

LSCC
PO BOX 191
Black Diamond, WA 98010

Lake Sawyer Community Club NEWSLETTER

Fall 2020



Letter from the LSCC President



Smoky September Sunset

The air quality in mid September is something none of us wish to repeat! Views were unlike anything we had seen with red suns, tan skies, and overall low visibility. A few boats could be seen on the water desperate to get a run in before summer was over but our lake was eerily slow. Now that we are out of the hazardous zone, fall is here and our air and waters are quickly cooling down!

The fall newsletter typically recaps our 4th of July winners and announces the fall festivities, but like everything else in 2020 they have been CANCELED.

Redeeming our summer were thirteen live concerts on the lake, recapped in this newsletter. With such positive resident feedback our goal is to continue the FUN next summer. On another positive note, I want to highlight our July Fourth Fireworks Show. Despite the necessary forfeiture of most daytime 4th of July events, our board felt the nighttime finale should go on! Validated by the survey that was put out, our board was proud to keep the tradition of the grand fireworks display. I have to say it was the best show I've seen on

Lake Sawyer to date! We had a new technician this year who suggested we up the tempo and had a completely computerized system to perfectly execute the show. After much communication on logistics with him – he nailed it!! The show wouldn't have been possible without the donations from YOU. On an unpredictable year, our lake really rallied and I am proud of that! Kudos all-around!

With Paint 'n Sip, Oktoberfest and Halloween Carnival off the schedule, the board is determined to modify Santa Boat so we can still host one of our most beloved traditions. Pay attention to upcoming emails and the Winter Newsletter for details

Summer rentals at the clubhouse were at an all time low, with exactly zero rentals. But the Maple Valley School of Ballet has found a way to resume part time beginning this fall. We are happy to welcome them back!

If you do not currently receive emails from me as the LSCC President, you can manually subscribe by going to the web address <http://eepurl.com/dPFTsL>. Thank you for all of your support. *Lauren Landis*



“The purpose of the LSCC is to bring together all members in good standing to inform and discuss mutual problems, concerns, and interests affecting our community, the lake, and our surrounding environment.”



IN MEMORY OF CRAIG GOODWIN



"Morning Light" by Craig Goodwin



"Sunrise in July" by Craig Goodwin

We tragically lost a treasured community member on August 18, 2020. Craig Goodwin and his wife Judy have lived on Lake Sawyer for 38 years. Craig was a sensational photographer and our own majestic views around the lake were some of his most captured images. Shown here are three of Craig's photos captioned in Craig's own words via his Facebook posts. Many residents knew Craig and here are what some had to say about their dearly missed neighbor:

Mark Davidson: "I am shocked and saddened to lose him. Such a talented and gentle man. Always a hello and a smile. He was a community treasure and left a legacy, not only of beautiful photos, but also of unselfish community involvement. He lived the words, "be kind."

David and Linda Hagen: "I busted Craig one day, this was as I recall early a.m., the shot was taken from



our house. Craig seemed to always walk around with a smile on his face and was nice to be around. We would go out on the lake and find him shooting, shooting, shooting. The pictures Craig shared were sometimes too perfect to be true, but they were. He was a genuine person that I had hoped to know better.



"Fireworks and the Moon Color the Skies" by Craig Goodwin

Sharon Veldhuis: "Craig brightened my days with his amazing and beautiful photos. I always have his calendar hanging in my kitchen, not only because his photos brought me joy but also because it celebrated the kind, generous and giving person he was. Craig has done so much for our community, serving on the city council and continually raising money for the Black Diamond Community Center. He always met you with a smile and a cheerful greeting, he will be greatly missed."

Janie Edelman: "Craig Goodwin was a very selfless man. Craig was a champion of the citizens of Black Diamond. During the contentious times of the MPD approvals, Craig started a dialog with concerned citizens. This evolved into what we now have as semi-annual Town Hall Meetings. He was always ready to listen. Black Diamond Community Center was also the beneficiary of Craig's talents. He made yearly calendars with his photos from that year. All proceeds from the sales went directly to the Community Center. He also donated framed photographs for the annual fall fundraiser. He will be missed by all."

Lake Sawyer Community Club

"Building Community"

The purpose of the Lake Sawyer Community Club is to bring together all Members in good standing to inform and discuss mutual problems, concerns and interests affecting our community, the lake and our surrounding environment.

Name _____ Phone _____

Lake Address _____

Mailing address if different _____

Primary Email _____ Secondary Email _____

Dock Number _____ (Dock stickers will be mailed to members) Do you need a dock plate? Yes / No

LSCC Membership Dues (\$50) _____ July 4th Events donation _____

Platinum:	\$500+
Gold	\$200 to \$499
Silver	\$100 to \$199
Bronze	\$1 to \$99

Please mail payment and form to LSCC, PO Box 191, Black Diamond, WA

Membership in LSCC provides a sense of community and opportunities to meet neighbors and participate in the many LSCC sponsored events held every year.

LSCC Member specific benefits:

- ◆ Preferred rates on clubhouse rentals
- ◆ Voting privileges at the annual meeting
- ◆ Quarterly LSCC Newsletters
- ◆ Admission to LSCC sponsored events, some of which include:

Annual Chili Cookoff
Easter Egg Hunt
Dock Parties
Pontoon Boat Party
Octoberfest
Santa Boat
- Presents delivered by Santa, Mrs. Claus and the elves

4th of July Festivities
- Volleyball
- 5K Walk, Bike, Run
- Waterski event
- Fishing Derby
- Boat Parade
- House décor competition
- Fireworks show

Additionally, membership fees support the Black Diamond community. Funds go toward maintenance and replacement of buoys, lake water quality testing and reports. The Black Diamond Food Bank receives quarterly donations. Several of the LSCC events are open to the public including our Easter Egg Hunt and our 5K Walk, Bike, Run.

If you have any special skills you would like to offer, or to volunteer with the LSCC, please feel free to contact any board member, and don't forget to visit our web site at www.lakesawyer.org and "like" our Facebook page www.facebook.com/lakesawyerWA

4TH of July Decorating Contest



"Most Patriotic" David & Tammie Williams Dock 43



"Most Creative" Ken & Cindy Smith Dock 203



"Spirit of the Crowd" Drew & Alysha Majer Dock 316

4TH of July Dock Wrangling



Every year we have to honor and thank our dock wrangling team from the 4th of July. For those unfamiliar, there are five floating docks that need to be assembled to create the barge to launch the fireworks show.

This year we had Team A and Team B. Team A brought all 5 floating docks from various locations around the lake to the regional park and Team B brought them back on July 5th. The A team had Weston Butt, Gary Farmer, Eric Bircham, and Eric Cutshall. The B team had Adam Running, Lucas Rubstello, and Scott Sherer. **Thanks to all seven of you for your time and efforts!**

Thank you also to resident Sharon Veldhuis and neighbors for letting us borrow your floating dock!

LAKE SAWYER DOCK CONCERTS by Anna Morris



What is up with the flotilla of boats these past summer-time evenings?? A "new" kind of event has evolved this season of social distancing in the way of Dock Concerts! The parade of pontoons, boats, kayakers, longboards & even swimmers, file in from all angles of the lake to listen to live bands or individuals perform. It has been received with such enthusiasm, the momentum continued. Music lover and social butterfly Laura Bingle is the brainchild behind these events at Dock #28. She has connections with local musicians and graciously shares her outdoor venue with friends & lake residents for a unique experience, social distant friendly. It has also functioned to support these bands/artists who are going through withdrawals from the entertainment scene shut-down. They appreciate a place to play with a live audience and vice versa. Boats congregating for an evening of music is a picture from paradise! Resident Matt Bond took some early drone photos and they looked like a scene from the show Ozark (Sunday church!!) We imagine there are tables of wine & appetizers happening as well!

The concerts are not LSCC sponsored. Upon notification of an upcoming band by Laura (or current host), our LSCC president sends an e-mail blast as a courtesy. Anyone wishing to host a concert event is welcome to. Bill & Patty Swedberg hosted three times with their friend and talented musician, Steve Olson, at Dock #53. Trent Wohlman, Dock #78 jumped on the bandwagon at the end of August, hosting country rock star, Aaron Crawford. Curtis & Michelle Lang of Dock #62 provided our summer ending rock and roll concert featuring Aaron Jones. Any dock will do and there isn't a bad seat on the lake! A bit of magic takes over and it seems people leave feeling uplifted and renewed, a welcome thing during pandemic times. All the performances have been awesome! Pandemic or not, Dock Concerts may be here to stay. The Lake Sawyer Community Club is planning to continue the tradition next summer. It is

a winning combination of music, boats & atmosphere! The concerts end by 9 pm and start after speeding hours. Since Laura Bingle is moving off the lake, hopefully others will pick up the lead!

Tips for the artists are done through Venmo. There were some cash tips obtained from a long boarder or a kayaker paddling up to the dock, but maneuvering the boats is trickier. If you aren't familiar with Venmo, here is a link to set up an account: www.venmo.com/signup. OR ask your tech savvy child or grandchild to Venmo "X" amount and write them a check or cash out to reimburse!

The following is a list of all the concerts from the summer and their Venmo name if interested in tipping:

Sealth - @sealthlive

Once Upon a Tuesday - @tyke-reasy

Daniel Pellegrini - @Daniel Pellegrini-6

Steve Olsen - @firemanoly

Davidson Brothers - @Cary-Davidson

Collin Kinder - @collinwkinder

Disasterpiece - @MVDIsasterpiece

Montreaux - @joshua-heimlich

Aaron Crawford - @crawfordaaron

Deni Cole - @Still-Got-It-Band

A Man Called Jones - @Aaron-Jones-352

It is gratifying to stay connected with friends & lake residents in lieu of nearly all LSCC events being canceled this year. The dock concerts have filled in for the Redneck Pontoon & Dock parties! We always welcome feedback. Keep your anchors ready & stay tuned for summer 2021!



Meet Laura and Rick Bingle, the homeowners



Kyra, Laura, Emma, Rick Bingle

at Dock #28! Their dock has been the primary concert venue and the Bingles are the organizers behind most of the music this summer! However, playing music in their yard is not new to the Bingles, they have been doing this for years. It just took COVID to turn the music outward for the community to enjoy! They have left us with a new tradition to carry on, because sadly the Bingles moved this past month. The Bingles are splitting time between Texas where Rick had a job opportunity and a new home in Leavenworth. For this reason, we decided they were the perfect family to feature in the fall edition of our newsletter.

The Bingles moved from LA to Maple Valley in 1994. Their first home was in Cherokee Bay where they lived for 3 years. After that, they then did a short stint in Dallas but it was much too hot for the family of four. When their daughters were 2 and 4, they moved back to Maple Valley seeking out the Tahoma School District especially for their daughter Kyra, who has special needs. This time they landed in the Greenbrier neighborhood where they lived for the next 10 years. But living on the water was a long-term goal for Laura who grew up near a lake. By age 3 she was on fireball skis bolted together with a two-by-four! When they felt their daughters were old enough to move on the water, they began looking in earnest for a house on Lake Sawyer.

Like most residents, the Bingles have a story with how they ended up here. Committed to their goal of lake living, they sent letters with pictures of their family to residents on Lake Sawyer in hopes of striking a private sale. Meanwhile, a realtor friend keeping their eye out, alerted them to a listing Dawn Johnston had on the east side of the lake, but it was far beyond what they

were willing to spend. Laura drove to the home anyway, unbeknownst to her husband! She drove into the driveway and called her realtor friend and told him that she was confused because the house looked so small from the road. She then got in her boat and looked at the house from the water and it turned out it was the house they had always admired when boating! This particular house was of note because it used to be shielded by trees and Laura and Rick watched as those trees were taken down unveiling a modest home on a very beautiful point. Laura remembers thinking upon the trees being removed, "Wow, there's a house there!" She set up a tour for the next day. Turns out, she didn't like the house... BUT loved the property. She walked out to the point and cried knowing her dream home couldn't be hers at the cost it was listed for. A short time later while at a house showing on the west side of the lake, Laura stood on the porch staring at the house she really loved on the east side. Her husband walked up beside her and asked what she was thinking about. She told him that she didn't want to look out and, "Regret the house we should've bought for the rest of our lives." Her husband said, "What are you talking about?" That is when she confessed having gone and looked at the house that "used to be covered by trees" without him. After a moment he turned to her and said, "If you go back to work, I think we can swing it." With her daughters being 10 and 12 years old at the time, she walked right out the door ready to re-enter the workforce and live in her dream home! The home was sold to the Bingles in 2006.

Their dream home was given the nickname, Funtown! The origin of the story is simple. The name came about



"Sunset at Funtown"

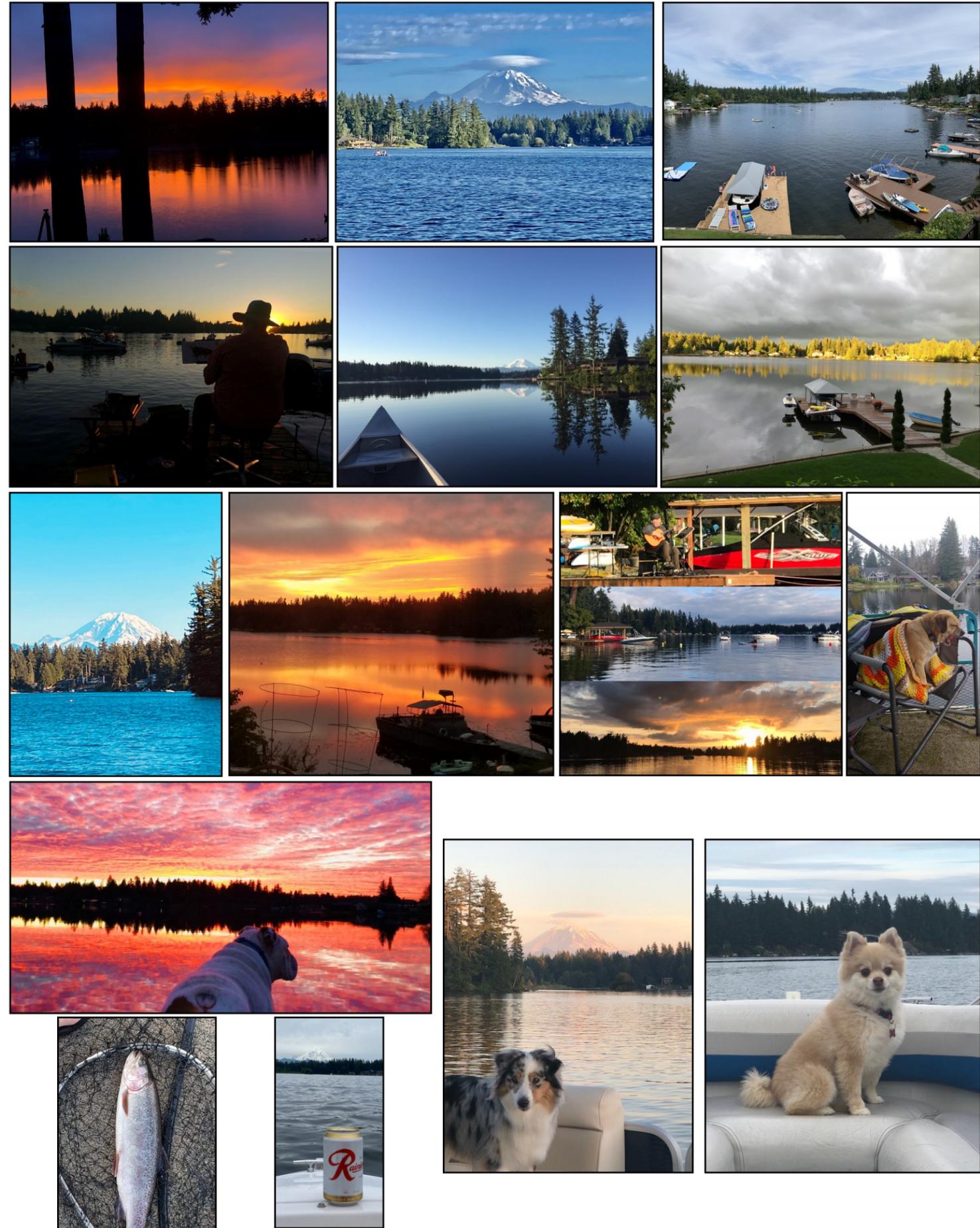
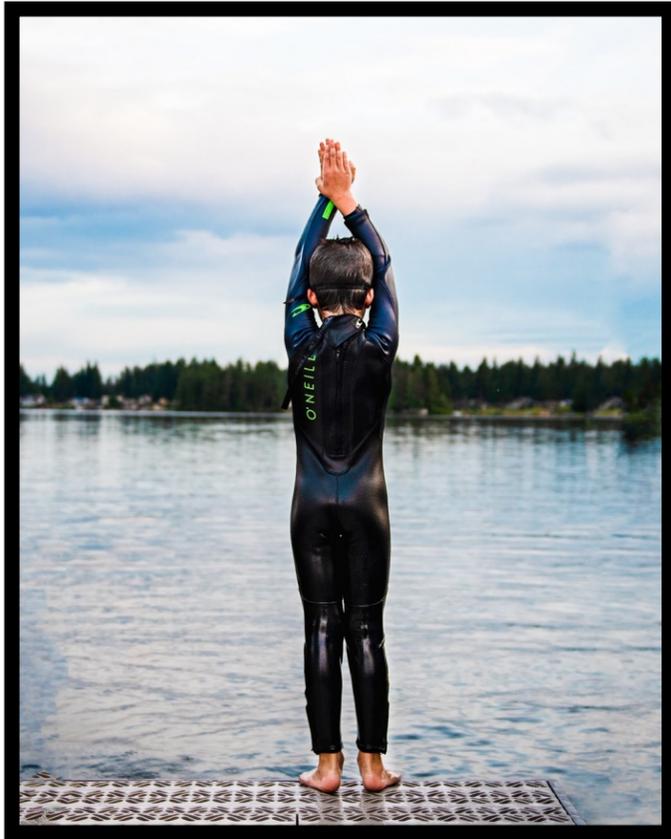


PHOTO CONTEST

Thank you to everyone that sent your “best of summer” picture to the LSCC. The dominating themes of photos sent in were kids, grandkids, pets, and Mt. Rainier! Our favorite photo sent in came from Karli Goetz of her son diving in the water. She is a photographer by trade and so she had an upper hand in this “contest”! A close second was Kathy Thomas’s photo of the full moon rising over our fireworks show. Thank you to all who sent in photos!



GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS (cont.)

after 9/11 as Laura felt greatly impacted by the tragedy. She did not want to live in a world where this happens, she wanted to live in “Funtown.” Laura openly says, “I choose to live my life with rose colored glasses.” For those who know Laura and Rick personally, they will certainly attest to the couple having a lot of FUN! Every spring the Bingles would conquer a project on or around the house. From replacing black tile in the entryway, to a full kitchen remodel, to a gazebo seating area on the point - they took it on! Laura said it felt like last spring they finally had everything perfect, just as it was time for them to sell!

Living across from the Bingles myself, I knew that hosting live music was not a new tradition and so I asked how all this started? Laura said, “This property begs to have parties, so we have always done live music!” Then Laura launched into an inspiring story of how music is tied to an incredible cause for the Bingles. Laura has volunteered for Gilda’s Club for over a decade now. For those not familiar, it is the organization that Gene Wilder started in honor of his late wife, Gilda Radner, who died of ovarian cancer. The organization benefits the women and their families impacted by the disease. The Bingles moved into their house on Lake Sawyer in July and the following March, Laura’s mother was diagnosed with stage 4 ovarian cancer. She died in December at 62 years old. Needing a distraction, Laura started cycling and dedicated herself to completing the Seattle To Portland (STP) bike race. In her words, “She didn’t know what she was



“Fundraiser for Team Joy”



“My brother and sisters with me on Team Joy 2016”



“TEAM JOY 2016”

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS (cont.)

getting herself into!" After her race and taking on almost more than she could chew, her husband said, "I want to do this with you next year!" Then more family jumped on the bandwagon and that is when she formed Team Joy, in honor of her mother, Joy. Laura then flashed her arm at me revealing a tattoo of a bicycle and ten hearts and said, "Now I've done ten STPs." Every year, Laura and her husband fundraise for Team Joy and to date they have raised over \$100,000 for Gilda's Club. The fundraisers got bigger over the years incorporating a silent auction and of course, live music! Laura added, "Parties are not always just for fun!"



In addition to hosting and loving live music, Laura also has a history of being in a band. This summer, the first band to play on her dock was duo, Ariel and Dace of Sealth. Dace owns Maple Valley's School of Rock. Laura met Dace back in 2009 and on a whim to try something new, Laura wanted to get guitar lessons and attended the school. During lessons, Dace recognized she might learn better through a program he calls "Rockology." The program pairs similarly skilled musicians together and they learn a few songs in a band. Laura was grouped together with other Moms and hilariously they named their band, "The Angry Beavers." They played at local establishments including the Red Dog and the former Taphouse.



"The Angry Beavers"

At one point I turned to Laura after going down my list of questions and asked, "Do you think you are notorious on Lake Sawyer? I got an immediate YES, and she doesn't think she's necessarily well-liked or maybe understood by all. For example, many may remember

late nights of pole dancing beneath the Bingle's deck. She would notice many boats passing with judgmental glances. But most would not know that Laura was one of Washington State's first pole dance workout instructors at one of our local gyms in 2003! Proof that the more you know, the more you understand.

Knowing the Bingles from afar, I was fairly certain I knew the answer to my next question, "Has anyone ever called the cops on you?" "Oh yeah," she said very enthusiastically and proceeded to recite the city's noise ordinance, which apparently is something to the effect of, "Whatever the community can tolerate." She has found that 10:00-10:30 pm is the limit for live music on the lake. Then she elaborated, "We throw a lot of theme parties.... Bada Bingle, 1940s Gangster, Casino Night." One of her funnier interactions with the police was during the 1940s Gangster party. When Laura hosts parties, she often alerts the police department letting them know that they might get a noise complaint, or for this particular party that they'd be using the boat launch in a scavenger hunt/bar hop with a designated driver (aka Godfather) of course. The party goers were divided up into groups and each group had to follow clues around local bars and their mission ended at the boat launch where Laura was dressed as "The Dragonlady!" Teams had to do a "hit" on the Dragonlady. When Laura would see headlights coming down the boat launch road, she would jump on the hood of her car and pose for groups. One certain set of headlights was getting increasingly bright to the point of alarm. She looked up and saw a cop car with their spotlight right on her in full costume!! She broke character very quickly and removed her mask and said, "It's Laura, Laura Bingle!" Knowing Bingle well, they said, "Oh we didn't know you'd be here." To which she replied, "It was in the packet I gave you!" As a memento, she has a great photo of her and officer Chatterson.

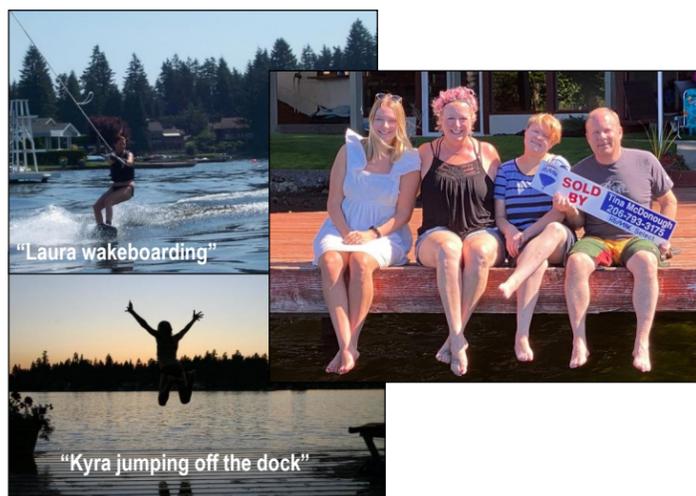
Both times when I went to Laura's house this summer there were multiple cars in the driveway and between 5-10 people hanging out in her yard and dock. While I conducted this interview, she stepped away from her house guests for two hours, not something you expect to see from a host! But for Laura, her friends clearly have a home away from home at her house. She lives by having an open-door policy, something all but forgotten in today's neighborhoods. Towards the end of our conversation, I noticed one of Laura's tattoos that said, "Choose Joy", displayed across her left and right

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS (cont.)

feet. After talking for almost two hours, I realized that this tattoo was not just to honor her mother but also a mantra to Laura's life. While she calls her home Funtown and views life through rose colored lenses, she also turns fun into life changing fundraising and building a true community by opening her "fun" home to friends she meets around every corner. She truly "Chooses Joy" in all its forms.

On my drive to Laura and Rick's house, I thought of one last burning question that was a crap shoot to ask but I had a hunch if anyone would do such a thing, it would be this family. I asked, "Have you buried anything in the yard?" Not surprisingly, Laura said, "Yes! There is a time capsule somewhere on the property that will be hard to find but not impossible. In it are things that each family member loves and will miss about the house." Laura hopes in ten years they may be lucky enough to come back and dig it up if it hasn't been found. She hopes whoever buys her home, "Loves it the way we loved it." She hopes they have parties because, "It's a party house!" Laura says, "You can have 100 people in the yard, and it feels like a small gathering. You are smack dab in the middle of the lake!"

Laura and Rick are forever thankful for the amazing lifestyle the lake provided for their kids growing up who are now 26 and 24. From the floating trampoline to the floating unicorn, the lake was a kid mecca. Laura smiled recalling the memory of her daughter Emma getting her boaters license and pulling her Mom on skis for the first time; these are all treasured memories she is going to miss. What will Laura not miss? Landscaping. "It's a lot of work," she said. Then quickly added, "But the move is way more bitter than sweet," with a big dragonlady tear in her eye.



NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD TRUCKS



Black Diamond and Maple Valley Food Truck options:

As we settle back into the "new" normal with kids going back to school and the sun setting a little bit earlier, don't forget about the food trucks that are out in our area.

The food trucks bring a little variety to our somewhat predictable lifestyles. There are two Facebook groups to follow to see who is in town:

Maple Valley (Washington) Food Trucks:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/maplevalleyfoodtrucks>

Members on this page can create events for the trucks in their neighborhood (under the events tab) or post which food truck are in their neighborhood on a specific day.

Maple Valley and Black Diamond Take-Out and Delivery Options Amid COVID-19:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1336261676561481>

This page has less offerings than the food truck page, but members on this page can create events for the trucks in their neighborhood (under the events tab) or post which food truck are in their neighborhood on a specific day.

Lastly, the Ten Trails development has food trucks in their neighborhood, at least once a week. When we hear about these trucks we will share them.

By Alan Finkelstein