

# Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News

Winter Edition 2018



## Letter From the President of the Board of Managers – submitted by Ted Martin

As I begin this column it remains hard for me to believe that almost an entire year has passed since I took on the role of president of the Campmeeting Board of Managers. Words are often not enough to describe the place. I find myself using “quirky” often, along with “warm” and “friendly” and “chatty.” I’m not a full-time resident, but I often feel more connected to the people I know in the Campmeeting than I do those I see regularly at my everyday residence. There is a true sense of community that is unsurpassed. Be there and you’ll know it. Get to know your neighbors and the crazy quilt of streets that so lovingly hold it all together and that feeling of community is simply unmistakable. When I’m not there I want to be there, and when I leave I can’t wait to return. It’s in my bloodstream. It just is.

Over the past months I know that I have asked the Board of Managers to do a lot. To be more visible. To be even more responsive to the community. To tackle tough problems. To be open to conversations. To look for common ground in facing challenges. I know they have lived-up to that request, and I hope I have too.

We’ve worked hard to listen to the community. In the beginning of the year we surveyed the

community to help us create a strategic plan for 2018. There have been four public sessions where you’ve been able to ask questions and learn about our initiatives, I’ve held monthly community office hours at the Pizzeria or the Library where I’m often joined by board members, we’ve had regular newsletters and electronic communications, our August Board meeting was actually a walking tour of the grounds which was open to all residents, and we’ve never been shy to talk about the challenges we face with infrastructure and water and trees and trash and sewage to name but a few.

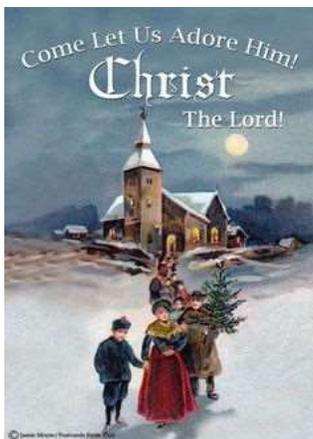
In early summer we completed a relining of the complicated sewer line on First Street and at the Library. Pipes that were put into the ground over a century ago were delicately worked-on and hopefully made whole. It was an expensive project expertly guided and brought to completion by former Superintendent Ed Neidigh. We’ve worked hard to routinize tree maintenance and in October were awarded a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to address our aging water system. All big projects, and all pointing out the immense attention we’ll continue to need to pay to our infrastructure. Lastly and not least, we brought on a new Superintendent, Doug Cheney, all with the eye to providing you



with the same maintenance service you've come to expect and ensuring our community will continue being beautiful and eye-catching.

The coming year will not be any easier or any less complicated. We face more infrastructure challenges and will need to determine our future direction with trash pick-up as well as with our well and water system. Neither will be simple, turnkey solutions. Both will most likely bring with them some element of change too. I also hope to move the Board toward finding an equitable approach toward the balance of full-time residents and rental property owners. All while working to ensure that our community isn't irreparably torn by misinformation, anger and an unwillingness to find middle ground in problem-solving.

Perhaps I am naïve. But I still believe that reasonable people can find solutions and even when they disagree remain friends. That will remain foremost in my thoughts as we head into 2019 and I know that together we can master every challenge. I wish you and your families and loved ones a wonderful holiday season and an especially grand new year.



### **O Come, All Ye Faithful**

The Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church invites you to come and celebrate the joy and love of Christmas. Christmas Eve Candlelight Services are scheduled at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. on December 24,

2018. All are welcome. For more information: [www.mtgretnachurch.org](http://www.mtgretnachurch.org).

Additional church events include: Mt. Gretna Nursery School is offered weekday mornings for

three-year-olds and four-year-olds from September to May. The youth ministry meets on Sundays from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. in the basement of the church. Summer Bible School, Wet 'n Wacky Wednesdays take place during the summer for children in pre-school through sixth grade.

### **6th Annual Buzzard Drop to Celebrate 2019**

Welcoming in the New Year in the Campmeeting is one for the birds—literally.

The Sixth Annual Buzzard Drop to celebrate 2019 will take place at Third Street and Glossbrenner Avenue near the Tabernacle on Sunday, Dec. 31. Bird watchers are welcome throughout the evening although in other years, most have arrived after 11:00 p.m. to socialize.

For early-bird celebrants looking for a sneak preview, the buzzard will take to its perch around 3 p.m.

Previous bird drops have included photo ops with the buzzard, a midnight chorus of “Auld Lang Syne,” and refreshments from cookies to soup brought by celebrants. Coffee and refreshments will be available.

Since the inaugural bird drop in 2014, the event has grown in popularity.



### **From the Tool Shed**—submitted by Doug Cheyney

I want to thank the board members, committee members and residents of the Campmeeting for allowing me and my team from Cheyney Property Maintenance to be a part of your community. We look forward to meeting all of

you and helping with all your needs. Please don't be shy to introduce yourself, we intend to do the same. I personally want to thank Ed Neidigh for helping us with a smooth transition. He has been one of the many individuals in making this all come together . . . thanks Ed!

We have been very busy since October with leaves, debris and many projects that encompass the operations of the neighborhood. I will be submitting updates during the Buildings and Grounds Committee meetings. These will be included with the board minutes and posted to the MGCA website. We are currently working on the schedule of projects for 2019.

Look for more information this winter about our meet and greet cook out, hosted by Cheyney Property Maintenance in the spring of 2019. It should be a fun time—we will provide food, drink, entertainment, and even have some things for the kids. Please come by and say hello!

My staff and I are very knowledgeable on various areas in the property maintenance field. Our amenities include; landscape design and installation, water feature design and build, outdoor lighting installation, hardscaping, home inspection, excavation and much more. We started our journey in 1996, have well-trained and experienced employees, and we continue to strive to get better in our operations. Please give us a call if you need help in any of these areas.

Happy Holidays from all of us at Cheyney Property Maintenance!



### Christmas Tree Removal

Place live, undecorated trees (please, no ornaments/lights) by the curb for pick-up and removal no later than January 31, 2019.

### Mt. Gretna Fire Department - Station 38, Community Events



Interested in volunteering at the Fire Department? If you'd like to volunteer at fund raising events, contact Karen Lynch. Interested in being a volunteer firefighter—contact the station at 717-964-3511. Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information and events, and mark your calendars . . .

January 19, 2019

Pasta Night from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Enjoy dinner with a donation to the fire company. Dinner includes several pasta dishes, non-alcoholic drinks and desserts. If you'd like, feel free to BYOB.

### Mt. Gretna Roller Rink

Let's make Saturday, December 22nd the 1st Annual Santa's Frenzy at Mt. Gretna Roller Rink. From 1:30 p.m. until 4 p.m. let's get as



many Santa Clauses skating at one time as possible! Get out your Santa suits and holiday outfits. Come, join in the fun. A live

Facebook feed of this event is planned for the Mount Gretna Roller Rink Facebook page. Don't forget, Saturday night organ music has returned to the Roller Rink; now through April.

### From the Office Volunteers Needed

Community members are invited to volunteer on committees of the MGCA Board of Managers. Choose your area of expertise. Meet your neighbors and make new friendships while making the Campmeeting a desirable place to live. A full committee roster is located within

this newsletter. The Board reappoints/appoints committee chairman at the January MGCA Board of Managers meeting for the 2019 calendar year. Contact the office (717-964-3040) for more information—or to volunteer.

### Winterizing Cottages

Cottage owners are strongly encouraged to properly winterize cottages and shut off water to avoid leaky pipes. If applicable, please shut water off in cottages, as well as the connection(s) at the street. Dripping faucets cause an unnecessary drain on the Campmeeting's water supply.

### Mark your Calendars

The MGCA Board of Managers meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church. MGCA Members are always welcome to attend. New board members will be recognized at the January meeting. The Buildings and Grounds Committee meets the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church. Again, Members are invited to attend. Through the winter months, if either meetings are cancelled/rescheduled due to weather, we will post this information to Mt. Gretna's social media pages.

### Be Respectful of Quiet Hours

Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. until 7 a.m. Monday through Saturday and all day on Sunday year round—please no leaf blowers!

### Rules & Regulations

In an ongoing effort to enforce Campmeeting Rules, in the third quarter (October-December) no warnings were issued for Rules violations, and no fines were issued.

### Pavilion Rental at Heritage Park

Plan ahead for next season . . . the Heritage Park pavilion is available for rental on a first-come, first-served basis. The pavilion is available from April through October. The rental fee is \$25 along with a \$25 security deposit. Be advised, rental is for the pavilion-only. The surrounding

park area, playground and rest rooms remain available to the public. Contact [office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org) for additional details, or to request a rental application. Debby—the fees will need to be updated to reflect the 2019 budget. Thank you.

### Update your Association Membership Contact Information

If you've changed your phone number, mailing address, email address or any other contact information, please notify the Campmeeting office. Email communication is preferred.

### Thank You

In addition to the Cheyney Property Maintenance Crew, we would like to thank Campmeeting's "secret army" of community volunteers. Allow us to thank you during this holiday season for your year-round efforts to make Campmeeting such a special place. Looking out for your neighbor's cottages, taking that garbage can from the curb when you neighbors are gone . . . for gathering leaves after pick-up season ends, roadside debris from route 117, and for keeping our parks and public areas planted, weeded, cleaned and free of debris—we thank you! You never ask for recognition; but you help to keep our grounds looking great. You are our silent ambassadors, our neighbors and friends. For that, we truly thank YOU.



## COMMITTEE ROSTER

*Are you interested in volunteering? Contact [office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org) or speak with any MGCA Board/Committee member.*

### Executive

Ted Martin—President  
Mary Kopala—Vice President  
Sally Marisic—Treasurer  
Margaret Hopkins—Secretary

### Buildings & Grounds

Ted Martin—Chair  
Larry Bowman  
Scott Carr  
Margaret Hopkins  
Doug Lorenzen  
Bob Travitz

### Communications

Kevin Burd—Chair  
Pam Bishop  
Deborah Erb  
Sally Marisic

### Community Activities

Tammy Travitz—Chair  
Esther Mefferd

### Finance

Sally Marisic—Chair  
Larry Bowman  
Kevin Burd  
Margaret Hopkins  
Mary Kopala  
Ted Martin

### Nominations

Esther Mefferd—Chair  
Pam Bishop  
Kevin Burd  
Mary Kopala

### Property Ownership

Pam Bishop—Chair  
Kevin Burd  
Lisa Carr  
Barb Myers

### Recreation

Margaret Hopkins—Chair

### Ad Hoc Archive

George Resh—Chair  
Esther Mefferd  
Ted Martin

### Ad Hoc Library

Lisa Carr—Chair  
Kristi Donahue  
Mary Kopala  
Sally Marisic  
Michelle Shay  
Joan Sherman  
Val Swarr

### Ad Hoc Policy

Margaret Hopkins—Chair  
Pam Bishop  
Sally Marisic  
Deborah Erb

### Ad Hoc Rental Committee

Jon Green—Chair  
Mary Kopala  
Bob Rader  
Val Swarr  
Tammy Travitz  
Justin Williams

### Tabernacle Association

Larry Bowman—President  
Esther Mefferd—Vice-  
President  
Tom Heberling—Secretary  
David Pierce—Treasurer  
Kevin Burd

Bruce Gettle  
Margaret Hopkins  
Bob Kettering  
Mary Kopala  
Sally Marisic  
Ted Martin

## **The Board of Managers**

and the year through which they serve

President, Ted Martin (2020)  
Vice-President, Mary Kopala (2019)  
Treasurer, Sally Marisic (2018)  
Secretary, Margaret Hopkins (2019)

Pam Bishop (2020)  
Larry Bowman (2018)  
Kevin Burd (2020)  
Lisa Carr (2018)  
Esther Mefferd - Tabernacle Assoc. Rep.  
George Resh (2018)  
Tammy Travitz (2019)

## **Committee Chairs**

Buildings & Grounds - Ted Martin  
Communications - Kevin Burd  
Community Activities - Tammy Travitz  
Executive - Ted Martin  
Finance - Sally Marisic  
Nominations - Esther Mefferd  
Property Ownership - Pam Bishop  
Recreation - Margaret Hopkins  
Ad-Hoc Archive Committee - George Resh  
Ad-Hoc Library Committee - Lisa Carr  
Ad-Hoc Policy Committee - Pam Bishop  
Ad Hoc Rental Committee - Jon Green

Superintendent: Doug Cheyney (717) 454-7693  
[Superintendent@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org](mailto:Superintendent@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org)  
Office Manager: Debby Erb (717) 964-3040  
[Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org](mailto:Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org)