



SPRING 2016

VOL. XXVIII, No. 1

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Todd Laudenschlager

There was a light dusting of snow today as I wrote this message to you. However, the winter of 2015-2016 was considerably calmer than previous years and we are grateful to Mother Nature for that! This Spring has been unpredictable so we will just have to wait to see what the year brings.

You will see many improvements to the Bear Creek Lakes Community this year. These much needed improvements are outlined by our board members in this newsletter. Over the past 8 months we have been working out the details of future projects and policy for years to come. I read an article in the Morning Call's Lehigh Valley edition about owning a 2nd home primarily for vacation and retirement purposes. The article listed Bear Creek Lakes as a community they considered to be a desirable location for a home. Bear Creek Lakes is a beautiful place to live or vacation because of the pride our members have in our community. Thanks to the members of BCL, the Board of Directors, our employees, and our many volunteers for working hard to not only make, but to keep Bear Creek Lakes a desirable community for now and in the future.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Kathy Wagner

Hope you are all enjoying your spring. It is such a treat to be able to report that we finally had a year when we were under what we budgeted for snow removal.

A few quick highlights of larger ticket items paid during the first six months of the fiscal year:

- \$6,300 for a DEP-mandated surety bond for the dam.
- \$10,800 for repair of a spillway crack
- \$3,048 for fish stocking (covered by donations)

Our annual audit for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2015 has been completed with no issues. Now that we have a Members Only section of our website we will be making the audit report and tax return available there for easy access by the Membership. We will be highlighting the new Members Only functionality at the May meeting and shortly after that will begin adding the documents.

Hope to see many of you at the May meeting or at some of the terrific events that the Recreation Committee has planned for us. Have a great summer!

**SPRING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 28th, 10 AM**  
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## FROM THE EDITOR

Rich Berger

We have increased the size of the print, which we hope will make it easier to read.

The calendar now covers events up to the Labor Day General Meeting (we will include a fall/winter calendar in the next newsletter). Events that occur on at least a weekly basis are noted at the top, and important BCLCA contact information is listed at the bottom of the calendar.

If you have any news to report, about our Members, or have any questions, please get in touch with me through the office, or email me at [rberger5@ptd.net](mailto:rberger5@ptd.net). We will be soliciting articles for the late summer newsletter published in advance of the Labor Day General Meeting, so please think about any articles that you may wish to submit for consideration.

I am sad to report that, since the last newsletter, we have had a large number of deaths among our Members. These are detailed in our section, *In Memoriam*.

## MAINTENANCE AND ROADS

Todd Laudenschlager

This past winter was calm in BCL. Our road crew plowed 4 times as compared to the winter of 2014-2015 when the roads were plowed 33 times.

In September, we hired John McMenaman to assist our Maintenance Supervisor Jim Halpin. These 2 gentlemen take care of our facilities, our roads and the grounds. It is a large undertaking, they wear many hats; but do an excellent job as they are committed to keeping BCL pristine as they strive to complete their duties throughout the year. Spring cleanup has begun; they are getting cinders off roads, repairing facilities, prepping mowers and making ready the pool and beaches for the

coming summer season.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding roads or maintenance you can reach me through the office.

## RULES

Rich Berger

Three changes have been made to our rules since last reported:

- The bond requirements for houses and garages have been reduced
- Stickers will now be required for all boat trailers. For now, there will be no fines for failure to have a sticker, but the new rule will be enforced starting in 2017.
- If a Member is cited for failure to have a required sticker on a vehicle, the \$55 fine will be reduced to \$5 if the Member comes to the office, requests a sticker and demonstrates that the sticker has been attached to his vehicle.

I remind our members to be aware when open burning is banned in Penn Forest Township. Further, according to our rules, no burning of trash is permitted at any time. Recreation fires 3' in diameter or less are permitted, as long as you contact the COM center at 570-325-9111.

The Rule Book is being updated and will be

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posted on the [www.bclca.org](http://www.bclca.org) website when completed.

## **PERMITS**

Pat Ayers

My first term on the Board has been an interesting and a real learning experience. I have repeatedly called Penn Forest Township to check on the latest building codes, so I can give our Members accurate advice. I have approved many tree permits as well as new decks or garage permits. A few additions were started and most have been finished. One new house is being built on Piney Woods and looks like it is close to being finished. I hope this year will be the same or better than last. If anyone has a question don't hesitate to call me. I thank you in advance.

## **LONG TERM PLANNING**

Lisa Mills

As you know, we engaged the firm of DW Smith to prepare a study of reserve requirements for our community. Now that the DWS reserve study is complete we are now able to take that information and put it to work to take our community into the future. Part of the reserve study addresses major components of our community, their life cycles and future replacement/upgrade/maintenance of these components.

The Long Range Planning Committee now is working on taking this information and converting it into working manuals for each of these components. These manuals will assist us to keep information centralized and current.

The manuals will be used by the directors to:

- Keep an inventory of the assets under their supervision
- Maintain a maintenance log of the service work done
- Help assess the projected life cycle versus the actual life cycle of an asset to

stay within budgetary allocation

- Catalog the vendors used;
  - Contact information
  - Insurance
  - Contracts
  - Bills
  - Warranties

These manuals will be useful tools for any director whether they are new to the position or a seasoned director. The manuals will cut the ramp up time of a new Director and in turn make them more productive.

## **Lake & Dam Committee Report**

Steve Sosnowski

### **I. North Beach to re-open**

I am happy to report that repairs to the soft bottom areas discovered at North Beach last season have been completed and North Beach is currently scheduled to re-open Memorial Day weekend.

### **II. Preventative Maintenance performed on dam spillway**

Our annual state mandated dam/spillway inspection confirmed once again that our dam and spillway are in excellent condition. The engineering firm that performed the inspection did suggest that we take care of some surface cracking which had formed on the downstream side of the concrete spillway as a preventative measure. A contractor was hired and the



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repairs were made in November.

### **III. Fisheries Management efforts**

The fisheries management goal of the BCL board Lake/Dam and Environmental Committees is to manage the fish population in such a way as to maintain a healthy, balanced fishery that provides an enjoyable angling experience for all.

If you remember, in 2013 we engaged a lake management consulting firm to assess the health and species balance of our fish population. The specific outcome of this study was to evaluate each resident species regarding its growth rate, size range and reproductive potential and recommend a course of action for the future. The complete results of this study can be found on our BCL web. I would encourage all to read the report even if you are not a fisherman.

The study revealed a balanced fish population in Bear Creek Lake with the exception of one species. The study's report also included key recommendations for the future. We have been following those recommendations and have stocked Golden Shiners as an added forage (food) source for Bass. We have also stocked over 400 Large Mouth Bass in the 8-10 inch range to augment the existing population. The out of balance species I mentioned previously is the Yellow Perch, which was deemed to be over populated and as a result, stunted in size. The perch is not a preferred food source for the bass so a new predator species was recommended to control the perch population. To that end we have been stocking Walleye in the 5-8 inch range. Walleye are a natural predator of the perch, and have been used in other lakes in northeast Pennsylvania to manage stunted perch populations. Walleye generally feed from late evening to early morning so we would not be surprised to hear that not many are being caught by fisherman during the peak daytime hours. But again, these fish were stocked not so much to be caught as they were to manage the perch

and therefore help balance the lake ecosystem.

All of the stocking in the past two years has been paid for via private donations from members.

### **IV. Bathymetric Survey**

A bathymetric survey of the lake will be performed this Spring to establish a depth baseline to monitor potential future depth reduction due to siltation. We are fortunate in that our lake is fed by underground springs and not surface water which is the major source of silt. We do however experience storm runoff entering our lake which carries silt so it is imperative that we monitor depth changes. A depth profile map will be produced as output of this survey and will be available in the new Members Only partition of our web site.

### **V. Additional Paddle Craft launch areas**

In an effort to relieve some of the traffic and parking issues at the boat launch and increase flexibility for our members, we are instituting a trial program this year to allow paddle craft (**canoes/kayaks/stand-up paddle boards**) to be launched from specific areas at North and South beaches. These areas will be clearly marked. The craft are to be carry-in only (no trailers) and should not be left unattended for long periods of time in the launch areas as a courtesy to other boaters and patrons of the beach. We will evaluate the program this fall and make a decision whether or not to make this permanent.

Due to safety concerns, launching of any water craft is ***still prohibited at the Dam Spillway Park.***

### **VI. New Boat Dock**

We are in the process of replacing the existing boat dock which has become structurally unsound.

## **VII. Lake Rangers**

We are instituting a new volunteer force to patrol the lake. The role of the Lake Rangers will be to check for BCL Badges, BCL boat registration, adherence to BCL Fishing Rules and provide general assistance if needed. The Rangers can also be utilized to provide additional safety for BCL sponsored lake events such as Tubing on the Lake and Moonlight Kayaking. If you are interested in becoming a Lake Ranger, Please contact me through the BCL office.

## **VIII. Trailer registration now required**

BCLCA registration stickers are now required for all state licensed trailers parked at the boat launch. Please stop by the office to register your trailer.

## **POOL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Steve Sosnowski

Keeping with tradition, the planned opening date for the pool is the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. This season the pool will be opening at 11 AM, one hour earlier than previous years.

**For the complete pool operating schedule and list of special events, please refer to the BCL calendar. Enjoy the Summer!**

## **LIFEGUARDS**

Colleen Bradley

Once again I will be in charge of our lifeguards. The interviewing process has gone well and I am happy to say that we will be fully staffed to start the year. This year we will have quite a few guards with several coming from right here in BCL. They are an enthusiastic group with a nice mix of college and high school age young adults. We will post short biographies of our lifeguards on the pool bulletin board shortly after the pool is open. We've already started with ordering supplies and making plans for this years in-services. We will be ready to go Memorial Day weekend, which can't get here soon enough for me! I want to thank you all for your support over the years and I am looking forward to a great summer season.

## **POOL DAY**

We will hold our annual Pool Day on Saturday, July 9, when the pool will be closed in order to allow for a variety of games for the younger set. The pool will be open to children and their guardians, until 4:30 PM, at which time it will be open again to all.

Registration starts at 12:00 PM and the games will begin at 12:30 and end at 3:30. We ask that the younger children be potty trained in order to participate.

## **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Marty Palmer & Pat Stasyk

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

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



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## **5K RUN/WALK**

Bear Creek Lakes annual 5K run/walk will be held on Saturday, June 11th. Please meet at the clubhouse between 8:30 to 8:45 am as the run/walk starts at 9 am. 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!

## **CHILDRENS' TRIATHLON**

Bear Creek Lakes will be having a Children's Triathlon on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> for kids ages 8 to 12. Kids will swim a couple laps in the pool, ride their bikes and then run back to the pavilion Please meet at the Pavilion at 11 am.

## **CHILDRENS' SCAVENGER HUNT**

Bear Creek Lakes will be having a Children's Scavenger Hunt on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> for kids ages 6 to 12. Kids will given clues to find various items with prizes for all! Please meet at the Pavilion at 1 pm.

## **TUBING ON THE LAKE**

The annual Tubing on the Lake will take place on Saturday, August 13th. Please meet at the South Beach at 11 am. We will tube, float or kayak over to the boat dock where lunch (hot dogs and drinks) will be waiting. Everyone participating must bring and wear a flotation device!

## **KAYAK RELAY**

Let's have fun on the Lake this summer with a friendly kayak competition! Starting from the boat dock teams of two people will paddle to a designated point in the lake and come back before their partner goes next. All ages welcome! Kayak fun will be on Saturday, August 13th. Please meet at the Boat Dock at 1 pm. Everyone participating must supply their own kayak and paddle and bring and wear a

flotation device!

## **BASKETBALL SHOOTOUT**

Anyone want to shoot some hoops this summer?? Come out on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> to show your skills shooting from various spots on the court. All ages welcome! Please meet at the Basketball Courts at 10 am.

## **DOUBLES TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

This year the Doubles Tennis Tournament at Bear Creek Lakes on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. Please meet at the Tennis Courts at 11 am. So dust off those rackets and start practicing your ground strokes! More details will be provided so please check the bulletin boards and BCL website as we get closer to the tournament.

## **BCL COURT RE-SURFACING**

Marty Palmer

Coming up in May of this year, work will begin on the re-surfacing of the tennis, basketball and multi-purpose courts adjacent to the swimming pool. Top-A-Court will be the company working to make the courts beautiful again for all members to enjoy. The work may take 1-2 weeks to complete so we ask members to be patient during this process. More details will be posted on the website as it gets closer to the start of the project.

## **PIG ROAST**

Pat Stasyk

This year our annual Pig Roast will be held on July 16 at 5 o'clock. Food will be served from 5 until 6:30. This event is a BYOB. Tickets will be available from me. Call 325-3280 for more details. Please call early as this is always a sell out. Let's pray for good weather. The Pig Roast has always been a chance to gather with friends and hopefully make new friends. Come out and join us for a pleasant evening.

## CHICKEN DINNER

Our chicken dinner will be held on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Last year was our first attempt at this event and it proved to be very successful. The food was delicious and it is yet another chance to socialize with the wonderful people of BCL. Please call Pat at 325-3280 for more details. This is another BYOB event. Hope to hear from you.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Pat Stasyk

I would like to thank Rich Berger for all his hard work with the newsletter. It's a big job and he did it well last year. Also, Joan and Fred Koch and their friends for delivering the newsletter or taking them to the post office to be mailed. No one knows the work involved with getting the newsletter ready. Thanks again to Rich and Joan and Fred and all those who helped. Please be responsible for anything you put on our bulletin boards. Advertisers and members (in good standing) may use the bulletin boards. Thanks to Jack Knorr for doing the marquee at the entrance to BCL.

## COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Margo Schaefer

We have been busy over the winter enhancing our electronic communication capabilities. An email list was established to allow for timely sharing of important news and occasional informational mail regarding events in the community.

In February, we launched a new version of our web site. Thank you to Denise Evans, who designed and continues to help maintain the site. The new platform gives us the capability to have a "Members Only" portion of the site, and only BCL property owners will be approved for access. Members Only content will continue to evolve over the next few months. Be sure to check out the website at [www.bclca.org](http://www.bclca.org), where you will find information

about living in and enjoying Bear Creek Lakes. You can request Members Only access and sign up for the BCL mailing list from the website.

For any questions about the website or mailing list, or to add items to the "Swip Swap" page (our version of classified ads) please contact Margo Schaefer at [bclca.mailer@gmail.com](mailto:bclca.mailer@gmail.com). To have community events posted to the Calendar of Events, please contact Barb Godshalk in the BCL office.

## STEWART HALL/FACILITIES

Jack Knorr

Another season change and hopefully rentals will pick up. For \$50.00 you cannot get a better deal for all kinds of parties and celebrations.

Thanks to all the renters for good clean ups. Let us all thank our maintenance personnel for the great work they do on Stewart Hall, especially the floor and cabinets. We are looking into better lighting for the library.

Anyone who wishes to run a community event at the hall, get your group together and contact the office.

Have a great and safe summer.

## LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

Michael Brennan

The beautiful natural landscape at BCL is in transition. Dave Lautt has designed all of our



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key common areas (903 Entrance, Pool Drive triangle, etc.) similar to what he has done at the Indian Trail triangle. The design includes natural/native landscaping with maintenance free and deer proof plantings. The dead Holly & Boxwood bushes will be replaced and accentuated with Daffodils, Silver King, Pachysandra and Lecouthawee. We intend to carry out this design. The soil in all the key areas must be tilled with fresh loam and some top soil added and mulch where appropriate. This will ensure the long term health of all of our plantings.

Implementing this design will take a few years to complete due to the high cost of materials needed. All labor will be provided by volunteers and all professional landscaper assistance is greatly appreciated.

I believe this design, when complete, will look beautiful for years to come and be maintenance free.

Of course we will provide annual blooming flowers (Marigolds) for our pool and boat dock areas!!!

Also, don't forget to come and help with our annual Spring clean up on Saturday, May 14th at 10 A.M. We'll meet at Stewart Hall, then fan out from there. Bring your shovels, rakes, gloves, etc.

#### **MEMBER SERVICES/SPECIAL PROJECTS**

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 appreciate the support and cooperation of all of the members who attended the annual meeting and voted to support our new budget. 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

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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. If you have not paid your current dues and have not entered into a payment plan please contact the office ASAP. Legal collection actions will be commencing in the near future unless arrangements have been made with the office. The board has received a lot of good feedback regarding the current budget communication and approval process. Our present set of governing documents, which were created back in the beginning of the community, dictates the budget approval process that the board has to follow. The board has created a committee to work on updating our documents and processes. One of the important duties will be to amend the documents to require improved budget communications. We



continue to welcome suggestions for that improved communication process.

## HEALTHY LAWNS- HEALTHY LAKE: CAN THEY CO-EXIST?

Kevin McGrath

As spring arrives, many homeowners will begin to treat their lawns with fertilizer and herbicides. In our climate it is virtually impossible to maintain an attractive lawn without adding supplemental fertilizers. In many areas this is not as much of a problem as it is in BCLCA. Most of the chemicals that we utilize on our lawns winds up in our wells and lake. We encourage owners in our woodland community to consider more natural landscaping than fine turf lawns, however there are many steps that can be taken to maintain a lawn and minimize the negative effects.

Lakefront owners are required to maintain a natural barrier such as tall native grasses or shrubs between lawn areas and the lake. This helps to minimize any runoff and also will discourage Geese from dining on your lawn and has the added benefit of minimizing the resulting goose pollution! Even though the lakefront owners are the first link in the chain, every owner in the community should be aware of the chemicals they are using.

The first rule and actually the law of the land is to read the label on every product before you buy or apply! Many lawn products cannot be applied within 100 feet of a waterway.

(Personally, I consider my well the same as a waterway). Also when shopping for fertilizer

please use low impact formulas and pay special attention to the phosphorus content. Lawns do not need phosphorus and it has a very negative impact on the lake. The use of "Roundup" and similar weed killers is also prohibited near the water. Last year I saw one of our owners spraying Roundup right along the lakeshore. I was too far away to have a chat with them; however they were not following the requirements for use. The University of Pittsburgh recently published a study showing that small quantities of Roundup wiped out the population of frogs, tadpoles and other amphibians in lab tests. I am unaware of any commercially produced weed killers that are approved for shoreline application. If any of you have found one please let me know and I will share the information. I have had good success with this homemade and cost effective recipe: 1 gallon household white vinegar, 2 cups Salt, 1/2 cup Dawn dish liquid. Mix well and spray in AM on a dry sunny day. This will kill any weeds and can be used near the shoreline.

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As individual owners it is tempting to think that our little bit of fertilizer or weed killer will not cause a problem. Our actions add up and the cumulative chemical impact is significant. Our lake is the crown jewel of our community and is intrinsic to the beauty and value of every home in BCLCA. Let's all work together to protect this gem.

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Ken Levitz

As we approach another summer season it is time to summarize several items that were left open ended in the Fall 2015 Newsletter.

**Gypsy Moth Infestation:** An investigation of the Commonwealth's planned 2016 spraying program disclosed several complications for a private community such as ours – not the least of which was the projected cost (due to very limited State funding). Secondly, the potential for creating a "checker board" plan in order to accommodate the wishes of non-participating property owners might disqualify us with respect to the State supported program. We will continue to monitor this issue both in terms of severity predictions for this year and state program participation requirements and cost.

**North Beach Closure:** The problematic section of lake floor soil reported in the Fall 2015 Newsletter was stabilized with river rock and the potential hazard eliminated. Please see the Lake and Dam Committee Report for additional confirmation of beach access.

**New Business.** Actually, there is nothing new about efforts to maintain our community, its appearance and environmental health and our quality of life as residents. The following issues have been reinforced for me by recent events and lead me to believe it is easy to lose track of some of the most important features of our community and the need to protect them.

**Offsite run-on of storm water:** Several times each year we experience major storm events that bring off-site rainfall onto the community – eroding properties on Dogwood and Willow Drives, damaging street berms and flooding yards along Larch Drive. This water, at times is potentially adding road and highway sourced pollutants to our lake as well as sediment. Since the source involves properties and activities beyond our community, the solution of the problem is complex. We intend to seek

Soil Conservation District support in an effort to confirm our neighbors are complying with conditions of any land development approvals (storm water management) that may impact us – and to also provide advice on improvements we might make within the neighborhood.

**Neighborhood Appearance:** Recently I shoveled up a pile of broken plastic and fiberglass (the remnants of a New Year's Eve incident on Hawthorne; and parts of a discarded tire and a Bissell sweeper on Lake. These were definitely unusual incidents, but they started me thinking about some things I routinely see along our streets that detract from our quality of life – and the property values of our homes. If we drink the water – or play in the lake - animal waste can have a health impact on us. If a realtor drives a prospective home owner down a street littered with drink containers and cigarette butts, we all may lose



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something. While this may have a negative impact as great as the storm water issue, it has a much simpler solution: If each of us cleans up after our pets, refuses to ignore litter and to impress upon renters our feelings as owners about this (as well as to our own guests and family members) we can make a great improvement. Let's all try to set a good example.

## SECURITY COMMITTEE

Bill Malone

It's early April, and I am happy to say we have had another quiet year with NO major incidents reported. Some mail box damage and littering, barking dogs and fireworks, and of course excess speed. "PLEASE SLOW DOWN" If you haven't noticed there are more and more small children playing on our streets. Thanks to your Crime Watch team, a small group but they are out there every day. We will have a Crime Watch sign up sheet at our Spring meeting please think about signing up. Please call security to report any incident; if we don't know we can't help. Intrepid/United American Security have joined forces and will now be United American Security. Same PH#s 570-455-1984 / 570-325-9322 / 800-587-1980, Same security officers, the only change will be a new patch on officers uniform and eventually new markings on security vehicles.

*Badge Monitor Needed*

Looking for a summer job? Please go to the BCLCA webpage and fill out an application, must be 18 or older.

## ELECTIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board is comprised of 15 members who are elected to three-year terms. Each year, five members on the Board are up for election (or re-election). Elections are held at the September General Meeting, which will take place on September 3, 2016. If you would like to run for the Board, please provide a bio to be included in the summer newsletter, no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>. Please send the bio by email to the Editor at [rberger5@ptd.net](mailto:rberger5@ptd.net).

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### 6th ANNUAL ARTHRITIS 5k WALK/RUN

Dylan Bradley

Dylan's 6th Annual 5K Arthritis Walk/Run first began in 2011 to help in the fight against Juvenile Arthritis. Over the past five years, we have raised over \$8,000 for the Arthritis Foundation and Camp JRA, a week long camp for children with arthritis. This year the event date is Monday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Registration begins at 8:30a.m. with the walk to begin at 9:00a.m. and the run set to begin at 9:15a.m. Registration is available online this year! Pre-registration is \$30, and is due by May 11<sup>th</sup>, and includes a t-shirt. Registration after May 11<sup>th</sup> is \$20, and does not include a t-shirt. For online registration or to make a donation, go to [runsignup.com](http://runsignup.com) and search Dylan's arthritis 5k. I personally thank you in advance for your support and contribution! For additional questions, please contact Dylan at [dbradley8@live.esu.edu](mailto:dbradley8@live.esu.edu)

Join the fight, and together we can make a difference.

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## **CARBON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOUSEWATCH PROGRAM**

Do you need special assistance in the event of an emergency? The Housewatch program will notify emergency responders if you have special needs or need special medical assistance. You can download a form here: <http://www.carboncounty.com/index.php/12-announcements/156-house-watch-program> and mail it to the 911 center. The form is confidential and your information will be listed at the 911 center. In the event of a 911 call from your residence, the medical information will pop up on the 911 screen and first responders will have a heads up on where you are and what medical needs you have.

## **WATER AEROBICS**

Last summer we were blessed with favorable weather and a great turnout for water aerobics at the pool. We are hoping for another good season and invite everyone to join us. We will meet at the pool 10:00am on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and quickly begin exercises. Note that we will begin one hour earlier than last year and are hoping that the sun is shining brightly and the water is warm at that time. The pool is heated and should be comfortable once we get going. The decision whether to participate is at the discretion of each individual, taking into account his/her health and comfort.

Our first session begins on June 13. All ladies and gentlemen are welcome to join us at the pool. It is very important to remember not to enter the pool area before 10:00am, when a lifeguard is on duty. The pool is closed for open swimming at this time and will open at 11:00 when our aerobic session has ended. If you are interested, just show up. If you have any questions, please email Elizabeth Pushaw at [eapushaw@icloud.com](mailto:eapushaw@icloud.com).

## **COMMUNITY YARD SALE**

Ron McCloskey

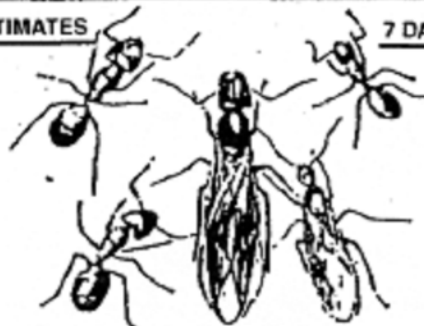
The 2016 BCL community yard sale will be held on Sat. June 25 th from 9am –3pm. Rain date will be June 26th. If you would like to be included on the maps contact Ron McCloskey at 570-325-5348 before June 6th. Frequently asked questions

- Do I have to get in on the map?  
Answer is no but it will draw people to your home.
- How much does it cost? Answer nothing, the BCL Civic Assc. pays for the advertising.
- Can I open early / close later?  
Answer Yes it's up to you
- Can I have friends from outside BCL at my house to sell? Answer yes, make sure you notify me so I can post multi family on the maps.

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Any other questions give me a call. Don't forget to place yard sale sign at your closest intersections. Talk to your neighbors to try to get them involved. Also you should take the time to advertise on the 3 BCL sites & the Carbon County yard sale sites.

### **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Bob Skiffington/Larry Erra

The annual BCL Golf Tournament will be held at White Birch Golf Course on Friday, July 1, 2016. This golf tournament is open to ALL golfers. Breakfast starts at 7:30 AM followed by a 9 AM shotgun start followed by food and refreshments at the grove. Price remains the same at \$50/golfer. Game will be a Scramble (Best Ball until you hole out). Registration form and information will be available at the BCLCA Office and on the community web site at [bclca.org](http://bclca.org). Sign up at the BCLCA Office or by contacting Bob Skiffington, 570-732-4139 or Larry Erra (267-679-7979) by Friday, June 17.

Please NOTE: Checks ONLY at the BCLCA Office. No cash will be accepted at the BCLCA Office. No checks accepted after June 17. Please make check payable to BCLCA.

### **TGIF**

Diana Bochantin

TGIF is scheduled to begin Friday, June 3 at 6:00 pm. We had a successful TGIF Christmas Party and Cabin Fever Spring Fling. Now we are looking forward to enjoying Bear Creek Lakes fellowship and fun each Friday this summer. All are welcome. Come to the pavilion, bring an appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert to share. Bring your own drinks and your badge and enjoy good eating, playing bocce, and getting to know each other better. New participants are encouraged to join us. Reminder-starting in August we will begin an hour earlier-5:00 due to the sun setting earlier. Come, eat, play bocce or just spend time with new and familiar friends of Bear Creek Lakes.



## **SUPER BOWL PARTY**

Rich Berger

It seems like a long time ago, but the second annual Super Bowl Party was held on February 7th and the crowd was almost twice as large as the year before (52 vs. 29) and we almost had to turn people away. Thanks to Steve Sosnowski and Warren Pushaw for handling the logistics and all who brought an enormous quantity of food.

We are looking forward to a third annual party on February 5, 2017. See the next issue of the newsletter for more details.

## **CHILDREN'S FISHING CONTEST**

Sandy Benedick

This year the Children's Fishing Contest will be held July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8am to 11am. Children ages 15 and under are invited to participate.

Register at the Boat Dock the morning of the contest. Many prizes to be awarded, with the grand finale of hot dogs and soft drinks at the conclusion of the tournament. Rain date July 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **FISHERY MANAGEMENT FUNDRAISING**

Sandy Benedick

The Lake and Dam Committee does not have any major fund raising events planned at this time. We plan to continue with the donation jar at the Spring membership meeting, are holding the Adult Fund Raising Fishing Contest on

June 18<sup>th</sup> 7am to 11am, and are still accepting donations at the office. We are very grateful for the many donations we have received, both at the office and to our donation jar! If you wish to contribute, find us at the meeting or submit a check to the office, made out to Bear Creek Lakes Civic Association, with "Fishery Management" in the memo line. Go to the new BCL web site under "members only" to view the fund raising progress to date. Along with further fish stocking, another fish population survey is planned for this year. Thanks for your support!

## **ADULT FISHING CONTEST FUNDRAISER**

Sandy Benedick

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Adult Fishing Contest Fundraiser will be held June 18<sup>th</sup> from 7am to 11am. Sign up will be by donation only instead of a set dollar value, so more people may be encouraged to come out to fish. Donations will be used, as in past years, for fishery management(fish stocking, habitat improvement). Come out to fish for bragging rights and the chance to have your name added to the plaque at Stewart Hall! BCL badges, Fishing license and BCL boat sticker required.

## **LADIES LUNCHEON**

Lona Nelson and Sue Whiteley

Calling all BCL ladies to come out for our monthly luncheons. This is a fun activity and a good way to get acquainted with other Bear Creek Lakes ladies. Check your Recreation Activity Schedule for dates. We go to a different restaurant each month. Call Lona at 570 325 2698 or e-mail Sue at [whiteley@ptd.net](mailto:whiteley@ptd.net) if you have any questions or need a ride. We maintain an e-mail list to notify everyone of time and place for each luncheon. If you would like to be added to list, let us know. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the luncheons!



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## **LAKESIDE WORSHIP SERVICES SCHEDULED AGAIN**

Pastor Bill Thompson

Two lakeside worship services are again planned for this upcoming "summer" season. The first one will be held Memorial Day Weekend on Sunday, May 29th, and the second one will be held Labor Day Weekend on Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, both at 10:00 am. Both of them will be at South Beach, will last about a half-hour, and will be informal. My wife, Leta, has agreed to play her guitar for the services again.

Last year's services were well-attended and well-received with many suggesting that we ought to do them again. So, when Pat Stasyk from the Recreation Committee asked if we would do the two services this summer, we agreed to do so. We've had a nearly full beach and nearly perfect weather for all of our services so far. At last May's service we were blessed with an eagle flyover. I can't promise that will happen again, nor can I promise that we will have great weather (after all I am a snow lover, and you know how that worked out this past winter). As to eagle flyovers, I understand several eagles have been sighted over the lake in late March. Who knows, maybe even a bear will show up for a baptism in the lake (I've heard many stories of preachers baptizing bears).

Following the service we will again ascend the hill to Stewart Hall for refreshments and fellowship. We may even get to meet some of our neighbors for the first time. If the weather does not cooperate, we will use Stewart Hall for the services also (by the way, there is no snow date).

I hope to see you there, as we thank and praise God for His beautiful creation and the part of it in which we live.

## **ASTRONOMY, ANYONE?**

Rich Berger

A few years ago, a group did meet for stargazing, but seems to have disappeared.

Here at Bear Creek Lakes, we have relatively dark skies and the Milky Way can easily be seen on clear summer nights. We are far from the lights of NYC and Philadelphia. Although the current dry air makes us more susceptible to fires, it does provide for sharper views of the Moon and other celestial objects.

There are a number of good spots for observation: the beaches, the ball field, or maybe that big field on Behrens road (if we can get permission). The best dates for skywatching are around the time of the new moon, which occurs early in the month in spring/summer 2016. If anyone is interested in getting together for skywatching, please let me

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know. Bring your telescope, binoculars, or just your eyes. I can be contacted at [rberger5@ptd.net](mailto:rberger5@ptd.net).

## **NEWS FROM JIM THORPE'S DIMMICK MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Janet Hermann

Friends of the Dimmick Memorial Library

Well, have you read the news? The Dimmick Memorial Library is in financial trouble.

The Dimmick Memorial Library was built in

1889 and opened in 1890. It was funded though a trust established by Milton Dimmick who lived in Mauch Chunk and who died in 1884. It is a lovely cross gabled building, ornamented with terra cotta panels and set back from the street. In 1970 a devastating fire destroyed much of the building, necessitating rebuilding a good deal of the interior. The basic features of the great hall reading room remain intact.

The library serves Jim Thorpe, Nesquehoning, Penn Forest and Kidder townships. Although most libraries are funded though a dedicated tax millage, this is not the case for the Dimmick. Voluntary contributions from the districts served are limited. And though the state library regulations are strict, the state's allotment to the Dimmick covers only about 16% of its operating costs. The library has been functioning on the principle of Milton's endowment.

The Friends of the Library has been very active over the years in supporting and supplementing library programs and raising funds to contribute to library expenses. We have particularly loved working our weekly book sales at the Friends House. Although we raise a significant amount of money through these sales, the cost of maintaining the beautiful old Victorian home is no longer affordable. So the house is being sold, and the Friends members will work on new ways of raising money for the library.

Do you want to help? We are always looking for new Friends, and membership is free. For further information you can contact me at 570-325-8528 or at [friendsofthedimmick@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthedimmick@gmail.com). Or call the library at 570-325-2131.

### **MOVIE NIGHT**

Margo Schaefer

Stewart Hall is the place to be on the second Saturday of each month! Come join us for a

movie, popcorn, and soda – all free with your BCL badge. Doors open at 6:40 p.m. for the 7:00 p.m. showtime. Each month's movie selection is posted to the Calendar of Events at [bclca.org](http://bclca.org) during the week prior to Movie Night.

### **BEAR CREEK LAKES BOOK CLUB**

Leta Thompson

Our BCL Book Club is thriving! If you enjoy reading and discussing a wide variety of books, then Book Club is for you! We meet the Third Tuesday of each month from September through June at 10:00 am in Stewart Hall. We read and discuss one book each month. All books, both fiction and nonfiction, are selected by group consensus. We take turns facilitating the monthly discussions and bringing light refreshments to our meetings.

Our meetings are lively, and we learn from sharing and discussing diverse points of view on the selections we read. We value input from everyone. Our book selection process takes place in May for the following year. The Dimmick Memorial Library in Jim Thorpe supports us by making copies of our selected books available to our members. Each year our Reading List is posted on the BCL website, so check it out. Feel free to join us at any time throughout the year. If you have any questions, please contact Leta Thompson at (570) 325-2121 or at [drletat@gmail.com](mailto:drletat@gmail.com). Hope to see you there!

### **TEEN NIGHT POOL PARTY**

Denise Evans

Mark your calendars! The Teen Night Pool Party is set for [June 24th from 7 to 10 p.m.](#)

This is the night set aside and apart for the teens of our community to enjoy the pool with their peers. Cookout fare of burgers & hot dogs will be served and beverages will be provided. Come hang out, eat, swim, listen to some music and enjoy a night under the stars!

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In the event that the weather becomes an issue as it did last year, we'll make every effort to reschedule. Any changes in the date will be made to the BCL online calendar, via bulletin board postings and on the Friends of BCL Facebook page.

## **BCL APPAREL**

On June 8, 2015, I officially took over the responsibilities and privilege of handling the BCL Apparel orders. On that date, I inherited a stock of BCL sweatshirts and a handful of catalogs! Thanks to Edie Boyer's direction and advice, and the wonderful personal service I am afforded at Valley Athletic, I was able to jump right in. As with any new adventure, there is a learning curve. This first year has taught me much and presented opportunities to make changes and corrections along the way.

There is an outstanding balance of \$228.00 on the invoice for the original sweatshirt stock. Because I have seen a desire for a wider choice of color options, and turn-around time is only 2 weeks with no required minimum, I will not be holding sweatshirt stock in the future.

Embroidery orders for fleece have been the most popular. Excluding an outstanding order at this writing, we have taken in \$492.00 in orders, netting a profit of \$130.00.

While brainstorming alternative methods of fundraising within the scope of BCL apparel, I started to experiment with the idea of creating

unique t-shirt designs, intending to offer something new every year. During the Fall General meeting, I introduced my idea and it was received very favorably. In response to the many requests, comments and suggestions I received, I began taking pre-orders for a variety of shirt types and sizes, including Kids' short sleeve, Women's v-neck short sleeve, Men's short sleeve and Unisex long sleeve t-shirts. The cost of the original order exceeded the available budget, so my husband and I decided to self-fund the venture.

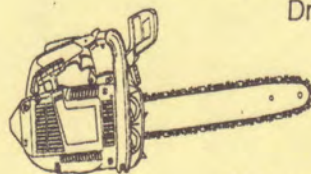
T-shirt sales have grossed \$1053.00 so far, but we are currently \$105.00 shy of breakeven. I'm certain that come summer, the remaining stock will sell out and we will be able to turn over the estimated profit of \$670.00 to the Board. In the future, launch of any new t-shirts will occur in the Spring/Summer to avoid stock retention and make sales and delivery more convenient for our community members.

If you haven't done so yet, check out the online BCL Apparel catalog. It can be accessed through the BCLCA web page ([www.BCLCA.org](http://www.BCLCA.org)) under the Community Info tab. Available sweatshirt and t-shirt stock is listed as are many orderable items that have been popular in the past. If there is something that you're looking for but it isn't on the site, drop me a note using the Contact form. Additional contact information is listed there, as well. I look forward to serving you!



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## BEAR CREEK LAKES PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Michael Gaul

The Bear Creek Lakes Photography Club is looking for all levels of photographers in the community. We meet on the second Saturday of the month from 3-5 at Stewart Hall. Our purpose is to share stories about trips we have photographed and to offer instruction on techniques we have learned, along with ideas for local trips to practice our growing skills. So, please join us for a lesson, an outing, or to share your photography skills and photos. We have a separate Facebook page - Bear Creek Lakes Photography Group - so we do not overload the Friends of BCL page with pictures. All information concerning the club can be located on that page. No access to Facebook? Contact Michael Gaul – 484-614-2112.

## POOL SNACK CART

Summer is just around the corner, the pool will be opening Memorial Day weekend, and the snack cart will be open for business. We load it down with snacks, which include candy, chips, and cookies, but mostly energy food for the kids - CANDY!

We are open for business for at least 2 hours in the afternoon when the pool is open. Volunteers maintain the cart when they are available and all funds go back to the pool and other recreation activities. Last year we purchased umbrellas, noodles and a clock for the pool; prizes for the golf cart parade; \$190 donation for kids pool day; and \$150 to the Fishery Committee. If you volunteer to help out with any of our recreation events and in need of funds, let us know and we will see what we can do.

Our snack cart is presently getting an overhaul, including the addition for 2 more wheels to

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## SPRING/SUMMER RECREATION SCHEDULE – 2016

### EVENTS OCCURRING AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

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

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

**TGIF** – Fridays @6PM starting June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bring a dish to share – BYOB

**Water Aerobics** – Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday @ 10 AM at the pool, starting June 13<sup>th</sup>

### MAY

Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> **Clean Up Day** – 10AM @ Stewart Hall. If you have gardening tools, please bring them. Please contact Mike Brennan @ 610-772-5310

**Movie Night** – 7PM @ Stewart Hall. Free popcorn & soda, check website for details

Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> **Bear Creek Lakes Photography Club** - 3-5 PM @ Stewart Hall

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

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

**Hot Dogs** – at Pavilion after the General Meeting

**Horseshoes & Bocce** – first day

**Beach Party** – North Beach, 8 PM

Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> **Church Service** 10 AM @ South Beach. Bring chairs. Light refreshments at Stewart Hall following services.

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

### JUNE

Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> **TGIF** begins @ 6 PM at the Pavilion

Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> **Ladies Luncheon** – call Lona Nelson @ 570-325-2698

Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> **5K Run & 3K Walk** – Registration begins at 8:30 AM @ Stewart Hall

**Movie Night** – 7PM @ Stewart Hall. Check website for details

**Bear Creek Lakes Photography Club** - 3-5 PM @ Stewart Hall

Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> **Water Aerobics** – begins at 10 AM at the Pool, weather permitting

**Pool opens daily** – 11 AM – 7 PM, weather permitting

Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> **Adult Fishing Tournament** - Fishing contest fundraiser for ages 16+, 7AM – 12PM

**Music Night with Nightwind** – 6-10 PM @ the Pavilion. Free Admission. Music of the 80's & 90's. BYOB.

Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> **Rain date** for Adult Fishing Tournament

Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> **Teen Nite at the Pool** - 7-10 PM. Check website and bulletin board for details.

Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> **Progressive Yard Sale** – 9 AM – 3 PM. Look on bulletin board and website for more information. Call Ron McCloskey @ 570-325-5348

Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> **Pool open late** – Until 9 PM on Thursday, Friday & Saturday nights, until Labor Day Weekend

### JULY

Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup> **BCL Golf Tournament** – White Birch Golf Course, tee off @ 9 AM.

Sign up at the office or by contacting Bob Skiffington

([bskiffin@gmail.com](mailto:bskiffin@gmail.com), 570-732-4139) or Larry Erra

([larryerra@hotmail.com](mailto:larryerra@hotmail.com), 267-679-7979) by Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Ice Cream Night** – 6 PM @ the Pool. Ice cream & toppings, Make your own.

Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> **Golf Cart and Bike Parade** – Registration 11-12 @Stewart Hall, hot dogs after parade. See website and bulletin boards for details.

Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> **Pool Day** – for children and their guardians with registration starting at 12. Weather permitting. Games from 12:30 to 3:30. Pool is closed to all others until 4:30 PM.  
**Bear Creek Lakes Photography Club** - 3-5 PM @ Stewart Hall

Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> **Movie Night** – 7PM @ Stewart Hall. Check website for details.  
**Ladies Luncheon** – call Lona Nelson @ 570-325-269

Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> **Children's Triathlon** – 11 AM, check bulletin boards and website for details.  
**Children's Scavenger Hunt** – 1 PM @ Pavilion, check bulletin boards and website for details.  
**Pig Roast** – 5 PM. Call Pat for tickets @ 570-325-3280. Check bulletin boards and website for further details.

Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> **Children's Fishing Tournament** – 8 AM – 11:30  
Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> **Rain date for Children's Fishing Tournament**

### AUGUST

Thursday, August 11<sup>t</sup> **Ladies Luncheon** – call Lona Nelson @ 570-325-2698

Saturday, August 13 **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.  
**Bear Creek Lakes Photography Club** - 3-5 PM @ Stewart Hall  
**Movie Night** – 7PM @ Stewart Hall. Check website for details.

Saturday, August 20 **Chicken Dinner** – 5 PM. Call Pat for tickets @ 570-325-3280.

Saturday, August 27 **Basketball Shoot-Out** – 10 AM @ Basketball courts  
**Tennis Tournament** – 11 AM @ Tennis Courts

### SEPTEMBER

Sat, September 3<sup>rd</sup> **General Meeting** – 10AM @ Penn Forest Fire Company 1, Rt. 903

Sat, September 4<sup>th</sup> **Church Services** – 10 AM @ South Beach. Bring chairs. Light refreshments at Stewart Hall following services.

### BEAR CREEK LAKES INFORMATION

Office: 570-325-3334	Fax: 570-325-8156
Security: 570-325-9322	Maintenance: 570-325-8270
Email: <a href="mailto:BCLCA@PTD.NET">BCLCA@PTD.NET</a>	Website: WWW.BCLCA.ORG

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*[www.carboncountyhomepage.com](http://www.carboncountyhomepage.com)*

make it more mobile. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who give their time to service our community. Their reward is the joy of a child and a smile on a little one's face. However we are in need of a few more of these dedicated individuals, even if it's only one or two times a month. We could also use more shoppers; those who have a Sam's Club, BJ's and/or Costco membership would be most welcome. If you would like to help in any way, send an email to [genie.ljk@verizon.net](mailto:genie.ljk@verizon.net). See you at the pool!

## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **JOHN KANE**

John Kane of Midway Drive, went to heaven suddenly on the Ides of October - Oct. 15, 2015. John graduated from Monsignor Bonner H.S. in Upper Darby, and then continued on to Murrell Dobbins Tech in Philadelphia. He earned his political science degree at St. Joseph's University and later his teaching certificate at West Chester University. In his golden years, John was a "Legendary Bartender" of the famous Molly Maguire's Pub and Steakhouse of Jim Thorpe, where he served drinks and joy for the past 11 years. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Janet, his sons Greg, Paul and John; 3 grandchildren, and his sister Pat Buckley.

### **ROSS BARTLESON**

Ross Bartleson of Midway Drive, died peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family Friday, Oct. 16, 2015. Ross was a retired education administrator and teacher with the Pennsbury School District and retired after 35 years with the district. Ross enjoyed playing golf and spending time at Bear Creek Lakes and winters in Florida. He was the loving husband of Jacqueline, and father of Bryan, Bruce, Bonnie and Betsy. Ross was not only a grandfather of 6, he was also a great grandfather.

### **THOMAS HICKS**

Tom Hicks of Cottonwood Drive and formerly of Roxborough, passed away Thursday, December 3, 2015. He was the husband of Nancy. They had been married for 59 years. He was a graduate of Philadelphia University College and earned a degree in criminal justice. Tom retired as a sergeant from the Philadelphia police force. He then worked in fraud and investigation. In addition to his wife Nancy, Tom is survived by their 3 children, Thomas, Debra, James; 4 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren.

### **MARLENE LAUTT**

Marlene Lautt , husband of Dave Lautt of Dogwood Drive passed away on November 5, 2015.

### **MARGARET SONDERN**

Margie Sondern died on October 11th, 2015. A long time resident of our lake community, she could be seen most mornings - and often late in the day, walking her dog along our wooded roads and paths. She was always happy to converse with one and all who came her way - be it human or animal. Early on she walked 'Kate' an Airedale, then 'Lil'Guy', a Welsh Terrier, and last - her favorite, 'Bobby', a Cairn Terrier - who survives her, and misses her - as do her husband, Ferd and her two daughters, Wendy and Susan.

She died at 90 no longer able to make the long trips north these last few years - but missed the Poconos and the Pennsylvania hills terribly at times. She was a Jersey girl but a graduate of Bucknell and liked to recall the many train trips from home to school in Lewisburg and the little towns the conductor would call out - including what was then still Mauck Chunk, now Jim Thorpe.

She was an assistant art director in New York when Ferd came to the big city to ply his trade in the art world. They met and knew immediately that they were "made for each

other" - 'though it took him all of 8 months to convince her of that. Now, after 63 years - with occasional "options to renew", they were pretty well convinced that their first assessment of each other was 'true and profound'.

As to her family background: She was an only child , with one cousin - but not spoiled; rather brought up to be a "good soldier" and something of a stoic, being raised by a school teacher mom and a father, a research chemist who actually worked with Thomas Edison in his laboratory in West Orange, N.J.

She and Ferd had 3 children, Peter, Wendy and Sue. Their oldest, Peter, died in an accident at age 30. But Margie leaves behind an ever growing family of a variety of relatives and a dwindling assortment of old friends.

She died at home in Florida after a long battle against RA and lung infections. With her were her daughters,, Wendy and Sue, and her husband, Ferd - and her now perpetually sad, but understanding, Bobby.

### **JOSEPH MONTANARO**

Joseph G. Montanaro age 85, formerly of Mantua, passed away on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 in Isanti, Minnesota. Joe enjoyed spending time with his family as well as golfing and going to his Pocono home. Husband of the late Pearl Montanaro, he is survived by his sons, David J. (Dawn) of Mantua, Michael D. of Columbus, Ohio, Grandsons, Daniel (Gina) & Matthew (Meaghann) Montanaro.

### **BILL ACKERMANN**

Bill Ackerman of Indian Trail, passed away Thursday, Feb. 4, 2016. He was the husband of Mary Sue (Dunlap). They had celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary on Aug. 25. Born in Mauch Chunk, graduated from Summit Hill High School and was a Korean War veteran in the U.S. Air Force. Bill was very active in the community; member of the Jim Thorpe School Board for 24 years, member of St. John's Lutheran church council for 10 years, member of the Tri County Drug &

ETOH, member and past Master of Carbon Lodge #242 F&AM Masons. He had coached the St. Joe's CYO Hammers Basketball Team, and he was on the board and coached at the Jim Thorpe Knee Hi Football Program. He also served with the Carbon County Children & Youth. Besides his wife, he is survived by three sons; seven grandchildren; one great grandchild.

### **EDWARD J. HILLANBRAND**

Edward J. Hillanbrand of Behrens Road, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 2. He was the loving husband of Helen and celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary in September, 2015. He was a member of the National Catholic Cemetery Conference; the Cathedral/St. Catharine of Siena Catholic Church, Allentown; St. Joseph Catholic Church, Jim Thorpe; and the Knights of Columbus, Council No. 528, Allentown, and Council No. 10772, Lake Harmony. Surviving in addition to his widow are a daughter and three sons and eight grandchildren.

### **FELICIA H. DUNLAP**

Felicia H. Dunlap, 99, of Bear Creek Lakes, Jim Thorpe, passed away on Wednesday, March 30, in her home, surrounded by her family. She was the widow of Robert B. Dunlap, who died Sept. 9, 2009.

Born in Shenandoah, she was a daughter of the late Jacob and Victoria (Baranak) Twardzik.

She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Jim Thorpe.

She loved her family and enjoyed traveling and taking walks around Bear Creek Lakes.

Surviving are a son, Gerald Richard, and his wife, Beulah Ann, of Grundy, VA; a daughter, Mary Sue Ackerman of Jim Thorpe; 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and numerous great-great-grandchildren.

Two sons, Robert B. Jr. and Paul J, also predeceased her.





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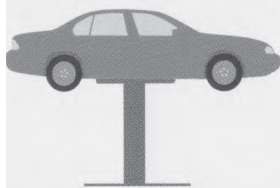
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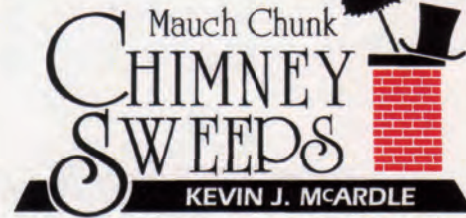
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