

POW WOW

Papakeeche Protective Association Newsletter - 2023

www.lakepapakeeche.org

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

Mark Your Calendar:

The 2023 PPA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August, 5th. Election for the following will be held at the meeting: Vice President, Treasurer, and representatives from districts; 1, 3, 5, 5A, 7, and 9. If you are, or you know of anyone who is interested in running for a position, please let us know.

Message from the President

It is an honor to serve as your PPA president. With the help of the board, I am learning the ropes. I will always do all I can to ensure the best interests of the lake and her residents are heard. I am always available to hear concerns or to help in any way I can. With that said, I know many of us (myself included) had a substantial amount of storm damage last June. This is a friendly reminder to keep the roadsides clear of brush and debris. Also, properties must be maintained as well as not to attract unwanted rodents. You can email your concerns to me at: alysiahammel@gmail.com, or call: 260-609-5255.

God bless you and yours,
Alysia Hammel

Financial Status

The yearend balance in the PPA account on 12/31/2022 was \$105,855.44.

The 2023 Association dues invoices were mailed out in mid-January, and dues will be considered delinquent if not received by 4/1/2023.

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

Welcome to Lake Papakeeche

New association members, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Papakeeche Protective Association (PPA), welcome to our lake. Be sure to visit the PPA website, (www.lakepapakeeche.org). As well as helpful information concerning our association and lake, the PPA Covenants & Bylaws, are available for access on the site. Page 5 contains a list of the current PPA officers and Board of Directors.

Mute Swans

Lake Papakeeche, continues to experience adverse issues as the result of Mute Swan on the lake. There's no denying that the Mute Swan is a beautiful, majestic bird. They are native to Europe and Asia, and were released in the U.S. as an ornamental species. Mute swans have reached critical mass in Northern Indiana. There's also no doubt among wildlife officials that these invasive birds do not belong in Indiana, or anywhere else in the United States.

Boating on Our Lake

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

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Department of Fish & Wildlife have deemed this particular species, invasive and a threat to many of the

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native wildlife species. Native plants and animals are not adapted to these Mute Swans. Because of its destructive effect, the Mute Swan is detrimental to native wildlife and the natural habitat in our area. In order to conserve our natural ecosystem this invasive species must be culled.

Due to the fact that other area lakes are actively ridding their area of these swans, our lake (Papakeeche) has become an area where these birds are taking refuge. They have deemed our lake as a safe haven in which to live, and raise their young.

In order to preserve both our pristine habitat, and native wildlife, the PPA Board has made the decision to, again this year we will participate in the Indiana State sponsored and funded program that will reduce a number of swans on our lake.

Mowing and Land Weed Control

We hire an individual to mow the association owned grassy areas. Due to state mandate as to how this land is to be maintained in a very specific manner, and in order to comply with these regulations, we must insist that the grassy down slope of the west levee/dam is to be mowed only by someone who the PPA hires and has been instructed on how to care for this land. Hatchery Rd. property owners whose land abuts this area are not to mow, store, place, or park boats, trailers, or any other objects on the levee/dam.

Weed Control/Lake Maintenance

You are probably aware that there are several invasive plants (such as starry stonewort) that are quickly spreading throughout the lakes in our area. These invasive plants spread quickly and can take over entire sections of a lake - making it almost unusable.

The plants commonly travel from one lake to another on boats. Therefore, it is extremely important to wash any boat that enters Papakeeche after being in another lake.

In an attempt to stay on top of this, PPA has hired Aquatic Weed Control to conduct another plant survey. This should take place in late March/early April. **They will be using a motorized boat that has been properly cleaned so that it will not introduce any contaminants into the lake.** They will apply the chemical treatment following the survey. Again, this year, in order to control our aquatic vegetation issues, and to maximize the effect of the herbicide (Fluridone) used, application of the chemical will be done (weather permitting) in early April. In addition, in early May, and depending upon the effectiveness of the first application, there is a possibility of a second application of a smaller volume of the chemical.

As in the past, signs and buoys will be posted around the lake.

Again, we are asking you to help us in our weed management process. We have noted that in some areas, there are fallen trees, unused pier poles, and other

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foreign objects that impede our effort to maintain the area. This issue remains a very high concern to us. Each of us, as a member of the PPA has a responsibility to do your part in helping to keep the lake and its shores clean and clear of debris. You can be a tremendous help by removing all these hazards from the lake.

In addition, there are many areas of the lake that are too shallow to operate the harvester. If you want a weed free beach area, it is up to you to expend some effort to maintain the area to your standards



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Non-Lakefront Property Owner Access Points

Some of our new membership, non-lakefront property owners, have asked where they can access the lake. Access is available to the lake via the boat ramp located at the PPA building on Hatchery Rd. There are also two (2) common piers. Both are on the north end of the lake. If desired, you may use these piers to moor a boat. You are permitted to use either of these common piers. The 1st pier is located at the far east end of the west levee, and the 2nd the flat pontoon with aluminum ramp) due west of the 1st. The double decker pier located further west is privately owned.



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Dam/Levee

Our number one priority is to protect the integrity of the dam/levee. The 2022 PPA dam/levee inspections went well. Throughout the year, we monitor these structures and perform any maintenance as deemed necessary.

Advertise Your Business in The POW WOW

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

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Lake Papakeechee Sustainability Initiative (LaPSI)

If you would like to volunteer your time to LaPSI's efforts, please contact Diane Tulloh at 317-670-9991 or dtulloh@gmail.com or Anthony Serianni at 574-631-7807, or anthony.s.serianni.1@nd.edu.

Fishing and Other Activities on Our Lake



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 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.

Per PPA Covenant, fishing of any type on Lake Papakeechee may be done only by association members (property owner), their families, and their guests. While residing therein, renters, and lessors are considered as owners. A guest is limited to a visitor to the home, while either staying at the property, or visiting with its owner, or family.

Please note, it is not permissible to give approval to "non-guests" whether they be friends, or anyone else, to enter upon the lake to fish, or for any other purpose. State of Indiana requires that state fishing licenses must be purchased to fish on Lake Papakeechee. From time to time throughout the year, especially the winter months (ice fishing) fishermen who do not belong on our lake have been observed. It is very difficult, if not impossible for the PPA to police this situation. You, as a member have the right to challenge anyone, and if determined that they do not belong, request that they leave. Please feel free to clip the notice which appears on page 5, and place it on the windshield of any vehicle owned by someone who you suspect is using our lake for fishing or any other purpose.



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Please Be Considerate of Your Neighbor

Last year, we reported that several PPA member's properties border the Dam/ Levee. Although the top of the levy/Dam is owned and maintained by the PPA, association members and their guests (as defined by PPA covenant) are permitted to use the area (owned by the PPA) for walking & bicycling. When accessing this area, please be considerate, and contain your activity only to PPA owned property.

We continue to receive word that the properties owned by some of our members in the area are still being used as a point of access. As property owners, they have the right to request that you leave their land. They also have the right to contact law enforcement and if they desire, file trespassing charges. **In addition, except for maintenance purposes, motorized vehicles are not permitted on the dam/levee structure.**

Rental Properties on the Lake

Several issues regarding the conduct of renters have been reported. It is the responsibility of the property owner to see that the PPA's rules are followed when tenants lease your property. Prior to their moving in, please post within the premises, and also provide a copy of the PPA rules to your tenants. These documents are intended to ensure that your renters are aware of and comply with the association's regulations (these can be found on our Web Site: lakepapakeeche.org). In order to significantly diminish any infractions, we are reminding the property owner that the PPA expects any lease/renter (tenant) to know and abide by its regulations.

As a landlord it is your responsibility to see that your renters do know, and adhere to PPA rules and regulations. The landlord is also expected to clean up any mess left by the renters.

Board Meetings

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

PPA Officers and Board of Directors

President – Alysia Hammel	260-609-5255
Vice President – Dave Hewitt	574-551-3902
Treasurer – Crystal Slayton	574-238-0407
Secretary – Linda Minnick	574-518-0746
District 1 – Lynn Ballentine	765-606-6153
District 2 – Bernie Ebetino	260-312-3494
District 3 – Anthony Serianni	574-633-4455
District 4 – Mark Laurent	260-417-9364
District 5 – Steve Longstreet	317-501-6077
District 5a – Marshall Minnick	574-238-7605
District 6 – Jim Whitehead	574-457-4081
District 7 – Sherry Doherty	260-856-3224
District 8-9 – Terry Radtke	574-529-4433

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: papakeeche@gmail.com. The POW WOW is also available for viewing at: www.lakepapakeeche.org.

Papakeechie Protective Association
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