



Biddeford Pool Community Center

President's Letter

As I get older the winters seem to get colder and in my mind this winter was a doozy in the cold department. Fortunately, responsibilities related to the Centers' functions committee, building maintenance concerns, and administrative duties keep me engaged throughout the winter months.

One highlight was Cookies to GO, a commendable demonstration of volunteerism wherein nineteen individuals baked five dozen cookies each. The packages were carefully assembled and adorned with ribbons, resulting in an appealing presentation. As a result of these efforts, Seeds of Hope received a \$1,500 donation. We also hosted our first Christmas party since 2020, which was well attended and brought much enjoyment.

This winter, I attended three films—Jaws, Prancer, and The Martian. While Prancer did not meet my expectations, all were worthwhile experiences. Additional activities included a trivia and pizza night and today marks the commencement of the first of four classes on Shakespeare's Henry VIII.

February 20 the Annual Cook off with an Italian food theme, offering dishes such as meatballs, Cannelloni Rossini, stuffed shells, seafood pasta, and two undisclosed plates was held. On May 15, we will hold a St. Patrick's Day brunch; although I appreciate Italian cuisine, a quality brunch is among my top preferences.

The newly implemented management software at BPCCC has streamlined administrative tasks. Regarding facility improvements, painting the fence and installing a bike rack are priorities under consideration.

Many members share my year-round appreciation for coastal Biddeford. Each event mentioned relies on volunteers, which undoubtedly serves as an excellent opportunity to foster community connections and encourage participation.

PS: HELP WANTED: We are looking for a licensed electrician who can help snake a cat 5 wire from the first floor closet to second floor WiFi extender directly above that closet. Please contact Jim Oleson at jimoleson57@gmail.com if you can help out. Thank you.



Bridge Options at BPCCC

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 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 cjobmaine@gmail.com to play.



Mah Jongg at BPCCC

with Lynne Cox

Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm

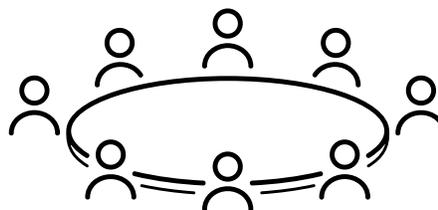
Mah Jongg continues Wednesdays at 1:00 at the BPCCC on Yates Street. It's a very friendly group and we welcome new players.

A \$1.00 donation is appreciated. Any questions please let me know.

Lynne Cox

Email: m.lynnecox@gmail.com

Text: 978-807-2598.



BPCCC 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

contact Janet Gerding

membershipteam@

biddefordpoolcommunitycenter.org

ART
AT
BPCC

Figure Drawing with Linda Sullivan

This is a drawing/painting open studio with a live model and will not include instructions. All levels and mediums are welcome. Come join our community and meet your neighborhood of artists.

Tuesdays - 12:30pm - 3:30pm, 2nd floor BPCC

Dates: 3/10, 3/24. Walk-ins welcome based on space.

Cost: \$15/session to cover expenses.

Contact Linda Sullivan at **860-377-1725** for further details.

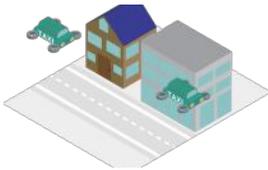
Please **RSVP HERE**

Pick the date or dates you would like to attend.



Urban Sketchers

with Diane Noble



Fridays 10:00am – 12pm

March 13, 27

April 10, 24

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** direct at:
dbmn27@maine.rr.com to be put on the list. Diane will send out the meeting places every other week. Classes are **FREE**.

Drawing/Painting

with Diane Noble



Thursdays 10:00am – 12pm

March 19

April 2, 16, 30

Bring whatever drawing/painting materials you like. We will work from different set ups of objects.

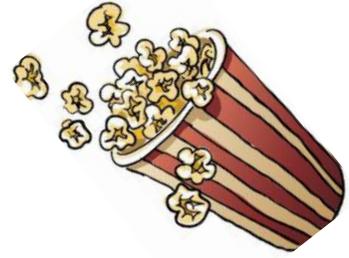
\$10 donation per session will be split between BPCC & HBA
(Please bring cash.)

Please **RSVP HERE**

Pick the date or dates you would like to attend.

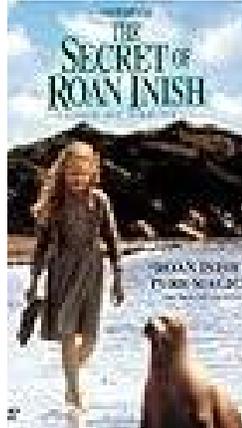


BPCC Movies
\$5.00 donation
 Popcorn available
 2nd floor BPCC



March 8 - 4:00pm
"The Secret of Roan Inish"

In celebration of St Patrick's Day. *The Secret of Roan Inish* is a 1994 adventure magical realism film based on Irish folklore about Selkies. Written and directed by John Sayles.



RSVP HERE

April 19 - 4:00 pm
"When Harry Met Sally"

In memoriam of Rob Reiner *When Harry Met Sally* is a 1989 American romantic comedy directed by Rob Reiner and written by Nora Ephron. Starring Billy Crystal, Meg Ryan, Carrie Fisher, and Bruno Kirby.



RSVP HERE



Gather Here
 with Pat Burke

The Community Center welcome's anyone who would like to come and sit for a cup of coffee or bring something to work on to make, sort, mend, or just chat...in good company on Mondays,
March 23 and April 27
10:00am to 12:00pm
 in the **Library**.

Please **RSVP** so we can reach you in case the weather is inclement and we need to cancel.

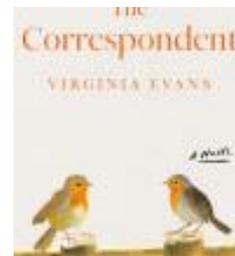
Email Pat Burke at
PatBB@biddefordpoolcommunitycenter.org
 with any questions.

RSVP HERE for March 23

RSVP HERE for April 27

BPCC Book Club

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



The **March 18** Book Club book is
The Correspondent
 by
 Virginia Evans

RSVP HERE

Biddeford Pool Environmental Monitoring Update

March 6, 2026

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Dr. Will Kochtitzky, Professor from UNE, will come with students to discuss on going monitoring efforts at Biddeford Pool. These efforts include water quality monitoring of Great Pond, beach erosion, and marsh restoration. He will specifically focus on recently deployed real-time monitoring equipment that is helping his team understand these rapidly changing ecosystems. We hope you will come to provide your insights into the trends he is observing and provide ideas for how we can better understand the rapid changes we are experiencing.

Please **RSVP HERE**. ZOOM also available. See the event info for the link if you are unable to attend in person.



Seedless Growing Asexual Propagation

Come and explore the secrets of asexual propagation with a focus on Native plants. Learn about starting native woody perennials through cuttings under the tutelage of Master Gardner David Thomson.

Participants will collect, process, & plant two woody perennials. All materials will be provided.

(3) 2-hour sessions will be held on Saturdays
9:30 - 11:30am

June 6th, July 25th, August 29th

Sessions will be held in the Thomson garden.
Rescheduling may be necessary due to weather.

\$50 fee with all proceeds going to Biddeford's
The Bon Appetit Meal Program

Participation limited to **15**.
Registration and payment due by **March 31**.

RSVP HERE



BPCC Native Plant Fundraiser

Looking for 10 to 15 volunteers to help plan, organize, and carry out a BPCC native plant fundraiser supported by Pierson Nurseries Inc.

Assistance will be needed periodically from mid-March through May for planning, as well as for the sale day in late May or early June.

If you are interested in helping for all or a portion of the event, please **contact David Thomson by March 14th** at nativeplantsmaine@gmail.com.

St. Patty's Day Corned Beef Hash Brunch

Sunday, March 15th, 2026

11am - 1:00pm

2nd Floor, BPC

MENU

Home Made Corned Beef Hash with Poached Eggs

Irish Soda Bread Muffins

Apple Crisp

Coffee, Tea, and OJ

\$20 per Person

RSVP HERE

by

Wednesday, March 11

Contact **Eve**: eve@maine.rr.com or 207 468-3253

Clean up help is welcomed!



Pizza by Alex and Trivia

Friday

April 10, 5:30pm.

MENU

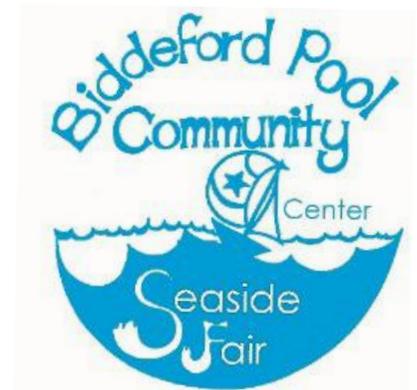
Price with Pizza - \$17.00

Price for Ice Cream only - \$1.00

RSVP HERE



**SAVE
THE DATES!!**



Saturday, July 18

Saturday, April 25

Artists BY THE Seas

July 31 - August 2

THE EMILY DICKINSON PROJECT



Patricia Mulholland, author of *A Solitude of Space - Emily Dickinson, The Woman the Poet*, will facilitate the gathering and:

- Introduce the play, which will be staged in Portland in April in celebration of National Poetry Month
- Bring awareness to the genius and mystery of the beloved poet
- Invite attendees to share a favorite Emily Dickinson poem and consider how and why we connect to a particular poem
- Speak about translating a poem to a song. Ask what poets you are reading now

APRIL 7, 2026
4:00 – 5:30
2nd FL, BPC

[RSVP HERE](#)

Join
Ben Pratt
to read more of
Emily Dickinson's Poetry

As a follow up to Patricia Mulholland's presentation

Tuesday, April 28
3:00pm

[RSVP HERE](#)



Confused about Islam and the Middle East?

Dr. Wesley Renfro, Instructor and Dean,
College of Arts and Sciences at UNE

Presents "*Islam and Culture*"

Wednesday, April 15th, 2026

4:00pm - 5:30pm
2nd Floor, BPC

Coffee, Tea, & Cookies available

Donation **\$5** at the door.

[RSVP HERE](#)

Or call Eve @ 207-468-3253



Joan Beaudry Education Award

This award was created in memory of Joan Beaudry, a longtime Biddeford Pool resident and passionate educator. With the recent expansion of the scope of students who are now eligible to apply for the scholarship, we are hopeful for a robust application cycle in 2026.

Members of the BPCCC, as well as students working in the Biddeford Coastal Community (Biddeford Pool, Hills Beach, Fortunes Rocks and Granite Point) may apply. We welcome any student furthering their education beyond high school (college, university, graduate programs and technical/vocational programs) to apply for the Joan Beaudry Education Award.

The scholarship deadline is July 1st. The application can be found [here](#). Candidates must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and value leadership, citizenship and community service. Complete eligibility guidelines can be found [here](#). Each JB Award 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 or Greg below.

If you have any other questions, please contact co-chairs Tracy Callahan gtfamily@comcast.net and Greg Tarbox gftbox@gmail.com. (Biddeford High School students may apply through their guidance department but can opt to apply through the BPCCC if they have family ties.)

If you would like to make a contribution to the education fund, so that we may continue to reach as many of our local students as possible, please click [here](#). Thank you.



What's New at the BPCCC Library



Your BPCCC library is open Thursday mornings 10-12. There will be a **puzzle exchange** taking place. Bring puzzles you wish to leave for exchange and enjoy a puzzle someone else has left! 500 piece puzzles are especially sought after! We will continue the exchange for several weeks. Please return your signed out books promptly when finished.

Newly Added Books

The Killing Stones / Ann Cleaves
The First Time I Saw Him / Laura Dave
Aroostook Dreams / Robert Demayo
Theo of Golden / Allen Levi
The Librarians / Sherry Thomas
The Ferryman and His Wife / Frode Grytten
Secrets of the Octopus / Sy Montgomery
When Cranes Fly South / Lisa Ridzen
Buckeye / Patrick Ryan
ORIANO / Anastasia Rubis
The Art Spy / Michelle Young

NOTE: A complete book list appears on our website as well as in a notebook within the library. All adult titles acquired since 2017 are listed. Thank you to Jim Oleson.

Sue Maccalous - Library Coordinator