

# SLEHA Gazette

A Newsletter of the  
**SPIRIT LAKE EAST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**  
P. O. Box 217 Spirit Lake, ID 83869

June 1996

---

## Board of Directors

David Bauer, President 623-2608; Howard Shay, Vice President 623-6237; Mariette Deems, Secretary 623-5443; Willi Hanson, Treasurer 623-3313; Doug Lazoran, Member-at-Large 623-2113; Don Walter, Member-at-Large 623-5906; Dave Carlsen, R.A. Hansen Representative 1-509-467-0770

---

### Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

Blair Barney, Chairman 623-3486  
Marge Dattel, 623-2040  
Ron Hanson, 623-3567

### Audit Committee

Patty Barney, Chairman 623-3486  
Nancy Eggersten 667-5026

### Road Committee

Don Gutierrez, temp Chairman 623-4907

### Timber Management Committee

Jesse Blocker, Chairman 623-6001

### Newsletter Committee

Mariette Deems 623-5443  
Willi Hanson 623-3313

---

## President's Message

At the end of our May general meeting, the members gave our Board and committees a much needed round of applause. A few of you came up to me after the meeting and expressed your appreciation for a meeting conducted in a friendly and congenial atmosphere. On behalf of the Board and committee members, I would like to thank all of you for your supportive comments.

Everywhere about us today is the tendency of organizations to focus on the negative, and I suppose our Association is a typical example. My hope is that we can put the few problems we have into perspective and get back to more fully enjoying the wonderful area in which we live.

I choose to believe that the reason for the poor attendance at our regular monthly meetings is that the majority of you are very busy with personal matters and are not overly concerned about Association business. This is okay, but please remember your participation in the activities of our community would be of immense help and greatly appreciated.

I'll look forward to seeing some "new" faces at our next monthly meeting. Have a great summer!

### Fire Season

Speaking of Summer. . . It's again time to think more

about prevention and safety. Please remember, burn permits are required from May 10 through October 20. Permits can be obtained from Ed Hoffman at the Spirit Lake Fire Department, 623-5800. All residents, (new and established) are encouraged to learn the network of roads within the Association to facilitate a safe exit should it become necessary. As the old saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

### Emergency Services

Residents should be certain their driveways are well marked and street addresses prominently displayed. The volunteers of the Spirit Lake Ambulance and Fire Services may not be familiar with the layout of our development. Without adequate signs, your home may be difficult to find - particularly at night. These departments suggest that, in addition to signs, a sure way to eliminate delays is to have the ambulance or fire truck met at the entrance to the development and escorted to your home. You may want to incorporate into your personal emergency plans a call to one or more neighbors who would be willing to do this on your behalf.

### Results of Vote on CC&R Changes

Because we did not receive the required number of responses on our CC&R Changes ballot in May, the CC&Rs remain unchanged. We feel it is important to share the results of the ballots received with the Association members. The Board and Patty Barney, Chairperson of the Audit Committee, sincerely thank the 56 property owners who took the time and trouble to fill out and return their ballots. For additional information, please contact Patty. The following is a brief summary.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
# animals on property	32	23
Firewood Gathering	42	13
Prohibit noxious animals	37	16
Remove sign prohibition	47	9

Only one single family <u>house</u> per lot	36	17
Single Septic system per lot	49	7
Monetary penalty for build- ing violations	32	23
Penalty-logging w/o appr. plan	43	12
ARC appointed by Board	42	12
Change voting requirements for CC&R changes	38	18

**Subject of the Month**

In each issue of the SLEHA Gazette we will try to include an article addressing a specific issue of concern as stated by an Association member. This month the issue is Water Chlorination.

The SLEHA Board recently received an anonymous letter from a homeowner who was concerned about the chlorination of the SLE water system and the associated health effects. Chlorine has been used for years to treat water systems around the world. The relative safety of chlorine can best be understood by addressing the health risks of a non-chlorinated water system versus the health risk of chlorine itself.

Risks with Untreated Water - Health risks associated with an untreated system are the presence of bacteria, viruses and protozoa. In the last five years alone, 76 waterborne outbreaks were caused by at least nine different bacteria, viruses and protozoa. These are just from reported outbreaks--the total occurring may be an order of magnitude higher.

Of the annual intestinal disease cases reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is estimated that 940,000 are waterborne, with 900 deaths resulting. Annual risks of intestinal illness range from one per 1,000 to one per 100 and a significant percentage of these may be associated with water. A ten year study of mortality in the US has shown a dramatic increase in deaths due to diarrhea in individuals over 55 years of age.

Respiratory disease is also a concern. Legionella is a naturally occurring bacterium in water associated with Legionnaire's disease and causes a milder respiratory infection called Pontiac fever. A recent study has suggested that as much as 40 percent of Legionnaire's disease cases may be associated with drinking water.

Risks with Chlorination - Even though disinfection can be extremely effective at reducing the risk of waterborne disease, it is not without associated health risks. Chlorine is by far the most widely used drinking water disinfectant in the world today. The potential for cancer risks is the major health concern associated with chlorination disinfection by-products (DBPs). The EPA may classify four DBPs of chlorination as probable human carcinogens. These concentrations of DBPs

depend on several factors such as water temperature, pH and the level of chlorination. Under a worst case scenario, predicted annual cancer cases from daily exposure over a lifetime to different DBPs range from 1 per 100,000 to 1 per 750,000. Based on a new risk assessment model, the actual risks from exposure to these compounds may be much lower and may even be zero.

The risk of death from known pathogens in untreated water appears to be at least 100 to 1000 times greater than the risk of cancer from known DBPs in chlorinated drinking water. It also appears that the risk of illness from pathogens in untreated surface water is at least 10,000 to 1 million times greater than the risk of cancer from DBPs in chlorinated drinking water.

Reference: Health & Environmental Digest, Volume 7, No. 3 June 1993.

**“The risks of cancer, if any, from low level exposure to chloroform in drinking water as a result of chlorination, however, are far outweighed by the benefits of chlorination in terms of greatly decreased incidence of waterborne diseases, themselves a potential public health threat and a previous major contributor to sickness and death”.** ATSDR, January 1989. If you have any questions regarding this article, contact Ron Hanson at 623-3567.

**Timber Management Committee**

Homeowners planning to log and those who have questions on timber plans should contact Jesse Blocker at 623-6001. Please remember ALL logging plans must be sent to P.O. Box 217, Spirit Lake ID 83869 c/o the Timber Management Committee.

**Roads**

Ruen-Yeager is an engineering firm that provides consulting services on projects such as municipal, water, sewer, structural, airport, transportation, sub divisions, and surveying. Darius Ruen was asked by Dave Bauer to evaluate the condition of our roads and present his findings to the Board. Mr. Ruen addressed the Board at its June 11 meeting. In his presentation, Mr. Ruen discussed their current condition and, in general terms, what could be done to improve them. In the near future, Mr. Ruen and his associates will provide several alternative recommendations and estimates to accomplish the work.

**Road Committee**

We are looking for a Road Committee Chairman. If you have road maintenance experience and are interested in volunteering for this position, please contact any member of the Board. This also applies to anyone who

---

has mechanical ability and would be interested in assisting in the maintenance of the equipment.

The Road Committee continues to look for experienced snowplow drivers for the winter. This is a **paid position**.

If you or anyone you know has the qualifications and experience for this job, please submit your application to the SLEHA Board c/o P.O. Box 217, Spirit Lake ID 83869. Missing or damaged road signs or road condition problems should be reported to Don Gutierrez, 623-4907.

we wish you a safe and happy summer!

### **Dogs**

We continue to receive numerous complaints regarding dogs on the loose. These dogs are destroying private property and intimidating children as well as adults walking on the roads. When dogs are allowed to bark throughout the night, they disturb the sleep of those within earshot! Again, we ask you to please do whatever necessary to contain and silence your animals.

### **Firearms**

Please remember the SLEHA CC&Rs forbid the discharge of firearms in Spirit Lake East. We continue to receive complaints of multiple shots being heard throughout the Association. We know there are good points on both sides of this issue - the right to protect yourself from predators in a rural area and within your own home, the right to a peaceful environment where you and your children are safe from random shots fired from anywhere in the Association, etc. We ask that common sense and good judgement be used when protecting yourself and your property.

### **Board Meetings**

All residence are invited to attend our monthly Board meetings. They are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Senior Center in Spirit Lake. It is important to your Board to have your support and involvement.

Please come with your input and ideas. ***Get more involved!!!*** We need members to volunteer on Committees and other important activities as they come up throughout the year. Remember, it's your community, and effective change can only come about with member involvement! Please contact any Board member.

### **News Items**

If you have any newsletter articles or comments, please send them to Mariette Deems or Willi Hanson c/o SLEHA, P.O. Box 217, Spirit Lake ID 83869.

From your Board of Directors and Committee Members,