



SLEHA GAZETTE

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

January

2000

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Message From The Board

By Jess Blocker

Happy New Year!!

It seems we all made it into this new century and millennium without much ado. The sky didn't fall, the power stayed on, and the banks didn't close. Welcome to the 21st Century!

Spirit Lake East is still an excellent place to live. 1999 was a very active year for SLEHA properties with new homes being built and resales. Let's welcome all our new neighbors. In my opinion, SLEHA will grow steadily for several years now. The new Junior/Senior High School in Spirit Lake makes SLEHA very attractive for families with school children.

The new growth in and around SLEHA makes it imperative that we take an active role in our community. Along with carrying on our SLEHA business (primarily maintaining and improving our roads), we need to interact with the City of Spirit Lake and Kootenai County.

Your current Board of Directors is working on some objectives to further our Association goals. They include a long range road improvement plan, insuring our water system is adequate for all future needs, and others. We will be discussing some of these subjects at our May membership meeting. Make your plans to attend.

Of primary importance is an election of Board members. All current board members have been in office for three years and none of us are elected. We need some new or old residents to step up with new ideas. Mark your calendar, and we will see you at our May 9, 2000 meeting.

Watch for more information in our

Special Assessment On My bill?

By far the most common question that comes up each year is what is the special assessment charge on your Association dues bill. For most of you, it is a \$26.18 fee listed under "Special Assessment." I say most, because many of you have decided to pay the entire amount in full and simply be done with it. But for those of you who haven't paid off the entire amount, let me fill you in on why it is there.

In 1997 Spirit Lake East was offered a low interest (4%) disaster relief loan in the amount of \$108,000 from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

This money was to be used solely to upgrade our roads from the harsh 1996-7 winter. In November of 1997 a special meeting was called and the full membership voted to accept the loan. Each homeowner's share, over the course of 30 years, was to be \$26.18/year.

The monies from this loan have been used to add much needed stone to our roadways, as well as installation of dry-wells, culverts, and other road improvement projects. The remaining 10% or so of the loan will be used in late spring to further improve our roadways as needed.

More information about roadway improvement can be obtained from Don Walter, Road Committee Chairman, at 208-623-5906 or write to SLEHA

Attn: Don Walter PO Box 217 Spirit Lake, ID 83869, or e-mail at DRWJKW@aol.com.

Many of you have decided to pay your entire special assessment early. Early payments are applied directly to the

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Recipe Magic

By Willi Hanson

Spinach Dip

- 1 – 10 oz pkg. frozen chopped spinach, thawed, drained, and squeezed dry
- 1 C sour cream
- 1 C mayonnaise
- 1/2 C chopped green onions
- 1 tsp. parsley flakes
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp. seasoned salt

1 rounded crusty bread loaf (such as sourdough)

Put spinach, sour cream and mayonnaise into a bowl and stir. Add green onions, parsley, lemon juice and seasoned salt. Mix. Chill.

Cut top from round or oblong loaf. Remove bread from inside, leaving shell about 1" thick. Slice removed bread into chunks for dipping. You can microwave the dip to heat it before filling the loaf with the dip.

If you do heat it, then you can also wrap the dip part of the loaf in foil and put it in a 300° oven for half an hour or so before serving to also warm the bread. Both warm and cold are Great! Enjoy!

Do you have a good recipe you would like to share? There is always room for one more good one in our cookbook!



Computer Teaser:

What is a mnemonic code?

An easy to remember assembly language code. For example: A code that uses an abbreviation such as "add" for addition.

Did You Know?

- The original purpose of a coffin was not to protect the body from prowling animals or grave robbers, but to keep the dear departed from coming back to haunt the survivors.
- When France was liberated in World War II, opera star Lily Pons stood in the Place de l'Opera in Paris and sang the "Marseillaise" to 250,000 weeping, cheering, happy French persons. Within two years they were charging American tourists \$30 for a bottle of cheap champagne.
- Samuel Colt, at the age of 16, ran away to sea. While a sailor, he whittled a wooden model of what was to become the famous colt revolver. He was on a voyage to India at the time.
- Paul Bunyan's legendary blue ox, Babe, measures "42 axe handles and one plug of chewing tobacco" between the horns.
- The Bayeux Tapestry is a piece of linen 231 feet long and 20 inches wide, on which are embroidered seventy-two scenes illustrating the Norman Conquest of England. It was made somewhere around 1075, but nobody really knows who actually designed and made it. Its name comes from the cathedral at Bayeux, France, where it first came to public notice in 1476. It is important both artistically and historically for it gives us a record of the inside story of the Conquest. It has on it 623 men, 202 horses, 55 dogs, and 3 women.
- Tornadoes always move in an easterly direction and most often in a northeasterly direction. Inside the funnel, the barometric pressure is extremely low, causing houses and other buildings to blow apart from the outward pressure of the air inside them.
- When the moon is in a direct line with the earth and the sun, astronomers say she's in "syzygy." The moon is therefore in syzygy when it is new or full. But, I won't tell if you don't!
- Lower end of the humerus makes up part of the elbow and, because of that, some doctor decided to call it the "funny bone." (humerus-humorous, get it?) Some of those doctors are really cut-ups!

-Fini-

Assessment (Continued from page 1)

principal, reducing the amount of interest owed by the community on the loan. You may still opt to pay your loan off early, or pay a larger amount than the \$26.18 minimum.

Please keep in mind you do NOT have to pay more than the annual \$26.18 on the loan unless you should decide to do so.

If you need individual payoff information, please contact me, Debbie Lawson, at 208-623-4090 or e-mail me at lawsond@micron.net.

Community Comments

Our Town

Have you been in the Old West Hardware Store on Maine Street?

It's a man's paradise. For those of you who just like to wander around a hardware stores, this is the place for you. Don't let me mislead you,. It's not just for men! There are plenty of cubby holes and knick-knacks for women to wander through as well.

Dave and Peggy Esterly have also managed to create a little slice of heaven with a small, clean, coffee and sandwich counter. You will get friendly service, and the food is good too! The sandwiches are huge, so bring your appetite! Add to that a slice of pie or an old fashioned milk shake and you're good for the rest of the day!

Overall, it reminds me of stories about the good old days when the locals would go down to the local hardware or mercantile store and shoot the breeze for hours. I don't think the Esterly's sit around much, but I doubt they'd mind if you hung around until your

Spirit Lake

- ◆ “During the years 1908 and 1909, the village of Spirit Lake saw its most rapid growth. Buildings went up overnight. This is not an overstatement as after the men came home from work, they would help each other put up small tarpaper shacks, working far into the night. When you would look around in the morning, buildings went up overnight. The hammering and sawing started around four-thirty in the morning so it was impossible to try to sleep after that time.”

- Chester Phillips

- ◆ In 1915, an elaborate ten-mile-long flume system was built on Brickel Creek to transport logs to Spirit Lake where they were towed to holding ponds to be sorted and sent on to Panhandle Lumber company. Most of the timber for the Panhandle Lumber came from the east slope of Mt. Spokane.

“When you would look around in the morning, buildings went up overnight.”

- ◆ On August 5, 1939, a fire began on Mt. Spokane and by August 11 the fire reached Spirit Lake. The lumber yard, dry shed, railroad round house and forty million feet of lumber were burned. This marked the end of the Panhandle Lumber Company and the decline of the Spirit Lake economy.
- ◆ The Spirit Lake Café was the first building in Spirit Lake (1907).
- ◆ In 1910, Spirit Lake prided itself on having many of the social amenities of modern life, including several fraternal organizations and an opera house.
- ◆ Spirit Lake Public School (now the old senior cen-

Idaho

(Source “Idaho Handbook”)

- Idaho's highest point is 13,655 ft Mt. Borah in the southeastern quadrant of the state.
- Idaho's lowest point is the town of Lewiston at 738 ft.
- During the Paleozoic Era, 600 to 250 millions years ago, much of Idaho was submerged.
- 17 million years ago, with the beginning of the massive lava floods, Columbia Plateau was formed and Hells Canyon was layered like a torte!

Welcome to the New Year!

Hope everyone had a good holiday season. It's hard to believe it is already January of 2000! And since it is January, guess what time it is again. That's right, time to start looking for your annual Homeowner's Association dues bill in the mail.

Bills will be mailed out by January 15. Please be aware that both your annual dues ***and*** the special assessment payment (if applicable - many of you have already paid your special assessment in full) are due at the time of receipt.

Please help us again this year by checking that we have the correct mailing address on your bill. If any information is incorrect, please make a note of any changes and send it with your payment. Also extremely helpful would be a phone number where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

Last year we asked you to send a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment if you needed a receipt. This worked very well, and if you would do so again this year it would be appreciated.

If you have any questions regarding your bill, please call me, Debbie Lawson (Treasurer), at 623-4090. I will do my best to help you.

You "Auto" Try This!

Instead of washing your car with soap and water, try washing with a bucket of water and 1 cup kerosene followed by a good wiping with soft cloths. The best part of it is that no matter how dirty your car is, it will not need wetting down before starting, nor rinsing once you have finished. When it rains the car will actually bead off water. It helps prevent rust. Use no wax with this method.

To remove bumper stickers: Use nail polish remover or lighter fluid. Gently scrape away with a razor blade or knife.

For a scratch - take a matching color crayon and work into the scratch.

To remove rust spots:

Briskly scrub the spots on your bumpers with a piece of foil which has been crumpled or use soap filled fine steel wool or a steel wool pad.

SLEHA has an E-mail address to make it easier to stay in touch! This service is provided at no charge to the Association. Please feel free to contact us any time at SLE@micron.net.

Committee Reports

Architectural Review

Building projects have been abundant since March 1999, We have 9 new homes, along with 6 pole barns, 2 new garages, a deck, and miscellaneous other additions to homes. We will continue to keep you informed of the growth in SLEHA.

Timber Management

As of December, we had 4 submissions for logging.

Road Committee

Can we use a new used or new truck? You bet we could! We need one that is larger with a sanding box/spreader and a snow blade on the front! We could sell the ones we have now and put the proceeds toward a newer one.

We could snow plow the roads faster while spreading much needed sand as we drive along. The trucks we have are too old and too small. We are spending more money on them than they are worth.

One bigger truck would be more efficient than both of the small ones we have now.

Do you have any idea how we can get a better one? If so, please contact one of your board members or road committee members. YOU ARE THE VOICE. Thanks!

Don Walter, Chairman

DRWJKW@AOL.COM

WANTED INTERESTING ARTICLES

Are you a writer? Do you have ideas that would be helpful to your neighbors?

This could be a spot for an interesting article (250-300 words) submitted by a member of the Association.

All we ask is that it be in good taste and be relevant to the majority of our members.