

## **Skyline Lakes Property-holders Association**

[www.skylinelakes.org](http://www.skylinelakes.org)

Mid-summer greetings to all of you!

I hope you're enjoying the long days and (mostly) pleasant weather this season. Having been on the mountain recently, I can verify that temperatures there are 8-10 degrees cooler during the day than on the flat lands below—a pleasant change. The SLPA General Membership Annual Meeting is set for Saturday, 21 September 2013, 2:00 pm at the bath house. I urge you to mark this on your calendars and plan to attend. The terms of three Board members will expire this year: former Maintenance and Improvements Committee chairman Regina Austin, Board Secretary Jane Harrington, and me. Please find additional details about the upcoming election elsewhere in this newsletter.

One of the issues to be discussed at the general meeting is the need for an equipment shed to provide secure storage for Association property. Our property collection has grown over the years and now approaches perhaps \$20,000 in total value. This includes the tractor and implements (bush hog, York rake, etc.) and numerous smaller tools. We have too much today to store at a private residence as done in the past. A centralized, secure, purpose-built and weather resistant facility to store Association property is needed. The Board has studied this question and is confident that a good quality, reasonably-sized structure is within our means financially. We are hopeful this shed can be built quickly and without increasing lot assessment fees. I look forward to discussing this issue with you at the general meeting when I will provide more details. At that time, I would like to poll the membership for its sentiment on this question so the Board can take action. (For those community members who will be unable to attend the Annual Meeting a ballot question addressing this matter can be found at the bottom of the Proxy Ballot for Election of Board Members.)

Best regards and I look forward to seeing you on September 21st.

Eugene Skotzko  
President, SLPA Board of Directors

## **The Maintenance & Improvement Committee's 5-year Plan**

Many residents have been singing the praises of the roads, which have been steadily and quite noticeably improving over the past two to three years. One factor contributing to this improvement has been the professional grading made possible with a wide blade grader which can create a good central crown that discourages water from running across the road and making ruts. In addition crushed gravel with a lot of gravel dust, instead of the coarser gravel used in the past, has been used to pack into moist dirt making a much firmer surface as it dries.

But firm, nicely crowned roads are only part of the story. The Maintenance and Improvements Committee is also focusing efforts on ditches and culverts to divert water away from our roads as it makes its way down the mountain. A high road crown and deeper ditches help keep water from the road surface and strategic placement of culvert pipe carries water under the roadway at critical places. The M&I Committee is pursuing a 5-year plan of adding new culvert pipes, extending a few and replacing centrally damaged pipe or some existing small culverts with pipe of a larger diameter. Pipes are expensive so five years are needed to be able to afford completing this effort throughout the community. During 2012 four new pipes were installed and six pipes were extended where roadways were widened (pipes emptying too close to the road can wash away earth and undermine the roadbed). This year, 2013, has seen six new pipes installed, one extended and another redirected for water management. In preparation for the "spring" road maintenance campaign, which was not begun until July this year due to the contractor's prior commitments to roadwork in other communities, all road and driveway culvert pipes were inspected and cleaned (**Reminder: installation and maintenance cleaning of driveway culvert pipe is the responsibility of the individual property owner**). Plans for future years include more clearing of roadsides, widening of some stretches of road and enhancement of drainage with additional culverts on roadways which have not yet received this attention. Positive comments, suggestions, concerns/complaints can be addressed to the M&I Committee at: [slpa.maint.improv@gmail.com](mailto:slpa.maint.improv@gmail.com)

### **Avoid head-on collisions!**

Yes, it could happen to **YOU** – just like the head-on collision which occurred recently on Glick's hill. No names will be mentioned but both parties were reputedly speeding as they commonly do.

There has been dramatic improvement in the condition of our roadways. Yet stretches remain that are little more than single lane and hills with blind curves and embankments that drop away sharply will always be part of the mountainous terrain. So that 15 MPH speed limit sign posted at the beginning of Skyline Lakes' system of roads is there with good reason. It applies to all the roads **and it applies in both directions**. Higher rates of speed are destructive to the roads, can lead to serious accidents and endanger our wildlife- deer can really mess up a vehicle and all manner of other creatures, from bears to box turtles, are at risk.

There have been a number of near misses with speeding vehicles but the recent accident has made this issue a focus of concern. Remedies from adding a number of speed humps throughout

the community to engaging Page County deputies in arresting violators have been discussed. So please watch your speedometer, avoid driving in the middle of the road and **slow down** before such measures need to be taken!

### **Not News – just a couple important reminders:**

1. Help keep our community records current. Remember to report any changes of address and/or telephone numbers along with information on new owners when properties are sold. Send such update information to Crystal Liebenow at [cliebenow@comcast.net](mailto:cliebenow@comcast.net); 12607 Ryan Ridge Lane, Gainesville, VA 20155; or 124 Suzanne Road, Stanley, VA 22851.
2. Continuing our community wide effort to clear brush and other fire hazards remains important. New forms for recording time worked since 15 April 2013 under the current Firewise award are available in both sides of the bath house (if you've still been recording on a form from last year, that's O.K., too). Please work hard, keep track of the time for your efforts and **turn these sheets in no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>** to Orv Lee or any SLPA Board member.

### **Annual meeting/election date set**

The 2013 Annual Meeting and Election of Directors to the Board of the Skyline Lakes Property-holders Association will take place on Saturday, 21 September 2013. The meeting, to begin at 2:00 pm, will be held as usual at the bath house grounds. A potluck picnic will follow the close of the meeting so please bring a side dish to share. Come enjoy the lively discussion of another Annual Meeting and good food and community spirit that follows.

### **Please vote for members of the 2014 Board**

Don't forget to exercise your right/responsibility to vote for members of the 2014 SLPA Board of Directors. A proxy ballot for the election of three members is attached. It can be mailed or brought to the Annual meeting, but must be received by September 21st. Ballots will be counted at the Annual Meeting, where additional nominations of SLPA members may be made from the floor. Association members in good standing (i.e. assessments are paid up to date) are entitled to cast one vote for each lot owned. They may vote for any or all of the three names on the ballot or use the Other blanks to write in the names of undeclared candidates that they might prefer.

**This year's ballot includes a survey question** so please be sure to respond and make your view known concerning the plan for a building to house SLPA equipment.

### **Motion passed at the 14 July 2013 SLPA Board meeting:**

That the Treasurer be authorized to cover outstanding expenses of the Maintenance and Improvement Committee.

## 2013 SLPA Board of Directors

**Gene Skotzko (President)**  
(703) 939-7624; (540) 778-2633  
[eskotzko@verizon.net](mailto:eskotzko@verizon.net)

**Joyce Richards (Vice President)**  
(540) 778-2293  
[ucioyce@yahoo.com](mailto:ucioyce@yahoo.com)

**Jane Harrington (Secretary)**  
(540) 778-3009  
[janegoneelsewhere@gmail.com](mailto:janegoneelsewhere@gmail.com)

**Crystal Liebenow (Treasurer)**  
(703) 743-5115  
[cliebenow@comcast.net](mailto:cliebenow@comcast.net)

**Andy Kent (M&I Committee Chairman)**  
(703) 929-2481

**Regina Austin**  
(540) 778-3486

**Jimmy Painter**  
(540) 778-3141  
[jphunt4ever@aol.com](mailto:jphunt4ever@aol.com)

**Evans Painter**  
(540) 778-3894

**Doug Southers**  
(540) 778-1312  
[worksforfaith@yahoo.com](mailto:worksforfaith@yahoo.com)

Asst Treasurer: Jane Skotzko (non-voting)  
(703) 242-8828, [jskotzko@verizon.net](mailto:jskotzko@verizon.net)

Accountant: Sue Dawson (540) 778-1150

## Resumes of Candidates for 2014 SLPA Board of Directors

**Regina Austin:** Regina and Larry have resided in Skyline Lakes longer than any other residents. Regina and her family have been active in the town of Stanley where they have many friends. Regina was first elected to SLPA's Board of Directors in 1997 and has been an active and important member ever since. She has served as Vice President, Annual Meeting and Picnic Chair, Liaison to the Police and Sheriff, Facilities Manager and Chair of the Maintenance and Improvements Committee. In this latter role she was instrumental in contracting for the work that has shown such a marked improvement in the condition of the community's roads.

**Elizabeth Cayer:** Beth Cayer is new to Skyline Lakes having bought the property around what used to be called "Jack's Turn," now referred to as Ravens' Roost Court. She and Jon and their children spent many years camping on Skyline Drive and came to love the area. She has been a teacher for 15 years and plans to retire to Skyline Lakes in a few years. In the meantime, she is eager to contribute to the community by helping clear roadways for the Firewise grant, get to know her neighbors and their priorities when it comes to Skyline Lakes and generally serve the needs of the community however she can.

**Eugene Skotzko, Jr:** Gene is a retired federal employee who spent most of his career in overseas assignments. He now lives in Northern Virginia and has been a member of the Skyline Lakes community since 2004 when he inherited property from his parents who were among the original property owners in Skyline Lakes. Gene is brother to former Board member and President Scotty Skotzko and together they have invested in rebuilding the family property. For the past two years Gene has served as President of the SLPA Board. He continues to be interested in preserving property values for future generations of owners, reconditioning the development's road system, and focusing expenditures on essentials.

**Proxy Ballot for Election of Directors  
September 21 2013**

The undersigned hereby appoints the Skyline Lakes Property-holders Association, Inc. HOLDERS OF ELECTION (Jon Cayer, Andy Kent and Orv Lee designated by the Board), or any of them, each with power of substitution, as proxies to vote all lots which the undersigned is entitled to vote in the manner described herein, at the Annual Meeting of SKYLINE LAKES PROPERTY-HOLDERS ASSOCIATION, INC. to be held on Saturday, Sept 21 2013, commencing at 2:00 PM, or any continuation or postponement thereof, unless sooner terminated as provided by law. The undersigned hereby revokes all proxies heretofore given. The undersigned hereby affirms that he or she is a member in good standing and is entitled to the number of votes which he or she has indicated at the bottom of this form (i.e. the number of lots owned). HOLDERS OF ELECTION are instructed to cast this ballot. The undersigned has inscribed an "X" beside the name of each candidate for whom the ballot shall be cast. Members in good standing (i.e. assessments are paid up to date) are entitled to cast one vote for each lot owned. Members may either mail this ballot to be cast by proxy or cast the ballot in person at the Annual Meeting. **If you choose to vote by proxy, mail this form to SLPA Proxy, PO Box 427, Stanley, VA 22851.** Ballots must be received by 21 Sept 2013 to be counted.

**Election of Officers (Vote for three)**

Directors are elected to serve a term of three years, with directors elected each year to replace those whose terms have expired. Candidates receiving the most votes will be elected. The number of candidates voted for cannot exceed the number of open seats ( 3 ).

**The nominees for SLPA Directors are:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Regina Austin       | ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Other _____ |
| ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Elizabeth Cayer     | ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Other _____ |
| ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Eugene Skotzko, Jr. | ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Other _____ |

I own \_\_\_\_\_ lots in Skyline Lakes, for which my assessments are paid in full.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, trustee, or guardian, please give full title as such. If the signer is a corporation, sign the full corporate name by the duly authorized officer.

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**IMPORTANT: Please respond to the following survey concerning building an equipment shed to house Association owned equipment** (a motion passed at the 14 April 2013 SLPA Board meeting stated: That the balloting for the 2014 election of Board members include a ballot question to assess community sentiment on the prospect of building a metal shed to house the tractor, backhoe and other equipment owned by SLPA).

\_\_\_\_\_ I am in favor of the SLPA Board's planning to pursue building an equipment shed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not in favor of pursuing this planning.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would be willing to make a donation to help defray costs of constructing such a shed.