

Berkshire Hills Civic Association (BHCA) Newsletter

August 2022



What is the BHCA?

BHCA is a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization comprised of dues paying members throughout the Berkshire Hills neighborhood. Its primary purpose is to care for our park (Kein Park), to promote community awareness, and to promote community interaction through neighborhood events. BHCA is run by an all-volunteer board.

BHCA is not a HOA, as membership is optional. Only 56% of the homes have chosen to pay their dues. Dues are only \$30 per year. Several members choose to donate more than \$30, and it was greatly appreciated as all the dues go maintaining our park and sponsoring activities for our neighborhood.

If you have not had the chance to pay your dues, it is never too late. You can go to www.berkshirehillscivic.org and click on the Donate link on the left, and make sure to check the "Share your address" box so we know that you paid. Otherwise you could simply drop off a check with our treasurer, Joe Rizzo, at 60 Creek Road. Thank you for your support!

Your board members are:

Jay Stout - President
Larry Cutright - Vice President
Mike Faust - Secretary
Joe Rizzo - Treasurer
Art Carr - Board Member

This is the first time in many years that all of our board member positions have been filled.

Joe Rizzo has been flying solo and keeping us afloat for approximately one decade. For all your hard work and efforts Joe we would like to thank you!

Let's get started!

The board members are hoping to renew our sense of community within our development. If you would like more information about any of the items listed below, would like to see one of your ideas added to the list, or would like to volunteer to help with any of the activities, please text Larry at 717-395-2222. Here are some ideas that we are in the process of setting up:

* A tool loaner club in which each member creates a list of tools that they wish to share with the other members of the club. Instead of buying that expensive extension ladder that will

only get used once every five years, you can look on the list and see who has one that you could borrow. More info coming soon...

- * Create a list of services and contact information of individuals within our development that they are willing to provide. Here are some examples:

*

Interior house cleaning - Colden Cleaning - Brayden Zell and Colby Estep - 717-461-2216

Baby sitting - McKenzie and Nicolette Guzick - 717

Welding - Kirby Richard - 843-810-3711

Computer troubleshooting - problems connecting a printer etc. - Daniel Cutright - 717-805-8387

Other examples would include house sitting, pet walking, pet sitting, lawn mowing, leaf raking, landscaping, etc. If you or your children have a talent that they wish to advertise in our next newsletter, please contact Larry.

- * Movie night - We are looking into hosting a movie night at the pavilion.
- * Halloween Party - Trick or Treat night in Carroll Township will be Thursday, October 27th from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. We are coordinating the use of a wagon for hay rides, and are looking for someone to organize a children's Halloween Party. We have a large metal washtub that can be used for bobbing for apples. If interested, please contact Larry.
- * Christmas party with a very special guest. That is right, we already booked Santa for the event. Now all we need is someone to volunteer to help coordinate the event.
- * Establish committees for activities. A few examples would be:
 - Children's Party Committee - such as Halloween, Easter, and Christmas.
 - Yard Sale Committee
 - Parks director - someone willing to roundup and schedule volunteers to cut the grass
 - Annual Picnic Committee
 - Fund Raising Committee - yes I know everyone will want to join this one, but openings will be filled on a first come basis! Seriously, if you have the talent and wish to share some time helping to come up with ideas of how to fund the children parties and other activities, we need your help.
- * We are looking into securing a discount membership with the Naylor Observatory in Lewisberry. They have several large telescopes that automatically locate stars, planets, moons, comets, galaxies, etc. They have loaner telescopes that you can sign out and use at home. They have a small collection of meteors that you can touch, and a vast research collection available for use. More info coming soon....
- * We are looking into striking a deal with a local nursery so that members can receive a discount on their landscaping needs.

These are some of the ideas that we have, but we would like to hear what your ideas are for our development. So please come to our Community Picnic and meet your neighbors and board members.

Annual Picnic

Our annual picnic and meeting will be held on September 17th at 4:00 pm. The rain date will be September 24th at 4:00 pm. Everyone that lives in Berkshire Hills is encouraged to come and stay for the meeting afterwards. BHCA will supply the burgers, hotdogs, buns, and drinks. All that you need to bring is your own place setting, plastic ware, and a side dish or desert for everyone to share. Please RSVP on Facebook or at berkshirehillscivic@gmail.com to give us an idea of how many will attend. We will have a corn hole game set up, and one or two disc golf cages. We will have a couple discs, but you are encouraged to bring your own if you have them. Look to our website as we add more activities that will be made available at the picnic. We hope that everyone can make it!

Community Barn Raising

Well, it is more like help your neighbor repair our distressed pavilion day. A special thanks go out to Jay Stout for leading the pavilion repairs and donating supplies! We will be meeting on August 27th at 9:00 am, and if it rains we will meet on Sept 10th at 9:00 am. We plan on trimming fallen tree branches, replacing the door and siding on the back of the pavilion, painting the the pavilion, and staining the picnic tables. We hope to see you there. If you have a chainsaw, paint brush, broom, bucket, scrub clothes, or rags, please bring them with you.

Finances

For the first time in many years we expect to have some money left over from our expenses in maintaining the grass and the pavilion. This is due to a few men that have volunteered to cut the grass this year. A great big thank you goes out to Dale Flor, Josh Howard, and Art Carr for cutting the grass on our community park!

Reservations please

If you are a BHCA member, you can reserve the pavilion or use the picnic tables at your own house free of charge. Just contact Joe.

Who are you?

Unfortunately we were unable to secure The Who for our community picnic this year, but we will be providing everyones name, address, and phone number in the next newsletter. That way you will be more likely to get to know your neighbors, or at least those that wish to participate.

Want to know more?

Email: berkshirehillscivic@gmail.com

Website: www.berkshirehillscivic.org/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/berkshirehillscivic

Find out about burning bans, electronic recycling, curbside leaf pickup, street sweeping, yard waste drop off, where to get recycling bins, ordinances, building permits, and so much more by visiting:
www.carrolltownship.com