

POW WOW

Papakeeche Protective Association Newsletter - 2024

www.lakepapakeeche.org

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.

Message from the President

Greetings association members. I hope this finds you well. I have been here 6 years now and the beauty of this beautiful lake never ceases to amaze me. I have always thought this private lake was a rare gem amongst the hustle and bustle of daily life. We are all truly blessed to call Lake Papakeeche home. I want to reassure you that the board will be working diligently to keep the aquatic plants at bay. With that said, we are facing new challenges with new invasive plants. Your understanding and patience is deeply appreciated. Please know that we will be doing the best we can as we consult experts to formulate the best plan. You can email your concerns to me at: alysiahammel@gmail.com, or call: 260-609-5255.

God bless you and yours,
Alysia Hammel

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.

Boating on Our Lake

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

Mark Your Calendar:

The 2024 PPA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August, 10th. Election for the following will be held at the meeting: President, Secretary, and representatives from districts; 2, 4, 6, and 8/9. If you are, or you know of anyone who is interested in running for a position, please let us know.

Lake Papakeeche Sustainability Initiative (LaPSI)

In addition to its work on long-term monitoring of water quality on Lake Papakeeche, LaPSI (Lake Papakeeche Sustainability Initiative) will partner with the WACF in 2024 to monitor the water entering into Lake Papakeeche from the Tri-County Fish and Wildlife Area (TCFWA), with particular attention to phosphorus content. The intent of this collaboration is to gain a quantitative understanding of the sources of the phosphorus (known to be high in the TCFWA) and to develop potential interventions to mitigate its effect on nutrient levels in the lake.

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

Mute Swans

Lake Papakeeche, continues to experience adverse issues as the result of Mute Swan on the lake. 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 again this year to participate in the Indiana State sponsored and funded program that will reduce a number of swans on our lake.

POW WOW

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www.lakepapakeeche.org



are recommended to meet the goals of the Lake Papakeeche residents in 2024.

1. Maintain a healthy lake in which excess plant growth does not interfere significantly with recreational use through general aquatic plant control.
2. Aggressively manage invasive aquatic plants with special emphasis on controlling Starry Stonewort.
3. Survey the lake visually on an annual basis to document SSW locations and help develop accurate treatment maps and update plant management strategies. Conduct a Tier II aquatic vegetation survey approximately every 2 years.

Again, this year, to maximize the effect of the process used, application will be done (weather permitting) in early April. 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 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

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 Management

As reported last year, there are several invasive plants that have been identified as growing in the lake. These plants spread quickly and can take over entire sections of a lake. 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 formalize a comprehensive 2024 plant management program. This plan is designed to lay out a concise, targeted plant management strategy to address plant management challenges in Lake Papakeeche. Three major plant management objectives



POW WOW

Papakeeche Protective Association Newsletter - 2024

www.lakepapakeeche.org

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.

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 our 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) 312-3494, or ebetinob@gmail.com. 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.

The Good Neighbor
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decks

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owners

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Chuck-Vietnam Vet

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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. 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.

Cats Being Targeted

We continue to be advised that within the area someone is trapping and shooting neighborhood cats. This is not acceptable. Please be advised that per our bylaws, discharge of a firearm on, or over the lake, as well as any PPA owned property is strictly prohibited.

Dam/Levee

Our number one priority is to protect the integrity of the dam/levee. The 2023 PPA dam/levee inspections went well. Throughout the year, we monitor these structures and perform any maintenance as deemed necessary.

POW WOW

Papakeechee Protective Association Newsletter - 2024

www.lakepapakeechee.org

Financial Status

The yearend balance in the PPA account on 12/31/2023 was \$92,553.53.

The 2024 Association dues invoices were mailed out in early-January. Dues will be considered delinquent if not received by 4/1/2024.

diminished as to keeper size, the PPA has the right to set lower quantity and larger size requirements on all fish species contained within and caught while fishing the lake. 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.



Your Neighbor's Land is Not for Public Use

Last year, we reported that several PPA member's properties border the dam/levee. The top of the dam/levee 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, you must contain your activity to only PPA owned property.

We continue to receive word that the properties abutting the dam/levee that are owned by some of our members are still being used as a point of access. To these owners, we advise, you have the right to request intruders leave your land. Also, you have the right to contact law enforcement and file trespassing charges.

Fishing and Other Activities on Our Lake

Fishing of any type on Lake Papakeechee may be done only by association members (property owner), their families, and their guests. For fishing privileges only, while residing therein, renters, and lessors are considered the same as owners. A guest is defined as 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. So long as state limits are not expanded as to quantity, or

In addition, except for maintenance purposes, motorized vehicles are not permitted on the dam/levee structure.

Nextdoor Neighborhood Social Network Site

The PPA is not a sponsor, nor has any connection with the site. Someone continues to submit the Papakeechee email address for inclusion in the Nextdoor Neighborhood site., please stop! We continue to be bombarded with messages that have no connection to our association., We will not be following it, nor forwarding any of its posted content. If you would like to join, please contact them.

POW WOW

Papakeeche Protective Association Newsletter - 2024

www.lakepapakeeche.org

Short Term Rental (STR) Properties on the Lake

The following is the content of the February 29, 2024 letter that was sent to the PPA membership.

This letter is a response to serious concerns expressed by your neighbors at the 2023 Annual Meeting this past August and to many subsequent complaints about the same problem that is occurring at Lake Papakeeche.

As the PPA Board of Directors, we want to be sure that all lake residents are aware of Covenant 5, which explicitly states: "the Corporation . . . reserves the right to make special contracts with clubs and hotels." The right of the Association to decide if, when, and where hotels (places where temporary accommodations are provided in exchange for monetary gain) are allowed at Papakeeche is embedded in our original documents.

It is our responsibility to protect and preserve the PRIVATE STATUS of Lake Papakeeche, which all lot owners have a deeded right to enjoy. To that end, NO hotel or place where temporary accommodations are provided in exchange for monetary gain has been or will be approved by the PPA Board. All property being advertised as available for, or being used for, such activity without the property owner having obtained a special contract with the Association is in violation of Covenant 5. The Board respectfully expects all owners to adhere to your deeded requirements, and to cease and desist any further participation in this activity or advertising thereof. Thank you for your cooperation.

Outside Night Lights

Concerning outside lights being left on throughout the night. We have received several complaints from our neighbors that some of these lights are very bright and shine directly into bedrooms and other parts of their houses. Be considerate, and position all lighting so that it does not adversely shine onto anyone's property, or into their home. If this is not possible, please turn off the lighting at a reasonable hour so that it does not interfere with someone's sleep.

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

Alysia Hammel
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Serving Kosciusko & Surrounding Areas
Call or Text
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alysiahammel@gmail.com

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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 – Pat Ebetino	260-312-3637
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

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