

# POW WOW

## Papakeechee Protective Association Newsletter - 2026

[www.lakepapakeechee.org](http://www.lakepapakeechee.org)

### POW WOW Distribution

We utilize email services to distribute our newsletter. Please keep us updated of any changes to your email address via: [papakeechee@gmail.com](mailto:papakeechee@gmail.com). The POW WOW is also available for viewing at: [www.lakepapakeechee.org](http://www.lakepapakeechee.org).

### Message from the President

Greeting Papakicheeians, spring is upon us. I look forward to spring every year with the morels popping up, to the sunrise and the gobble of a distant tom. It's a fresh start to the year. That being said, on the morning of April 24<sup>th</sup>, we will be having Aquatic Control do a Tier II weed study. This will give us an idea of how well last year's shore treatment worked. Once we get their report, we will put together this year's treatment plan. Again, this year, I plan to continue with a shoreline treatment approach. If you do not want the shore line in front of your house treated, please reach out to either your district rep, or email me directly. Prior to the treatment, if there is any additional help you need or you have questions, please let me know. Simply reach out to your district rep, or me via email:

**[presidentppa99@gmail.com](mailto:presidentppa99@gmail.com)**. As you may know the discussion of association members using their house to rent on a short-term basis has been ongoing for several years with no resolution. After multiple (7) executive sessions at my request we the board of directors have sought legal counsel to determine what ability the directors would have based on our current ABC'S to restrict the membership from doing this. It has been determined the PPA has no legal recourse for restricting members from this practice. We have been advised by legal counsel that we must bring our NON-PROFIT association up-to-date. This process is already taking place. We have begun by providing to our attorney for review our Articles of Incorporation and our Covenants. Once confirmed okay, we will be recording them with the state & Kosciusko County. We are in the process of drafting corrections to our existing by-laws. We are keeping what is important & legal. In addition, to be compliant in 2026, we are including any Indiana State mandates that we are required to follow. Once we

have this drafted the board will send every member a mail in ballot to vote for the new drafted by-laws. All ballots will be directly sent to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for counting. Once counting is complete, we will inform the membership of the outcome via mail and email. In order to address the issues regarding short term renting of membership house's, we are in the process of drafting a restrictive amendment to address this issue. We will send to each member, via mail a ballot for a vote. These ballots will be sent directly to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for counting. A majority vote will decide the out-come of these restrictions. We will notify all members via mail and email. It is clear that there are members on both sides of the aisle. Please be respectful of each member's opinion & let democracy run its course. As well, the board will also be sending out an official letter to all residents.

As many of you know, the presidency position is up for election this year. I will not be running for office this time around. I would like to thank everyone who gave me the chance to bring peace to the lake & help solve on-going issues. Many things have been accomplished, examples include: shore line reconstruction / seawalls, treating the shore-line and beach areas around everyone's docks. As president in my first year, we saved more than \$16k of association money from mowing, weed treatment, harvester maintenance and other expenses. I hoped we would be able to approve monies for the restocking of desired species of fish & fish structure, but I have not been able to get there. It is my goal that before I leave office to make this a yearly requirement. I will draft a by-law amendment to approve that each year, 2% of the PPA's total income to be set aside for the following: fish studies, fishing structure both permanent and natural, and the stocking of desirable fish E.G. Pike, Walleye, Perch, Redear, Gills, Crappie & Bass (Small & Large Mouth). Anyone willing to help get this going please reach out to me so we can get started!

Last summer, I was approached about putting together a PPA Community clean up. I thought it was a great idea, but time got away and I was not able to make that happen. HOWEVER, this year I am pleased to announce

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we will be doing the (PPA Spring Clean-up). There will be no on site charge to our members. However, donations will be accepted. There will be certain items such as (TIRES, CONCRETE, PAINT & CHEMICALS) that will not be permissible. We will have the trash hoppers delivered to the PPA building on MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 8AM-5PM. Volunteers will be necessary to help the elderly and to help facilitate. Please reach out to me for sign up. Trucks & trailers would also be helpful for those residents who don't have the ability to haul items to the PPA building. Wallace PHC, Stuckman & Son Trucking & PPA will be sponsoring this clean-up. I look forward to seeing the community pull together and help one another for this clean-up.

Best Wishes

Shane Wallace, President PPA

### **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](http://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, or vehicle of any kind on Lake Papakeeche is strictly prohibited.*

### **Mark Your Calendar:**

The 2026 PPA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August, 8<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### **Mute Swans**

The PPA has been informed that the Indiana state sponsored and funded program to reduce the number of swans on our lake for this year (2026) does not have a person for our area to perform the process. It will be up to the PPA to take ownership of any culling to be done. We will determine if and when any action is needed.

Due to the fact that other area lakes will actively be ridding their area of these swans, our lake has become an area where these birds take refuge. It is anticipated that we will continue to experience adverse issues as a result of Mute Swans on the lake.

### **Mowing**

Again, this year, we have hired Salyer 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.

### **Fundraisers and Social Events**

If you would like to organize an event, let us know contact Linda Minnick, at: 574 518-0746, or [secretppa@gmail.com](mailto:secretppa@gmail.com)

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### Monetary Donations Needed

Several areas of need have been identified. Just to mention a few, these include; stocking of the lake with desired fishes, PPA building (could use a fresh coat of paint), grounds upkeep, also several 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.

### Non-Lakefront Property Owner Access Points

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. 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 accept business ads on a first come, first served basis. This is a great opportunity for you to let your neighbors know of the many services available within our membership and the surrounding area. For pricing and more information, contact us at [papakeechee@gmail.com](mailto:papakeechee@gmail.com). Space is limited.

### Dam/Levee

Our state required Bi-Annual Dam/ Levee inspection was performed in May of 2025. In September, we received a detailed report from the engineering firm that contained a few specific recommendations. They have rated our dam as "Satisfactory", which is the highest rating that the state will allow for our type structure. The IDNR has asked us to submit to them any plans and time lines for any work that we may be planning to do.

### Financial Status

Yearend balances in the PPA account on 12/31/2025 was:

Checking:	11,574.40
Money Mkt:	26,215.16
CD:	53,408.96
Grand Total:	91,198.52

### Fishing and Other Activities on Our Lake

Fishing on Lake Papakeechee may be done only by association members, their families, and their guests (see covenant #3). 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. Indiana state fishing licenses must be purchased to fish



on Lake Papakeechee. The PPA has the right to set lower quantity and larger size requirements than state limits on all fish species contained within and caught while fishing the lake. 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.

**Except for maintenance purposes, motorized vehicles are not permitted on the dam/levee structure.**

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### Board Meetings

The Board of Directors normally hold monthly meetings. Members are welcome to attend. You will find upcoming meeting dates and times on the PPA website, and posted on the PPA Building.

### PPA Officers and Board of Directors

<b>President</b> – Shane Wallace	574-457-6937
<b>Vice President</b> – Dan Connell	630-677-0236
<b>Treasurer</b> – Pat Ebetino	260-312-3637
<b>Secretary</b> – Linda Minnick	574-518-0746
District 1 – Open	
District 2 – Bernie Ebetino	260-312-3494
District 3 – Open	
District 4 – Mark Laurent	260-417-9364
District 5 – Shannon Therriault	248-464-4050
District 5a – Marshall Minnick	574-238-7605
District 6 – Jim Whitehead	574-457-4081
District 7 – Sherry Doherty	260-856-3224
District 8-9 – Darby Miller	574-349-5257