



## *President's Message*

I'd like to welcome everyone returning back to the resort. I also want to thank our winter staff and volunteers for everything they have done all winter. The Board has been busy planning for another season and new projects. As you know this board has provided a new laundry facility, purchased and placed new flooring in the lodge, bought a truck and snow plow, and have replaced the doors to the pool. Additionally, we have done paving work throughout the park and are now focused on installation of a new roof for the lodge. I'd like to thank the board members for all their hard work over the last three years. This year, I have encouraged the board to focus on the physical appearance of the resort . This means a renewed focus on our landscape and grounds. Some of that has taken place already thanks to the work of Ray and others. The yard waste dumpsters have seen good use and the resort looks great from spring cleanup. We have trimmed the trees and shrubs near the lodge and in the park area where the boat dock and Gazebo are located . The old Gazebo was showing some serious wear and tear and we are planning to replace it. We are also working on upgrading or replacing all of the drip irrigation systems that water our lawns and planting beds. We will soon be placing speedbumps around the resort to try to address exceeding the speed limit in the resort. Remember, the speed limit in the park is 10 MPH for all vehicles including golf carts, ATV and side by side vehicles. If you see someone speeding please get the license plate number and turn it into Ray. We can't fully address the issue if we don't know who the offenders are . We did have one incident last year where a child ran into the side of a moving car. Luckily the child was not hurt, but the driver was shaken up by the incident. Remember when the majority of us purchased lots here, only about 60% of the lots were sold and we enjoyed a fairly quiet resort. Now, more than 90% of the lots are purchased and potentially occupied. This means more people and more kids visiting the resort, and potentially more problems. If there is an issue you want the board to consider, please submit an Action Request Form. These are available in the office and are the best way to get issues to the board's attention.

I sincerely hope you enjoy your summer here at the resort. Be safe, watch for children, and please slow down! *Thank you George Dale, HOA President*

## Skookum Rendezvous and Camelot Shores HOA Board Members

### SRHOA Officers:

**President**    **George Dale**  
**V.P.**         **John Cameron**  
**Treasurer**   **Shannon Syth**  
**Secretary**    **Tom Sutton**

### CSHOA Officers:

**President**    **Ric Olander**  
**V.P.**         **Ray Dilcox**  
**Treasurer**   **Shannon Syth**  
**Secretary**    **Tom Sutton**

### Members At Large:

**Dan Wylie**  
**Ray Dilcox**  
**Ric Olander**

**George Dale**

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### MANAGERS WORDS

With Winter in our rear-view mirror and COVID Restrictions lightening up in Pend Oreille County, I am hopeful that our community can return to some level of normal. Spring is here and the streets are getting busy. Be it our year-round folk, our weekend friends, or the seasonal residents everyone is happy to be here and looking forward to an amazing Summer.

The Resort this spring is looking better than ever. The conditions have been ideal, and the plants and trees are flourishing. As the trees are coming out of bloom and the flowering plants are popping up everywhere, it has made for quite the spring showing.

The Riverfront Park and all its plantings have been trimmed back and the beautiful mature pine adjacent the gazebo has been limbed up giving sweeping views of the River. That with the replacement of the gazebo, this is sure to be an area for casual outdoor gatherings. Rumor has it, it will even host a wedding later this season.

As soon as the Activities Committee schedules its first meeting, we will then get back on track to hosting community functions as allowed under Pend Oreille County, Phase 3 Safe Reopening. Until then, put on your thinking cap and bring us your ideas.

Let the fun begin!

*Ray Dilcox*

Resort Manager

## *Firehouse Chat!*

*By Diane Shantz*

It's the time of year to welcome back the Snowbirds returning to Skookum! We had yet another mild winter this year and a very early Spring. Unfortunately for us in the Fire Service, that means an early active fire season!

Already this year, there have been approximately 50 acres burned in Pend Oreille County, which was more than all of last year. Please adhere to all burn restrictions and before burning, call

**1-800-323-BURN.**

We have a new fire engine assigned to your Skookum Station, Engine 62, which was officially put into service in April. It was acquired from Park City Utah and is a 2009 KME Rescue Pumper.

We are fortunate to still have one of the Kalispel Tribal Fire Department ambulances assigned to our Station, and it was deployed on over 60 calls last year.



We are hoping to have a couple of fundraising events to help raise funds for a thermal imaging drone to aid in firefighting capabilities and search and rescues. As these events draw closer, additional details will be shared.

As always, in an event of an emergency, ALWAYS call 911 first.

Enjoy your Summer and please be safe!

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## *Welcome Back!*

Spring is showing signs of strengthening, though I sit here on April 8 (yes, April) watching hail come down while the sun is out! After enduring the tumultuous winter of 2020, we can handle anything, right?

Skookum is starting to get busy, with lots of lot improvement projects under way and visits by lot owners from Spokane, Coeur d'Alene and the surrounding area. A fair number of new rigs came in over winter, as well, and we extend a hearty welcome to all new owners! Few snowbird sightings at this date, but we expect they will start showing up in numbers any time now. It's getting hot in the desert! We look forward to seeing friends and neighbors return!

Also eagerly anticipated is the return to normal social activities! Covid restrictions put a cramp in our style last season, and hopefully, the current rate of vaccinations will continue and give us the 'all clear' soon!

Whatever the call, just being here enjoying summer by the peaceful and scenic Pend Oreille River is good enough! Best wishes for a safe, happy summer of fishing, boating, hiking, sightseeing, BBQs and cold brews enjoyed with your neighbors!

**Walt Hughes, Editor**



## *Things To Do!*

### *Sweet Creek Rest Area*

The **Sweet Creek Rest Area** is a natural and scenic 38 acre parcel situated on the North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway and the Selkirk Loop (State Route 31) about 1 ½ miles south of Metaline. It was developed in 3 different phases with the help of the Department of Transportation grants as an enhancement project of the International Selkirk Loop plan. Sweet Creek bisects the site. The highlights of the area are three waterfalls; the lowest waterfall is located a short walk from the parking area.

This rest area offers excellent opportunities for wildlife viewing, hiking, picnicking and recreating in a quiet, natural setting. There is a large parking lot for 13 cars and 5 larger RVs or trucks, a two toilet vault restroom, trash receptacles, and two short trails. The north trail is the shortest and leads to the lower falls. The first part of the trail is paved and provides access to 2 different private areas with picnic tables. The second trail takes off from the south side of the rest area and leads to a viewpoint at the top of the falls. There are six picnic tables along this trail. There is also an interpretive sign near the restroom explaining the history of Sweet Creek and the former logging operations in that area.

Editor's note: the lower trail would be rated as 'easy' and is shaded by trees. The sound of the falls is refreshing on a hot day, and though it's a bit of a scramble down through the rocks, you can see where some folks have climbed down for a swim. Enjoy a picnic lunch at the rest area, or head into Metaline Falls to the Farmhouse Café, Covid restrictions permitting!

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## *River News*

An [Idaho Lakes Commission Meeting](#) on Tuesday, May 11 (link to article: [Lakes commission hears updates on fisheries, Albeni Falls | Bonner County Daily Bee May 12](#)) included information about winter snow pack levels and potential Pend Oreille Lake and River flooding. The good news is that, with a snow pack at 85% of an average year, there is a low flood risk! Spring precipitation could still create lake and river level control difficulty, but we've only had 70-80% of normal precipitation so far this year, and this trend is expected to continue going forward. The bad news here is that could lead to increased forest fire risks from overly dry conditions later in the season. Indeed, as Diane Shantz pointed out in the Firehouse Chat, increased wildfires have already been an issue this spring. This article goes into detail about snowpack and melt predictions, as well as offering information about area waters pertaining to fishing and recreation, recommended reading for anyone planning boating and fishing excursions!

**What you missed last Winter!**



**The promise of Summer!**



**Have a great Summer!**