

POW WOW

Papakeechee Protective Association Newsletter-Fall 2018

www.lakepapakeechee.org

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 been utilizing email services to distribute our newsletter. Please send us your email address via: papakeechee@gmail.com. The POW WOW will also be available for viewing at: www.lakepapakeechee.org.

Message from the President

It seems that just yesterday we were preparing for the summer 2018 season. As many know, throughout the summer, we faced a couple unwanted challenges. Our beloved harvester had several mechanical issues that had to be rectified, as a result, several areas of the lake experienced a higher than normal amount of weed infestation. The PPA board and its officers extend a special thanks to Mark Deister and the Deister Machine Company for coming to our rescue. One harvester incident involved the breakdown of a specialized part that is no longer manufactured, or available to purchase. Upon hearing of our dilemma, Mark immediately instructed the people at his business to do whatever was needed to design and manufacture the replacement part. Within just a few days we had the part. All of this was done at absolutely no cost to the Association. The board and many of the PPA membership who attended the 2018 annual meeting have come to accept the fact that in order to manage our weeds, we need an up to date approach, and some new equipment. These issues are noted within the content of this publication, and are presently being addressed.

So that we move continue conquer our challenges, and reach our goals, I hope that our board and the PPA membership, will continue with their cooperation, and voluntary efforts, by doing so, I am fully confident that we can accomplish great things. Again, I will be counting on your support in these efforts.

A final note, this year, Steve Schwartz, a past association President and present long time board member (District 7) has been going through some serious health issues. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

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 Papakeechee is strictly prohibited.

Mark Your Calendar:

January 2019, invoices for annual PPA Dues to be mailed to the membership

April 2, 2019, Dues payment past due

The 2019 PPA Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August, 10th. Election for the following will be held at the meeting: Vice President, Treasurer, and representatives from districts; 1, 3, 5, 5A, and 9. If you are, or you know of anyone who is interested in running for a position, please let us know.

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.lakepapakeechee.org

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2018 PPA Annual Membership Meeting

2018 PPA Annual Membership Meeting was well attended. Both the Secretary's Minutes, of the 2017 Annual meeting and the current annual Treasurer's Report were distributed and approved. A handout of the 2019 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: The offices of President, Secretary, and District Representatives stayed the same, except for District 6 in which Andrew Bishop was elected. We welcome Andrew to the board, and also thank Jim Whitehead for all his time given and the work that he provided during his tenure as our District 6 representative.


A presentation was given summarizing an investigation that had been going on since the decision to suspend operation of the old harvester. More on this issue is contained in the "Weed Control/Lake Maintenance" article later in this publication

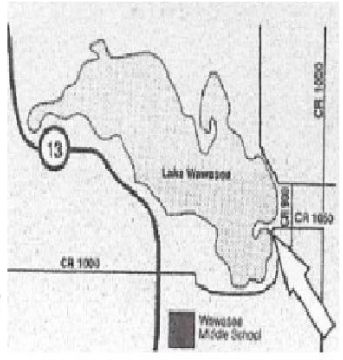
Financial Status

As reported at the annual meeting as of 7/31/18. Our income for the 2018 fiscal year was \$69, 850.84 and expenses were \$51,145.65. Our total cash assets were \$68,271.69. We estimate that on 12/31/2018 will be somewhere around \$35,000.00.

Social Events and Fundraisers!

If you would like to organize an event, let us know contact Linda Minnick, at: 574 518-0746, or relicpress@gmail.com

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Weed Control/Lake Maintenance

In May we started chemical treatment of the curly pond leaf. We had great results. Then, as we were prepping our weed-harvester for its launch, some major mechanical issues surfaced. These had to be corrected, if not addressed they could have caused catastrophic damage to harvester and would have created safety issues for our operators. Unfortunately, due to the age (38+ yrs) of the harvester, parts were not available and had to be fabricated. This caused a significant delay to our weed removal program.

Terry Radtke has spent over 80 hours performing maintenance. In contrast, less than 60 hours were expended on the actual operation of the harvester on the lake. Eventually, this past summer it was decided that the repair activity was more than Terry alone could handle. Since hiring the maintenance would cost at least \$80 per hour as opposed to the \$14 per hour the association pays Terry, it was decided that this year, continued repair activity would not be economically viable.

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As stated earlier, at the annual meeting, a presentation was given summarizing the investigation prompted by the decision to suspend operation of the old harvester. Three options were investigated: using an outside professional service to repair and maintain it, continue to use the harvester until it can no longer be operated; outsource the lake weed harvesting to an outside service, or replace the harvester with a new machine.

Estimates of the first option lead us to conclude that the cost would quickly and exponentially increase until the price of a new harvester would be exceeded within four (4) years. Estimates of the second possibility indicated that costs would be in excess of replacing the harvester within two (2) years. The investigation lead to the conclusion that even though it was estimated that a new harvester will cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000, it seems to be the most cost effective solution for our specific needs. However, in order to determine the best course of action for the PPA, the Board of Directors has asked Terry Radtke to work with the manufacturer of the new harvester and explore any other viable options. A plan is in the works for next year's harvester program. The board has discussed equipment versus chemicals. We prefer to use the least amount of chemical as possible. Weed cutting and removal were discussed. During prior years, we have been mechanically cutting the weeds, then at several locations around the lake, deposited them along the shoreline. They would then dry and naturally decompose. We are looking at the benefits of entirely removing weeds from the lake via a harvester conveyor system (estimated cost \$30K). This process would more than likely require a 2-person crew. If we were to centralize the conveyor, it is estimated that the travel time for the harvester to go from one end of lake to the other to unload it would require in excess of seventy (70) hours per season. This is time harvester would not be cutting weeds. Hauling the weeds to a remote disposal site would require an additional ongoing expenditure. We are estimating it will be somewhere in the five thousand dollar range (\$5K). Extensive discussion and research has been expended brainstorming how to set up and effectively operate a weed removal program. We still have many unanswered questions. We will continue our efforts to fine tune this process so that it is both beneficial to the lake, and

financially affordable. If you have any ideas, or related information, please feel free to contact us.

This fall, as in past years, we will be removing the dam stop log so that we can achieve the lakes winter level.

Wetlands

Arleen Corson continues to head up the huge project which has brought wetland area up to state standards. Through her, and several other volunteer's efforts, we have been relieved of our state mandated regulations. This past summer, wetland plants were abundant and quickly grew. Many new colonies of native species have developed. In the long run, the new plants will help to keep out the unwanted invasive species, and will allow us to stay in the good graces of the state and federal agencies that will continue to monitor us.

The PPA has received a letter from Ryan Cassidy of the US Army Corps of Engineers. It releases us from our formal yearly inspections. The letter specifies that we obtain a release under 401 Water Quality Certification. We must also provide and file with the county a copy of the conservation easement for the mitigation site. Larry Clough is working with the government agencies on this issue.

In the meantime, the volunteer group has continued to monitor the mitigation area for any unwanted invasive species. Any Purple Loosestrife that had been found has been removed. The numbers of invasive plants are at an all time low, but outbreaks continue to be noted. They are being dealt with on an as needed basis. Some native species noted growing in the wetland are Iris colonies, Hibiscus, Round Leaved Ragwort and Golden Alexander. In addition Sedges, Forbs and grasses have also been observed.

Arleen Corson, Linda Minnick, Patty Schwartz and Katherine Kratzer all have been volunteering to work in the wetlands to keep it in shape. Anyone wanting to join in the effort is welcome. To coordinate days, dates, and times, please call Arleen at 574 457-6796.

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Advertise 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 spring edition. Please support the businesses that advertise, and let them know that you saw their ad in the Pow Wow.

Lake Papakeechee Sustainability Initiative (LaPSI)

LaPSI is now tax classified as a 501C3. This makes it easier to get grants and to take donations.

As well as Diane Tulloh, Jody Hedges, Jan and Mark Laurent, LaPSI members Kendall Floyd, Kim Harp, Mac Hedges, Charlotte Hill, Dawn Juif and Shawnita and Steve Longstreet, are acknowledged for the time they have generously donated this past summer they conducted water quality testing and related activities on Lake Papakeechee. LaPSI also thanks A. Serianni for his continued financial support of its work.

Please read LaPSI's publications posted on the PPA's website: www.lakepapakeechee.org.

Participants and volunteers are always welcome for any LaPSI activities contact Diane at 317-670- 9991.

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

Dam/Levee Inspections

Our dam/levee inspections have gone well. However, the Turtle Crossings have presented quite a challenge. Due to both human traffic and various animals using them for lake access, maintaining the crossings has been both time consuming and costly. These four areas are impossible to police and keep to blueprint specs. Looking back to the engineering firm that designed our dam, it was noted that our number one priority is to protect the integrity of the dam. That is our goal. As we do not want the top edge to erode, there is a good possibility that we will replace the crossings with rip-rap. The east dam concrete armor flex is nicely filling in with natural greenery. More than likely, within the next few years the armor flex will no longer be visible.

Larry Clough continues to work on our Emergency Action Plan. He is compiling a list of requirements that the plan must meet. As in the past, he has continued 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.

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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 fishes, 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.



Kerry Murphy
Broker Associate
C: 574.529.4367
kerry@nlrealtyllc.com



Northern Lakes REALTY

Office: 574.457.2880
www.nlrealtyllc.com
207 W Main St
Syracuse, IN 46567

I am fortunate to be a part of the Northern Lakes Realty team. For the past 32 years, I have been a resident of the Wawasee community, working as a business teacher and coach at Wawasee High School. During those years, I have had the opportunity to meet and work with a lot of wonderful people. I have also been involved in renovating and selling houses for many years to help make the community a better place. My wife, Janice, and I currently live on Lake Papakeechee. I look forward to meeting you and working hard to fulfill your real estate needs!

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). 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.

Fishing in our Lake

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

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). Remember, we are all a part of a very pristine community. It takes each one of us to do his/her part to make this a pleasant place to live.

Permits Required for Remodel/Repair/Construction

Please remember that for any type construction, Kosciusko County Area Planning requires that permits must be obtained.

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 – Andrew Bishop	574-343-7421
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