



Haven Lake Times

Haven Lake Property Owners' Association Official Newsletter
www.havenlakepoa.com



2010-2011 BOARD MEMBERS

Elected Sept. 5, 2010 (1 year tenure)

President – Kris Tompkins
Vice President – Leslie Cole
Treasurer – Don Ninneman
Secretary – Diana Sweeney
Director at Large-
Sharon McKenzie
Ken Giese
Rick Crabtree

Meet Our New Board Member

In last years Newsletter we shared a brief synopsis of your Board members. This year we are pleased to introduce you to our **new** Vice President, Leslie Cole. **Leslie Cole** and her husband Bob are recent owners, but have been frequent visitors to Haven Lake. Leslie comes to us with immense civil engineering as well as public and environmental degreed credentials. She is the step mother of 3, grandmother of two and has happily made a second home at Haven Lake.

Message From Our President

The health of our Lake is good and I am sure we would all like to keep it that way. The water tests conducted last summer showed that we continue to have good water quality. We have developed and disbursed a Lake Management Plan to help us all understand what is involved to maintain a healthy water body. The Plan is on our website www.havenlakepoa.com. We have received some comments that we are addressing but we would like to hear from more of you. Please take time to read the Plan and let us know what you think. We do share the comments that are received but not who makes them.

After recommendation from the Lake Management Committee and the Board, it was approved at the September 2010 general meeting to hire a professional limnologist. This is a person who studies the science of biological and other phenomena of fresh water, especially lakes and ponds. We are proud to have retained Harry Gibbons, Ph.D., with Tetra Tech, Inc. as he has outstanding credentials. He provided an article about his impressions of our Lake for this newsletter.

Last year plant growth in the cove was every limited. So the paperwork prepared for permits to hand pull or cut a boat path in the cove was not submitted to the State and Mason County. Ecology just issued the new Aquatic Plant and Algae Management General Permit in February. This permit covers the discharge of products (herbicides/chemicals) used to control aquatic plants and algae in Washington lakes. Hearings were attended and comments submitted on behalf of HLPOA during this permit process. Our DOE five year aquatic pesticide permit tied to the State general permit also was expiring, so we filed the Application for Coverage Notice of Intent to continue the permit. This does not mean we plan a chemical application; we are just retaining the permit in case there is a future determination for that type of treatment. We are currently looking at burlap bottom barriers that would be environmentally friendly. We will be assessing the amount of plant growth in 2011 before determining any course of action.

Many of our property owners have joined in the activities at the Lake. You will find more information about these activities through-out the newsletter. Last April we had a Community Clean-up at the boat launch, community lot and by our Haven Lake sign. The Boat Parade, Kayak and Paddleboat races are held in July. Also last July the Lake Management Committee sponsored a Bat Night where a guest speaker shared information on bats and materials were provided to participants to build their own bat houses. In February of this year a group of 15 of us picked up roadside litter for two hours, resulting in 420 pounds of trash being taken to the dump. In August 2011 the 3rd Haven Lake Golf Tournament will be held. More things are being planned for this summer, so watch the website.

A number of people serve on committees that were formed for stewardship of the Lake which is a great way to get to know your Lake neighbors. Please read the reports on their activities provided in the newsletter. I would like to extend my personal thanks to everyone who serves on the Board and our Committees for their involvement and commitment of time. I look forward to seeing you around the Lake, Kris Tompkins

<u>Financial Report</u>

2010-2011 HLPOA Financials

RECEIPTS	2010/2011 Association Dues	\$ 6,055.00
	Interest	\$ <u>36.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$ 6,091.00
EXPENSES	Printing, Mailing & Communication	\$ 2,036.00
	Boat Launch Lighting	\$ 150.00
	HLPOA Signs	\$ 203.00
	Liability Insurance Premium	\$ 2,093.00
	Water Quality Testing & Consultants	\$ 3,140.00
	Lake Map/Boating Rules Laminates	\$ 533.00
	Community Activities and Support	\$ 561.00
	Attorney Fees	\$ 405.00
	Government Agencies Permits	\$ 1,114.00
	Buoys, Floats and other Maintenance	\$ <u>192.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES (estimate)		\$ 10,427.00
 CASH POSITION AS OF 4/30/11 (ESTIMATE)		 \$ 19,435.00

Dead Dock Committee

Do you have a “Dead Dock/Raft/Float in front of your property?

We will remove orphaned docks/rafts/floats or foam pieces that have floated in free of charge. If you own the debris, it can also be removed by the HLPOA for a per dock/raft/float donation of \$20 for dues paying members or \$40 from a non-member. If you are interested, contact the Dead Dock Committee through its Chair, Ken Giese 360 275-6293 or the Board through our web site email board@havenlakepoa.com. Keeping the Lake free of unusable and/or abandoned debris will help to make our lake safer for everyone and promote better water quality.

We would like to encourage property owners to put their lot number on their rafts and floating docks for identification purposes. Then if they break away during winter storms, they can be returned to their lots. Also reflectors on docks and rafts would be a welcome safety measure for night boating.

Dam/ Lake Level Committee

The Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) did not pull any additional Dam weir boards this winter to lower the Lake, nor did they have any informal emergency “contingency plan” with HLPOA to deal with unexpected flooding events. DFW can no longer have informal agreements as in past years and all future agreements must be formal and fully documented with all permitting/approvals etc. in place. Property owners were requested to contact DFW Thom Johnson (Supv. Dept. Fish/Wildlife) or Mark Downen (Area 15 Fisheries Biologist) if flooding or property damage occurred last winter due to high Lake levels. The Dam Committee provided photos to DFW of the high water damage that occurred last December. When notified, DFW quickly removed a large quantity of storm debris (logs, broken rafts, etc.) from in front of the Dam area.

The previous DFW plan to move forward with separate summer/wintertime Lake levels is still on hold for now. This DFW decision is based on the fact that Haven Lake has made it through a winter (2009/2010) and summer (2010) at the same lowered level without significant problems. In addition, last winter (2010/2011) only experienced seemingly limited damage due to high water. DFW has always preferred one Lake level and any decision to pursue separate summer/wintertime Lake levels would have to be based on future data and/or circumstance.....such as significant wintertime flooding or an unusable boat launch due to shallow summertime water. DFW wants Haven Lake to continue providing rainfall and Lake level data as has been done over the last 2 years. They are also pursuing the possibility of having Mason County replace the current undersized culvert just downstream of the Dam, thinking that may reduce potential flooding as well as benefit salmon runs. Note that the decision to not raise the lake level this summer may again restrict property owners' ability to launch larger boats due to shallower water. Boat owners may want to plan to put their boats in the Lake earlier this spring and take them out later in the fall when water levels may be somewhat higher.

DFW plans to permanently fix the current leaking Dam weir boards this spring by installing a plastic barrier on the Lake side of the boards. They have also stressed that they will continue to watch Haven Lake closely and that separate summer/wintertime levels have not been completely ruled out.

DFW Contact Info: Thom Johnson - 360-765-3979, cell 360-280-2734, thom.johnson@dfw.wa.gov
Mark Downen - 360-202-7005, mark.downen@dfw.wa.gov

Haven Lake Management Committee (HLMC)

The Committee Scope includes:

- Focus on an awareness campaign about the affects each individual's actions have on the lake and the surrounding environment.
- Develop a Lake Management Plan (LMP) document.
- Make recommendations to the HLPOA board of directors prior to presenting our recommendations to property owners attending one of the thrice yearly property owners meetings.

The Committee has been quite active since June 2009 with continuous focus in the following areas:

- **LMP Document:** Significant progress has been made in developing the document. This will be a living document with a focus on education and awareness, and something easily understood by property owners. The first draft was provided at the September 2010 property owners meeting! The full document is posted on the HLPOA website. We welcome your comments.
- **Professional Lake Expert/ Limnologist:** Harry Gibbons, Ph.D., was hired to provide an initial assessment and recommendation to the Committee. He met with the Committee on January 16, 2011. He has provided a summary found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- **Education/ Awareness Campaign:** On the HLPOA website, www.havenlakepoa.com, the lake management plan page has updated information for property owners to help improve water quality.

In April 2010, the Committee sponsored a work party at the Boat Access in preparation for the opening day of fishing. In July 2010, the Committee held a Bat Awareness event that families could participate in. Bat houses were built and a special BAT TALK & BAT WALK was presented by DAN HANNAFIOUS. Information brochures about "Lake Care" were developed and handed out at the property owners meetings. Several awareness topics are being planned for 2011.

EARTH DAY CLEANUP WORK PARTY Sponsored by HLMC

Saturday, April 23, 10am to NOON

Meet at the Haven Lake Public Access Boat Launch with your work gloves, rakes, trimmers!

Clean up is planned at the boat launch area & at the Haven Lake Property!

The HLMC Mission Statement: Provide a guideline for human activities to enhance the use, development and the natural environment of the Haven Lake watershed.

Following the September meeting of the Property Owners, the Lake Management Committee hired a professional limnologist (a person who studies the science of biological and other phenomena of fresh water, especially lakes and ponds). The report below details his impressions of Haven Lake.

Limnological Impressions of Haven Lake

On January 15th it was my honor and pleasure to visit your lake and to meet with the Haven Lake Management Plan Committee. Although I only had a few hours to directly observe and touch your lake, the experience reinforced my intellectual understanding about the condition and characteristics of your lake from an ecological point of view. These notions were formed after reviewing the available information and documents about Haven Lake. Please let me share with you a few of these thoughts about your lake in the following summary statement.

Haven Lake is alive and well. With the help from a little stewardship, the lake can continue to provide its beneficial uses for the next ten to forty thousand years. What are these beneficial uses? First and foremost, the lake is an ecosystem that is in balance relative to its watershed and climatic conditions. It provides direct aquatic habitat for aquatic plants and animals as well as local wildlife, good water quality and aesthetic appeal. From a more anthropogenic perspective, Haven Lake provides us with clean water, a place to swim, boat, fish, recreate, and a place that gives us a sense of internal peace. It is simply a little bit of heaven on earth.

I said the lake is alive and well and is an ecosystem in balance, but please do not take that for granted. The lake is under attack! Our very existence in and around the lake is a direct threat to everything that we desire from the lake. All of our land-use activities including landscape maintenance, near shore yard management, on-site septic systems, storm water runoff, logging, agriculture, hobby farming, roadways, ...virtually every activity that we as humans do has a potential to degrade the lake, and it has. The damage has not gone so far as to permanently damage the lake's ecosystem. Now is the time to stop this degradation and prevent any further harm. The good news is that it will not take that much effort to ensure the health of the lake.

Currently, the nutrient levels (think of it as the amount of fertilizer in the water) in the lake are relatively low. Phosphorus is limiting the growth of phytoplankton (algae) and nitrogen is limiting the growth of rooted aquatic plants. However, excess of both are currently being delivered to the lake via several sources, i.e. storm water runoff, yard fertilizers and septic systems. The relatively recent expansion and increase in plant density of aquatic rooted plants is the direct result of an increased availability of nitrogen. This is apparent from the pattern of where and how the plant beds are

established. Where is the nitrogen coming from? Us. We fertilize and plant non-native plants in our yards, we build roads and driveways, we operate sanitary waste disposal systems. There are two key points here. First, septic systems can be operating correctly and still contribute nitrogen, and at times phosphorus, to the lake. Remember what goes into the septic system, in time, comes out relative to nutrients, so proper maintenance and the understanding of how to limit your impact is important. Second, the rooted aquatic plants are indicators of where nitrates are entering the lake.

It is also important to understand that the aquatic plants in the lake are an important part of the lake's ecosystem providing habitat and structure for competing with open water algae production (limiting that production). In addition, the established aquatic plant beds reduce the ability of non-native plant species to colonize and establish in the lake. Nevertheless, the excess density and coverage is creating nuisance conditions in the lake. We must find a way to balance the need to have aquatic plants with the control of excessive production in order to maximize our enjoyment of the lake, while managing to promote ecological stability.

Well, how do we manage the lake to maintain its environmental quality and our beneficial uses? The following is a brief outline of actions that I recommend.

- Continue and expand awareness and educational efforts to the public who visit and live near the lake. Particularly in regard to yard care (no phosphorus fertilizers, use only organic time release nitrogen fertilizers, try to plant only native plants that require little to no fertilizers), shoreline management, storm water management to remove nutrients before they can get to the lake, aggressive management of septic systems and awareness of what goes down the drain may end up in the lake.
- Initiate an annual aquatic plant mapping program that not only maps the plant coverage, but provides a measure of relative plant densities (stems per square meter). This program should also include an aggressive search for non-native plants, and if found complete removal.
- Based on a four year program, employ bottom barriers and other hand control methods in limited high use areas to control excess aquatic plants. Specifically, apply bottom barriers (recommend that you use burlap as barrier material) in one quarter of the area that you determine are nuisance locations per year. With educational efforts that result in reduction of nutrient loading to the lake these areas that are in need of management will decrease in portion to nutrient reduction over time.
- Initiate a water quality monitoring program to build a data base for the identification of changes and future threats to the lake's ecosystem.

Bottom line for the community is to promote communication, education and awareness of everyone's role and responsibility to provide stewardship to have a long-term sustainable condition at the lake.

Harry Gibbons, Ph.D.,
Principal Limnologist, Tetra Tech, Inc.
Past President of North American Lake Management Society
Past President of Washington State Lake Protection Association

Aquatic Vegetation Removal

Individual property owners can remove aquatic vegetation in front of their property once they have the Aquatic Plants and Fish publication #APF-11-97 from the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife in hand and follow the requirements. Down load at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/aquaplnt/aquaplnt.pdf>

The Association has five cutter and rake sets that can be checked out by HLPOA members and used after individuals sign a liability release form. These sets are with the following individuals:

Craig Tompkins – 360 275-8621 or 377-0818
Ken Giese - 360 275-6293
Carol Clark – 360 275-4862

Byron Fitch – 360 275-7570
Rob Campbell – 360 277-0733 or 377-5164

Sunshine Committee

Everyone can use a little sunshine sometimes and we'd like to spread it around. If you know of a Haven Lake property owner going through some hard times, lost a loved one, or welcomed a new addition to the family, we'd like to show recognition. Contact the board@havenlakepoa.com and our Chairperson Sharon McKenzie will make sure some cheer is sent their way.

REAL TIME information available at www.havenlakepoa.com

Come visit and you just might find it worthwhile.

You will find meeting minutes, contact numbers, committee reports and "breaking news" of importance.

Visit www.havenlakepoa.com

Address Your Property

Having your property address displayed helps during response to emergency situations. Haven Lake is in Mason County Fire District #2. The Fire District will provide you an address sign free of charge if you call them at 360 275-6711. Order one, pick it up and get it installed. It can help save a life or limit property damage when you need a quick response.

Let's GO FISH

Haven Lake is a host body of water for a number of native and non-native species of fish. Native fish include Coho Salmon, Steelhead, Cutthroat and Rainbow Trout. Identified non-native fish include Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Freshwater Stickleback and Sculpin. According to the local fish biologist for Mason and Kitsap Counties, the "Pumpkinseed" is not a predator of salmon fry. For more information about the various fish species and regulations, refer to <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/>.

Because Haven Lake plays a role in the salmon run, it is important that the salmon smolt (little salmon) have adequate protection from the bass that use the smolt as a food source whenever possible. Again, the native aquatic vegetation provides a natural hiding place for the smolts, thus protecting them from their predators.

Ultimately, we have to resolve an acceptable level of aquatic vegetation relative to the needs of the fish species vs. the "nuisance" factor to swimmers and boaters.

GET READY FOR FISHING SEASON - OPENING DAY IS APRIL 30, 2011! Getting outside for a day of fishing is lots of fun and easy to do. Before heading out, check out [Fishing safety and rules](#). You can also visit the [Go fishing](#) website for more information such as what fishing methods and equipment to use. Some great tips for youth can be found on website - <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/youth.html>.

Trout: For many anglers, the fishing year starts on the last Saturday in April, when trout season opens on lowland lakes. Although dozens of Washington lakes are open for fishing year-round, those opening in April are heavily stocked with hatchery trout, greatly improving anglers' chances of catching fish. Trout generally bite well until mid-summer, but tend to lose interest when the water temperature gets too warm. DFW planted Haven Lake in 2010 with 20,000 fry, 3,400 8"-12" rainbow and 175 greater than 12" triploid. The plant in April 2011 is 150 14" triploid and 4,230 10-11", maybe more in May.

Getting Started - the following website provides info on upcoming fishing season tips: http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/fish-local/getting_started.html

Even if you're just spending a few hours at the lake, there are a few essential steps every fisher needs to follow:

1. Buy a Fishing License

Fishing licenses are required for all fish and shellfish in Washington, except for Free Fishing Weekend (June 6-7, 2009). Buying one takes minutes—they're available for purchase online, by phone (toll free 1-866-246-9453) or at more than 500 retail license vendors, including many outdoor and variety stores. Fishing licenses are sold annually and they're one of the best bargains in outdoor recreation—under \$22 for adults and free for kids through age 14.

2. Know the Rules

Washington fishing rules are designed to ensure that fish and shellfish populations are not depleted. Fishing rules specify when and where fishing is allowed, what fish species anglers may harvest, and how many fish or shellfish they may keep. These rules are enforced with fines and other penalties. As a beginning fisher, take time to review a copy of the WDFW's annual "[Fishing in Washington](#)" sport fishing seasons and rules pamphlet. If in doubt, call (360) 902-2700 for more information.

3. Keep Safety First

Fishing is a great way to make memories, but make them happy ones by staying safe.

- Before you head out, check the weather forecast.
- Pack along patience if you're headed to popular fishing spots—docks and boat launches can be crowded, especially on annual opening days.
- Use caution and required safety devices near water. Young children should wear life jackets anywhere near the water. By law, children 12 and younger **must** wear a USCG-approved life jacket when under way in a boat or other vessel less than 19 feet in length, unless it is in a fully-enclosed area. The Washington [Parks and Recreation Commission](#) advises everyone fishing in a boat to wear a life jacket. Visit the [Washington State Park's boating safety website](#) for more information.

Make Contact with Mason County and Utility Officials

We would like to remind people when developing your property whether you are building, remodeling, or working on shorelines and docks, to contact Mason County for applicable codes and regulations. The Board has developed a "Contact Sheet" available for down load from the HLPOA web site for your convenience with phone numbers and email addresses to facilitate your endeavor. Laminated copies are also available at HLPOA Meetings.

Be legal, and you will avoid fines and unnecessary penalties!

Mason County Services at: <http://www.co.mason.wa.us>

Community Lot Project Volunteers Wanted!!

Volunteers are always welcome for current committees such as the Dam, the Dead Dock and Community Lot Committees. **We never turn down a volunteer**, however we are hoping this project will strike an interest. Technically, we **all** have a "little piece" of the community lot, AKA "Springer Memorial Park." So what would you like to see this piece of Haven become? Do you use the lot now? If not, why not? What would make you want to use the lot or improve its appeal?

VOLUNTEER!

Do you like landscaping? Transforming "something" into "something better"? **What vision do you have for this community based locale?** We are continually seeking volunteers willing to dedicate their time and expertise to helping our little piece of Haven work for everyone.

If you have an idea let it be known. New committees form every year based upon the evolving needs of members.

Send us an e-mail or contact us at the meetings.

We'd LOVE your input and help!!!!

2011 Events in the Works

HLPOA Sanctioned:

*** NON – HLPOA Sanctioned:**

* **April 23th** – 10 am – 12pm **Community Clean-up** at boat launch

* **July 3rd Parade of Boats**, 7 pm, meet in front of Giese's

* **Kayak, Paddleboat Races**, benefiting Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, time, date, location TBD, check website for details.

* 3rd Annual **Haven Lake Golf Tournament tentatively August 13**

benefiting the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, check website for details.

SAVE THE DATES – YOU'RE INVITED

The Haven Lake Property Owners' Association is an organization with more than **50** years of history that was formed to "protect and enhance the common interests of the owners of property on or near Haven Lake." Over the years the dynamics of the Lake residents have changed from the mere camping and summer recreation locale to one now home to many semi-permanent and permanent residents. We casually meet, **SO DO NOT DRESS UP**, three times a year on major summer holiday weekend Sunday mornings. We address any and all issues brought forward by those in attendance. It's a great way to meet your neighbors, voice your concerns, and to have an input as to how your property owner's dues are spent. This Association has an elected Board, made up of property owners just like you, who donate their time, and act based upon the wishes of the majority of dues paying owners. We encourage robust discussion and we hope that you are just curious enough to attend and contribute.

Our 2011 Meetings will be held at the boat launch, 10 AM on the following Sundays:

May 29, 2011

July 3, 2011

September 4, 2011

We hope to see you there!

Copies of publications made available to us through the State of Washington will be available for free at the each meeting. Publications available will include, "Adventures in Boating-The Washington Handbook", "Keep Our Waters Clean Booklet", and the "Washington Lake Book."

MANDATORY BOATER EDUCATION

In 2005 Washington State passed a law requiring boat operators to take a boating safety education course in order to operate a boat in Washington State. This law applies to operators of motorboats (including jet skis) with 15 horsepower or greater. Boaters may take an approved education course in the classroom, online or at home. The approved classes boaters may take can be found at www.parks.wa.gov/boating/boatered/?subject=courseoptions. Prices and requirements vary depending on the type of course taken. Once the course is completed and test passed, boaters need to send a completed application for their card (along with a \$10 fee). **Persons required to have Boater's Education Card must carry the card on board whenever operating a motorboat greater than 15 horsepower.**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>YOUR AGE</u>
2011	35 years and younger
2012	40 years and younger
2013	50 years and younger
2014	59 years and younger

The **Haven Lake Boating Rules** can be found at www.havenlakepoa.com and are posted at the boat launch.

**Would you like to have a laminated copy of the Haven Lake Boating Rules to post at your property?
Contact us at board@havenlakepoa.com and we will forward to property owners for free.**

Haven Lake Logo Attire

Comfy ¼ zip sweatshirts, tee shirts, hats, vests, aprons, bathrobes, towels and bags are all available. A selection of sweatshirts, tee-shirts and hats are available for sale at each HLPOA meeting. For special orders contact Diana at sweeneyhaven@aol.com or (425) 413-1150

100% of the proceeds from these sales benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Special recognition must be given to Dick and Phyllis Leininger for their ongoing sponsorship of the 4th of July Kayak/Paddle Boat Races, and to both MacCubbin families, the Giese family, the Craig Johnson family and the Tarver families for making the Golf Tournament "happen" and making it a more successful event each and every year.

Special thanks to our corporate sponsors for these events, Pepsi Co. and Safe Boats.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN FINDING A CURE!

*Please provide us your email address.
This will enable us to send electronic global announcements **of importance.***

Fiscal 2011/ 2012 Haven Lake Property Owners' Association Dues

Your 2011/2012 Property Owners' Association dues are payable on or before May 1, 2011. The dues are \$40.00 per lot. Please complete the form below, and send along with your dues payment in the pre-posted envelope to the HLPOA Treasurer. Please make checks payable to **HLPOA**.

Name _____ Lot(s)# (s) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Emergency Phone _____ Email _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please mail your completed form and payment to:
Haven Lake Property Owners' Association
P.O. Box 1209
Belfair, WA 98528

Comments, Suggestions, Volunteers:
