

DEEP CREEK DISPATCH

Spring 2008

Newsletter of the
Property Owners' Association
of Deep Creek Lake, Incorporated

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this note, the birds are merrily chirping, the gentle overnight rain is slowly ending and the sun is preparing to rise and cast its warming light upon Meadow Mountain. Yes, it is the beginning of a wonderful day in Garrett County.

We have received notes from many members who share a similar appreciation for the place we call home and I'd like to share the general tone of them. All writers appreciate our commitment to Gypsy Moth suppression. Ninety percent of you favor our stand against wind turbines on state forest lands. Several writers expressed concern about rising taxes, careless PWC operation, geese droppings and various other issues. These issues, although they are beyond our direct control, are important to us also. The Board is individually or collectively working with or lobbying appropriate government officials to obtain the desired results.

We appreciate hearing from you and encourage you to continue writing with your concerns and comments. We will respond to your questions, although it may take a few weeks. Please include your email address as email is the easiest way for us to respond to you. Our web site is a great way to get current information. We invite you to click on www.deepcreeklakepoa.com.

Here's wishing you a great spring. Looking forward to seeing you at the June 28 General Membership Meeting. (The next Board Meeting is June 14 and is open to members.)

Scott Johnson

NO WIND TURBINES

On April 12th, Governor Martin O'Malley, speaking at the Mountain Run Overlook in Savage River State Forest, announced that his administration would reject any effort to put commercial wind turbines on public land managed by the state Department of Natural Resources. This is the culmination of many months of discussion and debate on the issue of leasing lands in the Potomac and Savage River State Forests for the construction of wind turbines. It became very

clear that the majority of people voicing an opinion were opposed to placing the turbines on state land. At the end of the public comment period, 83% of those responding to the Department of Natural Resources were not in favor.

However, Governor O'Malley also stated that his announcement should not be construed as an anti-wind energy position. He has maintained all along that his administration is committed to finding a mix of sustainable energy sources. The Governor noted that wind turbines could still be placed in Western Maryland on land that is privately owned or owned by federal, state or county governments. The decision to prohibit the placement of the wind turbines applies exclusively to conservation lands held in fee-simple ownership by the state and managed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

There is every reason to expect that wind turbines will be built in Garrett County. At this time, a wind turbine project is being proposed by Criterion Power Partners, LLC, a subsidiary of California-based Clipper Windpower. It would be located on the ridgeline of Backbone Mountain on either side of Gorman Road. The original application called for 40 turbines with a combined generating capacity of up to 100 megawatts. This has now been reduced to 28 turbines with a combined generating capacity of up to 70 megawatts. This was done so that the proposal would be in compliance with a state law passed last year that would permit a company with plans for power projects of less than 70 megawatts to bypass the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity process. At this time it looks as though the Maryland Public Service Commission may very well grant the application.

This raises still another question concerning wind turbines. According to the County Commissioners and the County Administrator there is no way to restrict the building of or the height of any structure without banning all construction, since there is no countywide zoning. In the coming months there is sure to be more discussions and debates on wind energy and its place in Garrett County as the Garrett County Planning Commission continues to work on the Comprehensive Development Plan. This is the primary policy document used by the County to ensure healthy future growth and development. In the Plan, Chapter 7 "Sensitive Areas Element" is especially important as it relates to the

protection of environmentally sensitive areas. For more information go to www.garrettcountry.org and click on Chapters 5-11 appendix of the proposed Comprehensive Plan listed under Events. You can also check for updated information by going to www.deepcreeklakepoa.com.

GYPSY MOTH UPDATE

Depending on weather conditions, spraying for Gypsy Moths will begin in mid-May. Approximately 43,000 acres are scheduled to be sprayed thanks to the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the locally supported spray program through the Washington County Forestry Board. Of the 43,000 acres to be sprayed, more than 11,000 will be on private property under the county plan. Many of these acres are in areas that do not qualify for the MDA program. The Garrett County Commissioners are supporting the local spray program by cost sharing \$15 per acre on 10,000 acres for a total cost of \$150,000. The Deep Creek Lake Property Owners Association has donated an additional \$23,250 to have another 1500 acres to be included in the cost share program. The program was developed by the Garrett County Forestry Board and coordinated the Garrett County Office of the Maryland Cooperative Extension. Last August, staff from the Extension Office surveyed over 20,000 private acres and mapped out 11,500 acres that will be sprayed through this program. The Washington County Forestry Board is coordinating the spraying in Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties with the spray vendors. The cost for spraying is \$38 per acre for Dimilin (which cannot be sprayed within 100 feet of open water, but is the most effective) or \$46 per acre for Bt. Please be aware that no additional acres can be accepted for this year due to funding and timing restraints.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture will be spraying in Garrett County on state-owned lands and private residential areas. There will be about 25,000 acres of State land and 6,500 acres of residential areas sprayed. The spraying of private residential areas by the MDA requires a local match of 1/3 the cost of spraying. Due to the commitment of the County Commissioners to assist as many landowners as possible, they have (upon the recommendation of the Garrett County Forestry Board) passed the local 1/3 match on to the landowners in the form of a \$25 per land parcel fee. If you are in a spray area around the middle to the end of May and you hear helicopters in the area, you are advised to go indoors. You may also wish to wash your car soon after the spraying if it gets spray material on it. It will take 5-10 days for the spray materials to work. The caterpillars must eat the leaves that have been sprayed in order for this to be effective. The Maryland Cooperative Extension is optimistic that because of the wet spring, the fungus living in the soil will prevent caterpillars from developing and reproducing in future years.

On Thursday, April 24th, Governor Martin O'Malley signed Senate Bill 920 which established a Task Force to

Study Statewide Gypsy Moth Infestation and to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by August 31, 2009. The Task Force specifically names that one representative from the Maryland Forests Association, designated by the Maryland Forests Association, will serve on the Task Force. The Task Force will take a comprehensive look at the most effective long-term means of combating the statewide infestation of Gypsy Moths.

WATER QUALITY STUDY

News from the Deep Creek Lake Management Office

Carolyn Mathews, Manager of the Deep Creek Lake Natural Resources Management Area

The US Geological Survey (USGS) in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources has been conducting a study of water quality in the lake since last fall. To date, two stream-monitoring stations have been established, one on Cherry Creek (station number 03075905) and one on Poland Run (station number 03075800). The station on Poland Run is also equipped with real-time water quality monitoring instruments. The five parameters being monitored are temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, and conductance. Both stations have been collecting data since October 2007 and the real-time flow and water quality data are available on-line at <http://md.water.usgs.gov/>. The Poland Run site will also house an ISCO automated sampler in the near future. In September and October of 2007, USGS collected bathymetric and geophysical data with the assistance of DNR Lake Management staff. Approximately 400 survey lines were run across the lake using a single-beam echo-finder to measure and record depth to lake-bottom. At the same time, ground-penetrating radar (GPR) was used to remotely survey the sediments in the lake environments of less than 30 feet of water. In deeper environments, continuous seismic reflection (CSP) was used to survey sediments. Both methods used an energy signal that penetrates lake-bottom sediments and is reflected back up to a receiver that records the travel-time of the signals. USGS is processing the data and will create a bathymetric map of the lake as well as a detailed map and cross sections of sediment thickness in areas of interest and a coarse map of thickness in other areas.

We will be out on the lake again with the USGS scientists in early June. They expect to collect 20 sediment core samples at selected locations representing various areas of interest. The samples will be age-dated and sedimentation rates will be estimated based on age-dating of cores in various locations.

With the data and findings from this study, DNR expects to initiate planning and development of additional chapters addressing water quality and an update of the Deep Creek Recreation and Land Use Plan. We will do this in partnership with the DCL Policy and Review Board and a work group of DNR professionals, Garrett County land planning and resource professionals, water quality scientists and selected citizens.

BABY ANIMALS: DNR ADVISORY

Each year the Wildlife and Heritage Services puts out a new release requesting the people who find baby animals in fields, forests or their yards leave them alone even though they appear to be abandoned. Their mothers are most likely nearby but not visible. The Discovery Center does not and cannot accept young animals for care and feeding. This applies not only to mammals but also to fowl.

2008 MEETING SCHEDULE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

APRIL 19, 2008

JUNE 14, 2008

AUGUST 9, 2008

NOVEMBER 8, 2008

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

JUNE 28, 2008

AUGUST 23, 2008

DUES STATEMENT

Included in this issue of the DISPATCH is a 2008 Dues Statement. If you haven't paid your dues for 2008, please use the enclosed form to do so, as future issues of the DISPATCH will only be sent to those who have paid dues through 2008.

The Board of Directors of the Deep Creek Lake Property Owners Association voted at the April 19th meeting to again donate \$2500.00 to fund the cell phones for the Natural Resources Police. This is done through the Wildlife Conservation Fund.

2008 Lake Area Cultural Events

GLAF (Call 301-387-3082 or www.artsandentertainment.org for Tickets and Information; Cost Adult/Student): **May 23rd Morgan State University Choir** (7:30pm) Garrett College Auditorium (\$17/\$7); **June 14th Kotaro Fukuma Piano** (7:30pm) Garrett College Auditorium (\$17/\$7); **July 4th Garrett Community Concert Band** Annual Independence Day Concert (7:30pm) Garrett College Lawn and Tent (\$ Donations Appreciated); **July 5th through July 8th Chautauqua** (5th Martin Luther King, Jr., 6th George

Wallace, 7th Rosa Parks, 8th Malcolm X) Garrett College Lawn and Tent (7:30pm) (\$ Donations Appreciated); **July 18th Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Pops Performance** Marvin Hamlisch Conductor (7:30pm) The Lodge at Wisp Resort (\$30/\$7); **July 19th Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Classical Performance** Lawrence Loh Conductor (7:30pm) The Lodge at Wisp Resort (\$30/\$7); **September 6th Johnny Staats and the Bluegrass Brand** (7:30pm) Garrett College Auditorium (\$17/\$7); **October 4th Tom DeLuca** (7:30pm) Garrett College Auditorium (\$17/\$7).

McHenry Highland Festival (21st Annual) Tickets available on their web site (www.highlandfest.info). **June 6th through 8th: Friday, June 6th 12pm St. Andrews at Wisp Golf Tournament** (Check web site for information); **Friday 7:30pm Festival Concert with Bonnie Rideout and Celtic Band Coyote Run** The Lodge at Wisp (\$30.00); **Saturday, June 7th 9am to 5pm Highland Festival** Garrett County Fairgrounds (\$12/\$6). Purchase discounted tickets in advance at www.highlandfest.info; **Sunday, June 8th 9am Kirkin' O' The Tartans** St. John's Episcopal Church, Deer Park.

Music At Penn Alps (Tickets \$15) Call 301-895-4250 to purchase a 10 pack for \$100.00. Go to www.musicatpennalps.org for information; shows at 7:30pm but arrive by 7:00pm to assure seats: **May 31st Aimee Sposato and Friends** (Operatic vocal ensemble); **June 7th William Montgomery & Roy Hakes** (Flute and piano); **JUNE 14th Lee Murdock** (Folk singer); **June 21st Dr. Nancy Roldan** (Piano recital); **June 28th WV Quartet with Andrew Kohn** (String bass) **Note: This concert will be presented at Windsor Hall, Cumberland;** **July 5th Ensemble Gaudior** (Baroque ensemble); **July 12th Brian Plitnick** (Trombone recital); **July 26th Gorton-Van Heusen Trio** (2 Harps and Oboe); **August 2nd Lomazov-Rackers Piano Duo** **Note: This concert will be presented at Windsor Hall, Cumberland;** **August 9th Marissa Regni** (Violin solo recital); **August 16th Amy Leung and Naoko Takao** (Cello and piano); **August 23rd Jonathon Carney Trio;** **September 6th Schrock Memorial Concert, Conrad Tao** (Piano).

LITTLE YOUGH SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL (Friday evenings at Mountain Fresh Pavilion in Oakland town parking lot: shows begin at 7pm; food vendors on site at 6pm; bring your own chairs; free, but donations encouraged): **June 20th Moossa** (variety: reggae primarily); **June 27th Hillbilly Gypsies** (Bluegrass); **July 11th Karen Collins & Backroads Band** (Honky Tonk country); **July 18th Swingtime** (Swing band with vocalist); **July 25th Dennis McClung Blues Band** (Blues); **August 1st Second Line Band** (Dixieland jazz); **August 8th National Road** (Popular music/top 40); **August 15th Queen City Funk and Soul** (Jazz and Motown/Soul); **August 22nd The Davisson Brothers** (Southern rock/country); **August 29th The Remedy** (Oldies).

THEATRE ON THE LAKE (TOTL) All performances are at 7:30 pm in the Garrett College Auditorium. Season tickets are \$25 and may be purchased by writing to The TOTL Theatre Company Route 1, Box 69 A, Aurora, WV 26705 or by calling 304-680-1002. Reservations will be taken

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beginning July 1 by calling the above number. First priority seating will be given to season ticket holders. General admission for the musical will be \$10 and \$8 for non-musicals.

**The Taming of the Shrew, July 10th- 12th; July 16th-19th:
The Miracle Worker, July 22rd-26th: Little Women, The
Musical, July 31st - August 2nd; August 6th-9th.**

Property Owner's Association of
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