



REFLECTION LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

37708N SHEETSROAD ELK, WA 99009

Fall 2019 Newsletter

HALLOWEEN PARTY

OCTOBER 27, 2019

4:00 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER
SEE BELOW: SOCIAL COMMITTEE

President, Glen Mumm

I would like to thank everyone for all the help we have received throughout the year. Please remember that we are a community association and depend heavily on volunteers to complete the many projects, big and small that need to be accomplished. The board of directors also has many duties that must be dealt with so all our residents can continue to enjoy this hidden jewel. If you have some spare time please consider joining one of the many committees we have that meet on a regular basis, and volunteering some time each month to help spread the load. Please remember that your Board of Directors are also volunteers, giving their time, energy and commitment to improve our association.

Without the help and support of our neighbors we will eventually have to start hiring more contractors and paying for more services, which in turn will make it that much harder for the Association to be able to afford to keep up with all the repairs and maintenance that we face each year, which means an increase in annual dues.

In closing, remember to attend one of the board meetings that are held on the first Tuesday of each month, 6pm at the community center on Sheets road so you can hear for yourself what is really going on in YOUR neighborhood. Thank you, Glen Mumm

CONSERVATION, MAINTENANCE AND DAMS, Dan Loos

The north dam is complete thanks to Rick and Adam Hayes, Charlie Bennett, and Jeff Toffer. Take a minute to look. We added rock to shore it up and to make it look more uniform. If anyone knows or saw who damaged the road on the north dam, please contact me.

This time of year, the lake looks pretty green, warms up fast and algae forms. Because of this, swimmers' itch may appear, caused by a parasite in the water. For prevention or help rinse off with fresh water. You can Google for more remedies.

In late September or early October, we will be testing our drainage valves at the south end. This is to ensure that the valves are in good working order and to purge the lake of unwanted buildup of phosphates and biomass at the bottom of the lake. We will be lowering the lake about 2'. At that point we will close off the valves and let the lake refill again. This process takes 2-3 weeks, total. This will also give us a chance to clean our shorelines.

TREASURER, Jim Boothby

- 1) Thank you to John Fechner for his generous donation of \$200, and rock for the North Dam project.
- 2) We still need volunteers for lake committees. You get free on the job training and you can make an immediate difference!
- 3) This past year 9 projects were voted on by the membership and were successfully completed.
- 4) A reminder to the few lot owners who have not sent in their 2019-2020 dues payments. Lien letters go out in November.

On August 15th, 2019, a request was made to Spokane County to investigate lake improvements (as far back as 4 years ago) by Mr. Rob Lee, an association member. He was very concerned about any damage done to the roadway across the north dam. On August 27th, Spokane County officially notified the Association of a Permit Violation that included an immediate \$600 fine. (The fine is being appealed)

Mr. Lee personally conducted the tour of the entire lake on August 19th and did not invite a board member to be present to clarify or give a different point of view. Whatever was said to the county investigator, the county investigator took as fact.

Over the last 50 years the Lake Association has been operating with member volunteers trying to do their best to make sure that the lake, the dams and all association properties are taken care of to the best of our abilities and budget. When something needed to be fixed, we collectively fixed it. Now we have been shown another way: report all suspected code violations, then the Association pays the fine and must charge the members. Is this really what we want to do?

On the morning of September 19th, Glen Mumm, Charlie Bennett, Jeff Toffer and Rick Hayes met with the Spokane County inspector and the other county officials involved with issuing the permit violation at the Spokane County Public Works building to formally appeal the Stop Work Order and fine. The good news is the county will drop the fine and the Stop Work Order and RLCA will pay for the proper permit if necessary.

Spokane County has also made available to RLCA an open line of communication and consultation so that in the future RLCA can provide the county with a complete list of our yearly maintenance and construction projects so the County can help us determine which projects will require permits or anything else that might need to be looked at for a permit from the proper agency.

SECRETARY, Vonnie Hutchison

I would like to add a little personal information to our newsletter. I am happy to volunteer on the Board and as secretary because I'll do my part in making this the most desired private community possible. After having been in the real estate field for many years, I know how desirable our community could be and what affect that has on our property values. Please help every time you see an opportunity. The whole community, including you, will benefit.

I would like to thank everyone for cleaning up after their pets. It has been much better than last year.

Please, if you feel we don't have all your current information get in touch with me, Vonnie Hutchison 208-215-0446, vonnieh1234@hotmail.com

Minutes of the monthly board meetings are available in the Community Center and on the webpage (reflectionlake.net). Please contact Vonnie Hutchison if you'd like to read any of the minutes in their entirety, 208-215-0446.

FIREWISE, Charlie Bennett Vice-President and Firewise Director

One of the benefits of being a Firewise USA community is having a close relationship with our local fire department. Captain Sylvester from District 4 attended our annual RLCA meeting in July. One of the things he discussed was the possibility of us getting an AED, (automated external defibrillator) for our community at a greatly discounted price. More often than not, when they respond to Reflection Lake it is a medical emergency. He sent us an email recently that we could purchase an AED through the fire department for about \$600. With a few trained volunteers that could make a real difference of survival during a cardiac arrest. I would like to explore the possibility of buying this through donations and I would like to donate the first \$100.00. We have set a date of Saturday, November 2nd at 10:00 AM in the community center for a free basic CPR class and AED training. This is about a two-hour class.

Several people signed up for a free Firewise assessment for their homes and property at the annual meeting, as well as free reflective address post that makes your house easier to find at night. New Welcome Packets will include Firewise information such as where, when and what to burn and the contact information for all types of emergencies and evacuations. Please contact me if you want a Firewise packet.

District 4 Fire Chief Bob Bender has visited our lake and approved our planned site for a dry hydrant! He will be sending the specs and we will be installing and maintaining the draft site. It will also be used by the DNR and has potential to greatly reduce our home insurance rates as well as stopping fires before they spread. Look for reminders and more updates on Facebook and community boards around the lake.

Thanks to all for participating! Charlie Bennett

SECURITY COMMITTEE, Gary Long

Remember to call **Crime Check** if you need any law enforcement. We cannot police. Also please watch for any unfamiliar cars or people in our neighborhood. Contact security at 509-741-0631.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Several of our neighbors got together and brainstormed about having regular meetings and different ideas that could be fun for our community. First on the list is a Halloween party at the Community Center, Sunday October 27th, 4:00. There will be loads of fun, costumes, games, treats. Any and all are welcome, kids and adults (byob) alike. If you would like to be involved, we would love to have you and if you have decorations to share, please get in touch with Sandi Bennett 360-731-0944 or Vonnie 208-215-0446.

Social Committee meetings will be the second Friday of every month at 6:00. Again, love to have you. The next one will be at the Community Center and we'll make any adjustments to the where after that.

If you are self-employed make sure I have your names, business name, and contact information so we can recommend your business in the new and improved Welcome Packet. Possibly the Association could use your services too.

Lost and found, call Vonnie 208-215-0446.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

New neighbors: Casey Pardun, Renee Reedy, Ryan & Kayla Major; Catherine Cosby & Katherine McNamara; and Harlen McKennett & Jasmine Mulvaney.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

After consulting in person with several county, state and federal agencies, the RLCA will continue with all planned projects. These projects include:

- Installation of draft site by the north dam, with specs provided by the fire chief Bob Bender.
- The installation of a fishing dock 100 yards north of Bald Eagle Beach, and repair and replacement of the Turtle Beach dock.
- The exercise of valves at the south dam, which will include a short-term lake drawdown, and the addition of rock (known as riprap) to the north dam as advised by the dam inspectors.

Get your reflective address posts from Fire Department District 4. This will enable them to reach you faster in the event of a fire or medical emergency. They are available free of charge, installed but they do appreciate donations.

Free Firewise assessments are available to everyone by calling 509-535-7274 ext. 215 or ben-peterson@sccd.org

Elk Fire Department needs volunteers or they will potentially have to close the station, which means our homeowner insurance rates going up.

PLEASE always clean up after your pets and keep them on a leash for their and our safety and slow down, obey our speed limits. There are many people and dogs who walk and kids playing.