



Deer Lake Newsletter

August 10, 2006



Board of Directors:

Larry Wiles - President
Ed Case - Vice President
John Bailey - Treasurer
Damacio Otero - Member at Large
David Kelly - Secretary

Deer Lake web address: <http://deer-lake.net>

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF OUR BOARD:

Greetings from Deer Lake,

As I'm writing this, (mid-July), we're finally getting some moisture at Deer Lake. It has been a long time coming, and the lack of runoff resulting from nearly no snow last winter and very little spring and early summer rain has made it a very scary time here. This placed a great deal of emphasis on our need for defensible space and other fire protection measures around and within Deer Lake. Ed Case, Wayne Hertel and Robert Starkey are doing a great job working with the various government organizations to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for Deer Lake, as well as representing us in the forming of the Cuba area CWPP. You'll be hearing a lot more about this as it progresses. Also, we've installed the siren donated to Deer Lake by the Cuba Volunteer Fire Department. It still needs some of the control devices to make it operational, but we hope to have that done by Labor Day.

Speaking of Labor Day, be sure you plan to attend the annual Deer Lake Picnic that weekend. There's more information on that elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, check out the great response we're having to the fence donation program, and be sure to reserve a place on your schedule for the fall membership meeting.

I want to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to be active participants in what happens at Deer Lake. We had a great turnout for lake cleanup day back in May. Thanks a lot to all who helped us make the area around the lake look good. With a little help from each of you, we can turn Deer Lake into an attractive recreation area for our community.

The best way to be active is to attend the membership meetings in the spring and fall. Major projects within Deer Lake are determined by the votes cast by members present at these meetings. While I realize that some of you aren't able to attend due to distance or other reasons, the better attendance we have the better the wishes of the membership are made known. If you aren't able to attend, please talk to myself or one of the other board members. It's extremely frustrating for us to hear your ideas or opinions of how we could have done something better after the fact. Keep in mind that this is an organization that is governed by the wishes and desires of the members.

Remember, you can view important dates, this newsletter and other information concerning Deer Lake at our web site. The URL is <http://www.deer-lake.net>.

See you at the picnic.

Larry Wiles, President

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Labor Day Picnic

Sunday, September 3rd

Starts: 12:00 noon

Place: Bill & Eleanor Starkey's Lot 111

This is a potluck, so bring one of your family favorites.

Don't forget utensils and plates!

Fall Membership Meeting

Date: Oct. 16, 2006

Time: 7:00pm

Place: Sandia National Labs Federal Credit Union
3707 Juan Tabo NE, Albuquerque.

Association Dues Status: As of July 8, 2006 163 of 178 lots (92%) have paid dues for 2006. Final notices will be mailed on August 10, 2006. A warning will accompany this notice indicating that liens will be placed on all properties with unpaid dues, within 15 days of the notice mailing. Dues are now \$30 per originally platted lot. Checks are to be made out to, Deer Lake Association, and mailed to:

Deer Lake Association
P.O. Box 35076
Albuquerque, NM 87176-5076

LAKE DAY WAS GREAT!

Dead trees were cleared, weeds whacked...and much more. The following is a list of those who participated in our annual Lake Cleanup Day, held in May. Many thanks for your hard work! We hope this is a complete list, but please forgive us if we overlooked anyone.

John & Diane Bailey
Larry & Barbara Buxton
Charles Buxton
Ed & Mary Case
Wayne & Lorraine Hertel
Dave Kelly

Oney & Rose Montoya
Dean & Barbara Rose
Ray & Sandy Watson
George & Rosemary Wenk
Larry Wiles
Lloyd Wood

DOGS RUNNING LOOSE

There are a number of dogs that have been observed to be running loose throughout Deer Lake. At times, groups of 3 and 4 dogs run together. This can pose a threat to other dogs that are leashed. This also can be viewed as a threatening situation for persons on walks. PLEASE keep your animals under your personal control.

ATV SPEEDING

There have been numerous incidents of speeding on our Deer Lake roads, some at very high speeds. It is asked that Parents and Grandparents please remind the younger drivers of ATV's of our speed limits, which is 20mph on old 126 and 10mph everywhere else.

FENCE DONATION DRIVE - REPORT
“WATER FOR WILDLIFE, NOT FOR LIVESTOCK”

The fence donations are coming in and we will be putting in a new order for 50 more sections (8 feet per section). This was made possible, in part, by the generous donations made by the following Deer Lakers (those who have donated, at the time of this newsletter printing):

Delbert & Rosario Arnell
John & Diane Bailey
Joseph & Nadyne Bicknell
Barbara & Larry Buxton
Ed & Mary Case
Wayne & Lorraine Hertel
Hugh Howey

Dave & Nancy Kelly
Damacio & Margie Otero
Steve & Carolyn Primrose
Calvin & Eloise Rogers
Raymond Watson
George & Rosemary Wenk
Larry Wiles

Funds from our general fund were also used for this order. We still need your donations, as we have much more of the lake perimeter to yet fence. We will announce another *Fence Work Day*, during the Picnic....so, please be at the picnic!

Make your Fence Drive Donations (\$30.00 per 8' section) to:

Deer Lake Association
P.O. Box 35076
Albuquerque, NM 87176-5076

Please make checks payable to “Deer Lake Association” and indicate it is for “Fence Donation”.

STATE FORESTRY VISITS

The State Forestry Department has been invited to assess Deer Lake Estates, as a community, for wild-fire defensible space. They have also offered to provide individual cabin assessments for defensible space, at the request of individual property owners. You can request cabin assessments by contacting:

Karen Lightfoot
New Mexico State Forestry
5105 Santa Fe Hills Blvd., NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144
(505) 867-2334

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

A member the Sheriff’s Office will present information regarding the Neighborhood Watch Program, at our next Membership Meeting held on Oct. 16 2006.

LAKE MANAGEMENT REPORT

This is shaping up to be a pretty frustrating season where the lake is concerned. Due to the lack of runoff and other moisture this spring, the lake has shrunk to an alarming degree. The upper lake is all but dry (just a little mud left in the bottom), and the lower lake has receded to approximately half normal size. Until recently, the water in the lake was evaporating quickly due to the extremely low humidity, wind and warm temperatures. The rate at which it's shrinking has slowed for the present, as there's been a little rain and cooler temperatures. It remains to be seen what will come next. We're hoping that enough water will remain to support the few surviving grass carp.

We treated the lower lake with granular Cutrine Plus early in the season. Due to the receding water level, we decided not to treat it further this season. As a result, algae is very prevalent in the lower lake. On the positive side, we plan to take advantage of the low water to remove as much of the aquatic vegetation (cattails, reeds, etc.) as we can before winter. This should allow us to get a head start on it next season, assuming better runoff next spring.

IN MEMORIAM

As many of you know, Hugh Howey passed away on Aug.1, 2006. He was a true friend of many Deer Lake residents and property owners, having done work on many of our places. A true boy and his toys.

He will be greatly missed, not only for the work he performed in our community, but for the warm friendship he shared with all of us.



Hugh L Howey
May 6, 1927 - August 1, 2006