

# THE CHEROKEE CHATTER

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## AUGUST 2025

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Open theme 1st place  
NS3 (Megan and Steven Hamner)



Open theme 2nd place  
SB43 (Zack and Christy Lister)



Patriotic Theme 1st place  
NI18 (Kara and Barry Hood)



Patriotic Theme 2nd Place  
SG37B (Donny and Julie Stuckey)

## Boat Parade – July 5th, 2025

*more photos on page 14-15*

Cherokee Water Co.  
NK20 Lake Cherokee  
Longview, TX 75603

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## Ingestion of Soft Plastic Baits by Largemouth Bass

### Introduction

Soft plastic lures (SPLs) are a rapidly growing form of fishing tackle used by recreational anglers, due to their versatility and diversity of shapes, sizes, colors, and use potential. As a result of their growing usage, some concern has been raised about the potential negative environmental effects that may occur if large quantities of soft plastic lures are improperly discarded or accidentally ingested by fish. Despite growing interest in this topic, very little research has been conducted to help draw conclusions. In this article we will break down the results of one of the few available studies that analyses impacts of ingestion of these lures by largemouth bass.

### Laboratory Study

Due to the difficulty of implementing controlled trials in natural conditions the first part of this study was conducted in a lab setting with the goal of analyzing the effects of different shapes and forms of soft plastic lures (biodegradable and non biodegradable) on largemouth bass. The largemouth bass used in this study were collected from a local reservoir and allowed to go through an acclimation period prior to undergoing the study conditions. Bass were broken up into seven groups, with 10 fish in a control setting (no lures ingested) and 6 groups of fish that did ingest lures. The lures used in this study consisted of three different shapes (boot tail shad, ribbon tail worm, and finesse worm) made of non biodegradable material and the same three shapes made from a biodegradable material. Once the bass ingested the lures, golden shiners were added to the tank to observe post ingestion feeding behavior to determine if the soft plastic bait would hinder natural foraging. Shiners were added to the tank several times per day until the plastic lure was expelled by the bass, ending the trial for that fish. Bass that consumed the shad lure, which was the largest, initially ate less golden shiners than those that ate the other lures and the fish that ate no lures. However, as the study progressed there was no significant difference in the amount of shiners consumed by any of the fish regardless of the lure type or shape. Every fish was also able to expel the lure either through regurgitation (primary way) or excretion through its digestive tract (only two finesse worms). The amount of time it took for the fish to expel the lures appeared to be based on the size of the lure ingested. For the shad lures, which were the biggest, most of the fish regurgitated the lures within two days of ingestion. While the ribbontail worm took a little over 9 days and the finesse worm an average of just under 20 days. The longest amount of time it took for any of the bass to expel the lures was 52 days. The study also indicated that the biodegradable forms of lures were expelled on average 2 days later for each shape than the non biodegradable forms, but no hypothesis as to why these took longer on average was presented. Ultimately, this study provided substantial evidence that most of the largemouth bass that ingest soft plastic lures, either when biting or from consuming improperly discarded baits are able to expel them over the course of several days to

weeks. It also supported that during this time bass are able to continue foraging for food and do not appear to experience significant weight loss. However, there are numerous reports of bass being caught in public lakes that are emaciated due to soft plastic baits stuck in their digestive tract. So, despite the numerous successful outcomes in this study, it is reasonable to suggest that not every fish is capable of passing the lures. There are also limitations to this study such as representing only three of many available soft plastic lure shapes as well as the number of soft plastics being consumed (1). It is possible that the ingestion of multiple plastic lures may have different effects on the fish's ability to expel them. More research on this topic is definitely needed.

### Field Study

The author of the controlled laboratory study also conducted a field survey of two lakes in Illinois that were known to be fished heavily. Bass were collected in this study from anglers fishing on the lakes and through electrofishing. Captured fish were analyzed for gut content to determine how many fish in the lake had ingested and still had soft plastic baits in their gut. A total of 903 fish from the first lake were analyzed for gut content during the survey period and only 5 of the 903 (0.55%) were found to have soft plastic lures in their gut. The second lake had a lower catch rate of largemouth bass (447) but a similar rate of soft plastic bait occurrence in the gut (0.63%). Once again this study provides optimistic results on the potential impacts of soft plastic bait ingestion on largemouth bass, indicating that a majority of fish quickly expel the baits or do not completely ingest them at all. However, it is important to note that at the time of this study, the total fishing lure market was about 101.3 million, compared to the projected market for 2025 at 3.57 billion, a 3,424% increase. Which means that the amount of soft plastic baits being used in waterbodies across the U.S. has likely increased dramatically since the time of this study. All in all, largemouth bass appear to be very resilient, even when ingesting artificial lures but it is always good practice to dispose of torn or damaged lures properly instead of continuing to fish them or simply tossing them in the lake. So just remember, broken and worn out soft plastics should be kept in the boat to be thrown away later, and maybe keep some of the bass too while you are at it so we can hit our annual harvest limits and keep growing bigger and better fish!

Eric J. Sanft, Anthony P. Porreca, Joseph J. Parkos, Thomas M. Detmer, David H. Wahl, Effects of Ingestion of Soft Plastic Fishing Lures on Largemouth Bass, *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*, Volume 38, Issue 3, June 2018, Pages 718–724, <https://doi.org/10.1002/nafm.10067>

Lake Biologist: garrett@pristinepondsolutions.com

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# MESSAGE from the MANAGER

Hello Lake Cherokee,

I'm not a finance professional by trade, but I do understand budgets and the importance of fiscal responsibility. I have consistently adhered to every budget I've been given, ensuring that we remain fiscally responsible. While I've managed to stay within our set limits, those outcomes reflect careful planning and disciplined spending, not excess funds. It's important to understand that any surplus is typically already allocated toward future obligations, reserve goals, or unforeseen expenses, which helps us avoid financial shortfalls down the road. While certain expenditures may not appear necessary to some, many are essential from a business standpoint or are critical to meeting the expectations of our leaseholders.

We strive each year to adopt a balanced budget. When surpluses occur, they result from investment returns and prudent financial management—not overcharging or under-spending without purpose. Some argue we should be increasing reserves, reinvesting in our infrastructure, or allocating more to capital improvements. And while those goals are valid, they all require significant funding. This isn't the Lake Cherokee from 75, 50 or even 15 years ago. This is not intended to be a disrespectful statement, but with inflation and cost of goods, housing and rent increases, healthcare and insurance costs, wage expectations and labor costs, and many other variables, everything cost more.

I encourage any leaseholder who has questions to sit down with Cathy and me for a walk-through of the "Per Shareholder Cost" document. There appears to be confusion about this form, which has unfortunately led to misinformation. A face-to-face explanation often resolves misunderstandings far better than rumors or assumptions.

We unfortunately live in a time when the mindset of "what can you give me" is prevalent and often accompanied by the expectation of receiving something for nothing. A recent example was the leaseholder survey regarding increased access to the north and south dump sites. This was in direct response to a large volume of complaints about the limited access, yet 75% of



**Kevin Jones**

General Manager, Lake Cherokee

respondents opposed even a modest fee for expanded service.

Opinions vary widely on where and how money should be spent: some want more aquatic vegetation to support fishing; others want less for recreational activities. Some call for stricter enforcement from Patrol; others argue for less oversight. Infrastructure projects like roads are a priority to some, while others advocate more spending on natural resources like siltation control. Some celebrate a \$100 gift; others lament that it wasn't \$200. (I made that last part up based on how some aren't ever happy no matter what we do). The point is—needs and preferences vary, and not everyone will agree on every expenditure.

At the end of the day, our financial decisions must be based on sound business judgment, long-term sustainability, and the best interests of the company as a whole. While we listen to leaseholder input, the ultimate responsibility is to operate within our means and in accordance with our mission.

It's important to remember that Cherokee Water Company is a for-profit entity, NOT a homeowner's association. That distinction matters. We are bound by our bylaws and charter, and our revenue streams are limited. Currently, two-thirds of our operating budget is funded by leaseholder dues, and one-third comes from the sale of water to the City of Longview. I'm actively working toward reversing that ratio over time. Although we still have 10 years remaining on our current water contract, which limits our ability to increase revenue from that source, I am actively exploring options now to strengthen that revenue stream in the future, so we're better positioned when the contract comes up for renewal.

As I've said before, we cannot continue to delay major projects. While costly, inaction only increases long-term expenses. Rarely is any initiative met with universal support, and dues increases are among the most unpopular topics. Still, we must remain committed to making difficult decisions when they are in the best interest of our company and community.

Which brings me to an important point: Four Board of Director positions will be open this November. Applications will be accepted at the main office (NK 20) from September 16 at 8:00 a.m. through September 30 at 4:00 p.m. I strongly encourage all leaseholders to consider running. You will gain insight into how this business operates and the complexities involved in budgeting and governance.

This message is written with both respect and transparency in mind. I've remained open and accessible for over two and a half years, and that won't change. If you have concerns or questions, my door is open. I may not have every answer immediately, but I'll work to get it and explain how decisions are made with the best interest of our leaseholders and company in mind.

My office does not respond to social media discourse—I fundamentally have disdain for that platform for meaningful communication and pretty much everything else that comes with it. What I offer instead is something far more effective: a personal, face-to-face conversation. I genuinely believe many concerns would be resolved with a simple visit and an honest dialogue.

I have a strong commitment for this lake and the people who call it home. While the work is not always easy and not everyone will always agree, every individual will be treated with respect—and we expect the same in return.

My office has operated, and will continue to operate, with integrity, transparency, and a deep commitment to doing what's right for the Cherokee Water Company and all those it serves.

Respectfully,  
Kevin Jones, GM

Permits	
JUNE 2025	
Permit Type	#
Accessory Building	1
Boathouse - New	3
Boathouse - Repair	2
Demolition	2
Dirt Work / Drainage	4
Driveway / Walkway	6
Fence	2
Home Repairs / Additions	5
New Construction	0
OSSF	0
Other	0
Outdoor Enhancement	0
Pool	0
Retaining Wall	8
Total Permits	33

## LAKE CHEROKEE SECURITY REPORT JUNE 2025

**FACILITY CHECK: 1444**

**OPEN DOOR: 13**

**SUSPICIOUS  
VEHICLE/PERSON: 13**

**WELFARE CHECK: 1  
ASSIST SHAREHOLDER: 5  
ISSUE TREE PERMIT: 16**

**ANIMAL ASSIST: 5**

**CLEAR ROADWAY  
OF TREES/DEBRIS: 4**

**EXTRA PATROL: 118  
DISTURBANCE: 3**

**ALARMS: 5**

**VEHICLE / BOAT ACCIDENT:  
0**

**WATER RESPONSE/  
BOAT TOW: 3**

**ASSIST AGENCY: 6  
BURGLARY/THEFT: 0**

## Election Commission Members

The Election Commission has been set for 2025. They will have their first meeting in October. We appreciate you volunteering your time to serve.

Brian Bogue  
Christy Bussey  
Tressie Grant  
Brenda Koelemay  
Mike Lee  
Greg Mehninger  
Andrew Suits  
Randy Platt  
Charlie Schindler  
George Strunk  
Sue Wilson

### Variance Deadlines 2025

8/5 -8/21 Board meeting  
9/2 -9/18 Board meeting  
9/30 -10/16 Board meeting  
10/28-11/13 Board meeting

Welcome to  
Lake Cherokee

JUNE 2025  
Transfers- 7

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

**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!

barbara@lkcherokee.com  
(903) 643-3933



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
CHEROKEE WATER COMPANY  
Thursday, July 17, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Cherokee Water Company was held at 6:00 pm on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at NK 20 Lake Cherokee, Longview Texas 75603 with the following Directors present:

**Gary Mapes, President**  
**David McDaniel, Vice President**  
**Randy Graves, Treasurer**  
**Dee Rea, Secretary**

<b>Kristina Coolidge</b>	<b>Mary Yoder</b>
<b>Justin Simmons</b>	<b>Alan Koelemay</b>
<b>Cody Edmonson</b>	<b>George Steele</b>
<b>Cory Eason</b>	<b>Jeff Patty -Absent</b>

President Gary Mapes called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm Dee Rea, Secretary, pronounced a quorum.

Dee Rea made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors Cherokee Water Company, Thursday, June 19, 2025. Second by David McDaniel. The resolution passed by unanimous consent.

**General Manager's Report:**

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

- Kevin stated that on July 16, 2025, the maintenance department began cleaning out existing silt ponds. They started at the ST silt pond removing 9 truckloads of silt and then moved to the SN silt pond removing 5 truckloads of silt. Maintenance will continue until all silt ponds are cleaned.

**Treasurers Report:**

A motion was made by Randy Graves to certify the bills paid for the month of June 2025. Dee Rea seconded the motion. *The motion passed unanimously.*

A motion was made by Randy Graves to approve reporting of Financials for June 2025. Dee Rea seconded the motion. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Randy Graves presented a motion to vote on approval of the 2025-2026 Budget and Capital Expenditures. David McDaniel seconded the motion. *The motion passed with majority consent. George Steele voted against.*

Kristina Coolidge made the following statement. *As a volunteer board member, I've done my best--within my time and access available--to verify that this budget aligns with our Strategic Plan and complies with the financial Management Policy. My vote is based on the critical needs of the lake and made in good faith, based on trust in the GM and key staff to act competently and responsibly in developing a budget that reflects those guiding frameworks, not based on broader governance dynamics.*

Gary Mapes, President, stated the 2025-2026 budget includes a \$350.00 increase in the annual lease payment.

**Rules, Policy & Variance Committee**

David McDaniel, Chairman reported 2nd reading General Rules & Regulations, I. General Provisions Definitions

CWC Lot – CWC property that has been surveyed by Registered Public Surveyor (RPL) based on coordinates / bearings defined by the Cherokee Water Company Horizontal Control Network or “GRID” NAD 27 Datum, Texas North Central Zone and on file with CWC. Lot that may be leased and improved according to CWC Rules and Regulations and Bylaws.

CWC Park Lot – CWC land deemed unfit for development and not associated with a share of stock.

**Add Definition**

CWC Share Lot - an unimproved/ unsurveyed lot on Lake Cherokee, that is associated with a LOT Number and share of stock for the purpose of allowing shareholders access to CWC facilities.

**General Rules & Regulations, I. General Provisions E: ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Lake Patrolmen or CWC Compliance Officer under the direction of the General Manager or his/her designee, are charged with the duty of enforcing these Rules and Regulations, as well as the Texas Water Safety Act. They are authorized to issue a Notice of Violation and may confiscate the privilege card from any person violating these Rules and Regulations.

**General Rules & Regulations, III. Lot and Structure Maintenance**

**A: Unsightly Conditions Prohibited**

1. All residences, garages/carports, fences, and outbuildings must be maintained to preserve the enjoyment and/or value of neighboring properties. All structures must be in good condition, properly repaired, functional and safe as determined by CWC General Manager or CWC Compliance Officer. It shall be the responsibility of each shareholder to keep each lot cleaned in a satisfactory manner, whether or not such lot is occupied by buildings or other improvements. The General Manager or his/her designee shall determine what is considered 'cleaned in a satisfactory manner'. Upon failure and/or refusal of shareholder to rectify a complaint within a reasonable time after being officially notified by the General Manager or his/her designee, CWC may cause the same to be done and assess the shareholder for actual expenses incurred, in addition to imposing such penalty as may be otherwise provided in violation of these Rules and Regulations.

**Construction Rules & Regulations Preamble**

In order to maintain the viability of the Cherokee water Company, and the prosperity and community welfare of the residential community of Lake Cherokee, the Board of Directors of the Cherokee Water Company hereby establish these Construction Rules and Regulations which shall be applied fairly and equitably to all. It is the responsibility of all shareholders to be knowledgeable of the rules and regulations and ensure anyone working on their behalf abides by said rules and regulations.

**Construction Rules & Regulations I. Definitions**

CWC Lot – CWC property that has been surveyed by Registered Public Surveyor (RPL) based on coordinates / bearings defined by the Cherokee Water Company Horizontal Control Network or “GRID” NAD 27 Datum, Texas North Central Zone and on file with CWC. Lot that may be leased and improved according to CWC Rules and Regulations and Bylaws.

**Add Definition**

CWC Share Lot - an unimproved/ unsurveyed lot on Lake Cherokee, that is associated with a LOT Number and share of stock for the purpose of allowing shareholders access to CWC facilities.

**Construction Rules & Regulations**

**II. ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**

A. CWC Compliance Officer, under the direction of the General Manager or his/her designee, are charged with the duty of enforcing these Construction Rules and Regulations. He / She is authorized to issue a Notice of Violation to the Shareholder and Contractor and may RED TAG/ PULL PERMIT shutting down work until the violations have been resolved. Once a work stoppage notice has been issued, a \$500 fine may be issued to the Shareholder at the discretion of the General Manager, for each non-compliance occurrence.

**Construction Rules & Regulations**

**III. Non-Conforming Structures**

**TITLE: NON-CONFORMING STRUCTURES (EXCLUDING MOBILE OR PREFABRICATED STRUCTURES AND OVER THE WATER STRUCTURES**

A. Approved Non-Conforming Structures may be maintained or repaired but may not be expanded or enlarged in a manner which increases the extent of non-conformity or creates additional non-conformity.

B. An Approved Non-Conforming Structure that is destroyed in a single event by fire, flood or windstorm may be rebuilt to the same configuration existing immediately prior to the time the structure was destroyed provided that a permit for the necessary repair and/or replacement is issued by CWC and construction commenced within twelve (12) months from the date of destruction. This excludes mobile or prefabricated structures and snap together sheds.

C.

Add Rule C below

Renumber Current Rule C to Rule D.

C. An Approved Non-conforming Structure that is torn down / removed due to normal wear and tear / deterioration or a desire to build a new structure must follow the CWC Rules and Regulations in place at the time the permit is issued.

**Construction Rules & Regulations**

**IV. Houses, Mobile Homes and Other Buildings**

N. Any accessory building's appearance must complement the appearance of the primary dwelling.

**Construction Rules & Regulations**

**V. Piers, Boathouses and other Structures over the Water**

Replace existing Rule B to the following.

B. An Existing Over the Water Structure as of July 17, 2025 may be maintained or repaired but may not be expanded or enlarged in a manner which increases the extent of non-conformity or creates additional non-conformity.

Re-number existing Rule C to Rule F

Add the following new Rule C

New Rule C:

C. Any construction of a new Over the Water Structures as of July 17, 2025 must conform to the current Rules and Regulations in place at the time the permit is issued.

Replace existing Rule B with the following:

New Rule D:

D. An Over the Water Structure may be constructed according to the following:

1. First, by Locating the 5ft water depth location closest to the shoreline at full pool elevation (280 ft)
2. Construction is approved to extend 30 ft (average boathouse stall) from the 5ft marker not to exceed 125 ft from the shoreline at the furthest point
3. or furthest point to extend no further than the alignment of the two adjoining OWS (string line from neighboring OWS) not to exceed 125ft.



## minutes continued

4. The proposed structure conforms to and complies with the current rules and regulations
5. The CWC General Manager and / or Compliance Officer determines the proposed structure will not have any unreasonable or adverse impact (i.e. Safety, access) upon navigation on the Lake or the use and enjoyment of the adjoining lots
6. No Over the Water Structure (OWS) shall be constructed in a cove which extends past 1/3rd of the cove's width at full pool (280 ft) or past 125 ft.

Re-number the existing Rule E as Rule J  
New Rule E:

E. In the event the depth of water at 125 feet from the shoreline at full pool elevation is less than 5 feet, a variance may be submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Re-number the existing Rule D as Rule G and Rule H  
G. Height and Stories. No boathouse shall be constructed having a height in excess of eighteen feet (18') measured from the spillway water level to the top of the boathouse roof, and no boathouse shall be constructed which is more than one (1) story in height. This means that a boathouse may have a deck on top, but the deck may not be enclosed and may not have a roof over it.

H. No bathroom facilities may be constructed, renovated, or included in a boathouse.

### Add the following Rule I

I. Building Materials. All building materials used in the construction of any Over the Water Structure (OWS) shall utilize materials typically used for such purposes and designed specifically for exposure to the elements.

### Label and re-number the current Rule E to Rule J.

J. Electrical. These standards shall be applied for new construction and for the reconstruction or rewiring of such existing facilities. Shareholders take full responsibility for ensuring water safety from all electrical risks caused by faulty, non-compliant electrical service to their piers, docks, and boathouses. Shareholder is responsible for ensuring their structures' electrical service is completed under the direction of a licensed electrician.

1. The wiring method shall be of a type identified and accepted for use in wet locations. All wiring below seven feet from the floor of the pier, dock or boathouse shall be contained in PVC conduit. All wiring shall be properly sized to the breakers.

2. All wiring shall be protected by UL approved GFI devices. The only exception is circuits specifically identified to serve appliances, which must be protected by electrical In-Use Covers. Note: Watercraft lifts are not appliances.

3. The electrical service for piers, docks and boathouses must be separately grounded, and must include grounding for boxes, cabinets, and all other metal enclosures; metal frames of utilization equipment; and grounding terminals of grounding type receptacles.

4. The circuit(s) providing power to piers, docks and boathouses must have a remote disconnect capability, either located in the main dwelling structure breaker box or in a separate lockable box near the main dwelling.

### Construction Rules & Regulations

#### VI. Removing Topsoil and Fill Dirt and Responsibility for Drainage

A. A shareholder must secure a permit from CWC before adding or removing any gravel, topsoil or fill dirt to or from CWC property. Shareholders will be required to install approved erosion and sediment control measures as defined in the permit request application.

### Construction Rules & Regulations

#### VIII. Changing Natural Drainage

No terrain shall be changed on any lot that will disturb the natural drainage so as to adversely affect adjoining lots or the property of CWC. The shareholder must provide a detailed drainage description and drawing for the work to be accomplished with each permit request application. Any increase in volume of runoff water created due to the changing of the natural terrain that would flow onto another lot must be prevented by the installation of appropriate retaining devices. David McDaniel made a motion to pass the rule changes. Dee Rea 2nd the motion. Justin Simmons recused himself from voting. Kristina Coolidge abstained from voting stating *"without review or consultation from a professional, neutral third party, I don't believe I have the information needed to make a decision or cast a vote on rule changes. As I believe this is a critical step in board decisions as CWC evolves. Therefore I am abstaining."* The motion passed with majority.

#### The Committee reviewed 2 variance requests:

- ST 54: A variance was requested to build an 8 foot tall cedar fence down one side of the lot at least 75 feet from the lake.  
The variance was reviewed by the Committee, and they voted unanimously to approve the variance. David McDaniel made a motion to approve the variance, and the motion was seconded by Randy Graves. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- NP 89, 90, 91: A variance was requested to build a new retaining wall extending from the corner of lot 91 to the opposite corner of lot 89. The new wall would extend out into the lake a measure of 12 feet. The committee visited the site. The committee voted 3-2 against approving the variance. David McDaniel made a motion to decline the variance, and the motion was seconded by Cody Edmonson. The motion passed with majority consent with David McDaniel and Randy Graves voting against the motion. Justin Simmons recused himself from voting.

#### Natural Resources Committee Meeting

Dee Rea, Chairman presented the following report of the committee:

The Natural Resources Committee did not meet in person but communicated with each other through a group email. Topics discussed were:

1. Push for an increase in funding for siltation removal in the 2025-2026 budget. It was unanimous that at least equal money be budgeted for silt removal as road rebuild.
2. Encourage the maintenance department of the CWC to remove silt trapped in existing siltation ponds.
3. After completion of the building of the siltation pond and silt removal in the NQ section, we plan on removal of silt from Mud Creek and building a silt pond there.
4. Once the underbrush clearing is completed in the Dogwood Circle, we will identify other areas to complete, for example, the Veterans Trail on the north side. We submit these recommendations to the Board.

With no other business, Gary Mapes adjourned the meeting at 6:40 pm.

ATTEST

Dee Rea, Secretary



The Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA) strongly recommends the following:

**1. Always try to wakeboard or wake surf in the center of any given body of water, and avoid narrow channels or thoroughfares, if possible.**

**2. Always try to stay at least 200 feet away from any shoreline, dock, or fixed objects.**

**3. Maintain a reasonable sound level on your stereo.**

**4. Always respect the shoreline you are using and if the property owner asks that you leave, do so immediately, and always be gracious with the property owner.**

**5. Repetitive passes result in an accumulation of energy reaching the shoreline. Repetition is never a good idea and can lead to risk of waterway conflicts.**

**6. The non-surfing side of a wake surfing boat creates waves that are 10% to 23% smaller with 23% to 33% percent less energy than the surfing side. When possible, present the non-surfing side of the boat to the closest shoreline.**

**7. Waves tend to increase in height on the inside of a gradual turn. Avoid such maneuvers close to shore.**

**8. Glass calm water is not a requirement for wake surfing, be respectful and operate as far from shore as you can.**

You can find additional information on the WSIA website: Home - Water Sports Industry Association



Cathy Hite

## Office Manager Report

If you were unable to attend the board meeting on Thursday, July 17th, you missed my review of the **Per Shareholder Cost** report. I'd be happy to meet with you individually to address any questions you may have. In the meantime, I hope this summary helps clarify key points.

### Budgeting Process

Budgets are not developed in isolation. We examine the past 3–5 years of financial data in combination with projected or planned projects—much like you would when creating a personal financial plan.

The **Per Shareholder Cost Chart** is designed to provide perspective on how the budget translates into actual costs per shareholder, and how those costs align with revenues received. Without supplemental income from the City of Longview for water sales, we would face difficult decisions: either reduce services or increase shareholder dues. Cherokee Water Company (CWC) cannot sustain operations at a loss. Every CWC employee is committed to managing costs responsibly and efficiently.

### Revenue

Revenue falls into two categories: reliable (fixed) and variable (market- or shareholder-dependent). In the Per Shareholder chart, fixed revenue includes lease dues and water sales—both of which provide a dependable income stream.

When variable revenue falls short of projections, we pursue cost reductions—either by delaying projects or cutting operating expenses. Kevin's article provides further detail on the strategy for managing our revenue streams moving forward.

Fixed Revenue	Lease Dues Sale of Water	91%	Lease Dues - 67% Sale of Water - 33%
Other Revenue	Sale of Gas at the Fuel Center, Transfer fees, extra Privilege cards, storage rentals	9%	
	Total Income	100%	
	<b>Total Income - per Shareholder</b>	<b>\$3245</b>	<b>Lease Dues - 61% (\$1975) Sale of Water - 39% (1270)</b>

### Expenses

Like any organization, personnel is one of our largest operating expenses. This includes salaries, taxes, and benefits, as well as equipment maintenance and depreciation. Personnel-related costs are included in the Security, Maintenance, and Administration categories.

Before suggesting reductions in these areas, I encourage you to review market rates for comparable positions. To retain talented staff, we must offer competitive compensation. Periodic market comparisons confirm that our compensation remains below regional benchmarks for the services our teams provide.

- **Property Taxes:** CWC pays property taxes on its land holdings. These are kept as low as possible through various exemptions.
- **Roads:** The chart reflects only operational road expenses (e.g., pothole repair, culvert maintenance, striping). It does not include capital expenses, which, if added, would increase the per shareholder cost by approximately \$2,000 over the last two years.
- **Lake & Grounds, and Dam:** These categories include costs for maintaining lake infrastructure, islands, boat roads, and biological services.
- **Fuel Center:** This amenity is designed to break even. Fuel costs are part of the operating expenses, while gasoline sales to shareholders are included under "Other Revenue."

### Final Thoughts

Thank you to the shareholders who continue to support our efforts and initiatives. Your contributions help us complete vital projects and avoid additional expenses—such as funding the Fireworks Show—through community participation.

I hope this overview answers your questions. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like to discuss anything in further detail.

Warm regards,  
Cathy  
Office Manager

## Lake Cherokee Photography Club

The July 8th meeting of the Lake Cherokee Photography Club was cancelled due to the proximity of the holiday weekend. Our next meeting will be August 12, 2025 and will be the annual boat photo safari. This is always a good time, and way to photograph birds and interesting landscapes. We will leave from the pier at the lake office promptly at 6PM. Bring your camera, something to drink as it may be hot. We will need to know who plans to attend as boat space is limited.

The September 9, 2025 meeting will feature Pliny Meir a nature and bird photographer. This program was rescheduled from July. He has guided and mentored photographers from around the world.

The October 14, 2025 meeting will give us a chance to look at our most recent images. We may also discuss a trip to the Arboretum sometime near that meeting date.

The November 11, 2025 will feature Patty Stewart, giving us a history of Patty Stewart Photography. She has photographed some well known people in her career.

December will be our holiday gathering. Time and place to be determined. Plan your white elephant gift exchange items! It was great fun last year.



Looking Around - Holly Treadway

January 13, 2026 will feature another lesson by Marc Bailey. He always has concepts to teach and we have a good time putting his information into practice.

The Lake Cherokee Photography Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6PM downstairs, at the Lake office. All lake residents are invited, whether armature or advanced, whether a phone photographer prefer to use other equipment. There are no dues or food preparation requirements. Please feel free to come to any meeting. Please check Cherokee Stockholders FB page, the Photography Club FB page for updates. We have an Email List if you want to be added. You can email me at greytbiker@yahoo.com and put "photo Club" in the subject line.

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## Lake Cherokee Veterans Monument at FREEDOM PARK

### Introducing Freedom Park!

The Friends of the Veterans Memorial gathered last week and agreed on a few things. First, the term "memorial" made us feel like we were seeing dead people – yet in fact, the Wall of Honor (update below) has many ALIVE and KICKING veterans on it. Second, the grounds surrounding the newly built monument are going to be an area for ceremonies and reflection...a park. We first thought of Veterans Park, but we felt that in the future, we may want to honor others who keep us safe and free. So, with careful consideration (no alcohol involved), we decided upon Freedom Park which will encompass the Veterans Wall of Honor and Colors (flag display) – a monument recognizing our veterans.

The Friends of Freedom Park (FFP), courageously led by Miguel Fabbiani and Barrett Newsom, will manage the upkeep and growth of the Park. Thomas White is working on the finishing touches of the Wall of Honor – the names! Our first stencil maker didn't work out, so we found a new one who should have a draft of names soon. Katheryn will send an email to all the Wall of Honor donors to proof their veteran's names and information (one last time). The quicker we can turn around this proof process, the quicker we can begin engraving.

Other items discussed at the FFP meeting included: Adding a simple pier so that folks can visit Freedom Park by boat; Planting some shrubbery to soften the edges of the Park; Mobilizing volunteers to help clean Veterans Trail (north side near John Morgan's pickleball courts); Additional monuments/benches, especially for those veterans who didn't get on the Wall of Honor; Future ceremonies including Veterans Day (Nov 11th) and perhaps Patriot Day (Sept 11th).

Would you like to join FFP? You can contact us through our new Facebook page "Lake Cherokee Freedom Park" or the website [www.LakeCherokeeVeteransMemorial.org](http://www.LakeCherokeeVeteransMemorial.org) (I need to change the name!!) or email Katheryn [kacourville@gmail.com](mailto:kacourville@gmail.com)

Where does the money come from? This is important. All projects and activities are paid for by donations that were raised at the November Gala and through Wall of Honor name donations. Funds are still held by the Lake Cherokee Community Foundation. Funds are earmarked and no new projects will be started until the Wall of Honor is completed. We may need additional donations to complete a pier, but we will jump off that pier when we come to it! CWC will continue to mow and help with basic grounds needs. If you have any questions about funds, feel free to contact us.

Lake Cherokee Veterans Memorial Photo Contest Winners!

Congratulations to Holly Treadway (1st Place), Mason White (2nd Place), and Kenny Kirkland (3rd Place). Their photos can be found on the Facebook page, the website, and you can see them in person at the CWC offices.



Holly Treadway (1st Place)



Mason White (2nd Place)



Kenny Kirkland (3rd Place)

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[aggieforester05@yahoo.com](mailto:aggieforester05@yahoo.com)



# CHEROKEE WATER COMPANY

## GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

### SECTION VI. BOATING SUMMARY -

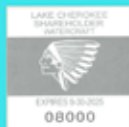
SEE THE RULES FOR COMPLETE LIST

## TEXAS WATER SAFETY ACT

All shareholders are responsible for abiding by the current provisions of the Texas Water Safety Act



## AUTHORIZED WATERCRAFT



- Lot Number required on ALL BOATS, PERSONAL WATERCRAFT
- Only boats, personal watercraft and other water vessels registered in the name of the shareholder or shareholder's spouse with registered address matching CWC records

## PROHIBITED BOATS ON LAKE CHEROKEE

- Boats > 28 feet in length
- Houseboats
- Boats with permanent sleeping facilities
- Boats with sanitation facilities
- Amphibious aircraft
- Airboats or swamp boats
- No motors with open exhaust



## OPERATION OF WATERCRAFT



Privilege card holder must be born before Sept 1, 1993 unless operator is 13 years of age or older and has passed a boaters education course; or is accompanied by a person at least 18 years of age and can lawfully operate the watercraft

## SPEED LIMITS & BOAT SAFETY

- Not above idle speed within 50 ft of any vessel, person, shore or stationary object
- NO speed in excess of 40 mph in open or ski waters (day) or 30 mph (night)
- 30 mph in named boat roads
- 10 mph access boat roads



## WAKE BOATS



Empty water-filled ballast systems prior to traveling on boat road. Ballast bags containing solid materials such as steel shot, gravel or sand shall be moved to the center-front of the Wake Boat. Passengers must move to the front of the Wake Boat.

## WATER SKIING

- Restricted to open water marked by buoys and no closer than 150 ft from piers and boathouses.
- Any boat pulling water skis require a min. of 2 people in the boat so that driver can keep proper lookout.
- All skiers are required to wear approved flotation device.
- PWC can not pull a person or persons on water skis, surfboard or similar devices.



## PROHIBITED BOATING AND FISHING AREAS



- No closer than 100 ft to carp fence
- No boating in the SWEPCO canal or City of Longview water intake area
- No tying boats to buoys

## SWIMMING

- Only Privilege Card Holders and guests are allowed to swim in Lake Cherokee
- Prohibited from the spillway to Section NB, from the dam, SWEPCO canal, boat roads and City of Longview intake area or CWC office piers
- Limited to 100 ft from shore, pier, or boathouse





## Floating dock connecting Firecracker Park to Bikini Island

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**  
There are cleats on the dock  
to tie up your watercraft.

**PLEASE DO NOT  
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TEXAS

## Letter from the CWC Board of Directors

### Sustaining Our Lake: The Need to Adjust Annual Lease Fees

As the stewards of Lake Cherokee, the Cherokee Water Company (CWC) Board of Directors is committed to ensuring the long-term safety, value, and beauty of our community. To maintain this standard, we must continuously invest in essential infrastructure and stewardship initiatives that protect the lake and its surrounding properties.

Last night at the board meeting, the Board approved the 2025\_2026 Budget which included a \$350 increase in the annual lease fee. This adjustment is not made lightly—it is essential to fund key projects and obligations that are critical to the well-being of the Lake Cherokee community. The primary factors behind this decision are outlined below:

#### 1. Continued Road Refurbishment

We are now in the third year of our 10-year strategic plan to refurbish every mile of roadway on CWC property. This work enhances safety, improves property values, and ensures reliable access for residents, guests, and emergency services. To date, over six miles of roads have been completed, and we plan to refurbish approximately 1.5 more miles this fiscal year. Continued funding is vital to keep this effort on track.

#### 2. Siltation Removal Projects

Preserving the depth and health of Lake Cherokee requires addressing sediment accumulation that threatens navigability, water quality, and recreational use. Three high-priority areas have been identified for silt removal. The Natural Resources committee and CWC have engaged engineers to discuss these projects, and imple-

mentation will require significant financial resources. These siltation projects have been funded at the same level as the road project.

#### 3. Timber Thinning and Fire Hazard Reduction

Proper land and forest management is essential to reduce fire risk and maintain the natural beauty of our lake environment. Crown thinning projects are planned for overgrown sections of timber, particularly in the northeast section of the lake. These efforts reduce fuel loads that can contribute to dangerous wildfires and promote healthier forest growth. The first area of improvement is Dogwood Circle that is currently underway.

#### A Shared Responsibility

The decision to increase lease fees is based on the understanding that we all benefit from a safe, well-maintained, and responsibly managed lake community. These investments will help ensure Lake Cherokee remains a desirable and sustainable place for current and future generations of shareholders.

CWC management continues to make improvements and drive efficiencies to manage the monthly operating costs. The operating budget contains less than a 5% increase in operating expenses.

The Board appreciates your continued support and engagement. We remain dedicated to transparency and fiscal responsibility as we guide CWC forward. Attached to this email you can find a chart that highlights per shareholder costs for the key services and expenses that CWC provides.

#### CWC Board of Directors

*Note: Check the Shareholder Portal for the Per Shareholder Costs in the Documents Folder*



**Harper Blanks**

Granddaughter of Bill and Laura Lea Blanks. SK12B



<b>ACTIVE NW-08 \$99,500</b> 	<b>ACTIVE SG-17 \$244,500</b> 	<b>ACTIVE NG-25 \$899,000</b> 	<b>ACTIVE ST-14 \$1,599,000</b> 
<small>PRICE IMPROVEMENT PRICE IMPROVEMENT PRICE IMPROVEMENT</small>			

STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168    STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168    STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168    STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

<b>ACTIVE NF-58 \$470,000</b> 	<b>ACTIVE SB 46-47 \$450,000</b> 	<b>ACTIVE NC-11 \$297,500</b> 	<b>ACTIVE SA-06 \$238,900</b> 
<small>PRICE IMPROVEMENT</small>			

STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168    RANDY RENSHAW 903-983-9314    STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168    STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

<b>ACTIVE SK-15 \$498,000</b> 	<b>ACTIVE NF-34 \$574,500</b> <b>SOLD</b> 
--	--

STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168    STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168




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## CODE COMPLIANCE CORNER

Hello Shareholders,

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying all that life on the lake has to offer! Thank you for doing your part to keep the community safe, beautiful, and thriving.

As you begin planning any work, please remember to **secure a permit before starting any projects**. All shareholders are required to obtain a permit **before** beginning any construction activity on CWC property. This includes building new structures, making repairs or renovations, improving existing structures, placing any type of structure on the lot, or making site modifications. It's important to note that certain activities such as **interior remodeling, exterior painting, landscaping, and general yard maintenance** are excluded from the permitting requirement.

As the Compliance Officer, it is my duty to uphold and enforce these regulations. If work begins without proper permitting or is in violation of an existing permit, I will issue a Notice of Violation and may issue a **RED TAG/PULL PERMIT**, effectively halting all activity on site until the violation has been



*Tammie Sanders*  
CWC Code Compliance Officer

brought into compliance. Once a work stoppage notice has been issued, a \$500 fine may be issued to the Shareholder at the discretion of the General Manager, for each non-compliance occurrence.

That said, I want each of you to know that I'm **genuinely here to help**. I understand the permitting process can sometimes feel overwhelming, especially for those unfamiliar with it—but it doesn't

have to be. I'm always eager to assist each shareholder in understanding what's required and will do everything I can to make the process as smooth and straightforward as possible. Your success in completing projects the right way is my goal, and I'm just a call or email away if you need guidance at any point.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to keeping Cherokee a place we can all be proud of.

Respectfully,  
Tammie Sanders  
Compliance Officer  
Office: (903)643-3933  
Email: tammie@lkcherokee.com

## 2025 Fuel Center Hours

WEATHER PERMITTING • CREDIT/DEBIT CARD ONLY  
WILL BE SELLING GAS ONLY AT THE FUEL CENTER • NO ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS

### SUMMER hours

May 1st – Sept 30th

Monday closed

Tuesday - Friday  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Saturday  
8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sunday  
12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

### HOLIDAY dates & hours

Memorial Day, Monday,  
May 26th 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Friday, July 4th  
8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Monday, September 1st  
8:00 am - 6:00 pm

### FALL hours

Oct 1st – Oct 31st

Tuesday  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Saturday  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Nov 1st – Feb 28th  
CLOSED

Watch for pop-up dates/hours!

## JUNE 2025 FISHING CONTEST WINNERS!!



Luke, 13  
Bass



Dawson, 14  
Bream & Catfish



Anthony, 12  
Crappie

COOLIDGE & COMPANY REAL ESTATE



## KIDS FISHING MONTHLY Contest



**\$50 MONTHLY PRIZE FOR:  
BASS • BREAM • CATFISH • CRAPPIE**

**Coolidge & Co Real Estate & Cherokee Fishing Club  
Announce :**

**KIDS Fishing Contest April 1st-September 30th**

**If you have a child, grandchild, or relative age 16 & under – this contest is for them!!!**

- The winner of the heaviest in EACH SPECIES gets a \$50 check! EACH MONTH!
- Fish categories: Bass, Catfish, Crappie & Bream
- Contest runs April 1st – Sept 30th
- Winners will be presented with personalized certificate & \$50 prize at the monthly Fishing Club meeting! (Or checks can be mailed)
- A **GRAND PRIZE** will be drawn at the end of the season from \*all entries received.\*

**Below are the contest rules:**

1. Enter catches simply by emailing a photo with contestant holding their fish on scale to [fishing@lakecherokee.com](mailto:fishing@lakecherokee.com)
2. Weight of the fish and fish must be visible in the photo.
3. Email entries must include: Photo, youth's name, lot number, mailing address.
4. All submissions must be made to [fishing@lakecherokee.com](mailto:fishing@lakecherokee.com) to be considered.
5. You will receive a reply to your submission to confirm you are entered.
6. All fish **MUST** be caught on Lake Cherokee.
7. In the event of a weight tie, the 1st received entry will be the winner.
8. By entering the contest, participants grant permission for the winner's photo to be published along with the youth's first name on social media and in local publications (e.g., Cherokee Chatter).
9. The monthly contest closes on the last day of each month at **midnight** & a new contest begins the 1st of each month.

**GOOD LUCK  
& GET TO  
FISHIN'!**



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# Lake Cherokee Community Foundation Update

The LCCF was established initially to support Lake Cherokee Shareholders and community. The first project was a more specific one – The Veteran's Memorial – to bring forth a concept that had floated around for many years. The Foundation wanted to pay homage to Veterans of all branches, who were somehow tied to Lake Cherokee Shareholders. Many shareholders, families and businesses came together to fund the beautiful Memorial Park! With that project being turned over to the Friends of Veterans Committee, LCCF is ready to embark on fully implementing the original mission with projects such as **Cherokee Cares**.

## Purpose:

Cherokee Cares is a heartfelt initiative of the Lake Cherokee Community Foundation (LCCF), created to support Shareholders within the Lake Cherokee community who are facing challenges or hardships. Our mission is to uplift neighbors in need by offering access to vital resources and compassionate assistance.

## Who We Help:

Cherokee Cares will serve Shareholders experiencing:

- Aging-related difficulties
- Physical or mobility challenges
- Temporary financial crises

## Types of Support Available:

Resources may include:

- Volunteer assistance
- Professional services
- Financial aid (as funds are available through LCCF)

## How It Works:

A neighbor, family member, or Cherokee Water Company staff member will be able to nominate a Shareholder by submitting an application. To maintain privacy and fairness:

- All applications are reviewed anonymously
- A dedicated committee of fellow Shareholders will evaluate each request
- The committee will make recommendations to the LCCF Board for funding and/or resource allocation based on established criteria

## Funding:

Lake Cherokee Community Foundation is supported by donations. Cherokee Cares will be funded through general donations allocated by the Board to meet the needs presented, as funds are available. The second annual Lake Cherokee Community Foundation fundraiser will be held November 15, 2025 at Cherokee Club. More details will follow from the event committee. Save the date! You will not want to miss this very fun evening.

## Next Steps:

As the project is fully developed, and funds are raised, an application process will be announced. The launch date is expected to be January 2026. For more information on supporting Lake Cherokee Community Foundation and Cherokee Cares email Rhonda Bullard at [rcb0613@yahoo.com](mailto:rcb0613@yahoo.com).

Lake Cherokee Community Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. We look forward to helping our neighbors through this project!

Rhonda Bullard  
LCCF Development Chair



Flags Compliments of John and Judi Morgan

## 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.lake-cherokeecommunityfoundation.org](http://www.lake-cherokeecommunityfoundation.org)

### Friends of Freedom Park

Miguel Fabbiani and Barrett Newsom, Co-Chairs

An organization of volunteers who will manage the upkeep and ceremonies/activities at Freedom Park (where the Veterans Monument is located)

# FREE GOLF



The shareholders of the lot listed on the golf ball are the winners of FREE GOLF at the Cherokee Country Golf Association Course during the month of **AUGUST**. Any member of the shareholder's family should present their shareholder's card for one FREE round of golf, including the use of a cart.





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## Boat Parade – July 5th, 2025

Congratulations to all of our winners  
in the boat parade.

### Open theme:

1st place - NS3 (Megan and Steven Hamner)  
2nd place - SB43 (Zack and Christy Lister)  
3rd place - NG34 (Maria Mills)

### Patriotic Theme:

1st place - NI18 (Kara and Barry Hood)  
2nd Place - SG37B (Donny and Julie Stuckey)  
3rd place - SH02 (Michael and Jodi Arthurs)



Patriotic Theme  
3rd place - SH02 (Michael and Jodi Arthurs)



Open Theme  
3rd place - NG34 (Maria Mills)





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# Cherokee Fishing Club

## 2025 Crappie Tournament Entry Form

MUST BE A CURRENT CHEROKEE FISHING CLUB MEMBER

**Saturday, September 27, 2025**

Event Start Time: 6:30 A.M.

Event Weigh-in Time starts 12:15 P.M. through 1:00 P.M.

Must be in weigh-in line no later than 1:00 P.M.

### Team Members

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the tournament rules and also agree, I am responsible for my team and actions of the team. In the event of injury, death or property damage, I the undersigned do fully release and discharge the Cherokee Fishing Club, its officers, members and the Cherokee Water Company, its board of Directors and employees from any and all claims, demands, and/or causes of actions, including court cost and attorney fees.

### Shareholder/Privilege Cardholder Information

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Lot #: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**CFC Annual Membership: Adult \$20, Youth (16 and under) \$10**

**Entry Fee: \$50.00 boat/2-member team, add \$25.00 for each additional person**

CFC Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to Habitat: \_\_\_\_\_ Entry Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Paid:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail forms with payment to Cherokee Fishing Club, c/o Bryce Tawney, NG54 Lake Cherokee, Longview, TX 75603. Entry and payment must be received by Thursday, before the tournament. Entry forms may also be dropped off at CWC Office (NK20), no later than 3:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the tournament.

For questions, call David Wilson 903-235-6458 or Genia Holland 903-738-2444.



# **CHEROKEE FISHING CLUB**

## **CFC CRAPPIE TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**MUST BE A CURRENT CHEROKEE FISHING CLUB MEMBER**

### **A. General Rules**

1. All Texas rules of the Texas Water Safety Act will apply to all tournaments. The CWC Lake Patrol will enforce the CWC Rules, TP&W Rules and Regulations, and Texas Water Safety Act.
2. A USCG-approved life vest must be worn by each boater any time the main motor is started or running. Inflatable life vests are permitted, provided they are worn at all times.
3. No alcohol or drugs are allowed while fishing in the tournament. Violations will result in disqualification.
4. Any person found to be cheating or endangering watercraft, its occupants, or the property of others will be disqualified and may be banned from all Cherokee Fishing Club events.
5. All weigh-in results of the Tournament Scale are official. Any protests must be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director at the time of weigh-in. The Tournament Director's decision will be final.
6. All participants must display good sportsmanship. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including cheating, harassment, or verbal/physical interference with tournament weigh-in or with other participants, will result in disqualification.
7. No Fishing is allowed within 100 yards of the tournament weigh-in location
8. Fisherman must be in the Weigh-In line no later than the designated time of the end of the tournament.
9. The Cherokee Fishing Club does not provide tournament weigh-in bags and all fish must be placed in a tournament bag, with sufficient water to keep the fish alive during the weigh-in process.
10. Entry fees will not be refunded unless the tournament is canceled or postponed by the CFC President or Tournament Director.
11. Participants may fish from the bank, a dock, a boat, canoes, kayaks, rubber rafts, and float tubes.

### **B. Crappie (White, Black or Black-Nosed) Tournament**

1. Registration Fee is \$50.00 per boat for two people and \$25.00 for each additional person in the boat. The team sponsoring shareholder or one person in the boat must be a current paid-up CFC member.
2. Only rod and reel fishing is allowed with live or artificial bait. No nets, traps, or other methods are permitted. Each Participant is limited to no more than 2 poles with not more than 2 baits on each pole in the water at a time.
3. Start time is 6:30 a.m. and Weigh-in time is 1:00 p.m. Participants may weigh in any time after 12:15 p.m. until the final weigh-in time, or in-line line by 1:00 p.m. Late arrivals will not be allowed to weigh in.
4. Bag limit is five (5) Crappie per boat and must be alive at weigh-in. A penalty of .5 lb per dead fish will be deducted from the total weight for any dead fish presented at the weigh-in.
5. Must be a minimum of ten (10)" in length
6. The total weight of the eligible crappie will determine the winner. The heaviest total weight wins. Ties will be awarded to the participant who weighed in earliest.
7. Prizes awarded and paid to the winning Tournament Registrants based on a boat team and not as an individual. The Tournament Director or designee will determine the number of winning places to be paid.

**Fishermen may retain all legal fish or share them at the weigh-in for survey/harvesting.**

**Updated July 2025**

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**Cherokee Fishing Club (CFC) News July 2025**



**Cherokee Fishing Club**

By Bryce Tawney  
– Secretary

The July Meeting had 44 members and guests. Everyone enjoyed the dinner of chicken wings and corn on the cob, served by Pete and Carol Staiti. Cookie People who provided desserts and additional sides included Lori Klump, Larry Willis, Roxanne Brink, Bonnie Hegeman, and Genia Holland.

CFC welcomes new member Tim Sutphen and the new youth members who won the Coolidge & Company Real Estate and CFC Kids' Fishing Contest for fish caught during June: Anthony Ward and Luke Sutphen.

Special guests attending our meeting included Beth Matlock and Alice Berryhill of Coolidge & Company, Jeffrey Wyche and Anthony Ward, and Tim and Luke Sutphen.

President Genia welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Beth presented June's Kids Fishing Contest winners with their awards: Luke Sutphen for his 5.44 lbs. bass, and Anthony Ward for his 1.34 lbs. crappie. Unable to attend the meeting was Dawson Jaskiewicz, who won in two categories: bream (.72 lbs), and catfish (8.5 lbs). The monthly contest continues through September, and rules for entries can be found in the Chatter and Facebook Lake Cherokee Shareholders group.

Bryce Tawney, Secretary/Treasurer, provided a financial update for June. Bryce

reminded members of the upcoming 2025 fishing tournaments for crappie on September 17 and bass on October 18. Bryce noted that CFC is now using a new voicemail/text service to remind members of the monthly meetings. This service is to replace the monthly phone calls that Genia was making. Please notify Lori Klump or Bryce if you did not get a voice message on Saturday, July 12. Also, if you elect to opt out at the prompt, you will not receive future notifications from CFC of meetings or other important messages. We recommend not opting out.



*Beth and Luke*



*Beth and Anthony*

Gary Lindsey, Hatchery Director, reported that around 2700 Florida strain bass fingerlings were stocked in the lake on June 17. About 300 were released

in several of the brood ponds. In early August, the bass in the brood ponds will be released into the lake.

George Steele, Habitat Director, reported that the habitat team had one workday in June replenishing brush piles. There are some nice crappie holding in the brush piles. No other workdays will be scheduled until Fall. The latest CFC Brushpile list can be found in the documents section of the Cherokee Fishing Club group in the Cherokee Portal, or you can contact Bryce via email or Facebook Messenger.

The evening's program was provided by Michael Owens, Patrol Supervisor with CWC, who provided a recap of Lake Cherokee boating and fishing regulations and rules. These rules are readily available to all shareholders on the Cherokee Portal, under the CWC Rules icon. A great summary can also be found in the July Chatter. Michael encouraged all shareholders and privilege cardholders to become familiar with the boating rules. Most critical are those rules about navigation, speed, right-of-way, life jackets, CWC stickers, and lot numbers. Michael emphasized that Lake Patrol is here to serve the community and encouraged members not to hesitate to contact Patrol for assistance.

Congratulations to our Raffle winners this month: Gas can by Pete Staiti, and Tackle Gift Bags by Greg LaCour, Anthony Ward, Luke Sutphen, and donated Pud Bass Jigs by Anthony Ward and Roxanne Brink.

CFC looks forward to seeing everyone on Monday, August 11, including any shareholders, privilege card holders, and CWC employees who would like to join or visit!!

would like to join or visit!!



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The Lake Cherokee First Friends group met at the Jalapeno Tree on Thursday, July 17 for lunch and to discuss some ideas and options for a new First Friends cookbook. There was one published in 1994, then another in 2000, then a 3rd one published in 2009. We are overdue for a new one! Stay tuned for more information on that subject!

Lots of information discussed along with lunch & laughs. Door prize winners were Jeanne Collins, Lori Klump and Teresa Davis. Those in attendance were Teresa Davis, Ruth Burnsed, Jeanne Collins, Lori Klump, Penny Dant, Donna Mitchell, Judi Morgan and Gail Fowler.

If you are interested in having lunch with a group of lake ladies each month - join our First Friend (Lake Cherokee) facebook page or email Gail Fowler to get on the email notification list at boga-fowler@gmail.com.

Gail Fowler



## Food Truck Vendors @ Firecracker Park

Saturday Aug. 2nd  
Sunday Aug. 3rd

WhoYouHibachiWit & Tx. Best Ice Cream  
AK BBQ & Tx. Best Ice Cream

Saturday Aug. 9th  
Sunday Aug. 10th

Black Dog Cuisine & Frios Pop  
Back Street Grill & Kona Ice

Saturday Aug. 16th  
Sunday Aug. 17th

Chaotic Creations & Sunsational Ice  
Chaotic Creations & Quick Drinks

Saturday August 23rd  
Sunday Aug. 24st

Back Street Grill & Ice Cream Guy  
Mac Daddys & Quick Drinks

Saturday Aug. 30th  
Sunday Aug. 31st  
Monday Sept. 1st

Family Fun Fest No Trucks  
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improve a society  
by setting fire to it:  
they must seek out  
its old virtues, and  
bring them back  
into the light."**

**- Russell Kirk**

**.....**  
**Carry each other's  
burdens, and in this  
way you will fulfill  
the law of Christ.**

**Galatians 6:2 NIV**



**National Dog Day - August 26, 2025**

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## The Cherokee CHATTER

**Published by Cherokee Water Co.**  
**NK20 Lake Cherokee Longview, TX 75603**

Please send any correspondence related to The Cherokee Chatter directly to its dedicated e-mail, [chatter@lkcherokee.com](mailto:chatter@lkcherokee.com)

This includes articles for clubs, submitted travel photos, submitted fishing photos, Shopper's Corner, Bulletin Board, and regular ads, and any other Chatter related questions or needs.

All Shareholders are urged to contribute articles, event news, photos, inquires and information of interest to residents of Lake Cherokee for publication in The Chatter.

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One Hundred Years Ago - - on November 1, 1925, the game of Bridge - as we know it - was officially invented by Harold Vanderbilt.

While on a cruise from Los Angeles to Havana via the Panama Canal, he and his friends had been playing variations of the games of 'Whist' and 'Plafond'. Frustrated with some aspects of those games, he made changes in the bidding and scoring processes. Everyone embraced the changes, and when he returned from his trip, he typed up the changes and gave them to all his friends. In 1928, the first bridge national championship was played for the Vanderbilt Cup, and the contest is still played today, 100 years later.



## AUGUST 2025 BRIDGE CLUB

By Jeanne Collins

"On the Wall". 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.

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

Jeanne Collins

At our CWC club weekly games we do not award a Trophy (yet), but the person with the high score for the room each Wednesday gets to put his or her name



The Preservation club did meet on July 17th and had a great turn out!

Wet & Wild had to be moved this year due to a down pour of 5+ inches of rain during the week. It was moved to June 21st and we are so thankful to our boathouse hosts for going with the flow. We would like to thank The Beasleys, the CWC Board, the McDaniels, the Modisettes, the Shannons and Nikki Winn for hosting and for all of their hard work on that date. We had a great turn out considering the date change. We would also like to thank our island volunteers as these events wouldn't happen without you! We are also grateful to all of our friends and businesses that donated to our auctions and raffles. A special thanks to Nichols Marine for their continued support of this event through the years. The event ended with a fantastic concert by Dagnabit! It was a memorable day for everyone!

The club discussed our next event, Family Fun Fest and is looking for someone to chair this event! Family Fun Fest will be held on August 30th and is free to all shareholders and their families. We will have water slides, face painting, kid's art contest, hotdogs and ice cream! It will be a fun day for all families! Check the Chatter and our Facebook page for details!

The club is also gearing up for Chili Fest to be held on November 8th. Get your teams together and submit your chili for tasting and bragging rights! More details to follow.

Our next meeting will be held on August 21st. Bring your ideas for projects that will

help make life better on our beautiful lake! We looked forward to meeting you all!



## Wet & Wild

June 21, 2025





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3 <i>AK BBQ &amp; Tx Best Ice Cream</i>	4	5 Variance Deadline	6 Bridge Club Luncheon	7	8	9 <i>Black Dog Cuisine &amp; Frios Pop</i>
10 <i>Back Street Grill &amp; Kona Ice</i>	11 Fishing Club	12 Community Gardeners Photography Club	13 Bridge Club	14 Golf Course Board Meeting	15	16 <i>Chaotic Creations &amp; Sunsational Ice</i>
17 <i>Chaotic Creations &amp; Quick Drinks</i>	18	19	20 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	21 CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club	22	23 <i>Back Street Burgers &amp; Brian &amp; Scotts Snowballs</i>
24	25	26	27 Bridge Club	28	29	30 <b>Family Fun Fest</b>
31 <i>AK BBQ &amp; Sunsational Ice</i>						

SEPTEMBER 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<i>Chaotic Creations &amp; Funnel Cake Playground</i> CWC Office Closed <b>Labor Day</b>	1 Variance Deadline	2 Bridge Club Luncheon	3	4	5
6	7 <b>Grandparents' Day</b>	8 Fishing Club	9 Community Gardeners Photography Club	10 Bridge Club	11 Golf Course Board Meeting <b>Patriot Day</b>	12
13	14	15 Board of Director Candidate Filing Period Begins	16	17 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	18 First Friends CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club	19
20	21	22 <b>1st Day of Autumn</b>	23	24 Bridge Club	25	26
27	28	29	30 Variance Deadline Board of Director Candidate Filing Period Ends			



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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.



We were blessed to have beautiful weather for our July **FIRECRACKER FUNDRAISER TOURNAMENT**. It was a fun day of golf, good food, raffles, and auctions. Check out our Facebook page to see some of the great items that were in our raffle and auction. Thanks to our donors and golfers who helped make this Fundraiser a huge success.

Eleven teams beat the heat and battled it out for the win. First Place – Leonard Martin, Kevin Oden, Alyce & Michael Clark Second Place – Danny Matherne, Phillip Works, Phil Porter & Ollie, and David Stokes Third Place – Myron Foster, Mark Taylor, Robbie Nodine, and Tammie Spicer

**FIRST TEE SUMMER CAMP** was held June 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> and had our course over run with 13 eager young



**1st Place**  
Leonard, Michael, Alyce, & Kevin



**2nd Place**  
Danny, Phillip, Phil & Ollie, & David



**3rd Place**  
Myron, Mark, Robbie, & Tammie

golfers. What a treat to see so many children learning golf skills and making new friends. They will begin their fall session on Saturday September 6 and run through October 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM.

**PRO SHOP** hours for **August** are **7:00 am to 6:00 pm** Tuesday through Sunday. Closed on Mondays for course maintenance.

The **WOMEN'S** group play every Tuesday morning usually @ 8:30 am depending on the weather. Hours may vary so please call the Pro Shop for the tee time.

**SATURDAY FUN BUNCH:** every Saturday except for tournament days @ 8:00 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. Hours may vary so please call the Pro Shop for the tee time.

The **AUGUST TOURNAMENT** will be held on **August 16**, at 9:00 am, and will be the **PAR 3 TOURNAMENT**. It is a **4 Person Scramble** and the cost is \$30 per player. Lunch will be available after the tournament

The next **Board Meeting** will be on Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm. It is an open meeting, and all are welcome to attend and ask questions.

**Welcome** to our new member: Steve Brown

CCGA would also like to thank Rick Tyler and Donna and Cliff Mitchell for your recent donations to the club. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated more than we can ever express.



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