



SAW CREEK NEWS



The official publication of the Saw Creek Estates Community Association

June/July 2021



This is your way of having a VOICE in our community

All homeowners in good standing by May 1, 2021, should have received letters in early June with electronic voting instructions and an individual PIN/Code. If you did not receive a letter by June 8, please contact Member Services or nominations@sawcreek.org. VOTE for the 3 candidates of your choice TODAY.

— EVERY VOTE COUNTS —

If you missed Meet the Candidates on June 4, you can see the entire session on our website www.sawcreek.org

2021 ELECTION & VOTING TIMELINE

- JUNE 4 Meet the Candidates. *This event was recorded and a full video of it will be posted on our website soon after.*
- JUNE 7 Electronic voting begins at 12:00p.m. EDT
- JUNE 25 Last day to request your personal voting code by 5:00p.m. EDT
- JULY 2 Electronic voting ends at 5:00p.m. EDT
- JULY 10 Newly-elected board members announced to the BOD
- JULY 17 Annual Membership Meeting. *Newly-elected board members begin their three-year term*



OFFICIAL NOTICE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ORDER OF BUSINESS

**JULY 17
10AM
TOW
Tennis Courts
& ZOOM**

1. Call to Order and Officer Roll Call
2. Determination of a Quorum
3. Acceptance of Minutes of Prior Meeting
4. Board's Report on Budget and Assessment
5. Committee Reports
6. Report on Balloting and Election
7. Question & Answer



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Manager's Message

by Elijah Jones, CMCA, AMS, General Manager

As you all know, it's Election Season at Saw Creek Estates. We have three seats on the Board up for election this year and we've got seven candidates who have offered themselves for service to the Association. First and foremost, I would like to thank each of them for volunteering their time and effort to serve. Inevitably, only three of the seven will be seated as Board members for a three-year term but, for the four who aren't successfully seated, we have plenty of committee openings that could be right up your alley of expertise.

Speaking of volunteering and serving the Association as a whole, Saw Creek Estates is just like many employers in the country who are finding it difficult to fill our employment ranks with part time staff. All of our departments have needs, but the top three needs exist in Recreation, Public Safety and The TOP Restaurant. As a result, as the restaurant and outdoor amenities open for the summer, we may have to limit occupancy based on available staffing.

More than likely, the two indoor pools will be closed unless we have inclement weather as we have an overall shortage of lifeguards. We want everyone to equally enjoy all that Saw Creek Estates has to offer, but we must ensure that we have proper staffing to ensure your experience is as good as it can be. Be on the lookout for updates in the *Week at the Creek* email, the monthly bulletin and at the amenities themselves.

In addition, you may notice that some of our gates are being operated remotely by Dispatch from time to time while we continue our search for gate officers. I want to thank our Patrol Officers who are working the gates from time to time during their shifts to help ease the traffic congestion.

All of our departments are working together to assist each other, but there are only so many people available to cover the needed tasks. I respectfully ask for you to have patience with our staff during this busy season for our Association. I can assure you that they are all going above and beyond in their daily roles to keep the majority of our services running effectively and efficiently. If you or anyone you know is looking for a work opportunity close to home, please have them email hr@sawcreek.org for more information or to receive an employment application.

I wish you all the very best summer as we continue to return to non-Covid normal whilst maintaining social distancing and masks with the protection of everyone's health in mind. As always, if you need me for anything, I am an email away.

I look forward to seeing many of you at Community Day on June 19th at the VIP.



President's Message

by Kathi Connell, SCE Board President

Hello Saw Creek,

Spring brings our annual Director's Election and there are three seats available. I would like to congratulate and thank the candidates who have stepped up to volunteer and run for a three-year term: Michael Derrenbacher, Patricia Kirby, Jason Kurz, Jason Parsons, John Raba, Mike Rudolph, and MJ Stigliano. Good luck to all the candidates and asking all members in good standing to please read the candidate bios, attend Meet the Candidates on June 4th, get to know the candidates and make the right choice for our community. **DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! Your vote matters!**

We live in a wonderful place where we have seen many positive changes around us. The association looks better than it ever has! We have been busy with a few significant achievements and milestones and are pleased with the accomplishments of the Board and Management this year.

I wish to recognize the many ways in which our 100% volunteer Board has invested significant time and energy to improve the lives of residents in our wonderful community where some of the significant projects we have completed and are continuously working on are the Lancaster Bus Stop, VIP Renovation, new VIP Playground, TOP renovations, kitchen floor replacement with new menu, new landscaping contract approved, summer pool maintenance, new gate card access system, member portal and new financial software, with much more happening throughout the community.

With these projects, there have been many successes however we continue to face several issues that need the entire community's attention. Any change to the outside appearance of your property – color changes, tree removal, window modifications, play set or shed installation, etc. – yes, even fence installation or replacement, must be submitted to the Compliance Officer and Building & Architectural Review Committee per the covenants. About 95% of the plans submitted are approved without any change, but the process is necessary to maintain aesthetic beauty of the community and restrict changes that violate the rules and regulations. The time to get this approval is BEFORE changes are started – not after they are finished. Although we have had some hiccups because of COVID-19 and increased construction material expenses, we all share the goal of making Saw Creek's common areas safer and more fun.

The Board and Management does need to ask for everyone's patience with the current staff shortage we are all experiencing through our area. We are short-staffed which could affect some of our amenity hours until we can again be fully staffed. We have multiple positions open and if anyone is interested and/or knows anyone looking for a summer, part-time or full-time job, please contact hr@sawcreek.org.

Words cannot express how proud I am with your Board Members, Management, Staff, and volunteers from the Community that have stepped up and offered their input and expertise getting us to where we are today. Despite COVID we manage to carry forward and work within the ever-changing rules and regulations. And always remember, your input is important. I know how difficult it is due to this COVID pandemic. We must all stay vigilant and do our part to win over it, sooner than later.

All my best to all Saw Creek members for a great and safe summer!





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Public Safety

by Anton Toryak, Public Safety Chief

Finally, the warmth of summer is upon us and just like the changes in scenery, there are numerous changes in Saw Creek Estates. For those I have not met yet, I am the new Chief of the Public Safety Department. I am quickly closing in on the six-month mark of leading the department and each day has been a new and exciting challenge. I welcome the task of ensuring this department can offer the absolute best service to the membership.

Another change that has come is the implementation of the GateHouse system. This system was rolled out at the end of April and I would like to take this time to highlight some areas of importance. First is that Gate Officers now have the capability to scan a driver license into the system to ensure accuracy of guest information. So please let your guests know to have that identification ready when they are approaching the Gate Officer.

Second and most importantly, I encourage all members of Saw Creek Estates to utilize inputting of passes on their own. This not only speeds up the registering of guests, but it also reduces the burden on the Public Safety Dispatchers. The job of a Dispatcher is a very crucial one. They are not only responsible for answering calls from the membership, but also monitoring the status of Public Safety Officers. They are the lifeline of the Public Safety Officer.

It was reported that on one eight-hour shift, over 300 calls for passes were taken. If you wait till your guest is at the gate to call them in, it will create unnecessary lines and traffic issues. There is a delay in the software from input to filtering of the pass information to the gates.

Have the guest information in the system as early as possible and please do your part to reduce the call volume to Dispatch. The number called for entering a pass is the same number that someone trying to report an emergency would dial.

Heading into the heart of the summer, here are some Rules and Regulations violations that Public Safety Officers seem to encounter the most:

- The speed limit on Saw Creek Estates' roadways is posted at 25 MPH. Also, please come to a full stop at all posted stop signs. Lots of fellow

community members will be out and about enjoying this beautiful weather with children and pets. Make sure to do your part to avoid an unnecessary tragedy while driving.

- Fireworks of any kind are not allowed in Saw Creek Estates.
- When using the compactors, remember that no items may be left on the ground. If a compactor is full, call Dispatch (570-588-5151) and wait for further instructions. If you cannot wait, then proceed to the other compactor location. There is one on Decker Road by the Member Services Office and one at the Mill Pond Mailbox Area.

I look forward to serving the membership and can be reached at publicsafety@sawcreek.org.



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Saw Creek Cares

by David J. Henon, Saw Creek Critters

In November I almost lost my beloved Saint Bernard, Aries, to bloat - a condition caused by eating or drinking too fast which then turns the stomach over onto other organs. It is fatal if not caught in time. Fortunately, I knew the symptoms and got her to the vet in time. After her recovery, Aries, and my other dog and two cats had a fabulous Christmas. The dogs loved the many snowstorms we had this winter.

But a few days ago, my worst nightmare became a reality when she bloated again. I rushed her to the emergency vet. They gave me several options, none which were good. The veterinarian and I, as well as others in my support system, agreed that the best thing for her would be euthanasia.

I went through all the stages of grief in a matter of seconds, from bargaining to denial, before I surrendered and thought about what was in her best interest and that was to euthanize her. I trusted the vet, my friend, and her breeder. It was the hardest thing I ever had to do. In fact, I was hyperventilating, and my friend had to get a bag from them for me to breathe into.

Anyone who knows me knows, these pets are my family. I know all my friends through pets. I am a dog trainer. My life revolves around pets. It is my passion. I was devastated.

I had tons of folks reach out to me in support, especially my dear friend Jessica in Member Services. The next day there was a hole in my heart. That first day was all about healing and self care. I was able to process my thoughts and emotions. I cried, I tried to explain what had happened to my other dog. My cat knew right away. Cats are very smart, smarter than what people give them credit. He has not left my side.

I had folks in our community call and text me. A few stopped over with food. Then there was a knock at the door, and it was Officer Streppone from Public Safety. My first thought was What did I do wrong? He informed me he was doing a wellness check and making sure I was okay. He had seen my Facebook posts and was concerned.

I immediately got that warm cozy feeling you get when someone cares for you. I am forever grateful that Officer Streppone and everyone in and out of our community has reached out to me. Aries is up there smiling, knowing I am in good hands!



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OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Members in good standing may write a Letter to the Editor. Letters of 300 words or less, in MSWord format must include name, lot and section number. Lot and section numbers are used for verification of member status only and are not printed. Before submitting a Letter to the Editor, please review the Letter to the Editor Policy in the Saw Creek website Resource Center, in the folder named Important Information. The Public Information Committee makes every effort to see that facts are printed as space permits. Send your letter to the Public Information Committee at PIC@sawcreek.org.

Dear Editor:

We are writing to recommend our neighbor M.J. Stigliano for election to the Saw Creek Board of Directors. We have owned a home in Saw Creek for nearly 30 years and have had many neighbors, but not one has shown the care and concern for Saw Creek that M.J. has. M.J. is not a passive resident. She has stepped up to chair the Rules Committee and takes her role in the governance of the community very seriously. Because we are weekenders, we have relied on M.J. to be our eyes and ears in the neighborhood, and she has kept us informed on a regular basis. The Board of Directors should be made up of people who truly care about the well being and continued success of Saw Creek as a premiere community. M.J. is one of these people. We urge all to vote for M.J. in the coming election. She will be an excellent Board member.

Thank you.

Bruce and Gwenn Kirschner

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you to tell you how I would like to endorse Pat Kirby, to run for the Board of Directors at Saw Creek Estates. I have known Pat for about five years. I find her to be dependable, efficient and she cares about the details of the job at hand. She has been part of Saw Creek Board of Directors and she has shown how she can handle conflicts and help to resolve the problems that may occur within the community.

Pat is a warm and friendly person, she loves Saw Creek and that is the most important reason Pat deserves to be endorsed for this job. I feel confident that you will agree that Pat Kirby is the woman for the job for the Board of Directors at Saw Creek Estates.

Thank You for letting me give her all the praise she deserves!

Cathy Magnusson

Dear Editor:

To: My Saw Creek Friends

Please join me in voting for Jason Kurz in the upcoming SCE Board election. I really got to know Jason over the past year working together on the Short-Term Rental Committee. Jason has shown his commitment in keeping the needs of the community a top priority with regards to the review and recommendations of rental polices and enforcement, with a focus on what is best for our Association.

Jason and I share the same strategic goals and values to allow for sustainable financial future where his financial expertise will benefit the community with the planning and investment of our reserves and assessments.

I am confident that Jason will plan and understand the association's budget, deal with disputes, discuss and carry out ideas, and listen to the membership to continue to improve our property values and lives of our staff, residents, and guests.

If you are like me and believe in Jason's goals, please vote for our future and Jason as a Director of Saw Creek Estates.

Regards,

Shane Murphy

Dear Editor:

I'm submitting this letter to the editor as a Board Candidate endorsement for MJ Stigliano. I've personally known MJ since 2018 and have always been aware of her roles on two Saw Creek committees, the Rules Committee and the Public Information Committee.

As Chairperson of the Rules and Regulations committee, MJ comes fully prepared to all Board meetings. She is one of the most knowledgeable people on the topic. Any questions you may have she can easily and accurately answer. As the Vice-Chair on the PIC committee, she offered her time, energy, and skill set of a proficient proofreader, editor, and graphic designer. Everything MJ pursues is performed thoroughly. You can rely on MJ knowing that the information she is providing is precise and factual.

Having been a gallery owner of a commercial art gallery space in Manhattan, and later the founder and director of a non-profit for over 23 years, I can easily spot someone who is truly a doer. MJ is such a person.

I think her contribution to the SCE Board would be a tremendous asset, based on her broad spectrum of talents. Any project MJ would encounter would be taken with seriousness and commitment. SCE could definitely use a new board member with such notable qualifications.

Chana Benjamin

Dear Editor:

To: The Saw Creek Community

Retirement comes with many perks. One of them is we get to spend more time at our happy place here in Saw Creek. Being a "half-time resident" gives us more opportunity to enjoy the beauty, events, amenities, and nearby attractions. Retirement has allowed us more time to be out and about in the community.

Being an owner for 10 years and a visitor for more than 20 years, we have seen many changes. Change is good and is necessary to meet the needs of the residents and community at large. The Board and Management have done an awesome job making us a Gold Star Community. In a year filled with many challenges due to Covid 19, the leadership team along with Saw Creek staff have worked diligently to keep us thriving and moving forward.

It is important that we elect board members who will help us not only maintain our award winning status, but continue to lead us in a positive direction while keeping the high standards of the Saw Creek community. With that said, I ask you, my fellow residents, to put your confidence behind Jason Kurz. He is an owner, short-term landlord, and my neighbor. I know from our frequent conversations that he has Saw Creek's best interest at heart. Jason is a firefighter and a financial consultant and is very qualified to represent us on the Board. He is intelligent, respectful, and the father of three adorable kids. He, like us, loves the community, and wants to see it continue to thrive.

So, Saw Creek residents, stay informed, join the "Meet the Candidates" event and see for yourself who will make the best additions to our board. Most important, please vote and know that my choice is Jason Kurz.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Graham

Dear Editor:

To: My fellow Saw Creek homeowners

It is with much enthusiasm that I humbly recommend that you vote for Pat Kirby for the 2021-2022 Board of Directors.

Pat is an incredible officer on the current Board. She is currently the treasurer on the Board, and she brings excitement and fervor to every meeting. There is something that is known as Institutional knowledge, and it is an invaluable advantage to retain these individuals to maintain the high standards of Saw Creek. She is also a liaison to the Finance committee, and brings irreplaceable insight and value to that group.

As a fellow board member, I am always pleasantly surprised at Pat's insight and lively discussions at board meetings that affect all of Saw Creek. She is honest, knowledgeable, and opinionated!

She has a very special spark, and I trust that she will continue to make Saw Creek a better place to live. Please re-elect Pat Kirby to the board.

John Graham

OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

To: Members, friends, and neighbors

Now is the time of the year for members to begin the assessment of the board candidates for the next three-year term and during this process I am asking for all members to carefully review and get to know all the candidates running in this year's election.

My Letter to The Editor is to support three of the candidates; Michael Derrenbacher, Pat Kirby, and Jason Kurz in the upcoming 2021 board election where I feel that these three candidates will collectively work together to make the right decisions to benefit the entire community with collegiality and professionalism.

Being a Director requires working cooperatively with the other Board Members in keeping our community looking good, our home values up, our community well maintained and ensure that community funds are used appropriately for the overall betterment of the community. I believe that Michael, Pat, and Jason will take their fiduciary responsibilities seriously and make honest, thoughtful decisions on all matters that come before the Board, regardless of any personal interests or agendas, for the greater good of all Saw Creek residents and will actively listen to your concerns and bring effective communication, unity, continuity and forward thinking to elevate Saw Creek as a Gold Star Community!

Thank you, research your candidates, vote smart and stay safe!

Kathi Connell

Dear Editor:

To: The esteemed members of the Saw Creek Board

I am writing to express my complete confidence that Mike Derrenbacher will be a highly effective and valuable member of the Community's Board should he get elected.

I would like to tell you about some of the ways he has helped improve our community at Mill Pond, and how he has personally made our transition moving to the community a seamless one:

- Before and after we purchased our home, Mike introduced himself to us, invited us into his home, and shared his experience enjoying the community and what it has to offer
- As first-time homeowners moving here from New York City, we had many questions about home maintenance and uptake:
 - Mike answered every call and question, spending hours helping us settle in and make repairs that both enhance our dwelling and save money
 - I've personally seen Mike help other neighbors with various issues including washer/dryer installation and repair, lighting fixtures, landscaping upkeep and dog curbing
- He is friendly and affable; Mike often reaches out to invite us to events in the community, including dinners at Top of the World and fundraising events at PEEC, the Poconos Environmental Education Center. We recently purchased plants together and spent a few evenings re-potting and planting them
- Mike is constantly answering his door and phone with requests from his Mill Pond neighbors. He has the community's best interests at heart and will patiently and effectively work to find equitable solutions to problems
- As our Treasurer, Mike has exhibited tremendous qualifications and know-how, including balancing our budget, managing various legal issues, making decisions on when and how to finance our capital improvements such as street lighting, snow removal, landscaping, and common area repair work

It is without hesitation that I endorse Mike to join your Board. If I can be of any additional assistance, or if you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Jonathan Ziegel

Dear Editor:

The time has come to vote once again in the Saw Creek Estates Board of Directors election.

This is our 16th year voting in this election. We have NOT missed voting once since we moved here. Something as important as protecting our community and our home values should not be ignored, so each year we educate ourselves on the candidates and then choose accordingly. We encourage everyone to do the same.

This year we plan on casting our vote for Michael Derrenbacher, Jason Kurz and Patricia Kirby. With their knowledge, dedication, and expertise, we are confident that they will unbiasedly protect our greatest assets, our home and our community.

Steve and Peggy Gottschau

Dear Editor:

Support Jason Kurz

Well, it's that time of year again in Saw Creek – Board of Directors elections. Soon three terms will end and three new terms will begin. I recently had the privilege of serving on the Short-Term Rental Committee with Jason Kurz and was impressed with his ability to step in to the role of Chairperson. Jason took over this new committee and was capable and in charge from day one. I believe he will do the same as a new Board Director. He showed me he is a leader and works very well with people.

I support Jason Kurz for a three-year term on the Saw Creek Board of Directors.

Gene Farrell

Dear Editor:

I would like to throw our support behind MJ Stigliano, John Raba and Mike Rudolph.

MJ Stigliano has volunteered in many committees and has been involved in SawCreek affairs for many years fighting on behalf of the members. She is very strong and has a lot of heart.

Mike Rudolph: loves the members, the community he is a part of and has also fought on behalf of the members. He listens and cares.

John Raba who adopted an adorable young man with special needs understands family matters of a community and the needs of those who also have special needs, no matter if it's a child or an adult.

We need people who will listen to the members of the community, who care about the members and not just spending like crazy. We need people who understand free speech. We need the board of 2019 back. These three are the only three who can give the board back to the people. Please vote for MJ, Mike and John...bring community back to the community.

Katie Kalpin

Dear Editor:

This is in support of the candidacy of Pat Kirby, who is running for reelection to the Board. I have known Pat for about 15 years and she has worked in my office for the past 8 years so needless to say, I know Pat very well.

When Pat commits herself to something, she is one of the most dedicated people you can find. As a member of the Saw Creek Community, Pat has served on various committees over the years and this led her to originally running for the Board, in both cases, without pushing forward a personal agenda. Rather, Pat will consider all points presented on a topic and then make educated decisions.

Having been elected as part of the Board to serve the Community as our Treasurer for the past two years, she has shown her unending commitment to the wellbeing of Saw Creek Estates. I think we would be fortunate to have Pat's services on the Board for another 3 years.

We can't go wrong with Pat!

Priscilla Rasmussen

OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Experience and Character

The first and foremost consideration in the SCE Election process should be EXPERIENCE! What has the candidate done for the community beyond paying their dues? What knowledge, interest, and service have they demonstrated? One candidate emerges- MJ Stigliano!

I personally worked with MJ as SCE Board President and Committee Liaison. She has Chaired the Rules Committee for 5 years, served as Vice Chair of the Public Information Committee for 3 years- both positions requiring almost monthly SCE Board meeting attendance. Further, this year she has been Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaw Amendments.

Her command of the English language also puts her in the front of the line. She has frequently been asked to edit complicated Association documents including Bylaw revisions, Rules and Regulations updates and newsletter proof reading.

The second but equally important consideration is CHARACTER including but not limited to dedication, sincerity, and concerns about maintaining and improving our beautiful environment and caring for neighbors and friends. One candidate excels- MJ Stigliano!

Starting in 2014, MJ became intimately involved in the deer management program and continued her passion for our beautiful wildlife. Her interest and dedication to ensuring that all SCE homeowners have a voice in the Deer Management program remained steadfast through the passage of the SCE Bylaw amendment in 2018- now allowing all homeowners to have a voice.

One candidate truly stands above the crowd and is desperately needed in today's SCE political climate. A vote for MJ is a vote for real EXPERIENCE and CHARACTER.

Suzanne Mark

Dear Editor:

I first became acquainted with Jason Kurz last year when he ran for the board. We have kept in touch since then, and I have gotten to know him better. As a member of the Board of Directors, Jason will effectively represent not just the Short-Term Rental homeowners, but also our Full-Time neighbors, who have had problems with the way some homeowners are renting their properties.

From what I know of Jason, he will work hard to solve all the issues that take away from the quality of life in Saw Creek. He will be an asset on the Board. He will be committed and dedicated in keeping Saw Creek Estates the wonderful, peaceful, fun, and number one community in the Poconos.

I will vote for him for the Board of Directors, and I hope you will too.

Elione Galvao



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Ensuring that Saw Creek Estates Stays the #1 Community!



PAT KIRBY



Continue the momentum in rising property values and home sales by ensuring Saw Creek remains a strong "Gold Star" community guided by our strategic plan, By-Laws, and Covenants.

Continued oversight of community financials and ensure that monies are spent and invested wisely

As the pandemic has shown, a strong community is essential. I want to continue to build on our strong community wide feeling and support we give to one another.

#SawCreekValues



JASON KURZ



Ensure Saw Creek remains financially strong for future generations through strategic planning, disciplined investing and financial reform.

Build on the success of the current board in implementing policies and improvements which directly benefit the community as a whole.

Continue to implement policies that are fair and balanced for all residents as they relate to short term rentals within the community.

#SawCreekForward



MICHAEL DERRENBACHER

Maintain existing assets at current levels while strategically evaluating future capital expenditures which will benefit the community and homeowners in general.

Explore/expand relationships with existing/new vendors (e.g., realtors/restaurants) to enhance service and homeowner values

Provide multiple channels/forums for homeowners to voice concerns/ideas/suggestions.

#SawCreekResponsible



2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

VOTE JUNE 7th - JULY 2nd on www.sawcreek.org

Stormwater Management

Stormwater Management is a large part of being a homeowner. Most homeowners do not understand the responsibilities when it comes to drainage. Listed below is the direct verbiage for the Construction Guide (page 25).

Maintenance of Premises and Improvements (Drainage)

It is the property owner's responsibility to install/maintain the culvert pipe(s) and drainage channels adjacent to the property. When correctly maintained the culvert pipe should ensure the uninterrupted flow of water and cause no damage to SCE common areas and/or neighboring properties. Failure to maintain/correctly install a culvert pipe will result in a Tier 3 Citation (\$250.00). If drainage issue(s) is left unresolved SCE reserves the right to enter the property and correct the issue(s) and charge the Property Owners account. All violations will proceed through the approved tier process; with the exception of an emergency drainage clean out. If an emergency situation shall arise, a crew will be sent out to correct the issue at the owner's expense at a minimum charge of \$300.00. Charges may vary depending the severity of the drainage issue.

Stormwater Management can get quite expensive, but if correctly done the cost savings for future damage of your and/or your neighboring properties can be great. Several keys to remember when it comes to stormwater management:

1. Water cannot be directed onto a neighboring property
2. Always hire reputable contractors
3. Properly size drainage pipes and channels
4. Direct water away from the home
5. Keep drainage clear of debris (This includes LEAVES!)

Should you have any questions and/or concerns regarding your drainage, please contact Member Services.



2021 Summer Selling/Renting Season is SIZZLING HOT!!!

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Call James Today!

Ethics – Integrity – Respect – Results



James J. Martin, Realtor
 Professional REALTOR for over 14 years
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570.856.6482 Direct
 jamesm@wilkins1.com

2021 is the year to SELL. Call me today!!



LIST NOW - and I will pay for your first right of refusal or Resale Certificate at closing.

EVENING & WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS ALWAYS WELCOME



Time to Vote for the Future of our Community

by Ida Mathew, Nominating Committee Chair

This is an important time of year for all our homeowners as we are in the midst of our annual elections, which will help determine the future of our community. There are three Board positions open and we as members of our community have the opportunity to select members of our community to represent us on our Board of Directors, so please review the candidate information in this Election Edition and most importantly, **VOTE!**

If you have any questions for the candidates, you can contact them individually through email. Their email address are shown underneath each candidate's name on their bio in the center spread.

This is your way of having a VOICE in our community.

June 4, 2021, we held an Informal Candidate Forum where questions for the candidates were sent in by homeowners. If you missed watching the forum live, you can still view candidate presentations including their answers to questions on our website.

IMPORTANT DATES

Electronic voting takes place:

Start: Monday, June 7 at 12:00PM (EDT)
End: Friday, July 2 at 5:00PM (EDT)

Last day to request a voting code for the election:

Friday, June 25 at 5:00PM (EDT)

Questions? Contact the Nominating Committee with questions pertaining to the election at nominations@sawcreek.org



Saw Creek Estates Contact Information

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SCEBOD@SawCreek.org
 President Kathi Connell
 Vice-President Bill Montgomery
 Treasurer Patricia Kirby
 Secretary Peggy Gottschau
 Members James Hidalgo, Debra Wulff, John Graham, Art Kalpin, Jack Burchill

MANAGEMENT TEAM

General Manager Elijah Jones elijah@sawcreek.org
 Director of Public Safety Anton Toryak publicsafety@sawcreek.org
 Human Resources Manager Melanie Voiles hr@sawcreek.org
 Director of Community Relations Jessica VanDerVliet jessica@sawcreek.org
 Director of Operations Nicolas Hutta violations@sawcreek.org
 Director of Finance & Admin Martha Almanza martha@sawcreek.org
 TOP Restaurant Manager/Chef Michael Guerra michael@sawcreek.org

COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS

Appeals Norda Calder appeals@sawcreek.org
 Beautification Peter McCaffery beautification@sawcreek.org
 Building & Architectural Peter Derrenbacher maintenance@sawcreek.org
 Finance Donna Mahmood finance@sawcreek.org
 Nominating Ida Mathew nominating@sawcreek.org
 Public Information TBD pic@sawcreek.org
 Recreation Karen Chirillo recommittee@sawcreek.org
 Rules & Regulations M.J. Stigliano rulesandregulations@sawcreek.org
 Safety Frank Krzeszowski safety@sawcreek.org

The Cristina Primrose Team

Saw Creek Home Sales

- **Currently Listed:** 34 homes as of June 2, 2021
- **Pending Settlement:** 43 homes as of June 2, 2021
- **Total Sold in past 12 months:** 262 homes

Information provided by the Pocono Mountain Assoc. of Realtors

PoconosHouseHunting.com



705 Glen Lane, Sciota PA 18354
(570) 992-1010



Cristina Primrose
 Team Leader
 Associate Broker
 (570) 402-8508 direct
 (570) 992-1010 office
cprimrose@kw.com

In this market, any Agent can put your home under contract, but the real expertise comes in keeping the transaction together.

Every day our MLS Hot Sheet shows sales that have fallen through. Don't let that happen to you! My experience and knowledge will keep your home sale together.

I am with you every step of the way until it closes. Check out my reviews on Zillow.com



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Solid Hardwood Flooring 3/4 in.
 Installed starting at
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NEW: WATERPROOF Vinyl Click & Lock Flooring
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We'll beat ANY competitor's price!

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Yes, we will install customer-supplied material

WHOLESALE - RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL

NEW LOCATION:

106 Columbia Dr., Suite #4
 East Stroudsburg PA 18301
 > Jay Park Plaza
 across from Alaska Pete's

FREE ESTIMATES
 **SHOP-AT-HOME SERVICE**
 AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT
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2021 SAW CREEK ESTATES BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

Michael Derrenbacher

mderrrenbac@aol.com

Pertinent background, education, or experience and motivation as a Board Candidate

Education wise I have a Masters in Taxation from Fordham University and an Undergraduate



degree in Applied Mathematics and Statistics. I am a Certified Professional Accountant (CPA) and Certified Financial Planner (CFP). Regarding practical experience I am currently serving as Secretary and Treasurer of Mill Pond Unit Owners Association (which is a separate HOA comprised of 60 Townhouses located within the Saw Creek Association).

My motivation to run as a board candidate is to effectively balance the needs of the community while maintaining fiscal control of the operating and capital reserves to ensure maintenance of our community's assets.

Skills and attributes that will make a positive difference in our community

I feel that my financial background coupled with my practical experience as a current board member in an Home Owners Association which current operates within the Saw Creek boundaries and being a full time resident provides me with a unique understanding of the challenges and issues which are faced by the community on a day to day basis. Each and every voice or opinion is important in formulating a strategy which will best serve the community while effectively balancing our resources with our members needs.

Personal goals about serving on our board that align with the Association's Strategic Plan

My main objective in serving on the board is not personal in nature, rather it is focused on ensuring that the community is the best it can possibly be by properly balancing the needs our members, who have a vested financial and personal interest in our community, with the budgetary constraints which must be considered in any decision. In my mind, future board members should look to appreciate the work that has been done by previous boards, while considering a rapidly changing environment to map out an effective strategy moving forward.

Patricia Kirby

pkkirby@hotmail.com

Pertinent background, education, or experience and motivation as a Board Candidate

As current Board Treasurer, my mission will be to continue to manage the business and property of the association and improve the residential living environment that leads to a financially sound, pristine, enjoyable, and safe environment and look forward to continuing in that role. I am certified in several aspects of Financial Planning through the American College and obtained Project Management Planning certification with George Washington University. My motivation is for every resident and family to enjoy Saw Creek Estates and all it has to offer as much as I have these past 30 years.



Skills and attributes that will make a positive difference in our community

My strongest attribute is my determination. I take on every challenge head-on and do what I need to accomplish the goals, even when the challenge is difficult, as was done with new challenges at my previous jobs, whether it was leading my first team project or meeting a quick deadline. I will continue to utilize these skills and attributes as I have during my current three-year term as a Director and Treasurer of our community. I will strive to make the best possible business decisions for the association, taking into consideration all available information, circumstances, and resources.

Personal goals about serving on our board that align with the Association's Strategic Plan

Directors must make decisions that comply with the law, governing documents, and advice of the Association's qualified professionals and avoid conflicts of interest, self-dealing and personal gain. In alignment with the Strategic Plan, we recently strengthened our Investment Policy Statement towards a more defined direction in accordance with the Bylaws. My goals are to work with all Directors, Management and Staff to recommend actions that serve to continue to strengthen the financial position as well as work towards the view of increasing property values, making Saw Creek an excellent place to live and maintain our Gold Star Community status.

Jason Kurz

kurzjsn@yahoo.com

Pertinent background, education, or experience and motivation as a Board Candidate

My motivation for serving as a member of the Board is to help ensure that the community remains a Gold Star, financially stable community for generations to come. For the past 14 years I have worked for the same firm as a financial advisor to individuals, corporations, foundations and retirement plans. This experience will benefit the community with future financial planning and investment. My work with the Short Term Rental Committee has helped to create solutions to issues affecting the community. As a board member, I look forward to continuing that success on a broader scale.



Skills and attributes that will make a positive difference in our community

Over the past year, I have gained a tremendous amount of experience in community operations and Association procedures serving as Chairman of the Short Term Rental Committee. Committee members worked diligently to identify critical updates to the existing rental policy and make necessary recommendations to the board. The success of this committee shows how residents with different opinions can work together on a solution which benefits the entire community. I would like the opportunity to further improve community relations by bringing my experience as a responsible short term rental owner to the board.

Personal goals about serving on our board that align with the Association's Strategic Plan

Responsible decision making and planning are key to the stability and future of our community. It is important to continue to adapt to the changing needs of our community and to continue to improve the lives of our residents. The Association's Strategic Plan, Values and Vision are consistent with my own. Having young children, it is important to me that our community remain a place for them to come and enjoy with their families one day. I look forward to the opportunity to serve as a member of the Board to help ensure this.

Jason Parsons

juaqinh@aol.com

Pertinent background, education, or experience and motivation as a Board Candidate

Born and raised in Jersey City, NJ. USARNG veteran. Moved to Middlesex County, NJ in 2000. Bachelor's degree, Rutgers University, 2011. Post grad work, Centenary University 2013-14. Married, with 5 adult children (I'm the only one living FT in PA). Former mental health professional at Saint Peter's Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ. Retired small business owner. I've vacationed steadily in the Poconos for several years and began the transition to The Commonwealth in 2019. Purchased in Saw Creek in 2020 and I'm the happiest I've ever been. I love to cook, exercise and kayak.



Skills and attributes that will make a positive difference in our community

I'm fair, objective and diverse. I'm thorough and pay attention to detail. I'm well-organized and respect policy and procedure. I'm passionate about whatever I do and I see my projects through. I have utilized almost every amenity SCE has to offer and have networked with countless other residents, both in person and on several social media platforms. I attend Bushkill Community Church and volunteer at Jo's Pantry. I have swam, fished, kayaked, and Jon-boated on the Mill Pond, I have waded in the Saw Creek with my dogs, and I lost 20 lbs in the TOW Fitness Center!

Personal goals about serving on our board that align with the Association's Strategic Plan

I'd like to be able to put my tools to use at SCE. I'd like to strengthen my network both in SCE, and the neighboring communities. As the dynamic of the community continues to change with the shift in the housing market, I'd like to learn all I can, so I could be of maximum service to those in need.

John Raba

johnraba@ptd.net

Pertinent background, education, or experience and motivation as a Board Candidate

I have a BA in History and an MAT in Education but have been working as a Database Administrator (DBA) for 26 years. As a DBA, I have to make split second decisions related to code, security, and design relating to database design, structure, and operation while at the same time weighing in long term effects of said decisions. I have a very analytical background. My motivation for being a Board Candidate is a hope of gaining better transparency, improving safety, stopping fireworks, gaining residents trust, and improving handicapped access to amenities.



Skills and attributes that will make a positive difference in our community

Because of my educational and employment background I am very analytical. I believe that with proper data analytics community decisions can be made that are beneficial to the community and financially. Also with my background I am able to work as a team member, a team leader, and/or as an individual. Information Technology involves tight deadlines that are usually not flexible so I know how to focus my energy/attention to a task and if needed, ask others for help in order to get the task completed.

Personal goals about serving on our board that align with the Association's Strategic Plan

Transparency/communication needs to be improved. The fireworks ban needs to be fully enforced before there is a major fire. Party houses/noise ordinances need to be better enforced. Amenities need to be better equipped for handicapped access. Create more clubs such as a photography club, wildlife club, astronomy club in order to get residents to know one and other better. Figure out a way to increase public safety so that more officers would be available at night. The abundance of wildlife has decreased because of fireworks, noise, and interference. SCE is a residential community and needs to stay that way.

Michael Rudolph

MikeR@TYW4L.com

Pertinent background, education, or experience and motivation as a Board Candidate

I am a retired institutional trade instructor and teacher of culinary arts for over 20 years in the NJ prison system. I also set up and implemented the culinary arts program for 2 residential community homes for NJJJC. I was solely responsible for the economic program for two residential community programs for NJJJC. While in college I studied computer operations and data processing. During my career as an institutional trade instructor I studied food science and economics. Before retirement I helped set up an ongoing culinary arts program and economics program for two residential community within NJJJC.



Skills and attributes that will make a positive difference in our community

I am interested in helping SCE to grow while saving homeowners expenses. I also believe keeping the minutes of meetings and budget. I want to make sure that SCE continues to hold the required amount of insurance. I want to work on resolutions that will be kept with the BOD minutes. I would like to work on getting a yard waste recycling area setup within the community so that yard waste doesn't go into the compactors. I would work with other board members in curb side yard waste removal, to help keep the community clean and raise property values.

Personal goals about serving on our board that align with the Association's Strategic Plan

We need to really look into the day to day operations of Top of the World, and make it a place that the residents will be proud of and will be willing to visit. Living in the community is a good way to make new friends and being able to help out when the need arises. Living in the good community also means there is access to all the amenities without discrimination. To live in a community means being part of the community

MJ Stigliano

mjstigliano@gmail.com

Pertinent background, education, or experience and motivation as a Board Candidate

Six months after retiring from Merck Pharmaceuticals in 2011, I moved to Saw Creek. Concurrently with that full-time job, I was the On-Site Manager of a 58-unit apartment complex for 20 years. Being both a tenant and the manager gave me a unique perspective of the challenges faced by both sides, a perspective which can easily be compared to the challenges faced by homeowners and Board/Management. Since 2012, I've volunteered in Saw Creek, including being a member of four committees: Ad-Hoc Real Estate (Chair), Ad-Hoc By-Law (Chair), Public Information (Vice-chair), and the Rules Committee (Chairperson since 2016).



Skills and attributes that will make a positive difference in our community

I maintained a 4.0 average in college, majoring in Written Communications. This writing skill was invaluable as a member of the Public Information Committee, which helps produce the Saw Creek newspaper. I advocate for correct grammar and punctuation, especially for our governing documents, which help homeowners understand their rights and responsibilities for living in our community. Having served the community on various committees for over 8 years has given me insight into how the community is managed. My previous jobs required attention to detail, customer service, and being a team player; those skills will help me as a board member.

Personal goals about serving on our board that align with the Association's Strategic Plan

I envision that Saw Creek will continue to welcome different demographic groups, and make efforts to keep the community clean, safe and financially sound. Board members always put the community's best interest before their own goals, including promoting the Strategic Plan, which I will do as long as the plan continues to benefit homeowners and the community. Let's take Saw Creek's Gold Star status one step further: I encourage Board/Management to formally sign the Community Association Institute's (CAI) Civility Pledge (<https://bit.ly/3o13Klu>). Signing this pledge will be a positive addition to the "Our Values" section of the Strategic Plan. #SAWCREEKMOVESFORWARD

BYLAW AMENDMENT 2021-01

Note: Changes are indicated with underlining which will be added or removed in the Final Version.

Article IV. Board of Directors

1. Mission Composition and Selection

Section D. Nomination of Directors – (3)

Except when filling Board vacancies caused by resignation or removal, candidates for the Board of Directors will be nominated as follows:

- (3) All nominees must also meet the following requirements to be eligible for nomination. No nominee may be a Nominating Committee member or spouse of a Nominating Committee member. All candidates must state their qualifications and solicit votes by submitting a written biographical sketch intended to be included with the voting information mailed to the members. Nominees shall be invited to participate, either in person at or by submitting a written presentation for, a Candidates' forum scheduled by the Board. All candidates shall also be and remain members in good standing of the Association.

Proposed Bylaw Change

Except when filling Board vacancies caused by resignation or removal, candidates for the Board of Directors will be nominated as follows:

- (3) All nominees must also meet the following requirements to be eligible for nomination. ~~No nominee may be a Nominating Committee member or spouse of a Nominating Committee member.~~ No nominee may be, nor within six months of the annual meeting have been, (1) a Nominating Committee member, (2) a spouse, domestic partner or dependent of a Nominating Committee member or (3) the Board Liaison to the Nominating Committee. All candidates must state their qualifications and solicit votes by submitting a written biographical sketch intended to be included with the voting information mailed to the members. Nominees shall be invited to participate, either in person at or by submitting a written presentation for, a Candidates' forum scheduled by the Board. All candidates shall also be and remain members in good standing of the Association. **Amended July XXXX**

Reason/Justification: Information discussed at a Nominating Committee is covered by the Committee Confidentiality Agreement. Anyone sitting on the Committee could have unfair advantage over other nominees.

BYLAW AMENDMENT 2021-04

Note: Changes are indicated with underlining which will be added or removed in the Final Version.

Article VIII. Finances

Section J. Accounting Principals

The Association shall employ accrual accounting. All accounting and controls shall comply with AICPA guidelines and generally accepted accounting principles. The Association shall segregate accounting duties. Disbursement by check shall require two authorized signatures. No facsimile shall be used. The Association shall make no petty cash disbursements in excess of \$100.00.

- 1) Cash accounts shall not be commingled with others except for joint investments, and then only on the condition that the Association's books shall show each account's contribution to the investment.
- 2) All funds of the Association shall be kept in depositories approved by the Board and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. No changes of depository shall be made without the approval of the Board. All funds in any depository in excess of the statutory insurance limit set by the Federal De-

BYLAW AMENDMENT 2021-04 cont.

posit Insurance Corporation, or funds not needed for immediate use by the Association, or in excess of Association's cash flow requirements shall be invested by the Treasurer in investments as shall be approved by the Board. The investments shall only be made in:

- a) United States Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds as well as United States Government Agency Discounted Notes or **Amended July 2007**
- b) In money market accounts or similar investments that substantially invested in U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government Agency instruments and securities or are directly secured by U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government Agency instruments and securities. Investment funds or other investments vehicles shall be controlled or managed by banks chosen by the Board of Directors of the Association.
- c) Fixed Income Securities which may include corporate bonds of U.S. Corporations that are rated "A" or better by any recognized rating agency (Standard & Poor's, Moody's).
- d) Equity Securities – Large cap equity investments which meet the following criteria: Issued by U.S. Corporations or American Depository Receipts issued by a foreign company that are traded on a major organized U.S. Stock exchange. The market capitalization for these companies must be \$10 billion or more.
- e) Mutual Funds or Exchanged Traded Funds (ETF's). whose investments meet the characteristics listed in items (a) through (d). Specific approval for these alternative investments will be governed by the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) adopted by the Board annually in January and under no condition will these alternate investments exceed 20% of the total investment portfolio consistent with the recommendation of our investment manager. **Amended July 2012**

Proposed Bylaw Change:

Section J. Accounting Principals Principles

The Association shall employ accrual accounting. All accounting and controls shall comply with AICPA guidelines and generally accepted accounting principles. The Association shall segregate accounting duties. Disbursement by check shall require two authorized signatures. No facsimile shall be used. The Association shall make no petty cash disbursements in excess of \$100.00.

- 1) Cash accounts shall not be commingled with others except for joint investments, and then only on the condition that the Association's books shall show each account's contribution to the investment.
- 2) All funds of the Association shall be kept in depositories approved by the Board and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation other than the below approved investments noted. No changes of depository shall be made without the approval of the Board. All funds in any depository ~~in excess of more than~~ the statutory insurance limit set by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or funds not needed for immediate use by the Association, or in excess of Association's cash flow requirements shall be ~~invested by the Treasurer in investments as shall be~~ approved by the Board in consultation with appropriate professionals. The investments shall only be made in:
 - a) United States Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds as well as United States Government Agency Discounted Notes or **Amended July 2007**
 - b) In money market accounts or similar investments that substantially
 - i. Are invested in U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government Agency instruments and securities or
 - ii. Are directly secured by U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government Agency instruments and securities. ~~Investment~~

Continued on next page...

BYLAW AMENDMENT 2021-04 cont.

~~funds or other investments vehicles shall be controlled or managed by banks chosen by the Board of Directors of the Association:~~

- c) Fixed Income Securities which may include corporate bonds of U.S. Corporations that are rated "A" or better by any recognized rating agency (Standard & Poor's, Moody's).
- d) A portion of the investment portfolio may be invested in alternate investments which shall be governed by an Investment Policy Statement (IPS) adopted by the Board annually in January. Alternate investments may not exceed 20% of the total investment portfolio, irrespective of gains, and must be consistent with the recommendation of the Association's investment manager. Alternate investments may include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - i. ~~(d) Equity Securities – Large cap equity investments which meet the following criteria: Issued by U.S. Corporations or American Depository Receipts issued by a foreign company that are traded on a major organized U.S. Stock Exchange. The market capitalization for these companies must be \$10 billion or more.~~
 - ii. ~~(e) Mutual Funds or Exchanged Traded Funds (ETF's) whose investments meet the characteristics listed in items (a) through (d).~~

~~Specific approval for these alternate alternative investments will be governed by the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) adopted by the Board annually in January and under no condition will these alternate investments exceed 20% of the total investment portfolio consistent with the recommendation of our investment manager. **Amended xxxx**~~

Reason/Justification: Funds are not invested by the treasurer. The investment manager/advisor/bank hired by the Board of Directors, invests Saw Creek funds in accordance with our bylaws. Furthermore, the Board of Directors instructs the investment manager/advisor/bank via an Investment Policy Statement, updated annually, as to what percentage of excess funds may be placed in alternate investments.

BYLAW AMENDMENT 2021-05

Note: Changes are indicated with underlining which will be added or removed in the Final Version.

Article X. Miscellaneous Section C. Amending Bylaws

- 1) Any proposal to amend these Bylaws, whether originated by the Board or by member petition, shall be made in writing and filed with the Secretary no later than April 1st of each year and shall include: **Amended July 2013**
 - (a) A title which identifies the subject Bylaw Article, Section and Subsection.
 - (b) The exact wording of the proposed amendment.
 - (c) In 500 words or less, explanation of the purpose of the proposed amendment.
- 2) The Secretary shall immediately send a copy of each proposed amendment to the Bylaws Committee, who shall verify that sufficient interest has been shown in the amendment.
 - (a) For any Board-proposed amendments, sufficient interest is shown if it has obtained a favorable vote of two thirds of all board members.
 - (b) For any Member-proposed amendments, sufficient interest is shown if it is accompanied by a petition signed by one hundred fifty (150) or more members each of whom meets the voting eligibility requirements contained in Article III, Section G and which petition also satisfies the following requirements:

BYLAW AMENDMENT 2021-05 cont.

- i. Proposals as defined in Section C (1) (a-c) must be attached to the petition.
- ii. The petition requests a vote of all Members to accept or reject the proposed amendment.
- iii. The petition refers to each proposed amendment by its title.
- iv. The petition includes the legibly printed name, lot and section number of each member who signs the petition.

Proposed Bylaw Change

- 1) Any proposal to amend these Bylaws, whether originated by the Board or by member petition, shall be made in writing and filed with the Secretary no later than April 1st of each year and shall include: **Amended July 2013**
 - (a) A title which identifies the subject Bylaw Article, Section and Subsection.
 - (b) The exact wording of the proposed amendment.
 - (c) In 500 words or less, explanation of the purpose of the proposed amendment.
- 2) The Secretary shall immediately send a copy of each proposed amendment to the Bylaws Committee, who shall verify that sufficient interest has been shown in the amendment. **Amended xxxx**
 - (a) For any Board-proposed amendments, sufficient interest is shown if it has obtained a favorable vote of two thirds (2/3) of all board members.
 - (b) For any Member-proposed amendments, sufficient interest is shown if it is accompanied by a petition signed by one hundred fifty (150) or more members each of whom meets the voting eligibility requirements contained in Article III, Section G (see Appendix below) and which petition also satisfies the following requirements:
 - i. Proposals as defined in Section C (1) (a-c) must be attached to the petition.
 - ii. The petition requests a vote of all Members to accept or reject the proposed amendment.
 - iii. The petition refers to each proposed amendment by its title.
 - iv. The petition includes the legibly printed name, lot and section number of each member who signs the petition.

Reason/Justification: To ensure member information is kept confidential from other members and committee members; to comply with the duties of the Secretary of the Association as outlined in the SCE Bylaws as follows:

Article V. Section A.

The officers shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association. They shall have the powers and duties described in this Article.

Article V. Section F. – Secretary

- (2) Properly record and preserve all minutes of proceedings, including records of voting.
- (6) Cause the recording of minutes at all meetings.
- (9) Oversee preparation of the Membership Register, which shall contain:
 - (a) Members' names listed alphabetically.
 - (b) Addresses and telephone numbers authorized by members to be used for official contact by the Association.
 - (c) Members Community addresses, including mailbox number, section, and lot number.
 - (d) The date the member became an owner.
 - (e) The members in good standing status with the date last determined and the reason if the status is not in good standing.

Creating Good Times

by Renee Hojnowski, Program and Event Coordinator



Springtime and Recreation mesh very well together. We entered spring this year with two dog training classes from David Henon, our neighborhood dog trainer, a crowd that was wowed by the Reptile Show and Hip Hop Hooray, our very first walk around the VIP pond Easter event, complete with an Easter Bunny visit, take home crafts, twisted balloons, and prizes.

We also snuck "Trivia Nights" into our yearly calendar of events. Is your team ready to win? Contact Recreation for details and enjoy a night of thinking and laughs.



April ended with our annual Spring Clean-Up with a special Earth Day event addition that followed with music from Ann M.

We began May with our first Springfest at the VIP field. Guests and participants enjoyed an afternoon filled with music from local band, Group du Jour, Saw Creek's Big Garage Sale, the first of our summer movies and a Fishing Derby at the VIP pond.

But wait! The fun does not stop in spring. It continues throughout the summer, beginning with Community Day. This event will be super special with music by Who Knows, still walkers, jugglers, caricature and glitter tattoo artists, balloon twisting, a petting zoo and so much more! You cannot miss this! Join your friends and neighbors for a fun and exciting afternoon.



You want more excitement? This summer we will keep you busy with many outdoor movies, campfire nights, an Ice Cream Social (complete with all your favorite toppings), a Duck Race, our Annual Adult Tennis Classic, a Mill Pond beach party, a Fishing Derby at Mill Pond, and a Kids' End of Summer Party. Whew!

Saw Creek enjoys having fun. Keep an eye out for dates and locations for all this cool summertime amusement.

Do not forget about our Home Contests that are offered every month throughout the year. Design and create an item of our choice and put your own personal spin of artistry into it. There are a lot of creative individuals out there so show off your artistic talents for a chance to win a special prize.

Thanks again to all the volunteers that give their time to the Saw Creek events to make them memorable for all.

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Know the Rules Disrepair/Trash/Garbage

by the Rules Committee

It's very unappealing to bring your trash to the compactors, only to discover that the compactor is full or inoperable, and other homeowners have simply left their trash bags on the walkway. Not only is this unsightly, but trash bags not placed in the compactors will attract wildlife.

Does the red sign in this article look familiar? If not, please look for it the next time you go to either Mill Pond or Decker Road compactor areas, because this sign is prominently displayed at both locations. If you encounter a compactor that is full or not working, follow the instructions on the sign: call 570-588-5151. Public Safety will be happy to contact maintenance to address the issue as soon as possible. Leaving your trash bags or any random items in front of the compactors is a violation of the Rules Document.

As noted in the Section IV. Healthy and Safety, Rule G, 1b. Disrepair/Trash/Garbage:

Do not throw or place or deposit any items on the ground or outside the dumpster, i.e., unwanted items that are meant to be donated. Placing items alongside and/or in front of compactor will result in a Tier 2 Citation. Amended May 2019

Help keep Saw Creek clean and safe for all of us! Enjoy the upcoming summer months, and hope to see you at Community Day!



Shallow Water Blackout

by Darcie Ackerman, Aquatics and Fitness Supervisor


"One of your guards is telling my child that he can't play with his friend in the water," a dad said to me. "Wait, what?" I replied. "She said that the 'holding their breath' game they were playing is dangerous. You are taking all the fun out of the kid's pool time," he added.

Ah, that explains it. Shallow Water Blackout. Most people have never heard of it. Every lifeguard we train may have begun lifeguard class never hearing about it, but is educated about it. How serious and common it is may never be known because coroners may just rule the death as a drowning.

What causes Shallow Water Blackout? CO2 may be lowered with intentional or unintentional hyperventilation from rapid deep breathing. Blackout may occur prior to the trigger that tells us to breath. Repetitive breath holding puts you at even more of a risk as your CO2 level may be elevated to begin with.

We all did it as kids. Most of us got bored with the game before it took its toll. When you have a chance, Google it. Better yet, Google the names Joseph Perdrotti or Tate Ramsden; they both died of Shallow Water Blackout at 21.

If you see your kids playing this dangerous game, please tell them it's not safe. For more information visit www.shallowwaterblackoutprevention.org.



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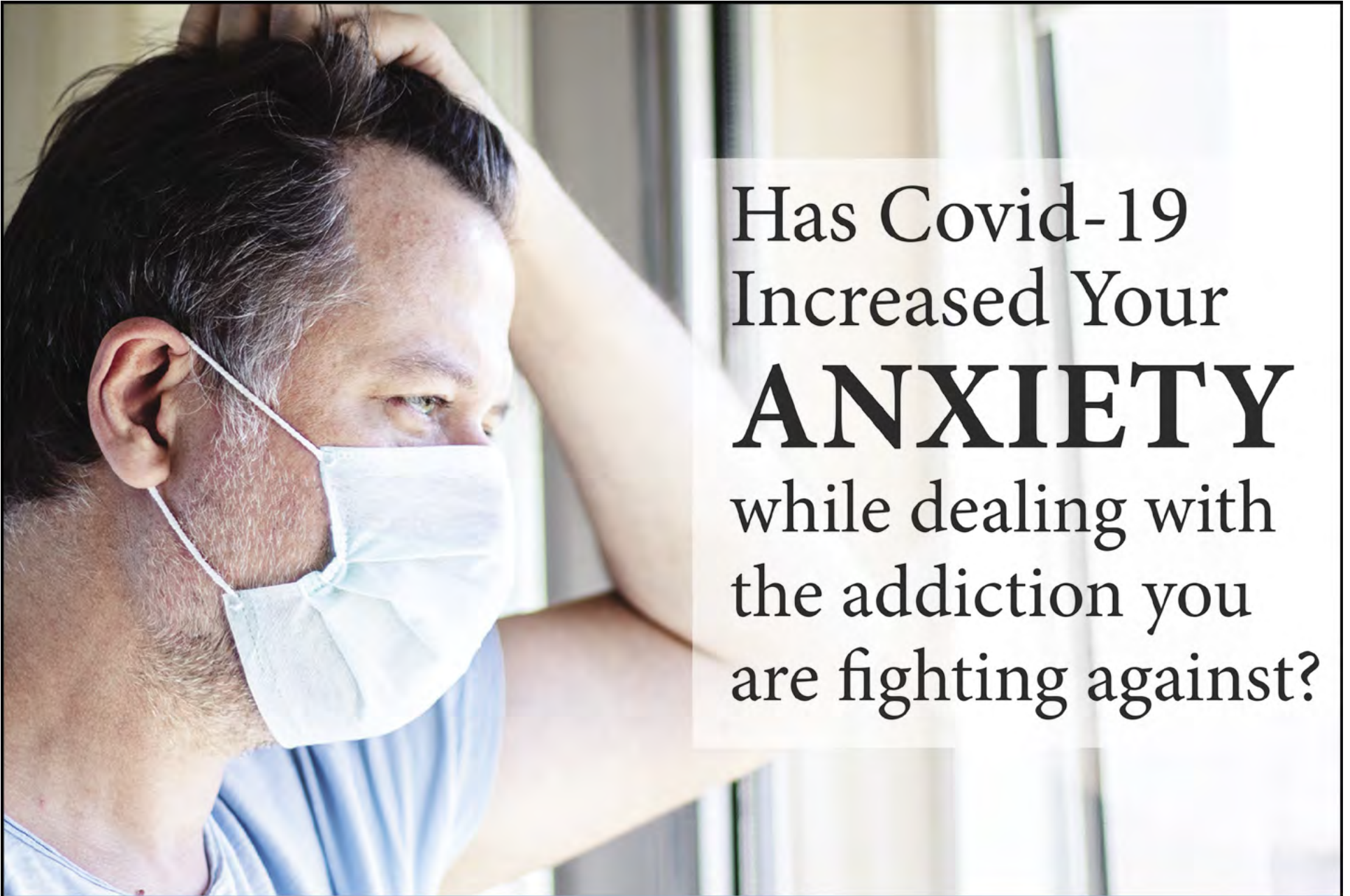
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Thanks and help keep Saw Creek safe!



Martial Arts Study Club

by James Hidalgo, Sah Bum Nim (Master James)

The Saw Creek Martial Arts Study Club was founded by James Hidalgo & Joseph Salerno. Shortly after opening the club to Saw Creek members, we invited Master Instructor Shihan-Eric Mercado, United States Branch Chief to join us. Under the professional instruction of Shihan Eric our members can advance in rank under the Official Kyokushin System.

Kyokushin training consists of three main elements: Techniques, Forms and Sparring referred to as the three K's after Japanese words kihon (basics) kata (form) and kumite (sparring). Our instructions also include building alertness, such as stranger danger, anti-bullying, the ability to neutralize aggressive behavior, strategies to deal with threats, such as weapon attacks, terrorism awareness and fitness.

The diplomas and belts come from Japan certifying the students as a Black Belt in Kyokushin Style of Japanese Karate.

The Saw Creek Martial Arts Club is a free program available to the community members in good standing and their families. We would like to expand the club to include new members. The Martial Arts Club meets at the Top of the World Fitness Center, specifically at the indoor Tennis Court weekly at 5:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you are interested in joining our club, just drop by during class hours. We hope to see you there soon!

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- Pick up after your pet and dispose of waste properly.
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Reminder From the Saw Creek Deer Society

In 2019, we successfully voted to update the bylaws so that if the Board/ Management want to do a deer cull, they first have to obtain a homeowner vote.

This year, we don't know if a decision has been made to do a deer cull, but if you see a deer management question during any year's annual election written materials or online, please remember to read the question carefully and vote that you are **NOT** in favor of a deer cull or recreational hunting.

Remember: a deer cull is not humane.

Deer are killed by sharpshooters or bow and arrow, right in our community.

If you have any questions, we can be contacted at nohuntinginsce@mail.com OR nohuntinginsce@gmail.com. Click <https://bit.ly/2WdnUMS> to visit our website.

Your communication with us is kept confidential.

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Women's Club News

by Ginni Cozzi, Women's Club President

Happy days are here again for the Saw Creek Women's Club! We were finally able to hold our May meeting outdoors at the VIP Pavilion. It was a bit breezy and chilly under the Pavilion, so we placed our chairs on the concrete slab outside of it and thoroughly enjoyed the warmth of the sun. We were all happy to see one another and be able to have lunch together before our business meeting.

We are also excited because our Vice-Presidents, Priscilla and Cathy, have planned outings for May and June. First, we are going to the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens in Upper Montclair, NJ and then out for lunch.

In June, we are off to the Easton Canal Boat Excursion and lunch at the Marblehead Chowder House (one of my favorites). Priscilla is also planning a bus trip to Sight & Sound in November or December to see Queen Esther.

As in past years, we, along with the Saw Creek Men's Club, will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on August 8, 2021 in the Creek Room from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. We are hoping that many members of our community will once again make this a great success by donating much needed blood.

In the fall, we hope we can collect at the gates and continue to provide a scholarship to a graduating senior from Saw Creek so she can continue her education.

As you can see, we stay busy having fun and helping our Saw Creek Community. We would really like to build our membership. We need new and fresh ideas from the many women who have recently moved here or who have stopped working and have the time to get involved with our group. We hope you will join us on the first Thursday of every month at 12:30 for a business meeting and refreshments. Please call Ginni Cozzi at 570-588-0555 for more information.

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Independence Day!

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Men's Club News

by Bill Montgomery, Men's Club President

This is the June/July edition which means summer is here, the busiest time of the year at Saw Creek. As of this writing, we are seeing some welcome lifting of restrictions after more than a year of living with COVID-19. Congratulations to all who have made this possible by wearing a mask and practicing social distancing. We certainly hope this summer can have some sense of "normalcy" for our homeowners and guests.

This is also the election edition, which means one thing to all club members and homeowner. Please VOTE. Read the biographies, attend the "Meet the Candidates" meeting, and ask questions. This is your Community and every voice matters.



On Saturday, April 25, 2021 seventeen homeowners, including five members of the Men's Club, participated in our annual Spring Clean-up. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to help make our community cleaner. Special thanks to Mr. Cruz from the Maintenance staff, who does not live in Saw Creek, but volunteered to help in the clean-up. Also, thank you to the Recreation staff for supplying prepackaged sandwiches for lunch.

The Men's Club will be donating three \$1,000 scholarships this year to eligible seniors from East Stroudsburg High School North. The Club did not solicit funds at our gates this year due to COVID-19. Thank you to all who donated through our on-line fundraising effort. We are awaiting word from the school to find out if there will be an Awards Ceremony this year.

The Club is back to having live meetings in the Creek Room. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 P.M. Please feel free to attend one of our meetings. There is no obligation. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow homeowners and make some new friends. For more information, contact our club secretary, Joe Doe at Josdoe@yahoo.com or call him at 570-588-6858.

MEN'S CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **MAY 31, 2021** - Memorial Day ceremony (with flag raising) with some club members as guest speakers.
- **JUNE 19, 2021** - Community Day. The Men's Club is not cooking this year due to COVID-19 restrictions but will be supplying drinks and juice boxes and some surprises for the youngsters.
- **JULY 19, 2021** - The Men's Club Annual Golf tournament at Pocono Hills. All are welcome to participate.

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