

# Deer Lake Newsletter

Winter 2018



*Published three times a year by the Deer Lake Property Owners' Association*

Dedicated to the preservation and improvement of a beautiful lake for future generations

## President's Message

Skip Wells

Well, here we are once again at that time of the year that all things slow down at the lake. We have been fortunate that there hasn't been much bad weather and just a dusting of snow so far. There are amazing days with sun and moderate temperatures to enjoy the tranquility that this time of the year brings.

We have seen a few break-ins, but most of those appear to have been inside jobs. This shows that we must be careful concerning whom we give access to at our residence. Try to reduce your home's exposure to visitors who might be at your place appropriately enough (like workmen), but someday that might possibly lead to unauthorized visits when we least expect them.

With the holidays coming on, there are lots of things to do, friends and relatives to catch up with, and places to go. One of the places to go might just be a quiet weekend at Deer Lake—pleasurable walks and maybe some snow sledding? There may also be a time when ice skating on the lake would suit your fancy. It's here all winter long.

I would like to give a shout out to Board Member Ken Santora. Ken has been on the lake for over 53 years. He currently serves as our Membership Chairperson. He coordinates with our Treasurer to keep our records straight, and is in the process of updating our member records with Stevens County to verify the actual lot counts. Changes have occurred over the years because of new owners, or possibly because of the conjoining of lots through purchases, so we need to have an accurate count in our records.

Ken also found a problem in the Narrows that affects three tributaries which supply the lake with water. This problem involved the deforestation buffer zones which were in place to protect the streams. He currently is serving as the Chair of that matter to see that it gets fixed. Oh, and by the way, he is also managing a fish pen that has 15,000 fish in it for replenishing the lake. Please, when you see Ken, give him a huge thank you for what he does. La-di-da



**SOLD**

## DLPOA Apparel News

Bob and Cheryl Schwartz

Thank you to everyone for supporting DLPOA apparel!

As we wrap up 2018, we are proud to announce that our on-hand inventory (sweatshirts, tank tops, classic shirts) is at the smallest amount in the last 5 years, because of your patronage.

Of course, we can still special order for you at any time. DLPOA apparel items make the greatest holiday gifts.

If you are interested in buying DLPOA apparel for the holidays, please contact:

Bob or Cheryl Schwartz at 509-951-4329 or [rismt@hotmail.com](mailto:rismt@hotmail.com).

## No New Year's Eve Dance this year

We started having New Year's Eve dances at the Deer Lake Resort eight years ago, and it has been a wonderful way to celebrate with friends and neighbors, and be close to home.

Unfortunately, there will be no dance this year. The venue has been winterized, so would not have water. Since we have also had a steady decline in attendance, we chose to not pursue other venues.

Thanks so much to Sharon and Dean Crump for generously allowing us to use the Eagle's Nest in the past, and maybe we will have future summer dances.



## Road Maintenance and Safety Committee report

Mike Larsen



### Three goals of this committee are to:

1. Eliminate road dust,
2. Slow down traffic, and
3. Support good community relationships.



“Slow down” signs have been recently posted on Pine Bay Way and East Deer Lake Road (Narrows). New “Slow Down” signs will soon appear near Haneys on Southwood Shores Road.

Julius Terrace area will be graveled with 'fines' in the Spring at County expense. Owners will be applying LINGO Road Binder at their expense.

Six hundred feet of Dawson gravel with 'fines' will be applied to the entrance of Pine Bay Way in the Spring at local owners' expense.

Follow-up to the future of Southwood Shores Road (2.2 miles) will be determined in the Spring.

Thank you again to all who contributed financially to the LINGO product applied on Southwood Shores Road. Contact Mike Larsen with comments/questions/support at: [mrlarson5986@comcast.net](mailto:mrlarson5986@comcast.net)



## Shoreline Management Plan

### Updates

### Skip Wells

New Shoreline Management plan updates are being prepared by the Stevens County Planning Commission. Under the tutorage of Chair, Greg Presley, his group and other members of the Board have been attending meetings and workshops to ensure that Deer Lake is adequately represented.

Buffer zones affecting the placement of structures (of all types) are being aligned with current standards that are in place by the state. There are a variety of methods available, and they make sense, for the most part.

One of the items included is the installation and size of docks. The new standards proposed include:

- ◆ Residential docks having a maximum of 450 square feet.
- ◆ A shared dock ( two properties) will be 550 feet.
- ◆ The maximum width will be 8 feet wide.
- ◆ The ramp portion will be a maximum of 4 feet wide.
- ◆ The dock must be in 4 feet of water, based on common high water levels.

Our normal high water level is at 2485.5 feet elevation. At this time, there is a question regarding previous platting documents that state 3 feet is the normal high. This has to be worked out.

We will be involved in the planning process over the winter months. Written statements are to be provided to the County by December 13, 2018. We will keep you informed.

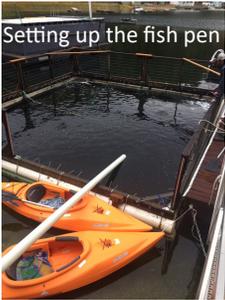
This highly technical document is being developed by consultants, representatives of the Department of Ecology, and Planning Commission members. The Stevens County Board of Commissioners will give the final approval sometime in June of 2019.

Now is the time to throw an extra rope on your dock! A derelict dock can cost \$300 to have it re-positioned and re-anchored.

### Please Save The Date!

DLPOA Annual Pancake Feed  
Sunday, July 7th, 2019  
Pinelow Park Dining Facility





Setting up the fish pen

## Santora 2018-19 Fish Rearing Report

Ken Santora

We received 15,000 Rainbow Trout on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, from the Spokane Fish Hatchery. Their size was estimated at about 19 fingerlings to the pound. My family and I secured the net to our pen with twice as many ties as we have in previous years and made some additional upgrades to the pen. One of my sons, Kevin, and I made sure everything was in position and secure for the transferring of the fingerlings from the truck to the pen. The transfer of fish

Baby fish added



went very smoothly.

Our projections for an April release for these fish is about 6 fish per pound.

We have some good news about fish rearing on our lake. Deer Lake Resort has stepped up and offered to have two fish pens in their area! That is an additional 30,000 fish added to our lake per year. We already have the available pens and nets at Deer Lake; there are some upgrades that need to be made, but the overall setup should happen in a timely manner.

## Deer Lake Property Owners' Association Membership Report

Ken Santora

As of November 7, 2018, we have 373 paid members to our Association. It is with the warmest appreciation that we thank you for your continued support of our organization. We have had several long-term Board members resign their position to our volunteer Board, and we have installed new Board members who have replaced them. We are grateful for the seamless transition of our new Board members and add a special thanks to those who donated their time and efforts in the past. They will be missed.

Activities for this year have included:

- Worked with Stevens County to improve road maintenance around the lake, which will be an on-going event.
- Organized two Road cleanup days.
- Continued with our efforts to fight milfoil.
- Offered new and previous inventory of Deer Lake apparel for sale.
- Sponsored the Fourth of July activities: Fireworks, Pancake feed, Boat parade, Children's parade and BBQ.
- Updated our website.
- Produced three newsletters, mailed to around 900 households.
- Enlisted advertisers for, and produced, a free calendar with all DLPOA events listed.
- Created an updated membership list with help from Stevens County.

If you have additional ideas that will improve your experience at the lake, please come to a meeting or email a Board member with that information. See you around the lake!

We are beginning to collect the annual DLPOA dues for 2019. Everyone should have an envelope enclosed with this newsletter for your convenience. Still only \$20!

Please consider adding a little extra, if you can, to contribute to the Fireworks display next summer.

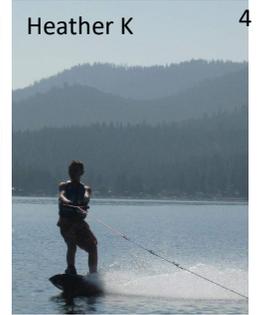


If you are feeling especially generous... Becoming a **Big Buck Club** contributor is what those "Deer" people who send in \$100 or more, (including \$20 for dues) are called.

**Your donations are very much appreciated!**

**Use the envelope to sign up for any activities you would like to help with.**

**We welcome new volunteers!**

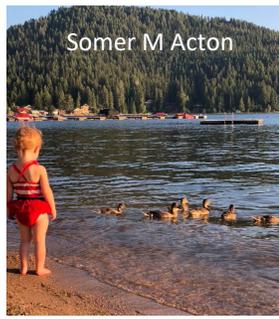


This is a 70 year old photo of Oliver Hall fishing near his cabin in the Narrows





Pauline Shomette



Somer M Acton



Heather K



Julie Rogers



Forrest Reynolds



Andy-Laura Vickers



Hayden Reid



Colleen Zeller



Missy Mai



Rowena Bishop



Tamara Winfrey



Cheryl Schwartz



Jan Stiteler



Robert Schwartz



Sharon Crump



Tracy Harding



Becky Houck Sears



Jeff Dufresne



Jennifer Showalter



Kristen Flerchinger Lynn



Alana Carlander Cummings



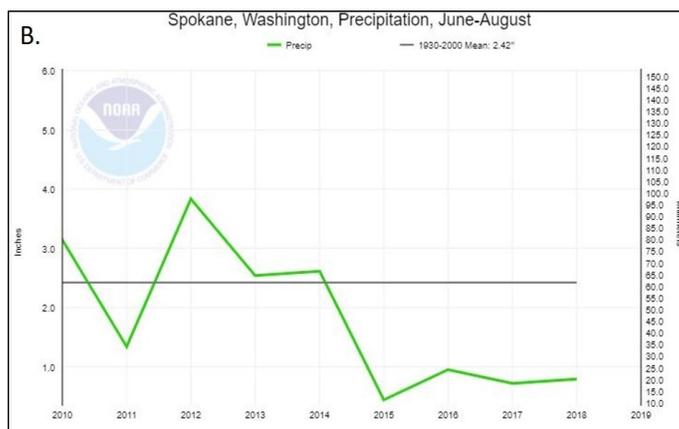
Tereasa Ashbaugh

## Forest Health in and around Deer Lake

Melissa Fischer, PhD, Forest Health Specialist  
Washington Department of Natural Resources

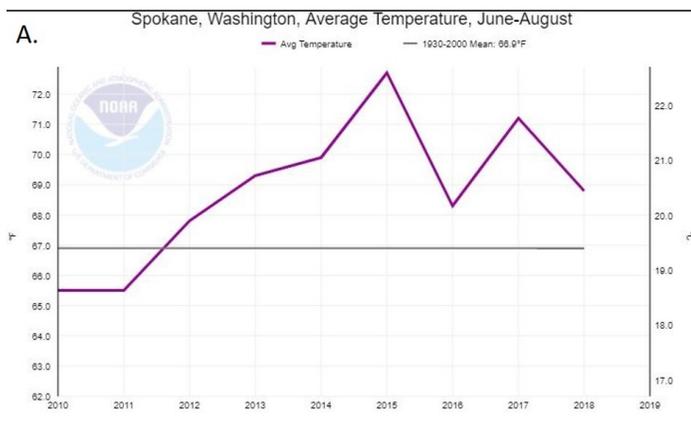
For the past several years, many forest landowners in Stevens County have noticed an increased prevalence in forest health issues. These issues are likely related to weather we have been experiencing the last several years.

Precipitation has been well below average during the summer months since 2015.



Summer precipitation is very important for the health of trees, as it is during this time that bark beetles are actively flying. Trees have defenses against insects and disease, including resin, which requires water to produce. Resin may act to mechanically pitch out or quarantine an invader. It also contains chemicals that can repel or even be toxic to invaders.

If drought conditions persist for several years, especially during the summer months, some bark beetle species can overcome stressed trees that are incapable of producing resin. Aggressive bark beetle species have the potential to build up in population in stressed trees and as their populations increase, they may begin successfully attacking healthy trees.



In addition to low summer precipitation, we have also been experiencing higher average temperatures during the summer months.

Higher temperatures may cause trees to pull more water up through the roots. If there is no water, this contributes to stress the trees, and can cause dieback within the crown.

There has been plenty of bark beetle activity in and around the Deer Lake area the past several years. Most of this activity can be attributed to the Western Pine Beetle, which infests Ponderosa Pine.

During my visit to Deer Lake in July 2018, I did not observe current activity by the Bark Beetles species, but instead observed secondary Bark Beetles causing mortality of Douglas-fir. Since 2015, forest entomologists have observed several species of secondary bark beetles killing Douglas-fir trees outright. This is unusual, as secondary beetles do not typically kill trees. These beetles are termed "secondary" because they usually enter a tree second, after something else has already killed or is killing it.



The secondary beetle activity we are seeing at Deer Lake is likely related to the past several years of summer drought. Another contributing factor that may be related to attack by these beetles is the presence of *Armillaria* root rot. *Armillaria* can infect many tree species, but is most prevalent in Douglas-fir and grand fir in eastern WA. Ponderosa pine and western larch are typically more resistant to infection. *Armillaria* infections mimic drought, which over time, can cause tree mortality. Sometimes bark beetles detect these root rot stressed trees, and attack and kill them before the root rot does.

What can be done about these forest health issues? In a forested setting, I typically recommend keeping the forest thinned so that the residual trees have enough resources, particularly water, to fend off insects and disease.



Unfortunately, in areas where root rot is present, **thinning has the potential to escalate** the problem. To mitigate this issue, landowners can focus on retaining and planting tree species that are more resistant to root rot and more adapted to the site. At Deer Lake, Ponderosa Pine fares much better in the soil types around Deer Lake than Douglas-Fir. In addition, because Ponderosa Pine tends to be much more resistant to *Armillaria* root rot, it would be a better choice for retention and/or planting.

For retention of individual, high-value trees, **watering during the hottest, driest parts of the summer** can be helpful. There are pesticides that can be used as a bark beetle preventative, but these products have to be used before bark beetles attack. Once a tree has been attacked, pesticides will not save the tree.



Every site is different; management of forest health issues can therefore be quite variable, depending upon the tree species and the forest health issues present.

For help with forest health problems feel free to contact me at [Melissa.fischer@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:Melissa.fischer@dnr.wa.gov) or 509-680-0658.

If you are interested in thinning out small diameter trees on your property, a Washington state DNR forester may be able to help with the planning process and potentially set you up with a cost-share, if there is one currently available for the area.



Cost-share grants allow the DNR to reimburse a landowner for up to half of the cost of the thinning project up to a certain amount, depending upon the grant. The landowner assistance forester for Deer Lake is **Steve DeCook** and he can be reached at **509-685-2713**.

Finally, for individual tree care, a local arborist may be able to recommend specific products and may treat your trees with products that require a pesticide license.

### Fall Roadside Cleanup

Kindl Shaffer

A good time was had by all this Fall participating in the Deer Lake Roadside Cleanup! It was a very pleasant Saturday morning, community members slowly trickled in to walk a section of road and collect garbage. It must of been one hell of a summer for some, drinking and driving and throwing their beer cans out the window! Besides, where else do alcohol bottles and cans belong? Certainly not in your vehicle. How about in the garbage at home?



We really should be more careful, and respectful of nature. I am not writing this to chastise anyone; I have been guilty of having a good time myself. The majority of the garbage seems to be alcohol. I loved seeing our volunteers out there taking care of nature that surrounds our lake. We should be taking care of ourselves and neighbors as well. The health of Deer Lake as a whole is very important; we need to preserve this beauty and the peace we absorb from it.

These events are a good opportunity to come out and meet some of your neighbors. We enjoyed being outside taking care of where we live. We had a nice BBQ at the fire station afterwards. The turnout was pretty good, but we encourage more of you to come out next time and be a part of this. Picking up garbage is fun! We collected 580 pounds of garbage. Thank you to the people that picked up garbage ahead of time that couldn't be there Saturday. I have a list of people that put their names on the sign up sheet. I am sorry If I missed you or misspelled your name. Please know that your participation was greatly appreciated!



Kevin Schroeder, Bill Ryan, Phil and Jill Bray, Scott, Christy, and Amanda Overbust, Bob and Cheryl Schwartz, Steve Jones, Ken S., Ginger Nieman, George Craig, Betsy and Doug Hammond, Dave Greco, George Hovda, Deb Breckenridge, Ron McKenzie, Jim Lombardi, Sinia Lombana, Michael Goodley, Alex, Mike, Ken and Cheryl Ring, and anyone else that helped....and the lady that dropped off the donuts last minute. And Olivia, the garbage dog, one of her two days that it is okay to be a garbage dog.



**Bob and Cheryl Schwartz**

We are proud to announce Nextdoor Deer Lake has reached a new milestone —we are now over 500 members strong and growing!

As we roll into the winter months when a lot of residents are not here full time, Nextdoor Deer Lake will continue to provide enrolled members with the latest community information, weather conditions, lake conditions, suspicious activity, crime reports, and other important information.

Nextdoor provides a great service to Deer Lake residents. It is free – no cost to sign up! Nextdoor does not sell your name or email address to vendors and you will not receive spam or junk email from them.

We are a restricted community electronic bulletin board. You must own property within our Deer Lake boundaries to sign up. If you are a new homeowner at Deer Lake, or if you haven't taken the opportunity yet to sign up, please join us.

To join, go to [www.nextdoor.com/join](http://www.nextdoor.com/join) and use code PNRSKH. We want to mention the sign up process includes a step that verifies your address (this is what keeps our site private). If you don't receive your mail at the lake (like many of our members), we can easily help verify your address. Contact us at [rismt@hotmail.com](mailto:rismt@hotmail.com).

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### Fall Chipper Day

We hit a new record this Fall. Folks brought in 51 loads of material for chipping. That may sound small, but last Spring it was 39. We are seeing people, who had no way to participate previously, utilize U-Haul trailers for bringing in material. This shows a growing commitment to solve their brush and limb problems at their lake place in a cost and time efficient manner.

### Skip Wells



We had help from Riverside High School "Senior Night" committee for unloading vehicles. Six members were on the site helping folks unload their vehicles. They were polite, hardworking, and friendly young men. Hopefully we can get them back in the Spring for the next event.

There will be two Chipper Day events in 2019. Dates will be posted when available, as this activity is coordinated with the Stevens County Solid Waste Department. We will keep you posted.

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### Deer Lake Management District 2018

**Mike Phillips**



The control of Eurasian Milfoil is done for this season. This milfoil collapses in the Fall with only the roots living.

Ace Diving spent 3 weeks, spread out over the summer, surveying and pulling this invasive weed. We have found it on all shorelines of Deer Lake. Most of it is in the Narrows. We pulled some and applied chemicals to the larger patches with good result.

Those areas that need more chemicals will be attacked the week after July 4<sup>th</sup>. We can't apply any before that to protect the little minnows hiding in the weeds. This is a Department of Ecology rule.

The divers plot all locations by GPS and put those locations on a map of the lake. The LMD board reviews the findings to track how we are doing in the never-ending battle.

We spend about 30% of the \$30,000 on chemicals and about 60% on Ace Diving. The county gets some for overseeing the LMD.

We will continue this battle next year, with the expectation of keeping the weed under control. Anyone thinking they have Eurasian Milfoil in front of their property can call Mike at 233-2510 to discuss your location and what you are seeing.

A big thank you goes to Mark Turney for scuba diving around the lake, being another set of eyes in this effort.

### Fourth of July

Fireworks display and Dock Positioning: Mike Egan, Marion Ballard, Bob Schwartz, Mike Wilson

Independence Day Parade: Greg and Karen Presley, Sharon Crump

Boat Parade: Lorraine and Ken Scott

Pancake Feed: Bob Schwartz

Dock Demolition: Shawn O'Neill

Road Safety and Maintenance: Mike Larson, George Craig

Emergency Services includes Water Safety, Buoys, Crime Prevention: Skip Wells, Jerry Rasley, Kevin Schroeder, Ron Watson, Buck Haney, Bob Schwartz, Mike Phillips

Fire Danger Signs: Neil Anderson

Fisheries and Fish Pens: Jim and Ken Santora, Dave McComb

Website: Shawn O'Neil

Data Base updating for membership: Mike Egan, Ken Santora, Pam Horner, Barbara Holston McKenzie

Membership: Ken Santora, Greg Presley

Volunteer List: Ken Santora

Big Buck Club: Greg Presley, Pam Horner, Doug Davis

Road Side Cleanup: Kendl Shaffer (West), Jerry Rasley (East)

Reader Boards: Mike Egan

Banners: Ron Watson (West), Jerry Rasley (East)

Water Quality, Lake Levels: Mike Phillips, Nita Gregg

Lake Management Steering Committee: Mike Phillips, Kevin Schroeder, Ken Ring, Skip Wells, Nita Gregg, Greg Presley, Mike Egan, Neil Anderson, Jerry Rasley

Calendar: Cheryl Ring (Set Up) Ken Ring (Ads)

Deer Lake Apparel: Cheryl Schwartz, Bob Schwartz

DLPOA Newsletter: Cheryl Ring

Wood Cutting and Tree Maintenance Advisor: Jerry Rasley

By-Laws: Bob Schwartz, Doug Davis

Deer Lake Next Door: Bob and Cheryl Schwartz

DLPOA Facebook: Cheryl Ring

Historian: Mike Phillips

Meeting Coordinator at Fire Station: Jerry Rasley, Skip Wells, Mary Tourney

Election Facilitator at Annual Meeting: Vice President

Hospitality: Vice President (Bob Schwartz)

Veterans Fishing Day: Greg and Karen Presley, Marion Ballard, Mike Wilson

Chipper Days: Skip Wells

Shoreline Management Master Plan: Greg and Karen Presley, Nita Gregg, Mike Egan, Barbara Holston McKenzie

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## Deer Lake Property Owners' Association Board Members

Skip Wells 979-3260 skipwells2@gmail.com

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John Gregerson 233-8419 sallygregerson@msn.com

## Handy phone numbers to have—including all the great businesses that advertise in the DLPOA calendar.

Please give them a try!

Steven's County Sheriff	684-2555	Dawson Trucking	937-2155
Loon Lake Health Center	233-8412	Tamarack Realty/Lake Country	999-6354
Deer Park Urgent Care	262-9000	West One Plumbing	465-1773
Post Office (Loon Lake)	233-2623	or call 935-0393	
Sunshine Disposal (dump)	233-8941	John Lynch Construction	937-2278
Library of the Lakes	233-3016	T & J General Excavating	276-3100
MedStar	532-7964	or call 991-6235	
Deer Lake Resort	233-2081	Avista	800-727-9170
All Seasons Grocery, Hardware	233-2444	Ptera	927-PTER(A)
Kaniksu Ranch	233-8202	Beyond Floors	533-0632
Baldwin Lumber	233-2040	Concrete Etc.	999-4645
Loon Lake Marina	233-2303	Evergreen Truss and Supply	276-5088
Zips North Division	466-6924	2 Loons Distillery	998-0330
Pinelow Resort	541-915-3101	Chewelah Painting	290-2665
Washington Trust Bank	276-8866	Redline Collision and Glass	935-6842
D.T.I. Concrete	937-4683	Body Shop 24/7 Fitness Center	935-4901
EZ Dock	276-9501	Black Diamond Asphalt	818-7485
ProCare Landscape	483-5249	Subway—Wandermere	467-4661
TAK Petroleum—oil, asphalt	483-1005	Four Corners Storage	936-5453
Pizza Factory (Deer Park)	276-3000	Les Schwab Tires	990-5342
Parkway Auto Center	276-2955	KCI Construction	238-0703
Loon Lake Gutters (Joe)	481-8616	Loon Lake Assembly of God	233-8915
Loon Lake Storage	233-2944	Brownscape Landscape	230-1691



The next DLPOA Board Meeting was scheduled for February 14th, but that's a pretty important day. The meeting will be held on **February 7th** instead...(so you can watch the Gonzaga game... or anything else that might be scheduled on that day).

Thanks to everyone who submitted pictures. There were SO MANY good ones, it was very hard to choose. Hope you enjoyed them as much as I did. What a beautiful place we get to call home.

Please send any comments, complaints, or suggestions about the newsletter to :

**cherylring@gmail.com**

I also encourage you to please send me pictures and any ideas you have for articles.

More information about Deer Lake Property Owners' Association (including Board Meeting minutes) can be found at our website: [www.dlpoa.com](http://www.dlpoa.com)



Check out our Facebook page under Deer Lake Property Owners' Association. We already have 884 friends, and I will friend you, too!

Deer Lake Property Owners' Association has a Board that meets 9 times during the year, plus has an Annual Meeting each summer.

Members are welcomed and encouraged to come to any of these meetings. Time, location, and dates are on the DLPOA calendar.