

The Cherokee CHATTER

NOVEMBER 2024

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ANNUAL SHAREHOLDER'S MEETING *Thursday, November 14, 2024 7pm*

Cherokee Water Co.
NK20 Lake Cherokee
Longview, TX 75603

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LONGVIEW, TX
PERMIT NO. 390

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Chili Fest
November 9, 2024

**The CWC Office
will be closed on
Thursday, November
28th and Friday,
November 29th**



Lease Renewal Reminder

Many of you have renewed your lease online! Thank you. We expect next year to be even easier.

After November 1st, the split payment option is no longer available. The second half of the split payment (\$825) is due on the first day of April, 2025. Your new privilege cards and decals will be mailed to you upon receipt of all required items.

After November 1st, a \$100 late penalty will be issued and assessed each month until payment is received. If you need assistance with your lease renewal, please contact the CWC office.



MESSAGE

from the Manager

CHEROKEE
WATER CO.

Hello leaseholders, I hope everyone has had a great October, and ready for the upcoming holiday seasons. We have been busy this past month with the rebuild of 3 miles of road in the SB to SG sections, a new carp fence, and the deteriorating wedding deck at the main office has been removed and will be replaced this winter with help from the Preservation Club and their amazing donation of \$35,000 towards the project.

There were 4 open positions on the CWC Board of Directors this year and we had 4 leaseholders apply for the positions which all were certified by the Election Commission. The Election Commission, following CWC Bylaws Article IV Section 4, recommended to the current BOD's that these 4 leaseholders be deemed elected as directors, with no election being needed. The BOD's voted to approve this motion at the October 17th meeting. I would like to congratulate the new board members who will be sworn in after the annual shareholder meeting this year on November 14th, 2024; (Jeff Patty, Mary Yoder, Justin Simmons, & Cody Edmonson).

I would also like to thank Seleta Davis, Thomas Merritt, Rhonda Bullard & Paul Oberthier, who have given so much to this community through their



Kevin Jones

General Manager, Lake Cherokee

dedication and willingness to serve as a CWC board member for the last several years.

I look forward to working alongside the returning and newly elected board members to continue the great strides we've been making to keep Lake Cherokee the greatest place to call home. It can be a thankless job at times, but it is such an important and crucial role to fill. I want to thank all the current, past, and future board members and express my gratitude to them for stepping up and answering the call of service to their lake community.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jones

Cathy Hite

CWC Office Manager Article



This month we have been busy in the office with Lease Renewals. Thank you to everyone that embraced the transition to the Portal and renewing online. I know that change is not easy and some of you are not fond of technology, but together we are making it happen.

My vision for next year is that it will be even easier. I want to say thank you to Lori Klump for working with me and providing her experience / expertise as well as insight as a shareholder.

As of this writing, we have processed about 65% of the renewals and you should be receiving your privilege cards and decals in the mail. If you have not processed your renewal, you may have missed an email and need to contact us ASAP.

November 14th is our Annual Shareholders meeting. I will be emailing the Meeting packet which will contain your proxy. To conduct business at the meeting, there must be a quorum. So, watch your email or if you don't have an email, your mailbox to return the proxy by the deadline. For those with an email, your proxy will be online, and you will have until the day of the Shareholders meeting to register your proxy.

Our primary communication method is going to be email and postings in the Portal. The reason for this is efficiency but also for security reasons. You can send us messages through the request page in the Portal. We check our inbox regularly. A lot of the information on social media is incorrect and just causes more confusion and frustration for everyone. We have an Official CWC Facebook page where we will post messages if the message is for public consumption.

You will not see us in the office, respond to comments or posts on the Lake Cherokee Shareholders Facebook page. That doesn't mean that we don't see or hear about some of the information posted.

Each month, I will try to "FACT CHECK" some key points or address "FAKE" news.

1. As shareholders, you believe that you should be consulted and / or vote on key business decisions.

The bylaws give shareholders the right to vote on the Board of Directors. These are your representatives. The ethics policy that governs the Board states – A member of the CWC Board of Directors holds a fiduciary responsibility to fairly represent all the shareholders and the operations of Cherokee Water Company to the best of their ability. Kevin, as the CWC General Manager discusses key business topics with the board and depending on the specific situation or requirements the board will vote on the request.

2. It was suggested that we put together a list of shareholders' expertise and experience and leverage them vs hiring/paying for engineers or other consultants.

This might sound like a good idea until you consider liability issues. Certain projects such as road repairs, dam repairs or projects where permits may be required, bonded and insured contractors are required by our insurance company. This doesn't mean that others don't have valuable input or expertise. However, this type of input would be considered "opinions" and utilized accordingly to not put CWC at risk. As stated above, Kevin leverages the Board of Directors and gains their approval according to the rules and bylaws.

3. It was requested that we record or stream the board meetings.

Currently, we are not planning on recording or streaming the board meetings. I have done some research regarding the recording of board meetings. The recording of board meetings requires us to consider privacy and legal concerns. Recording could lead to the inappropriate disclosure of confidential information. With today's advanced technology of Artificial Intelligence (AI) we have to consider recordings falling into the wrong hands. We post our minutes in the Chatter so everyone can read about the meeting. Until our boardroom is better equipped with technology (i.e. Multiple microphones) there are challenges with live streaming. We have done some live streaming of meetings in the past and had challenges with ensuring that people online could hear and see the events. For now, if you want to "listen" to the board meeting, you need to attend in person.

If you have questions, contact the office. We will provide you with as much information and assistance as possible.

Cathy



CHEROKEE WATER COMPANY

2024-2025 NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS



JEFF PATTY



Jeff Patty moved to the Longview, TX area in 1996 and met his wife of 23 years, Shelly Patty. The Patty's have two children, Trinity, a sophomore in college and Ryan, a Sophomore in high school. As a family, the Patty's have made a few corporate moves across Texas, South Carolina and Florida but are happy to settle back in East Texas, specifically Lake Cherokee.

Currently Mr. Patty serves as the Chief Human Resources Officer for Alpine Intel, headquartered in Charlotte, NC with 1200 employees across the U.S. He is responsible for leading overall people strategy, talent acquisition, leadership development, organizational design and cultural development, employee education and development, compensation and benefits, people operations and technology, employee relations and safety.

Jeff has 25 years of business leadership experience and a Bachelor of Business Administration from LeTourneau University; both will be leveraged to help guide the future and sustainability of the Cherokee Water Company.

JUSTIN SIMMONS



Anna and I are the proud parents of Madi, Aidan and "Bitty", the highlights of our lives. With them, four generations have called Cherokee home. From marriage proposals and bringing home newborns to birthday parties and swimming lessons, some of my favorite memories have been made here.

Starting at Eubank Manufacturing as an apprentice of Marcus & Mike Eubank. I was taught to think and solve problems, to "do 100% of everything with nothing"!

After earning a BBA from SFA, my plan was to build walls and boathouses until I found a "real job". God's plan was a little different. In 2006, Justin Simmons Construction was formed and now operates on all area lakes and has the most innovative marine construction equipment and techniques in East Texas.

Having developed relationships with various water authorities and forging a career on the water, I believe this unique skillset and knowledge could be a great asset to this lake. With experience in waterborne project assessment, permitting, contract negotiation/execution, quality assurance, risk management, financial planning and the ability to read blueprints/reports from architects/engineers/surveyors I believe myself to be an ideal candidate, one best suited to address long term correctible concerns.

CODY EDMONSON



Cody Edmonson:
A Life Anchored at Lake Cherokee

As a 42-year-old native of Rusk County, Texas, my life journey has been intertwined with the picturesque beauty and serenity of Lake Cherokee. Born and raised in this charming part of the Lone Star State, I have established myself not only as a dedicated professional but also as a passionate outdoorsman and a loving family man.

In 2003, at the age of 20, I made a life-changing decision when I purchased a piece of property on the shores of Lake Cherokee. I had a vision of making this serene and tranquil oasis my forever home, a dream I would later bring to fruition. In 2017, I proudly completed the construction of my dream home, anchoring my life at this breathtaking location.

Professionally, I am a dedicated and accomplished salesman for HYDESSCO, a prominent establishment in Kilgore, Texas. With an impressive tenure, I have been instrumental in the growth and success of the company. I hold the esteemed position of overseeing business development and maintaining invaluable customer relations, all while actively seeking out new clients.

I am an avid sportsman, along with my fiancé Sara. We passionately enjoy various water sports on Lake Cherokee. Whether it is a day of boating, fishing or duck hunting, my connection with nature is profound and deeply fulfilling.

Our blended family is a testament to our love for Lake Cherokee. With five wonderful children – Tyler (15), Ryder (13), Emma (11), Bryson (7), and our caboose Maylee Grace (1) we believe that this is no better place than Lake Cherokee for raising our kids. The lake's beauty and the community's warmth provide the ideal backdrop for a family that cherishes the outdoors and embraces the joys of life on the water.

MARY YODER



I'm Mary Yoder, a full-time resident and shareholder at Lake Cherokee since 2018. I was born in Odessa, raised in Arlington where I graduated from Arlington High School. I have a bachelor's degree in chemistry from SFASU and a bachelor's degree in nursing from UT Tyler. Before moving to the lake, I called Longview home since 2004. I have three children that attended Pine Tree Schools. I currently work as an RN at LRMC and Noah and I have a new business venture beginning in Longview called Flatt 55. My hobbies include enjoying the lake by boat or paddleboard, outdoor activities, and running. I've had the opportunity to run the Boston Marathon twice, so if you live on the Southside, you'll likely see me running the lake roads.

Lake Cherokee is a magical place. I never let a sunrise or sunset go by without thoughts of gratitude for the gift it is to live here. I would love the opportunity to serve on the board to give back to a place that means so much to me. The resources this lake provides require good stewardship of us all, which would be my top priority as a board member.

Certified Meeting Planner managing every aspect of successful trade shows including budgeting, contract negotiations, permitting, managing volunteer staff and ensuring attendees and exhibitors saw ROI for future years.



**MINUTES OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
CHEROKEE WATER COMPANY
Thursday October 17, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Cherokee Water Company was held at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at NK 20 Lake Cherokee, Longview Texas 75603 with the following Directors present:

Gary Mapes, President
Thomas Merritt, Vice President
Randy Graves, Treasurer
Dee Rea, Secretary
Kristina Coolidge
Rhonda Bullard
Seleta Davis--Absent
Cory Eason--Absent
Paul Oberthier
David McDaniel
Alan Koelemay
George Steele

President Gary Mapes called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
Dee Rea, Secretary, pronounced a quorum.

Gary Mapes made a motion to approve the minutes of Board of Directors Cherokee Water Company, September 19, 2024. Seconded by Alan Koelemay. The resolution passed by unanimous consent.

Gary Mapes reported that the Election Commission met on Wednesday, October 2. The report stated that the four positions on the Board of Directors with terms expiring had candidates apply and, according to the Bylaws, met all required standards and therefore were certified by the Election Commission. No other applications were received. In accordance with the Bylaws, (CWC Bylaws, Article 4, Election Commission & Election of Director's, Section 4) the Election Commission recommends to the Board of Directors that the election not be conducted and that the certified candidates be deemed elected as Directors.

A motion was made by Gary Mapes and seconded by Randy Graves to accept the recommendation of the Election Commission to cancel the election and deem Jeff

Patty, Justin Simmons Cody Edmondson and Mary Yoder as Directors. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

General Manager's Report:

Kevin provided an operation report including stats on administrative, patrol and maintenance departments. Other items reported on:

1. Kevin gave an update on the south road project (sections SA to SG). As of Friday, the laying of asphalt should begin with the completion of the project within one week.

2. Hawk Island Project, now named Eagle Cove, is finished with the exception of planting grass and leveling the bottom of the cove.

3. The Beaver Run Lots have been listed for sale. The price is \$400,000.00 for both.

4. The Carp fence has been completed.

5. The annual audit will begin Monday, October 21. The report should be ready by the Annual Shareholders Meeting in November.

Treasurers Report:

A motion was made by Randy Graves to certify the bills paid for the month ending September 20 24. Dee Rea seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Randy Graves provided an overview of the Financials. Revenue is slightly higher than budget. The expenses were about 10% lower than the budget due to the efforts by Kevin Jones and Cathy Hite in managing expenses. Audited Financial Statements will be available for Shareholders at the Annual Shareholders Meeting in November.

A motion was made by Randy Graves to approve reporting of Financials for September 2024. Dee Rea seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Rules, Policy & Variance Committee:

Paul Oberthier presented variances to the Board for consideration:

Three Variance Requests were considered.

SL 73, to build a new boathouse 185 ft. into the lake. The water was measured at 5 ft. deep at 185 ft. This request was revised from one presented last month

requesting to build 210 ft. into the lake and was denied by the BOD at the September BOD meeting. The existing boathouse currently extends over the adjoining lot line with SL 72. The new boathouse will be moved to the west to be within the SL 73 lot lines. Both adjacent shareholders have signed off. The committee visited the site in September and recommends approval of the revised request. Paul Oberthier made a motion to approve the variance. Rhonda Bullard seconded the motion. Kristina Coolidge recused herself from voting.

NH 21, to build an accessory building that will not have a 4/12 pitch roof and will not have an overhang. The building will have a 3/12 pitch roof. The building will have gutters on one side for drainage control. Both adjacent shareholders have signed off. The committee visited the site and recommended approval of the request. Paul Oberthier made a motion to approve the variance and Alan Koelemay seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

NG 5, to build a new carport that will be closer than 6 ft. to the property line. The carport will be 2 ft. from the property line on one corner. Both adjacent shareholders have signed off. The committee visited the site and recommended approval of the request. Paul Oberthier recused himself in the vote. David McDaniel made the motion to approve the variance and Randy Graves seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Other Business

Kristina Coolidge requested an Update on the Portal and Online Lease Renewals from Office Manager

Cathy Hite, Office Manager, provided an update on the rollout of the Online Lease Renewal process via the Portal. She estimated that about 70-75% of the leaseholders have completed their lease agreement online. Many stated they were scared of the technology but worked with us to complete online form. It only takes about 5 minutes to complete. About 50% of those still prefer to pay their lease payment via a paper check or delivery payment to the office. Approximately 30% have made their payment via the e-check option which is new this year. By completing the lease agreement online, it will make it even easier next year as even more information such as privilege cards will be pre-populated. Thank you



*Welcome to
Lake Cherokee
September 2024 Transfers- 11*

if you have any questions
regarding a property or stock transfer,
please feel free to contact Misty Conway
at (903) 643-3933 or misty@lkcherokee.com

to everyone for completing this via the portal. In addition, she reported that approximately \$21,000 in donations have been collected for the fireworks. This represents almost 50% of the cost of the fireworks.

In addition, she reported that shareholders should check their emails or mailbox for the Annual Shareholders Meeting packet. This year, those with emails will be asked to register their proxy through the portal. We need a quorum for the meeting to conduct business, so we need shareholders to complete their proxy or attend the meeting in person. Shareholders will be able to use their email address and password for the Portal to complete.

With no other business, President Gary Mapes adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.

ATTEST:

Dee Rea, Secretary

Lake Cherokee Groups and Clubs

We have several clubs that have been formed and led by Lake Cherokee Shareholders. You can find more information about these clubs in the Shareholder Portal. Key contacts with phone numbers are provided online in the Portal.

Preservation Club

Deanna Kalmus, President
Meetings are 3rd Thursday of each month following Board Mtg

Fishing Club

Genia Holland, President
Meetings are 2nd Monday at 7:00pm at CWC office

First Friends

Roxanne Lane-Brink
Gail Fowler
Lunch 3rd Thursday of each month

Photography Club

Holly Treadway
Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month

Bridge Club

Norvella Skarda
Play every Wednesday at 11:30 am at NK21

Lake Cherokee Community Foundation

Non-profit organization benefitting the community
More information: www.lakecherokeecommunityfoundation.org

CWC OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

If you are unable to make it to the office during business hours, give us a call. We can help!

(903) 643-3933

barbara@lkcherokee.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

THE CHURCH AT LAKE CHEROKEE

A Very Merry

MARKET

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www.thechurchatlakecherokee.com

FUEL CENTER

Closed
November, December, January,
February
Watch for Pop Up Dates / Hours

**NEXT CHATTER
DEADLINE
WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 20**

Permits	
September 2024	
Permit Type	#
Accessory Building	3
Boathouse - New	1
Boathouse - Repair	5
Demolition	2
Dirt Work / Drainage	1
Driveway / Walkway	2
Fence	2
Home Repairs / Additions	9
New Construction	1
OSSF	1
Other	0
Outdoor Enhancement	0
Pool	1
Retaining Wall	6
Total Permits	34

LAKE CHEROKEE SECURITY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2024

FACILITY CHECK: 1669	CLEAR ROADWAY OF TREES /DEBRIS: 5
OPEN DOOR: 19	EXTRA PATROL: 349
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE/ PERSON: 20	DISTURBANCE: 4
WELFARE CHECK: 1	ALARMS: 8
ASSIST SHAREHOLDER: 21	WATER RESPONSE/ BOAT TOW: 3
ISSUE TREE PERMIT: 29	ASSIST AGENCY: 1
ANIMAL ASSIST: 15	BURGLARY/ THEFT: 0



Star Provider



Have you ever wanted to know more about the Lake Cherokee community to better serve your clients and expand your market?

Lake Cherokee (Cherokee Water Company) is, for the first time ever, offering a course covering the rules, regulations and policies of Lake Cherokee.

Course curriculum is designed to provide professional service providers a better understanding and knowledge of the unique rules, regulations and policies that help make Lake Cherokee such a special community! After successful completion of the test, you will be recognized as a "Star Provider" for Lake Cherokee Shareholders.

A list of Star Providers will be published and available to shareholders on the CWC website, Cherokee Chatter and various media platforms.

The "Star Provider" status and logo can be used in your individual marketing to let prospective clients know that you have an in-depth knowledge of the Lake Cherokee community.

The test will be offered online.

To register, come by the Cherokee Water Company offices at NK 20 Lake Cherokee between the hours of 8:00 am & 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.

Fee for the course is \$250.00 - due at time of registration.

For more information, call the office at (903) 643-3933

Fee covers:

- The instructional course and course prep materials
- 1 year of advertising in the Star Provider Directory on CWC website, Cherokee Chatter and various media platforms used by CWC
- Email notifications throughout the year to keep Star Providers updated on any rule or policy changes that could impact service providers and shareholders.

CURRENT STAR PROVIDERS

Realtors

Abby Adkisson	903-431-5636
Clair Balliett	903-918-4605
Kristin Bates	903-808-2182
Alice Berryhill	903-738-4907
Alisha Bixby	903-445-9118
Kristina Coolidge	903-720-4838
Marian Freeman	903-331-7170
Lynne Hall	903-738-6080
Linda Howlett	903-746-0688
Michael Kalmus	469-964-1621
Melinda Leslie	903-576-7667
Lisa Lobue	903-736-5790
Beth Matlock	903-738-9624
Paula Parker	903-315-6913
Harriett Prine	903-238-3999
Stacie Rogers	903-985-2468
Brandi Russel	903-452-7524
Alan Scarborough	903-263-8443
Stephen Skinner	903-240-0168
Renee Wingo	903-424-4987
Bud Summers	903-240-0095
Dianne Swank	903-452-3504
Martha Weant	903-720-0936
Jessica Swank Waldron	903-452-2125



Contractors

AGLYN Number Four LLC	903-759-3985
Alliance Electric	903-643-7319
Clearlake Solutions	903-746-8181
Davidson Builders	903-736-7458
Expert Irrigation	903-407-0980
ETX Precision Detail	903-720-8649
Girls Next Door Restoration	903-720-4874
JOTS Rental	903-236-4019
Ricks Boat Maintenance	903-808-6399

The Lake Cherokee Online Store

Use your camera to scan the QR code to go directly to the online store.



7 PIECE PIT MASTER BBQ SET
IN CARRYING CASE



If you have any ideas for new products, let us know in the office either by calling 903-643-3933 or emailing us at myemail@lkcherokee.com



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“An Undeniable Honor”

Voices of Lake Cherokee Veterans

Have you ever said a word so much that you forget its meaning? I sit at my laptop now; after writing 9 months of articles about our US Military and I'm stuck on this word "Veteran." We use labels to help others characterize people. Labels such as "Lawyer" "Nurse" "East Texan" "Republican" "Swiftie" conjure up images in our minds, so that we can better understand them. After 9 months of learning about all the branches of the military, their actions, their histories, their status, their heroes...well, to me labeling someone a "Veteran" doesn't characterize them, it just adds mystery to who they are. What was their unique experience that endowed them with this label "Veteran"? In this final Chatter article, I asked them. I heard from 11 of our Lake veterans and a child of parents who served and who grew up on base. This article wasn't easy. Some folks were reluctant to speak, and I had to prod them. But here I present to you, THEIR voices.

"A *Veteran* is any service member that has served a minimum time after they became a job qualified member of their branch of service. It doesn't matter if they are retired, active duty, medically discharged, or discharged after their initial contract. A lot of people think the title of veteran is only for people who retired after 20+ years or have been to combat, but it covers a broad range of service members" says Miguel Fabbiani, lake resident and Master Sergeant in the US Army. If you come to the Gala on November 16th, try to meet him. He's been our military protocol expert and a passionate supporter of Veterans and our Memorial.

Ok, that's a definition, but **what does it mean to be a Veteran?**

Pride was an emotion that most felt by having served. "Part of something bigger than yourself" said one Veteran. Two Veterans mentioned that 1% of our Nation serves and they were proud of being in this group. When asked how often he thinks about his time in the service, one stated, "Daily, it's part of your DNA." Some display their service outwardly such as one Veteran who has a USMC emblem "Eagle, Globe, and Anchor" on his golf bag and Yeti beer koozie. While others wear it inside such as one Veteran whose service

makes him "inwardly proud and gives me a quiet sense of pride." It was an "undeniable honor."

Why did they enlist?

"I did my duty to God, Country and the Corps." Another felt the need to serve and to fight for "those that can't fight for themselves." Another "never gave it any thought to volunteer and serve our nation." Some had no choice such as a child of active-duty parents whose father became disabled from a head injury in the Navy and a mom who was an Army nurse. She stated, "There was a lot of worry and uncertainty because you don't have control over your own life. The military decides it all. Most people make decisions based on what's best for their family. You don't get this luxury when you're enlisted. You do what the government tells you to do, and your spouse and children comply."

Why is it so important to serve?

Overwhelmingly: FREEDOM. Some recognized that "seeing the world" gave them a better appreciation for the United States. One stated he was "God Blessed to be born an American." Another felt that the "freedom to be upset with actions or persons of this country" was a privilege granted to Americans because of those "willing to wear the uniform." Another noted that the US Military fought for ideas and against "bullies" and was not out to conquer, because "the only land we gained is the Cemeteries where our military are buried." Of course, not all military experiences are Tom Cruise dog fights. Many experiences bordered on being mundane. One Veteran was a Captain of the US Dental Corps who "somewhat wished that I could be more involved in the military aspect of the Army as my two brothers were" but understood his role was quite necessary. Another Veteran proclaimed he was "PROUD of 3 sons that chose to serve and defend."

What do they ask of you?

One theme that generated from our veterans was a plea to not forget those who sacrificed. "I only hope that others will appreciate all those that have served." "Never forget the sacrifice

the men and women in uniform have made for their country." "Never forget those who volunteer to serve our country." "Be supportive to those who defend your freedom. Do not take them for granted." "I want people to reflect on why it is that we have a free nation. A lot of men and women sacrifice their rights to protect our country and the free world. I want them to honor the memory of all who have served and especially those who died in service to our country."

And, their hope for the Veterans Memorial?

That it becomes a sacred place where people can "reflect" "remember" "honor" "pay tribute" "appreciate" "be grateful" "salute to service" "never forget" and "feel thankful." They want the Memorial to recognize Veterans and tell them that "their service is acknowledged and appreciated." And, not just for Veterans, but also for those who "continue to serve" and those "who are considering service." They hope that the flag display triggers these emotions in everyone, as it does themselves. One Veteran stated that the American flag is "the biggest symbol of freedom in the world." Another wants the Memorial's American flag to be a "beacon of hope" and represent what this "great country means."

To all our Veterans, on and off the Lake, I hope that the future Lake Cherokee Veterans Memorial honors your expectations and reflects our gratitude to your service.

Special thanks to my son-in-law, US Army Major Thomas Richardson who helped me write the previous 9 articles. I hope to see you all at the Veterans Day ceremony at the site of the Veterans Memorial AND at the Nov 16th Gala to help raise money to complete the Veterans Memorial. I'm signing off. — Kathryn Johnston

About the authors:

Thomas D. Richardson is an active-duty Major in the US Army stationed at Fort Sam Houston. He is a West Point graduate and holds a Masters in U.S. History from James Madison University and a Masters in Military Art and Science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

Kathryn Johnston is a Lake Cherokee resident since 2004. She is a registered nurse and a retired Professor from UT Tyler. Her Father was a Navy veteran who served during the Korean War.

Lake Cherokee Veterans Memorial Update

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all our donors, both cash and in-kind donations! Flagpoles and other items have been ordered! The ground is being cleared and prepped for the flagpole display which we hope will be completed by Veterans Day. The Dedication Wall, a long, 4' high, black granite wall in front of the flagpole display, facing the lake, will display in large, engraved letters, "Duty Honor Country" on the middle panel. The right and left panel will have room for 126 Veterans names and their service dates. You will be able to purchase a spot for your Veteran at the Gala or afterwards on our website. Carla Stringer is designing our landscaping to beautify the site and hide some unsightly structures. While there is some irrigation at the site, she will be using as many native plants and trees as possible to mitigate loss during our long hot summers. We will be looking for bids to do the landscaping in the next few weeks. Contact Katheryn Johnston if you are interested in bidding.



Veterans Day Ceremony

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the hostilities on the Western Front of WWI ceased. The day became a national holiday by Congressional resolution in 1926. In 1947, Raymond Weeks, a WWII veteran held the first "National Veterans Day" in Birmingham, Alabama on November 11th and would do so for many years to come. In 1954, President Eisenhower signed a proclamation to change November 11th to Veterans Day.

In recognition of our Veterans and to celebrate the beginning of construction of the Veterans Memorial, we are holding our first Veterans Day Ceremony at the site of the Memorial on Monday, Nov 11th at 5pm. We have Scout Troop 201 who will lower our old American flag, raise a new one, and perform a Flag Retirement Ceremony. We have short remarks from our CWC leadership, Thomas White who designed the Memorial, and John Morgan, a long-time champion for Veterans and keeper of the Veterans Trail on the northside of the Lake. Look on our Website for more information. www.LakeCherokeeVeteransMemorial.org

LCCF Gala benefitting the Lake Cherokee Veterans Memorial

On Saturday, November 16th, we will make a final push to raise the needed funds to complete the Memorial including the Dedication Wall and landscaping. The Gala will be at the Cherokee Club and will consist of dinner, drinks, silent auction (bring your money!), band, and dancing. The best part of the evening will be our guest speaker, **Will Summers**, a retired Special Forces Communication Sergeant who was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group, nicknamed The Horse Soldiers, who's incredible post-9/11 story is told in the Hollywood movie "12 Strong". He has also donated our live auction item – perhaps a bottle of Horse Soldier Bourbon??

Gala tickets are on sale on the LCCF website www.LakeCherokeeCommunityFoundation.org. Tables and underwriting opportunities may still be available for purchase at the time of this publication. Contact Rhonda Bullard rcb0613@yahoo.com or Christy Bussey christybussey0420@gmail.com



November 16, 2024

Cherokee Country Club

6:30 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of dinner, drinks, music, auctions and an incredibly special presentation by Will Summers, retired U.S. Green Beret

You will not want to miss meeting this dynamic Veteran.

Just hours after the attack on the World Trade Center in New York City on Sept. 11, 2001, a dozen Green Berets assigned to Operational Detachment Alpha (ODA) 595 covertly infiltrated Afghanistan to begin the American response against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda.

SFC. (R) Will Summers was one of those soldiers. Their valiant story is noted as the most successful Unconventional Warfare Campaign of the 20th century. Their battles are captured in the Blockbuster movie 12 STRONG. Will was an infantryman, Special Forces Communication Sergeant, and an Infantry Officer during his 25 years of service to our country.

Will is currently the Head Ambassador for Horse Soldier Bourbon, a distillery founded in honor of those twelve soldiers who valiantly defended the United States.



Contact Rhonda Bullard, rcb0613@yahoo.com or Christy Bussey, christybussey0402@gmail.com

for underwriting opportunities.



1st Annual Lake Cherokee Community Foundation Gala benefitting Lake Cherokee Veteran's Memorial

Saturday, November 16, 2024

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Cherokee Club

NP 2 Lake Cherokee, Longview, TX 75602

Tickets: \$100 per person

Reserved tables of 8 - \$1000

Evening includes food, beverages, music, dynamic speaker, and silent auction.

Tickets available at:

www.LakeCherokeeCommunityFoundation.org
or PayPal



Or contact Rhonda Bullard at rcb0613@yahoo.com

Will Summers, one of a dozen Green Berets assigned to Operational Detachment Alpha (ODA) 595 covertly infiltrated Afghanistan to begin the American response against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda after 9/11 will share his story. You will not want to miss this dynamic speaker.



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Crappie - A Species Profile

Introduction

Crappie is the common name used to describe two species of freshwater fish from the sunfish family (*Centrarchidae*) which also includes bass and sunfish species. Black crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*) and white crappie (*Pomoxis annularis*) are the two species that can be found throughout much of the United States and in Lake Cherokee.

Identification

These species can be difficult to distinguish from one another as they occupy the same habitat space, consume the same forage, exhibit similar behavior, and like other fish species color morph to their surroundings. Proper identification in pond management is important, as black crappie are less prolific than white crappie, and as a result do not overpopulate as rapidly in smaller water. Lake Cherokee is large enough to support both species with proper management but further breakdown for identification purposes is provided below.

Black Crappie

Black crappie are a round and flat fish that typically have silvery green back with white to silver sides and unorganized speckled black dots across the body. Black crappie tend to be slightly thicker and heavier at the same length as white crappie.

White Crappie

White crappie look very similar to black crappie. They also exhibit a round, flat body shape with a silvery green back, silvery sides, and black spots, however, their spotting tends to be more organized in the form of vertical bars along the sides and back. White crappie also tend to be slightly thinner than black crappie of the same length.

White vs. Black Crappie (Proper identification)

The most accurate way to identify black from white crappie is NOT by color because both species are capable of changing colors to fit their surroundings, and can look identical in murky water but rather by dorsal spine counts. Black crappie have 7-8 dorsal spines and white crappie will have 5-6 dorsal spines. The following photos depict what to look for.



Data Collection 2023 to 2024

In 2023 we collected 84 crappie data points and determined that the average relative weight of the fish collected was 88.4%. Meaning that both black and white crappie in the lake were overpopulated, which is common without high harvest rates. As a result, we helped implement harvest rule changes and encouraged individuals to harvest more crappie from the lake in order to help bring numbers back in to balance.

Recently, we helped host a crappie tournament on Lake Cherokee where several teams competed, and we were able to collect 30 new data points for 2024. The crappie turned in during this tournament had an average relative weight of 89.4% which means harvest efforts from just one year have already shown improvements in the fish being caught.

In the next month we will be conducting an electrofishing survey to get further data on the fish present in Lake Cherokee. Results so far indicate that the new harvest plans being implemented by shareholders on the lake are already having an impact on the overall health of the fish in the lake. We encourage everyone to continue harvesting fish and working to improve the quality of the fishery in the lake. We have created a database that can be shared with everyone to log their catches and harvests so that we can better plan for each year ahead. Please send an email out if you are interested in joining the data list.

For more information on fish health and management contact:
garrett@pristinepondsolutions.com

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Cherokee Fishing Club (CFC) News
November 2024

CFC had 37 members attend our October Meeting. We welcomed new members Patty Keen, Rodney Slusher, Pete Peerenboom, and Keith Hightower. We were pleased to have Jeff May as a visitor for the evening. Thank you to Bob and Anna O'Brien for the excellent chicken spaghetti meal with French bread. Also, thanks to our cookie people this month which included Bob and Anna, Patty Keen, Genia Holland, Bonnie Hegeman, Roxanne Brink, Larry Willis, Gwen Kozeluh, and Rod Diehl.

President Genia reminded members that the entry forms and tournament rules for the October 19 CFC Fall Bass Tournament are available tonight, and can be found in the October Chatter. Pete and Carol Staiti will cook at the Preservation Club's Chili Fest on November 9 at the CWC offices. CFC members are encouraged to attend the festivities.

Gary Lindsey, Hatchery Director, said all the ponds are now filled with water for weed control. The pond holding the bream is doing well. Gary can use volunteers to assist with hatchery activities. Contact Gary to assist with the Hatchery when the need arises.



George Steele, Habitat Director, reported that club volunteers worked several days in September to place fresh brush tops on 17 existing brush piles in 6 locations. Special thanks to volunteers Bob Tippit, Gary Lindsey, Don Anderson, Jim Barton, Tommy Gage, Terry Dixon, and Mike Allbritton.

Bryce Tawney, Treasurer, shared the IRS reinstated CFC's tax-exempt status in September. Bryce will start working with the board on revising the By-Laws. The results of the October 5 Crappie Tournament were shared. Seven teams with fifteen fishermen participated. Five teams won payouts and gift bags for weighing in the heaviest five-fish crappie stringer for the day: 1st Place was Bob and Zach Tippit; 2nd place was Jeff Smith, Wes Downing, and Kyle Gillespie; 3rd Place was George Steele and Boo Bebee; 4th Place was Robert Cummings and Bonnie Hegeman; and 5th Place was Tommy Gage and Jax Gage.

October's program featured Conner Beets of C.T.H Productions. Conner, a 20-year-old Graphics Design major at Kilgore College has an imagination and passion for horror, haunting, and fright! Conner produces and sells latex masks, resin collectibles, fearsome fluffies, and props. Smitten with horror characters since age 5, Conner started building annual haunted houses on grandfather Steve Brown's boat house in the SB section of Lake Cherokee in 2016. Conner's haunting ideas outgrew the boat house, and he is building out a 16,000 sq. ft facility with his Imminent Doom haunted house, production facility, and offices which Conner plans to open soon. Conner's ambitions include a haunted house themed for major holidays, animatronics, haunted website creations, and producing independent horror movies. Conner's Etsy store can be found at etsy.com/shop/CTHProductions.



House in Tatum for Thanksgiving (November) and Christmas (December). Food items can be dropped at the CWC Office, the Golf Course office, or brought to CFC meetings. Additionally, CFC will sponsor a toy drive for Tatum's Angel Tree for Christmas.



Congratulations to our Raffle winners this month: Solid Pawn Gift Bags by Christian Godwin and Bryce Tawney, a Pristine Pond Solutions Gift Bag by Gary Lindsey, and an Igloo soft sider cooler by Eddy Anderson.

The Club encourages everyone to attend our next meeting on Monday, November 11. CFC will sponsor two non-perishable food drives for Samaritan



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First Friends -
October 17, 2024

We gathered in Judi Morgan's scenic backyard at NH10 for the traditional Fall Hobo Stew! Perfect weather for visiting and eating with good friends! Attendance included Judi Morgan, Gail Fowler, Roxanne Brink, Carolyn Matter, Debbie Hobson, Nan Henderson, Barb Robar, Penny Dant, Lisa Goettle, Donna Mitchell, Karen Franklin, Carol Ehl, Joan Strong and Susan Deeds. Door prize winners were Barb Robar and Debbie Hobson.



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ASWD QUOTES

"Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. Comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives and puts itself in our hands. I hope we've learned something from yesterday."

John Wayne

Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it.

-Lou Holtz
College Football Coach

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NIV

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.



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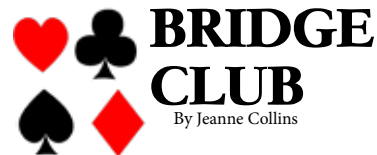
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November, 2024 issue

Many of the current members of our local CWC club are classified as "Senior Citizens", but there is a new group of younger bridge players coming along. The National Association for Gifted Children has recently started including a program called "Jump Start Bridge" in their curriculum. Studies have shown that children who learn how to play bridge perform better on standardized tests, and bridge instruction meets state standards for subjects like math and language arts. Bridge is a partnership game that teaches communication, teamwork, cooperation and tolerance. Players can also learn to listen, be polite, and deal graciously with winning and losing. Bridge helps develop logical thinking, problem solving, sequencing, visualization, and long and short-term memory.

Our local group sure knows about memory issues! But we are patient with each other and we laugh a lot. Our group was started in September, 1994 and is celebrating our 30 Year Anniversary!

Bridge play at the CWC club is very informal, and men and women of all skill levels are welcome. If you do not know how to play, we will teach you. We play every Wednesday at the CWC Library, next door to the CWC Office. We start at 11:30 am and play four rounds, usually finishing around 2:30 pm. The person with the high score for the room each Wednesday gets to put his or her name "On the Wall".

If you would like to join in, please do not hesitate to just show up on any Wednesday. We look forward to meeting you!



*standing: Jeanne Collins and
Norvella Skarda;
seated: Debbie Hobson*



*standing: Danny Coats and Janet Martin
seated: Nancy Strong and Carol Ehl*



*standing: Fredna Harris and Susan Deeds
seated: Joy Tate and Beth Schreiber*

"Life at Lake Cherokee"

An exhibit by the Lake Cherokee
Photography Club at Longview Museum of
Fine Arts September 3, through December
2024.

Museum hours:
Tuesday-Friday 10-4PM
Saturday 10-2PM
Reception September 10 5:30-7 PM

Lake Cherokee Photography Club

The October meeting of the Lake Cherokee Photography Club was held on October 8, 2024. We enjoyed an evening cruise on the lake as a photo safari. The weather was warm, but we were missing clouds in the sky. We were able to photograph landscapes, coots, great egrets, heron and eagles. We thank Captain Craig for taking us once again.

The events schedule has some changes.

November 12 will be travel night. Please bring 8-10 of your best travel pictures on clean SD or thumb drive. We will do some touring around Texas and the world. A computer will be provided for viewing.

December 10 will be our Holiday Party. Time and place to be announced. The group decided on a white elephant gift exchange with a \$20 limit.



January 14, 2025 will feature Marc Bailey, professional photographer. We have all learned important techniques from him in past presentations, and we are looking forward to see what he has in store for us.

February 11, 2025 Allan Franklin will have a matt cutting workshop / demo. There will be supplies for everyone to have a hands on experience.

March 11, 2025 We will learn about photo stacking from Deana Harkness.

April 8, 2024 TBD

May 13, 2025 Presentation by Patty Stewart, topic to be determined.

I hope listing our programs will interest other photographers on the Lake to join us. Remember, many in the group are phone photographers, and we share interests and expertise to improve our skills. We meet second Tuesday at the lake office at 6P.M, unless a presenter decides otherwise. There is a Lake Cherokee Photography Club Facebook page. If you are a club member, be sure to sign up. Notices will be posted there as well as e-mail sent as reminders.



Lastly, please go by The Longview Museum of Fine Arts to see our exhibit of 46 images of the Lake. It is free to attend, anytime the museum is open. The exhibit will be up through the end of December. If you see something you would love for your home, the museum has information on pricing. All images are for sale at the end of the exhibit.

If you have any questions, please contact Holly Treadway by text at 903-399-0066. Better yet, just come to a meeting and see what we are about.

Photos by Holly Treadway

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NEWS FROM THE 19TH HOLE

by Alyce Clark

HAPPY THANKSGIVING from CHEROKEE COUNTRY GOLF!

Come join us for our 40th anniversary celebration on November 16th. We will host a scramble beginning at 9:00 am and open the course at 1:00 pm for FREE play for everyone to celebrate 40 years of golf here at Lake Cherokee. Come join in on the fun. Call (903)643-3571 for further information.

The Pro Shop hours for NOVEMBER are 7:30 am to 5:00 pm Tuesdays through Sunday. Closed when the temperature falls below 45 degrees and on Mondays for course maintenance.

THANKSGIVING – November 28th the course will close at 2:00 pm on November 27th and will be closed to the public on November 28th.

The **WOMEN'S** group play every Tuesday morning usually @ 9:00 am or 10 am depending on the weather. Hours may vary so please call the Pro Shop for the tee time.



Tammi Spicer, Ladies Club Champ.

SATURDAY FUN BUNCH: every Saturday except for tournament days @9:00 am. It is a choose up style tournament and a lot of fun. It is a scramble format. Teams are picked randomly the morning of the tournament so plan to arrive early.

The next board meeting will be on Thursday, November 14th @ 6:00 pm. It is an open meeting, and all are welcome to attend and ask questions.

CONGRATULATIONS to TAMMI SPICER our CCGA Ladies Club Champion and NAN FRIEND our Net Champion.

Last month's **SHAMBLE TOURNAMENT:**
After a three way tie for first, 2 teams battled for 5 holes until one team was victorious.
Congratulations:
1st Place: Phil, Danny, Phillip, & James
2nd Place: David, Steve, Zach, & Greg



Nan Friend, Net Winner

FREE GOLF SL 18

The shareholders of the lots listed on the golf ball are the winners of **FREE GOLF** at the Cherokee Country Golf Association Course during the month of **NOVEMBER**.

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Preservation Club met on Thursday, October 17, 2024 following the board meeting. Deanna Kalmus called the meeting to order and presented the Treasurer's report.

Primary agenda topic was the upcoming Chili Fest on Saturday, November 9th at the CWC office. It will be held from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. We have (5) teams signed up so far. There will be a bake sale so if you like to

bake, the Preservation Club would appreciate you sharing your skill and baked goods. Everyone likes something a little sweet after tasting all the chili. The Usual Suspects Band will be our entertainment this year.

If you have ideas for other projects by the Preservation Club, reach out to Deanna Kalmus or plan on joining the Club. Our next meeting will be in 2025.

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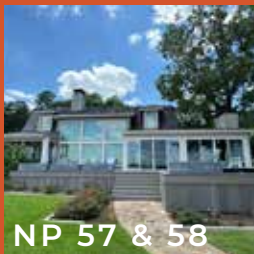
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Jayelan Roberts
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NP 57 & 58



SH 19



NP 108



NS 48



SA 11



SN 16C



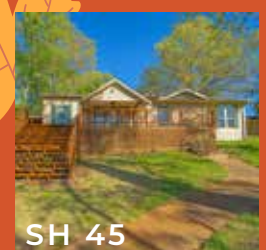
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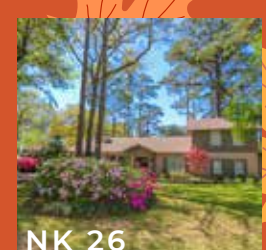
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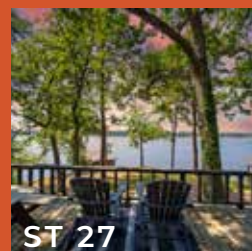
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belong and connect
grow and be challenged
make a difference and have
have an impact

Welcome Home.

The Church at Lake Cherokee
11968 FM 2011 East
Sunday mornings at 11:00

Love God. Love People.

CHEROKEE COUNTRY GOLF

NI-33 Lake Cherokee 903-643-3571



**Memberships
Available**

**Closed Mondays
For Maintenance**

**Non-Members
Welcome**

Driving Range



**Saturday
Scrambles**

**First Responders,
Veterans, Seniors
(ask for discounts)**

cherokeegolfclub.com

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FLOORS FOR
LIFE

CALL (903) 212-8557 FOR A FREE ESTIMATE



Volcano



Home Services, LLC
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Services:

- Landscaping
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- French Draining
- Re-grading soil for water control
- Stucco/Eifs.
- Retaining Walls
- Outside Lighting

NOVEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Daylight Saving Ends	4	5 Election Day	6 Bridge Club Luncheon	7	8	9 Chili Fest 11am-3pm
10	11 Fishing Club Veteran's Day	12 Community Gardeners Photography Club	13 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	14 Annual Shareholders Meeting 7pm Golf Course Board Meeting	15	16
17	18	19	20 Bridge Club	21 First Friends	22	23
24	25	26	27 Bridge Club	28 CWC Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	29 CWC Office Closed Black Friday	30

DECEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Bridge Club Luncheon	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
8	9 Fishing Club	10 Community Gardeners Photography Club	11 Bridge Club	12 Golf Course Board Meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	19 First Friends	20	21 1st Day of Winter
22	23	24 Christmas Eve CWC Office Closed	25 Christmas CWC Office Closed	26	27	28
29	30	31 CWC Office Closed New Year's Eve				

Fall in Love

NEW LISTING!



NG 24

**CHEROKEE
SHORES**

903-643-3311

cherokeeshores.net

SUMMERS COOK & CO.

BOATHOUSE LOT!



NG 44C

SOLD!



SM 5

SPECTACULAR!



SR 31

MUST SEE!



NL 12 & 13

LAKE FRONT LOT!



SK 35B

UPDATED TO PERFECTION!



SM 30

PENDING!



SW 5

LAKE LUXURY!



SQ 12-13

**YOUR
Journey STARTS**

HERE



RARE FIND!



SM 19

with your Lake Cherokee Paradise!