

## **A picture-perfect 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend at BCW!!**

By: Jerry Moore

**All I can say is the weather gods smiled on BCW and all of the Poconos this 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.**

The temperatures were in the low 80's with low humidity and not a cloud in the sky. It was blue sky for as far as you could see, here in the Poconos. People were hard pressed to remember a 4<sup>th</sup> of July with 6 consecutive days of perfect weather.

Over this weekend BCW also had its first "community wide flea market". In addition to the vendors who had tables at the community build, 4 residents held a flea market at their houses.

BCW also continued their "open dumpster" weekend for residents. Once again there seemed to be a significant number of residents taking advantage of this program.

The highlight of this holiday weekend here in BCW, was the July 3<sup>rd</sup> event that took place at our Lake, beach and recreation area.

The Lake was smooth as glass and there were fisherman on the banks and in boats trying to outwit the fish in the lake. From what I hear the fish won!!

The beach was packed, with children of "all ages" enjoying the sun, swimming in the lake and diving off the dock. At several points during the weekend, the dock was so busy you needed to take a number just to get on it and join the queue to be able to dive off.

**There were basketball and beach volleyball games going on all weekend.**

**Many children were looking to catch minnows and other treasures in the water and along the shore lines. Their laughter and happiness were infectious.**

**Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic went off flawlessly. This year's committee made some adjustments to the start of the picnic. Beginning at 4PM and serving to 6PM, they also developed a new serving area which proved very successful in getting people fed more efficiently. I want to praise all the people who brought covered dishes or deserts. They were fantastic and were devoured with great relish by all who were in attendance. Of course what would a picnic be like without hamburgers and hot dogs, to compliment the cover dishes? Well as usual, we served around 350+ hamburgers and nearly 200 hot dogs. It was obvious that all who attended were in good appetite. I'd like to thank all the volunteers who braved "the searing heat" of the grills to produce such wonderful delights.**

**We had successful 50/50 thanks to the efforts of Bob Wilson, his daughter, and volunteers. We also had a successful raffle for three special ethnic baskets of food and cheer.**

**I understand that our fishing club also did well with their raffle of a handmade trout carving donated by Ned Ramm. If you have the opportunity to talk to Ned you should ask him to show you some of his other work---Fantastic!!**

We also had a stuffed animal giveaway to each child who was on the beach or who attended the picnic. Their smiles were priceless. They hugged those stuffed animals all night.

Following the picnic, we had entertainment from 7-11. We had a disc jockey (Ron Richardson) who in his younger years was an original “Drifter” from the famous singing group in the late 50’s and 60’s. He was just fantastic and played music from the 50’s to present. Every person was either dancing or at least swaying to the music. There were some who also knew all the words to many of the songs “are we dating ourselves”? At the request of some of our residents, he also played a few of the old Italian standbys. Some of our residents sang along with the music in Italian.

When we lit the fire for the kids to roast smores he began playing beach music and everybody began dancing, around the fire. There were many songs he also sang himself and invited others to join him---he was quite the showman. When he ended his performance at 11 PM we still had over 60 people at the beach.

I’d like to express my thanks to the committee who planned this event, their many volunteers who worked to make this a memorable 4<sup>th</sup> of July party, to those, who during the course of the above events jumped in and volunteered their services to relieve others and to those who after the festivities were completed stayed to assist in the clean up.

**Kudos to All-----your spirit of “volunteerism” is what makes BCW a very special community.**