



DEER LAKE NEWSLETTER

BOX 250, LOON LAKE, WA 99148

DEER LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Published maybe 3 times a year

Spring 2010 (#1)

WWW.DLPOA.COM

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

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Our DLPOA President, Larry Nokes, is still recovering from his stroke, so he will have to pass on this edition's news letter. Larry is at home and is able to walk around. He did not do the Boston Marathon this year.

Spring Roadside Cleanup

by Mike Phillips

DLPOA needs your help with Spring cleanup. The roadsides in and around the lake are looking pretty rough with the litter from the winter season. We could use as many helpful hands as possible to clean these roadsides. The more hands we get, the quicker the job gets done. We usually start around 8:00am. It takes less than 2 hours. This year May 22, Saturday is the date. If you have done this before, it's the usual routine. Oh yea, there will be a chili feed at the fire hall on the east side after the cleanup, usually 9:00 am till around 11:00. If you are new, call Mike Phillips, 233-2510 for the west side or Tim DsChaak, 233-2901 for the east side. We will help with any questions.

Road Safety Awareness

by Brian Humphrey

The full swing of lake season is approaching! Road safety is an ongoing concern as many people enjoy the various activities that come with this area. We need to be courteous of walkers, joggers, bikers, and others who are sharing the roadway. Observing the 20 mph speed limit is a simple and effective way we can all participate in maintaining safety for residents and guests. Those who are residents may want to take a moment to educate visiting family and friends of this important safety issue, so that we can enjoy the wonderful features of our area without incident.

May all of you have a fun, memorable and SAFE lake season.

Thank you!

Deer Lake Forth of July Boat Parade

by Rick Jarvis

Hello paraders! We are excited to gather for the parade this year and have decided to create some guides to follow to make everyone's experience a positive one. This year the parade will be on Saturday July 3rd, and will start at 7:30 pm at the mouth of the narrows on the east side. Rick Jarvis will head the parade in a red and white Four Winns ski boat. We will head counter clockwise through the narrows and around the whole lake at the speed of approximately 5 mph. The idea is to stick together so that there are not any gaps. So please be patient with one another. Relax and enjoy the procession, which we hope will make it a wonderful time for all those watching the parade. Decorate your boat using bicentennial decorations and join in on the fun. We would love to have you.

Pancake Breakfast

by Lee Bayley

The annual Pancake Breakfast will be at the Deer Lake Fire Station, Sunday, July 4th, from 7AM to 11AM.

What better time is there to meet your neighbors, to share your fish stories, and learn about community interests, than a community pancake breakfast?

This event last year attracted over 600 diners. This year it's a culmination of a busy 4th of July celebration around the lake. Since we started early in the 80's our breakfast continues to grow, with the help of over 35 volunteers. For all volunteers, please call Lee Bayley at 326-0594 with your willingness to make this successful again.

As usual we will be selling raffle tickets, we will have music, and the food will be excellent. I personally look forward to seeing and talking to each of you. You deserve a pleasant summer experience. Lets start here.

The cost for this event is \$5 (\$3 if 8 or under). Much of the proceeds go to community projects.

Kiddie parade

The annual Kiddie Parade will be held again, on Saturday, July 3rd, at 10:30am. It starts at Deer Lake Resort, and ends at West Bay Park with a picnic lunch which DLPOA will supply. There are some No-No's – there are NO pets (or other animals) in the parade (due to liability) and NO children operating motorized vehicles. For this purpose, a person with a driver's license is not a child.

Fireworks

The DLPOA fireworks display will once again be the evening of July 3rd. A barge will be set up in the middle of the main lake. Donations for the fireworks are happily accepted. Last year donations covered the total cost of the fireworks, but that included a one time major donation from Pinelow.

Annual Meeting

The DLPOA annual meeting will be held at the Deer Lake Fire Station, Saturday, June 12, starting a little earlier this year at 10 AM. Come and meet your officers, express your opinions, make suggestions, run for office yourselves, and have a pot luck lunch afterwards. DLPOA will provide soft drinks, hot dogs and buns, and you guys have to provide everything else (salads, chips, dessert, etc).

Deer Lake Apparel

We will have sport shirts, sweat shirts, and ball caps with the Deer Lake logo on display at the June Annual Meeting.

Orders will be taken at the June meeting and at the Pancake Feed on the Fourth of July.

You can also contact Bill Bajadali at 509 999-7487

Dock Clean Up (aka Dock Demo Days)

by Ken Ring

If you have an old dock you'd like to get rid of, or just want to help demolish someone else's dock, then mark Saturday, June 5th on your calendar. Our mild winter has been gentle on the loose rogue docks this year. We have not seen any free floating docks travel through the Narrows. Last year we pulled six from the wetlands and hauled them away.

The cost of disposing docks has not changed for the last three years – its \$3/foot if you bring the dock to us, or \$5/foot if DLPOA comes and picks it up from your place.

We need people who will volunteer to drive their boats for hauling docks, as well as workers who are ready to dismantle docks. Please bring chain saws, rakes, and crowbars.

We will start the demolition at 9AM at Sunrise Point beach. We provide lunch and finish round 2PM – probably earlier this year if we have enough volunteers. Anyone who would like to salvage material from these docks (logs, barrels, hardware, or firewood) is welcome.

Please contact Ken Ring at 499-3170 or [kenringdeerlake\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:kenringdeerlake(at)gmail.com) to volunteer or let him know if you have a dock to be removed.

Deer Lake Sign

You might have noticed that the big wood Deer Lake information sign at the intersection of Grouse Creek road and North Deer Lake road is partially missing: Good, you're observant. We are in the process of bringing it back to life, then relocating it closer to the lake. It may be in place by the end of May.

Regional Lakes Conference 2010

By the Secretary Guy

This conference has been going on for about 10 years, first at a bar, and currently at Spokane Community College. Think of it as the local meeting of WALPA, the Washington State Lake Protection Association. It is free to attend but you must register in advance. DLPOA is a sponsor of this conference. Mike Phillips goes just about every year. I only went once before, about three years ago, and got turned off by the then excessive tree hugging of the participants. That was much reduced this year, and I think it was a very good and useful experience this time.

The morning sessions were heavily devoted to Milfoil, and that is what I will be reporting on here. The afternoon sessions ended up being more political I thought, and so I tuned out.

Lake Pend Oreille (abbreviated LPO after this) has had an extensive milfoil problem for over a decade. Milfoil, a very invasive weed that we have started to see in our lake in the last three years, can grow into thick mats of vegetation that can kill fish and wildlife, foul boats, and even tangle up swimmers. If you attack it quickly and hard (which, thanks to Mr Phillips, we have done), you can control it, but you will never get rid of it. DLPOA is currently working with a \$25,000 grant from the state, but that money will run out this year, and then it will be on our shoulders to continue the battle. It will be very expensive, and it will go on forever. We will probably have to create an LMD (spelled: taxes) to continue the battle.

They first discovered milfoil in the PO River in 1998. They attacked it with herbicide in 98 and 99, but by 2005 it had still spread to 3500 acres. Huge masses of the stuff could be seen just off the long bridge leading into Sandpoint. Currently, the state of Idaho has budgeted about \$10 Million for weed control, and LPO gets half of that.

While herbicides, and that would be usually 2,4D, has been used for control, studies are now finding the potential for injury to humans (maybe). Canada has banned its use, and the US's EPA is starting to grump about its use. In 2009 a federal court ruling declared that herbicides ARE pollutants, which mandates an NPDES permit, citizen oversight and grumping, legal recourse if your grumps are not dealt with, and other govmt crapola. Public comments on these rules will be held this April, although the rules will probably not be implemented this year. There is also now a requirement that the inert ingredients in pesticides be disclosed, because so many of our pesticides are being made in China, and of course who knows what kinds of mining tailings those guys toss into their products.

There are other methods to control this stuff, which so far is all that has been used at Deer Lake. These are Bottom Barriers, which were used at Deer Lake Resort and are now being used in the narrows, and Diver Pulling, which we have done and will be doing more of. LPO is looking into using local weevils, some of which will chomp on milfoil. So far they have not had much success with this.

Part of the problem with herbicides is a) getting the herbicide to the roots, which of course are in maybe 10 feet of water, and b) keeping the herbicide in contact with the roots for a sufficient

amount of time, like 12 hours. If you are in the middle of a river (like the PO River) this latter item is a real problem, because the current wants to wash the stuff down stream. Liberty Lake found that they were having little success in killing the bad stuff off until they figured out that they had to use weighted hoses to inject the herbicide right down at the root level, instead of dumping it on the surface and hoping it will all sink. It doesn't. Bonner County was going to treat 1200 acres, but when people evaluated the conditions where herbicides would actually be useful, they reduced this to 330 acres.

LPO found that if they draw the lake down about 12 feet in the winter, that this will kill the milfoil that remains above the waterline. Then they just have to concentrate on the milfoil in the 12-20 foot depth during the summer time, and that is generally not as dense. We obviously cannot do that on our lake.

Liberty Lake has been fighting this since at least 2002. They take real good data of where the stuff is found, and plot it on a map twice a year, once in the spring and once, after they do their control efforts, in the fall. This lets them see if their control efforts are working, which is how they found out that their application hoses were not deep enough. Liberty Lake is about 30 ft deep at the max. Most plants are above the 21 ft contour line. They have so far spent \$150K on control efforts.

They found that milfoil flourishes in clear water. In years where they have algae blooms, milfoil does not grow as much. But having algae all over the place is not a very good solution.

LPO found that keeping the Phosphorus out of the lake helps a lot. In this area, Deer Lake is in somewhat good shape because of our sewer system. The outflow of the sewer goes mostly into Loon Lake, so they get our phosphorus. However, we do have a big problem with lawn fertilizer runoff, and with beach fires. In the case of beach fires, if you will cart the ash and stuff to an off lake site (or take it to the transfer station with your garbage) that problem will go away. I have the problem of trucking this stuff up 52 steps to get to the parking area, but I also have two teen aged grandsons who can deal with the problem.

The lawn fertilizer problem will be reduced if a couple of bills currently in the Washington State legislature pass, which will ban the use of Phosphorus in lawn fertilizer except for starter lawns or lawns on clay-ey soil. Mr Phillips says he has been using a lawn fertilizer at the Salvation Army Camp for several years that is Phosphorus free and it works quite well and is cheaper, even.

There was one other proposal by the LPO speaker, and that is to ban power boats. The claim is that power boats, even in deep water, stirs up the bottom sediment and that stirs up the Phosphorus that has been trapped in the mud and muck. And, of course, everybody hates jet skis, and the argument is that some amount of milfoil parts will be caught inside a jet ski and this will be transported to different lakes as the jet ski moves around. While the audience at the conference clucked in agreement, I think most lake house owners would not be amused.

Over and over, we got the message that you will never eradicate milfoil, just control it. LPO has

reduced their milfoil infestation from 7500 acres (out of 12000 acres in the littoral zone) to 750 acres. Liberty Lake has had reasonable success there too, although it has been expensive. Loon Lake has been fighting this problem for many years and now has a Lake Management District, which has some sort of taxing authority. We at Deer Lake have not done this as yet, but it may come to that, because the DLPOA resources will not be enough to fight this battle forever.

Another Comment on the Regional Lakes Conference
by Mike Phillips, DLPOA VP and earth hugger.

When anyone attends a Lakes conference (and 99% of the people there are associated with some water protective "body of people" in the state, [for instance: DOE, DNR, Fish and Game, lakes association members, Wash. Area Lakes Protective Association, etc.]), one would expect them to be "tree huggers". I like to think of them as "earth huggers", wanting to protect our natural resources for every generation to follow us. The object of these meetings is to inform all attending of the different ways there are to protect our water resources and network with each other to that end. We are also there to identify all threats to those resources.

Milfoil
By Mike Phillips

We are keeping up with Milfoil for the most part. There is one difficult area. At the far north end of the narrows, where the weeds are thickest and the water is the shallowest, we are having trouble getting into two patches of the weed. After much discussion with all the people that have knowledge and experience with this subject, it looks like we may have to apply 2 4d to these small areas. We will survey these areas in June to see what the situation is for sure, and then make a decision. The two areas are about 1,000 sq. ft. each as of last fall.

The grant money we received a few years ago will run out after this summer. We will have to do the same thing Loon Lake did to fund the ongoing battle with this weed. It is called a "Lake Management District". It is formed to add tax funds to the Stevens County Weed Board to only pay for the control of Eurasian Milfoil on Deer Lake. It could also be used to control other types of invasive weeds that are probably going to arrive here sometime in the future. There are a couple of weed types infesting Westside lakes and some in Moses Lake that may get here. More on that subject in the future. If you have questions on this please e-mail me at skipper(at)webband.com or call 233-2510.

Included in this newsletter is an article on identifying Eurasian Milfoil. There are also many articles on the subject. Just go on the internet: Google "identifying Eurasian milfoil". The Dept. of Ecology site is good too.

The Milfoil Article

Grabbed from one of the brochures at the Lake Conference

Its called Eurasian Watermilfoil. It is not native to Washington state. Once it starts growing it is almost impossible to control.

Eurasian Milfoil can be difficult to identify. Sometimes it resembles native aquatic plants such as Northern Milfoil and Coontail. To identify Eurasian Milfoil:

- Count the pairs of leaflets. Eurasian Milfoil has twelve or more pairs.
- It has a feather like appearance. The leaves collapse around the stem when removed from the water.
- The topmost leaves and stems may be reddish-brown or pink
- Mature leaves are usually arranged in whorls of four around the stem.

As a plant ailen to North America, Eurasian Watermilfoil has no natural enemies. It grows in almost any waterbody – lakes, streams and rivers as well as irrigation canals and small ponds.

Since its introduction into Washington State about 1977, Eurasian Milfoil has spread to many parts of the state. It has choked out native plants in many locations. It has impacted recreational activities, hydroelectric power generation, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Eurasian Milfoil spreads rapidly. New plants and colonies can start from a single fragment carried to a new area. Boats and boat trailers are probably responsible for almost all new colonies in previously uninfested waterbodies. Water currents also may carry fragments and start new colonies within the same waterbody.



Fish Release by Ken Ring

Jim Santora released 15,012 rainbow trout the first week of April. He raised the trout all winter, starting with little 2 inch babies and delivered 7-9 inch teenagers. Jim's biggest concern this last year was an otter that visited his pens, but luckily it never made it inside the netting. Jim is aware of losing only three fish in six months.

An aquaculture class attended the trout birthing ceremony and took some data. The average length of the released fish was 6.5 inches (5-8.5 inch range). Average fish weight was 0.24 lbs, or 4.167 fish per pound. Since there were 15,012 fish released, the total weight of the fish released into Deer Lake was 3,600 lbs

Bill Stewart and Ken Ring will release approximately 16,000 rainbow trout towards the end of April. Only 12 fish are known to be lost, because we had a Great Blue heron that stalked the pen on a daily basis for over three months. Witnesses saw the bird sit motionless for long stretches, sticking his long neck and beak through the four inch netting to grab an occasional snack if a fish swam too close to his perch. The fish finders have recorded some big blips in the vicinity of the fish pens recently. The mackinaws are circling by waiting for a feast towards the end of April. Get your poles in the water, ladies and gentlemen, let's beat them to it!

More Fishy News also by Ken Ring

Northeast Fish and Game Club is in the process of applying for a grant to obtain two more fish nets for Deer lake. If successful, next fall we will be looking for volunteers with deep water docks to raise fish over the winter months. The club members will set up the operation for you, and supply the automatic feeders and fish food.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has been working with DLPOA to help keep our fish population viable. We are recognized as a great fishing lake, but there is a concern with the small mouth bass and mackinaw population. Both these fish are predators and are hard on the trout population. The silver (Kokanee) population has been battered. Bill Baker, local biologist, has said it would be a big help if fishermen would keep the bass and mackinaws that they catch instead of releasing them back into the lake. Bass limits are set at 10 per fisherman. Spread the word to bass fishermen to keep the fish they catch.

Fish and game added 30,000 trout last week to our lake and an additional 2800 triploids. Triploids are rainbow trout that potentially grow to trophy size fish; when they are planted they are already 14 inches or larger.

This Just In!!! – Fish and Wildlife added 500,000 kokanee fish fry and an additional 27,000 rainbow fry to Deer Lake this spring.

Editor's Note – the only good Mac is a dead Mac.

DEER LAKE FISHING REGULATIONS

Deer Lake promises to provide a long season of successful fishing. If you are planning on fishing Deer Lake this season please remember:

- A valid fishing license is required to be in your possession. The License year runs April 1st –March 31st each calendar year.
- You can purchase a two-pole endorsement with your license. This endorsement when purchased with your fishing license allows you to fish with two poles on many area lakes including Deer Lake.
- The fishing season on Deer Lake is March 1st through October 31st.
- **TROUT** (If you catch trout, the daily limit is five (5), there is no minimum size and you can keep two (2) trout over 20". If you fish for trout with bait you can only fish until 5 trout are caught regardless of whether you keep them or catch and release).
- **LARGEMOUTH BASS** (There is no minimum size, only Bass less than 12" may be retained, except you can keep one Largemouth over 17". Daily limit is five (5).
- **SMALLMOUTH BASS** (There is no minimum size, you may keep one Smallmouth Bass over 14". The daily limit is ten (10).
- **CRAPPIE/PERCH** (There is no minimum size or daily limit)
- **See the fishing regulation pamphlet for additional regulation information.**

BOATING SAFETY/REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

*Any vessel powered by a 10hp motor or greater is required to be currently registered in the State of Washington. The vessel registration year is July 1st through June 30th.

*If you are a Washington resident and you primarily use your boat in Washington, you must have it registered in the State of Washington.

Coast guard approved wearable life jackets must be on board any vessel for each person on that vessel. This includes peddle boats, canoes and rubber rafts. Seat cushions only count as a throwable.

(WATERSKIERS AND TUBERS) Must be wearing a lifejacket and there must be an observer on the tow vessel.

*Anyone 12years of age or older is required to pass an approved boating safety course exam and receive a Washington State Boater Education Card before operating a boat 15hp or greater. For more information visit www.parks.wa.gov/boating

(PERSONAL WATERCRAFT) You must be at least 14 years old to operate a personal watercraft. A lifejacket must be worn at all times when operating a PWC.

- Additional boating safety regulations and information can be found in the Washington State boating safety pamphlet that can be obtained on-line at the above address or you can pick up a pamphlet at your local vehicle licensing agent.

Shoreline Work and Dock Repair/Replacements Require a Permit!

By Pam Taylor, Dept of Fish and Wildlife

DO YOU WANT TO PUT IN A DOCK, REPAIR OR REPLACE YOUR EXISTING DOCK?

DO YOU WANT TO DO WORK ON YOUR SHORELINE?

DO YOU WANT TO PUT IN OR REPAIR A RETAINING WALL?

The state Legislature gave the Department of Fish and Wildlife the responsibility of preserving, protecting, and perpetuating all fish and shellfish resources of the state. To assist in achieving that goal, the state Legislature in 1949 passed a state law now known as the "Hydraulic Code" (Chapter 77.55 RCW). Although the law has been amended occasionally since it was originally enacted, the basic authority has been retained.

The law requires that any person, organization, or government agency wishing to conduct any construction activity that will use, divert, obstruct, or change the bed or flow of state waters must do so under the terms of a permit (called the Hydraulic Project Approval-HPA) issued by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. State waters include all marine waters and fresh waters of the state, except those watercourses that are entirely artificial, such as irrigation ditches, canals and storm water run-off devices.

Damage or loss of fish and shellfish habitat results in direct loss of fish and shellfish production. The enactment of Chapter 77.55 RCW was recognition by the state Legislature that virtually any construction that affects the bed or flow of the waters of the state has the potential to cause habitat damage. The law's purpose is to see that needed construction is done in a manner to prevent damage to the state's fish, shellfish, and their habitat. By applying for and following the provisions of the HPA issued under Chapter 77.55 RCW, most construction activities that affect the bed or flow of state waters can be allowed with little or no adverse impact on fish or shellfish.

The major types of activities in freshwater requiring an HPA include, but are not limited to: stream bank protection; construction OR REPAIR of bridges, piers, and docks; pile driving; channel change or realignment; conduit (pipeline) crossing; culvert installation; dredging; gravel removal; pond construction; placement of outfall structures; log, log jam, or debris removal; installation or maintenance of water diversions; and mineral prospecting.

It is important to emphasize that the above are only examples of major types of activities requiring an HPA and that any construction activity that uses, diverts, changes, or obstructs the bed or flow of state waters requires an HPA.

Doing any HPA activities including replacing/repairing your docks without a permit can result in a minimum of \$1,600 citation. If you have questions about what types of permits and if you need one, please contact the department of Fish and Wildlife Spokane Regional Office at (509) 892-1001. Also please use this number to report violations.

Deer Lake Pioneer – Ivy Shaw

This is the second in what we hope to be a series of interviews with people who have been on the lake from early in the 20th Century. This interview was done by Mike Phillips and your Humble Scrivner.

Ivy Shaw and her younger sister Verda Adams moved to Deer Lake in the late 1920's. Their father was Sam Gardner (and his father was Tom Gardner) who created Gardner Estates. Ivy now lives on the lake, Verda lives in Spokane. Ivy's daughter Sandra Lockner still owns some property on the lake, on the North end of Gardner Estates, very close to their private launch area.

Tom Gardner had horses and a wood yard (aka a fuel yard) on Main and Division in Spokane around the turn of the 20th Century. Spokane got too busy and big for him, so in 1912 he moved his family to Deer Lake. Sam Gardner was about age 12 then. They had a piece of land at the end of the Narrows, now property owned by Fish & Wildlife where they raised beef cattle, and then later dairy cattle and horses. Sam went to Oregon when he was 19 to work in the logging camps. He had gone to a one room school house that was located near what is now Kankisu. Ivy's mother grew up on Bussard Lake, which is just down the road from the current garbage transfer station. Somewhere in the 20's, Sam came back from Oregon, married, and Ivy and her siblings came on the scene in the late 1920's.

Deer Lake Resort was a small saw mill at one time. Somebody would float the logs to the mill, but it was so small that it was portable, and you could pick it up and move it to various parts of the lake.

At that time, there were a few cabins along what is now North Deer Lake Road. There were some cabins on East Deer Lake Road also, something we were not expecting. By the 1930's, there were at least six resorts on the lake, including one on the East side. There were some summer houses at what became Hainey's Resort and on N. Deer Lake Road. The Pinelow Nazareen Camp was then known as Snyder's resort, and did not become Pinelow till 1954. The Salvation Army Camp was established in 1921. There was an article written up in the Spokesman Review in 1956 on those resorts.

We have a huge Mackinaw predator problem in our lake now. If you think about it, God did not put fish in these lakes when He created them. Most of the fish you see were stocked here by somebody in the last hundred years or so. The Macks were originally brought in from Michigan to keep the lake clean. At that time, there were already White Fish in the lake. The resorts were created to give people a place to stay while they fished, and to rent out boats (originally rowboats, but very early on boats with Sears rope starting outboard motors) to fish from.

When fishing in the 1940's, you could catch rainbow trout that weighed 15 lbs. Perch, catfish, 4 lb bass), and 25 lb Macks existed. Silvers used to spawn in the bays. There was no stocking of fish in those days, so it was all natural reproduction. What you did Not see were eagles. Those showed up much later.

As a kid, Ivy would use a rowboat and simple fishing gear of not much more than a stick with a string and a hook. They caught lots of bass. For fun, they had an old canoe that did not float very well, so they would purposely sink it, then dive down to retrieve it from the bottom of the lake. The family was very musical. They played guitars, violins, zithers, and the piano for

entertainment.

To get here in those days from Spokane, you would go through Wandemere, Commolini's (now a restaurant), Half Moon Prairie, Dennison, Dartford, then to Deer Park, through Clayton (the town, not the hamburger joint). That was all surfaced highway. From Deer Park it was rocky and gravel road the rest of the way. So a Day Trip was unlikely.

In 1940, Sam Gardner bought what is now Gardner Estates. The original owners bought it for farm land, could not pay the taxes, turned it over to the county, and then Sam bought it from the county for cattle raising. It was originally 800+ acres. It comprised the area from the Salvation Army Camp to the launch area, and up the road to the gravel dump. There were lots of trees everywhere, so they chopped down the trees and got a tractor to pull the stumps. Ivy and her sister helped with the log limbing and cleaning. They ran about 25-40 head of dairy cattle. The original milkhouse building is still there. There was no electricity in 1940 in the area, but Bonnyville brought electricity to the area in 1944, and right away they bought milking machines and refrigerators to hold the milk. They would separate the cream from the milk and make cheese and sell the milk and cheese. They had to get water from a spring.

Yes, there was a flume that took overflow water out of Deer Lake in the early part of the 20th Century, and the water went to some orchards at Clayton and Deer Park. One of these orchards was the Arcadia Orchards, and there are still some apple trees remaining from those days. It started at the existing culvert near where the public access area is now, went to Loon Lake. Then another flume at the other end of Loon Lake took the water to Deer Park. There appears to have been a lot more water in the lake back then than we have now. There were hundreds of acres of apples.

Some properties actually own the land under the water to 200 ft out from shore. You have to look at your deed to know if your property is one such. There are very few of them. The State of Washington asserts that it owns all land under water.

There was a floating dance hall in the 1930's where Zack's Shack now stands. (*Zack's Shack, which I had heard of but never knew where it was, was where the house now is that has the big fish painted on it.*) They would bring in bands, and maybe 50 people could dance there at one time.

During the winter time, they would cut the ice, dig a big hole in the ground, line it with sawdust, and put the ice in there to keep for the summer. You would use these big saws to cut the blocks of ice. They would take horses out on the lake (which was probably two feet thick) to drag the ice back. This ice would last all summer in those days prior to electricity. This allowed you to have hand cranked ice cream in the middle of the summer, and to preserve your meat and veggies (that you grew). It was common to walk and ice skate on the lake in the winter, and then later on, to snowmobile on the lake ice.

Tule Lake, now on the Salvation Army land, was spring fed. It was used for irrigation of wheat fields and other crops in the area. In order to do that, they pumped the lake dry, and for some years actually raised crops on the land that is now the lake. After that activity stopped, the lake filled in again, and became the swamp that it is today.

After Boise Cascade cut the timber off the mountain above the narrows, during spring runoff, tons of mud would come and spread all the way into the main part of the lake. Now there are settling ponds to get rid of the mud and allow fish to spawn and do fishy things. Getting rid of the cows probably helped a lot, which is why DLPOA bought the 20 acres on the shore of the narrows, and Fish and Wildlife later bought even more land above that. The intent of all this was to buffer the lake from the runoff of that land. When the Gardners lived at the top of the narrows, that land was all bushes. *DLPOA would like to restore the land to that state, but we think the beavers and deer would chomp down anything planted as fast as you put it in the ground.* There are beaver houses very near Ivy's current house at Gardner Estates. There is a culvert under North Deer Lake Road that the beavers still try to plug up every year.

During grade school, because so many of the kids were dirt poor, the Sewing Club mothers started a school lunch program. The mothers would cook the meals since there was no such thing as a cafeteria back then. Originally Ivy's mother would take them and other kids to school in their car, but in really lousy winter weather, they used a horse and sleigh. Much later a bus finally came into the area.

Ivy started first grade in the year that what is now known as the Old School in Loon Lake was first built. She went to high school in Deer Park, then to college at Eastern. Ivy and Verda were both teachers in Spokane for their whole careers. Ivy taught at Balboa Elementary school, and Verda was a teacher and counselor at Shadle.

Ivy retired in 1985 and moved back to the area, but because her mother always lived here, she was always coming up here during that whole time she was living in Spokane for visits and vacations. They always kept some horses around for the kids. Sam Gardner died in 1992. In 1991 their mother had a stroke that kept her in a nursing home till she died. Because of that expense, what was left of Gardner Estates got sold to the Salvation Army Camp, but later some of that land was bought back by Ivy's daughter.

Gardner Estates, the development, got started because Al Kemp, (Denny's father), liked to come up here during the summer. Sam set up an area so Al could put his boat in. Sam also gave them (Denny says sold) a chunk of property to use for the summer, which eventually got a tent and later a house. Sam then gave chunks of land to other friends and relatives too. Finally people actually asked if they could BUY a chunk of land, and that is when a light went off in Sam's head that maybe this crappy farmland might actually be worth something after all. So Phil Skoke, an attorney (whose office still exists) set up the formalities for Gardner Estates.

Southwood Shores got started in the early 60's when a road was finally punched through. It was boat in only before that. That whole area was either logged off or burned off in the 1930's.

Editor's Note – The newsletter invites the membership and other interested parties to write letters on topics that relate to our lake and its surroundings. Following is such a letter:

An open letter to Deer Lake residents

Our grassroots group, Logsmarter, is collecting signatures in support of sustainable logging practices that, in the long run, will benefit our local loggers and mills. In the short run, we want to stop the ever-increasing use of aerial spraying of herbicides on our NE Washington Forests, and at the same time, eliminate massive clear cutting in our dryland forests. The visual impact of clearcutting is reducing property values in our area, and the herbicides may cause surface water contamination of our lake water and watersheds. We feel these are unacceptable outcomes for our community.

Thousand acres in NE Washington are targeted for spraying and clearcutting by the Timber Investment Group, Forest Capital Partners LLC. They are operating under current regulations, and the Forest Practice Rules allow this type of forest stewardship. Your signature will help modify those rules, saving habitat and watersheds that are quickly disappearing under current practices.

Please visit our web-site www.logsmarter.com , where you may view photos, print the petition, get signatures and mail to Box 27, Rice, WA 99167. We will be attending the annual 4th of July pancake feed and look forward to meeting you and answering any questions. There is a sense of urgency in all of this, because the spraying and clearcutting program is continuing at a fast pace.

Thank you, Mike Slater/Connie Bergstrom Co-chairs Logsmarter

Another Bit of History

(from the DLPOA NEWSLETTER by Bill Twitchell - Winter Edition 1974-75)

- "Up until WWII, the south side of the lake was virtually unpopulated except for a colony of beaver who had a big house right in the middle of what was known as Mackinaw Bay. Bass fishermen cruising the darkened shoreline would nearly always be greeted with that resounding "wack" of a startled beaver.

- "Resorts" on the lake had their hay day from about WWI to WWII. Old timers will remember the names: Snyders, Macks, Andersons, Barrows, Haneys and many others in between.

- Deer Lake has always prided itself on the clearest, sweetest water this side of heaven - we could kneel down and drink anywhere along the shore.

Internet at the Lake – by the Web Guy

Just because you are at your cabin on the lake, it does not mean that you have to leave the virtual world behind. There are several good options for getting onto your facebook account, reading your email, or digging through You Tube while you are sitting on the beach or in your boat.

There are at least four high speed ways to connect to the internet at Deer Lake. I am not aware of any DSL (phone company) internet service at our lake, since there has to be a central office within 10,000 feet as the wire goes to provide DSL on your phone line. I don't know where our local qwest central office is, but it is probably more than 2 miles away.

1) Air Pipe – www.air-pipe.com

This is a high speed broadband service. That means that they set up a broadcast antenna on some mountain top and beam the internet signal to a small antenna on your roof. In the case of Air Pipe, they beam from the South West side of the lake, and use a house (full disclosure – my house) on the East side as a relay point to beam the signal back to any areas that are in the shadow of the original signal. There is a cost for setting up the antenna, and a cost per month for the service, with a one year (I think) contract. You have to have line of sight to either the main antenna or to the relay antenna.

2) Ptera – www.ptera.net

This is also a high speed broadband service. The main difference between them and air-pipe is their antenna is on the south end of the lake and they beam towards the Narrows.

Probably the best thing to do if you want to sign up with one of these guys is to call them and they will check your address to see if they think you will get a signal. Or they might go out to your house and see if they can receive a signal at your location.

3) Wild Blue – www.wildblue.net

This is a satellite service. So, if you already have a satellite dish for TV access, chances are you can get internet also, although with different equipment. You need line of sight to the southern sky. People that I know who use this service tell me that they charge by the MB that you receive, in addition to an equipment fee and a monthly service fee, and they have limits to just how many GB/Month you can get. Since your signal has to travel 50,000 miles (to the satellite and back), and since the speed of light is so slow (186,271 miles per second), if you are doing a lot of interactive stuff, like playing games, you will be kind of out of luck. But if you are only hitting web sites, it works pretty well.

4) 3G or evdo

This is the kind of broadband that you get on some cell phones, or with the little antenna dongle that you plug into a laptop. It uses cell phone towers, but there is a data service fee, and you have to buy the little dongle. I have had guests use this feature at my house, and it seems to work very well. I am not sure just which service they used, but I think it was Verizon. I do not know if Cricket works at our lake, and Tmobile just doesn't do it at all anywhere, sadly. This would be the cheapest solution, because the equipment cost is the cheapest, and because you can carry your dongle with you and use it elsewhere when you are not kicking back at the lake.

Coming Events

Board Meeting	– Thursday	May 13, Salvation Army Camp, 6PM
Roadside Cleanup	– Saturday	May 22 – see above article
Dock Demolition	– Saturday	June 5 – see above article
Board Meeting	– Thursday	June 10, Salvation Army Camp, 6PM
Annual meeting	– Saturday	June 12, Deer Lake firehouse, 10:00 AM
Fireworks	– Saturday	July 3, 10 PM, Center of the lake
Kiddy Parades	– Saturday	July 3 10 AM, Deer Lake Resort
Boat Parade	– Saturday	July 3 7:30 PM, East side of Narrows
Pancake feed	– Sunday	July 4 7-11AM, Deer Lake Firehouse
Summer Newsletter	–	August 15th (ish)
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 For Board Minutes see www.dlpoa.com/boardnotes.htm

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