

Echoes From Our Lake

January/February 2010

Volume 115

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association

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President's Message

Whew! How much I do miss thee? Let me count the ways! With the Spring time quickly approaching, (can you believe it's almost March already?), our friends and neighbors will be returning to Walker Lake from their sunny and warm exiles to which they have retreated during the winter months. Walker Lake will come "alive" again with the people, the warm-weather birds, the day and night critters that abound here, (and, of course, the bears as well!). And with this brings back the excitement of being a resident of our wonderful community known as Walker Lake. Don't get me wrong, Walker Lake is a "happening" place year-round, but the Spring and Summer months bring forth the vibrant and exhilarating atmosphere that we are all so much accustomed to.

This winter, we did have our share of a good amount of snow. Not to worry, though, as our snow plowing team, Precision, has been hitting the roads whenever a snowfall or icefall was expected...and eventually did happen. To say the least, this has been one of the most successful snow-plowing years that Walker Lake has experienced. Let us continue to keep up this excellent work, because, we all know what some winters can bring us in Shohola.

I am hoping that every one of Walker Lake's residents are having a fantastic Winter season! ;) Whether you are here with us during the winter months, or away basking in the warm summer days wherever you are, always remember that I am always thinking about you all. And for those you who are away for the winter months, I anxiously await your return for the spring and summer months! ;)

As I stated in the beginning of this message, "How much do I miss thee?" Well, I miss thee more than you can imagine!

Ok, that about wraps it up for now. Be Safe - Be Careful - Be Conscientious - and above all, be ready for some GREAT activities planned here in Walker Lake for the Spring/Summer 2010! ;)

My warmest wishes,

Art W. Politano
President/WLLA

[Note: The President's message was written prior to the end of February storms.]



"Time to swing into Spring!"

News from the WLLA Office

Please note that the **office will be closed** on the following days:



Saturday, April 3

Tuesday, June 1



Note that Office Hours are 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Tuesday through Saturday.

Snow days! Please note that if Delaware Valley Schools close for weather, so will the Walker Lake Office. You can still call and leave a message on the answering machine which will be checked periodically. If you have a problem with snow removal on WLLA roads, you can also email: WLLASnow@ptd.net



Calendar of Events

Saturday, March 20	Board of Directors Meeting 10:00 AM
Wednesday, March 24	Bus Trip to Sands Casino, Bethlehem PA

Social Events at WLLA by Fran Orth

The New Year's Eve party at the Clubhouse was attended by almost 50 people! Music by our resident DJ, Robert "Stylistics" helped make the celebration of 2010 memorable.

We are planning a Cabin Fever Casino Bus Trip to The Sands in Bethlehem, Pa. on Wednesday March 24th. The cost is \$25.00 per person which includes a tip for bus driver. Call Fran at 296-5528 or Norma or Mary Agnes at the office 296-7788 to reserve your seat.

The entertainment committee is working on bringing back our Beach Party/Picnic this July. It will be a Hawaiian Luau theme party. Look for more details in the next newsletter. *You do not want to miss this one!!*

ZONING POLICY

This notice is for all Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association landowners and residents, (Walker Lake, Inc., Pennsylvania Lakeshores, Hinkel Estates, Maple Park).


Be advised that no Shohola Township Zoning Officer has the right to come to your house or property, on official business, unannounced.

If anyone is visited by any Township Official without prior appointment or permission, please notify the WLLA office immediately.


Any such visits or inspections must be arranged through the WLLA office first. The office will arrange an appointment with you and the Township Official at your convenience.


Price Caps and Retail Energy Competition *by Tom Tate*

As of January 1, 2010, the 10-year price cap on the energy component of your electric bill expired. The result was PP&L catching up for a decade of no price increases and about a 30% increase for us as consumers. Another sterling example of how well government regulation works.

 Cynicism aside, we as consumers can cushion the blow a bit by purchasing the energy portion of the bill from a third party supplier or, retail competitor. As of this writing, there were two active in our part of PP&L's territory; DirectEnergy (who I selected) and Dominion Power. (A complete list is here:

<http://www.puc.state.pa.us/utilitychoice/listofsupp.aspx?ut=ec&ShowSupp=9> Be advised that all those listed may not sell in our area) In fact, by the time you read this, you may have already received a solicitation from one or both of these companies. This is a legitimate offer, unlike the green postcard that circulated late last year promising a free dinner and the possibility to save up to 35% on your electric bill. You save approximately 10% by buying from one of these two competitors.

 How does it work? You contact them and complete a telephone enrollment process that will take about ten minutes (10 minutes will save you 10%, to copy Geico's tagline). You will then receive a letter with supporting documents from your new energy supplier. You have some time to review and accept or decline. You'll then be notified by PP&L that you have been identified by the competitor as wanting to switch. Another chance to change your mind. This confirmation process is designed to prevent "slamming" where you are switched against your will or without your knowledge.

 You can make some elections such as buying green power (for an extra fee) and so forth but it is fairly straight forward. The whole process will take about two months before you see your new energy supplier listed on your PP&L bill. Is it

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worth it? Hey, I'll take a 10% savings any day.

Keep in mind that PP&L will still be your delivery company and that you have not moved entirely away from them. Therefore, the reliability you presently have is the reliability you'll have with your new provider.



A couple of other points are worth mentioning. First, DirectEnergy gave me a choice of a 1-year deal or a 3-year. A friend in the power supply business recommends the single year option as the energy market is volatile and prices have actually been going lower recently. There is also an early termination penalty with most competitors so be aware of their terms.



Second, when you purchase green power, you DO NOT actually receive green power. The laws of physics prevail and you get you power from the nearest generation source. Green power is injected into the electric grid where it is produced and displaces regular power there but it never makes it way to you unless you are next to the source. Still, it does reduce carbon so that is a good thing.

Where Phrases Come From by Tom Tate

I am endlessly fascinated by idioms and sayings, especially since I have lived in so many different parts of our grand country. So it was with considerable satisfaction that I stumbled across a site from the UK that researches common sayings and presents them, one each week, for your edification and entertainment. If you want to get on their list and receive a weekly posting of a new phrase, go here and sign up. I have and it is worth it. <http://www.phrases.org.uk/a-phrase-a-week/>

Board Actions

As a new feature, we plan to list the major actions taken by your Board in each newsletter so you can keep abreast of what we are doing on your behalf.

WARNING!

There is to be **NO** hunting or trapping within the Walker Lake Community! This policy is written in the WLLA Rules and Regulations (Red Book) and it is also against the law to hunt or trap in our community. Violators will be PROSECUTED to the fullest extent of the law.

Recreation Badges & Stickers

WLLA's badges will be ready for distribution within the next few weeks. We will put a sign on the bulletin board by the mailboxes as well as in the window of the office to let you know when they are ready for you. If you would like us to mail them to you, please submit a self-addressed stamped envelope and note how many badges and yearly '10' update stickers you need. If you need a new boat, dock or parking sticker, please let us know that as well. Remember that your assessments need to be paid before you are eligible for the badges and stickers.

NEWSLETTER: As always, your contributions and suggestions are welcome. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is April 2, 2010. Please send submissions via email to the WLLA office at wlla@ptd.net, or in writing to WLLA, 100 Walker Lake Road, Shohola, PA 18458.



Don't forget that there is a suggestion box located on the deck between the clubhouse and office. All suggestions welcome!



Kindly take note you may receive your newsletter by e-mail. If you have already signed up, we thank you! (Email us with your request at wlla@ptd.net)



Heartfelt condolences are extended to the Dubowski family upon the passing of Linda Dubowski's mother, Irene Magel.

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association, Inc.
100 Walker Lake Road
Shohola, PA 18458

Address Service Requested

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Officers

President: Art Politano
Vice President: Mary Iverson
Treasurer: Art Politano
Secretary: Paul DuBrow

Board of Directors

Art Politano	William Carpenter	Nancy Olson
Bernie Reyes	Barbara DiMiao	Tom Tate
Fran Orth	Judy Kirtley Mays	Andrew Milne
Rose Murphy	Charlie Kieselmann	
Frank Dubowski, Jr.	Kathy Kilmer	

Hinkel Estates Representative: Bill Reese

Norma Prigge-Office Manager

Mary Agnes Dorney – Office Assistant