













Biddeford Pool Community Center

President's Letter

As another busy summer in the Pool comes to an end, we'd like to THANK all the volunteers who made this year's annual —and some new—events possible! Our two biggest summer events, the **4th of July Parade** and the **Seaside Fair**, took 29 volunteers each to bring those events to life.

For as long as most can remember, Eve McPheeters has been the **4th of July Parade**Coordinator. This year she decided the 2025 Parade would be her last. Join me in a heartfelt
"Thank You" to Eve for her tireless dedication to an amazing, beloved, and growing July 4th
Parade! And a shout out to Tracy Callahan and Cathleen Joyce who are stepping in as
co-coordinators to fill Eve's big shoes for 2026! They shadowed Eve learning the ins and outs of
coordination with the city, BPVFD, and our fabulous volunteers and we look forward to the
energy and ideas they will bring for next summer.

A big round of applause for Cary Frye who coordinated the annual **Seaside Fair** for her second year! That was another event Eve used to plan. Fair goers were surrounded by unique local arts and crafts and a free kid's crafts area. A hot dog lunch with homemade cookies prepared by BPCC volunteers were available. The Fair raised nearly \$3,900 for the Center which will be a major source of funds for fulfilling our mission statement—donations to local non-profits. Cary is excitedly planning the 2026 Fair.

A BIG "Thank You" to Ashley LeBlond, a year-round resident and teacher, who reinvigorated a BPCC tradition for kids big and small in the Pool—**Storytime!** Offering a story and a craft/activity for young children, fun was had by all! Dragons, tacos, and monsters, OH MY! Even Pirate Pete had a great time! And we all thank Sue Maccalous who provided guidance as Ashley got started. Ashley is already thinking about summer 2026!

The new **Book Club** at BPCC, was started after quite a few requests from our survey! It started late summer and will continue into the winter thanks to coordinators: Janice Powers, Gerri Dansky, Amy Ryan, Linda Bradley and Tina Cummings. Having the Club at our library is a great opportunity to use and share our beautiful space.

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President's Letter cont'd

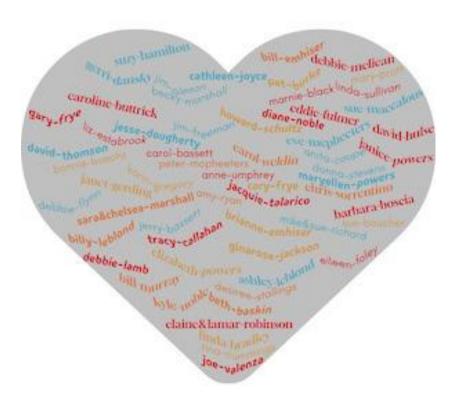
It has been wonderful to have these activities provided by our Community Center this summer. And we THANK and Appreciate our Volunteers and Members as they are what keep BPCC running, planning, and growing. Being a Member and volunteering is a great way to meet your neighbors, make new friends, and brings joy and satisfaction knowing you are helping a worthy cause and improving our community.

Our mission is to promote the social and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Biddeford Pool area in Biddeford, Maine, while fostering assistance (educational and /or charitable) to persons in need.

Thank You for helping us fulfill our mission!

Jim Oleson – BPCC President

Thank You to all our Volunteers!





BPCC Annual Meeting

October 17, 2025 5:30 pm

Agenda

- President's Welcome
- Secretary &Treasurer Reports
 - Committee Reports
 (available on the Website prior to the meeting)
 - Election of Officers

Munchies will be available

Bean Supper Buffet will follow meeting B.Y.O.B

RSVP HERE.



Bridge Options at BPCC

Monday Drop in Bridge 1:00pm – 4:00pm with Debbie Melican

We look forward to another season of Bridge! Let the games begin.

Reminder: \$1 donation is appreciated and all levels are welcome. Players rotate partners, giving you a chance to play with different people.

While Monday is drop-in style, it is helpful to know if we have complete tables. To be added to the Sunday email reminder list, please contact Debbie Melican - burnsmelican@gmail.com.

Please **RSVP** on Calendar **HERE**. Pick the date or dates you would like to attend.

Bridge & Mah Jongg played on 1st Floor

Friday is Duplicate Bridge with Carol Bassett 1:00pm - 4:00pm

(or whenever all the cards are played)

Advanced sign-up is required so that we have full tables. **Note:** this is fun duplicate, not a sanctioned game, no Master points awarded! We'd love to have you play bridge with us!

Contact Carol Bassett at <u>cjobmaine@gmail.com</u> to play.



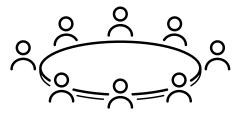


Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm

Delighted to say that two new players joined our group recently! We welcome new players and are a friendly group.

As a reminder, we play Wednesday afternoon usually 1:00pm-3:00pm but are flexible. A \$1.00 donation is appreciated.

Any questions, please email *m.lynnecox@gmail.com* or text at 978-807-2598.



BPCC Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (Summer recess July-Aug.) at 4 pm. You are welcome to attend. Board Minutes may be found in the *Members Only* section of the website.



Center Rentals or other Requested Center Uses

Janet Gerding membershipteam@

biddefordpoolcommunitycenter.org

Urban Sketchers

with Diane Noble



Fridays 10:00am – 12pm September 5, 19 October 3, 17

If you love to draw or just want to try it out, join our group that will meet at different locations in downtown

Biddeford or Saco.

Contact **Diane Noble** directly at:

dbmn27@maine.rr.com to be put on the list. Diane will send out the meeting places every other week.

Classes are **FREE**.



Gather Here with Pat Burke

The Community Center welcomes you to gather on Mondays, **September 22** and **October 27** from **10:00am to 12:00pm** to meet and get to know members of BPCC. We will put the kettle on for tea or coffee.

If you would like to bring something to 'work on' please do, but it isn't necessary.

Please email Pat Burke at PatBB@biddefordpoolcommunitycenter.org with any questions.

RSVP HERE for September 22

RSVP HERE for October 27



Fall Social at Motor Land

2564 Portland Road (Route 1) Arundel, ME

Sunday, September 21st, 2025 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Come mingle with new/old BPCC members and stroll this Maine Classic Car Museum filled with an amazing display of memorable cars.

Photos of you with your favorite car can be taken!

Refreshments will be served. Admission \$15

RSVP HERE



Trivia Night with Carol Bassett Friday, September 26

Join us for laughs, learning, and friendly competition at **5:30pm**.

Gather a team of up to six people or we can seat you at a table.

Dinner: "Pizza by Alex" for \$15.

Pizza Menu

BYOB

Dessert and lots of fun are included.

RSVP HERE

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Popcorn and a Movie



Sunday, September 28th 4:00 pm

2nd floor BPCC

\$5 per person payable at the door

RSVP HERE

Tacos & a Halloween Thriller



Friday, October 31, 2025
5:00pm
2nd Floor BPCC
\$15.00 per person
BYOB

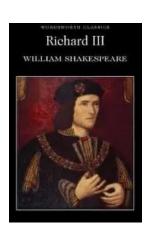
RSVP HERE

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Questions? Contact eve@maine.rr.com

Shakespeare's Richard III with Joe Valenza

The original title of this Shakespeare play is The Tragedy of Richard III, Containing His Treacherous Plots Against His Brother Clarence: the Pitiful Murder of His Innocent Nephews: His Tyrannical Usurpation: with the Whole Course of His Detested Life, and most deserved Death. This gives away the whole story, but there is more. Richard III is a long play due in part to the number and length of Richard's soliloquies. Time after time Richard describes to the audience the crime he is about to commit. Then, he commits the crime. And once the crime is committed, he gloats as he explains to us how efficient and clever he is.



So, is this play a history or is it a drama? What is going on here? We will explore this issue and others by reading the text, consulting outside sources, and engaging in class discussion. We will also watch a BBC production of the play and have fun.

Classes begin **Tuesday, September 16** from **2:00pm - 3:30pm** 2nd floor BPCC (five or six consecutive Tuesdays) Maximum number of participants is **six**. If you register before September 5, a book will be ordered for you and made available at the first meeting. The **fee for the class is \$25**, payable at the first session. Additional donations to benefit BPCC are appreciated. For more information contact **Joe Valenza** at <u>ijvdal@gmail.com</u>.



TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 7:15am - 8:15am

Location: Gilbert Bath House Beach 1 Beach House Lane, Biddeford

Weather Permitting

Suggested donation: **\$15 per class**Proceeds will be donated to
Good Shepard Food Pantry

Bring a mat or large beach towel.

Questions? Call or text Barb 207-415-6955

Thank you note from Barbara

I would like to thank all who attended beach yoga this Summer. The suggested donation of \$15 a class will be donated to local charities—

June and July donations will be going to the Biddeford Food Pantry. August donations will be going to Seeds of Hope.

We are grateful for your support through the summer months. Because of you these local programs will receive substantial donations.

Thank You! Barb and Bob

Thank You Note from Tracy

Fitness classes with *Tracy Callahan* were offered in the Yates St. Park again this summer and will continue weekends through Oct. 12. All fitness levels are welcome. All donations for classes go to the BPCC Education Fund. This year's donations are on track to reach \$4,000 thanks to the generosity of so many participants.

Please reach out to Tracy to get on the mailing list for classes in September and October. Classes will be posted **here**, so please be sure to sign up. If you are interested in any virtual fitness class offerings this fall or have any questions about future classes, please reach out to Tracy at **atfamily@comcast.net**.

Yoga Stretch with Tracy

Sundays: 9:15 -10:00 am **Sept 7 - Oct 12 2nd Floor BPCC**





BPCC Library News

We hope many of you have had the opportunity to enjoy our library throughout the Summer! Thank you to all of the library volunteers who continue to make the expanded open hours possible each summer as well the many who volunteer throughout the year!

With Fall on the horizon, the library will only be open on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** (10am-noon) for **September**. Beginning in **October** and for several months following, we will be **open Thursday mornings only**.

New books as well as gently used editions continue to be added to our offerings. Suggestions are always welcomed. I am specifically looking for a copy of Richard Harris's, "Conclave" also a copy of "West with Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge. If you have a copy you'd like to offer, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please be mindful about returning your borrowed items. If returning during closed hours, you may leave them in the covered container at the side entrance. This is checked frequently.

Thank you! Sue Maccalous

BPCC Book Club

The BPCC Book Club meetings are held at the BPCC Library, 1st Floor at 4:00 pm.

The **September 17**Book Club book is "Table for Two" by Amor Towles.



RSVP HERE



The **October 15**Book Club book is
"Broken Country"
by Clare Leslie Hall.

RSVP HERE

Readers are encouraged to bring ideas for a non-fiction book to read for one of our future meetings.



Stage Island Monument to be Restored

As we celebrate the Monument's bicentennial in 2025, its milestone birthday is not just about looking back, but peering forward too. Thanks to passionate members of the Saco Bay community who wish to see the historic site preserved, Stage Island Monument is about to be restored.

The Maine-based nonprofit American Lighthouse Foundation has entered into a license agreement with the United States Coast Guard that will permit an exterior restoration project to occur on the Stage Island Monument. Once the work is completed, the Monument will be standing strong for yet another century.



We will need your help to get this done! The logistics are complicated, and the cost is estimated to be around \$300,000. We will be providing more information as the project develops, but suffice to say that donations of any size will be most welcome. We hope to raise funds from all parts of the community. Who hasn't appreciated seeing the Monument standing vigil over the bay for all these years? Visit <u>www.lighthousefoundation.org</u> to learn more.



Joan Beaudry Memorial Education Award

This year, we were excited to broaden the scope of students we have been able to reach in the past to include not only members of the BPCC, but also students working in the Biddeford Coastal Community (Biddeford Pool, Hills Beach, Fortunes Rocks and Granite Point). This was made possible in part due to the generosity of a private donor. As a result, we had 8 applicants for the scholarship this year. If you would like to contribute to the education fund, please click here.

The committee interviewed the candidates in August and will put forth their recommendations to the Board in September. With tremendous work ethic, strong letters of recommendation and impressive transcripts, we feel confident that any/all of the candidates will make excellent recipients for this award. In addition, up to 4 students from Biddeford High School, who plan to major in Education, are also granted the Joan Beaudry Education Award each spring.

Each BPCC recipient is required to do a minimum of 2 hours of community service. If you know of any local community service opportunities for our recipients, please contact Tracy at gtfamily@comcast.net or Greg at gftbox@gmail.com