

Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News

Winter Edition 2015

President's Message:

Out with the Old, In with the New

Happy 2016. I hope your holidays were wonderful and filled with success, laughter and joy. I hope the New Year is full of much of the same. When I look back on 2015 the Campmeeting has had some challenges and accomplishments. Here are just a few:

- Retirement of Merv Lentz as our longtime Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds.
- Hiring of Ed Neidigh as our new Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds.
- Development and implementation of a five year strategic plan for the Campmeeting by the Board of Managers.
- Started an Ash Bore treatment program.
- Replacement of our 1992 dump truck (under budget).
- Addition of a snow thrower to service the walking streets.
- Exploration on creating an endowment fund for the Tabernacle.

Yes, 2015 was a very good year. I am expecting 2016 to be a banner year too. We have scheduled several funded capital projects for the year and they are:

- Internal inspection of the water tower tank, along with painting the tower and the pump house.
- Restoration of the Community Park off Boehm Street and Eighth Street.
- Hemlock tree treatment program.

I would be remiss not to mention some of the heartache that was felt this past year that is home burglaries, a shooting, and destruction of community art work. While most of these

The Board of Managers

and the year through which they serve

President, David Lloyd (2017)
Vice-President, George Resh (2015)
Treasurer, Sally Marisic (2015)
Secretary, Margaret Hopkins (2016)

Pam Bishop (2017)
Don Dale (2017)
Robin May (2016)
Esther Mefferd (2015)
Ben Wiley (2015)

Committee Chairs

Buildings & Grounds – Interim, Don Dale
Communications – Margaret Hopkins
Community Activities – Robin May
Executive – David Lloyd
Finance – Sally Marisic
Nominations – Pam Bishop
Property Ownership – Interim, Pam Bishop
Parks & Recreation – Margaret Hopkins
Tabernacle Association - TBD
Ad-Hoc Archive Committee – George Resh
Ad-Hoc Policy Committee – Pam Bishop

Superintendent: Ed Neidigh (717) 454-7693
Superintendent@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org
Office Manager: Debby Erb (717) 964-3040
Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org

heartaches have been resolved, as a community we need to stay vigilant and strong. Working together we can be assured of keeping the mission of the Campmeeting alive.

Hopefully 2016 brings you everything you deserve and more! May happiness find you daily and may love fill your soul. And remember to share you with the world! Happy New Year!!

David Lloyd

From the Treasurer

We were able to operate in 2015 without an assessment increase. Due to increased utility costs and an initiative to support our tree canopy through maintenance, nourishment, and replacement we must raise assessments and rental fees for 2016.

Watch for your assessment in early January 2016. More detailed budget information will be included.

Sally Marisic

Buzzard Drop

Tom and Kay Heberling are sponsoring the New Year's Eve "Buzzard Drop." EVERYONE IS INVITED. The format will be similar to last year. In the afternoon, the buzzard will be on display on a perch high in the tree in front of our house at Third Street and Glossbrenner. At night I will have a spotlight focused on it. About 11:30 pm people start to gather. We expect to provide coffee, but any other beverages have to be brought by anyone who comes to participate. My wife provides some noise makers. A friend will ring a bell as well as we count down the final seconds of the old year. We have printed the words to "Auld Lang Syne," and hopefully everyone will join in the singing. The buzzard this year will be bigger and badder. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there to bring in the New Year.



Tom Heberling

Volunteers Wanted

Make your New Year's resolution now to become more involved with the Campmeeting community in 2015!

Association members are needed to volunteer on the various committees of the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association Board of Managers. Pick your area of interest or expertise. Make new

friends and contribute to making the Campmeeting a desirable place to live.

The following Committees are seeking new Association members:

- Communications (help with quarterly newsletters and website redesign)
- Community Activities (help with the Heritage Festival and other events)
- Nominations (seek new members to serve on the Board of Managers)
- Heritage Park Subcommittee (determine priorities for further development of this park)
- Policy (help with compilation of a policy manual)

Contact the office (964-3040) to volunteer for a Committee, or for more information.

Property Transfers

Three property transfers have occurred since the last newsletter.

1. Linda Seltzer sold her property at 201 2nd Street to Matt & Kerry Royer,
2. The Mt. Gretna School of Arts purchased 202 Markwood from Antonia & Tara Klick, and
3. Joan Heberling sold 607 1st Street to Dan & Debra Brantner.

Ensuring the Preservation of Mount Gretna's History

The Mount Gretna Area Historical Society (MGAHS) is calling on residents, visitors and all those with ties to and love for Mount Gretna to support its campaign to ensure the organization's ability to preserve the rich history of the Mount Gretna area for future generations. The recently-launched campaign is focused on allowing MGAHS to retire the remaining \$100,000 balance of its original \$300,000 mortgage and establish a reserve fund for the ongoing maintenance of the Museum facility, which is located at 206 Pennsylvania Avenue in Mount Gretna's Chautauqua area.

The Museum, which began operation in 2008, is located in a restored historic cottage that contains extensive professionally-designed displays of Mount Gretna artifacts, as well as a research center that is open to the public. Along with the large array of historic artifacts and documents currently on display in the Museum, other items in the Museum's continually growing collection are being carefully catalogued and stored in the facility's climate-controlled vault for future reference and display to the public.

The Historical Society's campaign to retire the remaining balance on the Museum mortgage is intended to allow it to focus its future resources and energies even more fully on the collection, preservation and promotion of Mount Gretna's long and rich history.

Various contribution levels and Naming Rights opportunities at the Museum are available through the campaign, although contributions in any amount are encouraged and will be appreciated. All contributions and Naming Rights sponsorships are tax deductible, and any contributions made by December 31, 2015 can be claimed as a deduction on your 2015 taxes. Consider a gift today to help MGAHS preserve the history and spirit of the Mount Gretna region for future generations.

A form for use in contributing to the Historical Society's capital campaign for its Museum can be found at the MGAHS website at mtgretnahistory.org, and further information can be obtained by e-mailing the organization at info@mtgretnahistory.org or by calling the Museum at (717) 964-1105.

Larry Bowman

From the desk of the Superintendent of Grounds...

The calendar says December, but the thermometer says May; thank you *El Nino*. Also a big thank you to MGCA Members for your efforts to get leaves to the curb by November 30. Unlike last year, the snow has stayed away making fall cleanup much easier.

If the long range forecast is accurate, we are in store for a few Nor'easters in February and March. Campmeeting has purchased a commercial sized snow thrower to clean our walking streets. The loader is quick and efficient but leaves a packed layer of snow behind that turns to ice. Hopefully the snow thrower will eliminate three problems:

1. The ice build-up,
2. Excessive salt on sidewalks, and
3. Damage caused to trees, stone walls, and steps by the loader.

Campmeeting has retired the 1992 Ford F350 dump truck after 20 years of service. Our replacement is a 2007 Ford F550 dump. In the past, residents have been on the lookout for a brown dump truck blocking their progress; now be on the lookout for a larger white/black dump truck. The new truck is about 3 feet longer and a bit less maneuverable, so please be patient when encountering B&G doing street cleanup.

Looking toward 2016, B&G is prioritizing areas of Campmeeting for improvements. Our concerns are cleaning areas of excessive weeds, trimming overgrown trees and shrubs and eliminating invasive vines. We will also be assessing areas that require paving. Finally, we are working with the recreation committee to put in a new barbeque/firepit for the playground/pavilion area.

Please place Christmas trees by the curb for removal no later than January 30th. This is the last day West Cornwall Township will take trees for mulching.



Happy New Year to all, and thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Campmeeting.

Ed Neidigh

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Mt. Gretna Campmeeting

LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES