

PASSING THE BATON

BY ROD CASE, TREASURER

Four Lakes was incorporated in 1969. For the next 10 years people bought lots and built their new homes on what had for generations been a family farm. In those early years much of the business of the new community was carried out by a handful of people. First was Dave & Nancy Horrocks whose family owned the farm and land that was starting to become Four Lakes. They provided much insight into the general area and dreams of what the community could become. The Schaefer family also played a large role in the community. Walt, Robert, Charlie and Paul were involved in developing much of the first infrastructure. Charlie in particular was instrumental in installing the water system. Several other pioneers were Bob and Doris Griffith, Don and Dar Smith, and Dick and Kate Taylor. These people helped form the first home owners association and set up the first business practices.

Right from the beginning there were basically four main areas to deal with. These included the water system, our roads (all gravel in the early years), the community property, and the lakes themselves. Much of the leadership in these areas was provided by the individuals just mentioned.

As more people built homes and our community grew some of the new people also became involved in community affairs. They worked with these pioneers to build a better community. In doing so knowledge and expertise about how things were set up began to be passed on to a new generation of community leaders. Most of those new leaders moved into the community in the late 70s through the 80s. They worked alongside each other and continued to implement the vision of a self-sufficient community run largely by its members. The roads began to be paved in the early 80s, a largereservoir was designed and built, the gazebo was built, etc.

But time marched on and most of these people are now in their 60s and 70s. They have a great sense of what has made this community what it is today. That knowledge needs to be passed on to the next group of leaders. The most natural way for that to happen is the way it did before. New people in the community need to get involved with the working committees and absorb the knowledge that is there waiting to be passed on. Over the last few years we have had a large number of longtime residents move out and more will be doing so in the coming years.

The positive side of this is that new, young families are moving in. They bring with them enthusiasm and energy. Most importantly many of them will do as those before them have done and will make Four Lakes their home for 20, 30 and even 40 years. There is now at least two families living in Four Lakes which are 3rd generation of the pioneer families mentioned at the beginning of this article.

Now is the perfect time for new people to get involved and continue the vision of Four Lakes as a community. It doesn't take a lot to do this. Join a committee and get involved. Most committees meet 1 to 3 times a year and have 1 or 2 work parties. You are all busy, that comes with being a young family. But so were those who came before you. They knew that setting aside a few hours a year was time well spent if it meant maintaining the life style we desired when you moved out here.

At the very least come to the annual meeting in March. Introduce yourselves, listen to today's leaders describe what is happening to keep our community working, and maybe even thank those who put in the time and effort to make your community a great place to live. At the meeting would be the perfect time to join a committee. The baton is being extended, it is now your turn to take it and run the next lap.



Four Lakes News

'Printing all the new we suspect might be true'

February, 2014



Annual Meeting March 19th

The annual meeting for the Four Lakes Landowners Association will be held Wednesday, March 19th at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the Eagle Room at the Issaquah Police station on Sunset.

The meeting is expected to conclude by 9 PM. The agenda includes a discussion of what has happened in the past year and what are the plans for the coming year as well as presenting the budget for the upcoming year. Questions and suggestions will be welcome, no, really! We manage our own roads, maintain our own water system, have significant community property and have lots of lakes and water to manage. All the work is accomplished by volunteers. This is a great time to show up and let them know how much you appreciate their efforts.

COMMUNITY PROPERTY

By **MARTY JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN**

Everyone* in the community is welcome to make use of the gazebo/picnic area. To reserve it, go to the Four Lakes web site (four-lakes.org) You can sign up on the calendar, or see if your desired date is available. First come, first served. The Sani-can will be back in place at the bus stop, come April. It will be there until mid-September.

We are also looking for a young person to mow and clean up the community property this year. Anyone interested should call Marty Johnson at (425) 391-8053

*You must be current with your dues

Fall 2014 Water Report

By Evan Lurton / Water Committee Chair

The winter months are approaching. Please take time to ensure that your home and irrigation piping is freeze protected. Frost-proof spigots and yard hydrants are the best insurance against freeze damage to exposed plumbing. Foam insulation covers on house spigots are also useful, but must fit tightly to be effective.

Also take a minute to locate your house water shutoff, as well as the street vault. Clear brush, weeds and debris away from the street vault for quick access during an emergency. If you need help locating it, do not hesitate to call me.

Thanks to your volunteer Four Lakes water team for the ongoing system maintenance and installation of new hardware in the street water boxes. And, thanks to the neighborhood for doing a pretty good job of conserving water this past summer! Well done! Periodic well depth drawdown and recovery time measurements indicate very little variation in our well performance over the past 40 years! We have a stable system and great water.

You can reach me at (425) 392-7934



Community Property

By Marty Johnson

The school bus shed and the storage shed have both been given a new coat of paint. The hand rails leading to the school bus stop at the top of the bank have also been painted. The bus shed also received new carpet and had its foundation leveled. The gazebo posts were given another coat of clear finish. We are currently getting bids to repair or replace the roof on the gazebo.

A gate has been placed on the easement that leads across the Wittrens property, going across the dam on Lake 1 and continuing up to Cedar Grove Road. This is not an attempt to block the easement, but a safety consideration for their children. Please be courteous and safety minded and be sure you close the gate behind you.

TRAIL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Sharon Ayers

I am pleased to announce that the Board has given a nod of approval to the formation of a non-board Trails Committee. Although we are not an official Board listed committee, we exist to support the trail system that was previously developed by some equine enthusiasts on approximately 150 acres of property owned by King County. The Four Lakes entrance to the trails is located at the top of the hill by the pump house with other entrances along 244th and SE 176th. We had a trail work party on September 6th, and I want to say a big THANK YOU to EVERYONE who helped make the event such a huge success! We were able to completely (almost) clear the main Four Lakes trail beginning at the well pump house and ending at SE 176th. We kind of ran out of steam just prior to the "finish line" but the trail is open and ready for use! Special "thanks" to Jeannie Lurton, Four Lakes resident and new horse owner, Barb Benson, horse enthusiast and owner of Centennial Kennels in the Lake Francis area, Vicky and Ted Murray, horse enthusiasts and trail users from Seattle

and Heather and Drew Erickson and their two sons, hikers, who live over by 252nd for all their hard work. An additional "thank you" to Spencer Sheldrew for loaning us his amazing chain saw and weed whacker.

We have more work to do and by forming a committee I think we can really make some progress. Participation on the committee is as simple as using the trails and doing a little maintenance as you walk or ride along. Please let me know if you would like to receive information on upcoming trail committee events & activities or a copy of the map showing all the trails via email at: Sharon.hatcher@comcast.net

