

Fall
2023



Deer Lake Newsletter

Published three times a year by:

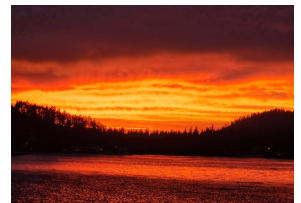
Deer Lake Property Owners' Association

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

President's Message

Skip Wells

For a while, it looked like we were going to be able to skip having smoky skies here at the lake this summer, but by the second week in August, the devastating local fires started. Thankfully, our area was spared (this time). This photo of a smokey sunset during that time was taken by Cheryl Schwartz on August 17th in Cedar Bay.



The Fire Ban is still on at the lake, and here are some tips offered by fire officials:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your residence and do proper maintenance outside.
- Review escape routes with your family. Practice escaping from each room, and from your house (land or water?)
- Consider escape ladders if your residence has more than one level.
- List the serial and model numbers for all your vehicles, major tools, and appliances for replacement purposes.
- Video your home, inside and out, feature expensive items and family heirlooms. Check insurance policy coverage.
- Assess your house (access to water, fire-resistant roofing and building materials?) and always be fire-ready.



We also added a new DLPOA Board member this summer—**Bobby Williams**, we think he will be a great addition! He is ready to hit the ground running.

We do need one more volunteer to be the committee head for the Deer Lake apparel. The folks who have been in

charge previously will still be around, and will gladly help the new person learn everything they need to know about the job.

Call Skip at [509-979-3260](tel:509-979-3260) if **you** will be that volunteer.

Fall Roadside Cleanup

Jerry Rasley

We had great weather and a big turnout for the Fall Roadside Cleanup on September 9th. We appreciate these volunteers:

West Side: George Lynn Sr., George Lynn Jr., Lance and Stacey Corbin, Robin Allison, Jerry and Chris Groom, Eric Kelly, Alex Stone, Nita Groth, Kyle and Valerie White, Greg and Karen Presley, Terry and Jane Nielsen, Ken and Cheryl Ring, Claudine Conner, and Owen Magnusen,

East Side: Bob Schwartz, George Craig, Steve Jones, Jim Lombardi, Kevin and Carol Schroeder, Rory Finley, April Tweedy, Phil and Jill Bray, Nathan Brown, Jerry Rasley, Kevin and Kelly Tourek, Bill Conger, Dave Greco, Scott and Christy Overbust, Dick and Lori Schroeder, Ben, Jenn, Jordan, and Taylor Campbell.



Owen tries the "pick-up stick" on his Grandma!



Barbequed hot dogs, chili, chips, cookies, and cold drinks were served at the Fire Station after they picked up around 300 pounds of litter.



Part of the Westside crew

If you are locking up your place for the Winter, be sure to throw a rope on your dock so it doesn't need rescuing next Spring. You may remember how many water lines froze up caused havoc last winter up here! To be safe, take proper precautions by blowing out your waterlines and having your water shut off. Hopefully we will have a mild winter, but you never know.

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Southwood Shores Road Update - Road Maintenance and Safety Committee

Mike Larson (Pine Bay), George Craig (Cedar Bay), Lee Stagis (Julius Terrace)

Due to the current digging installation of Fiber Optics on Southwood Shores Road, Stevens County Road Engineer, Wayne Cornwall, determined that the digging had to settle before chip sealing. He pushed back the date of this happening to next June.

Meanwhile, Public Works will be preparing the road and installing several dry wells to capture water run off. Also, we are asking for a new guard rail on the east portion of the paved road by the steep hill, and also where the new dry wells will be placed.

"Sand Bar Party" area—Several boats recently have had propellers torn up, due to boaters leaving their anchors under water. Please remove them.

Julius Terrace Petition Update—DLPOA Road Committee is currently asking Public Works what specific situations have to be adjusted before considering chip sealing in that area.

Pancake Feed

Bob and Cheryl Schwartz



Our 2023 Pancake Feed was a smashing success, possibly the best ever!

We are very fortunate to live in such a wonderful and giving community. On Sunday, July 3rd, we served 839 folks who joined us for our annual Pancake Feed. Your continued support of our traditional annual event is very much appreciated.

Plainly stated ... this event could never happen without our stupendous and hard-working volunteers. Personally, and on behalf of DLPOA, we send our sincere thanks to the following folks who helped us:

Frank Alexander, Peter Bach, Lee Bayley, Phil and Jill Bray, Nathan Brown, Joe Byrne, Bill and Pam Conger, George Craig, Sharon Crump, Patrick Daly, Mike Egan, Tim Erlandsen, Courtney Fujita, Desiree Gordon, Dave Greco, Nita Groth, Pam Horner, Allison James, Steve Jones, Robin Kaswick, Wayne and Debbie Kenny, Ryan Kerrigan, Dane, Ame, Addie, Eloise, and Liam Kerrigan, Susie LaMay, Sally Lamson, Jim and Marilyn Lombardi, Raelynn Lopez, George Lynn, Jr., George Lynn, Sr., Barbara Maranto, Tony Maucione, Jean McKinney, Terry Nielsen, Mike Nixon, Mike Phillips, Jeff and Barb Potter, Greg and Karen Presley, Jerry Rasley, Jill Richard, Ken, Cheryl, and Charlie Ring, Mark Robinson, Jen Robinson, Ken Santora, Zane Schafer, Cheryl and Bob Schwartz (Chair), Kindl Shaffer, Jeff and Meladie Shaver, Mary Turney, Janeen VanSlyke, Ron Watson, Skip Wells and Julie Wordeman.



Not only was the Pancake Feed attendance a record high, we are also excited to report that DLPOA Apparel Sales (chaired by Barb and Jeff Potter) also had record sales.

The DLPOA Raffle and Silent Auction (chaired by Ron Watson and Nate Brown) topped last year for a new sales record!

We want to acknowledge and thank **Joe and Lynette Byrne** for the gracious donation of their Gonzaga Basketball tickets for our Silent Auction.



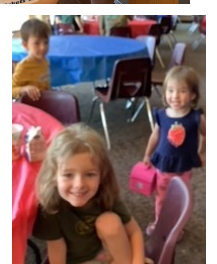
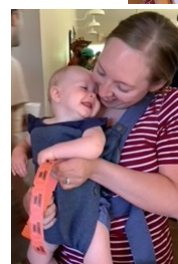
Joe Byrne

In closing, we send our ever lasting gratitude to Nicki and Ron Coil, owners of Pinelow, for once again donating their Dining Hall and kitchen facilities to us. Do us a favor and if you happen to see Nicki or Ron please take a moment to thank them for their continued support of DLPOA.

We hope to see everyone at our 2024 Annual Pancake Feed.



Security tips for the Fall and Winter: Lock your buildings, windows, and vehicles. Use a security camera. Get a locking device for any trailers. Use social media to alert neighbors and other homeowners about suspicious cars or people that are where they shouldn't be. Be observant, and if you see something, say something!



Fourth of July Parade and Picnic

Greg and Karen Presley

We were certainly blessed with the most beautiful weather for the annual parade and picnic this July, a far cry from last year's rain! Once again, we want to give a shout out to Deer Lake Resort and Pinelaw Park - both of you play a huge part of why our parade is such a huge success.



Thank you to all of you who came out to watch and cheer on the participants. Kudos to everyone in the parade—you all looked amazing, it is so thrilling to see all the patriotic decorations. We appreciate Joe Conner bringing his red Mustang convertible to escort Grand Marshall, United States Air Force Captain, Deborah Watson. Amelia Shaver did a fantastic job singing our national anthem.

We had a lot going on this 4th; our daughter, son-in-law, and our 3 grandkids were here from Abu Dhabi. The 4th of July was their last day in the states— what a sendoff for them! They came out for the parade and also worked the picnic tables and grill. It was nice to work side by side with them, but hey we weren't the only people that helped that day. It takes many volunteers for all the activities that DLPOA sponsors.

(If I forgot anybody, I apologize.) They are:

Jim Lombardi, Eric and Kathy Kelly, Jerry and Teri Snell, Will and Theresa Barkley, Mercedes Pierce, Asher Barkley Phil and Jill Bray, Jeremy and Carriann Rogers, Jake Rodgers, Nita Groth, Bob and Cheryl Schwartz, Pam Horner, Terry and Jane Nielsen, George Lynn, Ken Ring, Sharon Crump, Jeff Potter, Ron Watson, Dave Combs, Joe Byrnes, Greg and Karen Presley. Two of our finest Steven's County fire fighters also jumped in and helped on the tables - Darrell Wallace and Roy Varney.

We encourage you next year to volunteer to help with the parade or picnic, you get to work with a lot of great folks.





As you probably know, many people in rural areas actively feed wildlife in Washington, and Deer Lake is no different. We were recently contacted about a case where a mother deer died from eating something her body can't digest- corn. She was nursing a fawn that was left orphaned and most likely didn't survive on its own. 5

Why feeding hurts more than helps wildlife

Staci Lehman, Communications Manager, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

While it is understandable that people are concerned about and want to help wildlife, the worst thing they can do is feed wild animals. Many species—such as deer, elk, and moose, are biologically adapted to survive without food provided by humans and have done so without our help for thousands of years. Animals are adapted to survive all seasons, including hot summers and hard winters, on limited natural food sources.

WDFW receives reports of people putting out hay, corn, or apples on a regular basis. Many don't know that it takes several weeks for an animal's digestive system to adjust to these foods. Without enough fat reserves to get through the adjustment period, deer can die even with bellies full of feed they can't digest. This is known as rumen acidosis and there was a recent case of it at Deer Lake that killed a doe that was being fed regularly by someone putting out corn. Unfortunately, that doe had a young fawn that was nursing that most likely didn't survive without its mother.



Wildlife feeding causes many other problems as well. It can draw animals into areas near roads, often leading to collisions with vehicles, and makes it easier for disease to spread among animals grouped together to feed. Wildlife feeding also makes animals vulnerable to predators. Feeding deer, turkeys and other wildlife attracts cougars, bobcats, coyotes, and occasionally bears. Rodents like mice also try to take advantage of the free meals and can cause infestation issues.

Habituation is another negative result of wildlife feeding. It can make animals too comfortable around humans and they sometimes become aggressive when not fed fast enough. This often ends in the animal being euthanized. So how *can* you help wildlife? The best thing to do is to give them lots of space, especially in summer months when it is hot and animals are trying to stay cool. Don't approach them or try to take photos with them, as that can end with both animals and humans getting hurt.



Membership Report — Fall 2023

Ken Santora

As a non-profit association, some of the purposes of the Board of Directors is to be a watchman over the lake, provide lots of enjoyable family entertainment, and to inform our membership of any concerns or changes in the lake. We are always looking for additional support for the activities we initiate or sponsor for our association.

If you would like to help organize or help at an event, please let us know. When you receive your end-of-the-year newsletter in December, please complete the questionnaire inside the donation envelope, and we will put you on our call lists.

As your Board of Directors, we thank you for your continued support of DLPOA. Your membership is much appreciated. If you are not a current member, we would like to invite you into DLPOA. Our basic membership is \$20, which helps to publish our newsletters and yearly calendar. You are also invited to attend our monthly meetings, held on the second Thursday of each month, February through November at 6 p.m. at the Pinelaw Park office.

I will be turning my membership duties over to Bill Haney. Bill has spent most of his life at Deer Lake, following in his family's footsteps. Thank you, Bill, for taking on this responsibility. **Current paid membership: 380**

facebook

Consider sending a "friend request" to the Deer Lake Property Owners' Association so you can keep up with the latest postings on this type of social media. We have 1,403 members right now.

In case of emergencies, it's a fast way to find information. We also post reminders a couple days in advance, so you can attend Board meetings or any of the activities that we sponsor.

If you are a member and want to, you can "tag" DLPOA, then we can also see photos you post showing your fun times at Deer Lake.



Thanks to all you homeowners that donate extra money for the fireworks show on the lake. We couldn't do it without you! It's a great tradition to look forward to each year—and it's always held on July 3rd.



Fireworks Dock Moving Team:

Mike Egan, Van Mai, George Craig, Ryan Kerrigan, Brady Hatfield, and Bob Schwartz (not pictured). Pontoon Boat provided by Greg and Karen Presley



The DLPOA Annual meeting was on August 12th—we had speakers, apparel sales, committee reports, ratifying the Board members, reviewing the budget, and cake!

Deer Lake Algae Blooms

Mike Phillips



This past summer there was some concern about the green algae. The county health department sent a sample to be tested for toxins, and it came back negative.

Every year, from about the end of August into September, we get green algae. Some appears on the surface, but mostly it's suspended in the water column. Zoo-plankton eat the algae. Small fish eat the zoo-plankton. During the cold winter months, the algae food source left from the summer bloom continues to feed the fish. There needs to be a presence of algae for there to be a biological food balance in the lake.

When I moved here 34 years ago, there was much more algae due to the excess phosphorus in the lake due to the cattle that grazed north of the Narrows. With the removal of the cattle, the nutrients that the algae need was reduced. Motor boating close to shore stirs the silt on the bottom, releasing stored phosphorus into the water column giving algae more food to consume. All the boat activity on the lake helps produce more algae. It's a cycle that happens every year.

Nextdoor Deer Lake

Bob and Cheryl Schwartz



To our new residents and property owners. If you are not aware of our private Deer Lake community electronic bulletin board known as Nextdoor Deer Lake please take a look.

Folks share the latest neighborhood news, lost and found postings, items for sale, as well as alerts and notices for our Deer Lake community.

We are not an open membership like Facebook. You must own property within our Deer Lake boundaries to qualify and sign up. It is free – no cost to sign up or be a member!

It is a convenient and great way to stay in touch with our community during the Fall and Winter months when you may not be at the lake as often as in the Spring and Summer.

To sign up, send an email to Bob and Cheryl Schwartz at rismt@hotmail.com and we will email you a Nextdoor invitation link to complete and submit directly to Nextdoor.



Thank you!

Little sister has no luck



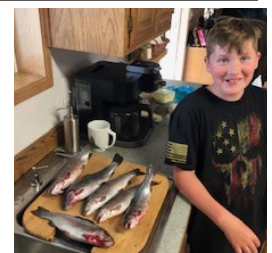
Fish Report

Ken Santora

We are waiting to hear from Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife concerning the fish they are determining for this Fall. We did receive additional Rainbow Trout for our lake this year from them.

I have had several of our neighbors at the lake report that they have caught more fish this year than last year.

We hope that you are finding the same success. As more information comes forth from WDFW, I will post it through DLPOA Facebook, NextDoor and our own DLPOA website (dlpoa.com).



A good day for brother!

The Attack of the Boat Parade Pirates!

Ken Ring

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We were on our dock on the west side of the Narrows on July 3rd, when this boat started coming towards us. They sure seemed friendly, because the boat was filled with a bunch of kids. but they were **Pirates!**



When they got close enough, they whipped out their weapons (water guns) and tried to attack us innocent land lubbers.



Little did they know, we were prepared for the fight! The **Pirates** were pummeled with our hidden stash of water balloons!



They were wet when they pulled away (rumors said it was their own sad tears).

Their captain, Black Beard, was heard telling his first mate, Jack Sparrow, that he vowed to return to the Ring dock next year for a rematch. We accept the challenge and will be waiting for you!



After our successful repelling of the Pirate ship, we noticed we had ample ammunition to also attack our neighbors. So, while they were fighting their own invasion from the sea, we surprised them from the rear!



Gallantly we fought, and took no prisoners. As victors, we plundered their liquor cabinet and came home with a bounty of rum and tequila.

DLPOA Calendar Advertising for 2024

Starting next week, we will be organizing the calendar for next year. We had a great response last year, with over 50 advertisers!

If you want to participate, please call or text **Ken Ring** at 509-499-3170, or **Pam Horner** at 509-830-0307.

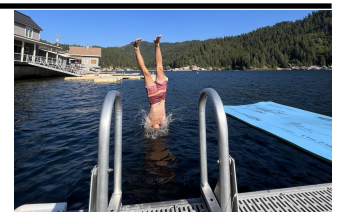


The deadline is **November 13th**. The cost has not changed since 2011—still

only \$50 for an enlarged business card size ad in color that will be mailed to hundreds of people who own homes in the Deer Lake area. What a deal!

Photos requested again!

I always like to display Deer Lake pictures in the end-of-the-year newsletter.



They do not have to be current—ones from “back in the day” are always interesting, too!

Deadline November 30th.

Please submit to me at **cherylring@gmail.com**

or

Post on **DLPOA's Facebook** page

Chipper Day is Coming!

- October 7th, from 9 a.m.— 3p.m.
- Area just north of Baldwin Lumber on Agar Road
- Usually, a pickup or trailer load costs \$10
- Larger rigs and commercial type vehicles are \$20
- Really, really BIG loads could be \$30
- No sawn wood is allowed
- Welcome material—branches, brush, pine needles, clean stumps, and leaves



We always welcome volunteers (especially young and strong people). Please call Skip Wells at [509-979-3260](tel:509-979-3260) if you can help. You will need to bring your own rake, pitchfork, and work gloves.

\$20 please?



You may pay your DLPOA dues of \$20 by either mailing us the enclosed envelope, or by visiting our website—dlpoa.com.

More information about Deer Lake Property Owners' Association can be found at :

www.dlpoa.com

I encourage you to please send me pictures or ideas you might have for future articles in the newsletter.

cherylring@gmail.com



Deer Lake Property Owners' Association has a Board that meets 9 times during the year, plus has an Annual Meeting each summer. Members are welcomed and encouraged to come to any of these meetings. The time, location, and dates are on the DLPOA calendar.