
The Itchy Hitch

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania (PA) Unit 091

October 2019

***Message from Your Unit President,
October 2019
by Bill Woodford, 2010-2020 Unit 091
President***

Welcome to October's Itchy Hitch newsletter! As your newly elected Unit President, I am happy to be able to bring you past, present, and future Unit highlights. It has been an active year and expect 2020 to build upon 2019's many well-attended events!

Allow me to introduce you to the new Unit #091 Board of Directors:

Mr. Bill Woodford-President (first of two-year Board term)
Ms. Mary Wilson-1st Vice President (first of two-year Board term)
Ms. Susan Flesch-2nd Vice President (first of two-year Board term)
Ms. Eunice Noderer-Treasurer (first of two-year Board term)
Ms. Jayne Rice-Secretary (second of two-year Board term)
Mr. Mike Lilawski-Director (second of two-year Board term)
Ms. Laura Lilawski-Director (second of two-year Board term)

Mr. Mark Wilson-Director (first of two-year Board term)
Mr. Alan Kenney-Immediate Past President (one-year term).

Thank you to all who participated in this year's election. We were glad to see the process deliver to us the new Board we now have in place.

Thank you, Alan Kenney and your Unit Board, for your efforts this past year representing the Unit both near and far. We shall take the baton now and run with it.

Following the elections, Ms. Jayne Rice withdrew her interest in serving a second year as Secretary on the Board, and this position remains open at this time. Thank you, Jayne, for helping the Unit so competently. Please let me, or any other Unit Board member, know if you are interested in serving in Jayne's vacated spot. This is a one-year term. In the meantime, if needed, Mary Wilson will prepare meeting minutes.

Highlights:

- Unit 091 supported four (4) rallies at Penn Wood this year, and we wish to express our appreciation to all of those at the Campground who were involved in making those events such memorable events. The first "Ladies, Take A Break" Rally was particularly well received, and we anticipate this becoming an annual event.

Look in this newsletter for the 2020 Rally Schedule and those exciting details.

- Unit attendance at the WBCCI International Rally in Doswell, Virginia, was higher than in recent years with the attendance of Alan Kenney; Doug and Cindy Field, Bill and Debbie Woodford; Mark and Mary Wilson; and Marc and Becky Weimer. Although outlandishly hot, we attended many informative workshops, tours, entertainment, and socials. And, Unit attendees diligently kept to the Campground's Happy Hour schedule. Consider next year's rally in Loveland, Colorado! A Penn Wood caravan is likely in the works.

- There was a noticeable increase in the number of road trips taken by Unit members this year. When traveling away from Penn Wood, please remember to encourage folks to stop by to enjoy our beautiful and inviting Campground. To those Unit members who are not leaseholders at Penn Wood, accept the Board's personal invitation to become an even more active part of the Unit community. You are a valuable asset to the Unit, and we hope you, too, will benefit from all the Unit and Campground have to offer.

Letter from the Campground President:

And with the blink of an eye, we near the end of our 2019 "glamping" season at Penn Wood. We tackled several projects and had many great events. We gained new friends as we sadly lost old friends. I would hope that we all learned something that we can take as a life lesson, as I know I did.

At this point, we are planning the Park Closing date for Saturday, October 12, 2019. Obviously, the more help we can have, the easier it is on everyone who is helping. Please let us know if you can be there to help in some way on some level. Many of the smaller tasks could even be done the week prior to the closing.

For our 2020 season, I am going to make an effort to come up with a list of "Things to Do" around the park. One of the biggest complaints that I have heard is that there is a lack of information on "what needs to be done around the park." A few of the more important, ongoing issues that we can always use help on are hosting, mowing, weeding/edging, weed whipping, cleaning equipment, and general basic cleaning, just to name a few. If you have a special talent that you can offer the park, just let me know, as the park would love to take advantage of that talent. If you have a project that you would like to work on in the park, let's work out the details!

For the 2020 season, I have decided to take an Old-School Airstreamer's advice of, "If it isn't broken, don't fix it" pertaining to general park services. With the supportive commitments that I already have from members, we will at least start the 2020 season without a "Paid Hosting Couple," which had previously been considered. Look for an email soon describing details on anticipated 2020 park projects.

Sue Flesch, our elected Secretary, has volunteered to oversee the "Hosting" responsibilities. The Hosting coordination was, by far, the most stressful issue to me.

Obviously, this will now allow me to continue doing what I do around the park. Sue will, at some point, have a Hosting Scheduling Form generated and posted in the office. I feel every member should, at a minimum, help out by hosting for a couple of days each season. Please sign up.

Prior to becoming President, I asked Mike Flesch to finish out the year as the "Day-to-Day Operations" person, and he agreed. Mike has volunteered to continue in this capacity into the 2020 season. His continued commitment to Penn Wood is beyond appreciated.

The Fagans have also committed to continue with their endless efforts in our beloved park. Arlo Goldsberry will continue as our "Resident Carpenter" (even though I did not ask him, but I know that he just loves doing so much for our infrastructure). His 2019 efforts in PW's infrastructure will be appreciated for generations to come.

I will soon identify and appoint the needed committees. Look for details soon.

As we look to the 2020 season at Penn Wood, I ask you to help in my primary goal of bringing and keeping Penn Wood together as a unit! If you cannot agree, agree to disagree. If we have nothing nice to say, say nothing! When Denette and I first stumbled upon Penn Wood, it was the way that the members treated each other that made the place feel so special. We must keep in the front of our minds that all of us are Penn Wood members, but likely for different reasons. Not everyone wants to interact with others at all times. Enjoyment to one may seem like torture to another. But, regardless, the membership is like family; we must ALL get along on some level.

The new Campground Board wishes to extend its sincere gratitude to all who worked this summer in doing tasks, big and small. Your work made a huge difference. Although those tasks were often hard work, they were also opportunities to come together to the betterment of Penn Wood and the unit.

We cannot wait to move into 2020 with the same, united enthusiasm.

God Bless.
Michael J. Mikulski
PWCA President

A BARK FOR A PARK!!

by Mark and Mary Wilson for “Jake” and “Gemma”

The Penn Wood Campground Board encouraged leaseholders to present their Campground project ideas that might further the enjoyment of the Campground for both leaseholders and visitors alike. I contemplated unproductively. However, a few of our clever canine companions forwarded a paw-printed memo worth barking about ... “a dog park!”

Please forward your thoughts to the Wilsons at wanatrail1680@gmail.com.

That idea of a Campground dog park was soon shared with our new Campground President, Mike Mikulski, who was supportive of the concept but curious about how it would be funded. A potential location, he suggested, could be near the garage between the stream and the driveway, once the area was cleared for this purpose. Some of the fencing material may already be on hand and other items might be donated by interested members. It is believed that this project could be accomplished for about \$500 along with utilizing some donated items. However, it is necessary to show the Campground Board how we might financially support this project. If you are a dog owner, would you consider this a worthy effort?

Would your pooch enjoy having his/her own, off-leash romping area? Would you be willing to share in the collection of any bagged debris and placing it into the dumpster at day’s end? Numerous dog-toting offroaders were very vocal about their enthusiasm for seeing a Penn Wood dog park when they return. “We always look for whether or not campgrounds have a dog park when we travel.”

End of season at Penn Wood!

2019 Park Closing:

BE SURE to turn in your cable box and sign it in before you leave the park for the season.

At this point, we are planning on turning the water off Friday, Oct 11th, around 3pm, allowing it to drain off as much as possible.

Saturday, Oct 12th, we will blow out the lines and finish anything not already done.

We can use all the help we can get beginning mid week! There are chores for every level of ability.

Please note: From this point forward, please use my mjm44255@gmail.com email.

Respectfully,

Mike Mikulski

This month we were shocked and saddened by the death of Sal Maneri..I believe Denette befittingly says it well here in her Facebook post.



Denette Dye Leavengood ► Penn Wood Campground (Airstream Park) Friday at 9:00 PM · 🌐

Nothing but LOVE, RESPECT AND ADMIRATION for Sal. Mike and I truly loved him and are so thankful that we were able to say good bye & tell him we loved him before he left. We will always remember this great man and are better people having known him ❤️ forever in our hearts ❤️❤️ — with Noreen Connors Maneri and Michael Mikulski.

