



SKOOKUM SUMMER UPDATE!

President's Message!

Thank you to everyone who have attended the last few Board Meetings. As you know, there will be several positions on the Board to be filled this coming August. The deadline for signing up is June 30th.

There are a few community activities in the works so check out the latest calendar, so you don't miss out. Italian Night, the Country Breakfast and the Annual Block Party on Adventure Lane are a go again this season.

As always, the community can use a few volunteers willing to participate with local projects. Check with me or the office if you have some free time to help on the Projects Committee.

John Cameron

HOA Board President

Manager's Words!

Hello everyone! By the time you are reading this, our long-awaited summer temps will have arrived and the summer fun will be underway. With what felt like a never-ending spring the warmer days are sure to lift everyone's spirits.

As always, a new season brings new friends to our community. Those new friends come with new ideas and new energy, so we look forward to meeting everyone at some of the upcoming summer events. Those of us that have been around a while are always willing and happy to say hi and assist you new folks with getting better acquainted!

The July Activities Calendar will soon be posted and there are many things coming up. Some are your weekly favorites, there are group outings, community dinners and a July 4th schedule offering multiple ways to celebrate the day!

Enjoy,

Ray Dilcox

Resort Manager

Firehouse Chat with Diane Shantz!



The Summer season is upon us and with that brings new group of owners to the Skookum Community. Every year I like to let the new owners know, and remind owners who have been here awhile information that is important to be aware of.

South Pend Oreille Fire and Rescue is a volunteer Fire District supplemented with 9 paid career firefighters/EMTs and a roster of 53 dedicated volunteers to respond to your fire or medical emergency. The District covers over 240 square miles, including the City of Newport, and responds out of 9 Fire Stations located throughout our service area. At this time only 1 station is staffed fully 24/7 and that is the Diamond Lake Station on Highway 2. Be aware you are in a rural area with only a level 4 trauma hospital. Response times to your emergency will vary depending on where the paid staff and volunteers are responding from.

The Skookum Community is fortunate to have the Skookum Station, Station 62, which is owned by the Fire District, within your neighborhood. Again, it is a volunteer station, with an Engine, Tender, and Brush truck stationed within the building. We also have an office which is only occupied should one of our volunteers be on the property. Also remember it is important to ALWAYS call 911 first in the event of any emergency, instead of coming to the fire station for help. This saves valuable time and ensures that all appropriate resources and personnel are dispatched in a timely manner.

The fire station also has a helicopter landing zone on the west side of the station. In the event of a stroke, heart attack, or major trauma, the possibility of being transported by helicopter is high. If you don't already have LifeFlight insurance, you are urged to obtain it at an extremely low cost of \$85.00 a year, which covers all family members residing in the household. It is a small amount to cover the very expensive helicopter transport you may need. For further information go to www.lifeflight.org

Are you confident that first responders can locate your lot in an event of an emergency? Finding your lot, especially at night, can be difficult unless you have an unobstructed, clearly visible reflective sign with your address (not your lot number) on it. If you would like to obtain a reflective

Firehouse Chat (cont.)

sign, go to www.spofr.org scroll to the bottom of the home page for information on how to obtain one through the fire department.

Do you know when you can legally burn and have open campfires? To easily find out, call 1-800-323-BURN. Remember burning in a burn barrel is illegal everywhere in Washington, and you can burn only natural vegetation. Never leave a fire unattended, and always have a water source nearby.

As we head towards wildfire season, it is imperative that you clear all sources of fire fuels from your property, especially pine needles and dry weeds. For those living along the creek with pine trees, remember to clear you roofs of your park homes, trailers, and sheds. Embers from a wildfire can travel up to 5 miles. Please do your part to keep the Skookum Community safe this summer.

Do you know you can be alerted of an emergency, road closure, or other important information in Pend Oreille County by subscribing to NIXLE alerts on your smart phone? Text your zipcode to 888777 for mobile alerts. You can go to www.nixle.com for additional information.

Lastly, with every season comes change. Craig and I have lived within the Skookum Community as property owners and then resident firefighters/EMTs since 2008. The time has come for us to hang up our gear and start a new adventure elsewhere. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve this Community. We are forever grateful for the support we received during our fund raising events over the years and the valuable and lifesaving equipment we were able to purchase for the fire district. The Skookum Community has helped raise well over \$50,000. Never doubt what you can do as a Community when you all work together.

Skookum Rendezvous Owners Association Board of Directors

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Things To Do This Summer!

Cusick River's Edge Park

An easy one-mile interpretive walking trail, a covered pavilion with benches and BBQs for a picnic, a boat launch, skateboard park, plenty of parking, and many fantastic views of the Pend Oreille River await at this hidden gem just a few miles from Skookum! Also available is a 2-mile paved, dedicated river walk between Cusick and Usk. Park at the Cusick River's Edge Park and walk as far as you like before returning. Newly installed benches are available to sit and enjoy the open river view. This trail does parallel River Road, but the walking lane is clearly marked and there is usually very little vehicle traffic going by. The trail begins at the Cusick VFW adjacent to the park and goes all the way to the Usk Store.

We have used and enjoyed this park for years and rarely see many others there, except for the boat launch, which gets proper use. There is a kiosk fee station to pay for the use of the boat launch and trailer parking. We usually leave something in the fee box for the use of the park even though it is free. We want to make sure they have the funds to maintain the upkeep and cleanliness that we enjoy!

So, bring water and some snacks or lunch, get some exercise, and spend a few peaceful hours with a different view of the river! And don't forget your binoculars and or cameras as there is usually plenty of wildlife, usually birds, not to mention great views of the mountains to the east. Access the parking area by turning off 1st Avenue onto Monument Way behind the Cusick fire station. Go to this website (<https://selkirkloop.org/city/cusick-wa/>), zoom in on the map and look for the boat launch on Monument Way. Enjoy!

Kalispel Tribe of Indians 4th of July Fireworks Show!

The Kalispel Tribe of Indians invites you and your family to join us in celebrating this 4th of July with one of the region's best fireworks show! Fireworks begin at dusk at the Kalispel Tribal Powwow Grounds. Parking is limited, so get there early to ensure a great viewing spot. This is a drug and alcohol free event, and the Kalispel Tribe is not responsible for lost/stolen items. See you on the 4th!!!

Cusick Food Pantry

The number of people using this food pantry grows weekly. They served 1009 people in the month of April 2024, setting a new record and validating the importance of the food pantry to our area. Skookum has a donation box in the lodge (next to the door going into the Lenora Water District office) where you can donate non-perishable food items or you can send a check to:

**Cusick Food Pantry
PO Box 126
Cusick, WA 99119
THANKS!!**

Skookum Boat Launch Dock



One of the better kept secrets here is the peaceful and scenic views from the bench at the boat launch dock! The dock is situated such that you almost feel like you are on an island. A good place to view the pelicans when they are here, there is also almost always a nice breeze, which keeps the skeeters at bay! Wear your sun hat and bring your binocs and/or camera! Enjoy!

Horseshoes, Anyone?

Skookum has a new horseshoe pit at the north end of the riverfront common area near the fire pit! Everything you need to play is there, so no need to bring anything other than sun protection and maybe your favorite beverage!

Fantastic scenery is a bonus!!!



Fire Pit Improvements!

New and refurbished benches are now at the fire pit, joining the same great location and scenic views of the river and Selkirk Range! Wood is almost always available, so either bring your own or use what is there! Please remember to use the fire pit safely and always have a water source at hand to drown the fire completely when you are done!



Upcoming Events For Your Calendar:

[Remember to check the bulletin board in the Lodge kitchen for more](#)

[Events. Updates and sign-up sheets!](#)

Skookum 4th of July Events Attend the Flag-raising ceremony at 10 am at the Lodge! Then gather your red, white, and blue decorated carts, ATVs, or bikes at 11 am at the Lodge for the Skookum 4th of July parade, to be followed by a (provided!) hot dog feast at 12:30 at the riverfront common area at the gazebo!

July 9 Skookum Breakfast at AJs Café in Priest River. 9am.

July 13 Skookum and Camelot Shores Board Meeting. 10am. All Owners are encouraged to attend!

July 16 Lunch at the Double Barrel Craft Kitchen and Tap House. Newport. 11:30am.

July 24 Dinner at Arlo's Ristorante in Sandpoint, ID. New York Italian cuisine! 4pm.

July 20 Country Breakfast, Lodge 9am!

July 27 Annual Skookum Block Party! Live music and dancing in the streets! 4-8pm!



Kalispel Tribe of Indians Pow Wow! August 2-4 near the Camas Center. Grand Entry times are Friday 7pm, Saturday 1 and 7pm, and Sunday 1pm!

Skookum Rendezvous Elections. Look for your email ballots in August and vote for the issues and candidates. Be a candidate for the board of directors if you'd like to be involved with keeping Skookum a pleasant, livable community!

Bob's Car Show! Labor Day at the Newport City Park, 1st and Calispel Ave. Starts at 8am with a fundraiser pancake breakfast. All proceeds go to benefit veterans!

Albani Falls Dam!

Did you know that, in addition to the Albani Falls Dam visitors center on highway 2, there is also a nice little park below that area with great views of the river, dam and railroad bridge crossing the river! Shade trees and picnic benches make for a nice outing! And there is also access to views on the south side of the dam, as well.

Turn east on 4th Street S off of hwy 41

in Old Town, which becomes Albani Cove Rd as it descends down to Albany Cove Park. At 2.1 miles, there is a fork in Albani Cove Rd, the left fork taking you down to a small, gravel parking area where a short walk will take you to the south side of the dam. Or you can continue on the right fork, which will take you down to Albany Cove Park, an Army Corps of Engineers facility with parking, a swimming beach, picnic area, boat launch, and a campground for tents and RVs, and more views of the railroad bridge and the river!



Newsletter Editor Wanted

This will be my final season as Skookum newsletter editor! It has been my honor to serve the community for the past 6 years, but it's time for some fresh ideas. Contact Ray at the office if you are interested! I will be glad to help you get started!

So, here's wishing everyone a super summer here on the river! We have sure had a good one so far! Play safely, stay hydrated, drive respectfully, and use sunscreen! ;-) Walt Hughes.

More photos below:

Seen Around Town!!

