

Lake Combie Association Annual Meeting Update 2010

Thanks to all who were able to make it to the Lake Combie Association Annual Picnic & Meeting. We were surprised and somewhat disappointed with the small turnout of members with overall attendance about half of the normal turnout. I want to take this opportunity to summarize the meeting discussions, as well as discuss the underlying purpose of the LCA and ask people to be sure they keep their membership current by paying their annual dues.

One of the primary purposes of the Lake Combie Association (LCA) is to maintain our relationship and exchange information with Nevada Irrigation District (NID). We meet with NID throughout the year to discuss current issues and keep an eye on future plans and events. NID recognizes our organization and works with us directly. We have worked through tough times in the past, most recently getting through the dock permitting process and finally convincing NID to offer a second opportunity to permit an existing, or in special circumstances, a new dock. Earlier the LCA Board worked to keep the early season water levels up so the lake had adequate water in June.

The entire community has obviously been working through a difficult economy, and as a consequence, we have seen our membership level fall over the past two years. We do not presently have any critical short term issues facing us today, though our long term situation is less certain. Probably the biggest concern is the possibility that Lake Combie would be converted to a terminal reservoir with limited or even prohibited recreational opportunities or even contact with the water. Therefore, we must keep our organization strong by

virtue of representing a great majority of our residents, and funded for times when we may again have serious issues to contend with, and a need to retain outside advisors. Please get involved, become a member if you are not, and help us preserve this fantastic resource. To draw an analogy to our democracy at large, I herein quote Thomas Paine, who once said: *"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it."*

Talk to your neighbors and ask them to be members, and make sure you are current as well. All property owners with legal lake access should belong to the LCA! Our mailing address is P.O. Box 1146, Meadow Vista, CA 95722. Email can be sent to lakecombielca@gmail.com or through the links in our website to any Officer at lakecombielca.com.

Now, on to some of the topics we discussed last weekend:

This year the dredging project proposed by NID has not yet commenced operation. We do not have definitive information on a start date at this time. Apparently a bill is currently in the Senate for funding appropriation. We do not know whether NID has other funding alternatives with which to undertake this project. We will pass on further information as we receive it.

There was proposal for public lake access in the Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) for Placer County. We attended multiple meetings. Due to a lack of land access points and funding, this proposal appears to have died.

Safety is always a number one concern. We have had reports of speeding in 5 MPH coves. As we all know we need to self police our lake for safety. This means we should talk to

someone boating unsafely to make them aware of what they are doing or failing to do. This needs to be done in a courteous and calm manner to work. We also need to be sure to approach people on significant safety issues. Most people will hear you. If a problem persists please let the LCA know with a clear description of the boat and incident along with CF number. With serious safety issues, or if the person will not operate safely, it can also be reported to the Sheriff.

Many of our 5 MPH buoys floated away last winter. We have located most of them and started to place them again. In the future please advise the LCA if you have one float up to your property so we can retrieve it. Please don't tie boats to the buoys, or in any manner disturb them, as this can cause the buoy to become untethered, or even sink.

We announced that a jet ski has been unclaimed for the last couple of weeks. This weekend we also heard of a canoe that ended up at another property, as well as a two person green and cream colored pedal powered boat. If you are missing any of these items please let us know by emailing relations@lakecombieLCA.com.

We held an election for the Board and Officers for the 2010-2012 term with results below:

Officers and Board Members:

Ron Codd, President

Bill; Johnson, VP

Dave Parker, Treasurer

Will Dixon, Secretary

Board Members:

Brad Parkinson

Rick Bergquist

Jerry Woods

I would like to thank all of our Board members for their service and support over this past term. Everyone's time, efforts, and

commitment are appreciated. I want to welcome our new incoming President, Ron Codd.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer.

Best regards,

Will Dixon
President (2008-2010)

Letter from the Incoming President

Dear Members and Prospective Members of the LCA:

I would first like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Board of Directors and Officer slate for their service this past year, particularly Will Dixon, who was an active and capable President of our Association the past two years. I would also like to welcome our new Board of Directors and Officer slate, all of whom I look forward to working with. Unfortunately, one of the recently elected directors has resigned for personal reasons, and we are now evaluating several possible candidates to fill this open seat. We'll keep you posted on this ongoing process.

As a property owner on Lake Combie, you and I enjoy a very special situation. There are very few lakes in California that permit land ownership down to the high water mark, and even fewer still that also allow owner docks along with unlimited boating and recreation access. If you take away lakes that have a short season by virtue of their elevation (Lake Tahoe, Bass Lake, Bucks Lake, etc), have unplanned development and serious congestion (Lake Tulloch), poor water quality (Clear Lake) or severely fluctuating water levels (Berryessa), or are simply too remote (Goose Lake), there are less than a handful of lakes that offer the aesthetics, utility and recreational experience of Lake Combie. This is truly a precious gem that we are all fortunate to be able to share with each other. This value is enhanced by virtue of the limited access available to non-home owners, making this a much safer and relaxing environment for all.

The Lake Combie Association (LCA) is a voluntary association, and derives its very limited powers solely through your

support and recognition of its importance to us all. It does not have any legal or regulatory authority over the lake or home owners, and there are no CC&Rs which establish or define its authority or responsibilities (we do have by-laws to help define the organization's purpose and administrative processes however).

On the flip side, there are many agencies and quasi-governmental organizations that do have authority over the lake or various activities on it. In addition to the Nevada Irrigation District (NID), these organizations include the Sheriffs of Placer and Nevada Counties, the Department of Fish and Game, the Army Corp of Engineers, CA Department of Boating and Waterways, and others. As Will noted in his outgoing President's letter, one of the primary purposes of the Lake Combie Association (LCA) is to maintain a positive relationship, monitor activities of, and exchange information with the most active and interested of these agencies: NID and the Sheriffs departments.

Communicating more frequently with you will be a priority of mine. We are trying to use email to allow quicker, easier and more economical communication. Thank you all for providing email addresses and if you know anyone who is not on our email list, please encourage them to submit their name and email address to us. If you ever wish to be removed from our email list, please let us know.

As your new President, I am interested in improving our membership participation rate, increasing involvement in the organization, and making this organization more relevant to you. We need not only the financial support of your membership, but hopefully can recruit a new generation of

individuals willing to take on the volunteer roles that will need to be continuously filled over the long term.

Your new board is working on a number of initiatives including 1) Changing up our website so that we have a member's only section that can be used for a variety of things including communications for and between members only, a possible membership roster including pictures of people and boats (for those interested in getting to know their neighbors on the lake), and other enhancements; 2) revising our expensive insurance coverage so that more dues can be directed to reserves and current activities, 3) Overhauling our bylaws and processes to make the LCA stronger and more relevant to all of you; 4) Offering more services and value to our membership through the creation of a lost and found, an equipment swap site, possible group waterski and wakeboard lesson scheduling, potential special interest groups, vendor discounts to members; and more. I cannot promise we can make all of these things happen this year, but these are some ideas we are working on, and we want to hear from you in two ways. We need your ideas and we need your volunteer help to make some of these initiatives a reality.

Enclosed in your mailing you will find a billing for the Fiscal 2011 dues (this is the period from July 2010 through June 2011), which we are billing a bit late. Your board has done some work to reduce its insurance expenses, which were creating a drain on our reserves. As a result of this effort and associated reductions in the costs of our insurance, we have decided to reduce the annual dues to \$50. This decision was also taken in part to encourage broader membership participation. If you have been an ongoing member, we appreciate your continued support. If you are not a current member, please give us a chance to show you the value of

membership by joining in and paying your Fiscal 2011 dues. More membership makes for a more powerful force if we need to address difficult issues with agencies that have legal jurisdiction over the lake!

In closing, I would like to ask you all to think about ways we can make LCA more vibrant, inclusive and relevant. If you have any ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me directly either through email at president@lakecombielca.com or at (925) 708-5918. And if you have time to volunteer for a special project, please contact anyone on the board you know to offer your services or ideas, or contact me.

Have a great summer, and I'll see you on the Lake!

Ron Codd