

LLPOA

LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

FALL/WINTER 2015



DO YOU HAVE A COPY OF OUR LAND OWNERS HANDBOOK?

CHECK IT OUT ON OUR WEBSITE ~

<http://www.loonlakepoa.org>

AT THE LAKE WITH LEE

Greetings and welcome to the Loon Lake Property Owners Association Fall 2015 newsletter. After much nice, but often smoky summer weather, the signs of fall are everywhere trees beginning to show colors, lake equipment moving from water to land. In some cases with lake water evaporating so dramatically docks are now high and dry waiting for Mother Nature to refill our lake this coming spring.

Mission of the LLPOA is that of education, protection and enhancement of the natural vitality of Loon Lake.

- Examples of these successes that started as an LLPOA vision:

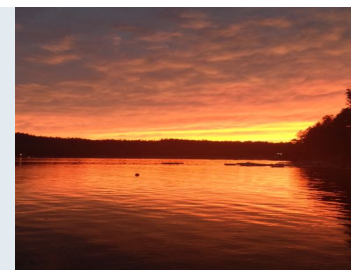
* The Loon Lake Land Conservancy - mission is to protect the remaining lakeside wetlands in Loon Lake. Check out their website <https://loonlakelandconservancy.wordpress.com>. Volunteer opportunities exist for all and donations are needed to continue their important work.

* The Loon Lake Management District (LMD) for controlling Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive plants also originated from our LLPOA efforts, 15 years ago.

- **LLPOA meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM in the basement of the Loon Lake Historical Schoolhouse.** The meetings are open to all. Please note next years date now and put it on your calendar: **June 24, 2016 at 7:00 pm – same location.** We sure would like to have lots of participation for the meeting.
- The meetings are informative with guests who provide service to the Lake and our Community. This years guests included two members of Stevens Co. Law Enforcement – Deputy's Duane Johnson and Jennifer Stern who spoke about boater's safety and increased efforts to patrol all Lakes of Stevens Co. this summer. Also, District 1 Fire

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- Water Quality Report
- Watershed Education
- Conservation
- * Treasurer's Report/Dues update
- * Firework's Update
- * Dock Demolition/Pancake Breakfast



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Chief Mike Bucy who spoke of the potential dangerous wildfire season due to the early hot dry weather. Chief Bucy also spoke about the pending Fire District bond levy and the need for community support at the ballot box in November. Stevens Co. District 1 Commissioner Wes McCart was in attendance and spoke about a combined effort of the Loon Lake, Deer Lake Associations to spearhead a Chipper Days project for our community. The agenda includes election of new board members

Some other projects that are currently underway:

- Updates to our website (loonlakepoa.org). New board member Holly Shamberger has volunteered to be our new Webmaster. Check it out.
- To post minutes of previous LLPOA board meetings, treasurer's reports and newsletters.

I would like to thank Steve Coon LLPOA past board member and prior Webmaster. The website would not be a reality if not for Steve's willingness to keep it running and updated since its inception. Often times my generation (over 60) might be a little less likely to stay current with technology. Steve may not be the exception to the rule, but certainly was not afraid to leave his comfort zone to learn web mastering, who knows there may be a Facebook page in our future! Whatever that is. (Just kidding.)

Finally, 'thank you' to all of you who have contributed, in your own way, to help keep Loon Lake the beautiful place it is. On behalf of the LLPOA Board, we wish all of you a beautiful fall and happy and prosperous New Year.

Lee Evans

LLPOA President – lgevans@spocom.com



Wood Duck on Loon Lake – Spring
2015

WATER QUALITY REPORT WITH JIM DAVIES

The ninth year of water quality monitoring leaves no room for skepticism as to the extent of the lake water quality deterioration.

Data obtained in the WSU study of water in 2011 showed at 49' insufficient dissolved oxygen to sustain deep/cold water kokanee and mackinaw fishery.

Results from 2014/2015 study show that the critical depth is now at 42' below the surface. This is a loss of 6.5" per year of habitable depth per year. At this rate in 77 years, our next generation, the entire depth of our lake could be uninhabitable for fish. What is the cause of this problem? It is phosphorus – it is responsible for excessive aquatic plant growth, including algae and leafy plants.

When these plants die, they drift to

the bottom of the lake and provide food for bacteria. This bacteria uses up dissolved oxygen causing a condition called anoxia. Anoxia is released to the adjacent deep water and during the fall turnover, it is distributed back to the entire water column making it available on and near the surface to nourish new algae and "seaweed" the following spring.

Phosphorus entering from outside the lake has been substantially diminished but it still stubbornly remains in the lake.

Why has this remained? It is due to continuing shoreline and upland development threatened loss of phosphorus consuming wetlands. As well as continued political and public apathy toward understanding and fixing the problem.

(cont'd from page 2 – Water)

This will inevitably lead to increasing levels of phosphorus; which will ultimately result in lessening Loon Lake's recreational and real property value unless action is taken to prevent this from happening.

(Editor's note – Please see article on Watershed Education for further information on ways to help reduce phosphorus in the lake.)

LLPOA WEBSITE UPDATE ~

The LLPOA website now has a new webmaster, Holly Shamberger, a Loon Lake resident and property owner of nearly 10 years.

Please check out the website for complete copies of the articles in this newsletter as some have been edited to fit the new format of the newsletter.

If you prefer to have either a paper copy of each article or an e-mailed copy, please let us know by notifying either Lee Evans by phone at 509-233-0179 or lgevans@spocom.com or the editor, Mary Jo Lovell at maryjo.justher@icloud.com

WATERSHED EDUCATION WITH BARRY SMITH

Eurasian milfoil has been recognized and treated as a dangerous threat to the water quality of Loon Lake since 1991.

Ongoing treatment since 2001 has been poisoning plants with 24-d pellets and liquid 24-d annually. These methods seem to control expansion of milfoil but do not eradicate it. When the plants die in the lake and decompose, it places a burden on dissolved oxygen levels.

Summer of 2005, Jim Ross D.O.E. chemist and lake water specialist at the D.O.E. lab in Lacey, WA (now a resident of eastern Washington) along with Joe Haley, Manager of Granite Point Resort conducted extensive lake water tests at the 100' depth and at 30' depth in front of Granit Point. The results were good and it appeared that Loon Lake water was in pretty good condition.

Let's jump to 2011 when Dr. Barry Moore led a team from WSU doing extensive water testing. Results indicated a high level of phosphorous and low levels of dissolved oxygen in the deepest part of the lake which makes the water unfit for fish habitat and aquatic plant life. How do we improve these deficiencies?

- Syphon oxygen deficient water from the deep water and discharge water into Sheep Creek.
- Extend irrigation pump intake into the deep water to deplete the oxygen deficiency.



Island house and fire plane – 10/2015

The Newsletter has had a makeover! This edition is in a new format done by our new volunteer editor, Mary Jo Lovell, a Loon Lake resident and property owner of 16 years. If you are interested in being a contributing writer for upcoming Newsletters, please send your suggestions and or articles to maryjo.justher@icloud.com or contact Lee Evans, President.

(cont'd from page 3 Watershed Education)

- Install an oxygenation system to pump oxygen into the deepest part of the lake.

Sources for pollution forces us to look at our personal habits – or “Culturaleutrication” – scientist term for Human caused. The following may help to reduce the amount and toxicity ending up in the waters of Loon Lake:

- Plant water absorbing rain gardens.
- Use a rain barrel.
- Wash cars or boats on lawn or at a car wash.
- Discontinue or reduce use of fertilizers, turf builders, and pesticides on lawns and gardens within 75' of waters edge.
- Reduce bacterial pollution from animal waste and don't feed ducks and geese.
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- Reduce yard waste that may get into the lake water.
- Avoid open fires on the beach.
- Mow grass to 1 to 2" and leave some clippings as a natural fertilizer and mulch bare soil areas to prevent water run-off.
- Use phosphorus free products. (Dish soaps etc.)
- Fix eroding areas in your yard and driveway/parking area.
- Maintain existing natural shorelines.
- Avoid planting trees that may drop leaves or pine needles into the lake.
- Never flush boat waste into the lake, it is illegal and allows phosphorus and bacteria into the lake.

Storm water runoff is considered by the Department of Ecology the #1 polluter of our Loon Lake.

LOON LAKE CONSERVATION WITH ERIC DAVIS

“Conservation – the act of preserving, guarding, or protecting the value of an asset, especially through the wise use of that asset.” Often misunderstood, but to some extent we're all conservationists (of something.)

Is the Lake an asset of value to us?

- Economic value?
- Recreational value?
- Aesthetic value?

I think most of us would say yes. Let's call these factors the “value-critical” features upon which the value of the Lake is dependent. Conservation involves protecting these “value-critical” features.

The reality of the Lake today –

1 – The usable portion of the shoreline is (unfortunately) fully developed with single-family (SF) residences and two remaining resorts.

2 – Loon is classified by WA ST law as a “lake of statewide significance.” Though the State's usage priorities don't include usage by property owners, or the



Granite Point Park Bench

(cont'd from pg. 4 – Conservation)

General Public. Despite these disadvantages, several steps can still be taken to protect “value-critical” features. Below is a list of categories these “value-critical” features fall under.

*** - PROTECTING WATER QUALITY**

*** - PROTECTING LAKE LEVEL**

*** - PROTECTING SHORELINE FROM HIGHER DENSITY REDEVELOPMENT & SF REDEVELOPMENT THAT PUTS STRUCTURES AND IMPERVIOUS SURFACES CLOSER TO THE WATER**

*** - PROTECTING THE HILLSIDES AROUND THE LAKE FROM DEVELOPMENT**

How can these things be accomplished? Here are some examples:

1. Require shoreline residential re-development to adhere, without variances, to the buffers from wetlands and the shoreline that are identified in the County’s land usage code. The County Officials have unimpeded ability to reduce these buffers and have done so at our Lake, which is detrimental to the Lake water quality.

2. Limiting or prohibiting impervious surfaces within the shoreline buffer and requiring low impact development (LID) techniques for redevelopment within the shoreline boundary Law in WA of 200 ‘ from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM.)

3. Preventing destruction of the few remaining wetlands in and adjacent to the Lake and prevent compromise of the critical pollutant decontamination role the wetlands play.

4. Prevent multi-family and commercial development on the shoreline and secondary lots around Loon as well as on the hillsides. These high-density, high usage developments increase pollutant contamination of the Lake disproportionately compared to SF development.

5. Eliminate any on-site septic systems that still exist within the shoreline boundary. Including any development outside the OHWM that is within the Lakes small watershed.

6. Get involved in the County’s workshops and public hearings on the upcoming revision of its Shoreline Master Program (SMP) that is underway now and with completion scheduled for Summer 2017.

7. Support the Loon Lake Land Conservancy (LLC) – a non-profit (501(c)(3) land trust formed in 2002

by all volunteers to acquire and maintain property in the Loon watershed that is critical to protecting water quality and water level. Donations of property and or money are tax deductible.

Please check out the LLC website at www.loonlakelandconservancy.wordpress.com

Contact the officers or directors for more information, they are always happy to answer your questions and concerns.

LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION – LLPOA – We have a purpose ~ To organize the property owners within and adjacent to the shores of Loon Lake Stevens County Washington.

To protect Loon Lake from environmental degradation.

To provide a forum by which the property owners may assist governmental agencies in better planning the use and resources of the Loon Lake Area.



Oregon Grape – native plant.

2015 FIREWORKS SHOW AND BOAT PARADE ~ WHAT NOW?

– Lee Evans



The 2015 4th of July Fireworks Show sponsored by the Loon Lake Property Owners Association, unfortunately, did not happen this summer due to the extreme fire danger and 30 mph wind dangers in our area on the 4th of July.

Though we had the proper permit and insurance in place with Fire District 1, Chief Mike Bucy has final authority over the 4th of July Fireworks programs in our area. All were cancelled hours before the shows were to start. Loon Lake, Deer Lake, Suncrest and Two Rivers on Lake Roosevelt. Notices were posted with KREM 2 and KHQ 6 news outlets as well as my going dock to dock notifying residents of the cancellation of the Fireworks Show.

The 4th of July was a busy day for Fire District 1 and Sheriff's Departments; the burn ban which lasted until October, was issued by Stevens County Sheriff Allen and the Rail Canyon fire near Springdale started. This was the beginning of our smokey summer.

All the preparation for the show had been completed, all the product set up had to be removed and repackaged by the Entertainment Fireworks Inc. personnel.

The LLPOA will be reimbursed by Entertainment Fireworks, Inc. for the expense of the product. Rich Knowlton, a Loon Lake property owner and the pyro crew lead, graciously donated their fee for services to LLPOA due to the unusual circumstances.

Expenses incurred were cost of the insurance, transportation of fireworks requiring special endorsement and the cost of the dock rental from EZ Docks. Review the financial report in Newsletter.

Thank you to all who donated to the fireworks show this year. We sure

fireworks display next 4th of July 2016, weather and fire danger permitting.

Get a bigger bang for your fireworks budget – let the professionals do the work, just sit back, relax and enjoy the show. Donate along with your LLPOA dues payment.

It is safer for all involved and less garbage ends up in our lake. Let the professionals do all the clean up!

BOAT PARADE

The 2015 Boat Parade was another success. We had lots of participants who enjoyed the great hot weather and helped all cool down with water guns, balloons etc. Fun was had by all.

DOCK DEMOLITION –

2015

With Jim

Killingsworth

JUNE 13, 2015 dock demolition day was held at the public boat launch.

The Stats:

- Volunteers included a gradall machine with operator from Knight Easy Docks.
- Hired Pete Smith and his backhoe for assistance.
- Paid for 3 Sunshine Disposal dumpsters – filled to the max.
- 20 tired or errant docks destroyed.

Residents are requested in the spring to pre-register their docks to assist us in predicting the needed dumpster space for the demolition. We had little response this year and hope for future dock demolition; residents will pre-register and pay for their docks to be destroyed.

More discarded docks were retrieved from deeper in the swamp than what had been done in past years. This contributed to another disappointing year financially for this service sponsored by LLPOA.

This demolition of docks is offered to help with “safety on the lake” and is paid for by LLPOA donations. To continue this service, those who need and or want docks destroyed, need to contribute to this activity.

The other option to help reduce the LLPOA cost is dock owners dispose of their own docks to prevent these docks from building up in the shallows of our Lake. This is another way property owners can help keep our Lake healthy and safe.

Please consider a donation to LLPOA for dock demolition and if you need a dock destroyed, pre-register with Jim at pajjim@comcast.net or call 509-466-9356.



PANCAKE

BREAKFAST – 2015

With Daryl Howe

LLPOA teamed with Loon Lake Firefighters’ Auxiliary held the annual pancake breakfast Sunday, September 6, 2015. This has been an annual event since 2012 and we split the net proceeds from the breakfast. **This year the net proceeds totaled \$1,308.59 and it was unanimously decided to donate the entire amount to the Loon Lake Firefighters’ Auxiliary due to their hard work this summer to keep us safe. Thank you to all who helped create another successful event:**

Flyers – Denny Drinkard & Dick Davies

Food – George Swannack & Jim Davies

Cooks – Lee, George, Jim, Carlan Silha, Pam (omelet chef) & Cory Voss.

Equipment – Mark Whittaker & Jim Killingsworth

Banner hangars – Lee Evans & Barry Smith

Insurance – Don Kelley

Food Prep – Eric Davis & Holly Shamberger

Cashiers – Carla Sandell & Daryl Howe

Rest of volunteers, MaryLynn Swannack, Mary Davis, John Morrow, Henry Howe,

Theresa Patterson, Lin Silha, and DD
Hodgson.

Julie Johns, special thanks for coordinating
the Firefighters' Auxiliary volunteers for
the breakfast – Aaron Johns, Brian Ferrane
and Lani Ferrane who helped serve food.

A very special thanks to each and every one
of you for supporting the pancake breakfast.
Your generosity was over the top this year!

The winner of the \$25. Gift Certificate to
Loon Lake Video & Pizza was Fred Brown.
Congratulations Fred!

**UPCOMING EVENTS ~ CHECK OUT
OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS ON
FUTURE EVENTS FOR REST OF THIS
YEAR AND 2016!**

LLPOA OFFICERS:

Lee Evans, President

lgevans@spocom.com

George Swannack, Vice President

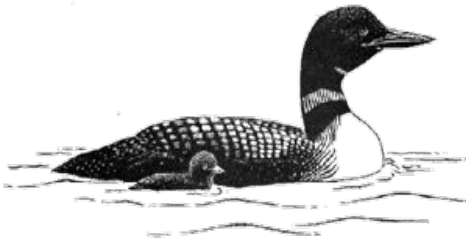
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**LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS
ASSOCIATION**

P O BOX 165

LOON LAKE, WA 99148

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

www.LOONLAKEPOA.ORG

SNAPSHOT FINANCIAL REPORT WITH CARLA:

As of September 30, 2015 – 290 paid members at \$20. annual dues - of approximately 700 plus property owners at Loon Lake, WA.

Checking & Savings balance: \$35,660.11

	Fireworks	Pancake B-Fast	Dock Demo	Water Quality
Donations In	\$ 6,745.	\$ 3,070.	\$ 1,006.	\$ 800.
Costs	6,832.	1,761.	3,473.	760.
Donations Out		1,309. (Fire Dept Aux.)		
<hr/>				
Net	(\$ 87.)	0	(\$2,467.)	\$ 40.



BECOME A MEMBER OF LLPOA TODAY

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LOON LAKE.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

**COMPLETE, CUT OFF AND SEND WITH DUES PAYABLE TO LLPOA AT
P O BOX 165 LOON LAKE, WA 99148**

Enclosed for your convenience is a self-addressed envelope for paying LLPOA dues as well as donations to the events or programs that are of interest to you.

Annual Dues \$ 20.00

Fireworks Fund \$ _____

Other Donations (Specify) \$ _____ Example: Dock Demolition, Water Quality Testing, Boat Parade

Total \$ _____

A reminder the Loon Lake Property Owners Association and the Loon Lake Defense fund was consolidated by a vote of the membership in 2014. The LLOPA will continue to be a 501c3 organization. Any contributions by our membership that would support programs like the ongoing water quality studies, the 4th of July Fireworks show, Boat Parade or Dock Demolition also including other scientific or educational activities as directed by our charter are all tax-deductible.

