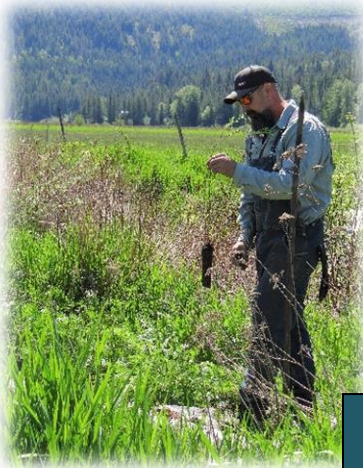


SLPOA Mission: *To develop the capacity within our community to provide a sustainable lake habitat that will allow all people who live, work and play within its environment an optimal North Idaho experience.*

Brickel Creek Restoration – Paul Sturm, SLPOA Board



On June 1, 2022 a group of SLPOA members (Cindy Barber, Chad Jenner and Paul Sturm), Idaho Fish and Game employees, hydrologist Chris Hardy, and landscaper Josh Clift added new plantings to areas that had undergone restoration in the previous four years. About 400 new plants were set in areas where plants were still needed to complete the restoration projects. The group had fun, worked hard, and felt the satisfaction of improving the environment of Brickel Creek and the lake. Photos by Chad Jenner and Paul Sturm



Josh is giving the group instructions about how to set the plants so that they will more likely survive.

A volunteer sets plantings along the bank of Brickel Creek



Left, a wonderful day to enjoy beautiful nature around Brickel Creek. Right, a pickup load of plants ready for setting.



Meet the Board of Directors – Paul Sturm, SLPOA Board Director



SLPOA's newest board director is Kurt Peterson. He joined the board in April this year and will seek approval from the members at the annual meeting in August. The board directors are excited to have Kurt join the board. He has been a property owner on the lake for 40 years and his family has owned property for 80 years.

Kurt said that he is motivated to join the board out of "love of the lake and interest in having a part in continuing to improve its future." Kurt served as the Tesemini Outing Club board president for ten years and remains a member on its board.

Maintaining water quality and addressing invasive species are challenges Kurt identified as facing SLPOA and Spirit Lake itself. He also stated that "trying to consolidate the many different opinions of property owners into doing what is best for the lake" will be an ongoing challenge for SLPOA. We welcome Kurt Peterson to the SLPOA board.



Carol is a former SLPOA board director. She now serves on the SLPOA Board of Advisors, a non-voting group that provides support, historical context, and volunteer assistance to the SLPOA board.

Carol and her then husband, Tom, bought an old cabin on the west side of the lake from her parents, Claude and Agnes McGrath, in 1976. Claude and Agnes had bought it from Buck Bronson in 1950. Tom and Carol rebuilt on the property in 1980.

Carol spent summers at Spirit Lake growing up and she said, "I've taken my family there every summer no matter where we lived." Carol's three grown children bought her property in 2021. "I have always had a love and desire to protect [the lake]," she said.

According to Carol, some of the challenges facing SLPOA and the lake include water quality, invasive species, lake levels and millpond leaks, which leads to financing the new Weir

Carol explained that she "appreciates that older and newer members have the same common goals, ...take the expertise of each and ask them to use that to reach our goals. There is still much to be done and I am willing to help as long as possible." Carol encourages all property owners to be "keepers of the lake. Our lake is very special!"

In addition, the directors include: Tony Brawner, Karen Cowan, Don Finney, Ron Largent, Jerry Peterson, Kurt Peterson, Brad Pendleton, Linda Pendleton, Paul Sturm and Sid Wurzburg. Advisory members include Carol Capra, Doug Freeland and Randy Hurst. Ron Largent was appointed to the board at its July board meeting.

Dam Replacement Update – Jerry Peterson, SLPOA Board Director

!!! GOOD NEWS !!!

As of 7/11/2022, the Dam Replacement Fund has grown to \$162,292

Back in 2019, the engineer's cost estimate was \$160,000, but with today's rising costs it is not unreasonable to believe it could be in the \$200,000+ range. In 2021, we were challenged by one of our neighbors to raise \$10,000 and they would match it. By the end of the year the "Double Your Donation" campaign received 38 donations for a total of \$13,320 and our generous neighbor matched it dollar for dollar. Thank you, thank you!

Continued on page 3

Dam Replacement (Cont. from p. 2) – Jerry Peterson, SLPOA Board Director

Between 1/1/2022 and 3/1/2022 we received another 18 donations totaling \$14,148. Then in March, we were challenged again by two other neighbors to raise an additional \$20,000 which they would match! By 6/11/2022, the “Jump In” challenge campaign had received 47 donations and met the \$20,000 challenge goal, which was then matched by our two generous neighbors. Thank you so much! During the last nine months we have received donations from 104 property owners (*some members giving more than once!*) out of more than 360 property owners and 110 family/friends members. Donations to this project can be made by pointing your browser to www.friendsofspiritlake.com.

This is worthwhile project, that will benefit everyone and with your help, we can get it done sooner than later!

Lake News – Sid Wurzburg and Paul Sturm, SLPOA Board Directors

In the April newsletter we reported that the lake was still almost 5 feet below normal high water. The water content of Mt. Spokane snowpack was about 80% of normal water equivalency. With no significant snow in the forecast at that time it was doubtful that we would start the summer with a full lake. Sid Wurzburg, SLPOA board director, added that, “a really wet spring could change that.

Well, guess what, Spirit Lake experienced that wet and cool spring. Additional snow fell on Mt Spokane and surrounding hills, rain fell, and unusually cool temperatures allowed the snow to melt slowly. Sid reported that this is the “HIGHEST LAKE LEVEL I’VE EVER SEEN!” this late in the spring. According to Sid, “On Wed. June 15, the Lake was 9.5 inches over normal high water. That is the highest [on that date] since I started keeping records.” Sid now predicts, “We should have above normal lake levels all year.” We hope this proves to be the case, but nature has a way of defying our best predictions. Photo taken by Paul Sturm from a kayak on May 22, 2022



Help Us Maximize Your Dues – Give Us Your Email

Help save SLPOA resources by saving postage. Provide us with your email address and we will send correspondence and newsletters via email. Email us at spiritlakepoa@gmail.com or from the website at www.friendsofspiritlake.com

Be A Friend Of Spirit Lake - Join SLPOA

Become a member by pointing your browser to www.friendsofspiritlake.com . Your annual dues of \$40 helps us keep you informed, pay the bills, and expand the impact of your association toward its mission: *To develop the capacity within our community to provide a sustainable lake habitat will allow all people who live, work and play within its environment an optimal North Idaho experience.*

Friends of Spirit Lake
Spirit Lake Property Owners Association
PO Box 363
Spirit Lake, ID 83869



>>> ANNOUNCING <<< SLPOA ANNUAL MEETING



**MEMBERS AND FRIENDS INVITED
AUGUST 13, 2022
9 – 10 A.M. REGISTRATION/SIGN-IN
10 A.M. – NOON BUSINESS MEETING AND
INFORMATION
Timberlake High School
5973 W Highway 54, Spirit Lake, ID 83869**