

MVPCC Fall News

November 2009

Visit the Lake Kayak website at WWW.MVPCC.COM

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PAY 2010 ANNUAL DUES BY MARCH 15th!

- Mail your payment to:
PO Box
Duvall, WA 98019



ANNUAL 2010 MEETING:

- Saturday June, 2009 2pm at
Park Picnic Shelter

Summer Visitors



Wood Duck Ducklings

Photo by: ©Chuck Briggs, 2009

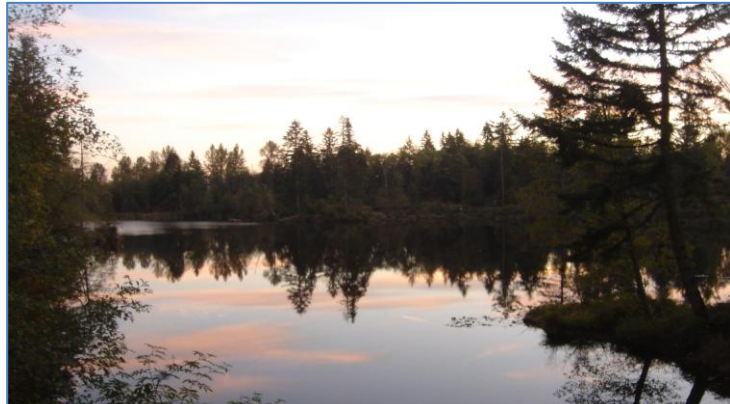


Photo by: © Molly, 2009

... 2008 – 2010 Board Fall '09 Greetings ...

Hot, record breaking summer is behind us as we enter into the new season and adventures. It is yet to be seen whether upcoming winter will bring us as much snow as last year. Hopefully everyone in our community is prepared either way!

MVPCC BOARD DECISIONS:

● Dues Notice -

Dues – the MVPCC annual due date for community membership dues is March 15. A \$25 fee per year will be added if dues are not paid by the June MVPCC Annual Meeting. A lien will be placed on the property if dues are not paid by 12/31 and the county processing fee will be added.

● Guest Passes-

The board reinstituted the guest pass policy that worked well for the community years ago. Each member lot is given a guest pass each year when the dues are paid (2 lots = 2 passes). The pass needs to be carried by guests at the park or the lake when the members are not accompanying the guests during their visit. Members do not need to carry the guest pass, but guests need to have it with them so that they can show the pass if any member asks about their authorized presence at the park / lake.

2010 MVPCC DUES :

- Due date - March 15



ANNUAL 2010 MEETING:

- Saturday June 12, 2010
2pm at Park Picnic Shelter



MVPCC BOARD MEETING 2010 SCHEDULE:

January 12, 2010

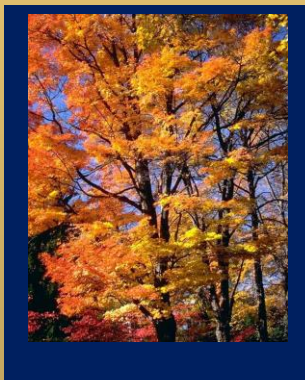
March 9, 2010

May 11, 2010



NEWSLETTERS:

- Newsletters will be published twice a year, targeting spring and fall. Any additional communications for the community may be included in combination with the Dues Invoices and / or the Annual Meeting notice. Contact a board member if you want to provide an article, photos, or suggest a topic to be included. Note that all published photos and other materials are copyrighted by the originating authors / artists.



MVPCC BOARD DECISIONS continued...

● Annual Meeting-

The community meeting was held June 13, 2009 at 2pm and the proposed budget was approved. Check the website www.mvpcc.com for draft minutes and budget information. The community approved an increase in the MVPCC liability insurance from 1M\$ to 3M\$ coverage for the community property and approved a budget item to begin work on a project for revising the MVPCC CC & Rs to strengthen the language for protection of the community members.

● In-Lieu of Policy-

The board approved a new policy that allows community members to provide goods or services in-lieu of dues payments starting in 2010. MVPCC members may submit a proposal to the Board of Directors to provide goods or services, which have been identified in the approved annual budget for park improvement, dam maintenance or other community property maintenance or improvement, in lieu of annual dues. When the proposal has been approved by the Board and upon completion of the delivery of the goods or services, an invoice stating compliance and completion must be submitted to the board for payment.

● Financial Records Audit-

The board approved a new policy to require an internal audit of the financial records every two years, to be completed by May of an election year, prior to a change of position for Treasurer. The audit is to be performed by at least one board member with the Treasurer, and an additional community member may participate if interested.

MVPCC BOARD UPDATES:

● Community Park Access and Rules –

We have seen much improvement compared to last year with regard to unauthorized park access by non members. We think this is in part due to the clear signage, reinstitution of guest passes, but in large part it is due to the efforts of members at the park who took the opportunity to work with the unauthorized guests and explain our policies and liability concerns and suggest alternative public lakes they could use instead of our private lake.

- PLEASE LOCK THE GATE BEHIND YOU – whether you are coming to the park or leaving the park - the locked gate and locked chain provide a big part of our community protection and helps to reduce our liability by restricting unauthorized access to our private park and lake. We need your help enforcing the park rules – remember there is NO PARKING inside the park, only at the designated parking area (by the boat launch). After you complete your Load/Unload, please re-park at the designated parking area or outside the main gate on the road.

See all park rules on signs by the picnic shelter, at the park entrance and on the MVPCC website www.mvpcc.com.

MVPCC BOARD UPDATES continued...

● **CEO – Community Enhancement Opportunities – June and August**

This year we had two CEOs - in June and August- June we hauled many pickup loads of brush that had been cut by Tom Morgan, Mike Pearson, and Peter Jones. The brush was hauled from along the driveway into the clearing by Geoff and Dawn McCarthy, Lisa Mallant and Molly Graham where the pile provided summer bonfire material.

The Beaver deceiver repairs and improvements were performed in record time on August 29th, three new culverts were installed in accordance with Snohomish County guidance and our permit. As we continue to partner with the beavers we will need to perform regular maintenance on the deceiver near the spillway in the canal. Thanks to Jim Guintini, Beverly Jacobson, Leo Gonzales and Lisa Mallant for their efforts.

● **New!!!! Community News Board**

A new community News Board has been installed at the bus-stop. Kevin will provide the finishing touches soon so we can post current. The location was selected to allow members to drive by closely during bad weather and it is readily viewable for all members driving into either E or W Lake Kayak Drives. This has been a community desire for over ten years and it has finally become a reality! The news board will be used for official MVPCC postings, like meetings, notices, newsletters, CEO and PIC activities but it has sufficient space for community members to post personal notices for 'help wanted', 'lost / found', 'for sale', or general communication and information as well.

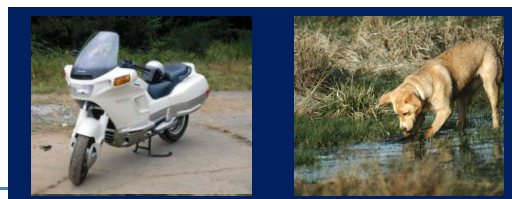
Please keep notices updated and neat to compliment this handsome addition to our neighborhood.

Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Kevin Rismoen for the fine work he did constructing the News Board. We really appreciate the many hours he donated for the construction and installation. Indeed such an item has been discussed for years but no one imagined the final product would have Lake Kayak Cedar as the main building materials! This fine example of his work will be a community landmark for years to come! Thanks Kevin.

Also involved in the installation with Kevin and his friend Jerry were Brady Allard, Leo Gonzales, Lisa Mallant and Mike & Jordan Pearson - Thanks to everyone for their help!

FRIENDLY REMINDER

REGARDING NOISE ISSUES SUCH AS DIRT BIKES, DOGS, LOUD MUSIC...



Please be considerate of the community residents when you, your family or pets may be generating noises or doing things that could disturb your neighbors or impact their safety. Be sensitive of the time of day that you may be generating noises - very early mornings, very late evenings, and night-time since you may not have the same work and sleep schedules that your neighbors do. Since we live in this rural area, all sounds can carry a long distance on the lake and from the woods. All community members need to properly muffler dirt bikes, follow the laws for street riding, control excessive barking from dogs, follow the posted speed limits (25mph on Lake Kayak Drives) and be courteous and respectful of your neighbors.

Please handle disturbances with your neighbors directly, and involve the proper authorities if unresolved.

WATER QUALITY UPDATE

Article by: Lisa Mallant, MVPCC President



Lisa Mallant in her kayak

Lake Kayak residents have obtained such a permit and it is valid for five years, but all conditions of the permit must be adhered to when managing the beaver dam and the permit must be on site. We scheduled the annual rework on the Beaver Deceiver for August 29th, as a “Community Enhancement Opportunity”. The idea was to allow the water level to be as high as possible for summer recreation and that allowed us to use the low water levels to our advantage for reworking the Beaver Deceiver in August. The work was performed in record time this year, and we installed three culverts at the proper water height and in accordance with the Snohomish County recommendations. There are advantages to the low water levels, as now we can see all of the trash along the shoreline that can be recovered when we are out in our boats! But, there are disadvantages too, the early low water level caused some areas to be smelly during the prime summer season and also made it difficult for some people to get out of their docks!

The water quality monitoring was performed twice a month during the summer. Test results show that Lake Kayak is 3°C warmer than the historic summer temperatures. This was in part due to the low water levels and in part due to the record heat. The temperature combined with high nutrient levels contributed to the algae bloom we saw on the lake. You may have noticed the iridescent green floating globs of algae which we have seen before in the summer, and we submitted a sample to Snohomish County Surface Water Management. It was a type of blue-green algae that has the potential to produce toxins, so caution should be taken. The State Department of Health recommends that people avoid swimming, avoid drinking lake water, keep pets and livestock away from water, clean fish well and discard guts, and avoid areas of algae scum when boating. **For more information on toxic algae visit:** www.lakes.surfacewater.info.

The nutrient levels – particularly phosphorus – also continued to be high this summer. Since we began monitoring in 2000, the nutrient levels in the lower part of the lake have shown a steady increase. This is evidence that nutrients are accumulating in the sediment and it is well known that high nutrient levels speed up the Eutrophic process - so it is vitally important to limit nutrients. Although Lake Kayak is considered in the middle stage of this natural process, we can keep it healthy and enjoyable longer! We need to be good stewards and be careful **not** to contribute to the problem. Follow the guide lines for preventing erosion, nurturing a natural shoreline, limiting fertilizer use (or choosing phosphorus-free fertilizers), keeping septic systems maintained and cleaning up after pets. Organic fertilizers applied properly are also preferable as they break down more slowly. Remember the watershed is not only affected by those who live right on the water but the activity of those surrounding it as well.

A Bit about Our Neighbors - The Beaver

Article by: Lisa Mallant, MVPCC President

This summer I arranged a visit with, Jake Jacobson Watershed Steward for Snohomish County. He was accompanied by Cindy Flint who may soon take over when Jake retires. I learn a lot about Beavers as we evaluated a plan for co-existing with these protected neighbors. They are very smart, gentle and playful. Known as the "sacred center" by Native Americans who recognized how their industrious nature creates rich habitat.

Beavers mate for life. An adult can average 40 pounds. They breed once a year and rarely overpopulate. The young (Kits) have a high mortality rate as easy prey for hawks, owls, otter, coyotes and bear, they are also prone to accidents. Kits leave home at two years old.

Beavers do not eat fish. Once weaned they eat water lily tubers, clover, apples, leaves and green bark. They can also eat yellow flag iris which has few predators. They topple large trees to keep their ever growing teeth worn and so they can eat the fresh green bark of new growth. They use bark stripped sticks and branches to build a sort of Tee Pee over a dug out place in the bank. Down stream from this den they go to work on a dam. As the water rises they add chambers to their growing Tee Pee, preserving an underwater entrance. Over time the Beaver den appears as an island which affords protection and inside dry chambers for living and food cache. As many as 6 Beaver may live in one den with yearling pups helping both parents care for the new litter. Clever builders maintain multiple escape routes on the surface and under the water.

Park Improvement Committee (PIC) Update

Article by: Lisa Mallant, MVPCC President

Thanks to the green power of Western Washington's climate and conditions the trees that survived beaver, deer, heat and weeds have settled in and are growing tall where we planted them 3 years ago. It would still be of great benefit to relieve them of vines and weeds that can hamper their success. This was a priority for the PIC 2009 but due to lack of participation even our modest goals of nurturing trees and maintaining trails have only been minimally met.

This said I would like to thank Shellie Monson for her dedication to PIC. Shellie packed tools and equipment to work at clearing the trail and also mowed the park a few times this season. We hope that if used as a horse trail the path will become more defined as a fun mountain bike trail as well as for walking dogs and for observation of the natural wildlife/ habitat around the peninsula. We appreciate that others occasionally water trees and whack weeds and continue to hope that we can gather 10 people who can work together for even 1 hour every other week to maintain and improve the park as needed. Other items on the Park Plan (voted on by members) are unrealistic without community effort. On the back burner are items of interest like relocating the fire pit, enlarging the designated parking area, building a permanent BBQ, establishing a boat landing away from the beach and other items that cannot happen without more participation.

Currently I am the chair person for the PIC and dedicated to bringing the approved Plan into being. Please do contact me with suggestions for increased participation and consider joining the committee so we can all enjoy the community park.

SEASON OF CHANGE EVENT – May 2nd

We held our first ever spring Season of Change Event —with the new season comes new hope and new beginning! Spring represents “fresh start of a brand new life!” and with that an opportunity to make a change!

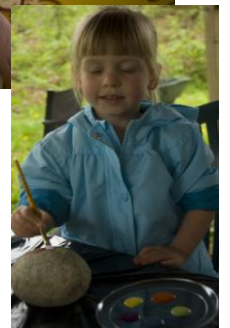
Unfortunately, many members weren’t able to join us, but we had fun anyway! Lots of great prizes were given away, and different information booths were set up to help learn about Lake Kayak. We hope to see you next spring! In the meantime, enjoy some of the fun highlights & warm spirit shared by the neighbors.



Rock
Painting
for
Adults &
Children!



“Piece of
Cake -
I can do
this with
my eyes
closed! ”



What a FUN event! Good company, warm fire,
great food and AWESOME raffle prizes!!

Photos by: ©Riitta Kivirinta. 2009 / “SOC”

FOURTH OF JULY!

Article by: Lisa Mallant, MVPCC President



In the middle of a gorgeous 3 day weekend, July fourth was even more special this year! Thanks to the generosity of Chuck Briggs and Riitta Kivirinta, a magnificent fireworks display was enjoyed by members all around the lake. The pyrotechnic talents Chuck demonstrated is backed by a license and accomplished with professional grade, low fall-out type of fireworks. This meant we were able to be spectators of a safe display with very little trash aftermath and part of a great community memory!

Not everyone celebrating Independence day was aware that fireworks are also Chuck’s favorite way to celebrate his July 2nd birthday, but by looking up, we were all included!

Fireworks were set up on 8 rafts and from middle of the lake and were ignited by remote. Without leaving the community, we were treated to a real Uptown Show! Truly a fun event for all!

I would like to extend our gratitude to Chuck and Riitta on behalf of all who enjoyed this magnificent Fourth of July!



As a proud wife, I am excited to mention that my husband is a talented wildlife photographer. For the second year in a row, he won the Monroe State Fair photography contest. This year he won the entire state fair “Sweepstakes” with his “Rufus Hummingbird” capture as seen on the left here. He also donated this picture and some other bird photos at our Community “Season of Change” event raffle.

Photo By: © Chuck Briggs, 2009. Rufus Hummingbird, Lake Kayak

LAKE KAYAK WILDLIFE

by Riitta Kivirinta

If you see any injured wildlife such as birds or wild animals, please call #425. 335. 0788 (Snohomish, Second Chance Wildlife Care Center) or 425. 787. 2500 x. 817 (Lynnwood, Paws) 24 hours a day. They are volunteer workers who will guide you with proper steps and how to help injured wild animal in your given situation. Do not put yourself or the injured animal at risk, and call a professional. Also, do you want to learn more about wildlife and our community? Please check out the new page on Facebook at www.facebook.com and search for a group called Lake Kayak, Washington.

DID YOU KNOW THIS ?

Interesting wildlife facts for the winter



Bald Eagle with Fish, Lake Kayak
Photo by: ©Chuck Briggs, 2009

BIRD FEEDING:

If you have started feeding the birds, please keep feeding them during the cold winter months -- the birds depend on you.

Who needs poisons and pest control when we have birds, bats and Garter snakes – our friendly allies against mosquitoes, slugs and other garden pests.

■ Did you know that Anna's Hummingbirds overwinter here in Lake Kayak?

■ Did you know that we have identified now over 90 different species of birds in our community?

■ Did you know about TNR program? It is a program called "Trap, Neuter and Return" which is designed to reduce the quantity of feral cats in nature. Many animal shelters and veterinarians participate in this program so that it will be free of service to the public. We can help wildlife by keeping our domestic cats away from native birds and feral cats. Feral cats may transmit dangerous diseases to humans as well as animals and be detrimental to birds and other wildlife.

Animal Control

Telephone: 425.388.3811

Hotline: 425.388.3440

On Line complaints:

http://web5.co.snohomish.wa.us/AuditorApps/AudComp_PublicEntry/AudComp-05-EnterCompData.asp

Fish & Wildlife

Telephone: 360. 902.2200

Website: www.wdfw.wa.gov

Snohomish County

(Contact County Permitting Office for Permitting & Permitting Violations such as illegal clearing of property within 150' from Lake Kayak water & creeks)

Telephone: 425. 388. 3411

Neighborhood Watch Program

Stay tuned for more information on this - started by a group in the community

2008-2010 Board of Directors Contact Information

President	Lisa Mallant	425-327-9948	lisamallant@earthlink.net
Vice-President	Peter Jones	360-794-0772	impeterjones@wildblue.net
Treasurer	Beverly Jacobson	360-863-1180	beverlybjk@earthlink.net
Secretary	Molly Graham	206-779-3750	mollyg1@comcast.net
Director	Jim Giuntini	425-643-1580	ginmartini4@msn.com
Director	Riittaliisa Kivirinta	360-805-3100	rkivirinta@kivirinta.com
Director	Shellie Monson	360-794-4297	shelliemonson@gmail.com
Director	Tom Morgan	360-805-1755	--
Director	Mike Pearson	425-314-2550	mtnbvrkyak@aol.com

~ We hope you have a wonderful fall & winter and a happy holiday season!