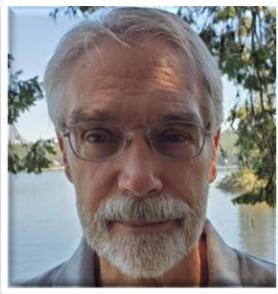


# Sacheen SCOPE

Fall 2023



**President's Message:** This is the time of year when we're thinking about giving thanks and celebrating with our loved ones in the upcoming holiday season. It is also a time for reflection on whether the goals we set for ourselves at the beginning of the year have been met. As I look back on the accomplishments of the Sacheen Lake Association, as driven by the volunteer members of the Board of Directors and all the people that support our activities such as the picnic, placing buoys, etc., I think we have accomplished a lot. Not only did we manage all our prior events, including events we coordinate for the community (boat parade and community yard sale), we added several new events: the

humorous story contest and the 2024 photo calendar contest. We also updated our By-laws, digitized the merchandise inventory tracking and reporting, re-obtained tax-exempt status with the state, and obtained a reseller's permit (which helps keep merchandise prices lower). Additionally, we investigated hiring a band on a barge and installing a fish pen, and started investigating how to help the W&SD with the cost of managing the Myers/ Harter Sanctuary. Thank you to the Board and the SLA Support Staff for all you do for your lake and community. None of this is possible without the involvement of the community and I want to personally thank those community members who have participated in any of our events and helped us make Sacheen Lake a stronger and more tight knit community. And special thanks to those who continue to be members of the SLA; without your dues, none of this is possible. I wish you all nothing but the best! Happy Holidays!

- Grant Miller, President Sacheen Lake Association

## Search for Two New SLA Board Members

The SLA is looking to replace two Board of Directors that have resigned. We still have not replaced Don Hill, and Wendy Bleecker is resigning at the end of November to pursue her personal business. We acknowledged Don's many years of service at our June Annual Meeting, but again, many thanks, Don. Wendy, we wish you good luck and thank you for your service to the lake and community through your SLA Board membership. Those interested in being on the SLA Board, please contact the President via email at [SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com](mailto:SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com). Grant will connect with you and walk you through the requirements for Board membership and, if you're still interested, he'll interview you so you can ask questions and discuss your interest in being a Board member. Please consider volunteering to help your lake and community through applying for a position on the SLA Board. Thank you!

## Community Involvement

At the 2023 SLA Annual Meeting, we presented two possible concepts for community involvement, one for fun and one for the sustainment of our lake's good fishing prospects. (1) Does the community want to have a music event on the lake on a barge? (2) Does the community want to have a fish pen on the lake to raise fish provided by the WDFW? If someone from the community is interested in these or any other projects, please contact the SLA at: [SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com](mailto:SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com).

# Sacheen Lake Association Membership and Contact Form

**Dues for 2023 are \$5 Student, \$10 for an Individual, \$25 Family, \$100 Sustaining**

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

Sacheen Lake Association, c/o Denise Reilly, Treasurer

P.O. Box 401, Newport, WA 99156-0401

PLEASE include your correct CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS and PHONE #

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	
<b>Lake Address:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	<i>If you do not have an email address enter NONE</i>
<b>Membership type:</b>	<i>Check only one</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> Public/Not for Profit <input type="checkbox"/> Student <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (contributes more dues than required)

**Please let us know who and where you are on the lake as well as how to reach you, even if you don't join the SLA.**



## Community Survey Regarding Myers/Harter Sanctuary

In our 2023 Summer edition of the SCOPE, we notified the community of the W&SD's consideration of having the SLA lease the Myers/Harter Sanctuary (park) and having the community help raise money for the maintenance of the park. The park maintenance costs were not in the W&SD budget as part of the sewer installation loan agreement. We would like the community to provide answers to the following questions so we have a good understanding of how important the park is to the community:

- How many times a year do you go to the park, other than the SLA Annual Picnic?
- When you go to the park, how do you use the park? For example, for walks, conversation with friends, or use of the space for athletic endeavors (e.g., the volleyball court).
- Would you like to see improvements to the park and if so, of what nature?
- If the maintenance of the park becomes a community cost, what are you willing to pay on an annual basis?
- Would you volunteer to help maintain the park (never, 2 times a year, on a semi-regular basis such as locking/unlocking the gate daily during the open season – possibly on a rotating schedule with others)?

You either have or will soon receive an email so you can more easily reply to this query.

## 2023 SLA and Community Involvement

The SLA has multiple goals in our By-laws; one goal in particular drives our cleanup efforts: “Advocate for safe, sustainable, and clean use of the lake and surrounding ecosystems and their public access avenues.” Did you ever consider what this goal really means?

Our cleanup events specifically help us achieve the “clean use of the lake and surrounding ecosystems and their public access avenues” phrase of the goal. We don’t have very many photos of the events this time around, but you’ll note that the Hwy 211 team was a mighty crew of road-cleaning warriors (few as they may be)!



Thank you volunteers for all you do to help the SLA meet the goals created to help our lake and community!

- SLA Fertile Valley Road Cleanup Events: We don’t have photos, but thanks to all who participated and Larry Holman for leading the events.
- SLA Hwy 211 2<sup>nd</sup> Cleanup: Thanks to our road-cleaning warriors, Virginia and Don Hill and our last-minute substitute lead, Carl Gross, for taking on this large task by yourselves.
- Community Yard Sale: Again, we don’t have photos this year, but thanks to those on the Board that put out the signs and helped the community have this event. And thanks to the SPOFR for use of your space at the Hwy 211 fire station.

## 2024 SLA and Community Involvement

The Board finalized the 2024 events calendar early this year so we could include the dates in the 2024 photo calendar we produced. We hope to see you out there! This calendar is posted on our website:

<https://sacheenlake.com/sla-annual-calendars/>.

**Sacheen Lake Association Calendar – 2024**

Event	Date and Time	Location
Myers-Harter Park Cleanup	Saturday, May 11, 2024 8:00 am	Myers – Harter Park
Hwy 211 Cleanup	Saturday, May 25, 2024 9:00 am	Meet at Myers – Harter Park
SLA Annual Meeting	Saturday, June 15, 2024 9:00 am	Fire station on Hwy 211
Boat Launch Cleanup <sup>1</sup>	Saturday, June 22, 2024 8:00 am	Meet at WDFW boat launch
Sacheen Community Annual Picnic	Saturday, July 6, 2024 11:00 am	Myers – Harter Park
Fertile Valley Rd Cleanup	Saturday, July 20, 2024 8:00 am	Meet at Myers – Harter Park
Hwy 211 Cleanup	Saturday, August 24, 2024 9:00 am	Meet at Myers – Harter Park
Fertile Valley Rd Cleanup	Saturday, September 21, 2024 8:00 am	Meet at Myers – Harter Park

1. Includes road cleanup from the intersection of Sacheen Terrace Dr. and Hwy 211 to the WDFW gate for the boat launch area.

**Attendance at SLA Events requires sign-up and release of liability of the SLA (at time of event)**

**Other Sacheen Lake Community Events\* – 2024**

Event	Date and Time	Location
4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade	Thursday, July 4, 2024 2 pm	Section of the lake near the boat launch
Community Yard Sale	Saturday, August 31, 2024 9 am	Hwy 211 SPOFR Station

- These events are not SLA sponsored/hosted events. The SLA is not liable for any injury or damage to any person or object during these events.



## Photo Calendar Contest

In order to publish a Sacheen Lake calendar, we held a new photo contest this year. Entrants could provide one photo per season, for a total of four photos, and be willing to allow us to post them to our website and use the photos in the calendar. We had 35 entrants with more than 83 photos (we counted only one per season per the rules and filtered some due to the photo's pixel density and inability to be expanded in size). The SLA Board executed a multiphase voting process to go from the full set down to a set of 12 and to select the final, overall winner. It was a heated battle that took several rounds of voting to get to the final 12! Our winner was Wendy Bleecker with an overview photo of the lake. Per many Board members, this photo represents a global picture of the lake and our surroundings. There were many runners up and most of their photos became the honorable mention display for the cover page. Once we have photos posted, we'll send a note via email with a link. (See more photos on page 9.)

**Sacheen Lake Association 2024 Photo Calendar Contest Results**

Cover page illustrating the overall winner, Wendy Bleecker, and runners up for the monthly entries

Seasonal winners assigned to months below

2024 Sacheen Lake Community Photos Calendar

Produced by: Sacheen Lake Association ([www.sacheenlake.com](http://www.sacheenlake.com) / [sacheenlake.assoc@gmail.com](mailto:sacheenlake.assoc@gmail.com))

Jan	Apr	Jul	Oct
			
Bradyn Leyde	Connie Gross	Kevin Holcomb	Marie Frauenheim
Feb	May	Aug	Nov
			
Kevin Holcomb	Larry Holman	Wendy Bleecker	Kevin Holcomb
Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
			
Connie Gross	Greg Conley	Beverly Schoen	Elaine Hooker

## Humorous Story Contest

The SLA held a humorous lake-life story contest this year. The rules were simple: "Write a short (one page, single spaced, 12-point font) humorous, true story about something that happened at the lake. Be sure you are willing to share your story with the entire community; we plan to send it via email and post it to the SLA website." The gift was a tumbler with a Sacheen Lake logo. We had seven entries for the contest and all seven were fun to read. Congratulations to Susanna Fries as the winner! All entries will soon be posted on the SLA website. Susan's award-winning entry is provided below. We thought her story was funny, well written and ended with a great accolade to the lake. Enjoy!



### PERIL ON THE LAKE

By Susanna Fries

"On a hot summer day, there's nothing more refreshing or satisfying than skimming across the waters of Sacheen Lake in your motor boat. The wind in your hair. The sun beating down on you. The hum of the motor... until it stops, in the middle of the lake and your husband says with a chuckle, "Ooops. Out of gas."

As he sits in the captain's chair calmly, my mind starts to race. Our daughter, barely a toddler at the time, is on the boat, along with my husband's cousin and his wife. I go into a 'panic, we must solve this problem now mode'. Like a sailor scouting for icebergs on the Titanic, I look to see how far we are from shore. Ah, ¼ mile. I estimate how far a hike, once I get to shore, it is back to our cabin where I can grab the gas can. Ah, perhaps one mile. I realize I'm in my bare feet, but having run the road many times, I know it won't be too hard on them. Once I grab the gas can, I can also grab my shoes from the cabin, hike back to where our boat is, and by that time, perhaps the crew on board will have rowed to shore. In a matter of seconds, I have come up with this BRILLIANT plan, and loudly proclaim the obvious and logical solution to our problem: I CAN SWIM!

Everyone looks at me and laughs. I say it again, "No, really, I can swim! I was a great swimmer in high school and I can swim to shore and get the gas." My plan is no longer met with laughter, but with silence and a puzzled look from everyone, as if it is the craziest idea they've ever heard. I am shocked. Here we are, in the middle of the lake, stranded. With a toddler. In the heat. We have no food. We have no water, except that which surrounds us. Who knows how long we can survive!

Suddenly, out of the blue, two boats come racing towards us, and both, with friendly folk on board pull up and say, "Hey, ya' outta gas?!" "Do you need a tow?" My husband looks at me and laughs, "Yes!". And just like that, we're handed a rope and the Good Samaritans on the lake tow us back to the cabin.

Since that 'life-threatening' day, whenever we are in dire straits, my husband tells people, "Don't worry, she can swim." And he gently, then lovingly reminds me that on Sacheen Lake, if you run out of gas, you just sit there, quietly, in your boat and in minutes someone will pull up alongside you and ask if you're out of gas and need help. Yes, it's that kind of lake. No swimming necessary. Your neighbors (even the ones you don't know) are happy to help out.

WARNING: do not try this on any other lake"

**Other entrants** were: Connie Gross, Boats with Animals; Janet Kemp, My Humorous Story at Sacheen Lake; Karen Wichman, Uninvited Guest; Larry Holman, Snickers to the Rescue; George Jackson, Billy & Bertha the Bass (our name for his story); and Grant Miller, House Pets or Pests.



## Welcome Packet

The SLA resurrected the Welcome Packet this year and began handing them out at the July annual picnic. They have been a success! We will also be handing them out at the 18 November photo calendar pickup event. Our lead, Karlene Perry, has been updating the packet already, even though we just started! Thanks to Karlene and the committee for their work on putting this together. If you haven't received a packet yet and would like one, please contact us at [SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com](mailto:SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com), providing your name and an address at the lake where we can drop off the packet. We'll do our best to provide you a copy! The content in the packet includes the following and more:

- Welcome Letter
- Sacheen Lake Association and Community Events Calendar
- SLA Board Members
- SLA Representative Neighborhood Areas
- SCOPE
- Sacheen Lake Association Merchandise Flyer
- SLA Membership and Contact Form
- Sacheen Lake Safe Boating Laws
- Sacheen Lake Waterfront Landscaping Q&A
- SLA Placed Buoys and County No Wake Zones
- DOL Boating and the Dangers of Carbon Monoxide
- Protect the Night – International Dark Sky Association Flyer
- Spokane County Regional Solid Waste System – North County Transfer Station Information Sheet
- DNR – Outdoor Burning on DNR-Protected Lands Flyer
- Wildfire – Are You Prepared?
- Pend Oreille Fire Safety Coop – Outdoor Fire Safety Flyer
- Welcome Packet – Cheat Sheets (lists of services/businesses)
  - Essential Services
  - Local Recommendations
  - Area Attractions/Things to Do Nearby
  - Nearby Fishing Possibilities

## Survey: Merchandise Logo

In our never-ending pursuit of happiness, we are holding a survey of what additional logo(s) the community would like to see on the SLA merchandise. Some of the new concepts are pictured below. We'll be sending out an email shortly after the release of the SCOPE with the logos so you can easily let us know your favorites by responding to the email. The Board will review the tally and add a new logo or two to our growing list of possibilities. If there is a logo you want to see more of, please let us know as well. We want to continue with our traditional heron on the lake logo that you see below, as well as regularly in this newsletter.

Original drawing by Saralynn Huffman-Kerr for exclusive use by the SLA.



## Portion of the President's Welcome Letter

Hello Neighbor! This Welcome Packet is created and provided by the Sacheen Lake Association (SLA). We hope you find this useful as you settle into the area. We know from our experiences that the key information you need about local support and nearby businesses in a new area is sometimes a little daunting to find so we have a preliminary list to help out!

## Vote for your favorite new designs for Sacheen Lake merchandise



Scan the QR code or visit <https://forms.gle/bvYHawcUg9KfbEuz9>



OPTION A - WASHINGTON LOVE



OPTION B - LAKE LIFE



OPTION C - LAKE TOPOGRAPHY



OPTION D - FOREST GREEN HERON

## Available Merchandise

The holidays are approaching! We recently sent via email a handout with our current inventory (with photos, colors, sizes, etc.) and plan to have this as a feature on our website. Please see <https://sacheenlake.com/sla-merchandise/> for this document in the future. See a sample from the currently inventory document to the right, illustrating cool/cold weather apparel.



## Cougar Sightings

This fall we have had reports of frequent cougar sightings. In past editions of the SCOPE, we included information about the dangers of cougars, how to avoid them, what to do when confronted by one, and more. The following link provides useful information about cougar encounters:

<https://www.humanesociety.org/resources/what-do-about-cougars>. The article includes three sections more applicable to human and cougar interaction and we recommend reading and understanding the information content.

- How can I recreate safely in cougar country?
- What do I do if I encounter a cougar? (see details below)
- What do I do if a cougar attacks?

“What do I do if I encounter a cougar?”

- Don't run! Running will provoke the predatory chasing behavior of cougars, as it would with other predators such as bears, coyotes and wolves.
- Pick up small children or pets that are with you.
- Directly face the cougar, but look at the cougar's feet, not directly into their eyes, to avoid appearing aggressive.
- If the cougar displays aggressive behavior try to appear larger—raise your arms or open your jacket over your head.
- Make noise by yelling, blowing a whistle or an air horn.
- If you have an umbrella, quickly open and close it while facing the cougar.
- Do not approach the cougar. Give it ample space to run away—don't corner it.
- If there are cubs, be careful not to get between them and their mother.”



## Boat Fuel Tax Refund

Like to cruise in your boat, take the kids/grandkids for a tow, waterski the lake, or fish? We know gas prices have gone up, down, up, and ... continue to increase in price with the rest of life's expenses. The SLA has been made aware, via an article in the Deer Lake Property Owner's Association newsletter, that it is possible to get a tax refund for boat fuel. To see if you qualify, check out the following link: <https://www.dol.wa.gov/vehicles-and-boats/taxes-fuel-tax-and-other-fees/fuel-tax/fuel-tax-refunds>.

Check this out soon so you'll be prepared for the next tax year by saving receipts!

## Information from the County Sheriff Webpage



# Office of the Sheriff

Pend Oreille County, Washington



*Glenn Blakeslee, Sheriff*

The SLA receives regular monthly statistics from Sheriff Blakeslee regarding incidents on/near Sacheen and Diamond Lake. Did you also know that daily information is posted on their website? From the Sheriff's webpage on the Pend Oreille County website, select the "Daily Press Documents" option. It opens to a listing of press releases from most recent to oldest. At the writing of this newsletter, the following was visible, and this list is repeated daily.

If you're curious about what else is posted, visit:

<https://www.pendoreilleco.org/sheriff>.

### South Pend Oreille Fire and Rescue

South Pend Oreille Fire and Rescue (SPOFR) has a webpage for community education. In particular, they have information on CPR classes, outdoor burning, and fire education videos, some of which specifically address defensible space around your home. Check out the site: <https://www.spo.fr.org/community-education/> The following is a quote regarding their regular commissioners' meetings: "Commissioners meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 5:00 pm at Diamond Lake Station 31 unless otherwise noted. The meetings are open to the public." And they list the date of the next meeting (in case we forget). They also have multiple locations on their website pointing to Nixle. Per their website, Nixle provides "... Wildfire updates through Nixle, the new Community Information Service designed to deliver important and timely information to residents in our county using the latest technology. Get trustworthy and important neighborhood-level public safety and community event notifications instantly sent to you by cell phone text message, email, and the web." Here is the link to sign up: <https://local.nixle.com/pend-oreille-county-sheriffs-office>.

### DNR Harvesting Information

DNR has affirmed there is no change to the general timeline as illustrated below:

- "Auction date for timber harvest (Harvest may begin in the spring): 1/23/2024
- Contract end date for timber harvest, harvest completion: 10/26/2025
- Prescribed fire burning of mechanical slash piles: Fall 2025 and/or fall 2026
- Weed and vegetation control: Summer/fall 2026
- Planting by hand crews: Spring 2027




\*Dates are subject to change, due to extensions, weather, ground conditions, among various other factors."

The last DNR flyer the SLA posted on the subject can be found at:

<https://sacheenlake.com/documents/external-organization-files/>. We may see increased activity on the south side of Sacheen Lake as early as this spring, so if you drive on Sacheen Southshore Rd. ("Sacheen Lake Rd S Shore" on Google Maps), be mindful of possible logging trucks and other large vehicles!

### Daily Press

NAME

	Jail Booking 11-09-23.pdf
	Inmate List 11-09-23.pdf
	Calls 11-09-23.docx





# Sacheen Lake Water & Sewer District

## W&SD: Levy and 2024 Budget

“First and foremost, we would like to thank everyone for their support of the Water & Sewer Levy which passed at 72 percent. It is evident that you recognize and appreciate that we are all in this together and that the life quality benefits of a cleaner lake are priceless!

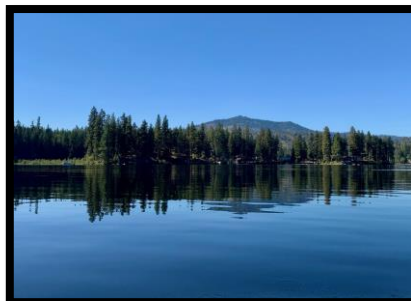
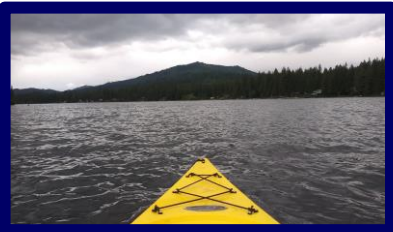
As you know, the levy funding is a huge factor in funding multiple concerns from treating the lake to remaining solvent in our day-to-day operations. Speaking of which, we would like to advise you that the 2024 Budget will be discussed and adopted at our December 13th Meeting and that a \$2 a month inflation rate increase is on the docket.

Thank you for reading and we hope you will have a wonderful winter whether it is in the snowy fairytale environs of Sacheen or elsewhere!

Sincerely,  
Your Water & Sewer Board”


## Other Calendar Photo Contest Entries

Below are a few more of the entries for the photo calendar. We are thankful for all the entries. At present, we will likely have the contest again for a 2025 calendar, with one possible change to the rules: photos must have been taken in 2024. This adds a little more challenge to our local photo-hobbyist! So start taking those pictures for entries for winter, spring, summer, and fall for our 2025 Sacheen Lake photo calendar!

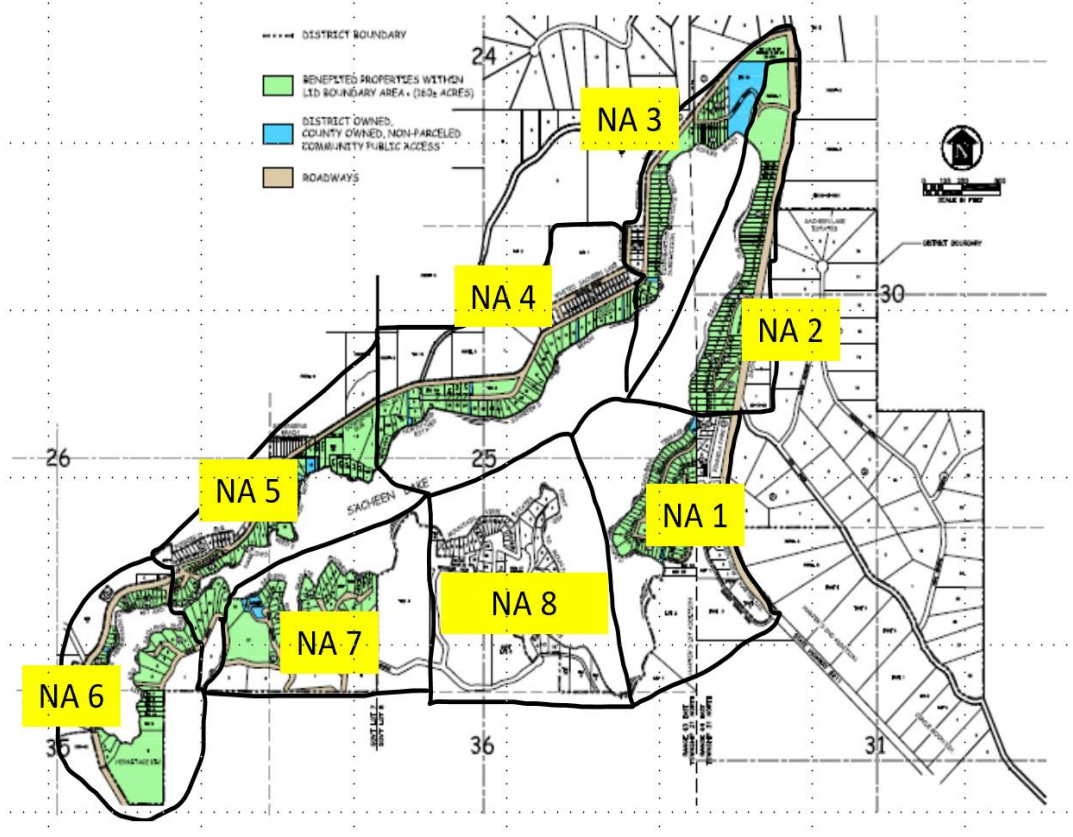


## Meet Your Board

## Sacheen Lake Association

Role	Name	Phone	
			
	Neighborhood Area		
President	Grant Miller	858 204 5560	
Vice President	Wendy Bleecker		
Past President	vacant		
Treasurer	Denise Reilly	509 954 5081	NA 1
Secretary	Connie Gross	509 701 6488	NA 3
Member	Elaine Hooker	509 217 2475	NA 2
Member	Karlene Perry	509 869 8400	NA 4
Member	Larry Holman	509 953 6543	NA 5
Member	Lil Hastie	206 817 7562	At Large
Member	Beverly Schoen		NA 6
Member	Joe Frauenheim	206-713-2395	At Large

### SLA Representative Neighborhood Areas (NA #)



The SLA can be reached at: [SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com](mailto:SacheenLake.Assoc@gmail.com)

Treasurer dues queries and PayPal: [Sacheen.Treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:Sacheen.Treasurer@gmail.com)

Merchandise purchase request: [Sacheen.Merch@gmail.com](mailto:Sacheen.Merch@gmail.com)

[www.sacheenlake.com](http://www.sacheenlake.com)

Don't forget to check out our 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 Carl Gross at [carlgross@gmail.com](mailto:carlgross@gmail.com). All postings are approved by the SLA Board.

***As a reminder, the SLA supports the finding and return of lost lake-oriented items of approximately \$50 or more through our email system. However, the best defense against losing an item on the lake is to ensure your items are secured!***