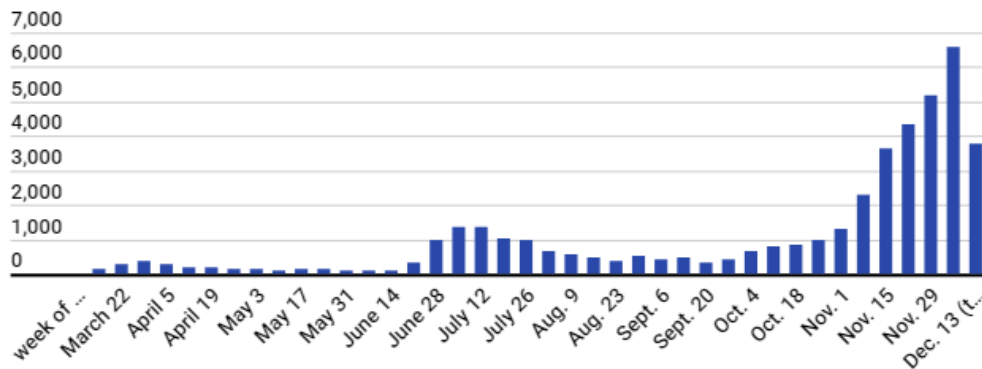


New reported COVID-19 cases for Allegheny County weekly breakdown since March



NO END IN SIGHT

December 17, 2020

The anticipated fall resurgence of COVID-19 is happening as predicted. Governor Wolf is calling the situation “dire” and in response is instituting tighter restrictions starting Saturday, December 12, 2020 and lasting through Monday morning, January 4, 2021.

Under the new rules, indoor dining is prohibited; but outdoor dining and take-out are still permitted. A limit of 10 people applies to all indoor gatherings and outdoor gatherings are limited to 50 people. Casinos, movies and theaters, gyms and other retailers are being limited to 50% capacity.

With rules like the earlier lockdowns and these latest restrictions, it is useless to even try to plan traditional happy hours and parties. Attendance is always a concern because many members are leery of gathering right now.

Our theater night at the Strand Theater was postponed and subsequently cancelled because attendance limits made the performance uneconomical.

Marlene finally gave up on trying to schedule a President’s Party because of continuing limits on indoor gatherings. Likewise, the traditional Christmas Party is also out of the question.

Unfortunately, all these rules have forced us to cancel our planned ski trip to Banff, Alberta, Canada in March 2021. Canada has closed its borders to outsiders and expects the closures to last until Summer.

The one bright spot for 2020 was the 28th annual Myrtle Beach week; which took place with about a dozen participants.

Going forward, all social meetings and Board of Directors meetings will take place virtually via Zoom Teleconferencing. As always, email and the website will be used to keep the membership informed.