

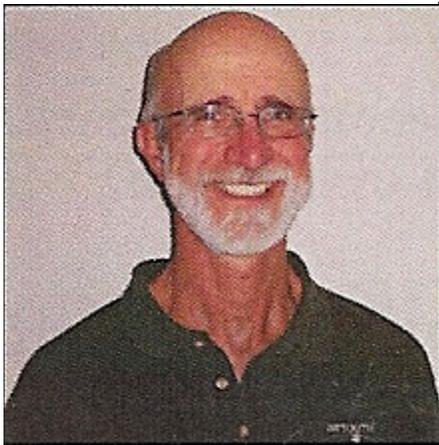
SacheenSCOPE



Published by the Sacheen Lake Association
Celebrating 60 Years of Stewardship and Friendship at Sacheen Lake!

January 2018

SacheenSCOPE... since 1988
edited by Nancy Cain



To a New Year...

by Don Hill
President - Sacheen Lake Association

Well, here it is 2018 already. I hope all of you had a blessed and enjoyable holiday season, filled with the warmth of family and friends. In our own case, we shared some awesome times with our daughter & son-in-law, and our two grandchildren... and our rambunctious and very fun grand-dog, Cooper, a yellow lab just under a year old, and an over-the-top fan of snow! The sledding and chasing around through the snow-laden trees, and even a little ice-skating, made it a fun and traditional Christmas & New Year celebration for all of us. I hope yours was every bit as much

fun, and that your 2018 is off to a great start!

On the darker side of things, I'm sure most of you are aware of the terrible rash of burglaries the community endured over the last several months. There were over three dozen break-ins, prowlings, and vehicle thefts, and it seemed that the community was under siege. Our sheriff's office worked diligently to solve the crimes, and eventually arrested several suspects and recovered some of the stolen property. We much appreciate the good police work that at least for the time being seems to have brought the crime spree to a halt. On the brighter side of all that was the pulling together of the community; so many instances of caring neighbors lending helping hands to those who suffered a loss, keeping extra vigilance over neighbor's cabins and neighborhoods, and just, well, *caring*. It's a good reminder that we are, in fact, a community. If you aren't in the loop, via Nextdoor, the Sacheen Lake Association Facebook page, or Lakesend e-mail list, or the SLA website, www.SacheenLake.com, I urge you to tap in and link arms, at least digitally, with your friends and neighbors here at Sacheen Lake.

Assuming we get another cold snap that lasts long enough to restore our ice on the lake, we'll be placing the ice-off marker for our annual prognostication contest. Entry is free to any and all SLA members, and the \$25 prize will go to the closest prediction(s) of "Ice-Off" (defined as the day that the marker tips over and is floating freely). It's a fun and easy contest; just e-mail your name and predicted ice-off date to Carol Hood at Lakesend@gmail.com. If you aren't yet a member, the SLA Membership Form is always included in every issue of the SacheenSCOPE! Here's wishing you a healthy and prosperous 2018, seasoned with good times at Sacheen Lake!

Don Hill



**2017 -
Busiest Year To Date**



**by Mike Nokes
Chief, SPOFR**

The great men and women of South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue (SPOFR) just finished 2017 with their busiest year ever.

SPOFR ran 550 calls for service in 2017. That is up 126 calls from 2016. The majority of the calls SPOFR responds to are Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls - which are calls for people with chest pain, breathing problems, injuries, and motor vehicle accidents, etc. In 2017 SPOFR responded to 438 EMS calls, about 80% of our 2017 calls. SPOFR also responded to 71 fire calls which include grass, car, house and other types of fires - making up about 13% of the calls. The remaining calls were false alarms, service calls, and hazardous condition calls.

During the year, 18% of the time or 99 times, SPOFR was responding to and handling multiple calls at the same time. I'm proud to say that SPOFR never missed a call and always had a crew responding to every call for service we received. **If it wasn't for the dedicated and selfless members of SPOFR, that would not have been possible.**

We always need more volunteers to help with the call load. SPOFR is just getting ready to start a training class for EMT's, and we do this locally here at the Sacheen Lake Fire Station.

If you would be interested in serving your community as a member of the volunteer fire district please contact me at 447-5305, or on-line at www.spofr.org.

Thank you, ***Mike Nokes, Fire Chief SPOFR***

Sacheen Lake Association Membership Renewal Form

Dues for 2018 are still only \$10 for an individual / \$25 for a family

Please fill out the form and mail it with your check, payable to:

Name:			
Mailing Address:			
Phone:			
Email Address:			

Sacheen Lake Association, c/o Jerry Johnsen, Treasurer, PO Box 401, Newport WA 99156-0401

PLEASE include your correct CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS

Wishing you all a happy, healthful and prosperous 2018. We have had a stunningly beautiful beginning to the new year with wonderful snowfalls making for picture perfect vistas.

Thank you for your support of the levy on the November ballot. The levy passed with 65% support. This approval allows the District Board to serve the District in not only providing sewer services, but to continue it's work in providing stewardship to Sacheen Lake.

In September we received our new hydraulics permit that allows us to maintain the beaver tubes down stream for another five years. We appreciate the cooperation of our downstream neighbors as their support was necessary for application approval. We are grateful to the SLA members who volunteer to go downstream to maintain the beaver tubes under our hydraulics permit. Their attention to the permit requirements have been integral to our success at renewing the permit and maintaining good relationships with our neighbors downstream.

Our herbicide application for Eurasian Watermilfoil was felt to be very successful this season. After discussions with the applicator, it was decided to take a different tact and use the chemical Diquat. This herbicide knocks the plant down prior to its auto-fragmenting, but does not kill its roots. This worked very well, especially in the areas that had been quite troublesome. Avoiding the auto-fragmentation prevents the spread of the plant. An added benefit was the lower cost of the chemical. We are still working on a better plan to address the watershield that so many of you have complained about. We hope to have that targeted this summer.

The November ballot also had the re-election of Mike Quick to the board, but left a board position vacant with the retirement of Perry Pearman. Perry served on the board several times over the past 25 years beginning as a substitute secretary and ending with an 8-year tenure in which we saw the development and construction of our sewer system. This position still needs to be filled. If you are interested in serving your community as a board member, please contact Commissioners Peggy Johnsen (509) 447-4587 or Mike Quick (509) 447-3609 or District Manager Sheila Pearman (509) 447-4641. This would be a two-year commitment before the position would again be up for election. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 5pm, usually lasting for about an hour. Stipend for the position is \$50 per meeting.

We have begun looking into developing a shop/office building for the District. This would allow the office to leave the Pearman home and provide space to store files, records, maintenance supplies and equipment all in one location. We have requested quotes from several pole barn companies and hope to have something in place by year's end.

Our operator, Nathan Johnson has received additional training from the manufacturer of our E-One pumps for their maintenance and repair. Please remember that if your system alarm goes off to call Nathan at (509) 671-6019, and he will come check out your service.

We have registered with the area's 811 utility locating service. As always, whether here at the lake, or in town, you should always contact the 811 utility locating service prior to digging. Should you not use the locator service and cause damage to the sewer lines, the cost of repair will fall on you.

We would again like to remind you that you may set your sewer billing up on paperless billing and get your monthly bill by email. If you would like to set up email billing, just include your email address with your next payment, or let Sheila know at spearman@ifiber.tv . You may also find it convenient to use your bank's bill pay service to save yourself the cost of envelope and stamp. It is easy to set up as an auto-pay that sends the payment at the same time each month. This is especially handy for those who travel.

Thank You For Your Many Years of Service Perry Pearman's Letter of Resignation

To: The Sacheen Lake Water and Sewer Board

From: Perry Pearman

Subject: Resignation from Commissioner Position No. 1 Date: December 11, 2017

I am stepping down from my commissioner position on the Sacheen Lake Water and Sewer Board due to the expiration of my term.

I have served the District Board intermittently since 1990, starting as the District Secretary filling in for Delores Welin in the winter. During that time, I have served with ten very dedicated commissioners that worked very hard for the benefit of Sacheen Lake and its residents. The commissioners were; Ron Schmidt, Darryl Abbott, Ralph Dravland, Vern Lesuer, Julia Verver, Dick Materny, Sheila Pearman, Peggy Johnsen, Garry Garrett, and Mike Quick.

Together we accomplished Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Centennial Clean Water Act water quality study. We implemented a total lake milfoil reduction program and the continuing milfoil control program. Under our watch a lake public sewer was conceptually developed, designed and installed. All as fulfilled recommendations of those early 1990's studies from Dr. Raymond Soltero of Eastern Washington University.

The sewer is complete, I have accomplished my goals with the District, and I now have other more pressing interests that are requiring my attention. I wish the Board well as it continues to serve the interests of the Sacheen Lake community.

My resignation is effective December 31, 2017.

sacheenlake.com

Don't forget to check out our beautiful website. It is a wonderful way to stay connected with our community, lake and sewer news, and the wildlife around the lake. To share your photos and info, contact Jerry Johnsen @ jj_at_lake@yahoo.com.



Sacheen Lake Association

is now on FACEBOOK

Become a friend!

Sacheen Merchandise For Sale

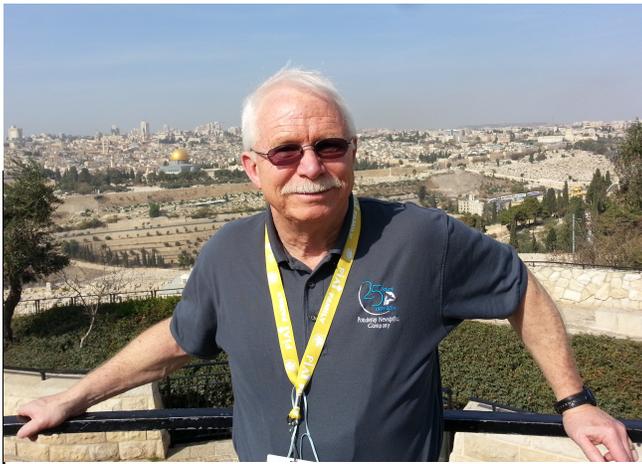
Virginia Hill - Merchandise Chairman
(509) 447-0960

Sacheen Lake merchandise is for sale at the annual meeting and the community picnic. You may also shop at Virginia's home by calling and arranging a time.

The merchandise includes various items of clothing, coffee mugs, and beverage glasses.

If you have any ideas for merchandise that you would like to see sold, please email Virginia at DVJH@aol.com

These make wonderful year-round gifts!



Down Memory Lane

By Perry Pearman

We moved here in '88 to build the papermill. Finished it and went to Maine to build another one. In 1990 we came back to settle down and work in the mill. Sheila and I had a couple of goals that came with settling down: 1- to clean up that little lake we grew to love, and 2- to give back to the community that had been so generous to us.

One day while sunning on our dock, a Kayot (translation - pontoon boat) pulled up with Blaine

and Elenore McMurray. They said grab some beer and wine and come on board. They took us on our first lake cruise and told us dirt on about every third cabin on the lake.

During those times we noticed a lot of weeds on the lake that had the docks on the Terrace side completely choked off: learned that it was called milfoil. Technology then was to get a bed spring and drag the bottom with it by boat and dump the weeds in the middle of the lake. Wrong.... It cost us about \$1 million to get the milfoil under control with the help of the state in 1995. On one of my dive surveys I did see an old bed spring under water. I did an underwater chuckle. I also saw concrete tires, 55-gallon drums, large gears, pieces of structural steel, and even old wood stoves that people used as dock anchors. Bubble, bubble, chuckle, chuckle.

In our first year here, I joined the fire department. I eventually talked my son Joe to be on it. Sheila was too smart. Curt Beyersdorf took me on a walk one day and showed me some thin cable that was strung up in the trees on Fertile Valley Road. I climbed up and grabbed some. It was our first fire paging system. It consisted of five old crank phones that were put in homes and wired up with surplus WWII commo cable. The old timers would ring up each other and respond. They also had a fire boat on the lake. It out lived it's usefulness, so the fire department decided to light it on fire to get rid of it. Must have been before the days of Department of Ecology. As Sacheen does, they turned it into a party, invited the wives and made a big to-do out of it. The firemen couldn't get it to burn.

I thought it would be a good idea to serve on the Sewer and Water board. I started as a winter time secretary when Delores Welin would go to Arizona. I used to do the notes on a Commodore 64 by Tandy Corporation. Guess I launched the District into the age of computers. Ron Schmidt was our Chairman for about 200 years. Might have taken the position from Moses. Used to drive me nuts over 50% of the time and I probably did the same to him. I think he was a bulldog in human form. I have never met a man that was more persistent. We Sacheeners owe him a lot. We also owe Betty Meyers, Elenore McMurray and others that went around the lake door to door to get signatures to form the District.

There was a group years later that sued the District and tried to disband the Board. After the suit, the District didn't even have enough money to pay off the judgement. We gave the group's attorney everything we had. Gary Garrett, one of our commissioners, requested that they allow us to hold on to something like \$5 to keep our account open. As it turned out there came forward lake resident backers of the Sewer Project that kept the project alive from their own funds. This got us through until the next election where more funds were voted in, grants and loans were obtained, and we were able to get a \$15 million Sewer System build for \$10 million of our money that serves 90% of the lake.

I am off the Board now, still fire-fighting - and if asked if I would do it all again, my answer would be "You betcha."

Tree Cavity Excavators and Borrowers

By John Stuart
ninebark@povn.com

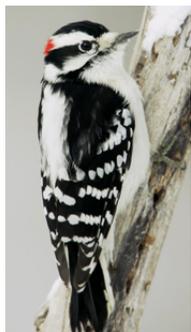
Woodpeckers are united in their lack of subtlety. They are not quiet neighbors. If they aren't actively calling or drumming out their territorial ownership, the search for food demands that they be tapping, drilling and excavating, which makes them audible over a large area. Our forest is blessed with eight species of woodpecker and each prefers slightly different food or other habitat details. The eight species are: Red-naped Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Black-backed Woodpecker, 3-Toed Woodpecker, and Lewis' Woodpecker

What these 8 species have in common is their habit of "primary nest excavation." They each drill out a cavity in a dead or partly-dead tree for a nest. At a later date, these cavities are then used by a long list of other creatures for more nesting and other uses.

The Red-naped Sapsucker is easy to find in spring when 2 or more males will have loud, raucous territorial scuffles around a particular nest-site. I have found their "sap-sucking" feeding holes on conifers but cottonwood, aspen, birch or Douglas also eat insects and some fruit as well.



Woodpeckers at first, the same bird. With be able to see that the larger and has a The Downy's bill is



The Downy and Hairy appear to be exactly a little practice you will the Hairy is about 50% noticeably larger bill. The Downy's bill is petite in comparison.

The Northern Flicker and Pileated Woodpeckers being larger birds, drill out larger openings and nest cavities. The Flicker is a very adaptable and free-thinking bird. They can dig a cavity in any kind of tree and eat seeds, fruit and many kinds of insect. About half their feeding time is in excavating ant-hills in the soil. The Pileated is more restricted, needing to locate its cavity at least 30 feet off the ground in a tree that is a minimum of 18 inches in diameter. Because the Pileated Woodpecker has such a pronounced effect on the lives of so many other birds and mammals it is considered a "keystone" species.



STAY INFORMED

Join the **SLA email list**. Please send your request to be added to the email list and/or send address corrections or changes to: lakesend@gmail.com



Habitats of the other 3 birds are more restricted. The Lewis' likes to hang out along big rivers in dry country. They are common along the Okanogan River to our west, and along the Snake River in southern Idaho. A few can be found along the Clark Fork/ Pend O'reille river system.

Black-backed and 3-Toed woodpeckers have their own opinions on birdy happiness. Black-backed focus on following fire and the food that fire provides.



Freshly burned trees are hosts to gobs of insects that lay eggs in the fire has cooled. 3-toeds, like have apparently developed a low temperatures. They are the lives in the circum-polar Arctic as far south as New Mexico, to coolness, they stay at high area, above 5,000 feet.



black wood as soon as many northern birds particular tolerance for only woodpecker that and though they occur achieve the desired elevations; in our

So now we return to the more subtle, ecological details of woodpeckers in the forest. A cavity used as a nest is never re-used for that purpose by the initial builders. But since nature finds a purpose for everything, other birds have learned to sub-let these apartments and use them for their own nests or as overnight roost spots. Science refers to these species as "secondary cavity nesters." I can find at least 26 local species that are in this group.

- Chickadees-4 species; Black-capped, Mountain, Chestnut-backed, Boreal
- Nuthatches-3 species; Red-breasted, Pygmy, White-breasted
- Swallows--2 species; Violet-green, Tree
- Swift-----1 species; Vaux's
- Bluebirds--2 species; Mountain, Western
- Wren----- -1 species; House
- Falcon-----1 species; American Kestrel
- Owls-----6 species; Barred, Saw-whet, Northern Pygmy, Western Screech, Flammulated, Boreal
- Ducks--- -6 species; Common Merganser, Hooded Merganser, Wood Duck, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Bufflehead,

Many mammals will also use old cavities, but that is another story for another time. The "life" of a tree really begins to be important to wild animals after it dies. We all understand that a dead tree right next to a house or powerline needs to be removed. But the old Victorian "tidyness" gene that declared that all deadwood needed to be gotten rid of was a huge mistake and was obviously promulgated by those who were unaware of all the life around them. The larger a snag is, the longer it will last and leaving them standing is a wonderful thing a homeowner/forestland owner can do for wildlife and for a healthy world in their grandchildren's years.

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Sacheen Lake Association Board

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