

POW WOW

Papakeechee Protective Association Newsletter-Spring 2014

www.lakepapakeechee.org

The POW WOW is published to provide important and general information to the membership.

Reminder: 2014 Annual Dues & Assessments are Due April, 1st.

Message from the President

Since the 2013 Fall newsletter was mailed, your board has been busy. The Lake City Bank (LCB) loan documents for the Dam construction have been finalized. The loan is scheduled to be paid off in the Fall of 2018. To be prepared for any unforeseen large expenses that may occur in the future, the Board opened a \$100,000 line of credit (LOC) with LCB. Examples of such unexpected expenses to name a few, could include: dam repairs, new DNR mandates, wetland issues, major repairs or replacement of the weed harvester, dredging, and road repair. The reason for having the LOC is because the Association is unable to quickly raise money for unexpected expenses that occur during the year. All of our revenue is collected in 3 a month period, while expenses known and unknown continue throughout the 12 months of the year. LCB has all of our recent financial history, therefore, it was less costly to establish the LOC now rather than later when it could be needed. In conjunction with the loans, the Board has approved budgets for the years of 2014 and 2015. Budgets are not concrete; they are a tool to help us anticipate expected expenses. This helps us plan ahead so we can reduce the likelihood of large unexpected expenses requiring the use of the LOC. In developing the budget, we determined that the 2014 annual lake dues will remain unchanged. That was only possible because the Board had adequate cash reserves to handle the 2014 budget shortfall. That will not be the case for 2015. Our reserves will be depleted at the end of 2014. In 2015 we project the dues will need to be increased to \$140.00 for Lakefront and \$60.00 for Non Lake Front lots. To

do this, it will require a vote to change the bylaw. We plan for this to be done at the Annual Meeting.

The PPA, after completing the Dam/Levee construction project is being required by State agencies to maintain it to their standards. Non-compliance risks include fines, having the state take over lake management or even breaching the dam. A large portion of our 2014 budget is geared to maintain compliancy with these mandates. These include but are not limited to: \$3,500 for wetlands inspections required by IDEM, \$6,000 dam inspections required by the DNR, and a Dam Operator (paid position) to work weekly to maintain the dam, levee and lake. One notable expense is for repairs to the turtle crossings on the west levee. Since people no longer have easy access, they are illegally using the crossings as their path to the lake. Repairs for damage caused by walking on and dragging boats down them, will require an estimated \$1,500 to \$2,000. If people continue to use the crossings to access the lake, this could become an annual expense. That is why I am an advocate for developing bridges over the rip rap and community docks.

Lastly, we appreciate all the volunteers who have gotten involved in LAPSI, monitoring lake levels, website construction and maintenance, community docks, PPA 100 year celebration, wetlands maintenance, grounds work and fund raising.

Steve Herendeen, PPA President

Proposed Bylaw Change Planned

The proposed bylaw to read: To provide funding for the operation of the Papakeechee Protective Association, each Association member shall pay annual dues of One Hundred Forty dollars (\$140) for each lake front lot and Sixty dollars (\$60) for each non lake front lot. If an increase in dues for the next calendar year is needed, it will be approved

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by simple majority vote of the membership in attendance at the current year's Annual meeting.

Board Meetings

Throughout the year, the Board of Directors hold monthly and sometimes special meetings. Members are welcome to attend. You will find upcoming meeting dates and times, as well as other interesting information on the PPA website: www.lakepapakeechee.org

Louie's Bar & Grill (574) 457-3944

209 E. Bowser St. Syracuse, IN



Weed Control/Lake Maintenance

With the early December lake freeze, and the blanket of snow on the ice, we should have late weed growth again this season. Thus far, the weeds have had very little light to grow this season. Again this year, we are planning to chemically treat the lake sometime in early May.

Before going out to clear weeds from the levee rip rap and to make sure that your effort will be advantageous, we ask that you coordinate with Terry Radtke. He can be reached at cell phone # [574-529-4433](tel:574-529-4433).

Dam/ Levee/ Wetlands

The inspections have gone well. The only notable thing has been the deterioration of the turtle crossings. In November, one 12 inch stop-log was removed to lower the lake for the winter and early spring. Since then, the outlet flow has been continuous.

During the summer of 2010, the Papakeechee Protective Association (PPA) was informed that we needed to develop a wetland mitigation plan and submit it to Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Since the dam reconstruction required filling in an eighth of an acre of one pond, we were required to establish a quarter of an acre of new wetland to offset it. In Figure 1 (see page 5 of the POW WOW) the new wetland mitigation area is shown. It is the darker cross-hatched area roughly in the shape of an "F" near the center of the illustration with the two horizontal arms interlocked between the three existing ponds. The pre-existing three hatchery ponds have no cross-hatching in the illustration. The IDEM and USACE permits for construction require us to have inspections performed at our expense, by knowledgeable personnel, and to annually submit a report for each of the first 5 years after the completion of the project. It is not enough to simply let it develop naturally. There are very specific plant species with specified population concentrations allowed and certain invasive species prohibited from growing within the mitigation area. A quote from the conclusion section of the first inspection report reads: "Although the SITE has invasive species present, the hydrology of the SITE is more than adequate. In the first year of monitoring for wetland mitigation it is not uncommon for cattails to colonize a site that has suitable hydrological conditions. Therefore, invasive species management is critical to ensure that the performance criteria is met after the five years of monitoring." This means that PPA will have to curtail the cattail population and eliminate the non-native, invasive species cited (Purple Loosestrife). With active management, next year's inspection should go better. The best case scenario, for the

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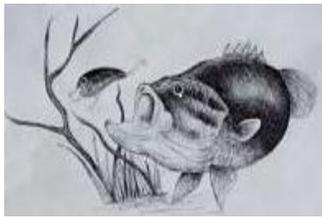
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next two years would be to pass all inspections. After the third inspection of 2015, if all goes well, we could be released from any further inspections. Threading our way through the government regulations and successfully getting the wetland mitigation area released will require some attention, management, and maybe some luck.

Lake Papakeeche Sustainability Initiative

(LaPSI)

Several LaPSI members are attending the Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy. The academy is sponsored by Purdue University with support from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and other Indiana conservation agencies and organizations. The academy began on



Jan. 15 and will continue through May. LaPSI members will learn how to work with everyone in our immediate

watershed to implement the best management practices that will help protect and restore the water in Lake Papakeeche. More information will be coming following the completion of the course. If you are interested in hearing more about the academy and/or LaPSI, please attend a LaPSI meeting held at various locations, at 7 p.m. the evening prior to the PPA board meetings. For dates and meeting locations, contact Jody Hedges at jodyandmac@gmail.com

One of LaPSI's 2014 plans is to periodically, invite guest speakers to come and present information on various subjects that are of interest to the PPA. These will be open to anyone within our membership. As Hannah Becker will not be with us, Anthony Serianni is exploring the student internship option for this summer. A full analysis from several different tests, including the Secchi

(turbidity), temperature, dissolved oxygen and *E. coli* is being conducted on the data collected this past Summer and Fall. It is hoped that the results will soon be available. If you wish to join LAPSI or for more information, please contact Anthony Serianni (aseriann@nd.edu), or John Hart (jhartsyracuse@gmail.com).

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Unkempt & Nuisance Property Bylaws Will Be Enforced

As stated in the previous POW WOW, the PPA plans to enforce our Nuisance Property Bylaw. Please keep in mind that this also includes: the keeping of any kind of restricted animal, control of excessive noise whether it be from barking dogs, fireworks (used outside the Indiana State approved legal timeframe), or other sources.

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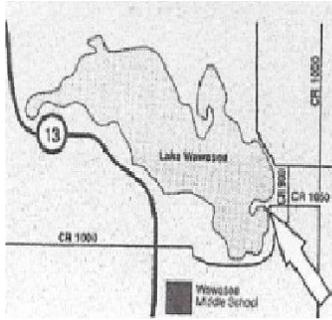
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If you have other ideas pertaining to social events, or fund raisers, please let us know at:

papalakeevents@gmail.com

Advertise Your Business In The POW WOW

We accept business ads on a first come, first served basis. This is a great opportunity to let your neighbors know of the many services available within the membership and the surrounding area. For pricing and information, contact Bernie Ebetino at: (260) 639-0046. Space is limited, so now would be a good time to secure a spot for your ad in our 2014 Fall edition. Please support the businesses who advertise, and let them know that you saw their ad in the POW WOW.

Welcome to Lake Papakeechee

New association members, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Papakeechee Protective Association (PPA), welcome to our lake. Be sure to visit the PPA website (www.lakepapakeechee.org) To obtain a booklet which contains the PPA Covenants & Bylaws, please contact the PPA Secretary, Pat Ebetino. Below is a complete list of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors.

Come Celebrate 100 Years of Lake Papakeechee and the Completion of the Dam/Levee Reconstruction.

What: Lunch/Social Celebration
Hot sandwiches and relish tray provided.
When: The Afternoon of the Annual Meeting
August 16, 2014 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Where: Papakeechee Building

It will be an opportunity for area residents to relax, get to know and enjoy socializing with their neighbors. Potluck dishes, snacks, desserts and drinks are welcome. There will be a bulletin board display for residents to post (Please bring your items to the annual meeting) historic and special Papakeechee pictures, or perhaps a postcard describing how long you have been a part of the Papakeechee family and what brought you here. A table will be available for anyone interested in displaying crafts, plants, note cards, souvenirs, etc., to sell for PPA fundraising. Bring your lucky charm for the 50/50 cash raffle.

President – Steve Herendeen	574-349-5741
Vice President – John Hart	219-561-1182
Treasurer – Sally Whitehead	574-457-4081
Secretary – Pat Ebetino	260-312-3637
District 1 – Ron Corson	574-457-6796
District 2 – Bernie Ebetino	260-639-0046
District 3 – Larry Clough	260-437-6433
District 4 – Dave Hewitt	574-551-3902
District 5 – John Hart	219-561-1182
District 5a – Steve Yoder	574-518-1164
District 6 – Jim Whitehead	574-457-4081
District 7 – Steve Schwartz	574-457-6778
District 8-9 – Terry Radtke	574-529-4433

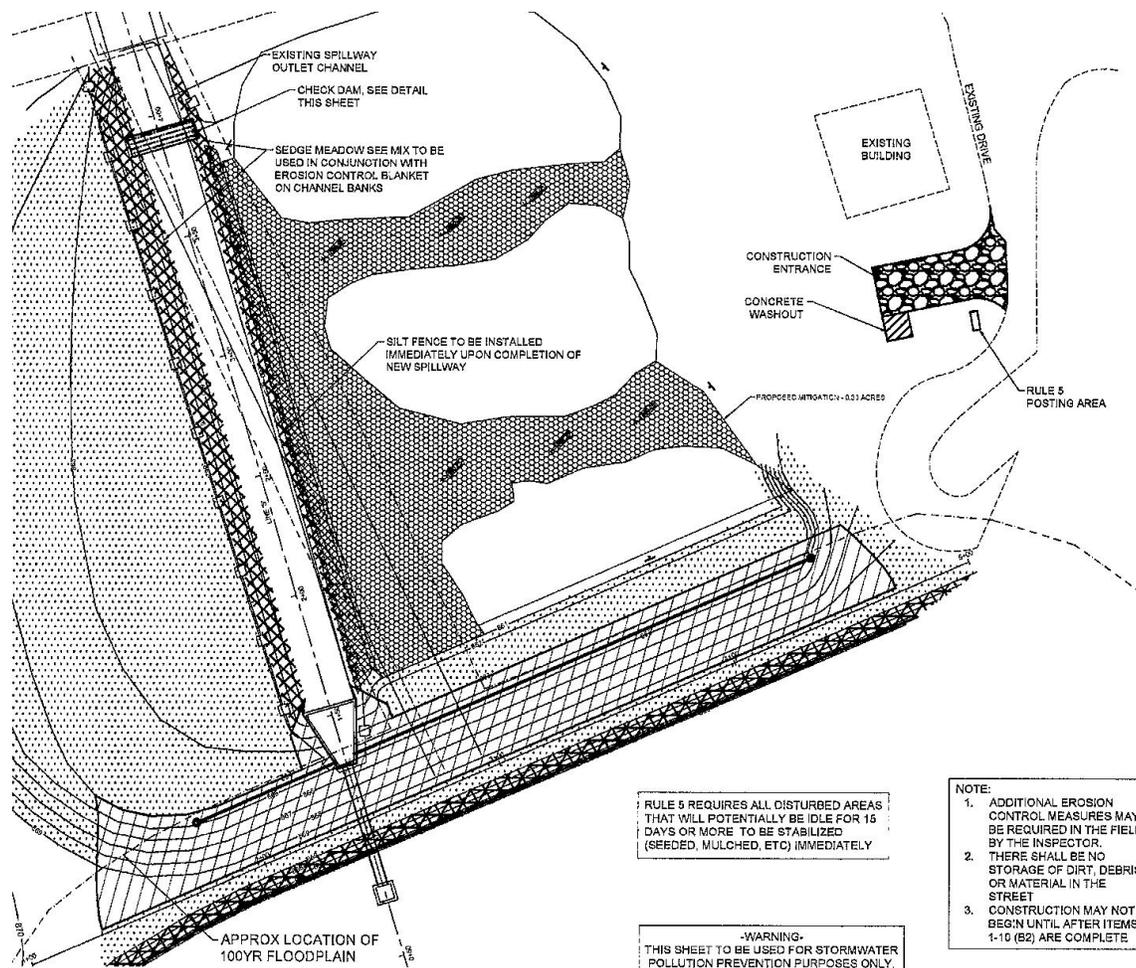


Figure 1: The east embankment of the new dam with the new spillway and outlet channel shown. Just to the North of the embankment and East of the outlet channel are the three pre-existing hatchery ponds (no cross-hatching) and the newly created wetland mitigation area (darkest cross-hatching).

Illustration by: Larry Clough

Papakeechee Protective Association
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