



SLEHA GAZETTE

A Newsletter of the Spirit Lake East Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 217 Spirit Lake, ID 83869

July
1999

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Newsletter

Willi Hanson, Editor 623-3313
Vacancy (2)

Message From The Board

We extend a warm welcome to our new residents. You have moved into a fine area.

Our **Second Annual Picnic** will be held in early August again this year. Please see the enclosed flyer for details. Last year's was a resounding success. Let's make this one even bigger and better. It's a great place to meet some of your neighbors!

Starting July 1999, your Board of Directors will hold their monthly meetings at 3570 West Hayden Drive (lot 192) in Spirit Lake East. The meetings will still be the 2nd Wednesday at 7 pm and will be open to all SLEHA members.

Our May semi-annual membership meeting was held at Timberlake Junior/Senior High School. The facilities are very nice and have plenty of room with comfortable individual seating at tables.

Those of you who could not attend our May meeting and who did not mail in your ballot or proxy on our proposed By-law revisions, please mark the enclosed ballot and mail it to the SLEHA, P.O. Box 217, Spirit Lake, ID 83869.

Quarterly Newsletter

The Spirit Lake East Homeowners Association Newsletter (the SLEHA Gazette) will be published every three (3) months beginning with this issue. We hope to issue it the first week of each calendar quarter. We need two (2) additional members of our community on our newsletter committee. Please call Willi Hanson, 623-3313, or any Board member to volunteer.

The Newsletter Committee will be developing guidelines for expanded content. We would like to see more news about cur-

rent and new residents and are currently soliciting input for the October issue.

If you feel you have a newsworthy item or have suggestions on future topics of interest, please contact Willi Hanson at 623-3313.

Highway Cleanup

A hearty thanks to the 18 SLEHA residents who turned out for our spring highway cleanup in May, especially those families who showed up.

Our fall cleanup will be Saturday, September 25. Let's try for 25 workers! Eight workers per mile will be ideal - we'd be through in an hour!

Spirit Lake East Water Co.

For several months, the Board has been gathering information about the Spirit Lake East Water Company. Our intent is to see what, if anything, we can do to ensure we have plenty of good clean water in the distant future. Options range from doing nothing to taking over the water system ourselves. We are now arranging a meeting with the owner to determine his intentions and whether we want to pursue this venture any further.

Reminder

Target shooting or consistent discharge of firearms is not allowed within the Association. There are too many houses, people and animals for this to be a safe practice.



Wanted
Interesting
Stories
About Our
Members

Could This Be You?

The Legend of Spirit Lake

Old-timers will tell you that before the white man adopted Spirit Lake, it was known as Clear Water. The name later became Tesemini, meaning “the lake of spirits”.

The lake supposedly takes its name from a romantic Indian legend concerning the beautiful Indian maiden known as Yapam. Yapam means “fearless, running water.” Yapam, with hair like a raven and a waist like a willow helped attract a fine young brave known as Shining Eagle.

Shining Eagle had all the attributes of the village’s most eligible young brave. He was straight as a young pine tree and as fast on his feet as a fox. He would quickly paddle Yapam in his canoe of birch bark which whipped them out onto the lake, and out of papa Hyas-Tyee-Skookum-Tum-Tum’s sight.

A neighboring chief, old Pu-Pu-Mox-Mox, sent a message to Hyas-Tyee-Skookum-Tum-Tum that unless he gave up his daughter to him, he would attack their tribe.

In the traditional style of the noble Red Man, Hyas-Tyee-Skookum-Tum-Tum pondered and came to the decision that letting Yapam marry Pu-Pu-Mox-Mox was the only way to save the tribe.

He had not reckoned, however, with the force of true love. Pu-Pu-Mox-Mox brought his wedding entourage to Spirit Lake, says the legend, and sat waiting outside his tepee, while the fair Yapam was being garbed in softest doe-skin and having her cheeks stained with red berries.

Yapam crept away, however, for a last rendezvous in the moonlight with Shining Eagle. It wasn’t long before the lovers heard a search party approaching. Shining Eagle was not one to yield up his love without a struggle. He quickly gathered some rushes, bound his wrist to Yapam’s – and they walked out into the water.

The lake supposedly takes its name from a romantic Indian legend concerning the beautiful Indian maiden known as Yapam.

Search party members arrived to find only the silent waters of the lake to greet them. They believed that Tesemini, spirit of the waters, had taken the lovers away in anger.

This legend gave the lake its name – Spirit.

Tribal members maintain, still, on a moonlit night the spirits of two young lovers can be seen walking on the waters, hand in hand.

Message From The Editor

Are you interested in the area around you? Did the above story peak your interest? There are so many more stories about this wonderful area in which we live.

Did you know that Spirit Lake was once the largest recreational area in the northwest. Spirit Lake was the original Chatauqua (defined as “a gathering”) grounds of the northwest. Three times a day trains brought people in from Coeur d’Alene, Spokane, and other northwest locations to participate in the summer cultural events.

In the early 1900’s its population was around 7,000. Spirit Lake was a thriving town with an Opera House & Theater, a Bath House, and steam driven paddle boats for tours on the lake.

There once were three grocery stores, five hotels, a bowling alley, a roller skating rink, a laundry and dry cleaners. The town was large enough to support a bank, pharmacy, dental office, and hospital.

The next time you venture into downtown Spirit Lake, stop, look around, and listen – you may hear the ghosts of the old town stirring with the new hopes and plans of a town once again on the move.

Did You Know?

The amount of land area in Spirit Lake is 2.604 sq. kilometers.

The distance from Spirit Lake to Washington DC is 2,197 statute miles.

The distance to Boise, the state capital, is 302 statute miles.

A Statute mile is “as the crow flies”.

Spirit Lake is positioned 47.96 degrees north of the equator and 116.86 degrees west of the prime meridian.

Would you like to learn more? Would you like to see more articles like this in the SLEHA Gazette? If you would like to contribute information for future articles, please let me or any board member know. You can call (numbers listed on first page) or write to us at P.O. Box 217, Spirit Lake, ID 83869.



Enjoying Our Community

Now that summer has arrived, all of want to be outdoors as much as possible. We want to take our boats to the lakes, go hiking in the mountains, and ride our ATV's and dirt bikes through the trails. We want to kick back and enjoy the summer tranquility with our families and friends. These are the main reasons most of us bought property in SLE. We love watching the diverse wildlife that shares our community, and we enjoy the quiet peace of the area.

As an avid motorcyclist, this is very difficult for me to say. But, in order to maintain this peaceful way of life for everyone here, please refrain from riding your motorcycles, ATV's and dirt bikes in our community other than for getting to the trails outside our community and back home. Our protective covenants, the CC&R's state:

Article IV Section 2C, Subsection 8: Snowmobiles and motorcycles except as provided by Association rules and regulations {shall be prohibited}}

Your Homeowners Association has received several complaints recently regarding the noise and dust created by these activities. We are currently working on some rules and regulations regarding the use of motorcycles, ATV's dirt bikes, and snowmobiles in our community. As of this writing, no such rules exist. What this means is that snowmobiles, motorcycles, etc., are currently NOT ALLOWED anywhere in our community.

This is, of course, overstating the intention of the covenant. The covenants were designed to protect the peace of the community, not restrict our transportation and/or recreation. It is understandable to take your bike or ATV from your house to your favorite trails outside the community using Association roads and being able to come back home the same way. However, please use our roads for this purpose only. The same applies to your own property. Be courteous to your neighbor and don't ride your property line continuously, or create a general nuisance of noise and dust. We are currently working with groups like the American Motorcycle Association to draft a set of rules which all of us can be happy with, without compromising anyone's freedom.

Please keep in mind, however, that riding our wonderful machines within the community is a privilege, not a right. It can be revoked at any time if there are too many complaints from

other homeowners. There are too many precedents where the courts have upheld motorcycle and off road vehicle (ORV) bans. Please don't let us become one of those communities. Ride responsibly, don't drink and ride, and above all, be courteous to your neighbors.

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to become involved in working with motorcycle and ORV rights, please write me in care of the SLEHA, P.O. Box 217, Spirit Lake, ID 83869

Many thanks and happy riding!

Debbie Lawson

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(Editor's note: The courtesy of asking a property owner if it is alright to ride your vehicle - or horse - on or through their property would also be appreciated.)