



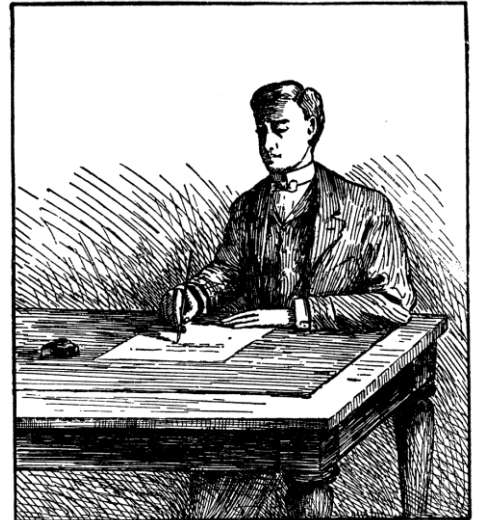
ECHOES FROM OUR LAKE  
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WALKER LAKESHORES  
LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
WINTER/SPRING 2016  
VOLUME 135

**MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT**

As I sit here writing to you, (my words actually flow while writing...nothing is actually pre-scripted), I find it amazing that once again I am saying, "HAPPY SPRING...SPRING IS HERE!" Where does the time go? I often ask myself this question when a year passes by and it still feels like yesterday. We were fortunate in our neck of the woods, so to speak, to have had a rather mild Winter, and once again we all look forward to the Spring and Summer season here at Walker Lake, and all that Walker Lake has to offer.

A few reminders for everyone to ponder:

- All assessments are due by March 31<sup>st</sup>. After the 31<sup>st</sup>, finance charges will begin to accrue until such time as the assessments are either paid or court action is needed. I am happy to report that as of the date of this letter, a majority of residents have already paid their 2016 assessments; a good portion of these residents paying much earlier than the final due date so as to take advantage of the generous discount that was offered.
- If you have any large items that you are trying to sell (or any items for that matter), please be aware that there are a number of Groups on Facebook where you can list your items for a price – or for free – and they will go rather quickly. Two such groups are: Shohola/Milford pa items for sale and Milford/Shohola/and Dingmans free stuff only. These two venues (as well as others) are a much better way to rid yourself of unwanted items, as opposed to having them sitting in your yards with a For Sale sign attached...for a very lengthy amount of time. The Walker Lake office has recently had a few complaints concerning items being left on properties, therefore giving the appearance of what has been called, a "junkyard."
- You probably didn't even notice it...but...there are certain citizens of our community who serve all of us even though we don't realize it. Each time they take a walk, they carry plastic bags and pick up cans, paper coffee cups and other articles of refuse that those less thoughtful people throw from their cars as they ride through. First of all, it is not necessary to throw things from cars as you drive through our beautiful community. It should not be necessary for others to pick up your junk. We do, however, want to thank those who have such pride in the Walker Lake Community as well as the town, county, state, country and world. Because of them it is a much nicer place to live.



Finally, look about you at all the beautiful countryside and be thankful that we have such a pleasant place to live and try to keep it that way...and even ENHANCE it!

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL WHO HAVE BEEN PERFORMING THESE GOOD DEEDS.

**Splash Back – Peter Wulfhorst**

The 2016 winter season wasn't very wintery with lack of snow and in some cases ice.

The lake committee will be contracting with a new consultant, Aqua-Link from Bucks County. They will continue to monitor the lake as well as provide lake treatment for aquatic plants when necessary. Aqua-link will also conduct a fishery study this fall. There will be no fish stocking in 2016 until we get a better handle on the fish populations in the lake.

The Walker Lake dam inspection went well in the fall and we are waiting to hear from the PA DEP that our dam inspection was approved.

I want to remind the residents again of the importance of picking up after their dogs. It is amazing the number of people who don't pick up their dog's waste.

According to an EPA bulletin on source water protection, a study in Seattle, Washington, found that nearly 20 percent of the bacteria found in water samples were able to be matched with dogs as the host animals. The greatest concern associated with animal wastes is pathogens including E. coli, Cryptosporidium, Giardia, and Salmonella. These pathogens can produce a variety of symptoms ranging from skin sores to gastrointestinal illness.

Dog droppings often contain roundworms and other parasitic nematodes. Infection by just a few roundworms usually causes no problems, but more severe infections may cause fevers, bronchitis, asthma, or vision problems.

The best way to keep pet waste and their potential health affects out of waterways is to properly clean up after your pet. Pet waste can be flushed down the toilet if it does not contain other materials, or bagged and disposed of in the garbage. When walking your dog, keep them from dirtying on stream banks or near ponds and lakes and pick up their waste with a plastic bag. This will keep the potential pollutants from getting into Walker Lake no matter how far you are from the lake.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR DOG'S WASTE as it hurts the water quality of Walker Lake.

### **Social Events – Fran Orth**

Your social committee continues to put together fun events. If you have an idea for something to do, please let Fran Orth know through the office or in person.

We had a super bowl party at the clubhouse it was enjoyed by all especially watching it on our new flat screen TV. Whether you were a Broncos or Panthers fan, a great time was had by all attending.

Coming up fast on April 21<sup>st</sup> is a bus trip to the Sands Casino. The cost is \$25.00 per person and you receive \$30.00 in slot play and \$5.00 for food. Gamble or shop their many outlet stores. We always have a good time on our casino trips. Some have even been known to win money! Don't let the casino staff know that – they may not invite us back.

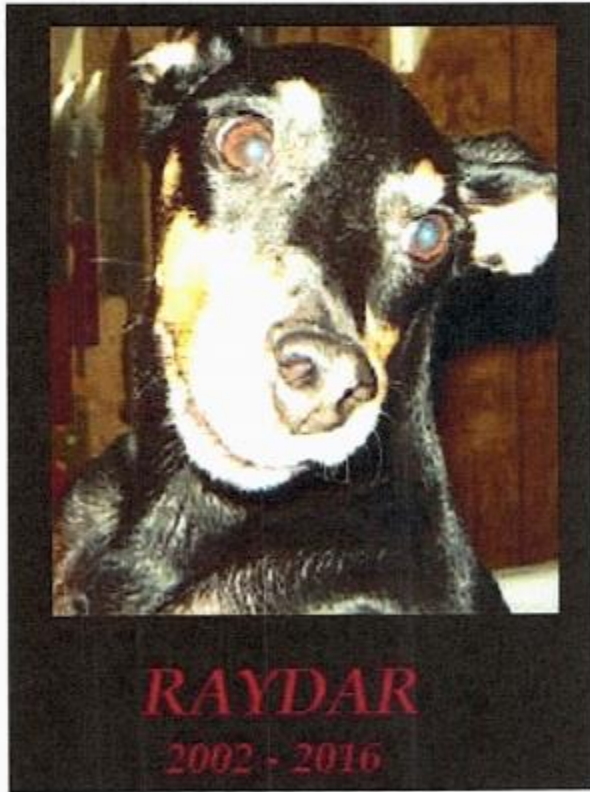
Scheduled for Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> is a bus trip to Lancaster, PA. we will go to the to the Sight and Sound Theater to see "Samson." Afterwards, we will visit the farmers market and top it all off with an enjoyable dinner at Hershey Farms and gift shop. Cost is \$125.00 per person. Sign up soon as these trips always have sold out in the past.

### Tags, Passes & Other Credentials

GETTING READY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE AMENITIES OF OUR ASSOCIATION? WELL, YOU'LL NEED CREDENTIALS TO DO THAT. ON MAY 1, YOU CAN SWING BY THE OFFICE AND PICK UP YOUR BEACH PASSES, CAR AND BOAT TAGS, AND SO FORTH. TIME TO ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL OUTDOORS!

## IN MEMORIUM

Goodbye my buddy, my pal, my friend.  
Raydar left us at 4:15 PM on March 17, 2016,  
St. Patrick's Day. Oral cancer. 14 years old.



a visit to Atlantic City, etc. \$TBA. Dust off those poodle skirts, letter sweaters and saddle shoes...you'll need them.

Just so you know, all WLLA trips are at cost. For even more information on upcoming events, check out the bulletin board at the clubhouse or call Fran: 570-296-5528.

### Gadgets for Summer – Tom Tate

It is true, summer will be here before you know it. Time to shake off the winter doldrums and start thinking about the gear you will need to enhance your summer experience in our beautiful neck of the woods.

Fishing rod fish finder. Hummingbird has a nifty little accessory that clips to your rod with a sonar transmitter that you cast out over the spot you want to fish called Smartcast. Available in three models, you flick it out over the spot you know has the trophy fish and take a look-see. When you have found that sweet fishing hole, retrieve your sonar and revert to bait and lure. Man vs fish in a millennia-old struggle only now with sonar!! Remember to fill out the creel reports on our website for a chance to win. Priced from \$94 - \$190 on Amazon. <http://smartcast-rf30.com/>

Dog locator for your hiking companion. So, with nice weather you decide to take to the trails with your trusty four-legged companion. And right in the deepest part of the woods, he sees a deer and is off like a shot. First

On Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, we are planning a bus trip to the Mt. Airy casino. While there, we will take in a show with tributes to the Beatles, BeeGees, Motown, and Beach Boys. The cost for the trip is \$60.00 per person which includes the show, a free buffet and \$20.00 slot play. Bring your dancing shoes in case the show pushes you into the aisle to "get down." Not responsible for any pictures or videos that make it onto the Internet!

Believe it or not, summer is on the way and our Annual Picnic will be on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. This year's theme is going to be Country Music so you can expect a lot of picking and grinning! Our caterer is going to be Konrad's Kitchen, known far and wide for their down home cooking. No, not really but they do put on an excellent spread. Bring the whole family. If you have guests, they will cost you \$10.00 each so choose wisely, grasshopper.

The annual trek to Wildwood and Cape May will be on Sept.18-22<sup>nd</sup> this year. There is really too much to mention here so please check out the flyers in the office. The cost is \$415.00 per person, double occupancy. Fortunately the double occupancy is just in the hotel room. Everyone gets their own seat on the bus.

And now for something completely different (Monty Python fans will understand the origin of that saying), on Oct.14-16<sup>th</sup> WLLA will be having a bus trip to Wildwood for the 50's weekend. The itinerary includes an oldies show, classic car show,

question, why wasn't he on a leash? Never mind, the damage is done. Now you must find him. What is the first thing you do? Whistle, of course. And coincidentally, that is the name of a wireless tracking device you can buy. Whistle. <http://www.whistle.com/> Slap on of these on his collar and install the app on your smart phone. Track him like you work for NCIS. It will set you back \$79.00 but isn't your pooch worth it. And as an added bonus, you can track your pet's activity during the day. Suspect he is sleeping his day away? Prove it with Whistle.

Flashlight; no, a REAL flashlight. Yeah sure, we all have about a dozen flashlights somewhere around the house. Most don't work, the batteries are probably dead in the rest, and their light output is about as good as a match. Time to step up your game and get a rip-roaring, 1000 lumen, "land a 757 on your street" model. Why? Because you can get some really good one for very little money and they are terrific for night strolls and self-defense.

Here's what to look for: aircraft grade aluminum construction, LED bulbs (Cree are the best IMHO), crenelated bezel around the lens, rechargeable batteries and with as many lumens as you can afford.

Why bother? Well, as I said, a flashlight this powerful is an amazing defensive weapon. Let's say a bad guy gets the jump on you while you are out taking in the fine Shohola air. A blast from your flashlight in the eyes will blind them for a few seconds so you can; a, run away or b, smash the crenelated front end into their forehead. It will hurt like the devil and make later identification by the police easier. Hoo-rah. Search for the following in Bing: *rechargeable tactical flashlights 1000 lumens*

### **Walker Lake Ladies Club – Linda Dubowski**

The ladies of the Walker Lake Women's Club have been very busy . In addition to our own projects, we made walker bags for Twin Cedars Nursing Home. Also, we just completed 30 baby quilts which were donated to the Tri States Pregnancy Center. However, we also had time for fun and socializing. Everyone had a great time at our Christmas party.

We are not just a sewing or quilting group, but if you would like to learn to quilt we will be happy to teach you. Many members bring other interests to work on. A few members knit and crochet, one member makes clay critters. She even had a class for anyone who wanted to learn. Although our critters did not look exactly like hers, we all enjoyed the process.

Want to join the fun? We meet every first and third Wednesday of the month starting at 10am. Come join us, just bring your lunch and be prepared to have a good time.

### **Signs and Sounds of Spring**

By Scott Rando

For those that haven't been in the community during the winter, this has been an unusually warm late winter. There was maybe a week of ice conditions safe enough for ice fishing on Walker Lake, and snowfall totals were very low to date for the winter. Due to the warm last month or so, some critters associated with spring are making an early appearance.





*Figure 1 This is a wood frog near a pond during mid-March. Most of the frogs were in the water. Most wood frogs seen during breeding season are dark brown in color, so the "Robber's Mask" is not as evident.*

One of the first things we hear in the spring is frogs. Spring peepers are widespread and are heard early in the spring, usually on the first few mild days of late March or early April. They are hard to spot however due to their small size and habit of calling mostly during darkness. Another frog that makes its appearance is the wood frog. Wood frogs have come almost a month early this year, appearing in early March instead of the usual early April. They favor vernal ponds in order to breed and can be heard calling with a quack like call as they seek a mate.

Wood frogs start their courtship in early spring, frequently observed sitting on leftover ice shelves of half frozen ponds. They are explosive breeders, which mean they mate at the same time and may be done in a week or two. The males make all the noise as they try to attract a female. Once the adults breed and lay eggs in the pond, they disperse and travel far away from the water; they will not

return to the pond till the following spring. The eggs hatch and the tadpoles take about 2 months to turn into frogs, and they too, will leave the pond till they are ready to breed as adults the following spring.

If you see a wood frog during the summer, it may be different shades of brown or green and have what looks like a robber's mask around its eyes. They are fast compared to other frogs, and like the commonly seen American toad, will not be near the water after breeding time. You may hear intermittent calls during the summer, but they are mostly quiet. To hear what a vernal pond sounds like in our area during breeding season, open or copy the following link into your browser: <http://walkerlake.com/sounds/wf.wav>

And last but not least...

### WELCOME!

The WLLA Board of Directors would like to welcome all our new property owners (neighbors) who have moved into the Walker Lake community. May living here bring you much joy and peace.

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association  
100 Walker Lake Drive  
Shohola, PA 18458

Address Service Requested

TO: Email recipients

---

This WLLA newsletter may contain legal notification of information from the Board of Directors and the WLLA office. Please read it carefully.

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Officers

**President:** Art Politano

**Vice President:** Fran Orth

**Treasurer:** Art Politano

**Secretary:**

**Board of Directors**

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Kurt Boogertman     | Mary Iverson     |
| Barbara DiMaio      | Rose Murphy      |
| Fran Orth           | Tom Tate         |
| Frank Dubowski      | Art Politano     |
| Scott Rando         | Victoria Perotta |
| Howard Drake        |                  |
| Darlene Challacombe |                  |

Office Staff: Mary Agnes Dorney  
<http://walkerlake.com/>  
570-296-7788