



# HENRY'S LAKE FOUNDATION

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Fall 1993

*Notice to All Readers from Fred Grimes, Newsletter Coordinator.*

*From time to time we may have articles of a controversial nature in this newsletter. It will be our policy not to censor or edit the content of the articles without the consent of the authors. However, the opinions and statements made are those of the authors and are not necessarily the views and opinions of the Henry's Lake Foundation and its Board of Directors.*

## President's Message

Well this has been quite a season at Henry's Lake. The lake made it through the winter with no visible winter kill. The summer months were wet and cool. Overall, the fishing was very good. I had some of the best days of fishing on Henry's Lake that I have ever had. The fish were healthy, fat and very full of fight.

The annual meeting and auction was rained out after several years of out guessing Mother Nature. The folks at Wild Rose went out of their way to help us. They closed their restaurant and let us move inside. Things were very cramped but went smoothly considering the conditions. The silent auction was very successful. I want to thank every one who participated and helped out, especially the staff and management of Wild Rose.

The water quality study on Henry's Lake, being conducted by the Division of Environmental Quality is still ongoing. The lake study has been completed. Now they are moving into the implementation stage. In this stage, recommendations will be made on how to improve the water quality of the lake. Hopefully some of these recommendations will also be implemented.

Tragedy struck the lake this summer, with Lee Garland and Haskell Elder, being involved in a boating accident that claimed both their lives. Both men were actively involved with the Henry's Lake Foundation, and were dedicated supporters of the Foundation. They will be sorely missed. Our condolences go out to the families of these fine men.

The Foundation is in great need of some people to serve as officers and board members. The following people have resigned or asked to be replaced; Jim Wood - board member, Lee Garland - deceased (board member), Fred Grimes - newsletter coordinator, Mike Brickner - membership chairman, Mel Shulte - board member.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the offic-

ers and board members, to thank all of you for the time and effort you have given to the Henry's Lake Foundation.

I have asked to be replaced as president due to personal reasons. I find that I just don't have the time to give to the HLF that I feel needs to be given.

So if any one of our members feels that he or she would like to serve as an officer or board member, please contact myself or any of the officers, to let your intentions be known. I can be reached at (208) 356-6559 (home), (208) 356-9522 (work), or (208) 356-9566 (fax). I would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

Have a great holiday season, and I hope to see you on the lake next season.

Doug Siepert

## Report From Idaho Fish and Game

The 1993 fishing season is coming to a close, and despite some tense moments and lingering concerns about Utah chubs and the water quality study findings, it should be remembered for continued good fishing and some truly exceptional trophies.

We have not completed the 1993 creel survey, so the summary statistics that I will report in this article should not be considered "final" for the season. Just the same, they do indicate that Henry's Lake continued to approach the management goals we have set for the fishery. As of the end of September, the total catch rate for the season was 0.56 trout per hour. Broken down by species, the season catch statistics at that time were:

	Cutthroat	Hybrid	Brook
C/R	0.43	0.10	0.01
% Catch	0.78	0.18	0.02

Eight percent of the cutthroat trout catch exceeded 20 inches in length, 21% of the hybrid catch was greater than 20 inches and 20% of the brook trout catch was more than 18 inches long. We estimated that approximately 65% of the total catch up to the end of September, were wild trout. This estimate is based on the ratio of marked (adipose fin clip) hatchery trout in the creel.

The discovery of Utah chubs in our annual spring gill net surveys at Henry's Lake understandably caused much concern among Henry's Lake anglers. The Department of Fish and Game also takes this discovery very seriously, but I want to keep in perspective the facts that we know and respond to some of the misconceptions that have surfaced in the press



since then. First, it is important to understand that no one knows how long chubs have been in Henry's Lake, how abundant they are in the lake, or precisely what threat they pose to the Henry's Lake fishery at this time. In our first gill net sets (three gill nets) chubs made up about 50% of the catch (roughly 45 chubs.) We later made two more sets of three nets each around the lake and were able to catch only one (1) additional chub. The chubs that we captured included several age groups which indicates that chubs have been in the lake for at least several years. Since we announced this discovery two Henry's Lake anglers have reported that they caught chubs in the lake as early as ten years ago. Others have reported finding chubs in trout stomachs. Unfortunately we do not have photographs or other identifying evidence to confirm these reports, but they do suggest that chubs may have been in the lake for ten years or more without achieving the extreme numbers commonly seen in other irrigation reservoirs. This could be explained by the unusually large population of large predatory trout that Henry's Lake sustains, keeping chub numbers lower than we are accustomed to in typical reservoir populations. A full explanation likely includes other factors we do not understand yet. Whatever the true status of the Henry's Lake Utah chub population, they are here to stay, and at the present, fishing continues to meet the expectations of the majority of Henry's Lake anglers. For the next several years we will be evaluating the status of the Henry's Lake chub population and its impact on the trout fishery. This effort will include our annual gill netting surveys, estimates of the trout population and chub population size and age structure, trout and chub growth rates, and monitoring of the invertebrate populations both fish feed on. Of course we will continue the annual season long creel survey. Any changes imposed on the trout population and fishery by chubs will be reflected in survey results. We will keep the Foundation updated throughout this process. Anyone with questions or comments is welcome to call or write. You may contact either myself or Bruce Rich at the Regional office, or Tom Herron at the Henry's Lake Hatchery.

I am happy to report that the aeration system is now fully installed and operational. Thanks to the hard work of many Department employees, with the assistance of several Henry's Lake Foundation volunteers, we completed the installation in August this year. Earlier this month, we purged the air lines of water and started the air blowers for the 1993-94 winter season. The system is functioning as it is designed to, and we will continue to monitor winter water quality. At the risk of being repetitious, let me remind everyone that the Henry's Lake aeration system is not expected to completely prevent another winter fish kill. It is designed to afford a large area of refuge to the lake's trout population, especially that portion of the cut-throat population that will return to the hatchery to spawn at the end of the winter. This protection will minimize the losses from another winter kill, but not all mortality.

In addition to the winter aeration system, two other habitat improvement projects are completed or are under way for completion this year. In cooperation with the Idaho Department of Lands and the Fish and Game Department, the Bureau of Land Management fenced most of the cliffs and the lower end of Kinney Creek on the joint BLM-Department Lands grazing allotment. We are also rebuilding the fence on Kelly Springs Creek on the Taft-Hartmen property. This will pro-

vide permanent protection for the lower portion of Kelly Springs Creek and a portion of the lake shoreline. Spawning and rearing habitat will benefit and we will have an opportunity to physically remove accumulated sediments with sediment removal equipment we have purchased this year.

Potential habitat enhancement projects for next year include additional stream fencing on Targhee and Howard Creeks and providing off-site water development for the Department of Lands grazing allotment adjacent to the new cliffs fence. The latter project will complete the fence project by providing water access to the livestock grazing this allotment. This was a condition of the fence construction which excluded access to the lake and Kinney Creek for those livestock. Tom Herron and I will be working with Richard Prange and Doug Siepert this winter to schedule next year's joint habitat projects.

*Mark Gamblin*

## **R<sub>x</sub> For Henry's Lake**

Our beautiful lake is unique, but of course all lakes are unique, as we are. Our Foundation's primary focus is this single lake, but the lake, like ourselves, does not stand alone isolated from its surroundings. It is affected by everything around it.

The lake is much like a person in many respects, and we should consider this in the way we treat it. Any living organism can survive in the face of some abuse or pollution. However, survival alone is not enough; a quality of life is what we strive for ourselves and what we want for our lake. The lake also like ourselves has a limited capacity to heal, and healing often takes a doctor's care to be accomplished. Henry's Lake Foundation may have to be our lake's doctor.

To follow the analogy, we realize also that humans do not live alone either. A healthy lifestyle includes healthy nutrients, air and water as well as a healthy society of one's peers. Our life too, is determined by all that is upstream and is closely related to all that is downstream in life. We all, including our brother the lake, need a healthy ecosystem.

This concept of a holistic health approach should be incorporated in our mission of health care for Henry's Lake.

*Roger A. Lang, M.D.*

## **Annual Picnic - 1993**

Despite a day-long downpour, the Foundation's annual picnic, membership meeting and silent auction proceeded on schedule on Saturday, July 3. The management at Wild Rose Ranch very graciously allowed the auction and picnic to move inside the building even though it caused a crowded condition and some disruption of regular activities in the lodge.

The picnic was most enjoyable, especially in light of the tasty barbecue brought by Doug and Mary Ann Siepert from Rexburg. Members brought a variety of super side dishes to complete the meal.

Due to the crush of participants in the crowded space, the auction had to be curtailed prior to serving the picnic lunch, but even so the many items offered plus memberships brought in a total of \$3,392.30 for the Foundation. As with all Foundation income, it will eventually be dedicated to conservation and propagation projects around Henry's Lake.

At conclusion of the auction a drawing was held for two life memberships in the Foundation for youngsters eighteen or under. Each successful bidder put a name "in the hat" for each



item purchased in the auction. The first membership is given each year by John and Pat O'Neill of Alabama in memory of our late, esteemed president, Harold Husted, who provided great leadership in preservation of Henry's Lake. Harold's grandson, Mark Hessler, drew the name of Nick Siepert, eighteen years old, of Rexburg, Idaho.

The second membership was given by a group of friends and admirers in memory of George Biggs of Jerome, Idaho, who passed away on a fishing trip this spring, literally with his flyrod in his hand. George will ever be remembered as the originator of the "Sheep Creek Special" fly pattern and many other originals. The membership was won by Zachary Ek, age fourteen, of Corpus Christi, Texas.

All life membership dues (\$100 each) go into a special permanent fund on which the interest is spent on conservation projects, but the principal is permanently preserved.

The thanks of Foundation members is extended to the management of Wild Rose Ranch for their cooperation and forbearance in arranging for the annual meeting to go forward despite the horrendous weather conditions.

*John O'Neill*

### Treasurer Report

Checking Account Balance .....	\$1,632.07
CDIC Balance .....	26,234.19
U.S. Treasury Notes .....	24,063.71
(Lifetime Member Account) .....	\$51,929.97
Auction Report	
Silent Auction .....	\$2,745.53
Cash Table .....	187.50
O'Neill's Books .....	10.00
	<u>\$2,943.30</u>
expenses	6.00
	<u>2,937.30</u>
Memberships .....	155.00
Life Memberships .....	400.00
	<u>3,492.30</u>
cash advance	<u>-100.00</u>
	<u>\$3,392.30</u>

*Polly Holbrook*

### Fly Pattern

This is a new pattern that I came up with this fall. I'm sure someone else has also tied it, since it is so simple. I caught several nice fish on the brown one, and a few fish on the other colors. (The icicle chenille is available from B.S. Flies.)

#### Icicle Leach

Hook: Size 4-10 2x or 3x long  
 Tail: Maribou (about shank length) to match color of the chenille  
 Body: Icicle Chenille wrapped full length of hook shank  
 Colors: Brown, black, purple, and green  
 Thread: 3/0 black



*Fred Grimes*

### Lee Garland and Haskell Elder

On August 12 a tragedy on Henry's Lake took the lives of two of our most dedicated Foundation members, Lee A. Garland, age 70, and Haskell Elder, age 81. Heavy swells in a stiff east wind swamped their boat near Targhee Creek, and they were unable to reach shore. Fortunately, a fifteen year old boy accompanying them was able to swim to shore. He rushed down the long shoreline to get help, but by the time the alarm could be raised, the storm and cold water had claimed both Lee and Haskell.

Lee Garland of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was a well known figure at Staley Springs and on the lake, having first visited here as a boy with his father Fred well over fifty years ago. He never missed a year coming to the lake, and he brought each new member of the family in turn, including all grandchildren, and taught them to love the area and the lake.

When the Henry's Lake Foundation was organized to protect and enhance the lake, Lee joined in with enthusiasm as a life member. He then saw to it that every member of the family became a life member, down through the great-grandchildren, and he made other significant and generous contributions to the Foundation through the years. Possessed of a outward personality and deep, resonant voice, he made friends of all who were willing to be friends while he spent many weeks each summer at the lake. Once you met Lee Garland, you never forgot him!

As a young man he served in World War II with the Fifth Cavalry in the Pacific under General MacArthur. He was decorated with the Purple Heart, the Silver Star for heroism, American Theater Medal, Asiatic Pacific Theater Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, Good Conduct Medal and the Bronze Arrowhead.

Back home in Oklahoma postwar he was extremely successful in the family nursery business. He helped many underprivileged youngsters start successful careers and live better lives. He was active in his church and particularly in church choirs as a tenor soloist throughout Oklahoma.

Survivors include his wife Joy, a friend to most of the "regulars" at Staley Springs, his mother Margaret Garland, son Ted, daughter Jana, brother Jack (also a "regular" each summer at Staley Springs), brother Bud, and a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Lee and Joy had recently purchased a lovely cabin near Staley Springs, and she vows to maintain the more than sixty years connection, better described as a love affair, between the Garland family and Henry's Lake.

Funeral services were held at Central Presbyterian Church in Oklahoma City on August 18. Lee's ashes are to be scattered on Henry's Lake as he requested.

The other victim of this terrible accident, Haskell P. Elder, hailed from the opposite direction of the country, Seal Beach, California. He started fishing the lake regularly in 1941, and one of his fishing buddies was Frederick Garland, Lee's father. Starting in 1951, he was a regular fishing companion of Lee's.

Of diminutive size, about five feet six, Haskell more than made up for it in fitness, energy and enthusiasm. He was tough as nails and could stand the gaff fishing hour after hour when we weak sisters often had to relent and go to bed. He was a dedicated Foundation member, always present at our annual picnics and meetings.





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## NEWSLETTER

Haskell came to Long Beach as a teenager with his family in 1924 and eventually achieved a doctorate in physical education at the University of Illinois in 1955. He had a career as a teacher and rose through the ranks to become assistant superintendent for physical education in the Long Beach school system in 1962. He retired from that position in 1974 and turned his special energy entirely toward fishing. For many summers, while teaching school, he had served as a summer ranger in Yellowstone Park, residing at Fishing Bridge. Not a bad life at all!

In 1971 he built his summer home on Aspen Ridge near the lake. He lost his first wife and married Betty nine years ago. Two devoted children survive him, son John of Long Beach and daughter Sandra Day of San Diego. A memorial service was held at California Heights United Methodist Church in Long Beach on August 25.

Many men are cheated, or cheat themselves, from the days and hours that could have been spent fishing, which we all know generate a special brand of happiness. Not Lee and

Haskell! It can safely be said that they earned and enjoyed those precious days to a full measure. And they lived their entire lives to a full measure. That the object of their devotion, Henry's Lake, eventually took their lives is indeed ironic, but who is to say that each one of them would not have chosen this departure from the earth if given a final choice by the Man Upstairs?

This sobering accident gives emphasis to the cautionary advice to be careful on Henry's Lake and to suggest caution to each loved one or friend who ventures upon her waters. She is a capricious lady and can turn from a charmer with calm demeanor to a raging mistress in a matter of seconds. Respect her. Always use safe, adequate equipment and keep an eye on the winds and weather. The loss of Lee Garland and Haskell Elder, with over one hundred years of combined experience fishing Henry's Lake, brings this advice into stark focus.

*John O'Neill, Jr.*

The Henry's Lake Foundation invites you to join and support our non-profit, tax exempt corporation formed to preserve, protect, and enhance the great trout fishery of Henry's Lake. Just fill in the information below and send your tax deductible contribution or membership dues to:

**Henry's Lake Foundation**  
c/o Secretary-Treasurer  
Polly Holbrook  
15200 Northwest Burlington Court  
Portland, OR 97231

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 annual membership dues

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 life membership (deposited in a trust/interest bearing account)

\_\_\_\_\_ Existing member, and my contribution is an additional donation