

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News



Summer Edition 2019



Letter from the President

*submitted by Ted Martin, President MGCA
Board of Managers*

With the season now upon us, the work of the Board of Managers moves with it. Over the year we've been gathering information and working to understand our challenges in their entirety and now it is time for us to make some decisions on the next infrastructure project, potentially our water and pumping system, and trash collection. The issues we are facing are hard and complicated without easy solutions or simple implementation. However, they must be addressed sensibly and thoughtfully since each of them potentially involve changing our habits and living in the place differently.

We've had many discussions about infrastructure and storm water management. Two superintendents have weighed-in on the most concerning spots for them and now it is our responsibility to make a plan to address these areas of potential problems. In order to do that, we are looking at engaging a professional engineer to weigh the severity of the need, to outline costs and timing and materials in a necessary feasibility plan that will help us to prioritize, build budgets that support each project, and go out for bid for each. Hopefully by this process we will be able to determine the health of the culverts at the Kauffman entrance and on First Street near the garages, of the roadbeds of Markwood Avenue, and the Carter Lot. All have been identified as potential areas of concern and our goal is to first create a sensible plan that will address them in priority fashion without breaking the budget.

This spring we addressed issues involving our water pump house quickly when our temporary pump gave way. We responded very fast and luckily this work is covered by a grant from the

PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). We were able to thoroughly meet the challenge of replacing the pump and old and inefficient piping and repair some long-damaged pipes in the process. We worked closely with the Mt. Gretna Water Authority throughout the work, buying water from their reserve, and using expertise from the staff of the Mt. Gretna Borough to make repairs and direct work that will improve water pressure and hopefully bring us some savings gained through efficiency. There is still more work to be done on this project and joining the Mt. Gretna Water Authority is another matter for discussion. The Campmeeting is a small water system and DEP is making it clear statewide that they favor consolidation of small water systems. They are also promulgating stricter rules to protect our drinking water statewide as well. Just two more challenges.

Finally, the issue of trash. A simple decision you would think, and we've done a pretty good job of narrowing down the options. We could



QUIET SEASON:

July 15 – August 31

Community members, renters and guests—quiet hours are observed throughout the Campmeeting daily, round-the-clock during the “Quiet Season.” This is in effect from July 15 through August 31. Summer programming continues, so please be respectful of your neighbors.

choose not to change anything; we could try a hybrid plan of trash collection on drivable streets and dumpsters, or a plan that calls for one location with just dumpsters. All of these options come with numerous moving parts: the location of dumpsters, the costs of building a secure enclosure around dumpsters, how to make dumpsters accessible for all and not easy targets for dumping, identifying drivable streets, what to do with recycling now that costs around its collection and disposal have skyrocketed since China stopped buying America's recycling, and how to save money, to name only a few.

As I have said already, none of these issues come with simple, turnkey solutions and we have worked hard to understand them as fully as possible. They all must be addressed, and that will be our goal. I remain committed to seeing them through as best I can, and I ask all of you to work with us on the board—volunteers and neighbors all—as we wrestle with pressing challenges that literally make-up the very foundation of our special community. I look forward to providing you with an update at the Annual Meeting in July. Let me close by thanking the members of the Board of Managers. They have clocked many, many hours in hard work to address and understand our challenges. For all the care and thought, and sweat and frustration and time they have put into numerous meetings and hours of volunteer service we should all be incredibly thankful and grateful.

“Ted-Time” – Office Hours for the President of the MGCA

MGCA President holds “office hours” from 10 a.m. until noon on the first Saturday of each month. In the off-season, Ted can be found at the Mt. Gretna Pizzeria. However, from June through August his office moves to the Mt. Gretna Community Library. From time to time, other board members will join Ted—but there's always room for more!



Mt. Gretna Outdoor Art Show – MGCA Ticket Pick-Up

The Mt. Gretna Outdoor Art Show is once again providing two tickets per MGCA Member as a thank you for our community support of the art show. Tickets will be available for pick-up at 201 Sixth Street (Lazy Dog Cottage, southeast corner of Sixth Street & Otterbein Avenue). Access the porch from the steps on Otterbein Avenue at one of the following dates/times:

Saturday, June 29, 2019: 9 a.m. until Noon.

Sunday, June 30, 2019: 4 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Saturday, July 13, 2019: 9 a.m. until Noon.

Sunday, July 14, 2019: 4 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Tuesday, July 16 immediately following the MGCA Board of Managers meeting,

Saturday, July 27 at the Annual Meeting.

If additional dates/times are chosen, those “pop-up” times will be added to Mt. Gretna social media sites.

If you would like your tickets mailed to you, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Campmeeting office by Monday, August 5th:

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association, Inc.

ATTN: Art Show Ticket Request

P.O. Box 428

Mt. Gretna, PA 17064

The Campmeeting does not receive additional tickets to sell. If you would like additional Art Show tickets, they can be purchased at the event for \$12, or go to <http://www.mtgretnaarts.com/store.php> to purchase advance tickets for \$10 or \$18 for a two-day pass (11 and under, free-of-charge). The Art Show opens August 17 from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. and August 18 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Volunteer positions may still be available as well; if you would like to volunteer, please call the Art Show office at (717) 964-3270.



Annual MGCA Membership Meeting, Election and Community Picnic

Elections to fill three (3) seats on the Board of Managers will take place during the Annual Meeting of the Campmeeting membership on July 27, 2019. Individuals serve for a three-year term (2020-2022) beginning in January 2020. Seven (7) MGCA members have submitted their names. Of the seven, three (3) are incumbents, including (alphabetically):

- Don Dale, 505 Mills Avenue
- Karrie Hontz, 309 Seventh Street
- Margaret Hopkins, 505 Glossbrenner Avenue (incumbent)
- Mary Kopala, 609 Sixth Street (incumbent)
- Valerie Swarr, 301 Bell Avenue
- Tamra Travitz, 502 Second Street (incumbent)
- Patricia Wilmsen, 400 Glossbrenner Avenue

ELIGIBILITY & ABSENTEE BALLOTS

“The members of the Association shall be all persons who are homeowners within the Campmeeting Grounds” (MGCA Bylaws, Art. V, Section 1.). However, there are limitations on members’ voting rights. Article V, Section 11, states: “The homeowners within the Campmeeting Grounds are entitled to one (1) vote, in person, by ballot or by mail for each home, however, that (a) joint owners of a single home shall be entitled to one (1) vote for that household; (b) the owner or owners of two or more homes in the Campmeeting Grounds shall be entitled to only one (1) vote; and (c) under no circumstances shall any home, household or individual be entitled to more than one (1) vote.”

In other words, there is only one vote/ballot per household, and owner(s) of multiple cottages are entitled to only one vote/ballot. Members

should decide who will cast the vote for joint owners. The MGCA office maintains a list of the eligible voters; eligible voters will cast their votes during the Annual Meeting & Picnic.

Any eligible voter who is unable to attend the meeting is eligible to vote by absentee ballot. “Absentee ballots may be arranged, on an individual-request basis if all expense is borne by the requestor and a properly marked ballot reaches the judge of the election prior to the closing of the polling place (MGCA Bylaws, Article VI, Section 5. Election of Managers, g.). If you intend to request an absentee ballot, please use the following steps:

1. Send the request, in writing or by e-mail, to the following:

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association, Inc.
ATTN: Absentee Ballot
P.O. Box 428
Mt. Gretna, PA 17064, or
office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org

2. Your absentee ballot request must be received no later than Friday, July 12, 2019.

3. The absentee ballot will be returned to the eligible voter along with instructions to return the completed ballot inside a separate sealed envelope.

4. Ballots must be received by the MGCA Office Manager/Judge of Elections no later than Friday, July 26, 2019.

VOTING & POLLING PLACE

The election will take place at the Mt. Gretna Fire Company on Saturday, July 27, 2019. Members can cast ballots immediately following the annual meeting. All votes [including absentee ballots] must be cast/received by 4 p.m.

ELECTION BOARD

“The Election Board, by the authority of the Board and with the approval of the Board of Managers, shall consist of a Manager (who shall act as judge) and two (2) members of the Association who shall act as inspectors). No person who is a candidate for office shall act as a judge or inspector (MGCA Charter & Bylaws, Section 13. Election Board). Several MGCA

Members have offered to fill these positions. The Nominations Committee will review the list of volunteers and present their recommendation for approval at the July Board of Managers meeting. The Election Board will be immediately notified of their role in the election/voting process

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

Candidates submitted a full Bio/Letter of Interest, as well as a 50-word summary for this Newsletter article. Below you will find the summaries numbered in alphabetic order. Please, go to the MGCA website; familiarize yourself with the full Bios for each candidate.

1. DON DALE

MGCA Member since 2012; serves on B&G committee (previous Chairperson) since 2013. Don previously served on the MGCA board from 2015-2017. Don owns a Lancaster-based residential design firm, and provides MGCA with his expertise in the design and construction industry, as well as donating time to improve the community.

2. KARRIE HONTZ

Karrie Hontz is a recently retired healthcare research executive, with extensive non-profit volunteer leadership experience, including past Board president of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Montgomery County. Currently a docent at the Mt. Gretna Historical Society Museum and a Penn State Master Gardener. Committed to preserving our unique, historic community.

3. MARGARET HOPKINS (incumbent)

A fourth-generation Campmeeting member, I serve as secretary on the Board of Managers and am a member of the Board's Parks, Building & Grounds, and Library committees. I also volunteer with the Art Show, Gretna Music, and Gretna Theatre. I work as a researcher at Penn State College of Medicine.

4. MARY KOPALA (incumbent)

A former university administrator and long-time Mt. Gretna Campmeeting cottage owner, I have proven my commitment to the values and traditions of this community through my

extensive service record: Board of Managers—member and Vice President; Tabernacle Association—member; member of six committees and chairperson of two others.

5. VALERIE SWARR

As a 17-year resident and former business owner, I've spearheaded fundraising for the Mt. Gretna Fire Company and served on the Library and Rental Committees. I've been involved with the Historical Society, Arts Council, and Gretna Theatre. I have a deep love and appreciation for Campmeeting's history and traditions.

6. TAMRA TRAVITZ (incumbent)

Tammy Travitz has been a board member since 2016 and is currently seeking re-election. She is chairing the Community Activities Committee, organizing and presenting the Heritage Festival, Porch Sale and the Annual Membership Meeting & picnic. Tammy is a retired math teacher who has a deep interest in facilitating community relationships.

7. PATRICIA WILMSEN

While representing your interest in Campmeeting, volunteering to serve, listening to Members, and responding to their concerns, I will vote to represent the entire community. As a member of the MGCA Policy & Procedure Committee, I have spent many hours learning the ins and outs of our Charter and Bylaws.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

If you have any questions about the nominations and voting process, please feel free to speak to a member of the Nominating Committee:

- Esther Mefford, Committee Chair
- Pam Bishop
- Kevin Burd
- Ted Martin (ex-officio)

For any other questions/concerns, please contact: MGCA office at office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org or 717-964-3040.



A gentlemen's quoit contest, from an English print

2019 Quoits Season is Underway

Submitted by MGCA Board Member, Larry Bowman

If you have ever played the game of horseshoes and would like to try a similar game, join us for quoits on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. this summer and fall at the Rt. 117 quoit bed pavilion located across from the miniature golf course. Help keep alive a part of the Campmeeting's recreational history dating to the very early years of the last century. Quoits, which is a game similar to horseshoes, requires no prior experience, and both newcomers and more experienced quoit throwers are welcomed.

Each Saturday morning, you'll find an impromptu group of anywhere from six to ten of your friends and neighbors from throughout Mt. Gretna who gather for some friendly quoits competition, for connecting with some of their neighbors and for catching up on Campmeeting and Mt. Gretna news. It's fun and also a great way to meet new friends from our community.

In the early decades of the twentieth century through World War II, quoits were a popular activity and were "thrown" or "pitched" in quoit bed areas in a number of locations throughout the Campmeeting. They were a popular activity for both participants and spectators. The set of quoit beds located along Rt. 117 are the only ones remaining today in the Campmeeting. Join the e-mail list for reminders about the Saturday morning quoit gatherings by contacting Campmeeting Member, Larry Bowman, at bowmanL322@comcast.net or at (717) 964-3803.



2019 Heritage Festival, an MGCA-Sponsored event series – Music under the Trees—submitted by Tammy Travitz, Community Activities Chair

The Heritage Festival is underway, and there are still two more concerts for this season! Join friends and neighbors for this family-friendly celebration, including:

July 6, 2019 – Colebrook Road

Winners of the 2016 D.C. Bluegrass Union's Mid Atlantic Bluegrass band contest in Washington D.C., winners of the 2015 Podunk Bluegrass Festival band contest in Hebron, CT, winners of the 2014 Watermelon Park Fest band contest in Berryville, VA, and winners of the 2011 Pickin' In The Panhandle Bluegrass Festival band contest in Martinsburg, WV, Colebrook Road has become a standout string band, a bluegrass powerhouse made up of five individuals whose sum is more than the total of their talents.

August 10, 2019 – The Youngers

Hailing from southeastern Pennsylvania, The Youngers were founded in 1999 by Todd Notobartolo (vocals, guitar, lap steel, and mandolin) and Randy Krater (vocals, electric and upright bass). Joining them are bandmates Matt Thren (guitar) and Bruce Kissinger (drums). They have shared stages with legends like the late Levon Helm at his famed "Midnight Ramble" and opened for Marty Stuart, Lee Rocker, David Allen Coe, and Wayne Hancock.

The Community Activities Committee volunteers are proud to present the 18th Annual Heritage Music Festival. Each season, this music festival is located at the Campmeeting Tabernacle. All performances are from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m., rain or shine. There is no price for

admission; all donations are welcomed with a \$10 donation appreciated. Come out and support local musicians. Information will be posted to the MGCA website, as well as the MTG Summer Calendar and www.mtgretna.com. The Tabernacle and Campmeeting grounds are smoke-free; alcohol is strictly prohibited in these public areas.

2019 Bible Festival, a Mt. Gretna Tabernacle Association sponsored event series - Christian Spritual Renewal in a Unique Victorian Setting

Tabernacle Worship Concerts, programs start at 7 p.m.

- Sunday Evening Worship Services & Concerts - 7 p.m. at the MGCA Tabernacle
- June 30, 2019—New Holland Band, directed by Dr. Kenneth Laudermilch.
- July 7, 2019—Piercing Word is presenting a new 2019 drama titled, “One Story.”
- July 14, 2019—Men in Harmony will present a concert titled, “Our God is . . .”
- July 21, 2019—Ron Susek, an evangelist, will preach and his wife, Diane, will lead us in worship through music.
- July 28, 2019—The Massed Choir, under the direction of Mary MacDonald.
- July 31, 2019—Brother in Grace (Wednesday Concert).
- August 3, 2019—a Festival of Handbells will ring to praise the glory of God, directed by Michael Joy (Saturday Concert).
- August 4, 2019—The National Christian Choir.
- August 7, 2019—the Hymns of Charles Wesley, led by Rev. Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer (Wednesday Concert).
- August 11, 2019—Pastor David Kieffer, Lancaster Westminster Presbyterian Church will lead the service, assisted by the choir.
- August 18, 2019—The Susquehanna Chorale, directed by Linda Teford.
- August 25, 2019—QuintEssentially Brass quintet.

Morning Worship Services - 10 a.m. at the MGCA Tabernacle

- July & August—services led by the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church, Rev. Michael Remel, Pastor. Communion is offered on the first Sundays.
- August 11, 2019—Dave Stahl and the Sacred Orchestra will lead the worship service.



Mt. Gretna Summer Concerts

Larry McKenna’s family-friendly, Mt. Gretna Summer Concerts continue at the Tabernacle:

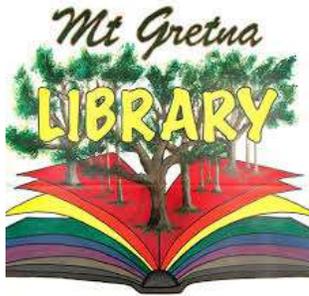
The schedule includes:

- Saturday, June 29, 2019—Parrothead Party: The Music of Jimmy Buffett. Larry McKenna, Rachel Dalton, Nora Fitzgerald, Abby Mosconi, Dennis Matthews and the band, “The Heat.” Put on your Hawaiian shirt and join us!
- Saturday, July 13, 2019—The Devil Came Down to Gretna. Vocalist and fiddler extraordinaire Jessika Brust brings her own band to the Tabernacle featuring a wide range of music with something for everyone. Also featuring Abby Mosconi and Maria Panvini.
- Saturday, July 20, 2019—the Music of James Taylor & Carly Simon. Andy Boettcher, Lauryn Obozian, Olivia Perrin, Jessika Brust, Larry McKenna and the band, “The Heat.”
- Saturday, July 27, 2019—One Fine Night: The Music of Carole King. Abby Mosconi, Ansley Livingston, Jessika Brust, Jen Buono and the band, “The Heat.”
- Saturday, August 17, 2019—Burt Bacharach Songbook. Rachel Hendrickson, Nerissa Wolfson, Kendyll Young, Jessika Brust and the band, “The Heat.”
- Saturday, August 24, 2019—Broadway’s Greatest Hits: A New Revue. Andy Boettcher, Jessika Brust, Maria Panvini,

Darryl Thompson, Gina Giachero and the band, "The Heat."

- Sunday, September 1, 2019—Divas through the Decades with the Girls of Summer. Rachel Hendrickson, Kate Nice, Maria Panvini, Jessika Brust, Larry McKenna and the band, "The Heat."

Sponsored by Your Financial Community of PA, Inc., all performances are from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. rain or shine. There is no price for admission; concerts are "pay-what-you-want." The Tabernacle and Campmeeting grounds are smoke-free; alcohol is strictly prohibited in these public areas.



Mt. Gretna Community Library

What are your favorite summer reads? We would like to hear from you! Help us fill our newly donated paperback rack with a copy of your favorite paperback, new or used. We would love to see, inscribed inside, a few lines about why you liked it. Drop them off at the library any time, and do not forget to stop by to check out this growing "Mt. Gretna Favorites" collection.

We have added many newly released books, many of which are featured in summer Chautauqua discussions, Campmeeting book reviews, and Lebanon County reads. Other additions were chosen from a list of customer requests. Several new books were purchased with funds donated by family members who wished to honor Campmeeting resident's birthdays. Special thanks to Bill Gifford for our second "Little Free Library," located in Chautauqua (near the Hall of Philosophy). Big thanks also goes to Max Hunsicker for our third "Little Free

Library," located at the Mt. Gretna Heights Community Building. Little Free Libraries are open 24/7. Take a book, keep it, and leave one for someone else!

We cannot thank you enough for your support, donations, and volunteer hours. Questions, comments? Email Library@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org.

Summer Schedule, Special Events & Hours of Operation

2019 Summer Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday - 9 a.m. until Noon; Tuesday and Thursday - 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.; Saturday - 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.; Sunday - 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Coffee & Conversation

Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. through August 31, 2019.

First Friday's at the Library

July 5 & August 2 join us at the library beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Monday Evening Book Reviews - 7 p.m.

June 24, 2019—The Observatory, by Richard Powers.

July 1, 2019—The Vaccine Race, by Meredith Wadman.

July 8, 2019—The Fire Next Time, by James Baldwin.

July 15, 2019—Becoming, by Michelle Obama.

July 22, 2019—Weapons of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality and Threatens Democracy, by Cathy O'Neill.

July 29, 2019—American Prison: A Reporter's Undercover Journey into the Business of Punishment, by Shane Bauer.



For additional events and real-time information, like us on Facebook: **Mount Gretna Community Library**.



First Fridays Continue in Mt. Gretna

For up-to-date information, follow Mt. Gretna First Fridays on Facebook. First Friday event locations will pop-up as the season opens in June. Many locations throughout the community will offer art, activities, music and food. The evenings kick-off at 5 p.m. Event sites include La Cigale Gallery, Mt. Gretna Community Library, Porch & Pantry, Timbers Restaurant & Dinner Theater and more. Look for additional information in the Mt. Gretna Summer Calendar and our Community partners' websites and social media.



Mt. Gretna Area Historical Society – Community Events

Watch the website for upcoming events, here are a few highlights:

- July 5, 2019–Jean-Paul Benowitz: Our Pennsylvania Dutch U.S. Presidents, Hall of Philosophy, 7 p.m.
- July 6, 2019–History Walk, Mt. Gretna Fire Hall, 11 a.m.
- July 13, 2019–History on the Porch, Hall of Philosophy, 10 a.m.
- August 23, 2019–Rick Brouse: Colliers, Hall of Philosophy, 7 p.m.

Consider becoming a member of the Mt. Gretna Area Historical Society or a volunteer. Visit the

Historical Society Memorial Day through Labor Day on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., or by appointment. Looking for a unique Mt. Gretna gift? Feel free to browse the online store at www.mtgretnahistory.org/shop.

Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church – Community Events

Mt. Gretna Nursery School is offered weekday mornings for three-year-olds and four-year-olds from September through May. The youth ministry meets on Sundays from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. in the lower level Fellowship Hall of the church. Summer Bible School and Wet 'n Wacky Wednesdays take place during the summer for children in pre-school through sixth grade.

Worship services are scheduled at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings and are open to the public. For additional information about any church events, contact: www.mtgretnachurch.org.



Mt. Gretna School of Art – Community Events

Mount Gretna School of Art has a symbiotic relationship with the community. As Mt. Gretna at-large plays host to the school and its students, the school's rich artistic resources are shared with the public in the form of a lecture series hosted by the Pennsylvania Chautauqua in the historic Hall of Philosophy, open enrollment fine art classes for children and adults, museum trips and art exhibits.

Artist Lectures—Free-of-charge, and open to the public

- June 26, 2019—The Segue Between Observation & Intuition, led by Barbara Grossman, Hall of Philosophy, 10 a.m.
- July 1, 2019—Observation Memory and Invention, led by Michael Allen, Hall of Philosophy, 7:15 p.m.
- July 3, 2019—Anxiety of the Real, led by Scott Ramming, Hall of Philosophy, 10 a.m.
- July 8, 2019—Observing and Inventing, led by Giordanne Salley, venue TBA (call 717-823-8367 for details), 7:15 p.m.
- July 10, 2019—Figures in the Landscape: Color and the Human Form, led by Catherine Lepp, Hall of Philosophy, 10 a.m.
- July 15, 2019—On the Ground, led by Josephine Halvorson, Hall of Philosophy, 7:15 p.m.
- July 17, 2019—Stills & Animations, led by Ken Kewley, Hall of Philosophy, 10 a.m.
- July 22, 2019—Making Sense of Things, led by Erin Raedeke, Heights Community Building, 7:15 p.m.
- July 24, 2019—The Painter as Alchemist, led by Thaddeus Radell, Hall of Philosophy, 10 a.m.
- July 29, 2019—Translating Light into Color, led by Bill White, Hall of Philosophy, 7:15 p.m.
- July 31, 2019—Into the Garden, led by Kimberly Trowbridge, Hall of Philosophy, 10 a.m.
- August 5, 2019—Leaf and Line. The Reasons for Painting an Imaginary Paradise, led by Bill Scott, Heights Community Building, 7:15 p.m.

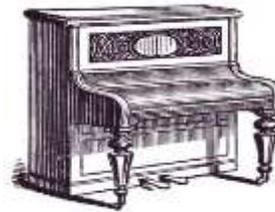
First Friday Open Studios

- July 5, 2019—Heights Community Building, 5 p.m.
- August 2, 2019—Heights Community Building, 5 p.m.

Special Events

- July 28, 2019—Annual Student Show, Hall of Philosophy, 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

- August 4, 2019—Edible Landscape Fundraising Gala, for information: www.mgsoa.org/edible



**Board of Trustees – Mt. Gretna
Tabernacle Association**

If you know of an individual or organization who could use the Tabernacle's piano, and is capable of moving it—please contact a member of the Board of Trustees (listing on back page). Last season, the Board of Trustees purchased a new keyboard for the Tabernacle. The piano has historical significance and was made in Lebanon County. It is still in working condition. Previous plans were made for a donation to the Lebanon County Historical Society, though storage issues stymied this plan.



**Mount Gretna Fire Department ~
Station 38**

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.

- September 21, 2019—Pig Roast, \$20 all-you-can-eat food and drinks; 4 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- October 20, 2019—Bingo. Doors open at 11 a.m.

- October 25, 2019—Halloween parade forms at the Jigger Shop, 6:30 p.m. followed by refreshments at the Fire Company.
- November 3, 2019—Annual Breakfast Buffet (by donation) from 8 a.m. until Noon.
- November 9, 2019—Annual Soup Cook-Off. “Chefs” must register for this event. Event scheduled from Noon until 2 p.m.
- November 30, 2019—Fall Cottage Crafters Holiday Show with refreshments available for purchase; from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- December 14, 2019—Cookies with Santa and Santa Shop; from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

Mt. Gretna Roller Rink – Community Events

The Mt. Gretna Roller Rink is open for family fun. Sundays enjoy public skating to pop music from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays enjoy Family Night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. while skating to ‘80s music. Fridays enjoy public skating to pop music from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturdays are open for public skating from 1:30 p.m. until 4 p.m. (pop music), then return from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

Don’t forget to like and follow the Mt. Gretna Roller Rink Facebook page. Come, join in the fun. Some hours and events are seasonal, so click on www.mtgretnarollerrink.com for more information.

From the Tool Shed

Submitted by Doug Cheyney, Cheyney Property Maintenance

Summer is finally here! I hope that we can put away our sweatshirts, get out outside, and enjoy the summer. The springtime weather has given our crew another challenging season. I am not sure when we will ever get seven full days without rain here in Pennsylvania, but we are trying our best to do what we can for the Campmeeting.

A few projects we are trying to complete in the next 2-3 weeks include re-mulching the playground area, as well as high weed maintenance around the playground fence. The

shuffleboard area will be power washed and painted, common bed areas mulched, Markwood potholes filled/repared, and overall weed/lawn maintenance and other asphalt repairs will occur throughout the Campmeeting grounds.

I hope the Cheyney Crew Members are meeting your expectations as best as we can; I know that we try very hard to please everyone. You may email us anytime at cheyneypm@comcast.net with issues, concerns, or just to provide feedback. We like getting compliments! Hope to see you out there—please feel free to say hello when you see us.

Members Encouraged to Remove English Ivy from Trees

You may be surprised to learn that English Ivy is an invasive species. Many ecologists warn that English ivy can take over a forest and is very damaging to the health of trees.

“In addition to forming a thick mat along the forest floor, smothering native wildflowers and seedlings and preventing natural regeneration, vines that climb trees slowly kill them from base upwards. Vigorously growing vines envelop the branches, preventing photosynthesis and causing upwardly migrating branch death. Eventually the entire tree will die. Trees heavily draped with vines are more susceptible to blowing over during storms, making them hazardous near homes, roads and public-use areas in parks.” (Invasive Species Leaflet)

MGCA Members are encouraged to address the problem of English ivy growing on trees on their property. It is very easy. Simply cut each vine close to the ground and then again a few inches higher, removing that section of the vine. The upper portion of that cut vine will eventually die (nps.gov).

Rental Applications are Available

As part of new Rule No. 20 adopted by the Board of Managers, current homeowners who have been renting either short-term (fewer than 30 days) or long-term (30 days or more) and who wish to continue renting their cottages are

required to apply for a permit from the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association. The permit application process will assure that existing homeowners can continue to rent. It is a simple process to follow, and this communication contains everything that you need in order to apply for a permit. Please note that all MGCA Members are receiving this communication by both email (if on record with the Campmeeting Office) and via U.S. mail.

Follow this link:

<http://www.mtgretnacampmeeting.com/regulations.shtml> to download or view a copy of Rule No. 20 (Rentals), the Permit Application, two pages of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and Guidelines for Guests.

A Few Things to Know

- Complete rental applications in full.
- Mail applications, along with proper payment (fees) to the MGCA office.
- Use the following address: MGCA, P.O. Box 428, Mount Gretna, PA 17064.
- Application submission can occur between June 21, 2019 and August 19, 2019.
- Permits issued after the application deadline (August 19, 2019).

The MGCA Board of Managers and office staff ask for your patience and help in perfecting this process. We are doing our best to make this as smooth as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

From The Office

Welcome new Members!

John Barton - 511 Second Street
Pat & John Brosious - 107 Sixth Street
Kim & Ryan Cuomo - 601 Fourth Street
Jennifer & Dean Kantmann - 212 Boehm Avenue

Kimberly Sluss - 504 Glossbrenner Avenue
Anne & Thomas Stover - 105 Third Street
Sarah & Paul Thibout - 511 First Street
Dave Tyndall - 205 Seventh Street

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. Contact the office (717-964-3040) for more information—or to volunteer.

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. 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, all Members are invited to attend.

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 second quarter of 2019 (April-June):

- One warning issued for a noise violation at 103 First Street, letter issued.
- One warning issued for a noise violation at 702 Fourth Street, situation rectified.
- One warning issued for a trash violation at 609 Sixth Street, situation rectified.
- No fines were issued for Rules violations in the second quarter.

Designated Parking Areas

Please remember that there are three designated parking areas for Members and their guests. This includes the Kaufman Lot (the gravel lot situated between the Fire Company and Kauffman Avenue), the Carter Lot (the gravel lot accessed from First Street) and the parking along the south side of Route 117. In the off-season, Mt. Gretna Miniature Golf allows residents to park on the north side of Route 117. Similarly, the Mt Gretna United Methodist Church allows MGCA Members and guests to

use the church's private parking lot when it is not in use for church programming. Sundays from 8 a.m. until noon, and any other time when the church posts signage for special events, the parking lot is not available to MGCA Members and guests.

Parking Tickets

The Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church needs all parking spaces in their lot on Sundays from 8 a.m. until noon, and during any posted church event. Likewise, the parking spaces located at Boehm Avenue & Eighth Street are Member parking spots whereby Members pay a monthly rental fee. Beginning Sunday, June 16, 2019 the West Cornwall Township police will begin ticketing cars parked illegally in the church parking lot, as well as the private member spaces located at Boehm Avenue and Eighth Street.

Grilling

The grilling season is upon us—please be safe and courteous of your neighbors. Be aware of Rule No. Two that states, “Charcoal or LP gas burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible covered porches. It is recommended that they not be operated within 10-feet of combustible construction.”

Trash

Dumpsters are for Members and their guests. For weekly trash pick-up, trashcans should be placed curbside after 5 p.m. on Sunday evening for the scheduled Monday pick-up. Members who are not present after 5 p.m. are encouraged to use the dumpsters.

Pavilion & Tabernacle Rental

Plan ahead for the summer 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. Additional

rental opportunities exist for Members including: Tabernacle rental, garage/shed rental (First Street), parking space rental (Boehm Ave.), large parking space rental (First Street, behind garages) and raised planting bed rental (Bell Avenue). Contact office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org for additional details, or to request a rental applications.

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.

Building Permits

Building Permit Applications are required for exterior renovations. Check out the MGCA website for a detailed list of examples.

The Feral Cats of Campmeeting

Committee Members voiced concerns at the recent MGCA Board of Managers meeting with regard to the growing population of feral cats in the community. The board recognizes this concern and seeks ways to manage the population. Your comments, consideration and personal experiences are appreciated as this issue is addressed. The following article is re-printed from the fall 2018 edition of the MGCA Newsletter:

Many residents have noticed a growing number of cats in the Campmeeting and some questions have been raised about what can be done. Here are some facts and information provided by Ally Cats Allies.

First, a feral cat is not a cat that is anyone's pet. Though it may be used to being around people, it has never been domesticated and prefers to be left alone and live outdoors. However, very few feral cats can survive by hunting alone and often depend on people feeding them to survive. Because they live outdoors and often have to endure hunting and hiding, they form colonies to survive.

Cats by nature are usually loners and have territories, but will form colonies for survival. A well-maintained colony of spayed/neutered and vaccinated feral cats keeps the numbers of rats, mice and chipmunks in balance and deters raccoons and skunks from getting into trash, without spreading disease or growing in numbers out of control. An uncontrolled colony means more kittens, which can lead to disfigured sickly cats and starts to attract foxes and coyotes to the neighborhoods. One female cat can reproduce three times per year with an average of four kittens in a litter. If a kitten survives, its life expectancy in a healthy colony can be an average of eight to ten years. In an uncontrolled colony, increased numbers of cats often result in yowling, over mating, spraying and fighting amongst members of the colony.

What can be done and what does a healthy colony look like? First, getting rid of all feral cats in Mt. Gretna is likely to invite more problems. Remember, cats are territorial. Therefore, if all of the cats are removed, a new group will find their way in. A healthy colony will help to keep other cats at a distance. No colony means the small rodent population will begin to grow and that leads to all types of issues. A healthy colony is one that is fed on a regular basis, consists of spayed/neutered and vaccinated cats, and is tracked to identify quickly any new cats in the colony. Along with this, their left ear is tipped so that each cat can be easily identified as having been vetted. These actions promote health and break the cycle of females reproducing. Will there be new cats that come into the colony? Probably. There are usually intermittent newcomers for various reasons.

So how does the Campmeeting create a healthy colony? Trap, neuter and release (TNR) programs have been implemented across the country as a humane way to control the feral cat population in all kinds of settings. Disney World and other famous places like the Hermitage Museum in Russia maintain a feral cat population to keep the smaller rodent population to a minimum while not bothering tourists and guests. Local nonprofit

organizations have expressed interest in helping to finance a TNR program in Mt. Gretna to stop uncontrolled breeding and promote the health of the cats already calling the Campmeeting home.

Moving forward, two local organizations have stepped forward to assist with establishing and financing the start-up costs of a TNR program for the Campmeeting cats. The TNR program will need to have the collaborative effort of all Campmeeting residents. A designated time of the month will be established when trapping will occur in the Campmeeting and all residents will be notified in advance so that personally owned cats can be kept indoors. Permission to trap on and around properties where cats have been seen and where residents feed cats will be extremely important for the success of this program.

There are several ways to help make this TNR program a success:

- Canned and dry cat food donations will be needed to bait traps and feed kitties while they are being held for a few days before and after surgery.
- Volunteers to check traps in the morning during the scheduled trapping dates will be needed. No one needs to touch the traps, just notify the designated TNR coordinator if a trap has safely captured a cat. Safety for all people and animals comes first. If there is an animal caught in the trap and it is unhappy, volunteers will be asked to simply place a plastic shower curtain or old towel over the cage until the coordinator can arrive and remove the trap. Plastic shower curtains work best for skunks. Non-cat animals will be relocated to a different location. Cats trapped will be taken to the vet for spaying/neutering and vaccination. Females will be held for a few days afterward due to the incisions requiring some time to heal before being returned healthy and released in the Campmeeting.
- Residents who feed will be asked to pull in all other food during scheduled trapping dates. If cats are being fed other than in the traps, it will be extremely difficult to trap them.

- Everyone is asked to please be aware of any new cat or kittens in the area and report them immediately. All cats trapped will have their left ear tipped so that new cats without left ear tips can be easier to identify. If a cat has had an ear tip, it has been vetted. Staying ahead of unaltered cats is vital to the wellbeing and success of this TNR program and for a healthy/happy Campmeeting colony.

A manager and contact person for the TNR program will be needed after the program is up and running. This person will be the contact

person when a new cat or kittens is identified and will coordinate having the cat or kittens humanely trapped.

If you are interested in helping with this program, please contact the Campmeeting Office at office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org or 717-964-3040 and let us know. Feral cats serve an important purpose in the balance of the ecosystem, but only if their health and reproduction is controlled. You can help to make that happen. For reliable information regarding feral cats, please visit alleycatallies.org.

COMMITTEE ROSTER

Executive

Ted Martin—Chair
Margaret Hopkins
Mary Kopala
Sally Marisic

Buildings & Grounds

Ted Martin—Chair
Larry Bowman
Doug Cheyney
Don Dale
Margaret Hopkins
Joe Lamont
Doug Lorenzen
Bob Travitz

Communications

Kevin Burd—Chair
Pam Bishop
Deborah Erb
Sally Marisic
Ted Martin, Ex-officio

Community Activities

Tammy Travitz—Chair
Ted Martin, Ex-officio
Esther Mefferd

Finance

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

Nominations

Esther Mefferd—Chair
Pam Bishop
Kevin Burd
Mary Kopala
Ted Martin, Ex-officio

Property Ownership

Pam Bishop—Chair
Kevin Burd
Ted Martin, Ex-officio
Barb Myers

Ad Hoc Archive

Barb Myers—Chair
Ted Martin
Esther Mefferd

Ad Hoc Library

Kristi Donahue—Co-Chair
Joan Sherman—Co-Chair
Margaret Hopkins
Sally Marisic
Ted Martin, Ex-officio
Val Swarr

Ad Hoc Policy

Margaret Hopkins—Chair
Pam Bishop
Deborah Erb
Sally Marisic
Ted Martin, Ex-Officio
Hal Myers
Pat Wilmsen

Tabernacle Association

Larry Bowman—President
Esther Mefferd—Vice-President
Tom Heberling—Secretary
David Pierce—Treasurer
Bruce Gettle
Margaret Hopkins
Bob Kettering
Mary Kopala
Sally Marisic
Ted Martin
Barb Myers