

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News



2024 Board Officers and Committee Members

At the January 16, 2024, Board of Managers Meeting the following individuals were elected as MGCA Board Officers for 2024:

Pat Wilmsen, President

Miles Bojanic, Vice President

Kevin Burd, Treasurer

Marcie Lloyd, Secretary.

Committee Members for 2024 are listed on the next page.

MOUNT GRETNA CAMPMEEETING ASSOCIATION

Box 428
Mount Gretna, PA 17064
(717) 964-3040

2024 Board of Managers and their term

Pat Wilmsen	2025	Ann Bering	2026	Jeff Minnich	2024
Miles Bojanic	2024	Joe Lamont	2024	Kevin Wells	2025
Kevin Burd	2026	George Leyh	2025	Esther Mefferd, Tabernacle Rep	N/A
Marcie Lloyd	2024	Ted Martin	2026		

2024 Committees

Archive

Don Miller, Chair
Margaret Hopkins
George Leyh
Carole Miller
Pat Wilmsen, Ex Officio

Buildings and Grounds

Miles Bojanic, Chair
Nate Godfrey, Superintendent
Joe Lamont
George Leyh
Bill Linton
Doug Lorenzen
Jeff Minnich
Bob Rader
Kevin Skovira
Ben Slotznick
Pat Wilmsen
Deborah Erb, MGCA Staff

Communications

Kevin Wells, Chair
Kevin Burd
Esther Mefferd
Christine Slotznick
Pat Wilmsen, Ex Officio
Deborah Erb, MGCA Staff

Community Activities & Recreation

Kevin Wells, Co-Chair
Marcie Lloyd, Co-Chair
Pat Allwein
Paula Deppen
Mark Flannery
Joy Linton
Pat Wilmsen, Ex Officio

Executive

President, Pat Wilmsen
Vice-President, Miles Bojanic
Treasurer, Kevin Burd
Secretary, Marcie Lloyd

Finance

Kevin Burd, Chair
Miles Bojanic
Marcie Lloyd
Ted Martin
Pat Wilmsen

Grants & Funding

Ted Martin, Chair
Pat Brosious
Andrea George

Library

Sally Marisic, Chair
Meagen Cassel, Community Rep
Marcie Lloyd
Vincie McMullen
Michelle Shay, Community Rep
Joan Sherman, Community Rep
Pat Wilmsen, Ex Officio

Mount Gretna Tabernacle

Association

2023	2024	2025
Ted Martin Pres	George Leyh	Pat Wilmsen Sec
Jeff Minnich	Lynne Kline	Miles Bojanic
Shawn Gingrich Treas	Ross Ellison	Kevin Burd
	Bob Kettering VP	Esther Mefferd

Note – white cells are MGCA appointments. MGCA is required to have majority.

Bold: Tab. Assoc. rep to the MGCA

Nominating

Esther Mefferd, Chair
Kevin Burd
Kay Heberling

Policy & Procedure

Ted Martin, Chair
Margaret Hopkins
Marcie Lloyd
Kevin Wells
Pat Wilmsen, Ex Officio
Deborah Erb, MGCA Staff

Property Ownership

Kevin Burd, Chair
Pat Brosious
Kevin Wells
Pat Wilmsen, Ex Officio

Tree Health & Maintenance

Pat Wilmsen, Chair
Ann Bering
Joe Bering
Jim Campbell
Kathleen McKenna
Vincie McMullen
Carole Miller
Sarah Stuart
Garey Wilmsen

Message from the Mount Gretna Tabernacle Association

By Ted Martin

In early fall 2023, I wrote a letter to Camp Meeting residents and Bible Festival supporters and Tabernacle event attendees alerting everyone to a leaky building roof that was only growing more serious by the month. The health of a building we all love was being threatened by its constant vigilance in weather of all sorts, and careful inspection determined that the best course of action was a new roof for the Tabernacle.

It was a daunting and costly prospect when we did the math and determined that the centerpiece of our community was facing an unforeseen project at an **expected cost of approximately \$50,000**. The good news in this effort was that the Tabernacle Association Building Fund already had approximately half of the \$50,000 needed for these repairs and the Campmeeting Association agreed to share costs in the work. Everyone was determined that this work be completed by the opening of the 2024 Season in early summer.

So, we sent out a mailer and asked everyone to be generous with a financial contribution, and then we waited.

We didn't have a long wait.

Within weeks, your incredible generosity shone through, and contributions literally poured in at an unbelievable rate. Topping it all off was an incredibly generous grant of \$25,000 from West Cornwall Township.

And so, I am very pleased to report that as it currently stands, we have raised approximately \$95,000 in our effort to replace the Tabernacle roof.

That's right, approximately \$95,000!

Thanks to you, we are now in the process of lining-up roofing work for the early spring. Also, thanks to you, we can consider other possible projects for the Tabernacle ranging from improved lighting, air circulation, and paving. It's also important to maintain a healthy balance in the Tabernacle Association Building Fund for future challenges, and that's now possible too. It's a remarkably good situation we find ourselves in, and you made it happen.

To all those who have given, I am grateful. The Tabernacle will be healthier and stronger because of you. But of equal importance, in a day and age when it is fashionable to say Americans can no longer work together on anything and that things are so dark, this provides a resounding response of "nonsense". I would hazard a guess to say that the people who love and use the Tabernacle have many different opinions of the world. However, when an emergency need arose, everyone joined together, asked no questions, and followed through with great generosity. And at a time of much division, on that score we all should be proud.



Submitted by Nate Godfrey

Frosty Foundations: Navigating Snow and Ice in Campmeeting

As we embrace winter in Campmeeting, we want to assure you that MGCA Superintendent Nate Godfrey and his dedicated team are actively working to ensure the safety of our community members.

Winter weather brings its own set of challenges. No snowfall/storm/blizzard is like any other. When we know that snow is looming on the horizon, there are several factors that we evaluate (including but not limited to):

- At what time will the winter weather event begin?
- At what time will the winter weather event end?
- What is the total accumulation, and how does that impact equipment used?
- How do the above considerations impact morning commuters?
- What are the outside temperatures before, during, and after the winter weather event?
- Will snowfall be preceded or followed by freezing rain, icy mix, etc.?
- How have similar weather events been handled in the past and what adjustments or improvements do we need to make?
- What paths and streets (that MGCA staff clears) will be prioritized?
- When is the Borough commencing pre-treatment and clearing of our streets and parking lots?
- Collaboration of various sources of weather projections, in order to be prepared for the most likely weather times and patterns.
- At what time(s) will we plan to begin clearing snow and ice? How many of our staff are available, and what is the plan?

After considering factors such as those listed above, MGCA staff prepare for winter Campmeeting street treatments (including but not limited to):

- Evaluate the weather and the most likely course of action.
- Create a tentative plan and role duties for staff.
- Stage relevant snow clearing equipment at the Tabernacle.
- Fuel and start all engines to ensure readiness.
- Ensure salt is staged and ready to be deployed.
- Please note that salt is not effective when the temperature drops below 25 degrees.
- Pretreat roads and paths with salt, if necessary.
- Adjust the plan if necessary.



Submitted by Joyce Ruhl



Submitted by Kathy McKenna

DURING the winter weather event, MGCA staff execute their strategies (including but not limited to):

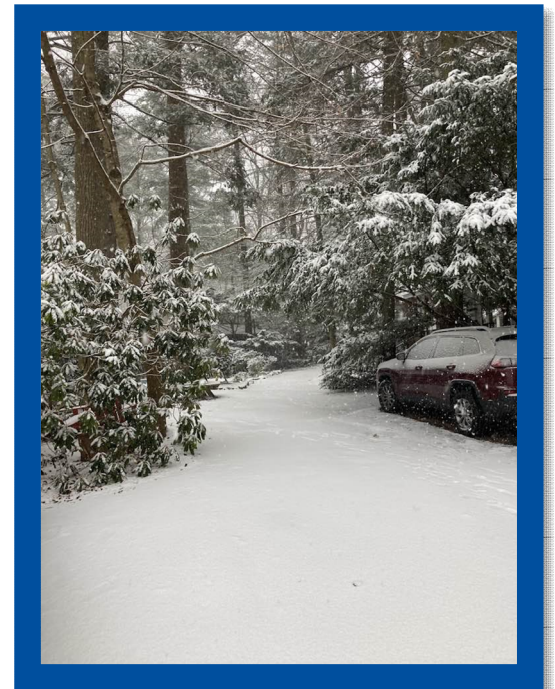
- Begin clearing roads and paths (that MGCA is responsible for) according to a 3-tiered prioritization approach.
 - Tier 1 – Walkways and roads that are commonly driven or utilized by residents, especially those that do not have direct access to a borough cleared street.
 - Tier 2 – Less used walkways and roads, with cottages that do not have full-time residents and/or otherwise have direct access to a borough cleared street.
 - Tier 3 - Walkways that are low priority for access and use, and are used infrequently in the winter.
- The team is divided into roles: Toro plow operator, snow plow operators, and shovelers.
- Commence spreading salt depending on the temperature and efficacy of those measures.

- Re-evaluate weather and measures taken. Adjust the plan accordingly.

AFTER a winter weather event, MGCA staff execute additional strategies (including but not limited to):

- Commence (or repeat) snow/ice clearing and salting, if necessary.
- Clean up areas that were not cleared well, or need to be widened, etc.
- Ongoing maintenance of walkways and roads

The Carter and Kauffman parking lots, vital areas for our community, are plowed by the Mt. Gretna Borough. This ensures that residents have access to parking spaces even during snowy conditions. Snow plowing gravel parking lots presents unique challenges due to the nature of gravel surfaces. Unlike paved lots, gravel lots have uneven surfaces with loose materials that can be displaced by plowing equipment. This displacement often leads to the unintentional removal of gravel along with snow, resulting in potential damage to the lot's surface. Additionally, gravel lots are prone to forming uneven snow banks and drifts, making it challenging to achieve consistent and thorough snow removal. The loose nature of gravel can also hinder the traction of snow plows, impacting their effectiveness. Balancing the need to clear snow for safety with the preservation of the gravel surface requires a delicate approach to avoid unnecessary wear and tear. Overall, snow plowing gravel parking lots demands specialized techniques and careful consideration to maintain both safety and the integrity of the lot.



Submitted by Pat Wilmsen



Submitted by Pat Wilmsen

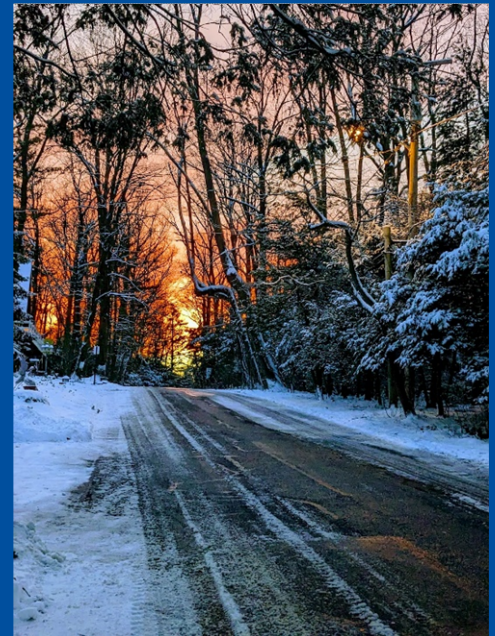
While these measures are in place, we would like to remind you and your guests to exercise extreme caution. All paths and roads in Campmeeting and elsewhere should be treated as slippery, potentially dangerous, and should be approached cautiously. By being mindful of our surroundings, we can collectively contribute to preventing injuries.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the MGCA Office. Let's work together to make this winter season safe and enjoyable for all.

Stay warm and stay safe.



*The Friends of Governor Dick are hosting a party at the Mount Gretna Fire Hall – **For the Love of Gretna Winter Potluck** on Saturday, February 10 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Bring your favorite potluck dish. There will be live music, Snitz Creek Brewery beer for sale, and an activity for kids! Come learn about what we've been up to and what's coming up in 2024. Free admission, donations are appreciated. Consider joining – memberships are included with donations of \$10 or more!*



Submitted by Linda Kniss

Mark Your Calendars!

We know that every MGCA Member values the Mt. Gretna Community Volunteer Fire Company – they are there for us 24/7, 365 days a year, actually 366 days this year! But not every MGCA Member sees the full calendar of Fire Company events at the start of the year.

To ensure all of our Members have the full schedule of events, we've listed it below. Mark your 2024 calendars now, and avoid those pesky scheduling conflicts. Your support and attendance at these events shows the Fire Company we care and appreciate everything they do for us!

February 3 – Ground Hog Breakfast – 8 a.m. - 10 a.m., Grady @ 10:15 a.m.

February 25 – Bingo – Doors open at 11 a.m. – Games start at 1 p.m., 20 Games

April 14 – Bingo – Doors open at 11 a.m. – Games start at 1 p.m., 20 Games

May 25 – Pancake & Sausage Breakfast – 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

June 9 – Bingo – Doors open at 11 a.m. – Games start at 1 p.m., 20 Games

July 20 – Community Picnic & Rescue Engine Housing at the Fire Hall – 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

September 9 – Wing Night @ Hideaway – 5 p.m. - 9 p.m., Free Dozen Wings with Donation

September 14 – Car Show @ Soldiers Field – 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Registration 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

September 22 – Bingo – Doors open at 11 a.m. – Games start at 1 p.m., 20 Games

October 7 – Fire Prevention with Lawn Fire Co.

October 12 – Pig Roast – 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., \$25 – All you can eat food, drinks

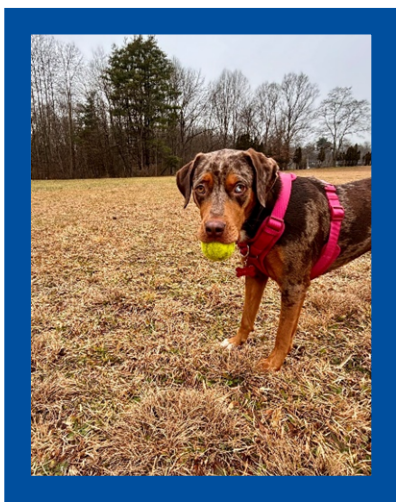
October 25 – Halloween Parade forms at the Jigger Shop – 6:30 p.m.

November 3 – Fall Buffet Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

November 9 – Soup Cook Off – 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

December 14 – Cookies with SANTA and Santa Shop – 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

For more information, check the Fire Company's website: <http://www.mtgretnafire.com/>, and "Like" their Facebook page.



Pre-Snow Fetch with Scarlett
Submitted by Mary Dougherty



Submitted by Leeshaun Musick

On the Horizon – What's Happening in Our Community

For a complete listing of events in the Mt. Gretna community, see the calendar on the Home/Events tab of <https://mtgretna.com/>.

EVENT LISTING

February 3 – Groundhog Breakfast / Visit from Grady, Mt. Gretna Fire Company Fundraiser (A)

February 10 – Friends of Governor Dick Winter Potluck (B)

February 14 – Valentine's Day

February 19 – Presidents Day

February 20 – MGCA Board Meeting (C)

February 25 – Bingo, Mt. Gretna Fire Company Fundraiser (D)

March 19 – MGCA Board Meeting (C)

March 31 – Easter

April 14 – Bingo, Mt. Gretna Fire Company Fundraiser (D)

April 16 – MGCA Board Meeting (E)

KEY/LOCATOR

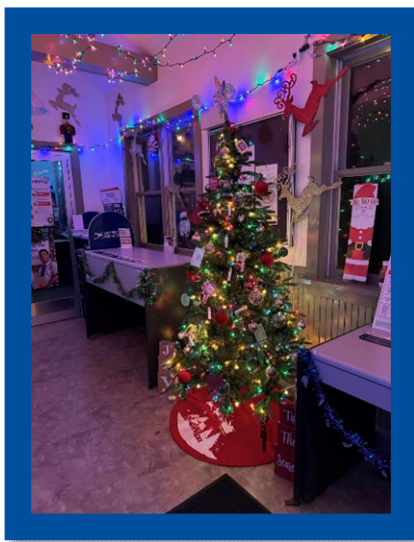
A – 8 a.m. - 10 a.m., at the Mt. Gretna Fire Company, Grady at 10:15 a.m.

B – 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., at the Mt. Gretna Fire Company

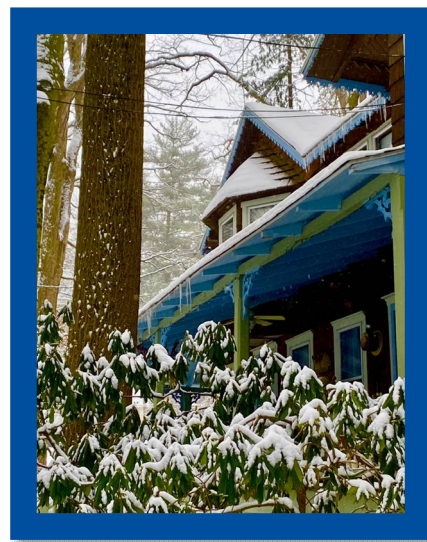
C – 6:30 p.m., virtually via Zoom

D – Doors open at 11 a.m. and games start at 1 p.m., at the Mt. Gretna Fire Company

E – 6:30 p.m., at the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church, Ebenezer Room (and virtually)



Submitted by Joyce Ebright

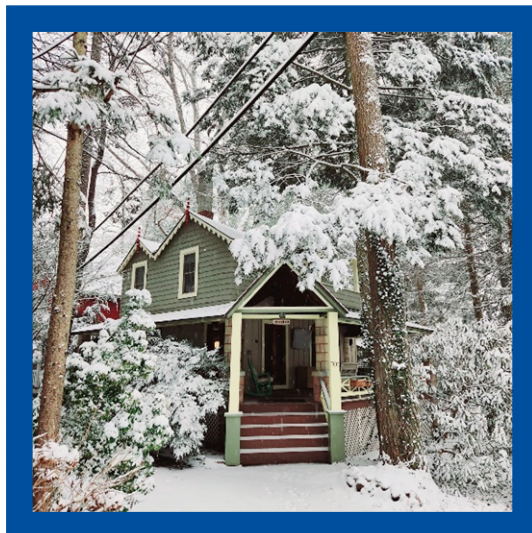


Submitted by Leeshaun Musick

And the final photographs for our February photo album...



*Hazel-Rah Godfrey
Submitted by Nate Godfrey*



Submitted by David Tyndall



Winston is thankful for his layers of fleece blankets and fleece pajamas.

Submitted by Kevin C. Wells

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NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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