



■ Thanks Kyla Wood for the great photo!

Board of Directors:

Lloyd Wood, President (505) 237-2546 lloydwood@poolcorp.com
John Boutz, Vice-President (505) 883-5773 johnboutz@gmail.com
Dave Robertson, Treasurer (505) 401-7215 robertsonair@hotmail.com
Marty Langelier, Secretary (505) 235-7136 mlangelier@msn.com
Jean Anderson, Member at Large (505) 873-0132 jean_anderson@pobox.com

President's Message

It seems like just last week we were talking about the onset of winter and now it's almost March. And March means spring is just around the corner. And spring brings a new season at Deer Lake... opening your cabin, budding Aspens, fishing at the lake, walks and rides on Bluebird. For me spring is the true start to the year with its longer days and warmer temperatures. It's the beginning of eight months of sharing our mountain home and outdoor adventures with family and friends. I hope you all have a great season this year.

March also means it's time for our spring membership meeting. This year it's on March 18th, 7:00 pm, at the Bohannon Huston Inc building in the Journal Center. The address is 7500 Jefferson NE, near Jefferson and Masthead. In addition to our regular business we'll be holding elections. There are three board positions to be considered. Remember that association business only happens because of the work of a few volunteers. I'm asking each of you to consider helping out by running yourself or nominating someone who you think can contribute. In most cases it only takes 2-3 hours a month to get the work done. You'll meet some interesting people and have the satisfaction of helping DLA. If you want to nominate someone or volunteer yourself please contact any of the board members. See you at the meeting . --Lloyd

Lake Report

Fishing was great last year and we plan on stocking the lake with the same amount of fish. Our supplier is offering the same price as last year with free delivery. I hope we have ample water for stocking. We will use the same chemicals as in recent years for weed control. If any member has any suggestions for improvement please let us know.

This year we are going to try mail-order-only fishing permits. Order forms will be included with the dues invoices. We will also have permits available at the spring association meeting.

Clean up days will be posted in the May newsletter. We would really appreciate volunteers in helping cut weeds, treating the lake and repairing the fence. --Dave Robertson

Deer Lake Website

FYI – There is a Deer Lake website maintained by Larry Wiles. The address is www.deer-lake.net. Check it out. There is a web cam shot of the area, weather info, past newsletters, and notices of current alerts. Thank You, Larry, for that contribution to our community.

Defensible Space

Just a reminder, with the approach of summer comes a new fire season and it's time to give some thought to our defensible space. For those who have already created a defensible space on their property, it may just require a little maintenance; but for those who haven't it is time to get started. There are several websites online that should be helpful in making a plan that works best for your lot. Creating a defensible space doesn't require that we clear cut our property but using some common sense ideas we can reduce the risk of fire spreading through our Deer Lake community. --John Boutz

Electronic Delivery

If you want to receive your newsletter electronically, please let Marty know. His email address is below the photo of the lake. Email addresses are also useful in case of need-to-notify emergencies – bear sightings, fires and so on. Let Marty know if you want to be on the emergency list, the newsletter list or both. --Marty

Snapshots

Please consider contributing to the snapshots section of the newsletter. We can't print information unless we know about it. You don't have to make it a big deal – just a paragraph or two about some of your favorite memories and experiences. Photos are great also! Contact any Board member.

Snapshots

This newsletter – and perhaps in the next also – The Editor hopes to shed some light on the transition from the Coulloudon family's experience on Eureka Mesa to Deer Lake Estates. The material below has been summarized or quoted from a five page personal history written by Lois Gleasner in February of 1979.

"After the Coulloudons sold the ranch in 1920 it changed owners 12 times before we purchased the property in 1953. The rock work done on the ranch house, by William Coulloudon, is still a part of the main house today and in good shape, also a portion of the log work remains today." [Editor's note: there is a list of owners in a file with one copy of Lois's history, but there is no notation of who authored the list. If anyone knows where that list originated, please let me know. -- Jean]

"My first real look at Eureka was in the summer of 1952....For several years we rented cabins at Millers place, Jacksons later known as Redferns, at Smith's Ranch and in Turkey Canyon from the Curry family....Our family at that time consisted of my husband, Halbert, two sons Jim and Joe, and myself. The H.H. Heins'." The family planned to fish in Vacas and Clear Creek one day. They visited with friends camping near the old house and decided to stay in the old house. It was in pretty poor shape since no one had lived in it for seven years, but it was charming nevertheless and they inquired about Eureka and found the owners wanted to sell.

In February of '53 the Hines closed the deal and took over the ranch, but their time was limited to just weekends there. "In March of 1953 Halbert's sister and Family the Frank Hay's moved from Arizona to the ranch." Betty, Frank and their children Kathy and Frankie Joe, had a muddy time of it but the children went to school in Cuba and worked on fixing fence and drainage problems.

Lois and Betty went to second hand stores to buy goods to fix the place up. " I recall purchasing the kitchen range we have today. It's a wood, coal, and butane combination. We located it at a second hand store out of No. 4th St. Abq. It had been setting out in the weather for some time and sure didn't look like much, also the base for it was missing. After purchasing the stove the owner told us the base was being used by an Indian lady on the Sandia reservation. We went out to see her and she was using it to set washing pots on. I didn't think we'd be able to talk her out of it but we did."

Frank and Betty stayed on the ranch for two years. The families bought a horse and a cow, raised winter oats and had a great garden. When the Hays returned to Arizona the place was vacant until 1955 when miners from Missouri decided to reopen the Eureka Mine and rented the ranch. The Hines were in Las Vegas during that time and didn't get to see much of the place. When copper prices dropped the miners found it unprofitable to operate the mine and they left. The Hines got "a family to stay in one of the cabins to look after the place but retained the big house and it has remained that way."

"We had many ideas for doing over the old house and still retain its original look and charm. One of the things that was a must was getting more light in the place and making it warmer. We installed plate glass in all the openings, doing away with the small windows that leaked cold air. We lined our two largest rooms with knotty pine and the old house was lightened considerably. I guess the one thing I am most proud of is our hand hammered copper hood installed over the big fireplace. It was designed and built in our own shop, and the Deer

was drawn by our oldest Son Jim. We also had our drapes silk screened with the same deer design, these were done by some very talented friends.” The Hines also acquired a contingent of horses: Ranger, Goldie, Smokey and Princess and also three donkeys.

“It would be wonderful if we kept diaries of the many experiences and didn’t have to rely on trying to remember so many of the things we did that were amusing and some not so amusing but most of the things seemed to turn out for the best and I’m just trying to recall some of our escapades.”

“One such memory that was amusing to me was our trip up one winter during the hunting season. Halbert and one of his buddies had already come up several days before but Joe was in school so I couldn’t get up until the weekend. It snowed one of those wet ones where the roads were just a mess. We made trip to Cuba OK in My sister-in-laws car. There was Maryon, Joe, Chico the dog and all our cooking for the group, and myself. Halbert met us in Cuba, all we had for that kind of weather. We all managed to pile in somehow, with me balancing two lemon meringue pies. Halbert had bought supplies for several hunters along the way that were unable to get up the road any further. We really clopped through the mud that night but arrived OK with all intact except Chico managed to walk in one of the pies. Everyone was in good spirits tho. That trip it snowed for five days and the power finally went off. Maryon knitted a sweater for Chico and finished part of it by kerosene lamp.”

“Some of my fondest memories were of the Hamptons. They came to stay in our small cabin one year when Esther went back to work for Public Health. The little cabin needed lots of work so Ham came over and helped and he and Halbert got it sealed so it was livable. They did have running water inside, but no other plumbing. The next year we added a room and a small bath so they were quite comfortable and they stayed with us for several years. At the time we used to see the Elk herds on Bluebird and made lots of evening jaunts in the old Jeep truck over to watch them. When the snow was on Esther would have groups of young people up from the clinic to ski and tobaggan and I can still see Esther flying down the pasture on the tabaggon in her fur coat. Also Ham was an excellent cook and made an angel food cake for my birthday that was as good as I’ve ever had.

These were the happiest times I’ve ever known. We were always sno-mobile enthusiasts. One of the first ones we ever had we called old iron-sides, it was a far cry from the modern machines they have today but we soon acquired a more modern one and on Christmas Halbert gave me a new one . We really traveled around those hills and enjoyed winter as much as the summer.”