

# News from Dogwood Lake Association

May, 2017

## DOGWOOD LAKE NEWSLETTER

Last Fall and Winter and now Spring have seen serious challenges all of which have been successfully met. A major effort to locate and repair leaks in our dam wall were fixed and now there are no known water losses. Thirty percent of the dam was cemented over with wire and rebar used for added strength, and 160 feet of new drain pipe and a valve were installed. This effort was completed by three members of the board; hard workers all! This is the first major repair work completed in decades.

These tasks were finished none too soon as the Spring rains rapidly filled the lake to unforeseen stress levels ... again our volunteers came through with long hours of cold, wet labor, filling and placing many sand bags, corralling the water overflow to the spillway. The dam held and we are now looking to complete some dead tree removal and major clean-up (we desperately need volunteers – so please help us). More truckloads of sand will be needed to replace lost material, and we expect to continue our work to make our lake safer for all.

Please read our newsletter and the Rules & Regulations carefully as some important changes have been made; i.e., all non-swimmers are required to wear Coast Guard approved life vests ... this is a major safety concern, as well as liability issues. We now have legal assistance on the Board, which has helped us immeasurably. Also, we will be changing out the entry gate system so we will need to give everyone a new key. We will be doing so at the Memorial Day BBQ. For those of you who can't attend, please contact Amy Olenchalk or Cathie Lobdell to obtain your new key. Additionally, the Lake By-Laws have been updated and approved by our Counsel. These will be sent to all members via email, as well as all further future correspondence.

The Board welcomes Amy Olenchalk as our New Membership Director. She's a great gal and a hard worker. Her "other job" is teaching fifth graders in Columbia. Note also that there is a new cost schedule for new member dues.

Check this out: Speaking of new members, we would like to add about 10-15 more this year ... please recruit.

Dogwood Lake is now officially the Cedar Ridge Fire Company's Emergency Water Resource. Many thanks to our Board Members for all their hard work.

As I am sure you are aware, all of the above requires many man-days of work which were willingly provided by a few members of the lake board of directors. This requires "get up and go", much thought, creativity and muscle. So, I ask that you 1) personally thank these board members and 2) give serious thought to helping out on Lake Clean-Up day, which is scheduled for **Saturday, May 27, at 9:30 a.m.** (weather permitting) – after all, it IS YOUR lake. Join us afterwards for a hamburger/hot dog feast (hotdogs, buns, condiments, chips, water/soda, paper plates, etc., are provided). Please bring a side dish to share. Those who deserve our continuing thanks are:

1. Tom Lively (our Lake Level Systems Engineer), an all-around repairman and tractor driver (a former Chief Petty Officer and Vietnam Vet)
2. Bill Guenza – our Lake Treasurer and all around hard worker (known as "Big Bill")
3. John Avila – idea man and all day hard worker known affectionately as "Quiet John"
4. Others who deserve a thanks are
  - a. Cathie Lobdell – our Lake Secretary
  - b. Amy Olenchalk – Our membership chairperson
  - c. Jim Cruson, Board Member
  - d. Mike Lazar, Board Member
  - e. Past Board President, Bill Lobdell for his continuing advice and hard work.

### **Safety**

Words of Reminder!

1. Parents/guardians are responsible for the welfare of their children! Keep them in sight, always! Using blow up floats is not recommended as they can be punctured and rendered useless. **Coast Guard approved**

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### **life vests are required for all non-swimmers.**

2. The Paddle boat is great fun, but it is also a magnet for horse play and injuries – only four occupants at a time, please!
3. Bring your cell phones - there is no phone provided by the lake.

### **Membership Drive**

The Dogwood Lake membership drive starts on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Renewing members should complete the attached form, attach a check for \$150 and mail it to the address at the top of the form. New members signing up between **May 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1** do so at the reduced fee of \$250.00. Effective July 2 thru August 1, the fee is \$350.00; and from August 2 to September 1, the fee is \$450.00.

If you know of anyone interested in becoming a member, please have them contact our Membership chairperson, Amy Olenchak, at 209-743-9850. **All renewal membership fees are due by June 15<sup>th</sup>**. A \$50 late fee will be assessed on payments received after June 15. Please contact Amy at the number above if you have any questions.

If you no longer plan on being a Lake member, please return your key to Cathie Lobdell and receive a \$20 refund. If you lose your key, there is a \$20 fee to replace it.

Please read the enclosed copy of the current Rules and Regulations.

### **BBQ/Pot Lucks**

Be sure to mark your calendars on the following dates. Meat, buns, condiments, sodas, water, & chips are provided by the Lake. We ask that all attending members please bring a side dish to share.

May 27      12:00 - BBQ/Potluck  
July 1        12:00 - BBQ/Potluck  
August 12   11:00 - Annual Meeting  
                  Followed by a BBQ/  
                  Potluck

Below is a list of all the lake officers and directors with their phone numbers listed in case you need to contact someone:

|                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| President – Jack Newman         | 209-586-6632 |
| Treasurer – Bill Guenza         | 209-586-7088 |
| Secretary/Keys – Cathie Lobdell | 209-586-7145 |
| Membership – Amy Olenchak       | 209-743-9850 |
| Lawyer – Mal Cameron            | 925-846-1567 |
| Board Members:                  |              |
| John Avila                      | 209-586-1992 |
| Jim Cruson                      | 209-814-4405 |
| Mike Lazar                      | 209-586-5028 |
| Tommy Lively                    | 209-352-1867 |

Submitted by “Captain Jack” Newman  
Board President