



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 Message

By Ken Ring

AS THE year draws to a close, I'd like to review the positive and not-so-positive events of the past year. One of the biggest problems we have faced as a group, the impact of milfoil on our lake, was addressed by forming a Lake Management District fund. There were public meetings concerning the LMD issue, and although there were some disagreements, the vast majority of people were appreciative of the efforts of the volunteers who have been working on the proposal and respectful of other people's opinions. Some felt the \$20 - \$40 assessment was too high, or that all homes should pay the same amount. I'm glad that there was a chance for people to be heard, and also that there was an 86% approval vote on the proposal. For the next five years money will be in place to help fight milfoil.

The annual event that brings many of us together, the Pancake Feed, was a huge success; close to 700 people were served. That same day, our community made generous contributions to the firemen's "Cold Water Rescue Gear" fund, to boot.

Paid membership in DLPOA has increased over 25%, and we also had our first DLPOA calendar distribution. Jim Santora was honored for raising fish for over 20 years, and has now passed the baton down to his children. We had two very fun and well attended dances for Deer Lake residents and their guests this last year – the New Year's Eve dance, and a Western dance in May that were held at the Deer Lake Resort, courtesy of Dean and Sharon Crump.

We had a few disappointments this year, such as the fireworks dock being blown 800 feet off its staging mark right before the display by high winds. We try each year to anchor in a spot that will be seen by the majority of people, but Mother Nature had different plans last year. The high water levels last spring were a concern, also. We had several more rogue docks that broke loose, and boats going too fast and too close to shore created a problem for some homeowners.

All in all, our problems seem small and our blessings are huge. Thank you to all the people who continue to volunteer their time and efforts to make Deer Lake a wonderful place to live. Happy New Year!

The 2012 Calendar

by the Calendar Guy (and Gal)

IT'S ALMOST time to wrap up your DLPOA 2011 calendar in archival protection and save it as a special remembrance for your grandchildren. (It just may be worth something someday!) Since we had many positive comments about our last effort, you now have in your possession the 2012 DLPOA calendar hot off the press for your enjoyment.

We had a remarkable 100% return of the original business sponsors and have added an additional 12 businesses. Our sponsors are eager to help DLPOA and offer services to our members. Please give them extra consideration when shopping. They can save you time and money.

During the year, visit www.dlpoa.com for any changes to the calendar.

Roadside cleanup

by Mike Phillips

THANK YOU to those dependable residents of our lake that come out year after year to help clean up our roadsides. In the fall we don't get the turnout we need to get the job done quickly. With a few more helpful people, we could get done quicker. We have been collecting less debris every year, but still covering the same number of miles of roadway. I don't know all the reasons why, but maybe people are feeling guilty when they see their neighbors picking up litter. Maybe people are being careful about not spilling stuff out their vehicles when going to the dump. One reason we are doing better are the residents that pick up after others when they are out walking their dogs or just getting exercise. Whatever the reason please come out on cleanup days and keep up the good deeds the rest of the time.

The Spring Roadside Cleanup will be Saturday, May 19, starting at 8AM.

Deer Lake Signage

by Brian Humphrey

THE NEW Deer Lake signage (both North and East Deer Lake Roads) has been a welcome greeting for residents and guests to the lake. Let us keep it that way by NOT cluttering the sign logs with personal announcements, garage sale notices, etc. If you have need of placing a public notice at one of the locations, DLPOA would appreciate the use of a removable stake that can easily be removed by you after your event. Thank you for being considerate of this area.

Surplus Land

DEER LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION was gifted a piece of property several years ago by a resident of Deer Lake. We have since then paid taxes and insurance on it, but have decided that it has little real value to our group. At the October 13 board meeting, the DLPOA Board members voted to declare the property as surplus and are in the process of selling the parcel. This is the first notification, and we will put a second notification in the spring newsletter. The property will be put up for auction in mid 2012.

The parcel is #5238300. Its legal description is WRO Govt. lot 4 (NW4), N 100' & S 450'. The lot is approximately 70 feet by 100 feet and is landlocked (no access from a road).

New Year's Eve Party
By Cheryl Ring

LAST YEAR we had nearly one hundred people come to our first ever New Year's Eve party. It was a wonderful evening filled with good music for dancing, friendly people, and a fabulous fireworks display at midnight that we viewed from the balcony! Guests brought the best quality of appetizers I've ever seen at a party of this type. Let's do it again!

Date: December 31, 2011 It's a Saturday night!

Time: 8:00 pm – Midnight-ish

Place: Eagle's Nest building at Deer Lake Resort

Bring: Whatever you'd like to drink (keep at own table, we have a liquor permit) and an appetizer to share at the Hors d'oeuvre Buffet

Dress: Cocktail attire

Cost: \$5 a person – RSVP earlier, but pay at the door that night

We Furnish: plates, napkins, cups, silverware, ice, non alcoholic punch

Volunteers are Needed:

Dec. 30th at 10 am Decorating the day BEFORE
(save your energy for dancing later)

Dec 31st Couples needed for half hour time slots to work the door (money/name tags).

Jan. 1st at 10 am Clean Up (Many hands make light work)



For more information, please call Cheryl Ring at 499-3148.

EURASIAN MILFOIL

by Mike Phillips

ANOTHER summer is over with the 12" of snow we just received.. DLPOA did their duty this summer and with the help of residents and Ace Diving, we stayed on top of the milfoil problem as best we could.

The Ace Diving crew surveyed and pulled milfoil from several locations around the lake. They spent two separate weeks doing this. I have not received the report from Doug Freeland (of Ace Diving) yet, but I kept in contact with the divers as they did their work.

We did an application of 2,4d again this year to cover the same area in the top of the narrows. With the help of various DLPOA members and Pro Care lawn service we got the job done.

I received calls from several residents that thought they saw milfoil around their docks. Some of them did find it and I sent the divers to those locations with good results, due to finding the weed early before it matured. Thanks to those that kept their eyes open and are aware of the milfoil. Again, call me if you think you see some next July through October: Mike Phillips, 233-2510.



A Boy Scout group of about 10 plus two leaders came out to Jim Santora's cabin to work on merit badges related to the lake and water activities. I took them over to Deer Lake Resort, where Ace was pulling milfoil. The divers instructed the group on all aspects of locating and removing noxious waterweeds. The kids had lots of pertinent questions and participated in the actual work by putting what the diver sent up by vacuum hose into bins to be removed from the lake later. The picture is of that activity.

They must have learned something as I got a call that afternoon saying they found 3 big plants in front of Jim's. The divers went over and removed them. They didn't find anymore in that area. It shows what we could do if we were to get involved. Thanks to the Boy Scouts.

Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Plan

by Mike Phillips

DAVE LAMB is undergoing the development of an invasive weed plan for Deer Lake. This plan is required by the Department of Ecology. It is mostly funded by a grant from the same dept. All of you should have gotten an explanation of this plan and a questionnaire to be returned to DLPOA to be used in the preparation of the plan. The finished plan should be available to read at DLPOA meetings in the late spring. I will elaborate the highlights of this plan in the spring newsletter, assuming the plan is available in time. Thanks to those that made their opinions known about the overall quality of the lake. If you still want to complete the form and send it in to DLPOA, please do, even if late.

How High's The Water Momma?

By Skip Wells

So YOU thought the water got high this year? Well, we have got news for you. The water was one foot above full pool. We had LOTS of damage, dock ramps under water, and docks floating everywhere. And oh yes no beaches and lots of waves from boats. As a result we have a committee looking at working with the Stevens County Commissioners to get a wake limit established for when the water is high. This committee consists of Brian Humphrey, Kevin Schroeder, Mike Phillips, Ron Watson, and myself. You should be advised that we don't know yet at what point the wake level is going to be.

In order to accomplish this task, we have been doing research on just how high the water can get. Thus far we have found out that it can get at least three (3) feet above full pool. (Be advised we are still gathering data that could change that upward.) If you look around at some of the older places, you will see that their out buildings, decks, and docks are set up to account for these types of water changes. Newer residents haven't seen this level of water and so we thought information should be provided for planning and construction purposes. Note: state and county permit agencies also come into play.

Yes we do have an outlet that allows water to flow out of the lake and thankfully it did work this year. However, should it get plugged up either partially or fully for any reason, the water will rise up and in fact will cross over some of the roads. In addition, our drainage basin is approximately 18 square miles. Things like how much rain we get in the fall or spring, what the snowpack is, was the ground saturated before it snowed, and did the ground freeze prior to snow fall, also contribute to how well that outlet works or not.

It is our recommendation thus far that all types of installations and beach construction be accomplished at least 3 feet above the full pool. Dock ramps should be built with enough length to meet this need as well. As we saw this year, 16 foot ramps obviously don't work. We also recommend that the anchoring systems that are used for docks take this into account and cables or chains be so installed and left loose enough to allow for the water to rise as well.

The first week of October 2011, the water was 18 inches below full. We could, due to rain and or snow runoffs, see the water high again next year or any year for that matter. Mother Nature will dictate that. Oh, and yes, we have had some droughts creating lots of beach. These can make us a little complacent and that is when we get caught coming up short in construction or the placement of docks.

Should you have any questions on this project look our names up in the Board directory on our web site and give us a phone call. We will keep you posted on the project.

Can We Find You???

By J.C. Chambers, Lieutenant
Deer Lake Station 5
Stevens County Fire District #1

MANY OF YOU don't realize the problem finding many of your addresses here around the lake when we have been summoned to your residence on a 911 call. When a 911 call comes out, we scurry to the station and then head off in the direction of the call. There are certain places on the lake that present more of a challenge in interpreting and finding addresses than others. For instance, on the south side of the lake, the three bays offer particular challenges in finding houses that are not clearly marked or marked at all. As you can imagine, this problem is compounded and hampered at night. And when you throw in a snowy night in winter into the mix, our response time in finding an unmarked residence could be doubled or sadly perhaps, tripled. We are asking you to be proactive and make sure your residence is clearly marked.

Perhaps many of you don't truly realize the emergency call volume out here at the lake. There are two stations that serve our lake. Station 2 out of Loon Lake basically has all of North Deer Lake Road to the end of its pavement (let's call it the west side). Station 5, located in the southeast corner by the old Haney's Resort location, has all of the south end and East Deer Lake Road (let's call this the south and east sides). For 2012, there were 31 (west) calls on Deer Lake for which Station 2 had the primary call. Station 5 is the secondary responding unit. For 2010, there were 35 (south/east) calls on Deer Lake for which Station 5 had the primary call. Station 2 is the secondary responding unit. And so far, through the end of October 2011, there have been 25 (west) calls on Deer Lake and there have been 30 (south/east) calls on Deer Lake. The point is, that regardless of winter or summer calls, Stevens County Fire District #1 has a fair call volume on the lake, and we want to be able to respond as quickly as possible. Finding your residence to begin assisting the patient as quickly as possible is imperative to making sure that further complications or patient condition deterioration does not occur.

Address signs are available through Stevens County Fire Protection District #1 at a rate of \$20 per sign. I would be glad to get with you and coordinate your order. If I can be of service to you, please contact me, J. C., at cell number (509) 499-3447.

Emergency Services info

By Skip Wells & J.C. Chambers

JC HAS provided some important information regarding emergency addressing. Please be sure to read his article on this, taken from a responder's point of view.

- Our Sheriffs continue to arrest thieves, however we still have a problem. Like we said last, time lock it up (buildings) and be sure to take your keys out of the vehicles.

Should you have any law enforcement questions please call Stevens County Sheriff's Office at 1-800-572-0947 or 509-684-5296

- Winter is coming so be sure to use “ice chains” when walking around on compact snow and ice. It could save you a broken arm, hip, wrist, or bad bump on the head. There are many types out there on the market and even some styling ones for the ladies to wear over their boots.
- Get help when shoveling off the roof. Those roofs get slick regardless of type of covering. That first landing could hurt a lot.

Ways to avoid fires include the following:

- Check out your old heat tapes. They can get brittle over time and should be replaced.
- Keep all items that can catch fire at least 3 feet from your wood stoves, fireplaces, space heaters and propane or natural gas powered units.
- We hope that you have cleaned out your chimney to avoid a wall or roof fire.

Should you have any fire or emergency medical questions call the Fire District at 509-262-9660

Dues Envelope
by Mike Egan

INCLUDED in your newsletter is the dues envelope for 2012. Annual dues are still a low \$20, and run from January 2012 to December 31, 2012. Many people like to wait until they return to the lake in the summer to pay, but mailing the envelope in January would be very much appreciated.

Progress is being made on compiling a DLPOA data base with the information you provide us on the dues envelope. When we have your home address, lake address, email address, phone number, etc. then we can contact you quickly to let you know that a tree fell on your cabin, your dock broke loose, or that locusts are headed towards Deer Lake!!

Please take the time to make sure all your information is current – we have had quite a few people moving in and out of the area. Please highlight any changes we need to make, and your comments are always appreciated.

If you know that a neighbor of yours has either moved out, or a new neighbor has moved in, please let us know so we can contact them so that they at least get our newsletter.

Disabled Veterans Fishing

The managers of West Bay Resort, Marion and Sandy Ballard, have organized a series of fishing outings for local disabled vets. This started about five years ago, and now they do about five events during the summer, with the last event this year hosting about 20 vets on five pontoon boats.

These vets (both men and women) live in the Veterans Hospital in Spokane. Most are WWII vets, but some are from Korea and Nam, and I understand that there are some from more recent wars as well. A lot are in wheelchairs, with some of the more healthy ones using walkers.

Two vans brought them to the West Bay Resort boat launch at 10am on a September Thursday. It took a while to help them all into the five boats that were available. Our boat had three vets, and a staff member from the hospital, myself and my wife. A hospital staff member accompanies each of the boats. Fishing poles are provided, but we should have brought some bait. Fortunately, we had some lures. We spent a little over two hours fishing. Our group trolled, several groups found a location and anchored and just dropped lines. One boat caught some perch and a bass. We got skunked. Everybody had a good time.

Afterwards, West Bay hosted a lunch for the vets and any boaters that wanted to stay around.

The plan next year is to do this at least one Thursday during each of the summer months, and maybe more often if it can be arranged. Lakers with pontoon boats (only) are invited to call Marion or Sandy at 233-3010 to volunteer their boat and some of their time.

Fourth of July Deer Lake Boat Parade

by Rick Jarvis

WHAT wonderful weather we had for the boat parade this year. Many came out to join the parade. We had boats from 10 to 28-feet long and variable speeds. The Patriotic decorations were fun to see from the water's edge. Some of us even enjoyed the water fights! This is such a grand event each year that we all look forward to, so I have been trying to come up with some ideas to help with the procession of the boat parade so that all those around the lake can experience the boat parade in its entirety.

We are very sorry for those of you who missed out and hope that next year, with these few changes, we can make it a positive experience for all involved.

New Boat Parade Procession:

The boat parade will begin to move at 7:30 pm. We will line up at the start of the west side of the mouth of the narrows beginning at 7:00 pm. to 7:30 pm. Rick Jarvis will lead the parade which will go clockwise through the narrows first then proceed along the water's edge through each bay until we end at the west side of the mouth of the narrows once again. We estimate the parade to last about an hour. Our speed throughout the parade would be approximately 10 mph. We will try to maintain a 40-foot distance between each boat. You are welcome to join the boat parade as we pass by if you join at the end of the procession. Of course you would not be seen by everyone so it would be much more fun for all if you started with the group on the east side of the mouth of the narrows.

Ed Note – this was supposed to be in the August Newsletter, but your editor dropped the ball.

Bringing a New Meaning to "Eye-to -Eye"
by Barbara Cagle

OMG, have you ever seen a buck within inches of your eyeballs? I used to hunt with my husband, Don, and this one time he sent me up along a dirt road to spook up a buck. I started to get bored not seeing much of anything and decided to veer in a direction on the other side of the road. I thought to myself what the heck... these branches are moving. These branches turned out to be antlers packing 6 pts. As we reached the crest both our eyes bulged out with adrenalin giving us time to bond for a whole second. We couldn't have been more than two feet apart. I moved to release the safety and with one jump Bucky took a leap into the dense woods escaping a fatal wound. Don doesn't like this story really because Bucky should have been his deer...no doubt in my mind and his; Bucky would not have bucked again had Don seen him first.

Just a couple of nights ago I got the same opportunity to meet eye to eye with another 6 point Buck. He was charging on his way to cross the road. We yelled BUCK! BUCK! But there was nowhere to go with the car. So my friend, Marie, kept her speed and stayed focused. The left antlers got stuck in the passenger window where I was seated and the right antler got wrapped around the side mirror. It happened all so fast. It took us by surprise and we prayed and thanked God for watching over us. We were literally covered with glass. In ten minutes we were home and Don vacuumed us out of the car. The tempered glass can make slivers. I was poked plenty. The buck escaped into the woods to let Mother Nature take its course. I continued to discover pieces of glass as they made welts on the top of my head. I don't know how the antlers didn't touch my face just thankful they didn't...and not a mark on the car. How lucky is that? However the flashes of what could have really happened are taunting while my mind wonders.

Fireworks Dock
by the Fireworks Dock Boat Brigade

THE AIRCRAFT carrier is going to the boneyard. For years, we have launched the fireworks off of scrap docks left over from dock demo days, but the reason we were able to get them is, they were already junk. West Bay Resort is building four very large swim platforms, and has agreed to let us use them as our fireworks dock in the future. Two are built, two to go. Donations to this endeavor would be appreciated. Send checks to DLPOA, indicating Fireworks Dock (maybe with your dooz envelope, save a stamp). Ask your tax advisor if it is tax deductible.

Coming Events

Spring Newsletter	--	May (ish)
Roadside Cleanup	– Saturday	May 19 – see above article
Dock Demolition	– Saturday	June 9
Annual meeting	– Saturday	June 16, Deer Lake firehouse, 10:00 AM
Pancake feed	– Sunday	July 1 8AM - Noon, Deer Lake Firehouse
Boat Parade	– Saturday	July 3 7:30 PM, West side of Narrows
Fireworks	– Sunday	July 3, Dusk, Center (ish) of the lake
4 th of July Parade	– Saturday	July 4 10 AM, Deer Lake Resort
Summer Newsletter	–	August 15th (ish)
Fall Newsletter	–	End of November (ish)

DLPOA Board Meeting

Note that the next Board Meeting will not be till Thursday March 10th. All meetings are held at the Salvation Army Camp at 6PM. All are invited. Cookies are served. Meetings are also in April, May and June, 2nd Thursday of the month.

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

Deer Lake Property Owners Association

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