



Deer Run Community News

Newsletter of the Deer Run Community Organization - 2014 Summer Issue



Deer Run's newly elected Board of Directors (from left): Sandra Bullock, At-Large Board Member and former Treasurer; Julie Cottle, Vice President; Judy Quick, President and Treasurer; Nadine Green, Secretary.

Deer Run Annual Meeting

The DRCO Annual Meeting on May 15th was attended by 18 residents, representing 14 households. An additional 6 sent proxies, bringing the voting total to 20 households. Our by-laws require a minimum of 10% of our 141 households to constitute a legal quorum.

Election of Officers
Judy Quick volunteered to fill the position of treasurer being vacated by Sandra Bullock, and the association elected her DRCO treasurer for a two-year term. Sandra has served a total of five years as DRCO treasurer, She was nominated to serve as an at-large member of the board, and was so elected. Julie Cottle will continue as Vice-President and Nadine Green as secretary for the remaining year of their two-year terms. Judy Quick and Nadine Green

were authorized as signers on bank accounts, contracts, tax documents and legal documents requiring an officer's signature during their tenure on the Board. The position of President was left vacant, but Judy Quick subsequently volunteered to fill that position, in addition to serving as treasurer.

Other Business Discussed

- There is no change planned for the current dues.
- The association's reserves are strong.
- The association has good liability insurance.
- Andersen Accounting reviewed DRCO's books and found them in good order.
- The budget was unanimously approved by members in attendance.

In This Issue

- ◆ **DRCO Annual Meeting**
- ◆ **Mayor Speaks**
- ◆ **Wally's Wooden Cars**
- ◆ **Light-Pole Soccer Mom**
- ◆ **DRCO Annual Picnic**

DRCO

Board of Directors

Judy Quick
President & Treasurer
360-

Julie Cottle
Vice President

Nadine Green
Secretary

Sandra Bullock
At-Large board Member
360-394-5635

Gene Bullock
Newsletter Editor:
360-394-5635
genebullock@comcast.net

Contact Info:

DRCO
PO Box 756
Poulsbo, WA 98370
deer.run.co@gmail.com
Our website: www.drco.org
Charlie Toth - Webmaster

Board Meetings

If you would like to attend a board meeting, please contact us by email or phone for date and time. All Deer Run homeowners and residents are welcome.

Poulsbo Mayor Speaks at DRGO Annual Meeting

Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson and Poulsbo police officers Jennifer Corn and Don Kennedy were special guests at the DRGO annual meeting. They were introduced by outgoing DRGO President Dori Murdock.

Mayor Erickson talked about the steps the City of Poulsbo has taken to deal with the growing use of heroin in this and other communities throughout the region. It is a growing problem nationwide. The city has taken

aggressive action to make it clear that heroin and other illegal drugs are not welcome in our community.

Officer Corn discussed the block watch program and cited recent incidents of car prowls in Deer Run. She advised residents to call 911, not the police department, if they see anything suspicious. Callers should be prepared to provide descriptions of people who seem out of place. The license plate number of a

suspicious vehicle is especially helpful. Please report car prowls even if nothing is taken. To report an issue after it has occurred, you can email crimetips@cityofpoulsbo.com. But don't use the email to report an incident in progress. Officer Corn noted that some communities post signs saying "may be under video surveillance" as a crime deterrent.

Wally's Wooden Cars

Based on Kitsap Business Journal article, Feb. 2011

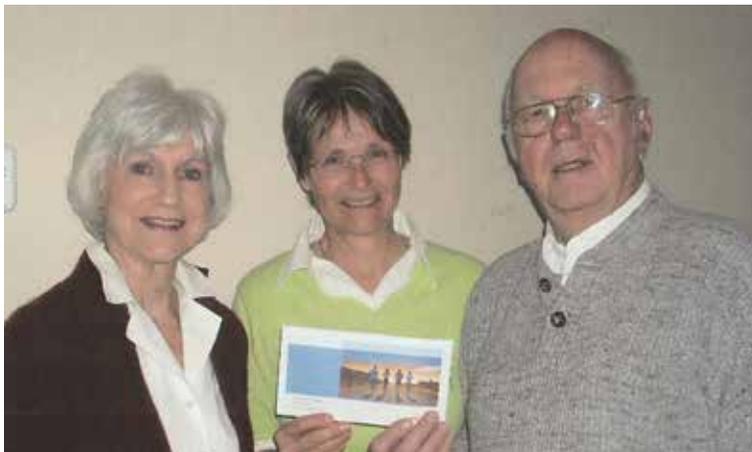
Deer Run's Wally Harrison makes wooden cars that bring smiles to kids in third world countries. A former boat builder, he has turned his garage into a woodworking shop where he produces hand-crafted toy cars for kids around the globe.

The idea for these cars came to him when he and his wife Marge were serving in the Peace Corps. The two still recall seeing two young boys in Jamaica entranced with a newfound toy – rubber bands Marge had just given them.

"The kids had nothing but rocks and sticks to play with," he said.

Wally began working on a toy design that was kid-friendly and simple to replicate. Now his system of using 2x6-inch fir scraps, high-powered sanders and a band saw has become routine.

When a church sent a group overseas who volunteered to take cars for kids in their suitcases, the



WallyCar project was officially born. Since then Wally has recruited volunteers to help make the cars and more than 5,000 have been distributed to kids in 18 countries including Morocco, Chile, Indonesia and Columbia.

Harrison still makes the cars in his Poulsbo garage, but one of his friends, who has professional-grade tools, can accommodate a small group at his own shop — so periodically, the group gets together and makes hundreds of the toys. The volunteers include a banker, a retired pharmacist and other professionals.

"They all get a big kick out of it," Harrison said.

The Harrisons have been financing the production of WallyCars, which included buying

thousands of wooden wheels (the only part not made by the group in-house). Supporters suggested a fundraiser, so WallyCars set up a table at Central Market in Poulsbo.

"The reception we got was tremendous," Harrison said. "(Store manager) Tom Hall said, 'Let's do it again...'

Everybody's feedback has been great."

All donations received go toward purchasing materials like the wheels and dowels for axles, as well as replacing blades and such for the shop equipment. Because construction sites have become scarce in the past few years, Kingston Lumber stepped up to provide the wood for the cars. The lumberyard gives volunteers all its scrap pieces

Since the project's inception, several locally based nonprofits that work in third world countries have partnered with WallyCar to distribute the toys.

Anyone interested in the WallyCar project may contact Wally Harrison via email, wallyandmarge@hotmail.com.

Poulsbo's Light-Pole Soccer Mom - Gene Bullock



Poulsbo's Strawberry Field hosts more than soccer competitions this summer. Evicted from their former nest atop a Poulsbo cell tower, an osprey pair has adopted one of the lighting towers on the playing field at the corner of Hostmark and Noll Road. From their perch on top of the lights they're raising their brood and keeping tabs on the players below.

The osprey pair commutes daily to Liberty Bay to feed their fledgling family on fresh-caught fish. The commute may be longer than before; but the pair seems happily at home on the cluster of lights, despite concerns about having flammable nesting materials in contact with the hot lights.

Kitsap Audubon is proposing a change that could elevate the nesting platform by creating a second story addition just above the current nest. Some have suggested installing a new nesting platform someplace else, such as Fish Park; but osprey expert Jim Kaiser says ospreys are too loyal to their chosen site and doubts that they could be persuaded to relocate more than a quarter mile away. A retired

wildlife biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department, Jim is an osprey expert and has overseen the installation of some 300 osprey nesting platforms along the west coast. He is advising the Kitsap Audubon chapter on this project.

Displaced ospreys are a growing problem because cell towers are too often the preferred nesting site as suitable trees disappear. Ospreys are a favorite of many. Even our Seahawks football team is named for these charismatic birds. But their nesting materials create a fire hazard, and can cause costly service disruptions. Nobody likes to evict birds, especially those as popular as ospreys; but cell tower owners and contractors have begun installing excluder devices to drive the birds away.

Ospreys displaced by the excluders often end up on light towers like those on Strawberry Field. It's not an ideal solution, because putting flammable nesting materials in contact with high intensity lights creates a new fire hazard and maintenance problem.

Cell tower owners face this problem with thousands of

installations all across the country, and are understandably reluctant to spend vast sums of money on alternative sites. Bainbridge Island residents became concerned when they watched an osprey pair try repeatedly to replace their nest beneath a cell tower excluder. The community rallied and the Bainbridge Island School District offered a place for a new nesting platform on the Sakai Intermediate School grounds. The BI School District even added an interpretive kiosk next to the platform to make it an educational wildlife viewing site.

Erection of the new platform was greeted with enthusiastic community support; but the current nest can't be disturbed until after it is totally abandoned in September. After that it will be removed, and some nesting materials may be moved to the new platform. If all goes well the ospreys will happily rebuild on the new platform when they come back next spring. Until then, their Bainbridge fans can only wait and hope.

Photo courtesy of Jay Wiggs

Besides editing the Deer Run neighborhood newsletter, Gene Bullock edits the Kitsap Audubon Society newsletter and writes a monthly column on wildlife and bird-watching that appears in *Kitsap Week*, the feature magazine distributed with six Kitsap weekly newspapers, including the *North Kitsap Herald*.

Deer Run Community Organization
P.O. Box 756, Poulsbo WA 98370

menu is

FIRST
CLASS
POSTAGE



Please provide DRCO with your Email address so we can contact you promptly when necessary with neighborhood alerts and important announcements. Email it to deer.run.co@gmail.com. This information is not shared and remains confidential.

The annual Deer Run Picnic is all about families, friends, food and fun. Be sure to put Sunday, August 24th on your calendar. DRCO has reserved the Raab Park pavilion from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. DRCO will provide the main dish (BBQ chicken, pulled pork?) and soft drinks. The rest of the menu is pot luck, with each family bringing a salad, dessert or favorite dish to share. If you are willing to help, please email deer.run.co@gmail.com

Photo by Gene Bullock

