality for fishing and recreational use and we hope everyone will continue to be diligent in keeping it that way. This includes not using pesticides/herbicides and cleaning up after your pets.

This past fall, 1000 Black Crappie and 5000 Golden Shiners were stocked in the lake per the recommendations of the recently



completed Fish Survey. The goal is to have a balanced fish population, which, as recommended, is 4 pounds of forage fish per every pound of predator. One goal is to have a desirable amount of Sunfish and Golden Shiners, which are favored by the Bass. Several other recommendations from the survey included: Additional stocking suggestions and to limit harvesting of any Largemouth Bass under 20 inches and Sunfish under 7 inches. Limiting the harvest of Sunfish to those larger than 7 inches will help establish the breeding population of Golden Shiners. For the full report of the 2016 Fish Survey, go to the BCL Members Only Web page.

Reminders: both beaches have designated areas that can be used to launch paddle craft.

- Trailer stickers are required and this will be enforced starting this year.
- No live bait other than what is listed in the rules may be used in the lake for fishing. NO MINNOWS, PLEASE!

POOL COMMITTEE

Neil Mullen

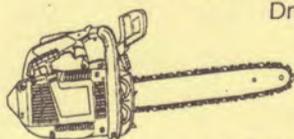
Hope everyone is looking forward to a great summer an enjoying our many facilities, one of which is our great pool!

We have removed some of the dead trees within the pool area along with replacing portions of the fencing.

We have purchased and installed a new chlorine tank and a spill containment vessel. A new shed will be purchased after Labor Day to

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house both.

Pool opening day is May 27th, last day September 4th.

Hope to see you all soon!

LIFEGUARDS

Colleen Bradley

Hello all, as I write this, I can't wait for the pool to open!!! All of the lifeguards have been interviewed and are anxious to get started. I'm hoping for a nice, hot summer so we can all enjoy the pool and beaches! We look forward to another awesome summer here, and hope that everyone stays healthy and safe!

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Margo Schaefer

We continue to implement electronic means of communication where appropriate. Look to our official website, www.bclca.org, for information about the community, our Calendar of Events, forms and documents, and our version of classified ads – the “BCL Swip Swap” page.

The “Members Only” section of the website requires registration, approval, and login. Only BCL property owners are approved for access. If you haven't yet registered, please take a few moments to set up your login ID and password. In the Members Only section you can find information regarding the proposed new Bylaws, financial statements for the Association, and minutes from the monthly Board of Directors meetings.

The BCL e-mail list is open to anyone with an interest in the community. We use it to share information about recreation events, meeting reminders, and other news (such as road conditions in the winter). If you are not on the mailing list and wish to be, send an email to bclca.mailer@gmail.com with your request.

Coming soon: We plan to offer optional

electronic invoicing for the 2017-18 assessments (October). Anyone who opts for electronic invoicing will receive only an electronic bill, no paper bill will be mailed. (Payment will have to be made by written check and delivered to the office; there will be no option for electronic transfer of funds or credit card payment.)

STEWART HALL/LANDSCAPING

Michael Brennan

Stewart Hall continues to be a real gem for all our residents. Many have rented the hall for birthdays, graduations, baby showers and all kinds of special events. We've had comedians, pipe & drum bands, oldies night performances and many BCL sponsored events like Movie night, Dirty Bingo, aerobic walking classes, quilters and the list goes on & on. Consider renting the hall for any function you can imagine!!! It only costs \$50 and that includes all utilities with a completely appointed

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As your new Energy czar for BCL I've started a new page on the BCL website that shows the best propane prices we could negotiate. It's already saved money for some of our residents and we hope you take advantage of this. Also, please feel free to call me if we are all wet and the prices don't look good. The website will be updated with new prices as we negotiate, renegotiate or find new suppliers.

We've completely updated the Pool Drive triangle with new natural plantings native to Northeast Pennsylvania with landscape fabric and mulch. We are trying to plant new grass inside the pool where the bare spots were, so the toddlers won't have to walk over all those little stones. This year we plan to improve the flowers at the pool. The old broken planter boxes will be replaced with new ones and new flowers will be planted. We're also going to redo the main entrance similar to what we did at Pool Drive triangle.

No article of mine would be complete without giving a HUGE SHOUT OUT to all the volunteers that come out and improve our community. The spring clean up committee worked until they couldn't physically do anymore. George Kunkel did hard work digging holes and planting bushes. Lisa O'Connor and Mike donated and installed mulch in the Pool Drive triangle. However, the awesome people are in BCL, George Sawicki

will always be remembered for his contributions to our community. Stricken with cancer, George still came out and tilled the rocky soil in the pool area to allow for new grass to be planted. He walked away dirty, sweated up and cussing: "I'm too old for this sh&*" Unfortunately, George passed away and is no longer physically with us. All of us benefited from his commitment to our community.

I'm getting very little interest in finding landscape committee members or finding street captains. These may die a slow death unless I find more members interested in helping. Please call me if you have any interest.

MEMBER SERVICES

Kevin McGrath

On behalf of the board, I want to thank all of the members of our great community who pay their dues on time each year! Our collections remain strong and our cash flow is on target as we move our association forward and protect the future of our wonderful community.

We are working with a few of our members who needed some extra time to make their dues payments. We offer extended payment plans to a handful of our members each year. There are some additional fees involved in the payment plans. We are working with Attorney Nanovic and unfortunately we do occasionally have to file court actions to protect the

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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Ken Levitz

In July 2016, I wrote a three-paragraph commentary for our Newsletter in anticipation of our Fall General Membership Meeting. In the first, I acknowledged the passion and commitment shown by various members concerning issues that originated in the broader community of Penn Forest Township. At that time we had recently witnessed the completion of a Game Commission maintenance facility adjacent to our boundary and the ongoing township zoning board issues concerning the proposed Atlantic Wind Farm construction. The township and adjacent municipalities are now, also engaged in various proposed pipeline controversies.

The second and third paragraphs dealt with ongoing pest infestation issues: namely gypsy moths and mosquitos. To many the three topics may seem vastly different in scope and in level of concern. To me, they provide a "point/counterpoint" concept.

The type of issues described in the first paragraph can involve external municipalities, states and organizations and usually revolve around significant infrastructure projects. While we as individuals (and as included communities) can always inject our positions into ongoing debates, we seldom cast the final

deciding vote.

Pest issues such as those listed above will probably be with us – at varying degrees for quite some time. The difference between the two types of problems is the amount of control we as a community and as individual members have in reducing and hopefully eliminating their impact on our community and our individual life styles.

Gypsy Moths and mosquitos will still be a concern this warm season, but we are continually researching control methods that are financially feasible and economically sound. Please see the website for the latest results. The added value to these ideas is that we can implement them as individuals on a small scale that will lessen the negative impact of these pests.

Storm water – sometimes offsite run-on - and at times internally compounded by our desire to pave more surface than is good for the health of the lake. While we continue to monitor offsite construction and will contact the township and the conservation district when appropriate, we can also help ourselves by recognizing the value of a permeable stone driveway in terms of lake protection. We can also lessen any negative impact by carefully choosing the herbicides and turf builders we use.

Now is the time for my usual preaching: another low cost, lake (and well water) health protection practice is – ready for this! – to clean up after our pets. Not only can we protect our own health, and that of our children and grandchildren, we can extend the courtesy of a cleaner walkway to our neighbors.

Finally, BCLCA, as a municipality, recognizes that the association also has an obligation to avoid impacting our members as well as adjacent properties with an activity, or a failure to provide adequate environmental protections in the conduct of our regular management



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duties. To that end, the Board continues to review its physical plant and maintenance procedures – and seek advice to assess any potential financial liabilities. Our most recent effort led to the replacement of all fuel oil and chemical tanks in service at the maintenance garage, Stewart Hall and the pool with secondary spill containment vessels. See additional comments and cost information in the President's letter and in the Treasurer/ Financial Committee Report. By the time this is in print we will have updated our review and consulted with insurance professionals to determine if there are any gaps in our coverage.

7th ANNUAL 5k WALK/RUN

Dylan Bradley

Hello all, this year I will be hosting my 7th annual 5k walk/run to benefit Juvenile Arthritis. The event will be held on Sunday May 28th, 2017 with registration to begin at 8:30 AM. The walk will begin at 9 AM and the run will start at 9:15AM. The start and finish line will be at the Stewart Hall. Registration forms are available in the BCLCA office or online at www.BCLCA.org.

Pre-registration for the event is \$30 before May 20th, and includes a t-shirt. Registration on or after May 21st is \$20. A limited number of t-shirts will be available for sale at the event for a cost of \$15. Donations are accepted, and can be cash or check. All of the funds raised benefit the Arthritis Foundation and Camp JRA, a five-day summer camp for children with rheumatic diseases.

I would like to thank you all in advance for the support and participation in this event! Please contact me should you have any additional questions at dbradley8@live.esu.edu.
"Juvenile Arthritis, it's a joint effort!"

POOL DAY

Dylan Bradley

On Sunday, June 25th, we will hold our annual

Pool Day, for all children of BCLCA under 18 years of age. Registration is from 11:00 to 11:30, followed by games from 11:30 - 3 PM. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for the entire event. 2017 BCLCA badges are required for entrance. Diapers are prohibited in the main swimming pool.

The main swimming pool and the baby pool will be closed to all other guests until 4 PM, at which time the pool will reopen until closing at 7 PM.

BCL MONTHLY LUNCHEONS

Sue Whitely

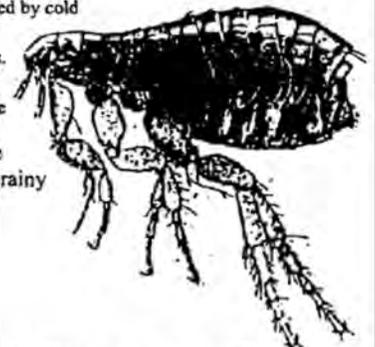
Each month the ladies of BCL meet at different area restaurants for lunch and fellowship. Edie Boyer started the tradition a "few" years ago.

Lona Nelson and Sue Whiteley have kept this activity going. We welcome new residents to join us. The luncheons are usually the 2nd Thursday of each month. Lona arranges the luncheons during the Summer months and Sue

FLEAS

FACTS:

- * Fleas prefer warmth and are repelled by cold
- * Most common host are cats, dogs, man and a wide variety of animals.
- * Fleas are most common during the summer especially when homes are reoccupied after vacation.
- * A hot dry summer reduces the number of fleas, and a humid rainy summer is favorable to them.



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arranges the Winter ones. We try to communicate our plans through email. Please contact Sue at 570 325 2549 or email - whiteley@ptd.net and we will include you in notices.

BCL LIBRARY

Sue Whitely

The library is in good shape thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers. We are only accepting donations in March and September. This keeps the volume down. Please make sure books are clean, free of mold and of general interest. We started a new collection of cookbooks and welcome new additions. We will continue to keep the library in good order and condition with your cooperation. Please contact Sue Whiteley at 570-325 2549 or whiteley@ptd.net if you have any questions.

TGIF

Diana Bochantin

Our T.G.I.F. Christmas party was a huge success! We had a good turnout, played some games, ate some delicious food, and sang karaoke. The spring party was equally enjoyed by all. We are looking forward to the summer. We will have our first T.G.I.F. as soon as the pool opens full time. Remember all are welcome. Come and bring a salad, entrée, or dessert to share. Bring your own drinks. We begin at 6:00pm and afterwards we play bocce. In August we start at 5:00 due to the shorter daylight hours. So we hope to see returning as well as new Bear Creekers any Friday you can join us. Remember to wear your red badges. Come and have fun!!

WATER AEROBICS

Elizabeth Pushaw

The glorious days of summer will soon be arriving, and therefore so will the glorious days of water aerobics at the pool. We will meet at

11:00 am every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for a full hour of exercise, fun and frolic. Registration is not required: just show up! If the pool is open and lifeguards are on duty, we will have class. Last year we met on every scheduled day even if it was drizzling and quite cool, so do not be deterred by those factors. It is up to each member to decide if they wish to participate on any given day. Summer seems to slip by so quickly, so don't miss one day of WA! Check calendar for opening date, June 12th. See you at the pool? Hope so!

CALLING ALL BOOK LOVERS

Leta Thompson

If you love to read books and discuss them with others, then the BCL Book Club is just for you! We meet the third Tuesday of each month, September through June, at 10:00 am in Stewart Hall. We have a carry in luncheon as part of our December meeting, and we go out to lunch as part of our June meeting.

BEAR CREEK LAKES

Office: 570-325-3334

Fax: 570-325-8156

Security: 570-325-9322

Email: BCLCA@PTD.NET

WWW.BCLCA.ORG

OFFICE HOURS

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WEDNESDAY	10am - 2pm
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The great thing about our Book Club is that all members have input into our selections for the year. We read both fiction and non-fiction books. This May we will be making our selections for the 2017-18 year. We share the role of facilitator throughout the year and have a month devoted to book sharing, where each person tells about a great book they are reading. This gives us additional ideas for "good reads". Our discussions are thought provoking, and our members express a variety of opinions and points of view about the books we are discussing. In this way we learn from each other and broaden our perspectives. You are welcome to join us at any time!

If you have any questions about Book Club, please call me, Leta Thompson, at 570 325-2121, or e-mail me at drletat@gmail.com.

LADIES' KAYAK GROUP

Sandy Benedick

I am starting an INFORMAL Ladies Kayak Group. We will meet every Tuesday at 2 pm and every Saturday evening at 6:30 pm at the Boat Dock, weather permitting. Days can be adjusted as the weather dictates. The idea is to go out with who ever comes to kayak. No sign up required, all you need to do is show up! Updates will be on the BCL Facebook page, and if there is enough interest I will start an email contact list to communicate changes. This will be a great way to meet new people and get out on the lake more often! Start date is June 6th, hope to see all kayak loving ladies out there!

CHILDREN'S FISHING CONTEST

Sandy and Gary Benedick

This year, we are trying something different for the Children's Contest. Due to a decline in

participation the last few years, we will be holding the Children's Contest the same day as the Adult Fishing Contest, but with slightly varied hours. It will be held from 07:30 am to 10:30 am on June 17th. An adult must accompany their children. We are also planning something different for the "after party", so come on out and join the fun! Lots of cool prizes await! Register at the boat dock. BCL badges required.

ADULT FISHING CONTEST

Sandy and Gary Benedick

The annual Adult Fishing (Bass) Contest is being held the first day of Bass Season, June 17th, 2017. The hours are 7am-11am, and is a catch and release event. You may note that we are also holding the Kids Contest the same morning, with slightly varied hours (see Children's Contest Article). This may enable you to bring your kids and make it a family event, since we will not be holding a separate Children's contest this year. This will be a good chance to break the contest record, since a lot of Bass over 4 lbs were weighed during the survey! BCL Badges, Vehicle and Trailer stickers required. Sign up at the Boat Dock. Hope to see you there!

"LADIES NIGHT OUT!"

Linda Kunkel

New things have been happening at Bear Creek Lakes. We started a once a month, wintertime Ladies Night Out featuring a new concept, "dirty bingo." People ask, "What is dirty bingo?" The answer, everyone brings a wrapped prize, 12 to 15 dollar value. We play bingo until all the prizes are gone. Then we break for some light refreshments. After a short break, we set a timer for 45 minutes and play "dirty bingo." At this point, when you get bingo, you take a prize away from someone. When the timer rings, bingo is over for the evening and now you get to keep and take home your winnings. We've had 3 successful evenings with up to 20 ladies enjoying, laughing, and

having a fun night. We've even included some themes, such as "whine for wine" and "spring into summer." Thanks to Marge Smith and Linda Kunkel for coming up with the idea and Diana Bochantin for being our bingo caller. Special thanks to anyone who has helped provide refreshments. Plans are already in the works for January, February and March of next year. Check the next newsletter for more information.

SNACK CART NEWS

Linda Kunkel

Spring is in the air, summer will be here soon, the pool will be open and our snack cart volunteers will be there to serve you. We have great volunteers and are always looking for more. Our volunteers man the snack cart usually once or twice a month for at least 2 hours in the afternoon. The proceeds go to purchase items for our recreational activities. Last year we purchased a clock, 4 umbrellas, 5 chairs and noodles for the pool; a coffee pot for book club; a \$150 donation to the fishery management; \$180 donation for the kids pool day; the purchase of gift certificates for the golf cart and bike parade; and a candy donation to all the participants in the kids fishing contest. If interested in helping out in any way, contact Linda Kunkel at genie.ljk@verizon.net. We are also grateful to our many buyers who help by doing the shopping to make sure the cart remains stocked.

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

Bill Gullone

The annual BCL Golf Tournament will be held at White Birch Golf Course on Friday, June 30th. The tournament is open to all golfers. Breakfast will start at 7:30 am. We will have shotgun start and food/refreshments following. Price remains the same at \$50/ golfer -Best Ball Registration form and info will be available at BCLCA office and or the community website at bclca.org. Sign up at the office or contact Bill Gullone at 570-325-2191 or lawns1550@gmail.com by Friday June 16th.

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Lisa Ivan

Calling all BCL de-clutter wannabes. Empty your closets, garage, attic and sheds. Participate in our annual yard sale and exchange your wares for cash!

The yard sale will take place on June 25, from 9 AM to 3 PM. Register your sale at no cost! BCL pays for advertising. Contact Lisa to register at 484-464-7155 or kayakcrzy@gmail.com.

MOONLIT CRUISES

Lisa Ivan

Our moonlit cruises are planned for June 9 & August 5 weather permitting, 7pm at the boat launch. Experienced boater a MUST for night cruises. In addition, all boaters must have a BCL badge, life jacket, whistle & bright glow sticks. We recommend that you bring a flashlight, dry towel and water.

SUPER BOWL PARTY

Rich Berger

Our third annual Super Bowl Party was another success, with 40 participants and an exciting finish to the game (although not much support for the Patriots). Thanks to Steve and Warren

for helping set this up and Pam for her assistance. We're looking forward to next year's game and party, which will be February 4, 2018.

WALKING PROGRAM

Pam Berger & Madeline Ligenza

The indoor walking program resumed for its third season in September, expanding to three days from two by adding a Friday session. Attendance was solid and consistent, although we did miss a few days due to icy conditions and other unforeseen events. The program will end after Memorial Day, and we will be back in September.

BEACH BONFIRE

Lisa Ivan

Our beach bonfire is scheduled for July 29th; weather permitting, of course. Watch BCLCA.org & the bulletin boards for updates. ****Volunteers needed****

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Lisa Ivan

Free ice cream will be served at the pool on June 24th, weather permitting, from 6-7 PM, as long as the ice cream lasts. Bring your own cup and spoon and remember to wear your BCL badge.



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W	8 - 5:30
T	8 - 5:30
F	8 - 5:30
Sat	8 - 5:30
Sun	Closed

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IN MEMORIAM

William J. McDonald Jr.

William "Bill" J. McDonald Jr., 65, of Bear Creek Lakes, Jim Thorpe, passed away on Monday, Sept. 12, 2016, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Salisbury Township. He was the husband of Patricia A. (Carrano) McDonald and the late Ann L. (Olsefsky) McDonald.

He was a member of St. Peter the Fisherman Catholic Church in Lake Harmony. Surviving, along with his wife, are a son, William D. McDonald of Lehigh; a brother, Bernard McDonald and his wife, Shelly, of Summit Hill; a stepdaughter, Jacqueline Hayes and her husband, Jason; step granddaughters, Caitlin Wesolowski, Isabella Wesolowski and Kennedy Hayes; sister-in-law, Jean M. Hughes; niece, Carra McDonald; and nephews, Mike Bamford, Robert Bamford and Stanley Bankus.

Helen A. Rizzo

Helen A. (Barbone) Rizzo, 102, of Jim Thorpe, died Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016, at her residence.

Survivors include: children, Carmen (Susan) Rizzo and Marian (Robert) Shuler; grandchildren, Elizabeth Barr, Jennifer (Ian) Myers, Thomas Rizzo, Stephen Fretz, Laurie (Jim) Toshock and Tim Shula; great grandchildren, Kenneth and Matthew Barr, Benjamin, Edward and Eliot Myers, Erin (Mark) Amberman, Justin Beideman, and Tyler Fretz; great great grandchildren, Lucas, Sawyer and Evelyn Amberman; and sister Sue Gaasche.

Carl P. Contino

Jan. 6, 2017. Beloved husband of Marie (nee Pace); devoted father of Carl C. (Laurie); loving grandfather of Nicholas, John, and Alyssa; dear brother of Joseph, Connie Contino, and the late Rose Ciarlante; also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Robert Crouse Mahar

Robert Crouse Mahar, 77, of Penn Forest Township, passed away Thursday, March 2, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown in the presence of his family. His wife, Karen S. (Singer) Mahar had passed away April 25, 2016.

He is survived by a daughter Katherine M. Foley of New Tripoli; a son, Robert Charles Mahar, and wife Judith, of Wescosville; a brother John H. Mahar, and wife Jackie, of Fairfield, CT; four grandchildren, Shane, Griffin, Abigail and Robert; cousins, nieces and nephews.

Michael R. Patrylo

Michael R. Patrylo, of Jim Thorpe passed away Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016, in Geisinger Celtic Hospice & Home Health in Wilkes-Barre. He was the husband of Marianne (Kness) Patrylo with whom he shared 33 years of wedded harmony.

Surviving, in addition to his wife Marianne, are his father Joseph; his mother Helga; sisters Alix Berry and Jeannette Klein; and brothers Bruce, Blane and Blake Lefebvre; along with numerous family and friends which enriched Michael's life in so many ways. -

Joseph W. Staufenberg

72, of Philadelphia passed away unexpectedly January 26, 2017 at Temple Univ. Hospital after battling Interstitial Lung Disease. Joe loved traveling, fishing, spending time at the lake and his antique vehicles. But it was his family that was his true passion.

Beloved husband of Kathleen (nee Menarde) for 51 years, he is the devoted father of Lynn (Craig) Forsythe and Joe (Brendalee) Staufenberg, and loving poppy of Nicholas, Daniel, Kaitlyn Forsythe.

George E. Sawicki Sr.

George E. Sawicki Sr., 70, of Penn Forest Township, Jim Thorpe, passed into eternal rest on Friday, Dec. 30, at his residence.

He was the husband of Theresa (Ruyak) Sawicki. They were married for 48 years this past June 8.

He was a member of Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church in Jim Thorpe, and held a membership in The Bear Creek Lakes Recreational Community.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two sons, George E. Sawicki Jr. and his wife Lori of Chester Springs, and Scott J. Sawicki and his wife Paradise Nouri of Randolph, N.J.; a sister, Barbara, wife of Donald Davis of Stuart, Florida, a brother, Michael Palko and his wife RoseAnne of Orlando, Fla.; three grandchildren, Brandon, Jason and Jack Sawicki,; and nieces and nephews.

John Mosko

John Mosko, 86, of Jim Thorpe, passed away on Sunday, April 2, in the Lehigh Valley Hospice, Allentown, surrounded by his loving family.

He was the husband of Shirley (Kressler) Mosko. They celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary on June 15, 2016.

Surviving in addition to his widow are a sister Julia, wife of Robert Conway of Haverhill, MA; and many nieces and nephews.

Rev. Joseph L. De Acetis

The Rev. Joseph L. De Acetis, 89, of Jim Thorpe, entered into eternal rest on Monday, Nov. 21, in the Blue Mountain Health System's Gnaden Huetten Campus, Leighton. He was the husband of Joan (Bosch) De Acetis. They celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary in July.

He was a member of St. Mark's and St. John's Episcopal Church, Jim Thorpe; chaplain for the Order of the Church, Bethlehem Diocese; and a chaplain/counselor for Alcoholic Anonymous. He loved the outdoors, especially cycling, kayaking and gardening.

Surviving in addition to his widow are a daughter, Marie T. De Acetis Smith, and her husband, James, of Stroudsburg; a son Joseph C. De Acetis, and his wife, Thea, of Allentown; a sister, Anna Carfagno of Southport, Conn.; six grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

William R. McCartney Jr.

William "Bill" R. McCartney Jr., 67, of Behrens Road, Jim Thorpe, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 31, 2016. He was the husband of Anita (Novitsky) Learn McCartney. Owner of McCartney Homes, established in 1977, he built over 500 homes in the area.

Surviving in addition to his widow are his stepfather, George Maxwell of Summerfield, FL; a son Ross, and his wife, Laura of Nazareth; a daughter Alyssa, wife of Charles White of Chester Springs, PA;

BIRTHS

Eric Thomas Collura

He was born to Kaitin Reilly Collura, granddaughter of Mrs. Nancy Hicks and the late Tom Hicks, on February 15, 2017. Kaitlin was a lifeguard at Bear Creek Lakes not so long ago.

Sawyer John Marzen

He was born to Rebecca and Lee Marzen on March 10, 2017, and joins his brothers Noah and Wyatt.

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SPRING/SUMMER RECREATION SCHEDULE – 2017

EVENTS OCCURRING AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

Horseshoes & Bocce – Every Saturday & Sunday @ 1PM, weather permitting, at the court

Quilters – Monday afternoon @ Stewart Hall 2:30 – 5:00. Join us if you interested

Ladies Bocce – Tuesday & Thursday @ 2PM starting in June, weather permitting at the court

TGIF – Fridays @6PM starting June 2nd. Bring a dish to share – BYOB

Water Aerobics – Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday @ 11 AM at the pool, starting June 12th

MAY

Saturday, May 20th **Clean Up Day** – 10AM @ Stewart Hall. If you have gardening tools, please bring them. Please contact Mike Brennan @ 610-772-5310

Saturday, May 27th **General Meeting** – 10AM @ Penn Forest Fire Company 1, Rt. 903

Pool Opens on Weekends – 11 AM – 7 PM, weather permitting, including Monday, Memorial Day

Hot Dogs & Flea Market – at Pavilion after the General Meeting

Horseshoes & Bocce – first day

Beach Party – North Beach, 6-10 PM

Sunday, May 28th **5K Race for Arthritis Foundation** – Registration begins at 8:30 AM @Stewart Hall. Contact Dylan @ 610-349-8614

Church Service 10 AM @ South Beach. Bring chairs. Light refreshments at Stewart Hall following services.

Sand Castle Contest – 11 AM please contact Marion Domski at mariondomski@gmail.com for more details. Bring implements.

JUNE

Friday, June 2nd **TGIF** begins @ 6 PM at the Pavilion

Thursday, June 8th **Ladies Luncheon** – call Lona Nelson @ 570-325-2698

Friday, June 9th **Moonlit Cruise** – Meet @ boat dock at 7 PM – check bulletin boards and website

Monday, June 12th **Water Aerobics** – begins at 11 AM at the Pool, weather permitting

Pool opens daily – 12 – 7 PM, weather permitting

Saturday, June 17th **Fishing Tournament**- Adults (16+) and Kids (must be accompanied by a parent) – 11 AM for adults, 7:30AM – 10:30 for kids.

Sunday, June 18th **Rain date** for Fishing Tournament

Tuesday, June 20th **Book Club** – Stewart Hall 10:30 am. Call Leta at 570-325-2121 for info.

Saturday, June 24th **Progressive Yard Sale** – 9 AM – 3 PM. See bulletin boards and website. Must register with Lisa at 484-464-7155 or Lisa.Ivan@century21.com

Ice Cream Night – 6 PM @ the Pool. + toppings – bring bowl/spoon.

Sunday, June 25th **Pool Day** – Open to all children from BCLCA under 18. Registration 11:00 – 11:30. Games, 11:30 – 3:00. Pool open to all Members at 4 PM

Friday, June 30th **BCL Golf Tournament** – White Birch Golf Course, tee off @ 9 AM. Sign up at the office or by contacting Bill Gullone (bglg@ptd.net , 570-325-2191) by Friday, June 16th.

JULY

Saturday, July 1st **Golf Cart and Bike Parade** – Registration 11-12 @Stewart Hall, hot dogs after parade. See website and bulletin boards for details.

Pool open late – 9 PM Thursday/Friday/Saturday, to Labor Day Weekend

Pool Party with DJ – 6-10 PM open to all ages

BCL Arts and Crafts Fair – 11AM -3 PM @ Stewart Hall; contact Carole Adams at 484-735-6107 for more information

Sunday July 2nd **BCL Annual 5KRun/3K walk** – Registration 8:30 am/Run @ 9 am at Stewart Hall – contact Marty Palmer at mpalmer3875@comcast.net

Tuesday, July 4th **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Thursday, July 13th **Ladies Luncheon** – call Lona Nelson at 570-325-269

Saturday, July 15th **Children’s Triathlon** – 11 AM, contact Marty Palmer at mpalmer3875@comcast.net.

Children’s Scavenger Hunt – 1 PM @ Pavilion contact Marty Palmer at mpalmer3875@comcast.net

Pig Roast – 5 PM. contact Marty Palmer at mpalmer3875@comcast.net. Check bulletin boards and website for further details.

Friday, July 21st **Teen Nite at the Pool** - 7-10 PM. Check website and bulletin board for details.

Saturday, July 29th **Bonfire on North Beach** – 6-10 PM. Looking for volunteers, call Lisa Ivan at 484-464-7155

AUGUST

Saturday, August 5th **Chicken Dinner** – 5 PM. contact Marty Palmer at mpalmer3875@comcast.net. Check bulletin boards and website for further details.

Moonlit Cruise – Meet @ boat dock at 7 PM – check bulletin boards and website

Sunday, August 6th **Dodge Ball game** - please contact Marion Domski at mariondomski@gmail.com

Thurs., August 10th **Ladies Luncheon** – call Lona Nelson at 570-325-2698

Sat., August 12th **tubing on the Lake** – 11 AM at South Beach. Life vests are required. Will float to boat ramp for hot dogs and soda.

Kayak Relay – 1 PM, meet at boat dock. Life vests are required.

Sat., August 19th **Music Night with Nightwind** – 6-10 PM @ the Pavilion. Free Admission. Music of the 80’s & 90’s. BYOB.

Sat., August 26th **Basketball Shoot-Out** – 10 AM @ Basketball courts

Doubles Tennis Tournament – 11 AM @ Tennis Courts

Sunday, August 27th **Movie Night for kids** – Stewart Hall @ 5PM. Free popcorn and soda, call Denise Evans at 386-405-6266

SEPTEMBER

Sat, September 2rd **General Meeting** – 10AM @ Penn Forest Fire Company 1, Rt. 903

Dodge Ball game - 11 AM please contact Marion Domski @ mariondomski@gmail.com

Sat, September 3rd **Church Services** – 10 AM @ South Beach. Bring chairs. Light refreshments at Stewart Hall following services.

Thursday, Sept 14th **Ladies Luncheon** – call Lona Nelson at 570-325-2698

Tuesday, Sept. 19th **Book Club** – Stewart Hall 10 am. Call Leta at 570-325-2121 for details.

BEAR CREEK LAKES INFORMATION

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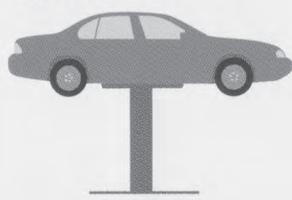
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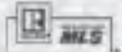
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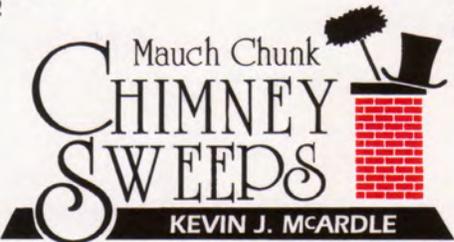


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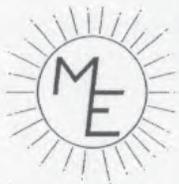
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NAME	NUMBER	EMAIL

~ Emergency Contact Information ~		
NAME	RELATIONSHIP	NUMBER

Member Signature Date

Cut along dotted line and return to the office

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:
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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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