



# Laurelwood Ledger

[www.LaurelwoodSwimClub.com](http://www.LaurelwoodSwimClub.com)

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## LAURELWOOD SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

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### 2014 Board of Directors

Len Gieseler - Pres.  
Steve Gerhart - Vice Pres.  
Jeff Rokicki- Treasurer  
Eric O'Brien - Secretary  
Jenn Bowker - Membership  
Clare Herkendaal - Social  
Mike Barkasi—Director  
Bill Cancro - Director  
Kevin Chrisman—Director  
Fran Guinan - Director  
Eva Thierry - Director

## 2014 Spring Ledger

SNOW, SNOW, SNOW. Enough already. Spring and Summer can't get here fast enough. THINK SPRING!! This latest volume of the Laurelwood Ledger will bring you up to date on pool news. Opening Day is Saturday May 24, 2014—Memorial Day Weekend.

### Board Management

At the September General Membership meeting we said goodbye John Pusey, Dave McGrath and Steve Terrell. John and Dave served 4 years and Steve served 9 years. I would to thank John Dave and Steve for their dedication and service on the board and to the club. At the same meeting we welcomed Mike Barkasi, Jeff Rokicki and Eva Thierry. We thank them for volunteering to serve on the board. Jeff will be taking over as Treasurer as Kevin Christman will be stepping down after 13 years as our treasurer.

We encourage newer members to get involved on the board at any level. We are always looking for committee help and for new directors. For more information on serving on the board, please contact myself or any board member.

We can't run the pool with out great board members. Their time and devotion help to make Laurelwood a great family club.

Thank you to all.

### Membership

Our numbers took a little bit of hit last year with some of our families giving Bellwood a try on their inaugural season. We also had a number of long term members decide to leave since their

families had grown and were not using the club any longer. With all that being said, we still had many families join as bonded or trial members. Most of the 2012 trial members also joined as full members. To Date we have 215 bonded members and a number of people on our trial membership list for 2014. Our best form of advertisement is our membership. Please invite your friends or neighbors to the club for a visit and encourage them to join. We are still offering our membership incentive program. If you refer a family and they join we will reimburse you \$25.00. Look for the referral form in the March mailing or visit the website under the membership tab.

### DUES

After 4 years of holding the line on dues it was necessary for the board to increase the dues by 15.00 to 440.00 for a family and 280.00 for a single. As we all know the cost of goods and services, taxes, payroll, insurance etc... have all gone up. We do our best to make sure that our club stays in the "black" while maintaining an updated and safe environment for all our members and guests. We thank you for your understanding. Dues can be paid on line via the website using Pay-Pal. There is a small charge to use this service, but it is a great way to earn extra reward points. Check it out today.



### Important Dates & General information

Any members wishing to not to renew their membership must contact the board in writing prior to **March 15, 2014**. Communication can be in the form of an email or letter. If we do not receive your request, by the 15th, you will be obligated to pay the dues for 2014. Failure to pay dues will result in forfeiture of your bond money.

Bond Payouts are based on a first come first served basis as people are added to the outlist. We pay out bonds as we get new members. We make every effort to pay out as many bonds each year based on the membership and financial strength of the club.

Membership registration packets and invoices will be sent out at the end of March via regular mail.

**Each family must return their membership form along with the yearly dues payment by April 25, 2014 to avoid paying a 25.00 late fee.**

We worked hard last year to get caught up on bond distribution. Some bonds were not picked up at the pool gate. If you haven't received a bond, please contact

me or the membership chair via the website.

### Communications:

With technology today it is becoming easier and easier to get information out about the club, weather delays, events etc... This year we are going to utilize our [Facebook](#) page much more to give weather related closers or delays and general information. We encourage everyone to like and share our Facebook page so you can stay informed.

### Face Book

Search **Laurelwood Swim Club** and like us today. A link can also be found on our website. There are other pages established, so please make sure you are on the correct page. Please check back often.

### Website

The website is a great place to get registration forms, swim team information, email contacts, pool events and much more. Please check out and use this great resource. Please ask anyone interested in joining to visit the site.

### Email

This is our best form of communication especially for membership only information. We do our best to keep our data base up to date. That information comes directly off the registration forms. We ask that you fill out the forms as legibly as possible especially if your email has special characters.

### New Additions

Last year our new bathrooms were unveiled to much delight and accolades. This year we are turning our attention to the younger members of our club. We plan to have a new larger swing/jungle gym and possibly a

second swing set. We will also be updating our volleyball area as well. We are also looking at adding a fountain feature in the baby pool, depending on cost and finances. Other items will include a new grill and bench tables with umbrellas.

### Work Weekends

A big part of our opening cycle is our work weekends. **Work Weekends will be held May 3-4 and Saturday May 10. We will start at 8 am. Other dates may be added as needed.** We encourage any member to volunteer their time and talent. Any member that volunteers at least 2 hours will receive a \$ 25.00 credit towards their dues. By having pool members volunteer their time it helps keep costs down by eliminating the need for outside contractors to do the work. We will be doing general clean up, ground work, mulching, and general maintenance items. As a courtesy to those volunteers, lunch will be provided by the pool. Hope to see you at one of the work weekends.

### Social Events

Last year we didn't have much success pulling off social events. Our Chesapeake adult night however was a great success again. We would like to sponsor other events, but need membership participation to make these event happen. This year our only scheduled event at this time will be the Chesapeake night. If you have suggestions or would like to help out, please contact our social chair, Clare Herkendaal via the website.

### Golf Tournament

This long time tradition also took a hit this past summer. This was the first time in 13 years that we had to cancel due to lack of participation. We are looking to reschedule this event to June this year to see if change

of date will help. The date has not been set, please stay tuned.

### Survey Says

It has been a number of years since our last survey so later this year we will be sending out a survey via Survey Monkey. We ask everyone to take a minute to fill out the survey. It is a great way for our board to help promote the ideas and suggestions of our members.

### Swim Team

The swim team had another successful season under Coach Nicki and her staff. The team numbers continue to grow and produce truly gifted swimmers. Great Job Dolphins!

Information regarding joining the swim team and dates will be updated on the website.

### Presidents Corner

As I start my 16th year on the board and 13th year as president and I reflect back over those many years and all I can say is THANK YOU! Our clubs success over it's 50 years in existence is a true testament to the support of the current membership, the people that have given of their time and talents, board members, swim team members and the countless families that have come and gone through our gates. Our club has made dramatic changes in the past couple of years to keep up with the hands of time and to secure the club's presence in our community for years to come. Our work is not done. The board of directors will continue to address the needs of the pool as time and finances permit while maintaining a safe and fun place for your family. As always if you have any

suggestions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me via email or directly at 610-970-0662.

Thank you to all our members and the board for living up to our slogan - **THE WOOD IS GOOD!**  
Len Gieseler

## Special Dates

- Resignation Deadline - March 15
- Membership fees Due April 25
- Opening Day - May 24
- Fit For Life - June 10
- Laurelwood Golf outing June—TBD
- Teen Night - July 12
- Chesapeake Night - August 16
- General Membership meeting - August 31
- Closing Day - September 1

