

Twin Lakes Improvement Association Newsletter

P. O. Box 620, Rathdrum, Idaho 83858

Spring/Summer-2009

55th Year – 1st Ed.

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 30, 2007

The annual meeting is scheduled for June 27th 2009 at the Twinlow Camp on lower Twin Lake at 9:30AM. Sign in and new member sign up starts at 9 AM. Twinlow Camp is located at 22759 N. Twin Low Rd. Twin Low Rd is located one block west of Highway 41 between Par Three Rd and Twin lakes Rd.

SPEAKERS

We will have speakers to address three very important issues concerning your lake.

Water Rights & Filing Regulations will be addressed by Ken Knoblock from the Idaho Dept. of Water Resources.

“ZAP THE ZEBRA” There is a lot of confusion and anguish over the new boating fees. But if you want to know what is coming our way; you won’t want to miss what Kate Wilson from the Ponderay Basin Commission has to say. If time allows we will discuss the Lake*A*Syst program, to provide some insight on ways to preserve the quality of our lake. TLIA board members will also be addressing some of your issues. Plan on attending to hear this important information.

FALL WOODS TOUR

Information will be provided at the annual meeting for this year’s Woods Tour, presented by the Inland Empire Paper Co. The Woods Tour is an excellent way to see up close, how IEP manages its forests and provides for the community. The tour provides a wealth of information and an appreciation for the company’s Forest Management Plan.

FOURTH OF JULY BOAT PARADE!!!!

Decorate your boat and join everyone on the upper end of the upper lake, for the 2009 Boat Parade. The parade starts at 11AM. Last year over 70 boats were involved. This community event is a great way to start your 4th of July celebration. This event is greatly appreciated by the hundreds of viewers who celebrate it from the shores.

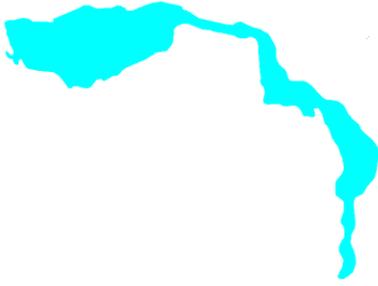
HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT YOUR WEB SITE?

We want to take this opportunity to again thank Sue Park, of Twin Lakes Water District, for creating the community website for Twin Lakes. You can access the Twin Lakes Improvement Association thru this website www.twinlakesidaho.org. The site is a work in progress and other community organizations are encouraged to contribute. Our Goal is to create a message board on the website, which members can access to provide comments and questions to your board. Board members can then address your ideas and concerns and get back to you sooner.

YOUR TLIA BOARD HAS BEEN HARD AT WORK

As you may know, TLIA board members work on behalf of the residents we serve in the Twin Lakes area. As such, committees are formed to address your concerns and requests. Volunteers are always welcome to join the committees and present your ideas. Your current six committees are:

- Sediment Removal
- Safety & Speed



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- Weed & Feed
- Woods
- Watershed & Lake*A*Syst
- Community Clean Up
- Planning & Zoning
- PR & Promotion

Here are updates from some committees.

Sediment Removal/Channel Project Committee

There are three hurdles to get over to open up the shallowest part of the channel. They are money, the permit process, and gaining the cooperation of adjacent property owners. Although we don't have enough money yet, the sediment removal committee feels that, with state and county backing, this is a hurdle we can overcome. The permit process is very frustrating, but again, it is something we should be able to accomplish.

At present, the committee is not focusing on either of the first two hurdles. Without the cooperation of the adjacent property owners, the project would not be financially feasible. Our efforts in gaining the necessary cooperation, so far, have been unsuccessful. Wish us luck.

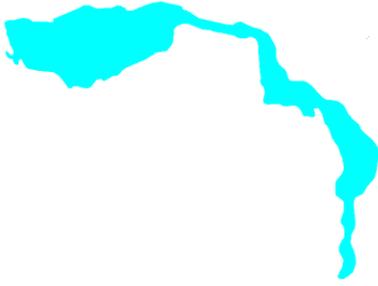
Safety Speed Committee

At last years annual meeting a request was presented to the board to address the safety issues caused at the narrow portion of the lower Twin Lake, at Twin Lakes Village. A motion was passed to refer this matter to the Board, which would then form a committee to investigate the safety issues and

possible solutions. As a result of that board's inquiry, it was determined that the distance between the docks at that location, is 410 feet. There appears to be sufficient room for skiers to pass thru that area. The Kootenai County Sheriff's Dept. verified that the speed limit on the lower lake is still 35 mph, while the upper lake is 50mph. The Board will provide brochures at the annual meeting which outlines the rules and ordinances which regulate these issues.

Weed Feed Committee

As summer approaches and more folks return to the lake, we need to ask everyone to be extremely careful when fertilizing their lawn. Any pellets that inadvertently get into the lake, or fertilizer rich water that leaches into the lake, will add to the nutrient load. In the past there has been a question as to how much the wild fowl contributes to pollution in the lake. This year we were careful to observe the migration pattern of the geese. We observed that migrating geese were on the upper lake for less than two weeks. At the present time I do not believe we have more than one nesting pair on the upper lake. We do have several resident pair of ducks. No cattle have arrived at the Easter Day Ranch as of this time. The normally arrive sometime after the first of June. As summer arrives we will be collecting samples of the weeds in the upper lake for analysis. In theory, we do not have milfoil. One of the new plants that we have observed on the upper lake certainly looks like milfoil to us.



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Clean Up Committee

We all want to keep our lake clean, so we can enjoy it today, and pass it along to our children. In that effort, we are looking into having a “Clean the Lake” day. Our goal would be to remove trash, rubbish, and abandoned docks from our shoreline. Further discussion can be addressed at the annual meeting.

Minutes of Last Year’s Annual Meeting on June 28, 2008 @ Twinlow Church Camp

President Gregg Durkee called the meeting to order at 9:35 am and introduced the speakers.

Speaker – Jamie Davis from the Water Quality Resource Conservationist. Jamie discussed the effects of erosion and stormwater run-off and ways to prevent the damage they cause. Her program offers workshops and certifies contractors. The workshop includes best management practices, a field experience to learn the techniques, and a certification exam. They have a list of the 200 contractors in our area that have been certified. The list is on website: www.plrcd.org/SEEP/index.htm

Speaker -Tyson Clyne, DEQ – The Fish Creek Watershed Advisory Group Study completed a watershed assessment (done because Fish Creek had been identified by the State of Idaho as an impaired stream). Pollutants were identified. Beneficial uses of the watershed and protection of the watershed were identified. 90% of the discharge to our lakes comes from Fish Creek. You can receive a copy of the report by calling Tyson Clyne @ 769-1422 or by visiting the DEQ website). A question was asked about the cattle in the lake/stream. Tyson said they are working on this issue. Tyson stated that their study has been EPA approved; the next step is implementation projects. They have

several sources of possible funding. Tom Herron, also of DEQ, said that they are going to start a watershed group of the lakes that rim the Rathdrum Prairie. He asked for reps from TLIA.

Speaker, Paul Buckland, IEP reported that logging would be light this year. IEP planted a record number of trees this last year – 675,000 on 150 acres. 50,000 were in our watershed. Because of input from TLIA members, IEP changed their permit fee from \$10. per person to \$10. per vehicle. There is not an IEP gate on Mt. Spokane Road because the road is closed for road maintenance. There would be an IEP/TLIA woods tour in September. Paul Buckland, IEP, and Gregg Durkee, TLIA, will coordinate the tour. Basically, there is no overnight camping on IEP land.

A motion was made, seconded and passed, to accept the minutes of the 2007 annual meeting, as corrected.

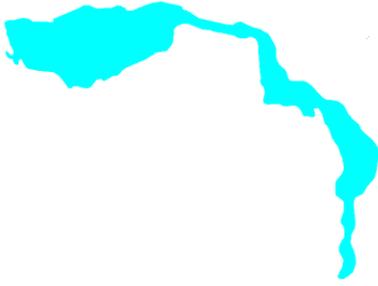
Lisa Wenig, acting treasurer, presented the treasurer’s report. 2007 year’s revenue was \$4433.64, with about \$2500 of that in the sediment removal fund. Expenses for the year were \$641.69.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed, to accept the treasurer’s report.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Expectations were shared with the membership by President Gregg Durkee. Board members are expected to attend the annual meeting, to attend all board meetings, be an active member of at least one committee, and be a support member on at least one other committee.

Election of Board Members: Gregg Durkee, Angie Murray, Ralph Schmidt, and Rick Eldenburg were re-elected. Lisa Wenig and Gail Hanninen were elected. All by a unanimous ballot.



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Website – Susie Ellis shared the information that Sue, Dan and Chet Park, of Twin Lakes Water District #95C, have created a community website for Twin Lakes. You can access this website at www.twinlakesidaho.org. Twin Lakes Improvement Association is part of this website. Check it out. This is a work in progress. Other community organizations are encouraged to contribute.

Flotilla – Friday, July 4th, 11am. It will start at the lower end of the lower lake.

Gene Bronson – Shared memories of his 54 years at Twin Lakes and complimented Gregg on his job as president of the association. Gene’s concern was of the safety issues caused by the 2 large docks (TLV’s and Marty’s) at that very narrow part of the lake. Add boats and alcohol. Gene moved that this area, and south of there, be made a no-wake zone. After discussion, this was seconded. The option of limiting dock size was also discussed. Gene’s motion was amended to refer this matter to the Board so they could form a committee to investigate the safety issues and possible solutions. The amended motion was seconded and passed.

Grant Smith – is concerned about the increased number of power outages. We can expect an increase in weather events and the cost of running gas generators to increase. He has talked to Kootenai Electric Coop about burying our power lines and the costs involved. When there are power outages, KEC repairs more populated areas first. Leaving us, literally, out in the cold longer. Grant requested that TLIA form an exploratory committee to propose a pilot program to KEC. The pilot program would be to bury the power lines in a rural treed area (Twin Lakes). The board will discuss this proposal.

OLD BUSINESS

Sediment Removal Committee – Chairperson Don Ellis reported that the 8-member committee has been working on acquiring the necessary permits to remove some of the sediment from the narrowest 210’ of the channel. The initial application was denied because the new Department of Lands representative wanted more

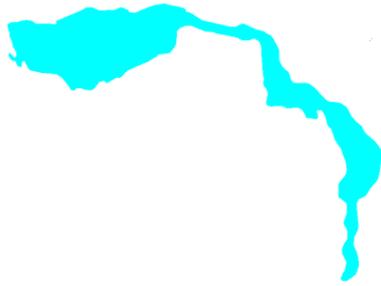
information than they first requested. Letters have been sent to Governor Otter and the Department of Lands. The responses have been somewhat encouraging. We are waiting further communication from the Department of Lands. The committee will continue to work on this project.

Planning and Zoning Committee – Chairperson Angie Murray reported that the committee investigated the issues, informed members, and encouraged and facilitated citizen input to the county. The county is now considering the input. They will compile and adopt a comprehensive plan. The County Commissioners will consider adoption of the plan by November or December. A question was asked about the buffer zone regulations. Is it for all lake dwellings/property or just new construction? Not sure, but we know they are not planning to hire new personnel this year to enforce the buffer zone requirements. Angie will write a summary of this plan for the association.

Board Meeting – There will be a Board meeting immediately following this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.

End of 2008 Meeting Minutes



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YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION

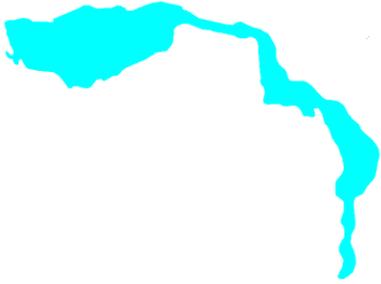
What still costs only 5 dollars? Your membership in the Twin Lakes Improvement Association still costs only 5 dollars! The number after your name on the mailing label indicates you are paid through June of that year (i.e., 2009 means that you're paid through June of 2009). Your dues helps the Board of Directors represent you and also put out this newsletter. Please continue your paid membership so the Association can continue working for the good and improvement of our valuable asset, clean and usable lakes.

THANKS TO OUR PRINTERS

Fellow Lake Association members Steve and Patty Johnston, owners of Johnston Printing, Spokane WA., have graciously assisted in the publication, printing and mailing of our newsletter. Thank you Johnston Printing! (509-624-4407)

AGENCY CALL LIST 2009

AGENCY	REMARKS	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE No.
Kootenai County Sheriff Dept	Sheriff; Rocky Watson	Marine Unit Sgt. Street	446-1300
Northern Lakes Fire Protection District	Fire Chief; Lane Wintermute	Emergency Twin Lakes Sta. Business / Admin	911 687-1815 772-5711
Idaho Dept. of Lands – Mica Forest Protection Dist.	Boat access only fire permits / May thru October		769-1577
Flood Control District #17	Water level above 7' at the dam. (low water)	Water Master; Dan Parks Chairman; Don Ellis	687-1484 687-2440
North Kootenai Water District	Meets 2 nd Thursday Monthly	Chairperson; Linda Davis	772-3619
Dept. of Lands / Navigational Waters	Dock Permits	Carl Washburn	769-1577
Panhandle Health District	Septic system permits / new & revisions	Division Director; Dale Peck 8500 N. Atlas Rd., Hayden	415-5200
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality	Environmental Quality issues, ie: cattle in lake, Hazardous Material spills, ect.	Gwen Swanson 2110 Ironwood Pkwy. Cd'A,	769-1422
Idaho Department of Water Resources	Water Rights	Regional Manager; Robert Hanes	762-2800
Kootenai County Building and Planning	Building permits, codes, Stormwater runoff	451 Government Way., Cd'A	446-1088
Twin Lakes Improvement Assoc.		Gregg Durkee; President P.O. Box 620 Rathdrum ID 83858	
Waterways & Parks of Kootenai County		Nick Snyder	446-1275
Kootenai County Noxious Weeds		Nina Eckberg County Weed Supervisor	446-1290



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DUES FORM – Please Mail responses to:

**TWIN LAKES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 620
RATHDRUM, IDAHO 83858**

Name: _____

Give beach area if owner, or write “associate”: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Dues: \$5.00 2008 _____
 2009 _____
 2010 _____
 Total \$ _____

Cash _____ Check _____

+ Donation (optional) \$ _____