

POW WOW

Papakeechee Protective Association Newsletter-Fall 2016

www.lakepapakeechee.org

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

Message from the President



As your newly elected association president, I can truly say that it is both an honor and a privilege. I do not take this responsibility to the PPA and its members lightly. I accept this appointment with pride and will give my best efforts to make you proud to have selected me. I will devote my time and myself to the obligations and the duties of this office.

Beginning in the late 1960s, I have had the privilege of enjoying the enormous satisfaction of coming to this lake, and being a part of its beauty and serenity. In 2001 My family fulfilled a longtime dream of owning a place of our own on this pristine lake. I am no stranger to our association and it's Board. In the summer of 2008, I was elected and have since served as the PPA Board Secretary.

With the cooperation of my fellow members, I am fully confident that we can accomplish much in our effort to conquer our challenges, and reach our goals. I am counting on your support in these efforts.

Thanks for your vote of confidence,

Pat Ebetino, PPA President

Fishing in our Lake

The State of Indiana requires that state fishing licenses must be purchased to fish on Lake Papakeechee.

Mark Your Calendars:

The 2017 PPA Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August, 12th.

January 2017, invoices for annual Dues & Assessments mailed to the membership

April 2, 2017, Dues & Assessments payments past due

2016 PPA Annual Membership Meeting

2016 PPA Annual Membership Meeting was well attended. Both the Secretary's Minutes, of the 2015 Annual meeting and the current annual Treasurer's Report were distributed and approved. A handout of the 2017 Budget was provided and explained. Our annual Comprehensive Financial Review has been completed, and everything has been found to be in order. Election of Officers and District representatives resulted in the following: Pat Ebetino was elected President, and Bernie Ebetino was elected Secretary. The district representatives by process of election stayed the same. Concerning various issues related to the association and the lake, good discussions were had. Below are some of the meetings highlights.

At the 2015 Annual meeting it was mentioned that there is interest in having a fish study conducted. This year, we made it known that we have contracted with Aquatic Control to perform a fish study and also, two plant studies. The initial plant study was done in May. The fish study was scheduled for July 28, however; due to the hot weather, it has been postponed. We have not yet determined how the results will be communicated. It is possible that we will post it on our website, and we may also provide the information in a future POW WOW.

Larry Clough informed the membership that we have passed this year's dam and levee inspection. It was suggested that to prevent erosion on the banks, we dredge the outlet channel. That work on the channel has been completed.

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Larry reported that he was invited to attend and speak at a June workshop in Indianapolis. He gave a presentation on our maintenance program. This past July, we received an e-mail from the IDNR consultants who were impressed with our accomplishments. As a result, we are now on a conversational basis with the DNR officials who regulate our dam.

Terry Radtke reported on our lake maintenance efforts. He also stated that a new engine was installed in our chemical boat, and the harvester encountered a few breakdowns, for which repairs were required. He informed us that in November we will be pulling a stop log from the dam in order to prepare the lake for its winter weather level.

It was stated that the lily pads are out of control this year. We will be looking for a solution to this issue.

Fish and plant studies

As previously reported, The PPA has hired Aquatic Control Inc, professional consultants to conduct both fish and plant studies on Lake Papakeechee. The cost for the project (\$5,090.00) has been entirely covered by donations from both LaPSI, and the fundraiser which was held in 2015. The plant studies have been completed. They include samplings taken both this past spring and summer. The fish study will be done this month. The study will be done by electrically shocking the entire lake shoreline and shallow areas (onlookers must stay at least fifty (50) feet away from the electro fishing boat). At the same time they will be analyzing the basic water chemistry, e.g. dissolved oxygen, temperature profile. Surface water will be tested for pH, alkalinity, hardness, and ortho-phosphate. Aquatic Control biologists will conduct an evaluation of the aquatic vegetation in our lake. In conjunction with the use of mapping software and GPS units, the survey will be conducted using methods described in IDNR's Tier 2 procedure manual. This will allow for a detailed delineation of the vegetation communities within the lake. Maps of invasive plant beds, species lists and other data will be provided. Detailed reports will be issued.

They will include graphs, tables, a summary and recommendations for the preservation and improvement of the fish and plant populations.

Weed Control/Lake Maintenance

Again this year in mid-spring, we chemically treated the lake. Signs were posted around and buoys were placed in the lake. Overall, we feel that we had a good kill, however, due to the weather, this past summer we had more weeds, than the prior year. It has been noted that in some areas of the lake there is an over abundance of lily pads, and other top floating vegetation. We will be accessing the situation, and will be working on a best method process to deal with the problem.



Wetlands Progress and Inspection Summary

Editor's note: portions of this article were contributed by Joyce Arleen Corson, and Larry Clough.

In August, Williams Creek came for its annual inspection of our wetland mitigation area. While his two helpers worked on the plant census, Williams Creek's Jeff Moody conversed with Arleen Corson, Terry Radtke, John Hart and Larry Clough. Last year, we were cited for the presence of purple loosestrife, phragmites, too many cattail, and too much open water.

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Our inspection went well and there were many positives. We had no open water. No phragmites or Eurasian milfoil was found. The cattail population had been greatly diminished. The loosestrife was still a concern; however native colonies of desired vegetation species were growing well and should crowd out the loosestrife. Jeff Moody is very knowledgeable a good authority. He said that a chemical treatment is best and that cutting is not effective. This year, it is necessary for one more spray treatment of cattails and loosestrife. Starting next May, we will treat and continue each month with an additional treatment.

Jeff also stated that the area looks to be progressing within the normal timeline of a new wetland. He said that he thinks that with all of the work we've done and plan to do, he can see that the area will continue improve and that next year, he will do his best get us released from any further compliance effort dictated by our construction permit mandates.

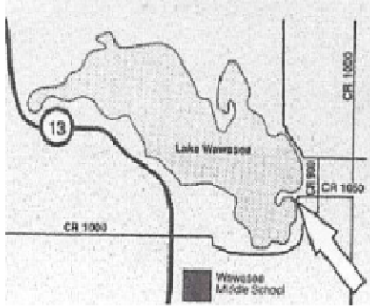
Thanks to all the volunteers who have worked so hard to make this happen.

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Arleen Corson has been very active in the wetland mitigation area this summer organizing the volunteers and overseeing the work done there. She has labeled plants of interest and directed our efforts to eliminate plants which are undesirable.

All of the time spent in the wetland mitigation area the morning of August 3 was very productive. Thanks to John Hart, for blazing a wonderful path around “the point” (that is the west end of old pond 2), it was easy getting around to where we could see isolated cattails that needed a wicking treatment. As a result of his efforts, secluded loosestrife seed beds were uncovered.

Mark Laurent, was appreciated for trimming the edges with his weed eater. Larry Clough, Patty and Steve Schwartz; were joined by new volunteer, Kathrine Kratzer. The group worked within assigned areas where they also planted seven (7) different types of water plant; rose mallow, monkey face, arrow head, big blue lobelia, plantain, native iris, and marsh milkweed.

The area is very much improved. Seeds and plantings have flourished and are spreading. We do have some purple loosestrife, an invasive exotic plant which has been a problem in our area. Cattails are starting to show the positive results of our efforts. The native colonies are growing well and should crowd out the undesirables. We plan to continue working within the area in May of next year.

There is overwhelming evidence that using the Williams Creek method has helped. By using a mixture of Glyphosate, surfactant and color, the remaining cattails and loosestrife have been weakened by this past summer’s treatments. However, both of these invasive species will be predators until the native growth is allowed to grow and colonize.

This growing season ends our second year since the expansion and casting of seeds in the mitigation area. The resulting plants can now be found throughout the wetland.

Fall panicum, rice grass, lobelia lavender monkey face grass, were blooming. We found monkey grass in several places, including the spill way. Prairie cord grass is now growing in four locations. It is good to see the living fruits of our effort.

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Biennial Dam Inspections

Each year the state mandated dam inspections continue to be performed. As previously stated, each dam in the state of Indiana must undergo an inspection by a qualified licensed engineer at the expense of the dam owner and a report must be submitted to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

In addition, each quarter, Terry Radtke (Dam Operator) continues to perform additional inspections. Terry follows a procedure that is documented in our Management and Maintenance Plan. He works with the Board of Directors to correct any issues that arise. As always, we will continue to keep the membership informed of the status of these inspections.

Financial Overview

As reported at the annual meeting, the income for the last fiscal year was \$154,487.00 and expenses were \$132,938.88

The dam and levee assessment principal due continues to decline. After the Sept. payment of \$7,610.00, our new balance is \$135,555.08. At this time, we are on schedule to make our final payment in Oct. 2018. Recently, Sally Whitehead completed an analysis of the Dam Fund status through January 2017. There were sufficient monies available to make an additional \$28,000 payment toward the principle. The board approved making that amount to be paid. Please note, the prepaid dam assessments had been calculated to pay through 12/31/17. Since our last payment is scheduled for October 2018, any remaining payments, if required, by PPA members, including those who have prepaid their dam assessment, may be a small assessment required that everyone would be required to pay. We will know more as that time approaches.

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Monetary Donations Needed

Like most of our association members, you may not be in a position to volunteer your time helping with all the routine and emergency activities that are constantly being performed in order to keep our lake and its surrounding landscape in such pristine condition. Each year brings many opportunities for you to help in a monetary way. If you desire, you can donate either to the general fund, or specify how your donation is to be allocated. Several areas of need have been identified. Just to mention a few, these include common pier construction and maintenance, stocking of the lake with desired fishes, PPA building and grounds upgrade and upkeep, LaPSI projects, PPA mailings, and unbudgeted expenses. If you are interested in donating funds to the PPA for any of its planned projects, or any of its unplanned and ongoing expenses, please contact your district representative, or any of the PPA officers.

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Board Meetings

Throughout the year, the Board of Directors holds 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

Welcome to Lake Papakeechee

New association members, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the PPA, welcome to our lake. Be sure to visit the PPA website, (www.lakepapakeechee.org) to obtain a copy of the PPA Covenants & Bylaws, or contact PPA Secretary, Bernie Ebetino. Below is a list of the 2016-2017 PPA Board of Directors.

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, or ebetinob@gmail.com Space is limited, so now would be a good time to secure a spot for your ad in our 2016 fall edition. Please support the businesses that advertise, and let them know that you saw their ad in the POW WOW.

Social Events and Fundraisers!

If you would like to organize an event, let us know at: papalakeevents@gmail.com, or contact John Hart, Vice President of PPA at: jhartsyracuse@gmail.com.

PPA Officers and Board of Directors

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| President – Pat Ebetino | 260-312-3637 |
| Vice President – John Hart | 219-561-1182 |
| Treasurer – Sally Whitehead | 574-457-4081 |
| Secretary – Bernie Ebetino | 260-639-0046 |
| District 1 – Paul Garl | 574-354-1830 |
| 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 – Linda Minnick | 574-834-2159 |
| District 6 – Jim Whitehead | 574-457-4081 |
| District 7 – Steve Schwartz | 574-457-6778 |
| District 8-9 – Terry Radtke | 574-529-4433 |

Papakeechee Protective Association
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