

# Lake Petersburg

## News October 2016

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### **Memo from the President, Ron Cooley**

Your Lake Petersburg Board of Directors has been working hard this year. They have worked together as a team and have accomplished a lot:

1. New office secretary hired.
2. New boat ramp. The group worked well together getting assistance from an engineer, having specs drawn and bids gathered. Lots of time spent in writing specs and contractor negotiations. (The slab "push in" was very exciting.)
3. Clean-up of the maintenance/trailer/boat storage area. Many hours were spent compiling data regarding stored boats and trailers, finding owners, contacting owners, and working with the sheriff to get rid of trailers/boats with no known owners.
4. New sticker system to track boats and trailers belonging to members.
5. Editing and updating of the LPA By-laws.
6. Initiation of Executive Session policy.
7. Lake patrol boat re-hab
8. Coffer dam inspections with reports. Many hours spent working on dams to ensure their efficiency. All coffer dams inspected, 3 coffer dams repaired. Under budget on cost.
9. Work on Spring dam with success in repairing water flow.
10. Dam face repair
11. Savings of \$12,000 by not mowing some areas, although not a popular decision to many members.
12. Updating of the web site
13. Spring burning of some areas and planting of prairie grass by a member donating her time.
14. New fish introduced into lake twice. DNR report with suggestions. New rule for structures to be put in the lake to attract fish.
15. Savings on insurance
16. Striping of pickle-ball courts, with assistance of interested members.
17. Many hours spent ensuring dues, assessments and fines are paid by all members. Many hours writing warning letters before fines. Many appeals meetings.
18. Many rules updated and changed to meet needs of members.
19. Initiate rebuilding of the shed at the storage lot after storm damage.



## ELECTION

Time for election of Lake Petersburg board members is approaching soon. If you are interested in being a board member, think about it before taking action... Remember, there is a board meeting every month, special board meetings when working on projects, committee meetings, and appeals meetings. Plan to be active on the board. Plan to chair a committee. There is a time commitment involved. And, you must realise you will be interfacing with many different temperaments and views. Members will call you to complain and/or request special actions. Be sure you are ready for this.



### THE PLAN:

The election for board members of the Lake Petersburg Association will take place at the Annual Meeting on January 14, 2017, at 9:00 am, at the commons area of PORTA Jr/Sr High School. Coffee and doughnuts will be served. Candidates will be expected to address the membership, explaining why they should be elected.



Requirements for running for election for a seat on the Lake Petersburg Board of Directors:

1. Must be regular member of Lake Association for at least 1 year prior to Election Day.
2. Minimum age of 21 by Election Day.
3. Cannot be employed by or doing business with the Association.
4. Only 1 person from any membership may be on the Board of Directors at any one time.
5. Candidate must be current on all dues, fees and fines owed the Association.
6. Candidate may not be a convicted felon.

A member interested in running for a seat on the Lake Petersburg Board of Directors may pick up an application form at the lake office during regular office hours from October 31 through Monday, November 14.

Profiles of all candidates will be e-mailed to the membership for consideration.

### ELECTION SCHEDULE:

\*Applications including profiles e-mailed to Lake Office by Nov 16.

\*Profiles sent out to members by Dec. 5

\*Early voting from Wed, Dec. 7 til Wed, Jan 11

\*Election January 14

**THINGS MEMBERS NEED TO REMEMBER:**

1. Do not blow or rake leaves into the lake. This causes silt and sediment to build up, requiring more dredging.
2. No burning on common areas or unleased property. It is ok to burn on your own leased property.
3. Make sure your trailers are stickered before storing at storage lot.
4. No aerators allowed on the Lake.
5. Be careful to not allow your motor propellers to scrape the ramp. The ramp has already been damaged this way.



6. Small children need to be supervised when playing on ice or skating.
7. Watch your pets when ice on lake. Pets running loose can break through the ice and drown.

**HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE FALL/WINTER SEASON**

**FISHING COMMITTEE REPORT – RON SCZURKO**

The Association has a new regulation suggested by the Illinois DNR that is designed to reduce the over-population of smaller fish such as blue gills and shad. There is now a daily creel limit of no more than 25 crappies of any size hoping that fisherman will keep some smaller crappies.

The Board of Directors has approved an individual's request to add a small number of fish-attracting structures that are only approved on an individual basis with consideration as to their depth and distance from shore. A map of the structure locations is available at the lake office. Please remember that structure components and locations must be approved by the Board so that we can maintain a safe environment for all of our residents.

**TREASURERS REPORT - Joe Turek**

Most Lake Petersburg Association members decided to pay the one-time \$235 Boat Ramp Assessment in 2016, while a few members are taking the opportunity to spread their \$250 payments over 2016-2017. The total income for the boat ramp is \$90,660. The actual expense for the ramp was \$91,373.37. The additional \$717.37 will be taken from the General Reserve fund along with the cost of the new turnaround.

In Oct. 2016 the Finance Committee will be preparing the 2017 proposed budget. The proposed budget will be presented to the board in Nov. and with their approval or changes it will be distributed to the membership in early Dec. There will be time available during the Dec. Board Meeting for members to make suggestions regarding proposed budget. The proposed budget plus changes will be voted on at the Jan. 2017 meeting.



**\* Please read Rule book for complete rules.**

## **SUMMARY OF NEW AND EDITED RULES 2016**

- 1.) February – Section 7 – Enforcement of regulations – additional verbage: “penalties, and claims for payment” to cover all situations of payments.
- 2.) March – Section 5.4 – Motor Vehicles & Trailers – Edited to allow utility trailers to be used on a member’s leased property during a building project with a building permit.
- 3.) April -
- 4.) May – Rule 8.3, Section F – Roof lines and decks or any part of the structure shall be no closer than the setbacks. The distance is not measured from the foundation.
- 5.) June –
- 6.) July – A fishing structure rule was passed, allowing a structure to be put in the lake with approval of the majority of the board.
- 7.) August –
- 8.) September – A fishing rule was changed to allow a higher number of daily creel limit to no more than 25 crappie of any size, per recommendation of DNR.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

The Board of Directors, on behalf of the membership, wishes to thank Jeff Smith who has so generously assisted the association by providing a boat dock at the ramp site, repairing that dock, and moving it out and back into the lake during ramp construction.

*Thanks*

### **LPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ron Cooley	899-2637
Barb Kyes	632-4103
Joe Turek	632-3207
Dave Swigart	248-5930
Ron Sczurko	494-1411
Ellen Fliss	652-1875
Heather Karrick	314-0108
Tom Lawton	416-3118

## BOAT RAMP PROJECT

The new boat ramp opened as scheduled on September 1, 2016. The Woodrum Brothers did an excellent job of removing and replacing our 50 year old boat ramp in 8 short weeks. Over the next year the County will be widening the road leading up to the ramp and putting a chip seal on that portion of the road.

Members now need to obtain a special permit if they have hired contractors who need to access the ramp. Applications for Contractor's Special Equipment Boat Ramp Access are available in the office. Please make sure that you also have obtained appropriate building permits for the work you are having completed.

***SPECIAL NOTE: Any metal scraping against the boat ramp will damage both the metal piece and the concrete ramp. Unfortunately damage has already occurred. Please make sure you lift your props when removing your boat from the lake. This protects both your prop and the ramp.***

Your support and patience during this project was greatly appreciated.



## SEPTIC TANK ABANDONMENT

As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 131 tanks have been abandoned. There are 52 houses left with septic tanks. Of these 52, 30 are readily doable and 22 have issues ranging from resident approval to obstacles such as decks, trees, etc. Some houses have multiple tanks, making the number to be abandoned at about 60. At this point, Image has finished their contracted number of tanks. The board will discuss any new contract.

**LAKE ASSOCIATION OFFICE – 217-632-7492**

**WINTER HOURS:** October 17 to March 20

Mon 1-4; Wed 12-6; 1<sup>st</sup> Sat of month 9-12

**SEWER EMERGENCY:** 217-632-0000

**LAKE RANGER**                      217-652-9112