



# DEEP CREEK DISPATCH

**Fall/Winter 2020**  
Newsletter of the  
Property Owners' Association  
of Deep Creek Lake, Inc.

## Message from the President



I hope all of our members are Covid free and enjoyed the beautiful summer weather at the lake despite the crowds! It is safe to say that this summer was by far a record for the number of people at and on the lake.

The POA has been very busy with lake issues that are discussed in this issue. Our hard working Board of Directors have accomplished a lot this year and my thanks to them for their support and efforts to continue to make Deep Creek Lake a better place!

With winter around the corner the Wisp has announced their plans for skiing under the Covid-19 guidelines - check out their website for more information on the changes made at the resort.

The DNR has issued \$10,000 checks to 20 properties around the lake that applied for the State Lake Restoration Fund grants for shoreline erosion control projects. These funds are from the first year of the SLRF and the projects had to be completed in 2019. Additional grant money is allocated for 2020 projects according to the Lake Manager.

### North Glade Cove Minimum Wake Zone

On October 7, 2020 the Boat Act Advisory Committee (BAAC) of the DNR held a virtual

public meeting to consider the application submitted by Sky Valley Association to make North Glade Cove a Minimum Wake Zone. The BAAC voted to approve the application and send it on to DNR for required processing prior to becoming a new rule for the lake.

The POA, DNR, and NRP jointly developed criteria for minimum wake zones on Deep Creek Lake over the last two years. The Policy and Review Board later approved use of these criteria by DNR for applications for minimum wake zones. Sky Valley was the first application processed and approved by the PRB and sent to the BAAC for consideration.

Sincerely,  
Bob Sutton  
President, Board of Directors

## Garrett County Watershed Management Office Update

The Deep Creek Lake Shoreline Erosion Reduction Project located near Silver Tree received 4 bid responses. The contract was awarded to Downstream Strategies, LLC for \$144,000 and they are currently working on the project.

Garrett County government has requested \$1.2 million to be included in the Maryland State budget to continue the Arrowhead sediment removal project. Follow this item during the Maryland legislative session held from January – April, 2021.

# Books About Deep Creek Lake

Ed King, a property owner at Deep Creek since 1965, and member and past president of the Property Owners Association has served on the POA Board and been very active through the years on zoning issues for the DCL watershed and DNR management of the lake. Ed's love for Deep Creek developed many years prior to being a property owner, through boating and camping with his family as early as the 1930's when he was a child.

In 2013 Ed authored his first book, "Famous Boats of Deep Creek Lake." Bob Boal, who at that time was president of the Garrett County Historical Society, asked Ed to write a book about the history of Deep Creek Lake to capture stories and facts before they slipped away forever. For several more years Ed declined to take on Bob's request in that he did not consider himself a qualified historian, along with the fact that he was a full-time Realtor in the DCL resort market. Mr. Boal was relentless in his pursuit of Ed to write the history book. After several years of arm-twisting, Ed agreed to do so and spent the next three years researching, interviewing folks, and photographing boats. In 2019, he authored a 2nd book: "Deep Creek Lake – The Founders – Book 1." He simultaneously published a 3rd book: "I Love Deep Creek Lake." The latter is a compilation of a series of stories and subjects he had written for publication in the local newspaper relating his love for this wonderful resort.

Ed engaged Mennonite Press, Inc., Newton, KS to publish his three books. Along with the text of the books, Ed requested several features be included in the printing. First, the books were to be an ideal coffee table or professional office waiting room book. Secondly, the content would be written as a series of short stories, permitting a reader to randomly pick & choose a topic to read about without having to read the entire book in sequence start to finish. Third, the books would be hard-bound with 100 pound paper and most pictures and photos would be in full color where possible. All three books have been well-received by the community, in particular the "Founders," which sold more than five hundred copies in the first year. The books are available from Ed King: [edjeanking@verizon.net](mailto:edjeanking@verizon.net). Cell 301-616-5702. The books are ideal gifts for friends and family of anyone who shares a love of Deep Creek Lake.

## About the Books

Famous Boats of Deep Creek Lake - \$29.95 8 ½ x 11 71 pages featuring: Sail Boats, Fishing Boats, Outboards, Mahogany Inboards, Pontoon Boats, Speed Boats and, of course, the Swan Boat and Holy Cross Whale Boat.

Deep Creek Lake – The Founders – Book 1 - \$40.00 8 ½" x 11" 196 pages 18 chapters: 1) The Allegheny Plateau, 2) Building Deep Creek Lake, 3) Management and Jurisdiction of the Lake, 4) Camps to Cottages to Second Homes, 5) Fulcher and Marie Smith, 6) Helmuth "Ace" and Evelyn Heise, 7) Charles H. (Skeeter) Bowman, 8) The Raileys, Pop and Mom, 9) Johnny & Elaine Marple, 10) Billy Sisler, 11) Troy Gnegy & Other Early Builders, 12) Other Influential Founders, 13) Famous People, 14) Restaurants and Watering Holes, 15) Retreats and Camps, 16) Entertainment, Etc., Summer Playhouses and Arts, 17) Sailing on Deep Creek Lake, and 18) The Deep Creek Lake State Park.

I Love Deep Creek Lake - \$10.00 8 1/2 x 11 68 pages Soft-bound (glued, square soft cover). Contents: The Glory of Nature, Stories of a Family Resort, A Salute to the Snow Makers, Come Ski the WISP with Me, Sidelights on Sports, Come , Cold Water Sail Deep Creek Lake with Me, "The Swan" and the Swans, "The Swan" gets Rebuilt, Stories by the old Glendale Bridge, and A Walk Through the Colony. 6% Maryland Sales Tax applies to all sales. Cost of mailing is additional.

## Non- Invasive SAV in Deep Creek Lake

This summer saw a rapid spread of a native plant in the lake called “pond weed”. It grew thick in shallow water and around docks creating issues with swimming, fishing, and boating. The POA, Watershed Foundation, and DNR had a meeting to discuss what can be done to minimize growth of this plant.

The DNR biologist thinks that the combination of several mild winters, little to no ice on the lake, and warmer than normal temperatures have resulted in the spread of this pond weed. Since it is illegal to chemically treat a native plant, an alternative solution was suggested.

By lowering the lake level from December through February, it is hoped that the cold temperatures and potential ice/snow will freeze out most of the plants. As a result, the PRB and POA are going to request MDE to lower the lake to 2455 ft for those months this year to attempt to control the weed growth. There also are a number of projects around the lake that need lower water levels to complete which will help with this effort. If we see a decline, then in subsequent years, the request will be repeated.

## Deep Creek Lake Management Office

by Eric Null

### Shoreline Erosion Control Grants –

Those applicants for the 2020 funding should be happy to know that the grants are currently being processed by the Treasurer’s office. There are already enough potential applicants to award all of the second round of grants in 2021.

**Fish Habitat Project** – Funded by the State Lakes Protection and Enhancement Fund. There are plans underway to build the structures during the fall of 2020 through early spring of 2021, thus being able to deploy and install in the

lake mid-spring of 2021.

**Hydrillia** – This project to control hydrilla went well in 2020 with only one new small bed being found. None of the original hydrilla beds were found.

## Submerged Aquatic Vegetation and Sedimentation Mitigation Plan

by Morgan C. France

### Background

Goal #5 of the Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan1: “Manage SAV in Deep Creek Lake to maintain and improve the ecological stability of the lake, while working with waterfront landowners to minimize the interference of SAV with recreational uses of the lake around docks.”

Goal #6 of the Plan: Prevent erosion and sedimentation to the greatest extent possible to protect water resources from increased sediment loading and associated water quality problems.

### Summary

A solution to the mitigation of sediment and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) impacts to dock owners around Deep Creek Lake may be to lower the water level of the lake during winter months to the lower rule band (LRB).

#### A. SAV Impact Mitigation

During the outlet structure repair of the impoundment at New Germany State Park the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) determined that the excessive SAV growth, particularly in the upper reaches of the impoundment could perhaps be mitigated by allowing the beds to freeze while the winter water levels were down during construction. After the trial DNR determined that the method was not successful. Two factors contributed to that failure. 1. The water level was not dropped as far as contemplated. The contractor submitted a request to use a coffer dam so that the water level would not have to be dropped down so far as originally contemplated. 2. The winter was mild.

Dropping the lake level to the Lower Rule

Band from November to February would allow the SAV beds to freeze and inhibit the growth. It is not the goal to remove them. The existing beds are mainly native plants. If these beds are destroyed by dredging or poison, other invasive species will populate the niche.

### B. Shoreline Sedimentation Mitigation

For most of the history of Deep Creek Lake the water levels peaked in June and declined rather sharply toward Labor Day. Based on the elevation of what was an island off what is now The Blakeslee, the water level was about 2457 by Labor Day.

Beginning about 1970 there was pressure brought to bear to keep the water level higher to afford development back in the shallow waters. Keeping the water high through the summer and into fall saw shoreline erosion, and beaches went from sorted pebbles and cobbles to mud. Page 17 of the WBCM Deep Creek Lake: A Sediment Study, DGS Project No. 008-132-0102 states “In some areas the current shoreline (2012) does appear to vary from the 1972 shoreline by approximately 5-15 feet.”

The 5-15 feet of shoreline loss noted above is now sitting ten to fifteen feet out from the “new” shoreline. That deposition is the basis of most property owner’s complaints. Mud around docks also promotes the growth of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV). The nutrients from the sheet flow from lawns that extend to the high-water line and nutrients introduced into the water from the resident goose population have also fueled the increase in SAV impacts.

## **Covid-19 Update**

**by Diane Lee, Public Information Officer,  
Garrett County Health Dept**

If you have been watching reports from the Garrett County Health Department, you already know that our COVID-19 numbers in the county have gone up dramatically in the last six weeks. Contact tracing has revealed that the increase has mainly been due to social gatherings, church

events, and long-term care facilities.

We know COVID-19 is spreading primarily through people who are close social or community contacts. If you get it, it will probably either be from someone you work with, or from a family member, or a close friend. We generally like and feel close to these people, so we feel awkward about wearing face coverings and staying at a distance. That makes community spread easy.

The increase in cases makes it impossible for the professional contact tracers from Garrett County Health Department and from the State’s partner organization, NORC, to keep up with the number of cases. This makes it even more important for everyone to take personal responsibility for themselves and their families and continue to take proper precautions. Everyone must be vigilant, because some people are asymptomatic and do not show symptoms and some are infectious prior to showing symptoms.

The community can help by doing their own contact tracing if they receive a positive test. With the widespread community transmission in Garrett County, and we need all hands on deck. If you are diagnosed with COVID-19 (a rapid test or a PCR test):

Place yourself under isolation for a 10-day period. Avoid contact with others, even if you do not have any symptoms.

**Understanding Isolation:** Isolation is required for individuals who are infected (test positive) with COVID-19. The isolation period is 10 days in duration. Day 1 of isolation is completed the calendar day following the test date (if asymptomatic) or the calendar day after symptoms began. If you receive news that your COVID-19 test is positive, you are required to isolate for this 10-day period of time. During this time, you are infectious to others, and every effort should be made to avoid transmitting the virus. Use a separate bathroom and sleep in a separate bedroom if possible. When isolation from your household is not possible, the quarantine period of your close contacts is affected.

Identify all your close contacts (under 6 ft for over 15 minutes in a 24-hour period of time)

and tell them to quarantine for 14 days.

**Understanding Quarantine:** Quarantine is required of anyone who has come into close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case. The standard quarantine lasts 14 days from the date of last exposure to the confirmed case. Close contacts should be tested for COVID-19. You should wait 5 days after the close contact before being tested, and be tested again if symptoms appear. If you have no symptoms, your test comes back as negative on day 5, and you have extenuating circumstances requiring you to work, you can be released from quarantine as early as day 7. If you do not get tested, and have not developed symptoms, you can opt to end your quarantine after day 10. If your test comes back positive, you transition to being a confirmed case of COVID-19, subject to your own 10-day isolation period as described above. If you develop symptoms at any time during the 14-day standard quarantine period, you are a presumed case; get tested and begin isolation.

If you are notified that you are a close contact, begin your quarantine immediately. Watch for

signs and symptoms. If symptoms develop, you are considered a probable case. Regardless of symptoms, get tested at 5 days after exposure or at onset of symptoms.

As we near the holiday season, keep in mind that celebrating virtually, or within your own household poses a low-risk for COVID-19 spread. In-person gatherings pose different levels of risk of getting infected or infecting others with COVID-19:

- outdoor gatherings are generally safer than indoor gatherings
- indoor areas with more ventilation, like open windows and doors, are generally safer than indoor areas with little ventilation
- shorter gatherings are less risky
- smaller gatherings are safer than larger ones
- if guests are not regularly wearing face coverings or staying more than 6 feet from others not in their household, there is more risk of spread during the gathering

For up-to-date statistics and information about COVID-19 visit [www.garretthealth.org](http://www.garretthealth.org).

## Are more people moving to Deep Creek Lake as full-time residents?

by Chris Nichols, VP for Membership

At our most recent General Membership Meeting, I presented the graph below which shows the breakout of our membership by the following types:

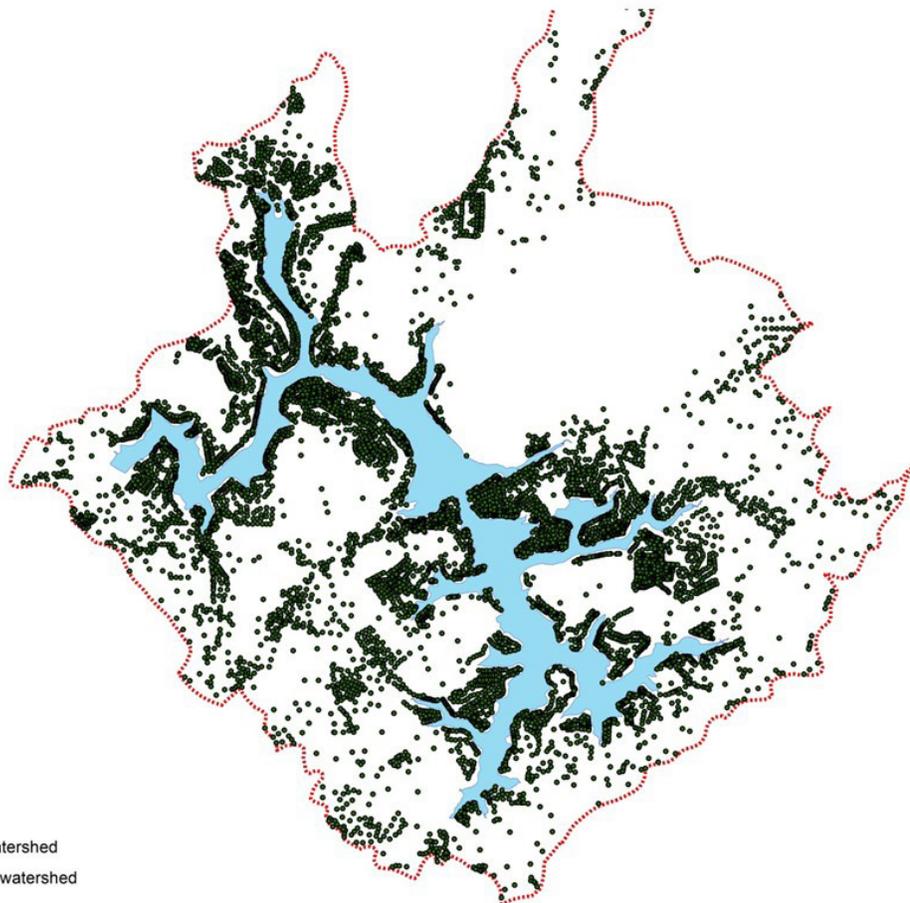
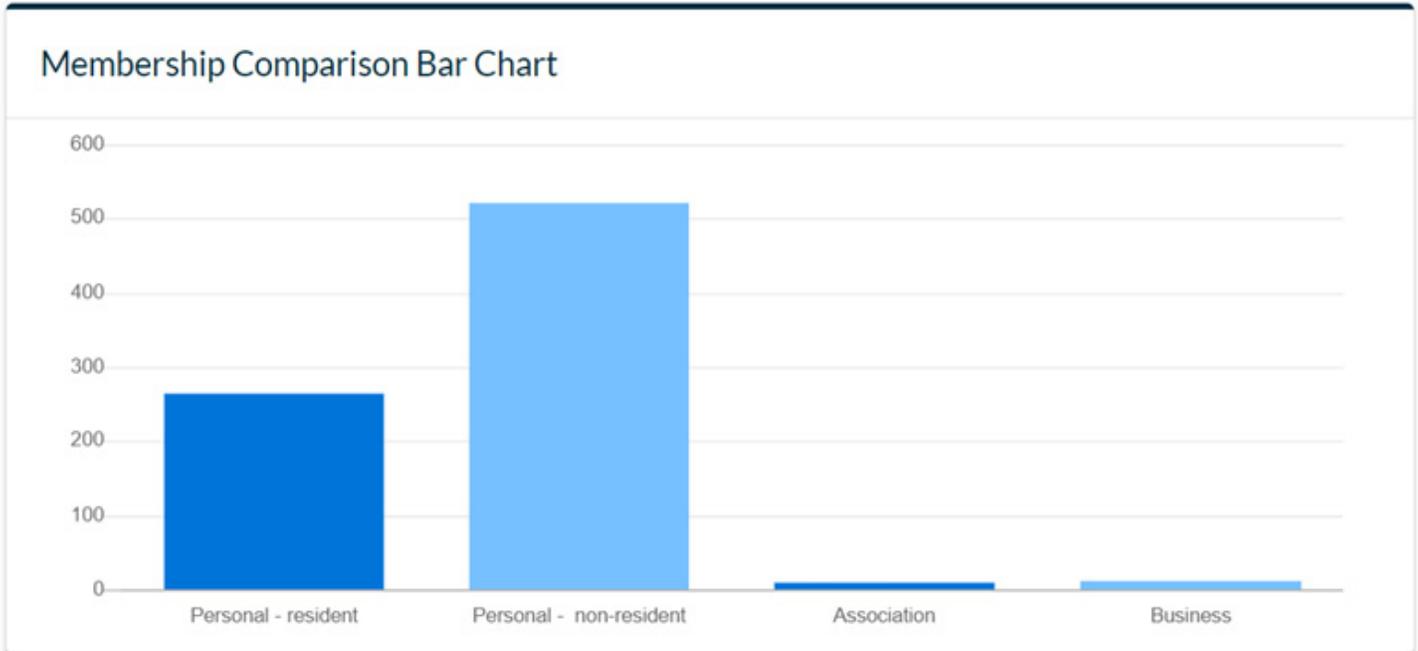
- Personal, resident: Owner of a residential unit and lives at that location full-time
- Personal, non resident: Residential owner but lives full-time elsewhere
- Business: Represents a business or other organizations
- Homeowner association: the typical homeowners' association

Out of a total membership of 798 as of October 2020, about 1/3 of the active accounts are Personal Residents and the other 2/3 are Non-residents, with negligible accounts from Businesses and HOAs.

At the meeting, I had made the comment that this split of membership accounts was substantially different from historical levels where full-time residents were about 20% of our members. I was interested if there was a trend of more people moving here full-time or if our membership was just shifting towards those who already lived here full time.

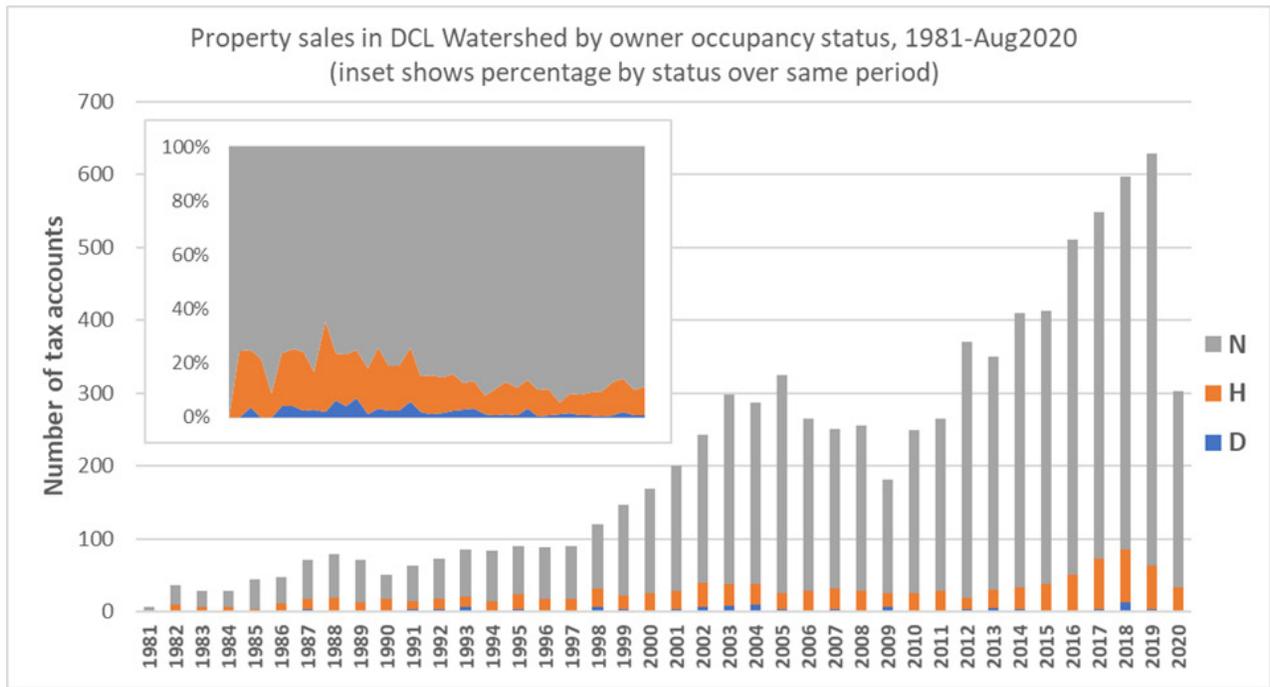
Although there is no definitive answer to this question, there is some data that may provide some indicators. Maryland's Department of Assessments and Taxation publishes property sales data on a monthly basis and one of the data fields captured in each property record is whether it is owner occupied, with the following categories:

- H for occupied by owner
- N for not occupied by owner,
- D for dual use, partly occupied by owner, part of the property is devoted to agricultural, commercial or rental use.



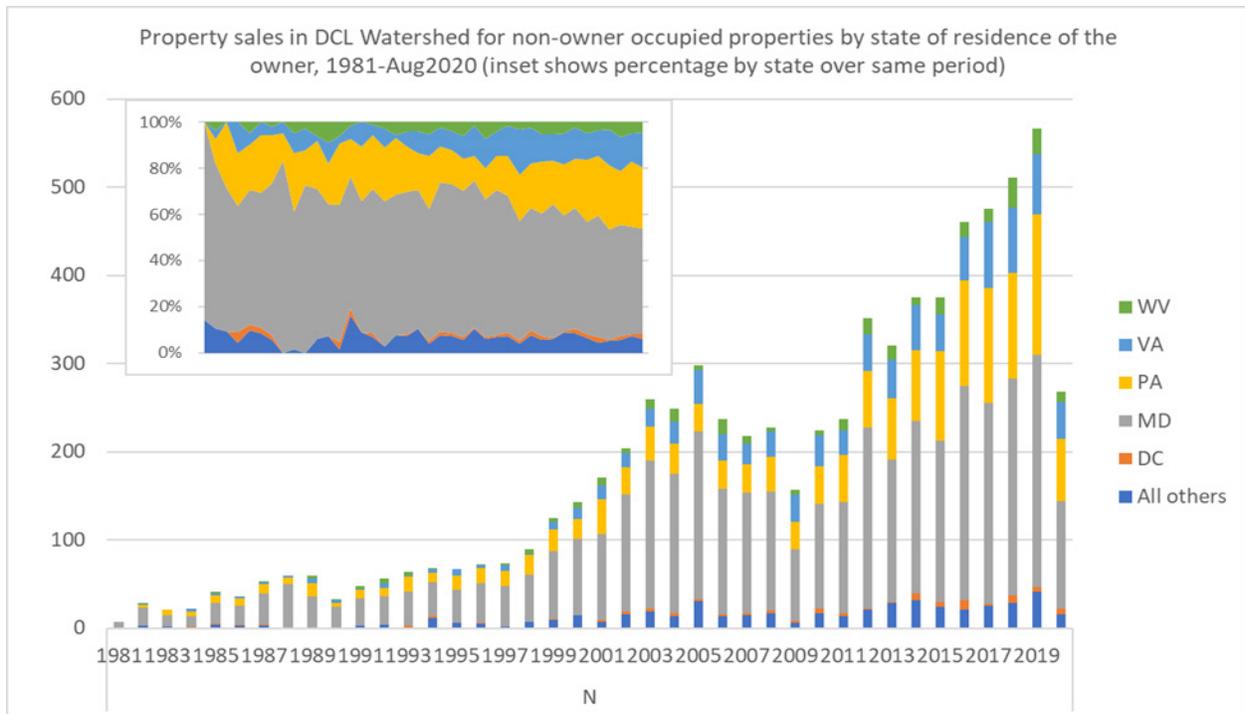
**Legend**

- Parcels in DCL watershed
- ▭ Deep Creek Lake watershed

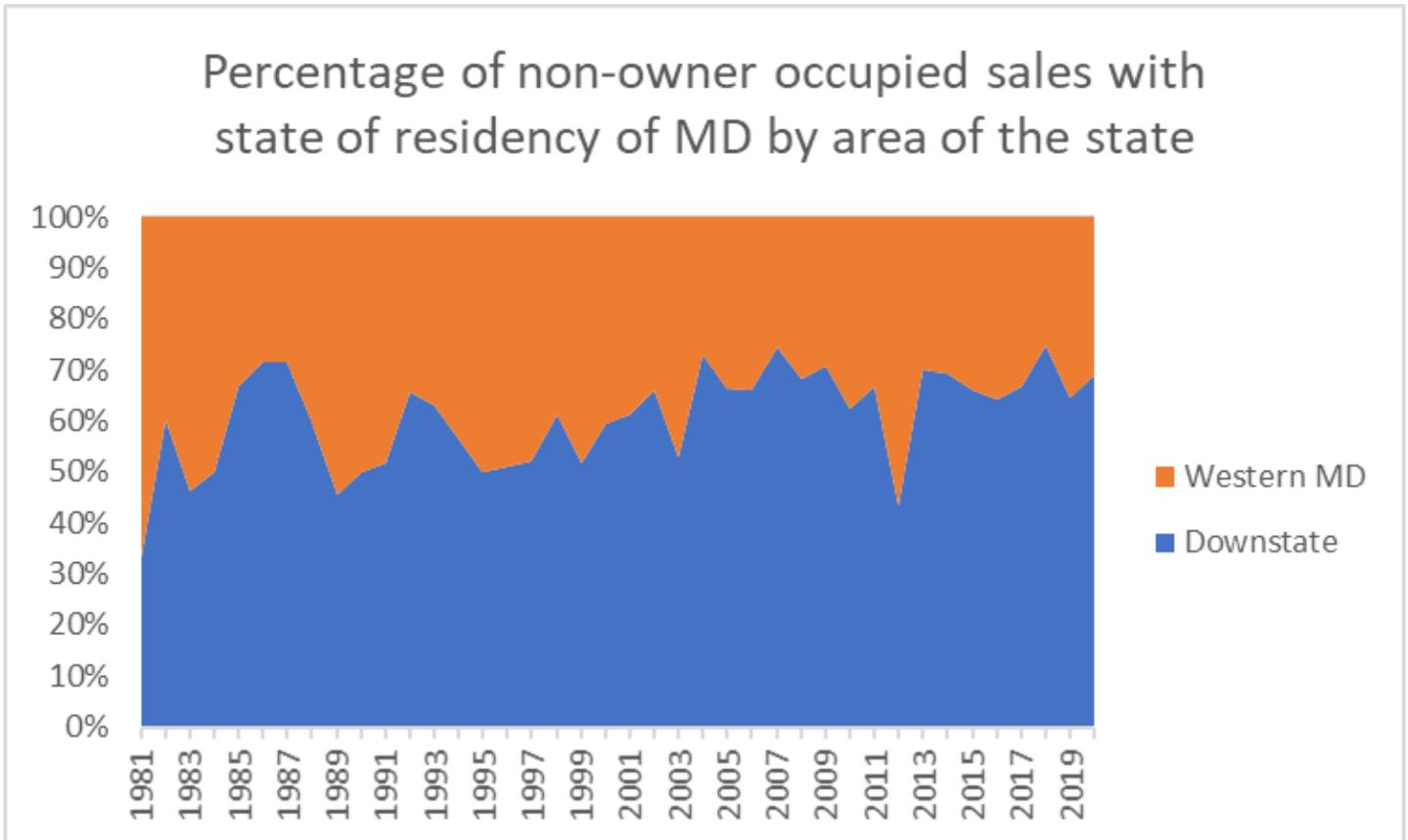


The figure above shows the total number of sales (ID'd by tax accounts) for each year in the watershed, broken out by the occupancy status codes listed above, with the inset showing the same time span, but showing the percentage of each occupancy code of total sales. The Dual use code does not seem to have much application, at least in the watershed area we're looking at. Aside from the interesting macro-economic dips in sales from recessions in the late 1980's and 2009, it seems as if the percentage of owner-occupied properties has been about the same over the past few decades at around 15% and that it's gone down appreciably since around 2000. My speculation would be this reflects more people buying homes at the lake with the primary intent to rent them out.

While I was digging around with this data, I was also interested in where these second-home owners had their primary residence. This is also identified in the sales database since it lists the mailing address for the new owner.



The graphs above show the state of residency for the sales in the watershed where the owner did not occupy full time (the “N” code from the database). The large portion of these that have Maryland as the state of residency was surprising to me and begs the question of whether these are “local” western Marylanders or “downstaters” as we “lovingly” refer to those east of the Continental Divide. We’ll take a look at that in the next graph, but there are a couple of other interesting trends. My impression has always been that Deep Creek was primarily the vacation spot for Pittsburgh until Interstate-68 fully opened in the early 1990’s and that people from the DC-Baltimore area started squeezing out the Yinzers. There does seem to be a pinch point in PA owners around 2000, but that was either some data noise, or they rallied back to the lake. The growth in Virginians is also notable (I’m not aware of any good derogatory nicknames for northern Virginians, but if you’ve got one I’ll buy you a beer).



As promised, above is the breakout of non-occupied homes with Maryland listed as the owner residency, broken out by “Western MD” (ZIP codes of “215xx” which is some of Allegany Co and all of Garrett) and “Downstate” which is the rest of the state. There does seem to be an upward trend in the Downstate percentage over time.

Conclusions:

- There did not seem to be any clear indicators that the percentage of full-timers at the lake is growing. I would speculate that the type of non-occupied owners is changing, though. I’d categorize them as second home owners who don’t rent their houses, and those who likely purchased them as rentals primarily. My hypothesis is that the share of the latter is growing, and that they may be less likely to be aware of, or join, the POA.

- One interesting trend is that seems that “western MD” non-occupied owners are declining. It could be that there has been a pool of “locals” who have owned multiple properties and have been selling them off to “downstaters” and out-of-staters.

Hopefully, I’ll have some time in about 6 months to check the data again. It will be interesting to see if the pandemic flight from the cities has ended up here at Deep Creek Lake.

# From The Editor

by Karen Myers

Our church has a saying “you gotta eat” and we all know that is true. With the Covid-19 pandemic, our eating habits have changed drastically but I am certain you will agree with me that we want our local restaurants to survive and to be there with us when the pandemic threats are gone. Keeping that in mind, I have assembled this chart of Deep Creek Lake area restaurants, with their telephone numbers, websites where applicable and facebook page info. It should make it easier to decide where to go to dine in with limited seating, or pick up their take-out orders or arrange for delivery.

Some restaurants have become very creative, offering family size take-out meals, which our family has found to be perfect. Please review the list, keep it handy for your family and call in your order early for the best service.

Stay safe and support our Deep Creek Lake area eateries.

## DEEP CREEK LAKE AREA RESTAURANTS WINTER 2020/21

<b>Name</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Website</b>
Ace's Run	Daily	301.387.6688	<a href="http://www.acesrun.com">www.acesrun.com</a>
Archie's Barbeque	Daily 10-9	301.387.7400	<a href="http://www.archiesbbq.com">www.archiesbbq.com</a>
Arrowhead Market	Daily 24/7	301.387.4020	<a href="http://www.arrowheadmarket.com">www.arrowheadmarket.com</a>
Brenda's Pizzeria	Daily	301.387.1007	<a href="http://www.brendaspizzeria.com">www.brendaspizzeria.com</a>
Cabin Lodge	11 - 2:30		
Deep Creek Donuts	Weekends & Holdiays		
Deep Creek Pizza	Weekends	301.387.6168	
Deep Creek Uno	Daily	301.387.4UNO	<a href="http://www.deepcreekuno.com">www.deepcreekuno.com</a>
Deer Park Inn	Thurs - Sat	301.334.2308	<a href="http://www.deerparkinn.com">www.deerparkinn.com</a>
Dutch's at Silver Tree	Wed - Sat	301.387.0525	<a href="http://www.dutchsatsilvertree.com">www.dutchsatsilvertree.com</a>
Firewater Kitchen & Bar	Wed - Sun	301.387.6408	<a href="http://www.firewaterkitchen.com">www.firewaterkitchen.com</a>
Green Turtle	Daily from 11am	301.387.7800	<a href="http://www.thegreenturtle.com/location/deep-creek">www.thegreenturtle.com/location/deep-creek</a>
Honi Honi	Thurs - Sun		<a href="http://www.honi-honi.com">www.honi-honi.com</a>
JG's Pub	Thurs - Sat	301.387.6369	<a href="http://www.jgspub.com">www.jgspub.com</a>
Ledo Pizza	Daily varies from 11am	301.387.6300	<a href="http://www.ledopizza.com">www.ledopizza.com</a>
Little Sandy's Diner	Daily except Tues	301.387.9850	
Moon Shadow Cafe	Daily at noon	240.442.5542	<a href="http://www.moonshadow145.com">www.moonshadow145.com</a>
Mountain State Brewing Co	Daily hours vary	301.387.3360	<a href="http://www.mountainstatebrewing.com">www.mountainstatebrewing.com</a>
Perkins	Daily 7am - 8pm	301.387.5800	<a href="http://www.shopDeepCreek.com">www.shopDeepCreek.com</a>
Pine Lodge Steakhouse	Daily 11am - 10pm	301.387.6500	<a href="http://www.pinelodgesteakhouse.com">www.pinelodgesteakhouse.com</a>
Shop 'n Save	Daily	301.387.4075	<a href="http://www.shopdeepcreek.com">www.shopdeepcreek.com</a>
Smiley's	Daily	301.387.0059	
Subway	Daily		
Trader's Coffee House	Daily	301.387.9246	<a href="http://www.traderscoffeehouse.com">www.traderscoffeehouse.com</a>
Zipèez Convenience Mart	Daily from 9am	301.387.2992	

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 Mike Belmonte  
 Scott Johnson  
 Jan Finkel

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 of Deep Creek Lake, Inc.  
 Property Owners' Association

**DEEP CREEK DISPATCH**