



DEER LAKE NEWSLETTER

BOX 250, LOON LAKE, WA 99148

DEER LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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WWW.DLPOA.COM

Dedicated to the preservation and improvement of a beautiful lake for future generations

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As the year winds down it is time to reflect on the season gone and to plan for the ones to come. This year at the Lake seemed to be a successful and enjoyable one. The weather seemed to cooperate and the Lake did also. I don't think the water went down as bad as in the past couple of years indicating that the subsurface recharge is getting better. We appeared to have a successful year in controlling the milfoil in the Lake and the long term prognosis looks good. All the activities that DLPOA did were successful. From the roadside cleanups to the dock demo day to the Fourth of July celebration all went off with no problems and the results were favorable. It is a truly beautiful time at the Lake with the fall colors glowing everywhere you look.

Good things have happened around the Lake too. The East Deer Lake Road project is coming to a completion with a fine new and safer road for all to use. It appears the efforts to slow down the traffic on North Deer Lake Road have been successful. I would like to thank the Stevens Co. Sheriffs for helping with the situation but I would especially like to thank all the residents that have conscientiously slowed down to make the road safer for pedestrians, pets, bikers, the deer and the turkeys. It seemed that everyone was more pleasant making it enjoyable at the Lake.

As we proceed with the business of running DLPOA and attacking the tasks at hand it is necessary to again ask for people interested in the quality of life at Deer Lake to consider joining the Board to help with these tasks. All too often the things that get done are by the same concerned people willing to donate their time and energy. It takes such a small amount of time and the rewards are great so PLEASE consider helping DLPOA. There are numerous Board positions that need to be filled so if you are interested please attend any Board Meeting. They are held on the second Thursday of the month at 6:00 P.M. at the Salvation Army Camp. If you live in town and are concerned about the drive we can consider a different meeting place nearer to Spokane. I want to thank all the existing Board members for their hard work and diligence in the past and hope to hear from some new people to help in keeping Deer Lake the Beautiful Place it is to live and play.

Sincerely,
Larry Nokes, Your Prez.

FOURTH OF JULY

By Larry Nokes

The Fourth of July events were again this year a big success. After spending numerous man hours fixing the docks used for the display they went off smoothly. Though they were somewhat shorter than before, because of cost increases, the display was great. The Kid's parade was great fun and all seemed to enjoy it. The boat parade was less than usual because of the midweek time but all that participated seemed to have a great time. The pancake feed was well received and provided a chance for many around the Lake an opportunity to get together and visit.

For 2009 we will be attempting to solicit funds from a Stevens Co. Tax collected for tourism that might help us provide a more substantial display, let's hope.

Dates for the events will be coming in the next newsletter so look and plan accordingly.

Fall Roadside Cleanup

by Mike Phillips

After many years of cleaning the roads around Deer Lake, I think we are getting the message out to keep the roadsides clean all year around. I have seen people out cleaning whenever they feel like it.

It shows in the number of pounds of litter we pick up. In the beginning we would pick up around 1,500 lbs. in the spring and 900 lbs. in the fall. This year we picked up 900 lbs. in the spring and 600lbs. this fall. It also shows in the time it takes to do the job.

We are getting done earlier. I hope that the time it takes is also due to more Deer Lake residents taking pride in the beautiful area they live.

Thank you for all the help. Bring friends and neighbors to the Spring cleanup. Look in the newsletter for dates and info. Also keep an eye on the two reader boards.

ROAD SAFETY

by Mike Egan

Thank you for slowing down. As many of you know, road safety is a real concern around our lake. This lake and others like it are considered resort areas. With that comes many groups of people every year to our lake, especially during the summer months. That generates a lot of foot traffic on our roads and many have pets. 20 mph is the posted speed limit on most of our roads around the lake. In the past there was what was considered ample signage by the county. In May of 2008 DLPOA purchased 15 "20 MPH" regulation signs and we placed them in strategic areas on East Deer Lake Rd and North Deer Lake Rd so they are more easily seen. This seems to have worked quite effectively because we're not seeing so many lead foots. For the 4th of July and Labor Day weekends we borrowed a radar trailer from public works. It was placed in various locations along the stretch on N. Deer Lake Rd. through the Salvation Army Camp. That too seemed to work very well. For the better part, we're seeing people slowing down for pedestrians and animals and being more aware. With a combined effort, we can keep our roads safe for all.

The Weed by Mike Phillips

No, not that weed. If you haven't heard, Eurasian Milfoil is growing in our lake. We are doing something about it. With all your help, we can stay on top of the problem. This weed is very invasive. It grows slowly at first then explodes into large mats.

You can type in "Eurasian Milfoil" in whatever internet search engine you use and find many pictures and information about this problem. It is now in almost every lake in Washington and Idaho.

The steps we have taken to avoid a large outbreak are:

- Survey the lake on a regular basis, trying to locate it.
- Covering the only large area we have with bottom barriers.
- Pulling the weed by trained divers with the proper equipment.
- Educating the interested residents of the lake to help us find any weeds that may be in their areas.
- Working with the state and county agencies to get a grant and implement it the best way possible.

Most of the cost of this work is being paid by a grant from The Dept. of Ecology, which is then administered by the Stevens County Weed Board. DLPOA will pay the rest with in-kind work or cash if the in-kind hours are not enough to cover our share. All aspects of this process are also reviewed by DLPOA.

Ace Diving came in July and those weeds found were removed or covered by bottom barriers. This took a week, with two divers and a barge type boat with a suction pump to remove the found weeds completely, roots and all.

Doe surveyed again a week later and still found some weeds. These were tagged by GPS and then Ace Diving came through again in August to install a few more bottom barriers and pull all the weeds they could find.

DPLOA will continue to work with the agencies from now on to stay on top of the problem. It is just like trying to keep dandelions under control when you don't want to use weed killer. The big problem is these weeds are hid under water and mixed with a non-invasive weed that looks almost like Eurasian Milfoil. When you go to pull the weed, the mud on the bottom gets stirred up so you can't see anything. I wouldn't want to do that job. Too frustrating.

Please do not try to pull these weeds yourself. You will probably fragment the weed and spread it around more. Call or e-mail me and I will pass the location along to the right people.

We will go through the same process next year when the water warms up and the weeds start to grow again. They are dormant during the winter and the tops fall to the bottom, rotting away.

If you have any questions please call me at 233-2510. I will be happy to answer any questions and if I don't have the answer, I will ask the right people. I learn more that way too.

Thanks to all the residents of the lake that have taken an interest in this matter. The more people we have looking for Eurasian Milfoil, the better job we can do to keep it from spreading into an expensive problem.

Dock Demo Days

By Ken Ring

DLPOA had another successful dock clean up this past June. Although it was rainy, windy and cold (53 degrees!) over 20 brave volunteers managed to remove 22 old docks from the lake.

Five dump truck loads were hauled away to be recycled, and 3 dump truck loads went to the dump. We also hauled away 15 fifty gallon barrels.

A special thanks to Kurt Young for bringing his backhoe and truck and operating the equipment. Kurt lives on the lake and if you need to hire a backhoe operator, please give him your consideration.

Sunrise Point Resort once again let us use their beach and the Ennis family even provided hot coffee. Larry Nokes provided his dump truck for the fourth straight year. Bill Bajadali, George Renner, Jim Santora, John and Sally Gregerson used their boats for towing in the docks.

Thanks to the rest of the crew for their hard work:

Mike Egan	Don Davis	Ken Santora
Jim Long	Jack Low	Mike Santora
Maury Paul	Scott Humphrey	Brian Santora
Doyle Knight	Brian Humphrey	Bill Stewart
Mike Becker		Debbie Stewart

The Board

by the Newsletter Guy

DLPOA has four officers and a bunch of board members. Our Constitution (yes, we do have one) allows for like 18 board members. At the moment, we have 11. Maurice Paul recently resigned, but we have added two new members.

Jerry Rasly, whose parents had a cabin on the lake when he was a kid, now has his own cabin. Jerry has been coming to our board meetings for several months, and finally decided to make it legal.

Bill Meulink only bought his cabin recently, and got shanghaied to be a board member at his first board meeting. He runs an engineering design firm, and will be helpful with our plans for moving the Deer Lake sign at Agar Road.

We are still looking for fresh, well, new members for the board. Benefits are: free cookies at every board meeting, nine of which are held during the year. And you get to get ownership of one of our projects, which really means you get to DO those projects. Of course, you can always delegate

Board Notes
By the Web Guy

So what is all this about moving the Deer Lake sign, you may ask? And what about this Millfoil thing? And what is going on with the development at the narrows?

Well, these and other things are the things being discussed by the board at our monthly meetings. And all this stuff is dutifully reported by the Secretary Guy, generally a week or so after the meetings.

This good stuff can be found on our web site, at www.dlpoa.com/boardnotes.htm. This page displays all the board notes for the current year. To see previous board notes (back to the year 2000), go to www.dlpoa.com/newsletters.htm, and select the year you are interested in. This same page will let you see the minutes of the annual meetings going back to 2000, and most of the newsletters, going all the way back to Volume 1 issue 1 in 1974.

So if you were to look through just this year's notes, you would find the following and more:

(10/08)Agar Road Deer Lake sign - we are proposing that we move it closer to public access area. Do landscaping, get water, maybe even power to light it up. It is PUD right of way, but they are OK with this. Big boulders, etched map of the lake, and logo. Metal cutouts of deer and stuff.

(9/08)Before the regular business meeting, we had a session with Doug Freeland, the guy who has been getting rid of the Eurasian Millfoil in our lake. About 20 people attended this session. (Notes of the presentation follows on the web site.)

(8/08)Darrell Sauer and son were present to present their concept for developing their property on the Narrows. They bought 600 acres from the Lundies, then traded 200 acres of that for timber. This property is on both sides of the narrows. (Notes of that meeting follow on the web site.)

(5/08)Skip Wells, fire commissioner district 1, was a visitor. Our fire district had a complete review by some state agency. They rated us a 7, which is better than the 8A that we were. Lower numbers are better, and these things affect your fire insurance cost.

(4/08)DOE Ken Merrill, from the Washington State Department of Ecology, gave a talk on Lake Hydrologic Factors. Which means, why is the lake at the level that it is? (Report of his presentation follows on the web site.)

Several people running for office have attended our meetings, including Shelly Short, Wes McCart, and Larry Gunther. Tony Delgado, Stevens County Commissioner, is a frequent visitor to our meetings.

(1/08)Clay White is the Stevens County Planning Director. Officially, Land Services. Mostly he showed up to get beat up on all the proposed development that we hear is going on in the Narrows. But he said that nobody has submitted any requests for permits and stuff, and until somebody hands in some paperwork, he has nothing to do. So, since he could not talk about what will maybe happen, he was asked questions about what it is he can and does do. (Report of his presentation follows.)

Coming Events

Board Meeting -- Thurs Nov 13- - Note -- New time of 6PM
NO board meeting – December
Board Meeting – Thurs Jan 8
Board Meeting – Thurs Feb 12
Board Meeting – Thurs March 12
Board Meeting – Thurs April 9
Board Meeting – Thurs May 14
Annual Meeting – Sometime in June

For a list of board members and their assignments, please see our web site at
www.dlpoa.com/officers

This newsletter put together by Dennis DeMattia 926-8848 [demattia\(at\)acm.org](mailto:demattia(at)acm.org)

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