



# Wizard Lake Watershed & Lake Stewardship Association

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**Newsletter #5**

**Fall/Winter 2007**



## **Message from the Chair:**

Your board has had an exciting couple of months since our first ever Wizard Lake Awareness Day and AGM. We've welcomed six new members to the board: Greg Illchuk, April Larkin, Matt Leach, Bart and JoAnne Milner, and Kevin Smyth. They've brought new ideas and great energy with them. Each of our five working groups spent time planning for the coming year—an outline of those plans is in this newsletter. Have a look and feel free to call if you have any questions about anything you see there. Planning has also started for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Wiz 'Spiel** on **March 1/08**—mark your calendars and plan to join us for a great time! This year also, for the first time, we will have a Pot Luck Supper after the Wiz 'Spiel to exchange tall tales about the curling, get to know one another, and present the coveted awards. Everyone is welcome. Meanwhile, keep warm and have a wonderful Christmas.

Laverne Faulkner (389-3336)  
Chair, Wizard Lake Watershed and Lake Stewardship Association

## **WIZARD LAKE WATERSHED AND LAKE STEWARDSHIP ASSOCIATION**

### **WORKING GROUPS ACTION PLANS 2008**

#### **1. Water Quality** – LeVerne Ellsworth (985-3248)

- Evaluate 07 inlet stream sample results and 06 water quality testing with data from previous years
- Coordinate with Alberta Environment and Counties of Leduc & Wetaskiwin ESRA programs for future data
- Request water quality testing with ALMS for 2008. Provide boat and personnel
- Conduct inlet stream sampling, adding new locations in 2008

#### **2. Communication & Education** – Arja Patrick (985-8500)

- Continue newsletters in 2008 (one per season)
- Maintain tidiness of bulletin boards (quarterly removal of postings)
- Plan a retreat for Board members for watershed training
- Purchase and donate books to area libraries

#### **3. Shoreline and Watershed** – Ken Litzenberger (985-3042)

- Explore ideas about household garbage collection, shoreline garbage clean-up, and illegal dumping problems
- Review Riparian protection concerns and contact Leduc County regarding sinkhole at Wizard Ridge Estates
- Investigate regulations regarding the weir
- Establish a liaison between WLWLSA and Leduc county development dept
- Define the actual watershed area for Wizard Lake

#### **4. Safety and Enjoyment of Water Users** – Carole Ellsworth (985-3248)

- Meet with RCMP to assess 2007 patrols and discuss patrolling for 2008
- Address concerns about boat speeds and wakes, and safe number of boats on the lake at one time
- Do a 'boat count' on several different days during the summer 2008
- Modify hazard markers, add speed limit signs

#### **5. Fundraising & Celebrations** – Cathy & Chris Daniel (985-3287)

- Wiz Spiel March 1, 2008 – plan, advertise, make 'rocks' and create 'sheets'
- Second annual Awareness Day and AGM – summer 2008
- Other activities: Race track supper; bowling tournament – spring 2008

## Wiz 'Spiel 2008 – March 1, 2008

Please join us for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual wonderful wacky Wiz 'Spiel to be held Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> on Wizard Lake. Expanding this year to 16 teams, get your rink organized now for a whole lot of fun! Be creative with a team name and crazy hats. Prizes for everyone! Also on sight is a Concession! **You won't want to miss it!** Only \$40 per team (4 people) to enter (spaces are filling fast!). If you would like to come out but don't want to curl, spectators are welcome to join in the fun and cheer on their favorite team. For more information, to enter your team, or to volunteer, please call Laura Reichert at 389-0005 or Laverne Faulkner at 389-3336.

### Pot Luck Supper after curling

Whether you are curling or not, join us after the Wiz 'Spiel for a pot luck supper – everyone welcome - just bring a dish (enough for 6 people). Anything goes! Location will be in a hall within the vicinity – more details to follow in the New Year.

Looking for a unique Christmas gift for your lake neighbors? How about getting them a membership in your lake Watershed Association? Printed T-shirts are available as well. What a great way to involve more of your neighbors, as we are all lake stewards and giving of ourselves is the best gift of all. Call Laura at 389-0005.

### One Night at the Lake

*'Twas the night before Christmas and out at the lake  
Not a creature was stirring, no sounds did they make,  
As they were all settled down for the night  
Being sure they're on guard, to fight or take flight.*

*The birds and the squirrels were asleep in the trees  
The deer were all resting, all down on their knees,  
When all of a sudden there arose such a clatter  
The animals all stirred to see what was the matter.*

*And what to their wondering eyes did appear  
In the sky was a sleigh pulled by eight feisty reindeer,  
With a driver in red, appearing lively and quick,  
The creatures all knew that it must be St. Nick,*

*But he had trouble landing, as he brushed the treetops  
The way he was driving he should have stopped by the cops.  
Through the trees he maneuvered the sleigh and reindeer  
To a spot on the lake where a landing was clear.*

*They skid and they slid on the lake's icy top,  
Then jammed into a snow bank, coming to a full stop.  
The birds and the squirrels, the beavers and deer  
Gathered close on the shore while the worst they did fear.*

*Then suddenly Santa dug himself out of the snow  
In the moonlight they saw that his cheeks were aglow  
And the reindeer relieved to have survived the landing  
Were checking their legs to make sure they were standing.*

*The birds and the squirrels, the beavers and deer  
All ran out to greet them and let out a cheer.  
"Why did you land here – did you take a wrong turn?"  
A beaver asked Santa, without sounding stern.*

*"No, I came to the lake with some gifts in my pack,"  
Santa said as he groaned from a pain in his back,*

*"Gifts for us? How exciting! But what could they be?  
Nature's given us all that we need, you can see."*

*"There's one thing at the lake you all need," Santa said  
"To keep nature balanced, have a healthy lake bed,  
To keep the fish swimming in water that's clean  
And safe for the waterfowl, if you know what I mean.*

*A lake in its beauty, for all to enjoy  
For the birds and animals, and every girl and boy  
The gift that I've brought you is the hope that it brings  
In working together, in spreading your wings.*

*For the gift is that everyone will take more of a part  
To keep the lake healthy, and take it to heart.  
For our water is precious and protect it we should  
By working together, we all know we could.*

*So hope that your neighbors out here will all learn  
That each is responsible to all take their turn  
To be kind to the lake and the land all around  
Protect the environment – air, water and ground."*

*Santa still had deliveries to make yet that night  
So he jumped on his sleigh and got ready for flight.  
"I must leave you all now on this Christmas Eve  
I must gather my reindeer, my sleigh and take leave."*

*Santa whistled for Rudoff, whose nose shone bright red  
The reindeer were nervous, the take off they dread.  
The reindeer pulled hard to get into the sky  
It's not easy pulling Santa, as he's not a light guy.*

*The birds and the squirrels and the beavers and deer  
Thanked Santa for coming to see them all here.  
Then they all heard him exclaim as he flew out of sight  
"Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!"*

*By Laura Reichert 2007 [also in the Pipestone Flyer]*