

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News



October Property Ownership Committee Update

Submitted by Committee Chair, Kevin Burd

New Campmeeting Members

Please join us in welcoming new Members to the Campmeeting. Please introduce yourselves and share what you love about our community with the new owners of the following cottages:

508 Fifth Street

511 Fifth Street

311 Sixth Street

505 Seventh Street

403 Boehm Avenue

207 Dickson Avenue

Short-Term Rental Permits

Regarding short-term rental permits, of the 72 short-term rental permits available, as outlined in Rule 20 and the associated policy, 43 permits are currently granted in the community.

Short-term rental permit holders are reminded that West Cornwall Township (WCT) has created zoning ordinances regarding short-term rental units. It is your responsibility to comply with WCT permit requirements.

Cottage Resale Certificate

A Resale Certificate is required for all cottage sales/transfers. This ensures that the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations are given to the buyer, and that the buyer agrees that they are reviewed. This removes the risk from the Campmeeting and its volunteers. New Member Orientation meetings will be encouraged but no longer required.

Please contact us at homerentals@mtgretnacampmeeting.org if you have any questions.

Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church & MGCA Invites All Pet Owners

Pet Blessing

with Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church Associate Pastor Marilyn Nolte

**Saturday, October 11, 2025
1:00 P.M. at the Tabernacle**

ALL PETS MUST BE ON LEASHES OR IN CRATES – IF YOUR PET IS NOT SOCIAL OR DOES NOT DO WELL WITH OTHERS, PLEASE BRING A SPECIAL ITEM OR PHOTO THAT REPRESENTS YOUR PET – BLESSINGS ARE AVAILABLE TO UNSOCIABLE PETS FROM IN YOUR CAR IN THE PARKING LOT AS WELL



Board of Managers Election and October 18 Annual Meeting

This fall, three individuals will be elected or reelected to serve a three-year term on MGCA's Board of Managers beginning in January 2026.

Voting for Board Members will take place via mail-in ballot. A ballot was mailed to all Voting Members in early September 2025, and must be returned by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 17, 2025.

The Mount Gretna Campmeeting Association Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 18, at 10 a.m. at the Mt. Gretna Community Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall. Participation via Zoom for Members who cannot attend in person will be available if the required connectivity can be arranged. Results of the Board of Managers Election will be announced at the Annual Meeting and emailed to Voting Members following the Annual Meeting.

Voting Members running for positions on the MGCA Board of Managers are Stephanie Bost, Dermot Somers, Kevin Wells, and Patricia Wilmsen. Biographies for each candidate may be viewed by [clicking this link](#).

Thank you for your commitment to our community.

Following the meeting, a "Community Board Appreciation Luncheon" will be held in Heritage Park beginning at 1 p.m. on October 18. Members are invited to join their neighbors and fellow Campmeeting residents for lunch as we show support and recognize MGCA's volunteer Board of Managers. Details on the luncheon appear on page 3 of this Newsletter.

MGCA Board Appreciation Lunch

Join your neighbors and fellow Campmeeting residents for lunch as we show support and recognize MGCA's volunteer Board of Managers. This community luncheon on October 18 will give all of us an opportunity to personally thank MGCA's Board Members for all they do for our community.



Who puts in countless volunteer hours?
Who plans every detail?
Who balances differences with care?
Who ensures legal and financial compliance?
Who advocates for all?
Who is often taken for granted?

Please Join Your Neighbors for a
Community Board Appreciation Lunch
Saturday, October 18, 2025 — 1:00 P.M.
Heritage Park

A Southern fare food truck will be there for the community to purchase items: fried chicken, ribs, mac & cheese, baked beans, cornbread, other sides, & drinks.

RSVP ASAP — Contact Peggy Lichty via email —
PeggyLichty@me.com

A complimentary lunch voucher will be provided to all
Campmeeting Board Members.
Want to help cover Board Members' lunches?
Venmo Peggy Lichty: @Margaret-Lichty-1 (last 4-digits: 7116)

No Venmo? Contact Peggy for alternative methods to contribute.



Member Spotlight: Celebrating Our Neighbors

The heart of Mt. Gretna beats through its people. Behind every cottage, concert, and community gathering are neighbors whose stories add depth to the character of this special place. The Member Spotlight is our way of shining a light on those individuals – celebrating their journeys, their passions, and the unique ways they contribute to the tapestry of Gretna life. We hope you'll look forward to these next several installments in the Campmeeting newsletter – and take the opportunity to get to know more of our neighbors and discover the many threads that make our community so vibrant.

This month, we are delighted to introduce you to Melissa Kreider, whose love of history, creativity, and community reflects the very spirit of Mt. Gretna.

Rooted in History, Renewed by Nature

By Kevin C. Wells

Personal Path to Gretna

Melissa Kreider's story is one of deep roots and intentional choices. She first discovered Mt. Gretna during college when her family would stop at the Jigger Shop on their way to a cabin in Adams County. With a grandfather from Lebanon and a great-grandfather who worked as a barber on Cumberland Street, Melissa has always felt connected to the area.

After living in Washington State and Massachusetts, Melissa was drawn back east. "I love intentional communities," she explains. "The personality of Gretna, its art, its history — it's a place where I find peace in nature and creativity."

Life in the Campmeeting

For Melissa, the Campmeeting is the perfect fit. As a single person, she values the intimacy of the cottages and the daily connections with neighbors. Her century-old home reflects the history she cherishes, while community treasures like the Tabernacle, Little Free Library, murals, and gardens bring daily joy.

”People often call it magical. It’s a hideaway — a Shangri-La in Lebanon County.”

Cherished Memories & Traditions

Melissa recalls renting a house near the Playhouse during college, as her family weighed the decision of whether to buy in Gretna or Adams County. Though her family chose Adams County then, Gretna’s charm never left her heart. She now treasures:

- Volunteering as an usher for Gretna Music and Gretna Theatre
- Enjoying the Art Show and its growing focus on sustainability
- Attending bluegrass concerts, sing-alongs, and impromptu gatherings
- Continuing summer traditions like the Memorial Day Porch Sale

She is especially fascinated by Gretna’s railroad history, imagining the days when tourists rode the narrow-gauge line to Governor Dick.

The Spirit of Community

What stands out to Melissa is the way Gretna weaves together history, creativity, and hospitality. Whether it’s stumbling into a neighbor’s baby shower, joining a sing-along, or greeting visitors at the Porch Sale, Gretna feels alive with kindness and artistry.

Looking Ahead

Melissa dreams of Gretna remaining historic and forward-thinking — with thriving arts, sustainable practices, and strong intergenerational ties. “I want people who come here to feel renewed by nature, inspired by creativity, and energized by the small touches of care,” she says.

Traditions like the Porch Sale, Happy Hours, the Playhouse, and the Art Show remain dear to her, and she hopes they will continue to bring joy for generations to come.

Melissa’s Mt. Gretna in a Nutshell:

- A walk through Governor Dick, a stop at Porch & Pantry, and a ride on the Rail Trail.
- The magic of the Tabernacle and the Playhouse.
- A community that is historic and hopeful, rooted in creativity and connection.

Update: October Board of Managers Meeting

The Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, October 18. Because of this, the MGCA Board of Managers will not hold its regular monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of October. This means there will be **no Board of Managers Meeting on Tuesday, October 21.**

Sound of Music Sing-A-Long— October 11

Channel your inner Julie Andrews, bring your friends and neighbors, and join us at the Tabernacle for an evening you won't forget. We'll start the film at 6:30 p.m., giving you plenty of time to enjoy the Fire Company's Pig Roast before the sing-a-long! Costumes are encouraged!



Make a Boo-tiful Noise!



Join the Krewe d' Kazoo in the annual Mt. Gretna Halloween Parade on October 24.

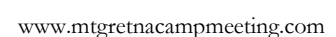
If you can sing or hum, there's a place for you with the Krewe. Join our brigade of kazooists and singers. No instrument needed. No rehearsal necessary. If you have a kazoo, just bring it along. If you don't, we'll have extras. Parade line-up at the Jigger Shop at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, October, 24. Be there or be scared!

As evenings grow cooler, and thoughts turn to convivial evenings around a fire pit, it is important to be mindful of the danger of open flames in the Campmeeting area.

Before setting up a fire pit, take a moment to survey your surroundings. Ensure there are no trees or foliage nearby that could catch fire from sparks. Remember, fire safety is everyone's responsibility.

Information can also be found at: [Leaf Collection Services](#).

Please review the Leaf Collection Procedure, Leaf Removal Street Map, and the 2025 Leaf Collection Schedule (below). Leaf collection will begin the week of October 20 and will end the week of December 8.





RSUP Due by 10/27 Oktemberfest

Let's raise a glass and celebrate life
in an atmosphere of togetherness full of joy.



Family Friendly | Polka Music | Games | German Costumes Encouraged

Bratwurts | Sauerkraut | Pretzels

Bring your favorite German beverages, stein & food to share

Suggested \$5 Donation/Person | Please RSUP to Office



Just a Reminder–Office Closure



The MGCA Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, October 2 and 3.

When the Office is closed, if assistance is needed, please contact the Office via telephone or email; both will be monitored.

Please Note: If you are ever making a special trip to stop by the Office during our regular office hours, please contact the office ahead of time (717-964-3040) to make sure someone is available to meet you.

October Trash & Recycling Pick-Up

Although October 13 is a federal holiday in the U.S. (Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day), it is a business day for our trash collector, TNT Sanitation. **Regular trash and recycling collection will occur on Monday, October 13.**

And the final photograph for our October photo album...



Submitted by Kevin C. Wells

Are You Connected to News & Info in Campmeeting?



MT. GRETTA
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

On Facebook



YouTube

Mount Gretna Campmeeting –
Click on Subscribe

Community Calendar

<https://www.mtgretna.org/home>



Send your email address updates to:
Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org



Please visit and bookmark:
mtgretnacampmeeting.com

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association

P.O. Box 428

Mt. Gretna, PA 17064-0428

717-964-3040

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Mt. Gretna Campmeeting

LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES