

FORT WASHINGTON POOL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

January 8, 2010

Volume 1, Issue 1

FWPA

P.O. Box 44158
Fort Washington, Md. 20749

Phone: 301-292-6260

E-mail: fwtreas@Yahoo.com

POOL OPENS SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2010

It may be cold outside, but summer will be here before you know it. Mark your calendars, the pool will open on Saturday, May 29.

We had a great turn out at the Fort Washington Pool Association (FWPA) October annual shareholders meeting and received several new volunteers for the FWPA board of directors. At the annual October membership meeting, there were 13 people who expressed interest in being on the board or who were already on the board. Since this time 3 former members, John Ruehe, Rick Pica and Rudy Brevard have decided to step down and Ash Magd has changed his plans and not be joining us this year.

The board met on Dec. 7th and elected its officers. Eric Griffin is the new president, John Szymanski the new vice-president; John Dullahan returns as the secretary; and Ray Rice remains the Treasurer. Additionally, Bonnie Szymanski will continue to manage the pool operations, Brian King is the new membership chair; John Blazek will be in charge of facility maintenance, Fred Downs will manage the grounds, and Jack Dennis, who will serve as an at large board member, completing the nine member board described in the FWPA by-laws. .

At the same meeting, the board decided to not increase annual dues or boat storage fees this year. Membership categories appear at first glance to be more complicated than they actually are. There are two main categories: shareholders who actually own a portion of the pool, and seasonal members who do not. Each category has three types of memberships: family, senior family and individual.

Annual dues are as follows:

- Shareholder Family — \$475
- Shareholder Senior Family — \$400
- Shareholder Individual — \$315
- Seasonal Family — \$595
- Seasonal Senior Family — \$475
- Seasonal Individual — \$405

Family memberships include up to three immediate family members over 21 years old and minor children, all residing at the same address. Additional family members who are adults, residing at the same address, can be added to the membership for an annual fee of \$55 each. A senior membership requires one member to be 60 or older and is restricted to no more than three family members residing at the same address, according to our by-laws. New member discounts of \$110 (shareholder) and \$100 (seasonal) are available.

To be successful, the pool requires the full cooperation of the pool membership. In order to better control pool access, all members are required to sign in at the life guard desk upon entering the pool grounds. Membership privileges are restricted to the member and immediate family members residing at the same address. All members can bring guests to the pool, but are required to pay a guest fee for each guest entering the property, whether they plan to swim or not. Members must also accompany their guest at all times while the guests are on pool property, and no guest shall be permitted without a sponsoring member or be permitted to remain on pool property after the sponsor departs.

Most importantly, access to the pool will be restricted to members who have completely paid their annual dues, along with any outstanding dues or fees from previous years. Dues must be paid in full by opening day. This year, we are offering an installment payment plan that will allow members to make partial payments from January through May. Details and a coupon system are included with the annual application and will be posted on the web site (www.fwpool.com), which should be updated by January 15, 2010.

One method the pool has traditionally used to keep costs down is have the membership perform as much work as possible to maintain the pool and the grounds. All work to open, operate, maintain, upgrade or repair items are preformed by volunteer members. Work at the pool continues throughout the year, and work parties usually begin in earnest during March. We are in need of help from people who have experience in electrical work, plumbing, woodwork, concrete work and just about anything else you can think of. The pool will continue to offer a \$75 rebate per membership to anyone who performs at least 10 hours of work at the pool prior to opening day. Additional details of the work that needs to be performed and when specific work will be targeted (such as removing the pool cover and cleaning the pool) will be emailed and posted on the pool web site.

The board also requests that all members with boats stored on pool property label their boats with their name, member number, or some other sort of identification so that a proper accounting can be accomplished. (Only shareholders may stored boats on pool property)

Membership dues continue to be the primary source of income for the pool. The board wants to expand membership. You will see signs along Indian Head Highway and Fort Washington Road as well as other forms of advertisement this year. Our own members none-the-less, continue to be the best source of new members. In recognition of this, the pool, will offer a \$25 "finders fee" to anyone who sponsors a new member. For the sponsor to be eligible for the \$25, the new member must be paid in full, and they must identify the sponsoring member on their application. The new member must not have been a member of the pool during the past 5 years.

As always, the board wants to host several social events this tear. Members with ideas for a social or who want to help plan and conduct an event should contact Bonnie Szymanski or Ray Rice. Anyone who wants to work as a life guard this year should also contact Bonnie. Lifeguards must be 16 years old and have passed the Lifeguard Certification Class.

Several references have been made throughout this newsletter to the pool web site. As noted above and on most of our correspondence, the pool web site is www.fwpool.com. We want to make the web site and emails our primary means of disseminating information to the membership. This is the fastest and most cost effective means available to us. Those members without web access can call any board member or check the pool notice board to obtain the same information.

Most importantly, access to the pool will be restricted to members who have completely paid their annual dues, along with any outstanding dues or fees from previous years. Dues must be paid in full by opening day. This year, we are offering an installment payment plan that will allow members to make partial payments from January through May. Details and a coupon system are included with the annual application and will be posted on the web site (www.fwpool.com), which should be updated by January 15, 2010.

One method the pool has traditionally used to keep costs down is have the membership perform as much work as possible to maintain the pool and the grounds. Most of the work to open, operate, maintain, upgrade or repair items are preformed by volunteer members. Work at the pool continues throughout the year, and work parties usually begin in earnest during March. We are in need of help from people who have experience in electrical work, plumbing, woodwork, concrete work and just about anything else you can think of. The pool will continue to offer a \$75 rebate per membership to anyone who performs at least 10 hours of work at the pool prior to opening day. Additional details of the work that needs to be performed and when specific work will be targeted (such as removing the pool cover and cleaning the pool) will be emailed and posted on the pool web site. Contact any Board member if you have a skill we can use or you want to help.

The board also requests that all members with boats stored on pool property label their boats with their

name, member number, or some other sort of identification so that a proper accounting can be accomplished.

Membership dues continue to be the primary source of income for the pool. The board wants to expand membership. You will see signs along Indian Head Highway and Fort Washington Road as well as other forms of advertisement this year. Our own members none-the-less, continue to be the best source of new members. In recognition of this, the pool, will offer a \$25 “finders fee” to anyone who sponsors a new member. For the sponsor to be eligible for the \$25, the new member must be paid in full, and they must identify the sponsoring member on their application. The new member must not have been a member of the pool during the past 5 years.

As always, the board wants to host several social events this year. Members with ideas for a social or who want to help plan and conduct an event should contact Bonnie Szymanski or Ray Rice. Anyone who wants to work as a life guard this year should also contact Bonnie. Lifeguards must be 16 years old and have passed the Lifeguard Certification Class.

Several references have been made throughout this newsletter to the pool web site. As noted above and on most of our correspondence, the pool web site is www.fwpool.com. We want to make the web site and emails our primary means of disseminating information to the membership. This is the fastest and most cost effective means available to us. Those members without web access can call any board member or check the pool notice board to obtain the same information.

FWPA BOARD

President: Eric Griffin
301-203-1551
Vice Pres: John Szymanski
301-292-7516
Treasurer: Ray Rice
301-839-9012
Secretary: John Dullahan
301-203-8281
Members: John Balazek
240-338-4668
Jack Dennis
301-203-1853
Fred Downs
301-292-1232
Brian King
301-292-5685
Bonnie Szymanski
301-292-7516

FACILITIES:

25 Meter Pool
Swim Team
Private Beach
Boat Ramp
Boat Storage
Dock & Picnic Areas
Tennis Courts
New Member Discounts