

**BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 243
Braddock Heights, MD 21714

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**BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

APRIL 2015

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Join the BHCA Today!
Membership information below.

Membership Information

Ask your neighbors if they are members of the BHCA. If not, tell them for \$35 annually they get bimonthly newsletters containing important information regarding the Braddock Heights community. They also will have voting rights at general meetings in issues involving their community. The BHCA provides a strong voice on important issues such as pedestrian safety and the growing traffic problems. We also sponsor community events throughout the year. Check the newsletter calendar as we always need volunteers. Our community heads can always use additional help with their committee duties. Contact Tom Dixon at 301-371-5690 for more information. Tell your neighbors to join now and get involved in their community!

Send dues to: P.O. Box 243, Braddock Heights, MD 21714-0243

BHCA Directory

President: Doug Sims, 301-606-3326
Vice President: Jody Koogler, 301-371-0558
Treasurer: Eric Wakefield, 443-386-1568
Secretary: Tom Dixon, 301-371-5690
Pool Comm. Chair: Lisa Tosh, 301-371-9721
Program Comm. Chair: Tom Dixon, 301-371-5690
Property Comm. Chair: Mike Cottrell, 301-371-7827
Member Comm. Chair: Doug Simms, 301-202-5547

BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Campbell, 301-371-7806	Caroline Milam, 240-409-3189
Mike Cottrell, 301-371-7827	John Soule, 301-371-7914
Jaime Dixon, 301-371-5690	Lisa Tosh, 301-371-9721
Bev Donald, 301-371-7501	
Daryl Happ, 301-371-8078	
Karen Koltz, 410-440-5932	For BHCA Facility Reservations
Mark Koltz, 240-490-7951	410-440-5932

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fellow Braddock Heights Citizens - the year is off to a good start. Your elected Board Members (all volunteers) are hard at work developing ideas that will make the spring, summer and fall programs complete. Caroline Milam is working on establishing both members-only and "open to the public" offerings that will provide focused services for our BHCA members and offer public service oriented programs for Braddock Heights' citizens, in general. It will also allow us to maximize use of the Community Center and Pavilion - both of which are available for use by members at a very nominal fee (Karen Koltz is the person to contact for reservations). Mike Cottrell is well on his way in organizing the *Spring Clean-up* starting at 8:30 a.m. on 21 March - please come help (if it rains that day, just show up the next week). The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place in the park on the 4th of April - what fun it is to see all our youngsters scurrying about hunting for the candy- and coin-filled eggs. Lisa Tosh and her "band" of pool committee members have set

the conditions to make this another wonderful swim season starting on Saturday, 23 May and ending with *Summer Splash* on 6 September and the last day of the season on 7 September. Our Playground Renovation Program has not progressed as quickly as we had hoped, but we are moving forward with the concept in hopes of seeing major changes taking place soon after the pool closes in September. Finally, Mark Koltz is moving forward with a review of BHCA by-laws to see how best to incorporate the BH Historical Society into the fabric of the Community Association - maintaining BHHS uniqueness, at the same time placing it under the umbrella of the BHCA. There are lots of opportunities to serve the community. We welcome one and all to our monthly meetings - come and find out how you can contribute to making Braddock Heights the kind of place we want to live and raise our families.

Doug Sims,
President, BHCA

**BRADDOCK HEIGHTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY (BHHS)
NEWS AND INFORMATION**

Bill McCutcheon recently sent over a great Frederick News article from August 1950 that highlighted the first 50 years of Braddock Heights. The article was written by the long time secretary of the Braddock Heights Community Association, Mrs. Hilda Croghan. Mrs. Croghan recalled the development of the Braddock Heights Swimming Pool in 1929 by selling stock to cover the \$10,000 cost of building the bath house and pool. Emory Coblenz, president of the Potomac Edison Co. agreed to bring the water 2 1/2 miles from a mountain spring located on Klipp's Farm at the foot of Gambrell Park. The article has lots of other great history ... drop me a line and I can email it to you.



BHHS NEWS *Continued from page 1*

Speaking of Bill McCutcheon, enthusiasts of his infamous miniature locomotive, the Braddock Heights Cagney, will be happy to know it now has its own web site - <http://bluemtrr.blogspot.com/>. Launched in October 2014 by Bill's grandson, Sam McCutcheon, the site includes great pictures, videos, and all the history of the 15 inch gauge live steam locomotive that was built in 1901 by the Cagney brothers for the Pan American Exposition. The Cagney is not the same locomotive (Blue Mountain Railroad) that ran in Braddock Heights Park, but it brings back all the great nostalgia and memories of those that enjoyed circling the park (some who had to dodge projectiles from mischievous Braddock Heights boys, not to be named). The Cagney is sure to make an appearance at a future BHCA/BHHS event real soon.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, 2015 will see organizational changes for the BHHS. We are still working to merge the BHHS into the BHCA and hope to have that completed by late spring. The union of community and history is a perfect combination. Watch this newsletter for the next historical event. In the meantime, if you have memories (like riding on the Blue Mountain Railroad) or memorabilia to share, please contact Mark Koltz at markkoltz@gmail.com or 240-490-7951.

SPRING EVENTS SCHEDULE

Spring Clean Up Day

Saturday, March 21, 8:30am-noon (*rain date: March 28*)

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4, 11:00am-12:30pm

Sports Parade / Spring Picnic

Saturday, May 2, 11:00am-3:00pm (*rain date: May 9*)

On Clean-Up Day, neighbors and friends assemble to spruce up the BHCA park and the surrounding area. Donuts, OJ and coffee are provided, and "little helpers" are welcome.

The Egg Hunt is a great time for kids of all ages – even the adults have a good time!

The Spring Parade features baseball teams, the Barracudas swim team, fire engines and members of local scout troops. Immediately following the parade, the Spring Picnic includes music, a clown, a moon bounce, and hot dogs and hamburgers right off the grill.

BASEBALL RETURNING TO BRADDOCK HEIGHTS

In just a few short weeks spring will be upon us and baseball will return to Braddock Heights! Frederick American Little League is happy to team up with the Braddock Heights Community and bring baseball back to the lovely home town baseball field right next to the pool! Frederick American has been in existence for 60 years and offers baseball for boys and girls ages 3-12. We will open our season in Baker Park on April 11th but we will be playing games there as well as Braddock Heights! We are community based and encourage local players to play locally and share in all the joys of local youth baseball.

Frederick American Frederick American Little league is an all-volunteer organization that provides a fun, safe environment for the youth of Frederick to experience the game of baseball. Our focus is to encourage participation, develop character, promote teamwork, and develop league and community pride. We strive to provide age appropriate instruction in the development of baseball skills, sportsmanship, competitiveness and fair play. Frederick American Little league is committed to fostering a love of the game as well as teaching respect of all players and officials.

This season we plan to have games in Braddock for all levels of play from tee ball (ages 3-5), machine pitch (ages 6-7) up to kid pitch divisions (ages 8-12). We also plan to be part of the Braddock Heights Parade on May 2nd so plan to line the streets and catch some candy from these fine young arms! This year we will plan games at the field during the Community Day picnic as well so please stop by and enjoy some good ol' youth baseball.

We all look forward to working together with the Braddock Heights Community in 2015. Naturally, if you have a player interested in playing please let us know. We can be reached at frederickamericanlittleleague@yahoo.com and please be sure to check out our new website at www.frederickamerican.org.

Thanks for the opportunity to become an important part of your community and we look forward to a long and enjoyable time in your neighborhood, and most importantly...let's PLAY BALL!

SWIMMING POOL NEWS

Mark Your Calendars - Our next BHCA Clean-Up Day for both the park and pool areas is **Saturday, 3/21/15**, beginning at 8:30 a.m. It usually lasts until noon. Anyone can show up for any portion of the clean-up. Remember, we are a volunteer organization!

Opening - The pool opening day is on **Saturday, 5/23/15**, at 11 a.m., of the Memorial Day weekend. The pool closing day on Labor Day Monday, 9/7/15, at 8 p.m. Our annual 'Summer Splash' event will take place on Sunday, 9/6/15, with a rain date of Labor Day Monday, 9/7/15.

Facebook - We hope you found it helpful to check us out under 'Braddock Heights Swimming Pool': <https://www.facebook.com/BraddockHeightsCommunityAssociation>. Feel free to email us at: pool@braddockheights.org if you have any questions or suggestions for future postings. When the pool opens, and weather issues present themselves, we encourage you to contact the Braddock Pool gate guard desk: 301-371-8007, to find out about pool closures due to heavy rain/thunder/lightening.

Now Hiring All Guards / Gate Guards! - Michelle Marzullo, owner and operator of Serenity Pools, is well underway in hiring all guards and gate guards. The Braddock Pool was fully staffed for the 2014 season by February 2014. So, if you know of anyone who would like to be a gate guard, or a lifeguard for the 2015 season, **please act immediately!** Simply go to:

- www.serenitypoolmgmt.com – click on 'Employment Application.' You can print it and mail it to the address noted, or scan and email it to Michelle Marzullo.
- Michelle's email: aftm@comcast.net
- Office Phone: 240-215-4734

Deadlines for 2015 Membership: Our volunteers on the Technical Sub-Committee now have the 2015 Pool E-Application on our website and ready for retrieval: <https://secure.netsolhost.com/braddockheights.org/app/poolapplication.html>. If you would like a paper application mailed to you, please contact our volunteer in charge of membership: Tom Dixon (301-639-3903).

2015 Deadline Primary Member Dues

February 3 - April 1 \$285.00
Standard Season Rate (\$10 increase from 2014)

April 2 - Until \$320.00
Max Reached
Late Season Rate (\$20 increase from 2014)

Improvements: For the 2015 season, the diving well already received a new white-coating and the coping stones were replaced. (The coping stones are the curved cement stones that frame the pool.) We plan to add another table, invest in some newer lounge chairs and large cloth umbrellas for the wooden picnic tables, and we will continue to offer FREE Wi-Fi. Simply ask the gate guard for the password. In addition to the usual investment in umbrellas (researched annually) and more new bases, we will be purchasing more new filters to keep the pool as clean as possible.

Comments, Compliments, Complaints?? We invite you to please feel free to contact us at any time to share your comments and concerns, or ask any questions about the pool and pool management. You may contact me at 301-371-9721, email us at pool@braddockheights.org, or mail your suggestions to: BHCA, P.O. Box 243, Braddock Heights, MD 21714. All information will be discussed at a committee meeting and forwarded to Michelle of Serenity Pool Management.

The Pool Committee has several **sub-committees:** Technical, Pool Polices (Rules), Marketing, Pool Operation/Maintenance, Summer Splash, Facebook and Playground Equipment. FYI: Anyone may participate as a sub-committee member without being a Pool Committee member. Please let us know if you would like more information! Or, you could attend a meeting (no commitment) just to meet the group and assess your interest level. (Sub-committee members do not need to attend monthly meetings!) We meet monthly at my house, in Braddock Heights, on the second Tuesday of each month (except for the month of December) to discuss and resolve issues, as well as plan and implement necessary improvements. Snacks & beverages are provided. Meetings typically last 1 1/2 hours and, while the agenda is usually packed, the atmosphere is casual and there are a lot of laughs.

Lisa Tosh
Pool Committee Chairperson
pool@braddockheights.org / 301-371-9721