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The Mt. Gretna Newsletter

Mt. Gretna, PA "Not a place, but a spirit." - Marlin Seiders (1927-2008)

No. 161

June 2015



The Mt. Gretna season starts with a scoop of the first Jigger sundae on Memorial Day. By tradition, many in Mt. Gretna rush the last ones on Labor Day to their freezers, ready and waiting for a neighborhood party on the first snowy weekend of January.

Lake's open. Jiggers are flowing. Let the summer begin!

What's new in Mt. Gretna? Nothing, of course. Ah, there's the beauty.

No sooner had we arrived back home than a fellow snowbird who spends summers at his cottage in Mt. Gretna Heights spotted us one afternoon in Lancaster and asked, "What's new in Mt. Gretna this year?"

My first thought was that he ought to know better. *New* and *Mt. Gretna* is an oxymoron.

What we Mt. Gretnans specialize in is *old*. Old-fashioned. Old pals. Old rocking chairs on old front porches.

I can't speak for places like Singapore or other exotic spots, or even America's big cities. But having spent nearly 25 years in a place where time seems to stand still, I suspect that much of the world would be better off if they left things just the way they were.

Every place has a sweet spot, a point at which they function at optimal efficiency, and Mt. Gretna has found one of its own. We discovered it about a hundred years ago.

This 161st issue, like most, isn't about changes in the works. Mt. Gretna's pretty much the same year after year, and I doubt there's anything that could actually change it. Sure, some folks would like to build more houses here, but far more who live here year 'round would like to keep it just the way it is: A summertime haven of music and art and drama and thoughtful discussions of trends and ideas, a haven so rare that people who discover it for the first time think they've made a wrong turn into another century. What they've actually discovered is a small laboratory that, left undisturbed, has important lessons to share.

-- Roger Groce



Mt. Gretna's Summer Premiere: another sign of a new season, where arts and crafts blend with old friends and new at the Hall of Philosophy.

On tap this month: Entertainment, Enlightenment & Outdoor Adventures

**Make the 2015 Summer Calendar of Events
your handbook.**

Then check the Arts Council's [online calendar](#) for late updates.



Monday, June 1

Book Talks resume on Mondays at the Library with Jeff Hurst's review from The President's Series, *The President is a Sick Man*, detailing Grover Cleveland's secret surgery at sea. 7 pm

Wednesday, June 3

Hands On Nature for children ages 2 to 6. \$5 per child. Gov. Dick Park. 10 am.

Friday, June 5

Tabernacle Ecumenical Worship Services Theme

: "In God We Have. . ." Pastor James Hahn, St. Luke's Church of Christ, Lititz, starts with "In God We Have Confidence." At the Tabernacle, 7 pm.

Pennsylvania Civil War Soldier
Rigors of daily life in the Pennsylvania 93rd Division, a lecture in the Hall of Philosophy, 7:30 pm.

Pat and Dan Hottenstein of Mt. Gretna will be at a reception from 5 to 8 pm as June's featured artists at the Lebanon Picture Frame & Fine Arts Gallery, 45 S. 8th St., Lebanon.



No, it wouldn't be spring without Mary Hernley, who'll celebrate her 80th birthday next month. *Lois Herr photo, May 2, 2015*

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***First Friday in Mt. Gretna***

At **Le Sorelle Gallery**, artist Danielle Licata, who grew up in Mt. Gretna, will display her handmade jewelry and pencil mosaic drawings inspired by African influences. Featured musician is Drew Brightbill, songwriter, singer and guitarist, who traces his roots to the area. Hosts: Mt. Gretna artists William Barlow and L. Susan Wentzel.

At **The Timbers**, Broadway artist Richard E. Waits performs American Songbook and Standards with pianist Andy Roberts, drummer Dave Lazorcik and bassist Tim Wolf. Also featured is Lancaster artist Matt Chambers, who has been painting farm and river scenes for 25 years, based mostly on childhood experiences along the Susquehanna River. Mr. Waits began his career in a TV commercial with Ginger Rogers and then spent four seasons at the Timbers Dinner Theatre. He subsequently landed on Broadway and won spots working alongside Kristin Chenoweth, Josh Groban and many others.

At **La Cigale Gallery** the works of 11 area artists will be displayed as part of a reception for guest artists Gerry Boltz (bird sculptures and wooden boxes) and Ben Nelson (who finds "harmony among crowded chaos"); Liz Fulmer provides musical accompaniment with wine tasting courtesy of Adams Vintners. 5 to 9 pm.



At **Penn Realty**, artist Lydia Dierwechter will show how she "paints" with fabric and stitches to create functional works of art. She repurposes thrift store wool garments, vintage fabrics and other found objects to create purses (*inset, left*), pillows, and decor.

Next door, the offices of **Hickey Architects** will turn into an art gallery for the sculpture of Graham Gibson, a recent Franklin and

Marshall College graduate who majored in Studio Art and minored in chemistry. He credits inspirations from the fields of math, science and arts of all forms "to better understand my place in this universe."

And in the inaugural display of nature photos she has taken over many years, Harrisburg photographer Rose Feigl will her unveil her works at **3Summer Arts Studio**. Others who have studied at the Park Street studio in Stoberdale will display their hand-painted furniture to the musical accompaniment of Dale Dourte and Friends.

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Saturday, June 6

National Trails Day Hike the Perimeter of Gov. Dick Park. Bring water, snacks and sturdy shoes. 10 am.

Meet and Greet Porch Party Mt. Gretna Historical Society, 206 Pennsylvania Ave. Open to all with complimentary refreshments, next to the Playhouse, 4 - 6 pm. [Details, click here.](#)

Sunday, June 7

Music on the Porch. Bluegrass jam at Gov. Dick Park. Hot dogs and drinks. 1 to 4 pm.

Red Rose Scottish Country Dancers with bagpipes. Tabernacle, 2 - 4 pm.

Tuesday, June 9

Book Reviews resume on Tuesday mornings at the Hall of Philosophy series with guest reviewers from the Lebanon Valley College faculty. Weekly at 9:45 am through mid-August. [Click here for details.](#)

Friday, June 12

Toddlers in Tow Bees Go Buzz! Children age 2 to 5. 10 am, Gov. Dick Park

Tabernacle Ecumenical Series continues: "In God We have Chaos," Pastor Thomas McKinnon, of Mt. Joy's Donegal Presbyterian Church, 7 pm.

Saturday, June 13

Writers Series at the Hall of Philosophy. Jonathan Miles, author of "Dear American Airlines" and "Want Not." Hosted by "Spring Chicken" author Bill Gifford, 10:30 am.



The 15-mile Lebanon Valley Rail Trail, one of the nation's best, runs through Mt. Gretna.

Mt. Gretna Open House A community wide open house of homes currently for sale in Mt. Gretna, 1-3 pm. Coordinator: Penn Realty.

Rail Trail volunteer work day. Trail pruning and painting, other chores. 9 am to Noon.

Jack Hubley host of WGAL's *Wild Moments*, returns to the Tabernacle with his animal friends. 10 am.

Backpacking 101 Ultralight backpacker Bob Ardner offers tips for lightweight hiking. Gov. Dick Park, 1 pm.

Sunday, June 14

Mt. Gretna's Fire Company tries its very first Cash Bingo. Doors open at 11 am with hamburgers, hot dogs and refreshments. Bingo begins at 1 pm.

Bird Watching Identify birds by song and sight. Binoculars needed. Gov. Dick Park, 2 pm.

"Big Junk Day" weekend in the Chautauqua, celebrated with a give-'em-away hot dog roast at the Lancaster Avenue cottage of Thatcher Bornman (*inset*). You won't need an address or formal invitation, just look for folks gathered along the curb on old chairs and sofas where a throwaway grill still sees useful service on one grand Sunday afternoon. Unlike anything you've ever seen. Only in Mt. Gretna, friends, only in Mt. Gretna. Starting around 6ish.



Hot dogs served gratis. Like nothing you've ever seen; it happens every year on Lancaster Avenue.

Monday, June 15

Chautauqua Playground opens at 9:30 am for both resident and non-resident children; Tori Smith and Erin Kulp coordinate the activities. To register, call Bonnie Anderson, 717-964-2299.

Wednesday, June 17

Hands On Nature Ages 2 - 6. Gov. Dick \$5, 10 am.

Mt. Gretna School of Art lecture series begins at the Hall of Philosophy, every Wednesday through July 22. Today's lecture: "Pictorial Space and the Function of Narrative" by Brian Rego, of Benedict College and the University of South Carolina 10 am.

Bike Rodeo Cornwall Elementary playground, sponsored by Cornwall Police Dept. Helmets required. 6:30 pm

Thursday, June 18

Piano Men Gretna Theatre tribute to Elton John and Billy Joel opens a 4-day run with special pricing (<http://www.gretnatheatre.com/current-shows>)

Friday, June 19

Outdoor Adventurers Children ages 8 to 12. \$5 per child. Gov. Dick, 10 am

Tabernacle Ecumenical Worship series continues: "In God We Have Comfort," Pastor John Davis, St. Paul's United Methodist Church of Elizabethtown, 7 pm.

Gretna Music: A 40-year Retrospective with founder Dr. Carl Ellenberger who recalls the musicians, staff, board members, financial contributors and tens of thousands of audience members who have made this small music festival one of the nation's best. A program sponsored by the Mt. Gretna Area Historical Society, at the Hall of Philosophy, 7:30 pm.

Saturday, June 20

Pinkalicious Gretna Theatre children's program. 11 am, Playhouse.

<http://www.gretnatheatre.com/shows/2015/pinkalicious-the-musical>

Authentic Italian Dinner, by reservation only, Le Sorelle Porch and Pantry. 5:30 pm seating; BYOB. Contact Amy Wolf, 717-269-3876, amy@porchandpantry.com

Sunday, June 21

Dog Days of Summer Afternoon in Gov. Dick Park with activities for your dog. 1 - 3 pm.

Andy Roberts and The Four Piece Quartet opens the Bible Festival by praising God through spiritual jazz, Tabernacle, 7 pm.

Tuesday, June 23



Grand Illumination preparations held in the Hall of Philosophy 1 pm today and June 30 with instructors Linda Gettle and Barb Kleinfelter, *inset*. This annual illuminate-your-home celebration is part of Mt. Gretna's community-wide Independence Day festivities July 3-4.

Wednesday, June 24

Mt. Gretna School of Art lecture "Space, Color and Feeling" by Catherine Drabkin, a founder of the Delaware College of Art and Design now teaching at Point Park and Seton Hill universities near Pittsburgh. This lecture series at the Hall of Philosophy Wednesdays at 10 am is open to the public.

Thursday, June 25

"Flipside: The Patti Page Story" opens a four-day run (June 25-28) at the Playhouse. <http://www.gretnatheatre.com/shows/2015/flipside-the-patti-page-story>

Naturalist Foray: Rock Flipping. Turn rocks over (and put them back) to search for the residents of cool, dark places. Gov. Dick Park, 6:30 pm.

Friday, June 26

Tabernacle Ecumenical Worship Series concludes, "In God We Live and Move and Have Our Being," Father Job Foote, St. Paul the Apostle Roman Catholic Church of Anville. 7 pm.

Saturday, June 27

Children's Carnival Pony rides, games, prizes, food, balloons and bubbles. Campmeeting playground, 10 am - noon.

Saturday Night Dinners (four courses) start at Le Sorelle Porch and Pantry (with more to follow on four Saturdays prior to shows at Gretna Theatre. Check [website for details](#). BYOB.

Writers Series Christopher McDougall, author of "Natural Born Heroes" and the bestseller "Born to Run." Hall of Philosophy, 10:30 am.

Trail Yoga. Charlotte Dissinger shows how to stretch and relax as you walk a forest trail. \$5 per person. Gov Dick Park, 1 pm.

Sunday, June 28

UNPLUG! Explore trails in a new way, guided by Gov. Dick Park naturalist Diana, 3 pm.

New Holland Band The annual patriotic and spiritual performance by a band that traces its origin to 1829; directed by Dr. Kenneth Lauder Milch. Tabernacle, 7 pm

AND KEEP IN MIND:

Legendary pianist and conductor Leon Fleisher makes his first appearance in Mt. Gretna, after a career that includes performances in Carnegie Hall and most of the world's other major music venues. In addition to a distinguished career that places him among leading musicians, he earned distinction for his triumph over a disability that forced him to play for more than 40 years with only his left

hand. His long-fought recovery was achieved through experimental



treatments and a determination that celebrates the human spirit. Joined by

renowned pianist Katherine Jacobson in a [duo performance](#), this concert promises to be a highlight of the 2015 Gretna Music season, presented at the Playhouse, Wednesday, July 1 at 7:30 pm. [Tickets](#) Tel. (717) 361-1508.

The venerable game of quoits is back in the news. Larry Bowman of Bell Avenue in the Campmeeting is preparing an email list of all who would like to take part in a sport that dates to ancient Greece and was popular in Mt. Gretna (as shown in postcard, right) from the early 20th Century through World War II.



[Click here](#) for a short history of the game and its role in Mt. Gretna life. [Contact Mr. Bowman](#) if you'd like to add your name to his list of people interested in getting together with other quoit-throwers.

He encourages anyone with their own set of quoits to now begin using the newly restored quoit beds along Rte. 117.

Obituary Notices

Arlyne Meyer (1918 - 2015)

A long-time summer resident of the Campmeeting, Arlyne Demmy Meyer died in Temple, PA last month. She was a native of Manheim, Pa. and had grown up in Lititz. Friends here included Chautauqua resident Larry Roush who recalls "she was always here for friends and her community." She had continued to own the family cottage in the Campmeeting right up to the time of her passing. Her official obituary notes that her chief loves were politics, the theater, and "most importantly, her family."



Her participation in politics took her to state and national inaugurations and inaugural balls. She had served as a Republican committeewoman for Muhlenberg Township for 42 years, as past president of the Berks County Republican Women's Council, was a member of the Pennsylvania Council of Republican Women for more than 50 years and was named Pennsylvania's "Republican Woman of the Year" in 2001.

Her love of the theater blossomed at Ohio University where she earned a degree in drama and speech in 1940. Her theater activities included the Mt. Gretna Players, the Lancaster Community Players, the Lititz Dramatic Theatre, Reading Community Players, and Green Hills Summer Theatre where she had served as president of the Board.

Arlyne was a past president of the Berks County Historical Society Auxiliary, past president and charter member of the Reading Area Pan Hellenic Society, past president of the Berks County Pharmaceutical Society Auxiliary, a board member of St. Joseph's Medical Center

Auxiliary, and a past board member of the Muhlenberg Community Library.

Her professional career included teaching assignments at Muhlenberg Township Schools, the Wyomissing Institute of Fine Arts, and Alvernia College. She worked for many years with her late husband Malcolm, operating Meyer's Pharmacy in Temple.

Arlyne is survived by her sons Scott (Kathy), Malcolm Kent (Leahn) and Sheldon (Holly) as well as several grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Peggy A. Good (1934 - 2015)



Peggy Good, 80, who lived along Timber Road, died May 5 in Hospice and Community Care of Lancaster County. She was the wife of Carl G. Good to whom she was married 64 years. Born in Ephrata, she retired from Warner-Lambert, Lititz. She attended Victory Fellowship Church, Palmyra and enjoyed knitting, crocheting, gardening, making candy, traveling, and NASCAR and dirt track racing.

Surviving in addition to her husband is a daughter Linda L. Brinkarhoff of Amsterdam, NY, a brother Harry D. Rupp of Maryland, three grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Newsmakers

Jack and Jane Anderson and Cliff and Kathy Snavely's photos turn up in the latest *Chautauqua Trail Mix Newsletter*, detailing the nationwide network of still-thriving Chautauqua communities. For a glimpse into how other communities like ours perpetuate their traditions, [click here](#). The remarkable Ms. Snavely, juggling dozens of other duties, somehow finds time to be the lively newsletter's editor as well.



Kathy Wall (*inset*, left) honored by the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers (recently renamed the Aging Life Care Association).

A resident of the Campmeeting, Ms. Wall is president of Senior Caregiving Solutions. A certified care manager and licensed clinical social worker, she has been practicing geriatric care management since 1996.

Ms. Wall was selected as the association's 2014 award winner, Mid-Atlantic Chapter.

Jackie Kosoff officially opens the Mt. Gretna Visitor Information Center June 3 as this summer's marketing intern. She's a junior at Montclair State University where she is a dance and communications major. She's also the daughter of Chautauquan Ed Kossoff, married to Mt. Gretna realtor Jess Kossoff.