



# **DEER LAKE NEWSLETTER**

**BOX 250, LOON LAKE, WA 99148**

**DEER LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

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Summer 2009 (#2)

**WWW.DLPOA.COM**

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

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

by Larry Nokes

Since my last letter lots of things have happened around the Lake. The weather has warmed up and many Lake activities have resumed. We have had successful clean-up and dock demo days. We had a good annual meeting, though attendance was low as usual, and nominated a new board member and ratified a total of three new board members. We still don't have a full contingent of members so if you have an interest please contact a board member or attend a board meeting to see if it is something you would like to do. DLPOA is a valuable asset to Deer Lake and being involved, as a board member, is truly rewarding. It is extremely gratifying to participate in something that does so many good things for our Lake and Community.

Things around the Lake are quite calm now with no rumors of development. People seem to be slowing down on the roads making it safer for pedestrians and pets. ALL IS GOOD! With the social hour going on in the middle of the Lake on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 6:00 I have had an opportunity to meet and socialize with some other Lake people, which has been great. If you have the time please join us for a fun time and a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors on the Lake.

Please take the time to read the newsletter, it is full of information. From pounds of garbage collected to docks removed to milfoil control and Fourth of July activities and other issues of concern it is your best way to keep up with what is happening around the Lake. As always, it is a pleasure and privilege to be your President and I would appreciate any feedback from you, as members, regarding any concerns you might have. Hopefully I will see you on the Lake this Summer.

Your Prez.

Larry Nokes

### **From Ken Ring, DLPOA Board Member**

DLPOA has been in existence for about 30 years, and one man has served as its president for about a third of that time! Larry Nokes was acknowledged at the last Board Meeting for 9 years of service as DLPOA president. He reluctantly agreed to stick around one more year to help groom a successor. This will be his lame duck year, or as some might surely refer to it, the year of the loon (just kidding!).

Larry and Charm moved to Deer Lake 25 years ago, and settled first in Cedar Bay. Fourteen years ago they relocated to the West side of the lake on North Deer Lake Rd. Larry owns his own landscaping business, Precision Landscaping, and dabbles in real estate. He still finds time to devote countless hours and hours to DLPOA. You can see him at every single event, but especially the Fourth of July activities; he coordinates the fireworks and parade.

One of Larry's biggest accomplishments is making DLPOA one of the largest property associations in the state. With his leadership, the lake is being kept clean and safe, and many fun events are planned to bring us all together. Behind every good man is the proverbial good woman. Charm has worked behind the scenes and also deserves recognition for putting up with Larry. Larry loves to travel, do woodworking, raise horses, work in the yard, and play golf. We appreciate all that he's done for our group, and hope he has more time in the future to devote to those activities. *Thanks, Larry, for a job well done!*

### **FOURTH OF JULY**

By Larry Nokes

This year our Fourth of July celebration was another great success. I would like to apologize for some mix-ups on times. We changed our Street Parade time to 10:00 to clear the street earlier and published the time but still some arrived late which caused a minimal of confusion and for that I apologize. For some unknown reason there was a mix-up on the start time for the Boat Parade. It got going a little early and caused some to miss the full flow of beautifully decorated boats which was unfortunate. It was obvious that many had put extensive time into decorating their boats and that everybody did not get to see all the participants efforts was sad. The Parade leader was given 40 lashes for his indiscretion so it hopefully will not happen again.

The Fireworks display was well received and if any were disappointed with the location of the float for the display there was a good reason for it. The Nazarene Church Camp provided a very generous donation for the display and to insure they could see the display from their beach we needed to move it. In a continuing effort to improve the display for all to see we will refine our location and, hopefully, lock into a good place for the display that will maximize viewing for all. Please let me know what you thought about the location so we can get the optimum location. Thank you to all who donated for the display, including the County who donated \$500.00 to the display from their hotel/motel tax. Your continuing donations will allow us to provide an ever improving display

## **Proposition 1 – Stevens County Fire Levy Lid-Lift**

### **Mark Beck, Chief, Fire District #1**

Stevens County Board of Fire Commissioners passed a resolution to place a levy lid-lift proposition on the August primary election ballot. The fire district has conducted a number of presentations to local groups. The most common questions with answers are provided below.

- Why does the fire district need the money? How has the budget and levy rate changed over the past ten years?
- How much will the levy increase cost the average property owner? What will you use the money for?
- What happens if the levy doesn't pass? (What could it "cost" that same homeowner?)

1. Due to a number of economic factors, the district is experiencing a revenue shortfall. This shortfall has left the district with two options: to ask for a property tax levy lid-lift or to reduce expenditures by closing a number of fire stations. Over the past 10 years, although the fire district's assessed value has increased 100%, the fire levy rate has dropped from \$1.25 to \$.92 cents. The fire district covers an area of almost 375 square miles. In serving the communities of Deer Lake, Loon Lake, Springdale, Ford, Tum Tum, Suncrest, Twin Mountain and Clayton, it operates eight fire stations and almost 40 fire trucks. These facilities, trucks and equipment cost a significant amount of money to repair, maintain or replace. Over the past 10 years, the number of calls in the District has increased by 80%, much of our equipment has become older and less reliable, and fuel costs have more than doubled. The funds levied at the existing rate have not allowed us to keep pace with the additional emergency calls and increased costs.

2. The proposed levy increase is **28 cents** per \$1000 of assessed valuation. The current 92 cent fire levy would be raised to \$1.20 beginning in 2010 and would last for six years. The increase amounts to less than \$5 dollars per month (less than the cost of your basic "To Go Meal"), for the owner of a home assessed at \$200,000 and would still be lower than the rate levied ten years ago. The money will be used to replace critical firefighter safety equipment, replace two water tenders and increase the hours of our fire mechanic. Because over 80% of our fire district is without fire hydrants, trucks that can shuttle water to fires are essential. The age of our fleet of water tenders averages over 26 years old. On some recent fires, they were unreliable necessitating assistance from neighboring fire districts.

3. If the levy does not pass, the fire district will be forced to continue to cut services. This year the district did not replace a vacant career firefighter position. This vacancy leaves the career firefighter staffing below minimum safety levels which impacts the ability to extinguish fires and provide emergency medical services to all areas of the fire district. Remember, during weekdays, the majority of our volunteers are not available. Future cuts will involve fire station closures which will save the district money but will also result in extended response times as well as possible increases in fire insurance rates. ***Local insurance agents have estimated that the impact from a fire station closure could result in a 10-40% increase in premium. The net effect of fire station closures would be less protection but more cost.***

If you are a resident of our fire district and are registered to vote, please take the time to consider this very important issue being placed on the August primary election ballot. Thank you for your support.

## **Spring Roadside Cleanup**

By Mike Phillips

With the help of a couple dozen volunteers, the roads in and around Deer Lake are clean for a couple of days anyway.

We picked up 900 lbs. of litter. Please come out in the fall for another cleanup. It will be Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. Watch our reader boards for a reminder. Thanks to all those great people that participated.

## **Dock Clean Up**

By Ken Ring

On Saturday, June 6, twenty-five deteriorating docks were removed from the lake. Among those were 6 docks that had been abandoned in the Narrows. We took 6 dump truck loads to a future burn pile and 4 dump truck loads to the landfill.

Towing the docks to Sunrise Point proved to be quite a challenge with strong headwinds and white caps on the lake. Boats were supplied by Bill Bajadali, George and Kathy Renner, Ralph Rice, Matt Ring, Lonnie Gray, and Vonnie Nielson. The Ennis family again donated the use of their beach and backhoe. Mike Becker spent half of the day in the cold lake and half the day operating the equipment.

The heavy equipment supplied proved to be the lifesaver and back saver of the demolition. Larry Nokes and Pat Audett let us use their dump trucks and trailers. Joe Gray operated his tractor. Kurt Young again brought his backhoe and really cleaned up the accumulated docks.

Thanks to those who volunteered on the water, and those who worked on shore. Next year DLPOA will supply Ibuprofen and Aleve!

The (Happy-To-Demolition Anything) Chain Saw and Crow Bar Group Members:

Jerry Groom  
Zack Groom  
Jim Santora  
Larry Nokes  
Mike Becker  
Bob Dyck  
Rick Jarvis

Mike Egan  
Arlen Garlich  
Brian Santora  
Jerry Rasley  
Pat Audett  
Kurt Young  
Ken Ring

Bill Lenke  
Mike Phillips  
Larry Elverum  
Dakota Goodwin  
Brian Humphrey  
Joe Gray  
Cheryl Ring

## **Eurasian Milfoil: the WEED**

by Mike Phillips

Ace Diving circled the lake for a week looking for Eurasian Milfoil. The milfoil in the Deer Lake Resort swimming area was covered last year by bottom barriers. That process got rid of 90% and hand pulling removed the rest. On the first couple of trips around the lake they found a few plants here and there. On the last trip they went into a difficult to get to area as far into the narrows as they could get. They found two patches of about 1,000 sq. ft. each. The problem is the milfoil is embedded in natural milfoil and other native weeds, making it hard for divers to get in. After some discussion it was decided to move the bottom barriers that were removed from Deer Lake Resort to these new areas. The water is only 3ft. deep where they need to put them. The barriers will kill some of the native plants as well as the Eurasian Milfoil. The only other option is a chemical application. We will try the barriers first.

The crew will come back in September to check the new area. They will pull any Milfoil outside the bottom barriers. Good Luck.

## **Water Safety**

By Mike Phillips

As I have been out cruising the lake I have noticed watercraft doing things that are illegal and dangerous. The most often ignored law is the no wake rule within 100 ft. of any stationary boat, buoy or dock. This means if you are within 100ft. coming from any direction you need to be going slow enough not to leave a wake, with a maximum of 5 mph. and no wake. Some people think this only applies on the shore side of the buoys. It also means outside of them too.

The reasons for this rule are: the boats moored at docks and the docks themselves get beat up enough from wind driven waves without having boats create more. Canoes, peddle boats, swimmers and fishermen in small boats use these protected areas to enjoy the lake with some degree of safety.

I have observed wave runners making big waves on purpose so they can jump them. This activity should be done in the middle of the lake where there is lots of room and there is less chance of accidents and damage. The bays and close to docks is not the place for this type of activity.

A list of rules and guidelines for water safety are available online. As there are many sources to the rules, use a search engine to find them. Parks.gov is one source. Some of the rules re: age limits for drivers of pwc's and different sized boats and motors, make hard to put them in an article.

Please remember to go counter clockwise when within 400 ft. of shore. When overtaking another boat it is your responsibility to steer clear as boaters have a tendency to turn either direction abruptly, with no warning. Maybe we should have turn signals: just a thought.

Have a safe summer on Deer Lake.

## Kiddy and Boat Parades

For the last four years or so, your web guy dutifully took pictures of the boats in the boat parade. These were posted on our web site in a somewhat small, grainy format (because we only get a lousy 10 MB of space from our web host service) with a note that you could ask for a bright full resolution version to be emailed to you.

This year the web guy, and the web guy's wife, forgot their cameras..... He does have a cell phone camera, but even with 40 odd (or perhaps strange) years of intensive computer experience under his 50 inch belt, he has no clue how to deal with pictures on a cell phone. Like the Roach Motel, they can Check In, but nobody knows how to Check Them Out!! (It might not surprise you to know that he does not text either, even though he has been using email since the early 80's).

However, Mr Phillips, who seems to have filled up most of this issue of our newsletter already did show up to the Kiddy Parade with his Brownie Starflash (I am dating myself again).



We usually do not have space to list out the people (Currently all guys, but we would be happy to change that) that put in gobs of hours on the DLPOA committees. We are always looking for fresh meat (I mean new blood). One meeting a month during the fall, winter and spring, and maybe a little bit of work on your assigned committee (do you own a chain saw?). Next year you could even be President (of DLPOA – the other job is taken)!

### **Officers of DLPOA**

President	Larry Nokes	233-2088 <a href="mailto:lbnotes@earthlink.net">lbnotes(at)earthlink.net</a>
Vice President	Mike Phillips	233-2510 <a href="mailto:skipper@webband.com">skipper(at)webband.com</a>
Treasurer	Mike Egan	233-8178 <a href="mailto:deerlakemike@gmail.com">deerlakemike(at)gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Dennis DeMattia	926-8848 <a href="mailto:demattia@acm.org">demattia(at)acm.org</a>

### **Board Members of DLPOA**

Bill Bajadali	921-1819	<a href="mailto:bajie04@comcast.net">bajie04(at)comcast.net</a>
John Gregerson	233-8419	
Bill Meulink	xxx-xxxx	<a href="mailto:Bill@meulinkenger.com">Bill(at)meulinkenger.com</a>
Ken Ring	499-3170	<a href="mailto:kenringdeerlake@gmail.com">kenringdeerlake(at)gmail.com</a>
Jerry Rasley	xxx-xxxx	<a href="mailto:jrasley@comcast.net">jrasley(at)comcast.net</a>
Darrell Rung	233-2559	<a href="mailto:drimg@msn.com">drimg(at)msn.com</a>
Jim Santora	233-8300	<a href="mailto:deerlaker@msn.com">deerlaker(at)msn.com</a>

### **Committees**

Dock Demo	Reader Board
Emergency Services	Road Cleanup--East
Fisheries	Road Cleanup--West
Fourth of July	Road Safety
Historian	Water Quality
Membership	Water Safety
Newsletter	Web Site
Personal Watercraft	Wood Cutting

## Coming Events

Board Meeting – Thurs September 10, 6pm  
Roadside Cleanup – Saturday September 19  
Board Meeting – Thurs October 8, 6pm  
Board Meeting – Thurs November 12, 6pm  
Fall Newsletter – End of November (ish)

For a list of board members and their assignments, please see our web site at [www.dlpoa.com/officers.htm](http://www.dlpoa.com/officers.htm) For Board Minutes see [www.dlpoa.com/boardnotes.htm](http://www.dlpoa.com/boardnotes.htm)  
This newsletter put together by Dennis DeMattia 926-8848 [demattia\(at\)acm.org](mailto:demattia(at)acm.org)

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