



# THE CHEROKEE CHATTER

Welcome to Lake Cherokee  
April 2026 Transfers - 4

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

## JUNE 2026

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

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Friends of Freedom Park held the 2nd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Park on Memorial Day. Roger Morris explained the meaning of Memorial Day and led the Pledge of Allegiance. John Weaver performed *Taps*. Read more about the event on page 20.

Cherokee Water Co.  
NK20 Lake Cherokee  
Longview, TX 75603

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

Hello Lake Family,

As we enter the summer season once again, activity on the lake is increasing rapidly, and with that comes a shared responsibility to ensure another safe and enjoyable summer for everyone. Boater safety remains one of the Cherokee Water Company's highest priorities and achieving that goal requires every shareholder and guest to do their part. We strongly encourage all adult shareholders to familiarize themselves with the CWC Rules and Regulations. Parents are also urged to ensure that teenagers and younger operators using any type of watercraft or recreational equipment on the lake are properly trained, knowledgeable of the rules, and capable of operating safely and responsibly on the water.

One of the most concerning issues we continue to encounter involves individuals operating personal watercraft near buoy markers. Whether intentional or accidental, making contact with these buoys causes significant damage and creates serious safety concerns. In many cases, damaged buoys begin taking on water, causing them to tilt, become submerged, or otherwise become ineffective for their intended purpose of marking hazards and protecting lake traffic. Each buoy costs the CWC in excess of \$400 to replace, not including the additional labor and operational

# MESSAGE from the MANAGER

expense associated with maintenance crews removing damaged equipment and installing new markers. Lake Patrol will be aggressively enforcing this and all other water safety violations throughout the summer season. Operators are also reminded to be courteous while navigating the boat roads by slowing to idle speed when closely approaching or passing other watercraft. This continues to be one of the most common complaints received each year. Please respect your fellow shareholders and remember that while some individuals enjoy higher activity recreation, others simply wish to enjoy a peaceful and relaxing experience on the lake. Maintaining safe distances between watercraft and exercising patience and courtesy on the water goes a long way toward preventing accidents and preserving the quality of everyone's experience. Our primary objective is for every shareholder and guest to enjoy the lake daily while ensuring it remains safe and free from incidents or injuries.

On another positive note, Cherokee Water Company is currently concluding the eighth month of the fiscal budget year, and I am

pleased to report that revenues are tracking in line with projections while overall expenditures continue to remain below budget expectations. Through disciplined financial oversight, careful cost management, and daily monitoring of operational expenses and revenue streams, the company remains in a stable and financially responsible position. We will continue focusing on maintaining strong fiscal performance while responsibly managing company resources and long-term operational needs.

Lastly, our annual July 4th fireworks show is now less than a month away, and we are expecting this year's event to be one of the best we've had in many years. Please remember that the island will be closed that day for public safety while pyrotechnicians prepare and build the show site, and to stay the required 500' forward from the island during the show. I am looking forward to a summer filled with family, friends, appreciation, and most importantly, SAFETY. While Lake Patrol will be fully staffed and actively enforcing regulations throughout the season, they cannot be everywhere at once. If you observe unsafe or reckless activity on the

water, please contact Lake Patrol directly at (903) 643-7321 so the situation can be addressed immediately, and corrective action can be taken before an accident or injury occurs. We have had a very successful year so far, and with everyone doing their part, we can continue that positive trend throughout the remainder of the summer season.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jones, GM

*Titus 3: 9-11 NIV*



**Kevin Jones**

General Manager, Lake Cherokee

<b>VARIANCE DEADLINES 2026</b>	
<b>6/2</b>	6/18 Board Meeting
<b>6/30</b>	7/16 Board Meeting
<b>8/4</b>	8/20 Board Meeting
<b>9/1</b>	9/17 Board Meeting
<b>9/29</b>	10/15 Board Meeting
<b>10/27</b>	11/12 Board Meeting

## Permits

APRIL 2026

Permit Type	#
Accessory Building	4
Boathouse - New	4
Boathouse - Repair	1
Demolition	1
Dirt Work / Drainage	12
Driveway / Walkway	4
Fence	1
Home Repairs / Additions	2
New Construction	
OSSF	1
Other	
Outdoor Enhancement	
Pool	1
Retaining Wall	4
Dredge	1
<b>Total Permits</b>	<b>26</b>

**CAMP LAKE RATS  
2026**  
Shining a light on who Jesus really is!  
June 8-12 • 9am-NOON • Lunch provided  
Presented by  
The Church at Lake Cherokee

Scan Me

## LAKE CHEROKEE SECURITY REPORT APRIL 2026

**FACILITY CHECK: 2452**

**OPEN DOOR: 6**

**SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE/PERSON:  
24**

**WELFARE CHECK: 1**

**ASSIST SHAREHOLDER: 46**

**ISSUE TREE PERMIT: 14**

**ANIMAL ASSIST: 2**

**CLEAR ROADWAY  
OF TREES/DEBRIS: 14**

**EXTRA PATROL: 157**

**DISTURBANCE: 1**

**ALARMS: 0**

**VEHICLE / BOAT ACCIDENT: 0**

**WATER RESPONSE/  
BOAT TOW: 0**

**ASSIST AGENCY: 1**

**BURGLARY/THEFT: 1**



## Introductions - Invasive Species Monitoring

### Introduction - New Brand, Same Team

Some changes have taken place over the last several weeks for me (Garrett Stampert), as I am now the head fisheries biologist and owner of Elite Lake Management, LLC. However, other than a name change, nothing will change for the members of Lake Cherokee or management of the lake. Management will always be focused on scientific principles supported by data collected from the lake and shareholders. Your voices, concerns, and goals are all important and I would like to make sure you are heard. My new contact information is provided below at the bottom of this article.

### Invasive Species

Lake Cherokee is home to a few different invasive aquatic plant species, of which management is a high priority. These species include water hyacinth, alligator weed, eurasian watermilfoil, parrotsfeather, and hydrilla to name a few. These species occur throughout the lake at various densities and none as of the last couple years have proved to be exceptionally unmanageable. However, it is important to establish teamwork and effective communication between shareholders and my team to ensure that invasive species problems are addressed and not allowed to become a costly issue.

I encourage shareholders to use the email or the phone number provided below to ask questions and provide input on vegetation throughout the lake. This communication allows for faster response for invasive species management and better education on identification and management efforts.

Photos and management options for invasive species (for the DIYer) can be found at Texas A&M's Aquaplant website.

### Additional Cooperation Opportunities

I also encourage anglers to participate in the management and data collection process on Lake Cherokee. Feel free to provide photos, videos, and length and weight measurements of the fish being caught on the lake to the contact information below. Angler data combined with electrofishing data provides a larger data pool that can be used to make better management decisions. The more information we can accumulate about the fishery, the better we can manage the fishery as a team.

Overall, management of Lake Cherokee will continue to be a team effort and I look forward to working in cooperation with all of you.

### Resources:

1. Texas A&M Aquaplant Website - vegetation ID and management options
2. TPWD Bass Estimated Weight Table - relative weight values for bass to determine health
3. Contact information:
  - a. [office@elitelakemanagement.com](mailto:office@elitelakemanagement.com)
  - b. (936) 666 - 1307
4. Individual Dock Spraying
  - a. Contact: [office@elitelakemanagement.com](mailto:office@elitelakemanagement.com)
  - b. Designed to be cheaper than DIY options in order to help residents better enjoy the lake and not have to deal with aquatic herbicide applications or regulations
5. Additional resources can be provided by request to help answer any questions shareholders may have.



Phone: (936) 666 - 1307

Email: [office@elitelakemanagement.com](mailto:office@elitelakemanagement.com)

- Fisheries Management
- Fish Stocking
- Aquatic Plant Management
- Aeration and Fountains
- Water Quality
- Consulting



**May 18, 2026**  
**Minutes of Special**  
**Called Board Meeting**

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held May 18, 2026. 1:03 p.m., at NK 20 Lake Cherokee, Longview Texas 75603 with the following Directors present:

Gary Mapes, President  
 David McDaniel, Vice President  
 Logan LoBue, Treasurer  
 Rhonda Bullard, Secretary  
 Cody Edmondson  
 Alan Koelemay  
 Colby Mize  
 Jeff Patty  
 Justin Simmons  
 Beth Swindell  
 Mary Yoder

President Gary Mapes called the Board into Executive Session to discuss the appointment of Dr. Ken Hall to the CWC Board of Directors. A Board vacancy was created on April 27, 2026, when George Steele submitted his resignation. George had a remaining term of 2 years and 5 months. Dr. Hall's resume was distributed via email to all Board members.

President Mapes declared the Board in Special Called Board Meeting for the purpose of voting on Dr. Hall's appointment. Gary Mapes made the motion, Justin Simmons offered the second, and the motion passed unanimously. The Special Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:06. Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Bullard  
 CWC Board Secretary



**May 21, 2026**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held May 21, 2026. 6:00 p.m., at NK 20 Lake Cherokee, Longview Texas 75603 with the following Directors present:

Gary Mapes, President  
 David McDaniel, Vice President  
 Logan LoBue, Treasurer  
 Rhonda Bullard, Secretary  
 Cody Edmondson  
 Ken Hall  
 Alan Koelemay  
 Colby Mize  
 Jeff Patty  
 Justin Simmons  
 Beth Swindell  
 Mary Yoder

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Mapes. A quorum was announced by Rhonda Bullard.

President Mapes reported that on April 27, 2026, the board accepted the resignation of one of its members. Article V, Section

9 of the CWC Bylaws states: "Vacancies in the board of directors may be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining directors at any regular or special meetings of directors." On Monday of this week, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to appoint Ken Hall, SP 32, to fill the vacancy created by the recent resignation of a board member. Ken brings extensive corporate and leadership experience to the Cherokee Water Company board. On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my privilege to introduce and welcome Ken Hall to the CWC Board of Directors.

President Mapes also stated that over the past two months, the CWC Board of Directors has discussed the possibility of expanding open water at Lake Cherokee after the issue was brought to the Board by our General Manager, Kevin Jones.

As CEO and General Manager of Cherokee Water Company, part of Kevin's responsibility is to look ahead and evaluate the future needs of CWC – not just where we are today, but where we may be 5, 10, or even 20 years down the road. That includes evaluating issues related to lake usage, safety, infrastructure, recreation, and long-term planning.

Cherokee Water Company is a for-profit corporation, not a homeowner's association. The responsibility of management and the Board is to govern and operate the corporation in a manner that protects and plans for the long-term interests of the company and its shareholders. That requires management to identify potential future needs, challenges, and opportunities and present them to the Board for discussion and consideration.

The Board believes management would not be doing its job if it failed to evaluate and bring forward issues that may affect the future operation and use of Lake Cherokee.

Once the issue was presented, the Board began discussing the concept and requested shareholder feedback before any further consideration could occur. The purpose of the recent poll was simply to gauge shareholder sentiment regarding the possibility of additional open water.

At this time, the survey results showed approximately 55% opposed and 45% in favor of pursuing the concept. It is also important to note that less than one-half of CWC shareholders participated in the poll.

The Board understands that opinions on this issue are strong on both sides. Some shareholders believe additional open water may eventually become necessary due to increased lake traffic, larger boats, and increased usage of the lake compared to previous decades. Other shareholders have concerns regarding environmental impact, fishing, cost, and preserving the current character of Lake Cherokee. Those differing viewpoints deserve respectful consideration.

At this point, no formal project has been approved by the Board. No detailed plan has been developed. The Board has simply done what it is supposed to do – listen to management, discuss long-term issues affecting CWC, and seek input from shareholders before making decisions.

Ultimately, the responsibility of the Board is not to avoid difficult discussions, but to responsibly evaluate issues that may affect the future of Cherokee Water Company and Lake Cherokee. Considering shareholder input is part of that process, but so is long-term planning and governance of the corporation. The Board appreciates everyone who participated in the survey and shared their opinions. President Mapes called on Secretary Bullard for approval of minutes. A motion was made by Mrs. Bullard to approve the minutes of April 16, 2026, as electronically distributed to the Board of Directors. A second was offered by David McDaniel and the motion passed unanimously. Bullard also made the motion to accept the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held May 18, 2026, where a motion was made by Gary Mapes and seconded by Justin Simmons to appoint Dr. Ken Hall to fill the vacancy on the CWC Board created through a resignation. A second was offered by Logan LoBue and the motion passed unanimously.

General Manager Kevin Jones gave an overview of operations, displaying slides regarding transfers, permits, maintenance hours and Patrol activities. Kevin reported that the traffic counter placed in the NS section will remain in place through Memorial Day, gathering data to assist in road refurbishing projects. He reported to the Board the SWEPCO project on the one-lane bridge is underway. An engineer has been contacted to examine the integrity of the bridge once SWEPCO project is completed. A report on any repairs that may be needed will be forthcoming. Kevin applauded Maintenance Supervisor Mark Svoboda on the preventative maintenance that continues on both equipment and property which results in significant cost reductions to CWC. He also announced the Longview Fire Department will be on the water in the coming weeks doing water rescue training exercises for their department but also cross training with CWC Patrol to better equip our staff on water rescues. In addition, a company will be doing further training June 9-12 where CWC Patrol will be obtaining certification on water rescues and emergencies.

Treasurer Logan LoBue provided an overview of year-to-date financials, revealing actuals to budget to be at expected revenues and below expected expenses. He reported that, with CWC being 7 months through this fiscal year, no budget area is out of line. He thanked the CWC staff for their due diligence in managing expenses. The Board had previously reviewed April expenditures that exceeded \$2500. Treasurer LoBue made a motion to certify the bills paid for April 2026. A second was offered by David McDaniel; the motion passed unanimously. Treasurer LoBue then made a motion to approve the monthly financials for April 2026; Rhonda Bullard offered the second to the motion and it passed unanimously.

Rules & Policies Committee Chair David McDaniel reported the Rules and Policies Committee recommends approval of the following variance requests:

NF-32 – to place 4' x 6' concrete slab and awning in front of the door to existing garage that will be closer than 6 feet from the property line. (3'5'). The second was offered by Logan LoBue. Colby Mize recused himself; the motion passed with 11 Directors voting in favor.

NS-38-to build a pool closer than 75' from the water. Cody Edmondson offered the second. Colby Mize recused himself; the motion passed with 11 Directors voting in favor.

Chairman McDaniel also made a motion to adopt the following NEW CWC Bylaw:

The following amendments are being proposed to clarify board member eligibility.

**NEW Bylaw regarding Director Eligibility - Prohibited Business Interests**

**Article IV.**

**Election Commission and Election of Directors**

**(Add as Section 2, g.)**

g.1. No person shall be eligible to serve as a Director of the Corporation if that person directly or indirectly holds a Prohibited Business Interest as defined in g. 2 below.

g. 2. A "Prohibited Business Interest" includes, without limitation, any circumstance in which a Director or Director-candidate:

a. Owns, in whole or in part, or receives any beneficial or financial interest from, a business entity or enterprise that solicits business or provides goods or services for compensation to Cherokee Water Company or to any leaseholder at Cherokee Water Company if those goods or services relate to their leasehold interests or improvements at Lake Cherokee.

b. This restriction shall also include any person who serves as an officer, director, manager, managing member, partner, agent, or employee of a business entity or enterprise that qualifies as a "Prohibited Business Interest"

c. A person has a beneficial or financial interest in a business entity or enterprise if they receive a salary, wages, bonus compensation, commissions, referral fees, dividends, stock or membership options or other financial benefits from the business activity of that business entity or enterprise.

g. 3. A Prohibited Business Interest shall be deemed indirect if held through a spouse, immediate family member, household member, trust, or any entity in which the individual exercises management, controls, or holds a beneficial or financial interest as defined above.

g. 4. Each candidate for election or appointment to the Board of Directors shall certify in writing and on a form approved by the Corporation, any actual or potential Prohibited Business Interest prior to certification or seating. Failure to fully disclose such business interests is grounds for immediate disqualification and removal from the Board of Directors. Any Director who acquires a

Prohibited Business Interest during their term shall notify the Ethics Committee in writing within ten (10) days of acquisition. Should

the Ethics Committee determine a conflict of interest exist under this Section, Director shall be subject to removal for cause pursuant to Article V, Section 8, and any resulting vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Article V, Section 9.

g. 5. Section 2, g, 1-4 are applied prospectively. Any active Director serving on or prior to May 21, 2026, may complete the remainder of their current term but shall be ineligible for re-election or re-appointment unless the Prohibited Business Interest has been fully and completely terminated.

**Rationale:** The purpose of this amendment is to establish clear eligibility standards for service on the Board of Directors of Cherokee Water Company in order to prevent actual or perceived conflicts of interest, preserve fiduciary integrity, and maintain shareholder confidence in the governance of the Corporation.

Personal or business dealings that intersect with CWC interests can create a real and/or perceived conflict of interest which can lead to personal and/or organizational liability and loss of integrity. Thus, it is vital for board members to prioritize risk management and mitigate potential conflicts of interest. President Mapes reminded the Board that By-law changes/amendments must pass with a 75% (3/4<sup>th</sup>) majority of Board members present and voting but do not require a second reading. Rhonda Bullard offered the second. The motion failed with LoBue, Bullard, Hall, Mapes, Mize, Patty and Swindell voting in favor; McDaniel, Edmondson, Koelemay, Simons and Yoder voting against.

Infrastructure Committee Chair Logan LoBue reported the Committee reviewed the traffic count data is being collected at the NP-FM 2011 section and will continue through the Memorial Day weekend. These data points have already greatly assisted in developing a cost-effective road repair/replacement plan. The Committee wants traffic count data (for forecasted repair/replacement) at NW (Beaver Run) section, NF-NG section and SP-SS section to help prioritize next road projects. Chairman LoBue reiterated that the one land bridge repairs are being made by AEP. Repairs and maintenance are near completion. The Committee also discussed maintenance and replacement of boat road poles, the use of CWC equipment to accomplish this ongoing issue and the possibility of needing additional equipment or third-party assistance for replacement beyond 20' depth. The Committee had no action to bring before the Board.

David McDaniel reported that the Natural Resources Committee met on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> to continue discussing plans for the Mud Creek siltation pond but had no action items to bring before the Board at this time.

With no other business, Gary Mapes, President adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rhonda Bullard Secretary



*SATURDAY, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2026, 11am - 4pm*

*REGISTRATION AT 10:00 am @ FIRECRACKER PARK*

*BOAT HOUSES WILL CLOSE AT 3:30pm*

*Must be a shareholder or their guest to participate.*

Leisurely cruise Lake Cherokee to specific boathouses to win points for great prizes and have fun and fellowship!!

*Event Committee; 903-839-7302 or 903-918-4601*

- Entry fee: \$25.00, 12 years and younger \$5.00
- Open to all Lake Cherokee card holders and guests and all types of watercrafts
- Prizes for high score and low scoring participant. 2 bonus point draws available at each boathouse for \$5 each, donations to benefit future projects of the Preservation Club
- Raffle Tickets available for great prizes so bring cash. Remember Lake Cherokee is a great cause!
- Begin and end at the Firecracker Park sign-in pavilion
- May visit any boathouse in any order. Boathouses will close at 3:30 PM and all participants must return to the Firecracker Park sign-in desk by 4pm.
- **Must be present to win any door prize or raffle prize**
- Be courteous and practice safe boating. No prizes for speed! Go Slow and have fun!
- Only non-cash prizes will be awarded. Entry fees are not tax deductible.

## MONTHLY CLEAN-UP SCHEDULE 2026

**June 15 - 19th**  
**July 13 - 17th**  
**August 10 - 14th**  
**September 14 - 18th**  
**October 12 - 16th**  
**November 9 - 13th**  
**December 14 - 18th**



## TWO GREAT RADIO STATIONS!



1240 AM • 105.3 FM, Kilgore • 101.9 FM, Longview • 94.9 FM, Chalk Hill - Lake Cherokee  
 and NOW,  
**106.1 FM, Henderson**

**QXFM** ...Listen! 100.3 | 97.9  
 Unforgettable



The First Friends ladies met at the Arboretum for a spring tour of the grounds. Absolutely breathtaking! If you haven't visited the Longview Arboretum, please do! It does not disappoint! We strolled, we visited, we oohed and ahhhed over the fountains, water, flowers and plants! Then we gathered for lunch at Ruby's Mexican restaurant. The weather blessed us with a little cooler morning temperature and the rain held off JUST for us! It was a great day to be with "friends"! Those in attendance were: Marge Morris, Karen Franklin, Carol Ehl, Charlotte Blaylock, Barb Robar, Delores Toon, Donna Mitchell, Lisa Goettle, Jennifer Kranzman, Teresa Davis, Gail Fowler and our May hostess, Tracy Lasser.

Door prize winners were: Delores Toon and Jennifer Kranzman



## KIDS FISHING MONTHLY Contest

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

**CONTEST BEGINS APRIL 1ST!**

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 – August 31st
- 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 [fishingcherokee@gmail.com](mailto:fishingcherokee@gmail.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 [fishingcherokee@gmail.com](mailto:fishingcherokee@gmail.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.

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 & GET TO  
 FISHIN'!**




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# Thank you to all the Contributors of the 2026 Annual Lake Cherokee Fireworks Display Show!

Betty & Summer Abundez  
Karen Andersen  
Allen & Brenda Avery  
Jenelle Bagwell  
Jason & Meighan Baird  
Kathryn & Gary Baker  
David & Claire Balliett  
Michael & Donna Barnard  
Thomas & Victoria Bell  
Billy & Nancy Bell  
John & Michele Black  
Steve & Nicole Bodenheimer  
Gary & Kathy Bolton  
Gerri & Tanner Bondurant  
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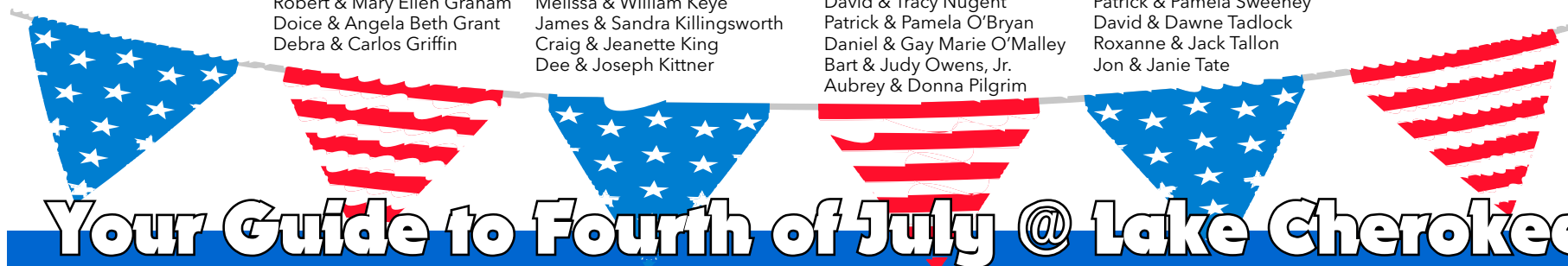
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## Your Guide to Fourth of July @ Lake Cherokee

### Island Closure - Saturday, July 4th

For safety reasons, Firecracker Park will close Saturday, July 5th when the fireworks trailer arrives. Because of the size of the show and the extensive setup required, this will be mid-morning and it will remain closed until after the fireworks show that evening. Please keep this closure in mind when scheduling any plans you have at the island that day.



### IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL SHAREHOLDERS

On the night of Saturday, July 6th, before the Annual Lake Cherokee Fireworks Display, the afterhours Patrol line (903-643-7321) MUST be kept free for emergencies ONLY!

We receive numerous calls on this line from shareholders requesting the start time. Please tune in to QX-FM, 100.3. If there are any long delays, the radio station will notify the listeners. Thank you for your consideration.

### Saturday, July 4th

Boat Parade 10:00 AM  
Fireworks Show at Dark

### Fireworks Broadcasts Live on QX-FM, 100.3

One of the most anticipated events of Lake Cherokee life is the Annual Fireworks Display. This year, they will be on Saturday, July 4th. No rain out date. Look for it to start just after dark, about 9:30 or so. This year's spectacular show will run approximately twenty minutes. To get the full impact, you will need to tune your radio to QXFM, 100.3 to hear the soundtrack for the display. QX-FM is easy to receive anywhere on Lake Cherokee. It's a great opportunity to pump up the volume while we observe this celebration of

our nation's independence. It is the one time of the year when your neighbors won't mind hearing your music. Chuck Conrad, general manager of QX-FM, is planning to bring the radio station's portable sound system to the CWC Lake Office grounds so people who want a great view can enjoy the show with full audio accompaniment. All that's required on your part is to bring your own lawn chair or blanket. Playing "America's Original Classics," QX-FM is locally owned and programmed. Everything originates in the station's studios located in Chalk Hill. It's a fun combination of music from different genres. There isn't another station quite like it anywhere else on earth, but thousands of people from every corner of the world tune in every month via the internet to listen. It is truly something quite unique to our community. Your friends and relatives can listen too: just visit [www.qx-fm.com](http://www.qx-fm.com) and click on the "Click to Play" icon. You'll be listening in no time. QX-FM can also be found on the Tune-In Radio app as well as through numerous popular search engines.

### Lake Cherokee Annual Boat Parade

Sponsored by:



**The Lake Cherokee Annual Boat Parade will be held on Saturday, July 4th at 10:00 am. So be thinking about what you want your boat or barge decoration theme to be.**

**All you have to do is show up in the area east of the island at 10:00 am and join the procession in front of the judges' stand at the CWC office pier.**

**You can follow the traditional *Patriotic Theme* or let your imagination carry you into the *Open Theme* category.**

*Please contact CWC if you plan on participating this year.*

# Donations Received for the 2026 Annual Fireworks “ In Memory or Honor of ”

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Boaters Education Course	June 6, 2026
Wet and Wild Boat Rally	June 13, 2026
July 4th Fireworks	July 4, 2026
July 4th Boat Parade	July 4, 2026
Crappie Tournament	August 29, 2026
Family Fun Fest	September 5, 2026
Fall Bass Tournament	October 17, 2026
Chili Fest	November 7, 2026





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# wsia WAKE RESPONSIBLY

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: <https://wsia.net/>

## The National Safe Boating Council recommends these tips for boaters:

### Take a boating safety course.

Gain valuable knowledge and on-water experience in a boating safety course with many options for novice to experienced boaters.

### Check equipment.

Schedule a vessel safety check to make sure all essential equipment is present, working and in good condition.

### Wear a life jacket.

Make sure everyone wears a life jacket - every time. A stowed life jacket is no use in an emergency.

### Use an engine cut-off switch it's the law.

An engine cut-off switch is a proven safety device to stop a powerboat engine should the operator unexpectedly fall overboard.

### Watch the weather.

Always check the forecast before departing on the water and frequently during the excursion.

### Know what's going on around you at all times.

Nearly a quarter of all reported boating incidents in 2022 were caused by operator inattention or improper lookout.

### Know where you're going and travel at safe speeds.

Be familiar with the area, local boating speed zones, and always travel at a safe speed.

### Never boat under the influence.

A BUI is involved in one-third of all recreational boating fatalities. Always designate a sober skipper.

### Keep in touch.

Have more than one communication device that works when wet. VHF radios, emergency locator beacons, satellite phones, and cell phones can all be important devices in an emergency.

### About the National Safe Boating Council

Established in 1958, the National Safe Boating Council is the foremost coalition for the advancement and promotion of safer boating through education, outreach, and training. For more information about NSBC programs and professional development opportunities, visit [www.safeboatingcouncil.org](http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org).



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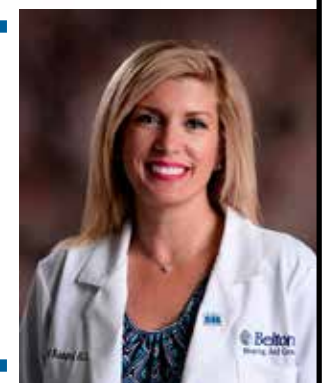


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## BRIDGE CLUB



By Jeanne Collins

June 2026



Seated: Don and Carol Ehl  
Standing: Danny and Barbara Coats



seated: Joyce Martin,  
Summer Whitehead  
standing: Norvella Skarda



Seated: Janet Martin, John Harris  
Standing: Jeanne Collins, Fredna Harris



L-R: Joy Tate, Kelly Flanagan,  
Beth Schreiber

It has been mentioned before that playing bridge is a positive brain activity, both for the mental processes and for the social stimulation, as they both contribute to a person's overall health. This past February, at a bridge club in Stuart, Florida, they celebrated a member's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a surprise party. When Juanita H. arrived for her regular Monday game, she was surprised with a cake and a special gift. Since she openly professes her longevity to drinking a finger of Scotch every day, the members chipped in and bought her 100 miniature bottles of her favorite brand, one for every year of her life! After the celebrations, they all went on to play the day's games, where Juanita and her partner came in fourth in the nine-table event!

The CWC bridge club invites you to join us (no alcohol please) - every Wednesday at the CWC Library, next door to the CWC Office. We start at 11:30 am and play four rounds, usually finishing by 2:30 pm. Our games are very informal, and men and women of all skill levels are welcome. If you do not know how to play, we will teach you.

At our CWC club weekly games 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!

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## Spread the Word!

### Attention Food Truck Vendors

Beginning Memorial Day Weekend, we are inviting food trucks to set up at Firecracker Park every weekend until the end of September.

<b>Saturday June 6th</b>	<b>AK BBQ &amp; Tru Drinks</b>
<b>Sunday June 7th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>Saturday June 13th</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Sunsational Ice</b>
<b>Sunday June 14th</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Texas Best Ice Cream</b>
<b>Saturday June 20th</b>	<b>AK BBQ &amp; Tru Drinks</b>
<b>Sunday June 21st</b>	<b>Back Street Burgers &amp; Ice So Happy Snowcones &amp; Lemonade</b>
<b>Saturday June 27th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>Sunday June 28th</b>	<b>Lovin From My Oven &amp; Dirty Fizz</b>
<b>Saturday July 4th</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>(Evening @ Office)</b>	
<b>Sunday July 5th</b>	<b>AK BBQ &amp; Texas Best Ice Cream</b>
<b>Saturday July 11th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Frios Pops</b>
<b>Sunday July 12th</b>	<b>Loving From My Oven &amp; Brian &amp; Scott Snowballs</b>
<b>Saturday July 18th</b>	<b>Back Street Burgers &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>Sunday July 19th</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Texas Best Ice Cream</b>
<b>Saturday July 25th</b>	<b>AK BBQ &amp; Tru Drinks</b>
<b>Sunday July 26th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Dirty Fizz</b>
<b>Saturday Aug. 1st</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Tx. Best Ice Cream</b>
<b>Sunday Aug. 2nd</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Tx. Best Ice Cream</b>
<b>Saturday Aug. 8th</b>	<b>AK BBQ &amp; Tru Drinks</b>

<b>Sunday Aug. 9th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Brian &amp; Scotts Snowballs</b>
<b>Saturday Aug. 15th</b>	<b>Back Street Burgers &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>Sunday Aug. 16th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Tx. Best Ice Cream</b>
<b>Saturday August 22nd</b>	<b>AK BBQ &amp; Tru Drinks</b>
<b>Sunday Aug. 23rd</b>	<b>I am Hot Street Eats &amp; Ice so Happy Snowcones &amp; Lemonade</b>
<b>Saturday Aug. 29th</b>	<b>Back Street Burgers &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>Sunday Aug. 30th</b>	<b>I am Hot Street Eat &amp; Ice So Happy Snowcones &amp; Lemonade</b>
<b>Saturday Sept. 5th</b>	<b>Family Fun Fest (no trucks)</b>
<b>Sunday Sept. 6th</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Tx. Best Ice Cream</b>
<b>Monday Sept. 7th</b>	<b>I am Hot Street Eat &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>(Labor Day)</b>	
<b>Saturday Sept. 12th</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Snow Joe's</b>
<b>Sunday Sept. 13th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Ice So Happy Snowcones &amp; Lemonade</b>
<b>Saturday Sept. 19th</b>	<b>Back Street Burger &amp; Frios Pops</b>
<b>Sunday Sept. 20th</b>	<b>Rightside &amp; Ice So Happy Snowcones &amp; Lemonade</b>
<b>Saturday Sept. 26th</b>	<b>I am Hot Street Eat &amp; Frios Pop</b>
<b>Sunday Sept. 27th</b>	<b>Chaotic Creations &amp; Snow Joe's</b>

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## NEWS FROM THE 19TH HOLE

by Cherie Anglin

Greetings from the 19th Hole!

**New hours for JUNE** the Pro Shop will be open from 7:00 AM to 6:00 pm Tuesday through Sunday. We are closed most Mondays for Course Maintenance.

Fun Bunch Scramble is every Saturday except for Tournament day. Scrambles start at 9:00 AM, check in begins at 8:45. Its a blind draw for partners so come out and play.

\*\*Course will be closed on June 6th and June 28th at 12:00pm for private tournaments, a limited number of carts will be available in the morning. \*\*

Ladies day is every Tuesday, tee off is usually between 9-10AM, contact the Pro Shop for start time. Ladies have priority of play, please give way. Ladies start on holes 1-4 depending on players. Restrooms are located on hole #6 and in the club house.

Our next Tournament is on June 20th, Cherokee Cup ( Ryder cup style) 2 Captains that will pick their teams. Sign up in the Pro Shop cost is \$30.00. Start time is 9:00 AM Check in begins at 8:30 AM. Lunch will be a fish fry provided by Chalk Hill Community Church.

### Winners of the Scotch tournament:

First place: Mark Taylor / Myron Foster

Second place: Phil Porter / Bill Alder

Third place: Dan / Sharon Rust

Fourth place: JC Lackey / Pat Campbell

Our next board meeting will be on June 11th at 6:00 PM all are welcome to attend.

First Tee will have summer camp starting on June 22-26th from 9am-11am. For information or sign up contact Bill Blanks at (903) 521-3992.

We will be having our first Adult Golf Camp hosted by Bill Blanks. Which will be held on June 2nd-5th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Course will be open during this time however golfers will need to golf around the set up holes.

We want to welcome our new members:  
Dickey Bedford, Joe Garrett, Micah Shannon



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The shareholders of the lot listed are the winners of **FREE GOLF** at the Cherokee Country Golf Association Course during the month of JUNE. 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.

## SHOPPER'S CORNER

**For Sale:** 2004 Sun Tracker Party Barge for \$4,000 Already on Lake Cherokee with current lake stickers. Great budget-friendly pontoon for cruising, fishing, or relaxing. Call/Text Jeff: 903-720-2409

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May 11, 2026 meeting

Well, no one can ever say the Fishing Club is not adaptable. Our usual chefs, Pete and Carol Staiti took a much-deserved vacation and we attempted to forage for ourselves, only to discover just how much we need them! The arranged plans to pick up fried chicken and sides went south when we arrived to find the provider hadn't cooked it! Chaos ensued around the fryers with all hands on deck to prepare fried chicken for 50 within 30 minutes. Meanwhile, back at the meeting, we just rearranged our schedule to conduct business first while waiting for the food. Everyone was very gracious and we made it work! And hey, when the chicken arrived, it was nice and hot.

Big thank you to Bryce for handling the stress at the food provider, and to George and Linda Steele, David and Dana Wilson for the hectic scramble to get things set up and cleaned up afterwards.

In addition to some very tasty chicken, potato salad and beans, David Wilson, Logan Lobue, Bob Tippitt, Wiley Thomas, Linda Steele and Larry Willis brought additional sides and desserts. Thank you everyone!

President Keith Hightower welcomed our new members - Tim Inman, Steven Prescott, Dylan Briscoe; and guests - Roy Lytle, Kristina Coolidge, Dana Wilson, Jane Lewis.

Keith also addressed the CFC Board response to the Open Water Proposal. He acknowledged it may not reflect the entire club and represented only the board's thoughts and recommendations. Whatever the outcome, we will respect the final decisions and move forward.

Lori then thanked Doug Klump, Mike Fleener, Bonnie Hegeman and Bryce Tawney for helping with meeting setup on Mother's Day. June is covered, but we still need volunteers for the remaining summer months.

George Steele provided the hatchery and habitat updates and announced 4000 Florida Bass fingerlings have been ordered and should be placed in the ponds mid-June. The project to catch and release bluegill in the ponds is also underway. There is some friendly competition among Bryce, Lori, Keith, Gary and Bob to see who can fill their assigned pond to maximum capacity. To date, 81 bluegills have been distributed across the 5 hatchery ponds. These fish will be able to breed in protected waters and then released to provide more forage for our bass population. This can be a fun project for the kids. If you are interested in participating, send an email to [fishingcherookee@gmail.com](mailto:fishingcherookee@gmail.com) and we will put you in touch with Gary Lindsey.

George reported the crappie can be found on the habitats. You may have to fish several of them to get a boatful, but they are there!

David reminded everyone of the Big Bass Bounty, which is underway until the Fall Bass Tournament. Current leader is Blake Perry, with a 6 lb., 14 oz catch. Send your photo to [fishingcherookee@gmail.com](mailto:fishingcherookee@gmail.com) to enter. Winner will receive a nice rod from Pride Fishing Rods!

Crappie tournament is August 29. Entry rules and forms will be in the July and August Chatter.

After dinner, Bryce gave the Treasurer's report. He then brought attention to the raffle sponsored by Wings and Whitetails to help CFC member James Elliot, who is dealing with serious health issues. The raffle will be held on Father's Day. A post with the details on how to participate is in our Facebook Group and you can call Wings and Whitetails at 903-693-6129.

Doug Klump then introduced Kristina Coolidge to present the winners of the April Kid's Fishing Contest. Eli was the bream win-



ner with a 9.25 oz catch. Arlo caught a 2.74 lb bass. Two proud grandpas were there as well. Arlo was too shy to get a photo, but warmed up later! Contest runs through August. Submit photos of bream, crappie, catfish and bass to [fishingcherookee@gmail.com](mailto:fishingcherookee@gmail.com). Winners are announced each month and ALL entries are eligible for the grand prize drawing at the end of the contest.

John Jaskiewicz introduced our speaker, Zack Fogel, Major League Fishing angler. Zack gave a very informative talk on his career and path to semi-professional status through increasingly competitive circuits. He talked about how LiveScope has really helped him understand fish behavior, dispelling many previously held "truths" about how they react to lure movement and location. As someone with a full-time job, he talked about how it is difficult to compete with many of the younger anglers who seem to have a lot more time to truly learn fish behavior across multiple lakes and conditions. He has great respect for how much work they put in! He then shared details on his secret weapons that \*always\* produce monster fish. He has a limited arsenal of tried-and-true rigs, lures and worms that work in almost any condition. During question and answer, he generously answered specific questions about color, hook size, etc., on what consistently works well for him. Lots of notes were taken. Maybe you'll find some of these items in future tackle bag raffles. Thank you Zack!

We wrapped up with the raffle. The winners were: Abu Garcia Reel, Dana Deason; Restaurant gift cards, Randy Hudgins, Rod Diehl and Jerald Lewis; Fillet knife, Randy Hudgins; Bag of tackle goodies, Bob Tippitt and Mike Fleener; Fishing pliers, Don Anderson. Congratulations!

Next meeting is June 8 at NK 20, CWC Office. Dinner is at 6:30 and our speaker will be from Jones Supply to talk about their new fishing inventory and take our suggestions for additional items. Guests are welcome and membership is only \$20 per calendar year. Hope to see you there!



Eli Hurt, Kids Fishing Contest April bream winner - 9.25 oz.

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### Holiday dates/hours:

- Friday, July 3rd  
8:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Monday, September 7th  
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

### November 1st - February 28th

CLOSED - Watch for pop-up dates/hours!





Our 2nd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony was held at the Park on Memorial Day. We had 100+ attendees sitting in the shady areas. Miguel Fabbiani was our host. Bill Blanks from The Church at Lake Cherokee started off with a prayer. Roger Morris explained the meaning of Memorial Day and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Katheryn Johnston recited "In Flanders Fields" a poem by John McCrae. Dr. John DiPasquale talked about the Greatest Generation and stories from decades of working with veterans including at the VA. Everyone observed the National Moment of Silence at 3:00pm and then John Weaver performed Taps on his trumpet. Finally, in a last-minute plea, Bart Owens agreed to lead the group in the National Anthem...and, he NAILED it!

FFP would like to thank Spencer Patterson and his friends and sponsors



for a great shrimp fest at the Island for their 3rd annual Summer Kick-Off party. Every year, Spencer's group chooses a charity to benefit from proceeds of the event. This year, FFP and the Fishing Club were selected. For FFP, these funds will come in handy for our non-profit start-up costs. It ain't cheap starting a non-profit.

Lake Cherokee First Friends has named FFP as the beneficiary of proceeds from their Lake Cherokee Cookbook. Please

support their incredible efforts to gather these recipes! The funds FFP receives from the cookbook sales will also go towards the general fund to support FFP's mission. They are also looking for advertisers, so you help them reduce costs by placing an ad.



Is your "Old Glory" tired and needing to be retired? Drop off your **Unserviceable American Flags** with John Morgan (NH10) or Ken Pope (SM26) before June 13th. FFP will conduct a flag disposal ceremony on Flag Day, June 14th at Freedom Park. All are welcome. And, be ready to celebrate the birthday of the US Army, born a year before our country was established. So, although we celebrate 250 years as a country, our Army is 251!

#### Fireworks on the 4th of July.

Freedom Park is open during the fireworks. We won't have any activity because FFP volunteers will be with their families. If you choose to watch from Freedom Park, would you send us photos? We'd love to post some on our Facebook page or website. Send them to Info@LakeCherokeeFreedomPark.org Happy birthday America!



water. Each spot would cost \$425, or a family could have all 8 names for \$3,400.

**Memorial Pier.** The pier (boat dock) is CWC approved and construction can start this summer. Donations are needed for this \$16,000 project. FFP is looking for an angel donor who would like to be our Pier Sponsor. For a \$15,000 donation, the sponsor would receive a dedication plaque and the opportunity to name the pier - perhaps honoring a veteran, memorializing a loved one, or recognizing a generous family or corporation. Please let any FFP Board member know if you're interested.

The FFP Membership Team would like to remind everyone that if you previously donated to help build the Veterans Memorial, then your membership dues of \$20 have been waived for 2026! You are welcome to attend our meetings and volunteer for any of our ceremonies, events and projects.

Finally, we have merch! FFP fishing shirts are \$50 for members (this is cost). If you aren't a member, the price is \$70, which would include the shirt and membership!

For more information on any of the above events and projects, visit us at [www.LakeCherokeeFreedomPark.org](http://www.LakeCherokeeFreedomPark.org)



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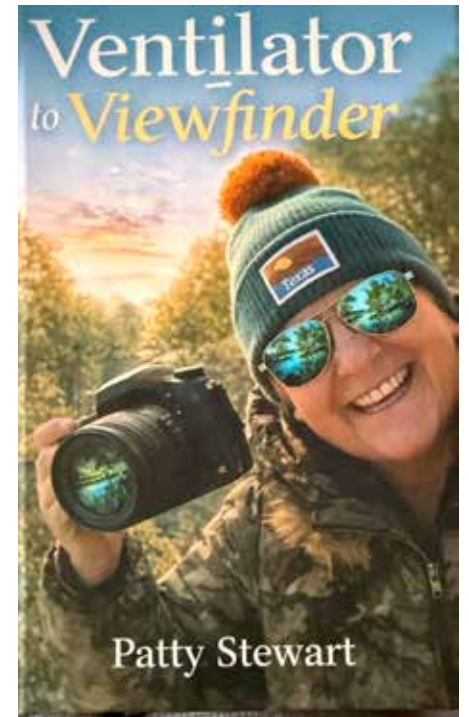
## Lake Cherokee Photography Club

The Lake Cherokee Photography Club met at the lake office on Tuesday, May 12th. We had a large attendance of 42 people who came to listen to Party Stewart's Part 2 of her photography journey entitled "From Ventilator to Viewfinder." Her presentation documented her 89 days on a ventilator to present day as she continues to perfect her craft despite the set backs of Covid. "Yes I can!" Is Patty's motto and she shared how life was before, during and after with a sense of humor that we all enjoyed!



Patty also shared photographs of the eagles at the lake and their two offspring that flew the nest in April of this year (She named them Gracie and Braveheart). Her wildlife photographs reveal her love of nature.

Patty is currently working on two books: Her life story with Covid and Birds of the Lake. Should you wish to follow her photographic journey, Patty Stewart is on FB. Thank you, Patty, for sharing your life story and photographs with us!



The Photography Club will welcome Marc Bailey next month. We will meet on Tuesday, June 9th at the Lake Office at 6pm. We hope to see anyone interested in photography!





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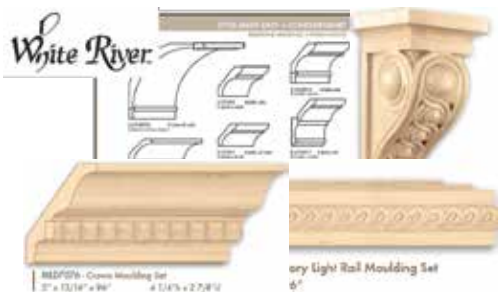
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-Luke 1:37 KJV

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**Happy Fathers Day 6/21/26**



# JUNE 2026

	1	2	3	4	5	6 Boater Education Course AK BBQ & Tru Drinks
		Variance Deadline	Bridge Club Luncheon			
7 Rightside & Snow Joe's	8 Fishing Club	9 Community Gardeners Photography Club	10 Bridge Club	11 Golf Course Board Mtg	12	13 Wet-N-Wild Boat Rally Chaotic Creations & Sunsational Ice
14 Chaotic Creations & Texas Best Ice Cream	15	16 Monthly Cleanup June 15-19	17 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	18 10 am to 5 pm First Friends CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club	19	20 AK BBQ & Tru Drinks
21 First Day of Summer Father's Day Back Street Burgers & Ice So Happy Snowcones & Lemonade	22	23	24 Bridge Club	25	26	27 Rightside & Snow Joe's
28 Lovin From My Oven & Dirty Fizz	29	30 Variance Deadline				



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# JULY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Annual Lake Cherokee Boat Parade Annual Lake Cherokee Fireworks Spectacular <b>Independence Day</b> Chaotic Creations & Snow Joe's
5 AK BBQ & Texas Best Ice Cream	6 CWC Office Closed	7	8 Bridge Club Luncheon	9 Bridge Club	10 Golf Course Board Mtg	11 Rightside & Frios Pops
12 Loving From My Oven & Brian & Scott Snowballs	13 Fishing Club	14 Community Gardeners Photography Club	15 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	16 First Friends CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club	17	18 Back Street Burgers & Snow Joe's
19 Chaotic Creations & Texas Best Ice Cream	20	21	22 Bridge Club	23	24	25 AK BBQ & Tru Drinks
26 Rightside & Dirty Fizz	27	28	29 Bridge Club	30	31	

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