

www.lakepapakeechie.org

2018 Annual Dues is due by April 1st, 2018

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

POW WOW Distribution

In an effort to reduce POW WOW expenses, we have begun to utilize email services to distribute our newsletter. Please send us your email address via: papakeechie@gmail.com. The POW WOW is also available for viewing at: www.lakepapakeechie.org.

Message from the President

The sands of the hourglass rapidly flow! It seems that just a short while ago, I agreed to run for the Presidency of our Papakeechie Protective Association. Since that time, I know that there is a list of several exciting things which we have accomplished. However, I also realize that there is much more to be done. A very big item on that list includes the fact that the loan for our Dam/Levee construction had been paid in full. A large part of the credit for this accomplishment goes to our entire membership, for without their cooperation in paying the assessments on time; this would still be an ongoing process. Thank you, all!

A review of other major accomplishments brings to mind: the Fish and the Vegetation studies; Dam, Levee, and Wetland inspection successes.

With the weather conditions continuing to improve, now is the time to spruce up your properties. Remember, we are all a part of a very pristine community. It takes each one of us to do his/her part. With the continued cooperation, and voluntary efforts of our board and the PPA membership, we will continue to move forward. I am fully confident that we can accomplish much more in our effort to conquer our challenges, and reach our goals.

Thanks for your support, Pat Ebetino, PPA President

Boating on our lake our Lake

The use of any type motor to propel a boat on Lake Papakeechie is strictly prohibited.

Mark Your Calendar:

The 2018 PPA Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August, 11^{th.} Election for the following will be held at the meeting: President, Secretary, and representatives from districts; 2, 4, 6, and 8. We are currently compiling a list of candidates. If you are, or you know of anyone who is interested in running for a position, please let us know.

Please take the time to read an important correspondence from the Kosciusko Co. Area Plan Commission. "Flood Hazard Area Information..." can be accessed on our website (www.lakepapakeechie.org) home page by clicking above on "Various Tests, Studies, and Programs", then clicking on "Lake Management and Maintenance" within the drop down menu.

Board Meetings

Throughout the year, the Board of Directors normally 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.lakepapakeechie.org

Finances

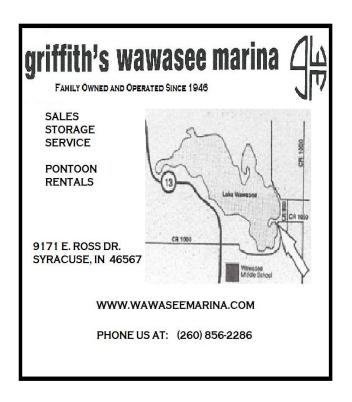
jhartsyracuse@gmail.com

We anticipate no annual dues increase for the next fiscal year, as our projected income and expenses for the current fiscal year is, \$67,150.00 and \$58,075.00 respectively. Hopefully our projected overage will be used next year to fund mandated dam/levee inspections. Our total cash assets as of 02/28/2018, was \$54,531.18.

<u>Social Events and Fundraisers</u> If you would like to organize an event, let us know at: papalakeevents@gmail.com, or contact John Hart, at:



www.lakepapakeechie.org



Weed Control/Lake Maintenance

Due to the over abundance of late winter rain the lake level rose quite a bit higher than expected. In order to remedy the situation, on February 24th, we removed an additional 6 inch stop log. Terry Radtke is busy getting the Weed Harvester and the chemical boat ready for the upcoming season. Both will be launched shortly. Weed treatment will take place, sometime around May 1st. Signs and buoys will be posted around the lake. There is no danger to humans. However, for 30 days after application, do not use lake water for lawn irrigation. As always, we will be closely monitoring the lake's vegetation growth and taking any additional appropriate action that is needed. We are aware that in some areas of the lake there is an over abundance of lily pads. We will continue spot treatment to deal with the problem.

To ensure safe harvester movement around the lake, please remove from the lake all unused pier support pipe, pier section, and any item that is not being used. Our harvester is approaching its 40 year old mark to replace it will cost upward in the \$85,000 range.

Wetlands Progress

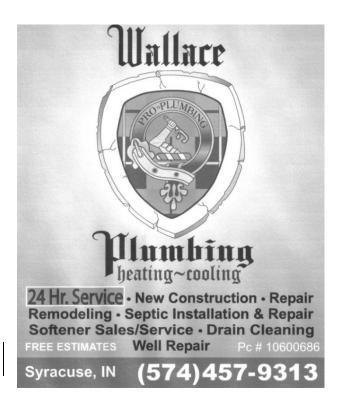
We have received our 2017 Wetland Inspection report from William's Creek Consulting (WCC). It is very favorable to us. Pending a quick follow up visit by WCC, this spring, our mitigation area is on its way to be cleared by the WCC standards. The report recommends that the wetlands be released from the obligations of our building permits that were obtained for our dam/levee construction. WCC will recommend to the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) that they release us from any further wetland inspections Larry Clough has verbally heard that in conversations between WCC and USACE, they each want to release us from our current maintenance requirements and restrictions. The report also states that we have reduced invasive species by as much as is feasible. It further states that it may not be realistic to completely eliminate the Purple Loosestrife. These are all good indications for us.

Starting with the August 2015 inspection, there has been a dramatic reduction in our Loosestrife population. In May of 2015, Arleen Corson got involved in decision making for the wetland upkeep and improvement process. She and her Raiders (her corps of volunteers) have done a magnificent job by cutting the Loosestrife population and other invasive species to virtually zero, while at the same time, introduced, and or increased the populations of desirable plants. Larry believes that it is both this performance by the Raiders, and Arleen's proactive contact with both the DNR and WCC to demonstrate the work we were doing, has led directly to the result of this favorable report. Hats off to Arleen and her Raiders!

Arleen has informed us that several groups have visited our wetlands. They have expressed interest in future visits, and perhaps getting involved with their upkeep. She has put together a very nice article titled "Moving Forward on the Wings of the Wetland in 2018". In it, as well as suggesting many ways that you can get involved in various activities and projects, she shares information about several species of plants presently growing in our wetlands. Several graphic illustrations and excerpts of articles from other publications are also included. You can view her entire presentation by visiting the PPA website at: www.lakepapakeechie.org. A link to the article can be found on the Wetlands page of the site.



www.lakepapakeechie.org



Dam/Levee Inspections

Our dam/levee inspections continue to do well. The dam passed its latest safety inspection and has no safety issues. As previously explained, so it has a 'satisfactory' rating, which is the highest rating that is given. Again, the latest inspection report contains a statement that we should have an Emergency Action Plan. This same comment was in the last report. Larry Clough has continued to look into what is required and how we can obtain a plan at the least possible cost. He will continue to work with the IDNR and the Association of State Dam Safety Officials to develop contacts among experts that can help us with the EAP.

Advertize Your Business In The POW WOW

We will accept business ads on a first come, first served basis. We believe that this is a great opportunity for you to let your neighbors know of the many services available within the membership and the surrounding area. At present, we would like to run at least three (3), or four (4) ads per publication. For pricing and more information, contact Bernie Ebetino at (260) 639-0046,

or, ebetinob@gmail.com. Since space is limited, now would be a good time to secure a spot for your ad in our 2018 fall edition. Please support the businesses that advertize, and let them know that you saw their ad in the Pow Wow.

<u>Lake Papakeechie Sustainability Initiative</u> (<u>LaPSI</u>)

It's not only fisherman dangling equipment into Lake Papakeechie! You may also notice LaPSI (Lake Papakeechie Sustainability Initiative) members using a paddle boat and other equipment to monitor the overall health of the lake. This equipment includes a Secchi disk to measure water clarity, a VanDorn sampler to collect water at different depths, and a dissolved oxygen and temperature meter.

We can always use help, so if you would like to learn about methods used to monitor lake health, like to be on the lake while making a contribution to the quality of the watershed we enjoy, or just enjoy being with other lake residents, contact Diane Tulloh at (317) 670-9991 or dtulloh@gmail.com.

Here are some events from 2017:

- Continued water testing of the lake. Testing includes water clarity, phosphorus, nitrogen, temperature and dissolved oxygen. In the past couple of years, there has been increased emphasis on checking for toxins, including *E. coli* and microcystin (blue-green algae).
- Incorporated LaPSI as a Indiana not-for-profit organization. This status will facilitate fundraising and grant applications. Anthony Serianni led and funded this effort.
- Charlotte Hill conducted a survey of the types and locations of plants in the lake to complement the commercial survey, which was a joint effort between the PPA and LaPSI.
- Continued relationships with other governmental, educational and lake management groups in the region, such as the Wawasee Area Conservation Foundation (WACF), Hoosier Riverwatch, the Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation and the Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams.



www.lakepapakeechie.org

For more information, visit the LaPSI web site: (www3.nd.edu/~aseriann/LAPSI.html). This site contains a wealth of information about lake management in general and summarizes past and present efforts by LaPSI on Lake Papakeechie.

Senior Staff Tax Resolution LLC

Stop IRS letters!

Reduce, resolve, or eliminate your IRS tax debt today.

File current year and past due tax returns.

Tax planning.

Our office is locally owned and operated and initial consultations are always free.

Phone: 260 385-8720 www.seniorstafftax.com

and jkorejwa@seniorstafftax.com

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. 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 maintenance, stocking of the lake with desired fish, PPA building, grounds upkeep, LaPSI projects, PPA mailings, and unbudgeted expenses. If you are interested in donating funds to the PPA for any reason, please contact your district representative, or any of the PPA officers.

Unkempt & Nuisance Properties

Unkempt and nuisance are both an eyesore and a safety hazard to both your neighbors and yourself. Please be a good neighbor, and properly maintain your property(s).

Spring Cleaning/Recycling and Trash Removal



Spring is just around the corner, and the PPA board of directors would like to encourage every association member to begin thinking about sprucing up your property. We would like to give you some helpful information on how you can dispose of some of your unwanted trash. In the neighborhood The Stuckmans have various businesses geared toward your cleanup and recycling needs. And in the area for FREE pick-up of the following items: refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, hot water heaters, air conditioners, heaters, yard tools, mowers, car batteries, metal shelving, aluminum boats/pontoons, metal sinks & tubs, old wood furniture. This is not a complete list. Call if you have questions. Greg & Mary Kester (574-265-5772), and KC Recycling Depot in Warsaw will take your unwanted hazardous materials (paint, chemicals etc.). They are located at 220 So. Union St. For more details, call them at 574-372-3087, or visit them on line at kcrecycling.com.

Flood Hazard Permits Required

Recently, the Federal Emergency Management Association, FEMA has begun strictly enforcing their floodplain level restrictions on homeowners' properties. To find out if your home or any part of your home is in the floodplain, go to the web site, kcgov.com and click on Beacon Emblem. Enter your last name first, or your address. After your property appears, click on map in the top left corner of your screen. When the map appears, under Drainage, click on Flood Hazard Areas. If any of the water is touching any part of your dwelling or deck



www.lakepapakeechie.org

connected to your dwelling, your entire structure is considered to be in the flood plain. Anything you own that is showing in the blue is in the flood plain. Dave Hewitt has gone over the list of addition, improvement, or repair projects that require you to obtain a Special Flood Hazard Areas Permit (SFHA). You are required to get a permit to do almost anything you do, either exterior or interior. Yes it does include interior. Permits required are (SFHAs), and Floodplain Development Permits (FDPs). The Permits can be obtained through Area Planning Commission in Warsaw, at 100 E Center St* Courthouse*3rd Floor. There is just too much information to list in our newsletter, so we will be posting detailed instructions on our web site. If you don't want to have to keep getting permits, there is another option for which you may qualify. It is called a (LOMA), Letter of Map Amendment. Your qualification is based on the county's elevation datum. Dave has met with the Kosciusko county surveyor, Michael Kissinger and he has found numerous properties that may qualify for a LOMA. LOMA's are not cheap. They cost around \$400, but are well worth it for your property value. Without a LOMA, you will not be able to sell, or obtain a mortgage without flood insurance. Several of our board members have been able obtain a LOMA. Regarding this matter, and as we are not experts, please do not contact your district reprehensive. If you have questions, please contact:

For SFHA permits; Matt Sandy Area Planning (574) 372-2304, <u>msandy@kcgov.com</u>

For LOMA information; Mike Kissinger, County Surveyor: (574) 372-2366, mkissinger@kcgov.com

Fishing in our Lake

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



Welcome to Lake Papakeechie

New association members, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Papakeechie Protective Association (PPA), welcome to our lake. Be sure to visit the PPA website, (www.lakepapakeechie.org). As well as helpful information concerning our association and lake, the PPA Covenants & Bylaws, are available for access on the site. Below is a list of the current PPA officers and board of directors.

PPA Officers and Board of Directors

President – Pat Ebetino	260-312-3637
Vice President – Dave Hewitt	574-551-3902
Treasurer – Sally Whitehead	574-457-4081
Secretary – Candace Wallace	574-529-0751
District 1 – Paul Garl	574-354-1830
District 2 – Bernie Ebetino	260-639-0046
District 3 – Larry Clough	260-437-6433
District 4 – Steve Herendeen	574-349-5741
District 5 – David Floyd	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

Papakeechie Protective Association P.O. Box 261 Syracuse, IN 46567