

SacheenSCOPE  
PO Box 401  
Newport WA 99156



Sacheen Lake Association Board

<b>President: Al Pool, 509/447-0221</b> alberthpool@gmail.com	The Terrace
<b>Past President: Don Hill</b> DVJH@aol.com	Eastshore
<b>Vice President: Brian Hood 509/447-3124</b> LakesEnd@gmail.com	Sacheen Shores / West End
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<b>Mary Maxfield, 509/993-5117</b> spokanemary@yahoo.com	Eisenbarth's Addition
<b>Karen White, 509/447-0151</b> dankaren89@gmail.com	At Large
<b>Shaun Bleecker, 509/496-0972</b> jon@bondedadj.com	At Large
<b>Jeanne Holman, 509/599-7234</b> larryandjeanne70@yahoo.com	The Narrows



Sacheen Sewer & Water District Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month - 5 p.m.  
Sacheen Fire Station on Highway 211



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE December 2019

THANK YOU SACHEEN LAKE COMMUNITY

We did it!!!! We passed the Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Levy 2019 for the operating year 2020. By a very large margin. You recognize the importance of being good lake stewards of this wonderful place. Just like many of you, I live here full time. This is my home, and I say again “Thank You” for helping to keep this place so beautiful, and such a fantastic place to live.

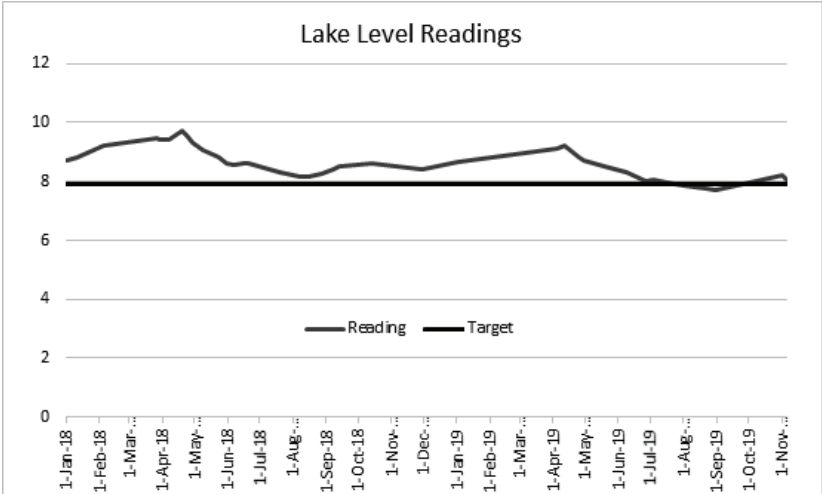
Have a wonderful Holiday season.

Albert Pool

Lake Level Report: Amazing Year!

As I’m sure you all noticed, it was an unusual year in terms of our lake level. After our first expedition to the beaver dams in early April, the lake level began dropping, and just kept dropping, hitting the lowest level we’ve seen in 25 years by mid-summer. People actually had beaches, where they hadn’t been seen for many years! The Sacheen Lake Association volunteers working on the beaver dams downstream would typically have to clear the tubes and haul debris roughly a dozen times each summer, in order to keep the lake level under control. This year we totaled only TWO trips, with the second one earlier this month. The lake level at the gage, as of early November, was just over eight feet, about six inches lower than the average for this time of year over the last decade.

I appreciate my helpers this year, Larry Holman and Doyle Daniel, and also the Water and Sewer District for maintaining the permit and Access Agreement to allow the work. Let’s all cross our fingers that 2020 will be as easy! Don Hill





**Mike Nokes**  
**Fire Chief, South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue**

We genuinely hope everybody can enjoy a safe holiday season with family and friends. With the holiday season here it brings along with it many potential hazards. Here are a few safety tips from South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue to keep in mind this holiday season.

If you will be putting up a live Christmas tree this year before you place your tree in the stand, always do a fresh cut off the bottom of the tree trunk then place the tree in the stand with fresh water right away. This allows for the best absorption of water into the tree.

Make sure you fill your tree stand up with water every day.

Ensure your tree is at least 3 feet away from any heat sources like floor vents, fireplaces, radiators, candles, or lamps.

Always turn the tree lights off before going to bed or leaving your home.

Only use lights that are approved by a national testing agency like the UL. Also, read the lights instructions for the allowed number of strands that can be connected in a row together.

Replace broken bulbs right away and entire strands if you notice broken or frayed cords.

It is recommended that you get rid of your tree right after Christmas or when you notice it start to get dry.

Candles start 2 out of 5 home decoration fires. Candles should never be left unattended. Candles should be at least 12 inches from anything that could burn. Always put your candles out before you go to bed.

Although Christmas tree fires are not common when they do happen, they are very dangerous. 1 of every 34 reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in a death.

We hope these holiday tips will help keep you and your family a little safer this year. All of this information and more can be found at the U.S. Fire Administration's and National Fire Protection Agencies web sites.

If you have any questions or if you are interested in becoming a volunteer EMT or firefighter, feel free to contact me either by phone, 447-5305 or on-line at [www.spofr.org](http://www.spofr.org)

Thanks,  
Mike Nokes  
Fire Chief  
South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue



**Sacheen Lake**  
**Association**



is now on  
**FACEBOOK**

**[sacheenlake.com](http://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 Johnson @ [jj\\_at\\_lake@yahoo.com](mailto:jj_at_lake@yahoo.com).**

**Honoring those in our community who have made a difference.**

The Christmas Holidays are a time of gratitude, giving, and reflection. In the holiday spirit we say goodbye to Shelia Pearman as she retires after 25 years. Over twenty five years ago as a volunteer position, and evolving into a part time, and not so very part time position, she was our go to, can do, and eagle eye for detail. Our Pacific Northwest little gem of a lake is cleaner and more pristine because of her many hours of care and research involved collaborating to bring a sewer to Sacheen. Thank you Shelia, we are the lucky ones to have your expertise and "can do" knowledge, for the many questions we have had through the years from bears, hares, to rescuing another moose on the loose. We know you will have many new adventures along the way. We welcome Joni Stillian as she begins her new post.

Peggy Johnsen will also retire after 10 years as District Board member. Peggy is full of a deep enthusiasm and historical knowledge of this land we are fortunate enough to live in. If you are lucky enough to run into Peggy on the trails or on the water, she will brighten your day with a light blue sparkle that always sees the positive and wonder in the day. Peggy and Shelia will be with us with many new tales, as Peggy would say, of their "rewired" Not "retired" adventures. They leave their posts, but not us. Stay tuned for their reported sightings! Shelia and Peggy are both wise and wonderful women, we are lucky their homes are on Sacheen, and it is not goodbye. A toast to Shelia and Peggy and their leadership that continues to inspire. Randy Carasco has graciously volunteered to fill Peggy's position on the board. Cheers and warm welcomes to both Joni and Randy for stepping up.

Submitted with Highest Regards,  
Sandra J. Smith  
Sacheen Scope Editor  
[ssmith@theapexgroup.biz](mailto:ssmith@theapexgroup.biz)  
(509) 435-6538



**EDITORIAL....**By Sheila Pearman, District Manager  
Spearman@ifiber.tv  
447-4641

**THANK YOU!**

Your response to this year’s Levy request was outstanding with voter approval of 75%. A special thank you to all those who made special efforts to get information out regarding the importance of the work done with these funds, including but not limited to the SLA, Diane Wear and Randy Carasco.

Commissioner Peggy Johnsen has submitted her official letter of resignation, ending her 10 years of service on the District Board at the end of the year. Peggy’s family has been on the lake since the 1940’s and has its fourth-generation spending summers here. Her desire to protect our environment for these future generations prompted her to want to serve on the Board. Randy Carasco has volunteered to step into her position beginning January 1. Thank you both for your willingness to serve your community.

The District office has finally left the Pearman home. South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue (SPOFR) has agreed to rent the District office space in the Sacheen Lake Fire Station at 6131 Hwy 211. With a new coat of paint, we started moving furniture and equipment in two weeks ago. All District correspondence will now go to PO Box 311, Newport 99156. The telephone number will remain the same (509) 447-4641.

Joni Stillian has been hired to replace me as the District Manager. Joni comes with many years of experience working for the Lenora Sewer & Water District on the Pend Oreille River (which include the Skookum Rendezvous). It is assuring to have someone step into the position who is already familiar with so many aspects of the job and knowledge of those we work with at the County.

Finally, I’d like to thank all of you who have supported me with kind words and encouragement over the past 25+ years. What started out as a volunteer secretary position in 1992 sure changed throughout the years. The tasks taken on have been quite varied, from phone calls about bears on porches, deer carcasses floating in the lake, paddleboat and buoys gone missing, who provides garbage service, to writing and presenting for grants, acting a guinea pig for Ecology’s new EAGLE reporting system, and going through state/federal audits. But most proudly, helping to get a sewer system built on Sacheen Lake. I am grateful for what the people in this community accomplished to protect Sacheen Lake for its future and the future of generations to come. **THANK YOU!**  
Sheila Pearman

**Sacheen Lake Association Membership Renewal Form**  
**Dues for 2020 are still only \$10 for an individual / \$25 for a family**

Please fill out this form and mail it with your check, payable to:  
**Sacheen Lake Association, c/o Denise Reilly, Treasurer,**  
**PO Box 401, Newport WA 99156-0401**  
**PLEASE include your correct CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS**

Name:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Email Address:

PLEASE include your correct CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS

**BEST SEASONAL PHOTO CONTEST**

Something new and fun...send us your best shot that is lake related and we will select the winner and show it off to the membership here. Digital files only please. **Sacheen Lake Association Board** will judge the photos. Send to Al Pool E-Mail to albertpool@gmail.com  
Photos are on Page 5.

**Winter Safety Information**

**Ice Thickness Chart**  
WARNING: Always be cautious. If you are unsure if the ice is safe, don’t take your chances!

Safe Ice Thickness*			
Ice Thickness	Permissible Load	Ice Thickness	Permissible Load
3 inches .....	Single person on foot	12 inches.....	Heavy truck (8-ton gross)
4 inches .....	Group in single file	15 inches.....	10 tons
7½ inches .....	Passenger car (2-ton gross)	20 inches.....	25 tons
8 inches.....	Light truck (2¼-ton gross)	30 inches.....	70 tons
10 inches.....	Medium truck (3½-ton gross)	36 inches.....	110 tons
*Solid, clear, blue/black pond and lake ice			
Slush ice has only half the strength of blue ice. The strength value of river ice is 15 percent less.			

It may also be a good idea to check with a local expert about ice safety. Bait shops or lakeside businesses may know about the ice conditions. Always be safe and don’t put yourself or others at risk.

WINDCHILL TABLE																
Wind Speed (mph)	Temperature (°F)															
	Calm	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35
5	31	25	19	13	7	1	-5	-11	-16	-22	-28	-34	-40	-46	-52	
10	27	21	15	9	3	-4	-10	-16	-22	-28	-35	-41	-47	-53	-59	
15	25	19	13	6	0	-7	-13	-19	-26	-32	-39	-45	-51	-58	-64	
20	24	17	11	4	-2	-9	-15	-22	-29	-35	-42	-48	-55	-61	-68	
25	23	16	9	3	-4	-11	-17	-24	-31	-37	-44	-51	-58	-64	-71	
30	22	15	8	1	-5	-12	-19	-26	-33	-39	-46	-53	-60	-67	-73	
35	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-21	-27	-34	-41	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	
40	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43	-50	-57	-64	-71	-78	
45	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44	-51	-58	-65	-72	-79	
50	19	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-38	-45	-52	-60	-67	-74	-81	
55	18	11	4	-3	-11	-18	-25	-32	-39	-46	-54	-61	-68	-75	-82	
60	17	10	3	-4	-11	-19	-26	-33	-40	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-84	
Frostbite occurs in:		30 minutes				10 minutes				5 minutes						

Example: when the temperature is 15°F and the wind speed is 30 miles per hour, the windchill, or how cold it feels, is -5°F.

**STAY INFORMED**

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

# WINTER SAFETY AT SACHEEN

## Ice safety

If you head out to Sacheen Lake to ice fish, snowmobile, ATV, cross-country ski, or just to enjoy a winter day, we want you to have fun and be safe. A bit of advance planning and practicing basic ice precautions can help you return home safely.

Children dressed warmly in winter

## Bundle up for cold weather!

## When is ice safe?

There really is no sure answer, and no such thing as 100 percent safe ice. You cannot judge the strength of ice by one factor like its appearance, age, thickness, temperature or whether the ice is covered with snow. Ice strength is based on a combination of several factors, and they can vary from water body to water body. Ice strength can also vary in different areas of the same body of water.

Know before you go

Because ice conditions vary, it is important to know before you go. The DNR does not monitor local ice conditions or the thickness of the ice. Local bait shops, fishing clubs and resorts serve winter anglers every day and often have the most up-to-date information on how thick the ice is on local lakes and rivers, as well as areas that are especially dangerous.

Safety tips

## Dress warmly in layers.

Don't go alone. Head out with friends or family. Take a cell phone if available, and make sure someone knows where you are and when you are expected to return.

Know before you go. Don't travel in areas you are not familiar and don't travel at night or during reduced visibility.

Avoid inlets, outlets or narrow that may have current that can thin the ice.

Look for clear ice, which is generally stronger than ice with snow on it or bubbles in it.

Carry some basic safety gear: ice claws or picks, a cellphone in a waterproof bag or case, a life jacket and length of rope.

## What to do if you fall through ice

If you fall through the ice, **remain calm and act quickly.**

**Do not remove your winter clothing.** Heavy clothes can trap air, which can help provide warmth and flotation. This is especially true in a snowmobile suit.

**Go back toward the direction you came.** That is probably where you will find the strongest ice – and what lies ahead is unknown. Place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface. This is where a pair of nails, sharpened screwdrivers or ice picks are handy in providing the extra traction you need to pull yourself up onto the ice.

Kick your feet and dig in your ice picks to work your way back onto the solid ice. If your clothes have trapped a lot of water, you may have to lift yourself partially out of the water on your elbows to let the water drain before starting forward.

Once back on the ice, don't try to stand up. Lie flat until you are completely out of the water, then roll away from the hole to keep your weight spread out. This may help prevent you from breaking through again.

Get to a warm, dry, sheltered area and warm yourself up immediately. In moderate to severe cases of cold-water hypothermia, you must seek medical attention. Cold blood trapped in your extremities can come rushing back to your heart after you begin to warm up. The shock of the chilled blood may cause ventricular fibrillation leading to a heart attack and death!

## Instructions for making ice claws

Get two 4" pieces of wooden doweling the size of a broom handle or a little larger. Whatever material you select, it should float in case you drop the claws while struggling.

Drive a stout nail into one end of each dowel. This should be a hardened 16 penny or larger concrete nail.

Use a file to sharpen the nail heads to a point.

Drill a hole into the dowels (in the end opposite the nail) and tie a length of strong cord through the hole so a pick is on each end "jump-rope" fashion. You may also drill a hole in the ends alongside the nails so the nail on the other pick can nest in the hole, keeping both points covered. Keep the picks in your pocket for quick emergency access if you or a companion do break through.



Reprinted from Wisconsin DNR

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/outdoorrecreation/activities/icesafety.html>

## Winter Photo Entries and Winner.

**Congratulations to Russ Brickner for taking his beautiful photo of the Lake Sacheen sunset. First Place!**  
Russ also has a 2nd place entry.



**First Place Entry: Russ Brickner**

## Sacred Sacheen Sunsets



**Second Place Entry: Russ Brickner**



**Honorable Mention Entry: S.J. Smith**

**Send entries to Sandee Smith**  
[ssmith@theapexgroup.biz](mailto:ssmith@theapexgroup.biz)  
**or to Al Pool**  
[alberthpool@gmail.com](mailto:alberthpool@gmail.com)