



Wizard Lake Watershed & Lake Stewardship Association

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Newsletter #8

Winter 2009



Message from the Chair

Usually winter kind of slows down for WLWLSA-related work, but not this winter! Your board has been hopping. We participated in a board retreat in January that was very successful, as well as managing to be a lot of fun. We accomplished our objective to set out a plan for the coming year, and got to know each other better.

We are preparing for a stakeholder interview with the consultant hired by Leduc County to create an Area Structure Plan for Wizard Lake. I've had input from a number of people about this plan, which I really appreciate—keep those cards and letters coming! We are making a presentation to Leduc Council about last summer's boat survey, as well as about the other good work we've done.

The WLWSA board has approved hiring a consultant to complete a State of the Watershed Report for Wizard Lake. This is a necessary step towards identifying issues affecting the quality and environment of our lake. It is a major project and will require us obtaining seed money to fund this report. As progress is made, we will provide detailed information about the status and continuation of this project.

The Wiz 'Spiel is almost upon us, which we really look forward to as just a fun event. If you're not playing, be sure to drop by to watch the hilarity. After that, we will start preparing for the Wizard Lake Awareness Day and AGM on June 6. We are having the Awareness Day earlier this summer to avoid conflicts with the many other summer events and we're hoping to have a big turnout to kick off the summer.

And, as always, we are looking for people to help us out with any of our projects. No matter how much time you can offer, or what skills you have, just get in touch.

Laverne Faulkner, Chair – wizlake@telus.net, 780-389-3336

Environmental Dedication Rewarded



from left: Matt Leach, April Larkin, Chris Daniel, Cathy Daniel, Carole Ellsworth, LeVerne Ellsworth, and presenter, Rena Goldgrabe.

The 2008 Leduc County Environmental Stewardship Award was awarded to the Wizard Lake Watershed and Lake Stewardship Association at the Leduc-Nisku Economic Development Authority Economic Partnership breakfast at the Calmar Legion on January 20. Rena Goldgrabe, environmental committee chairman, presented the award on behalf of the organization.

LeVerne thanked Leduc County “for recognizing our work and efforts that we put into this association.” Rick Thomas, Leduc County General Manager, Community Services stated that the Wizard Lake Association has had a positive impact on the environment and surrounding areas.

Among the achievements recognized were: promotion of healthy aquatic ecosystems, supported diverse lake activities that will enable more wildlife enjoyment and a safer environment, established water quality, inlet stream monitoring and water level monitoring programs, addressing unsafe boating practices, and educating residents on various issues that affect Wizard Lake. The Wizard Lake group were commended for their ongoing work to promote, protect and preserve the environment. Congratulations were extended to each member of the WLWLSA on this outstanding award and for their dedication to make this corner of the world a better place. It was an honour to attend this prestigious breakfast and what an impressive event it was. Angus Watt, managing director of National Bank Financial was the very informative and interesting guest speaker. His topic was “We fear Opportunity”. Jim Stevens, Pigeon Lake Watershed Association was also present to accept an Environmental Stewardship Award. WLWLSA congratulates Pigeon Lake for all that their group has accomplished.



Board Retreat

Left: LeVerne Ellsworth, Arja Patrick, Laverne Faulkner, April Larkin, Matt Leach, Carole Ellsworth,
Right: Ken Litzenberger, Cathy Daniel, Chris Daniel, Albert Faulkner, Linda Hutchinson

In January, the Board met at the Village Creek Inn for a planning session for the upcoming year. With the help of facilitator Terri Potter, we determined our goals for 2009, set priorities, and assigned tasks. We also had an information session with Jay White, Aquality Environmental, regarding obtaining a State of the Watershed Report for Wizard Lake. This document is the first step in a plan to protect the environmental strength of Wizard Lake. Two past board members (Ken Litzenberger and Albert Faulkner) also attended,

sharing their input with the board. It was a very functional as well as enjoyable day.

Night at the Races

Have you ever thought, "I don't feel like cooking tonight" and "wouldn't it be fun to go out and be with some of my neighbours." Well those of you who joined us last November did just that. Our evening on November 19th, 2008 at Northlands Race Track was another enjoyable event. It was our second such outing and more people joined us than the year before, 62 people to be exact. For those of you who won a Wizard Lake hat there will be Wizard Lake toques for sale at our Wiz 'Spiel on March 7, 2009. Harness racing is exciting even if you only do it once a year. You don't have to spend a lot of money to have a good time and the prime rib dinner we had served to us was the real winner. We had a race named after the Wizard Lake Watershed Stewardship Association (WLWLSA) and a couple of our board members had their picture taken with the winning horse which apparently was hyper and not at all interested in being the subject of celebration. We are hoping to have a repeat performance this year so keep this event in mind for the fall of 2009.



Wizard Lake Watershed and Lake Stewardship feature race: 'Top Flite Justice' is the winner



Presentations made by Laverne Faulkner, Chris Daniel and Carole Ellsworth

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

March 7	Wiz 'Spiel
April 2	Board meeting
May 7	Board meeting
June 6	Wizard Lake Awareness Day & AGM
June 28	Canada Day Boat Parade
Sept	Bowling social event
Oct/Nov	Horsereading social event

Wiz 'Spiel

Saturday, March 7, 2009 – First games 11:00 am

The day is a whole ton of fun and includes a Potluck Supper after a day of curling on the lake. Teams are asked to come up with a creative team name and wear crafty hats. Event includes concession, campfire, prizes, medals, trophy, raffle and door prizes. Come out and watch the fun! For more information phone Chris Daniel at 985-3287.