

# Welcome to Lake Cherokee

January 2023 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](mailto:misty@lkcherokee.com).

# The Cherokee CHATTER

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

## MARCH 2023

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Cherokee Water Co.  
NK20 Lake Cherokee  
Longview, TX 75603

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## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHEROKEE WATER COMPANY February 16, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Cherokee Water Company was held at 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at NK 20 Lake Cherokee, Longview Texas 75603 with the following Directors present:

**Christy Bussey, President**  
**Randy Graves, Treasurer**  
**Cathy Hite, Secretary**  
**Rhonda Bullard**  
**Kristina Coolidge**  
**Seleta Davis**  
**Cory Eason**  
**Doug Finn**  
**Gary Mapes**  
**Thomas Merritt**  
**Paul Oberthier**

President Christy Bussey called the meeting to order.

Cathy Hite, Secretary, pronounced a quorum.

Minutes of the January 19, 2023 board meeting and January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 special meeting of the Board of Directors were discussed, reviewed and stand approved as distributed.

### Treasurers Report:

**Randy Graves, Treasurer made a motion to certify the bills paid for month**

**ending January 2023. A second was made by Seleta Davis. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Randy Graves, Treasurer made a motion to approve the Financial Management Policy. A second was made by Thomas Merritt. The motion passed with unanimously.**

### President's Report:

An operational update was provided including stats on administrative, patrol and maintenance departments.

### Committee Reports:

#### Community Relations Committee:

Kristina Coolidge, Chair provided an update on the glitch that occurred with the Lake Cherokee portal this week and read a message that will be posted on the CWC website with the details. She reported that the committee met this month and reviewed the previous survey sent out to shareholders in 2021 via Survey Monkey. The committee updated survey questions with recommended explanations, edits, and additional questions and encourages shareholders to complete the survey when received. Survey results will be used to determine progress made since the last survey and also to assess the needs and wants of leaseholders and our growing lake community. Coolidge also reported that her committee is going to partner with the Natural Resources committee to provide key information on the status and plans for lake vegetation which will include maps and infographics. The committee also thanked and gave recognition to Misty for her commitment to CWC and excellent customer service.

The committee had no items requiring board action.

#### Road and Boat ways Committee:

Gary Mapes, Chair reported the committee didn't meet this month but the roadways project should begin in the next few weeks. The committee had no items requiring board action.

#### Natural Resources Committee:

Seleta Davis, Chair reported the committee met with Lake Biologist, Matt Ward this month and approximately 600 carp will be released in the next few weeks. The biologist will continue to treat and survey the lake and will make recommendations regarding any additional treatments required to manage vegetation. 2

The board has budgeted additional funds for vegetation control and is committed to doing everything possible to improve the vegetation conditions for the coming summer. Davis also reported CWC has contracted with Canvas to conduct surveys of the 29 tracts owned by CWC and develop a plan for the most beneficial use of each tract. She reported the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the siltation survey has also begun.

The committee had no items requiring board action.

### Rules and Policies Committee:

Rhonda Bullard, Chair reported the committee met this month. The committee has received an engagement letter to begin the project to review the General Rules and Procedures in an effort to reorganize the document and make it more user friendly, relatable and organized.

### Variance Requests

The committee considered 7 variances this month.

1. **NE34 – demolition and new boathouse 125' from shore.**

**Rhonda Bullard moved to deny the variance request. Second was made by Gary Mapes.**

**The motion passed with directors Bussey, Graves, Mapes, Oberthier, Finn, Bullard, Coolidge and Merritt voting in favor and Directors Hite, Davis and Eason voting against.**

2. **NF01b – new construction (house) closer than 75' from the water and closer than 50' to the road**

**Rhonda Bullard moved to approve the variance request. Second was made by Seleta Davis.**

**The motion passed Unanimously.**

3. **NF52 – 10'x12' building 2' from the property line. There is currently a 9 month permit outstanding.**

**Rhonda Bullard moved to deny the variance request. Second was made Thomas Merritt.**

**The motion passed Unanimously.**

4. **NK22 – new construction (house) closer than 75' from the**

**water**

**Rhonda Bullard moved to approve the variance request. Second was made by Randy Graves.**

**The motion passed Unanimously.**

5. **NK23/NK24 – home addition closer than 75' from the water with improvements made on NK23.**

**Shareholder was asked to complete a new survey / replot the lots with improvements to be on NK23. They agreed.**

**Rhonda Bullard moved to approve the variance request. Second was made by Paul Oberthier.**

**The motion passed Unanimously..**

6. **SK19 – 12'x20' storage building 4ft from property line and 12' from lake road**

**Rhonda Bullard moved to approve the variance request. Second was made by Doug Finn.**

**The motion passed Unanimously.**

7. **SU3 - new boathouse 150' from shore**

**Rhonda Bullard moved to deny the variance request. Second was made by Gary Mapes.**

**The motion passed Unanimously.**

**Facilities and Amenities Committee:** Thomas Merritt, Chair reported the committee met this month and discussed the committee charter and prioritization of goals. No action by the board was required.

**With no other business, President Christy Bussey adjourned the meeting at 6:35 pm.**

**ATTEST:**

**Cathy Hite, Secretary**

# Who needs the Boater Education Card?

## It's the Law!

Operators must meet the age and boater education requirements shown below in order to operate any of the following vessels legally in Texas:

- A powerboat powered by a motor of more than 15 horsepower or...

- A personal watercraft or...

- A windblown vessel over 14 feet in length.

A person less than 13 years of age may operate only if he or she is supervised by a person who:

- Is 18 years of age or older and...

- Can lawfully operate the watercraft and...

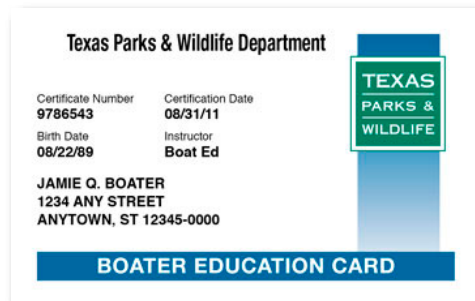
- Is on board when the vessel is underway.

A person at least 13 years of age and born on or after September 1, 1993, may operate without supervision only if he or she has passed a boater education course that is accepted by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Save the date: The Boater Education Course has been set for Saturday, June 3rd, 2023 at CWC, NK 20.

REGISTRATION FOR THIS COURSE IS NOW OPEN - PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

<https://tpwd.elementlms.com/course/boater-education-classroom-course-1885/>

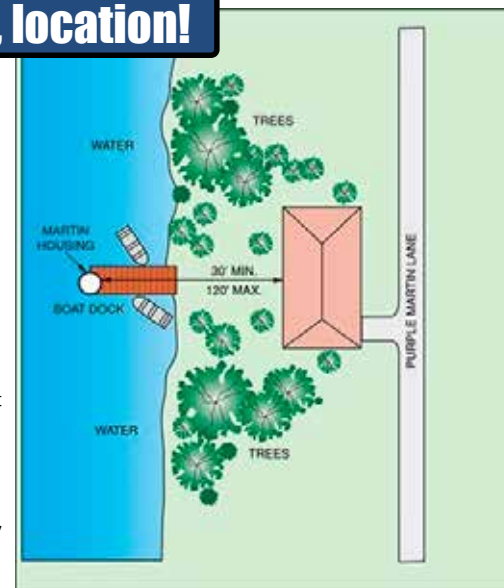


# Purple Martins

## Location, location, location!

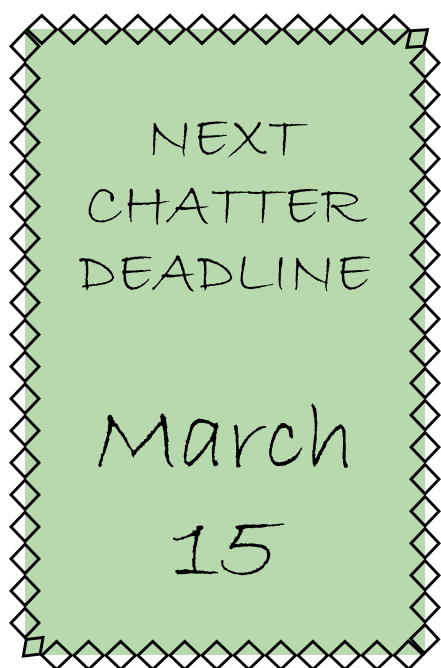


One of the most important steps in attracting Purple Martins is choosing the right location for your martin housing. Martins prefer housing that is placed in open areas with clear flyways. Choose the center of the largest open spot available, about 30-120 feet from human housing and at least 40-60 feet from trees. In the southern half of their breeding range, martins may accept housing that is placed within 25 feet of trees, but open areas are always best.



Place the housing where you can enjoy watching the birds. Entrance orientation—north, east, south, or west—doesn't matter. But once the martins have arrived, make sure the housing is kept in the same orientation. If the housing spins or twists around the pole and is not reoriented, the martins may become disoriented and abandon their nests. Do not attach any wires to the house or pole that may lead to trees, buildings, or the ground as they may allow predators to access the housing.

<https://www.purplemartin.org/>



**In case of  
EMERGENCY,  
please  
call 9-1-1  
and then  
Lake Patrol  
at (903)  
643-7321**



photo credit Dee Kennel

# Lake Cherokee Security Report

## January 2023

Facility Check: 1,675	Clear roadway of trees/debris: 19
Extra Patrol: 80	Disturbance: 3
Welfare Check: 1	Burglary/Theft: 0
Open Door/Blg/ Veh: 3	Alarms: 5
Suspicious Person/Vehicle: 5	Vehicle/Boat accident: 0
Issue Permit: 0	Water Response Calls: 0
Set Out/Pick up trap: 0	Code/Trash Violations: 0
Remove animal from trap/lot: 1	Assist other Agency: 3
Remove dead animal: 4	



Lake Cherokee's First Friends group met Thursday, February 16 at the home of Gail Fowler for lunch and to hear the results of our D.I.S.C. Personality Quiz that we took in January. Oh what fun!!!! It was enlightening (and fun) to hear the results of our quiz and to find out why we act, interact and "re-act" as we do with our friends, family and even strangers. Even the ladies that didn't take the quiz learned alot about personalities in general and maybe found out a little about their friends - **FIRST FRIENDS!** If you want to join us at the First Friends group - contact Gail Fowler at [bogaowler@gmail.com](mailto:bogaowler@gmail.com) to get on the email list or join our Facebook page First Friends (Lake Cherokee). There is not a membership and you do not have to commit to attending - it's just a fun time of gathering once a month with our friends and neighbor ladies that live on the lake.

Next month we will take a tour and have lunch at Parkview on Hollybrook - come join us, but RSVP is mandatory for this event for food and seating. In April we will visit the Longview Arboretum.



Door prize winners: Judi Morgan and Brenda Carlton



## VARIANCE REQUESTS

ALL variance requests MUST be turned in by 4:00pm the Monday before the Property Committee meets. (10 days before the Board meeting)

### 2023

March 6  
April 10  
May 8  
June 5  
July 10  
August 7  
September 11  
October 9  
November 7  
December 11



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## **Mark Your Calendars:**

<b>Spring Bass Tournament</b>	<b>March 25, 2023</b>
<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b>	<b>April 8, 2023</b>
<b>Boater Education Course</b>	<b>June 3, 2023</b>
<b>Wet-N-Wild Boat Rally</b>	<b>June 10, 2023</b>
<b>Boat Parade</b>	<b>July 1, 2023</b>
<b>Fireworks Spectacular</b>	<b>July 1, 2023</b>
<b>Family Fun Fest</b>	<b>September 2, 2023</b>
<b>Fall Bass Tournament</b>	<b>October 14, 2023</b>
<b>Chili Fest</b>	<b>November 11, 2023</b>



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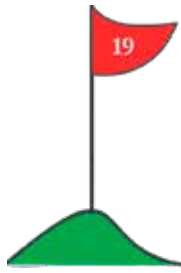


**Broker**  
Jason Murray  
jason@murrayres.com

**Facebook Page:**  
Murray Real Estate  
Services LLC



**Agent**  
Hunter White  
903.238.7205  
aggieforester05  
@yahoo.com



# News From the 19th Hole

by Celia Taylor

19<sup>th</sup> Hole – March 2023

Club hours in March are: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Weather permitting.

The February Tournament that was to be held February 11 at 9:00 am was cancelled due to weather. The March tournament is a Four Person Bring-A-Guest (must have a guest or play threesome). This will be a Scramble, Blind 9. It will be held March 11<sup>th</sup>. Tee time: 9:00 am

The monthly board meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm and welcomes everyone to come and join and see what happens in the meeting and ask questions. Anytime anyone has a question be sure and contact anyone on the board.

February 9<sup>th</sup> the Annual Board Meeting was held. The Officers and Directors are as follows: President: Phillip Works, Vice President: Nan Friend, Secretary: Jaye Herrmann, Treasurer: Celia Taylor, Directors David Stokes, Buzz Everett, Mark Taylor, Ann Loftin. Welcome to all! The Board would like to Thank all the Directors for all they do and a Big Thanks to David Stokes for the hard work he did as being President.

The Women play every Tuesday – tee time for March is 10:00 am. Come and join this great group of ladies. If weather is bad, they will meet and play card games. Always lots of

fun!

The Board would like to thank the Ladies Group for purchasing Hat Clips & Poker Chip Markers! The club appreciates it and all the Ladies do during the year for the course. Thanks so Much!!!

The Saturday Fun Bunch – Choose Up plays every Saturday except for Tournament Days. Tee Time is 9:00 am.

Continued Thanks to the grounds crew: JR Nettles, Lee Payne, Glenn Hanka, Mark Taylor, Myron Foster, Phillip Works, David Stokes & James Patterson – they keep the course looking great and keep the equipment running.

Thanks to Bob Thompson for helping shopping for the club.

The Pro Shop is working on new score cards and would like to see if any business or individuals would like to place an ad (Business Card size). The score scores will be seen by a lot of business people – great advertising. The ads are \$200.00 per year which will be between 1,500 to 2,000 cards a year. Please contact the Pro Shop, any board member or Celia Taylor about questions or how to submit your ads. 903-452-6792.

See you on the course! Hit them long & straight.

## SPRING CLEANUP

The Annual Spring Cleanup will be conducted Friday, April 21st to Sunday, April 23rd, 2023. During that period, both the North Side and South Side roll-off container sites will be open between the hours of 10:00 am and 5:00 pm Friday and Saturday and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Sunday.

The sites will be manned by CWC employees. Residents may bring up to two (2) pickups full (approximately 6 yards) of non-hazardous household waste to the container sites for free disposal. If you need more than six (6) yards, please call Lee White at the CWC office, and make arrangements. All waste must originate from leased property at Lake Cherokee.

Rather than list what we will be accepting, let me list what we will not be able to accept.

We will not be accepting any of the following:

- Hazardous materials of any kind
- Liquids of any kind (examples: paint, solvents, cooking oil, etc.)
- Items that contain PCB's (i.e., transformers)
- Yard waste such as trees, limbs, grass clippings, etc.
- Shingles and roofing materials

Many of you wish we could accept yard waste and tree limbs, etc., unfortunately we cannot. To help with this problem, the CWC has arranged for shareholders to obtain, from the CWC office, landfill vouchers to dispose of these items at the Pine Hill Landfill. These vouchers are good for two (2) trips per year. Please call us for details of this program.

Through special arrangements, we will be able to accept some items that are not allowed at the landfill.

These include:

- Appliances including those that contain Freon such as air conditioners, refrigerators, and freezers
- Vehicle batteries will only be received at the north side disposal site
- Each year someone asks if we can take tires. We have made arrangements with a disposal provider; however, there will be a nominal charge per tire. If you have passenger vehicle tires or lawn equipment tires from your lot, the charge is \$4.00 per tire. This fee must be paid in advance. The office will generate a list of those authorized to dispose of tires. The tires will only be received at the North Side disposal site.

In order to participate in the cleanup, you must bring the items for disposal and proof that you are a shareholder at Lake Cherokee to the disposal sites during the dates and times given above. Proof may be in the form of a Privilege Card showing you are a shareholder or shareholder's spouse. In addition, a valid DL or other photo ID is required. If the shareholder or shareholder's spouse will not be present (i.e., you have arranged for someone else to transport your material for disposal,) you will need to call the office and make arrangements.

This cleanup is for household waste only from the shareholder's Lake Cherokee lot. No commercial disposal will be allowed.

Please take this opportunity to improve our environment, improve the quality of life for all of us on the lake and protect our community.



## LEASE RENEWAL REMINDER

Payment is due April 1st for those shareholders that took advantage of the split payment option for the annual 2022-2023 lease renewal. (\$635.00) If payment is not received in the CWC office by April 30th, 2023, a \$100 late fee will incur.

# Boater Safety Quiz

It's March and that means boating season on Lake Cherokee is just around the corner. Cherokee Water Company encourages all boaters and PWC operators on Lake Cherokee to operate their vessels safely and responsibly. Boaters on our lake are required to abide by the Texas Water Safety Act as enhanced by CWC Rules and Regulations. As a part of this effort, we will run a series of articles to remind you of safe boating rules and regulations, to refresh your recollection of boating rules specific to Lake Cherokee and common sense practices that make us all courteous and safe boaters. This month, we will start off with a short quiz to test your knowledge of some boating safety laws. Answers on page \_\_\_.

- According to Texas law, what operators are required to have passed an approved boating course in order to operate a PWC without supervision?
  - Operators at least 11 years of age and born on or after September 1, 1993
  - Operators at least 11 years of age and born on or after September 1, 1984
  - Operators at least 13 years of age and born on or after September 1, 1993
  - Operators at least 13 years of age and born on or after September 1, 1984
- What should anglers and hunters do when they are fishing or hunting from a boat?
  - Anchor in the middle of the waterway
  - Wear a PFD at all times
  - Keep clothing to a minimum
  - Take along extra food and gear
- When must navigation lights be displayed?
  - At night when there is a risk of collision
  - Only when adrift at night
  - From sunset to sunrise and when visibility is restricted
  - Only when you are anchored or in fog
- Are the following examples of negligent and reckless operation?
  - Allowing passengers to ride on the bow, gunwale, transom, seat backs, seats on raised decks, or any other place where there may be a chance of falling overboard.  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
  - Causing damage to a person or property with a vessel's wake in posted "No Wake Zone" areas.  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
  - Encircling people engaged in water activities  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
- Fill in the blank  
Do your part to protect Texas waters - \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_ your boat!

Answers:

- c
- b
- c
- a. Yes  
b. Yes  
c. Yes
- clean drain dry



Make a fireworks donation "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one, great friends, or people that are [were] special to us

\_\_\_\_\_ "in memory of" \_\_\_\_\_ "in honor of"

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my check made out to *Cherokee Water Company* in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my credit card in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle: *MasterCard* *Visa* *Discover* *American Express*  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name to be recognized: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Acknowledgment to:

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Cherokee Water Company - NK 20 Lake Cherokee - Longview, TX 75603

**SAVE THE DATE -2023 Lake Cherokee Fireworks Display  
Saturday, July 1, 2023**

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ACTIVE SB 46-47 \$525,000

RANDY RENSHAW 903-983-9314

ACTIVE SG-31 \$725,000

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STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

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## Tree Permits

Need a permit to remove a dead or diseased tree? You don't have to come to the office but remember you must secure a permit from CWC before cutting trees from any CWC property. All trees that are requested to be removed shall be clearly marked. This can be done with a bright colored ribbon, spray paint or a paper plate tacked to it. Once you have the tree/s marked, call the Cherokee Water Company office and request a staff member to come to your lot to evaluate the tree/s and approve, if applicable, for a tree cutting permit to be issued. Trees smaller than ten inches (10") in diameter, thirty inches (30") from the ground, may be removed without restriction (although a permit is still required.) Any tree removed from CWC property without securing a permit will result in a fine being issued to the shareholder in the amount of \$500.00 per tree.

# Cherokee Fishing Club

## Spring Bass Tournament Entry Form

March 25, 2023

### Event Start Time

Bass 6:30 A.M.

### Event Weigh-in Time

Must be in weigh-in line by;

Bass 3:00 P.M.

### Team Members

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Fee: Bass - \$50.00 boat/ 2-member team or single fisherman fishing alone

Donation to Hatchery: \_\_\_\_\_ Entry Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail entry forms to Cherokee Fishing Club, SD 14 Lake Cherokee, Henderson, TX 75652 and they must be received by Thursday, before tournament. Entry forms may also be dropped of at the CWC, no later than 3:00 p.m. on the Thursday before tournament.

Any questions prior to tournament; Call Genia Holland 903-643-2538.

**CHEROKEE FISHING CLUB**  
**Annual Membership Registration**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/significant other \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Lot # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Below answers are optional:

\*Do you live on the lake full-time (y/n) \_\_\_\_\_

\*How long have you been a shareholder? \_\_\_\_\_

\*How often do you fish? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Preferred Species \_\_\_\_\_

\*Program topic suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for joining our club \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Family Members**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Lot # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Lot # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Use reverse side for additional family members.

Bring this membership form to a monthly meeting or mail membership with a \$20.00 check for each adult member. Junior Fishermen age fourteen and under, \$10.00 each.

Checks should be made out to the "Cherokee Fishing Club."

Mail to:

Cherokee Fishing Club

SD 14 Lake Cherokee

Henderson, TX 75652

Pays for annual membership for January-December calendar year.

For more information, call Genia Holland @ 903-738-2444

# Cherokee Bulletin Board

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### CHEROKEE BOAT MAINTENANCE

Boat and watercraft maintenance and minor repairs. Oil changes, batteries and general up-keep. David Wilson, NP 35 (903) 235-6458

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## Star Provider



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

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

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

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

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

The test will be offered online.

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

Fee for the course is \$250.00 - due at time of registration. For more information, call the office at (903) 643-3933

Fee covers:

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



## Favorite Fishing Places

By Fredna Harris

### *Scribe Tribe article for March 2023*

Late last summer, I stepped down from my retaining wall onto what had previously been water but was then dry ground because the lake was so low. Although it seems so distant now because we've had so much rain, the lake was very low, and I had heard some lake residents say they couldn't get their boats out, or the water level was so low they were close to not being able to get boats out. We had plenty of water to get boats out, but we also had a dry place on the edge of our eastern shoreline that was literally growing by the day. I sat down on our retaining wall and jumped down onto the perfectly dry lake bottom with a trash bag in hand. My mission was to pick up trash that had floated in as the lake receded.

I removed a couple of drink cans and a wad of fishing line. I added a couple of sticks of various sizes just to have a clean "beach" to look at although that part of the shoreline was barely visible from my patio. But that's when I discovered the treasure: a hand-painted sign to mark someone's favorite fishing spot. The handmade sign is 2 ¼ by 4 inches and is painted on both sides. One side is white paint only and was probably the "practice" side but is complete with small flowers. The

other side is done in color. A piece of perhaps copper wire is wrapped tightly around a narrow rod to hold the sign in place. The edges of the sign are even painted to protect the wood. Can anyone identify who Kaitlyn is and where the sign was originally placed?



Despite the fact that I found this sign on dry ground mixed in with sticks and moss, in a nanosecond this grandmother could picture a parent but more likely a grandparent assembling this sign as a marker for an enthusiastic young granddaughter discovering the joy of fishing for and catching crappie.

When I found this sign, my mind raced back three-quarters of a century when my own father and grandfather introduced me to fishing on this very lake. My grandfather had moved a wooden barge from Caddo to Cherokee. This large wooden boat was painted green and had space for ten or twelve people to fish from it at the same time. What fun! I learned to bait my own hook and how to take the hook out of the fish without getting finned.

Unfortunately, dads these days may not have the time to pursue introducing sons and daughters to the wonders of nature. Everything in the world has become so expensive that parents are working more and more hours to provide food on the table and the roof over head. Time and opportunity to explore nature may be sacrificed as unavailable or sometimes traded for sports or music/dance/art experiences.

This small sign also brought back sweet memories of my adult son, Clayton, asking me to help him set up a crappie hole not long after we purchased our current Lake Cherokee home. He wanted to put it close to our pier but not too close so we would feel like we had people fishing in our boathouse. We had previously cut down a cedar tree which was too close to our driveway, so I helped him load it onto our fishing boat. We

scrunched in among the branches and supplies and motored a few yards in front of our boathouse and tied up to a stump. Clayton filled some gallon milk jugs with water and capped them. He tied them to the trunk of the tree at various intervals to keep the cedar tree on the bottom. He also had "borrowed" a couple of landscaping stones from the yard and tied one on each end of the tree trunk with poly rope. We said a few words of dedication over our concoction and pushed it over the side of the boat and watched it sink.

We had no idea how successful or unsuccessful our efforts would be, but I was delighted to help my son in his effort to provide fishing excellence for fellow anglers on Lake Cherokee. We later learned that Fishing Club members shared the GPS with other members, and the fishermen did come! We just smiled and watched as they pulled in the fish.

My son died after a brief illness in 2017, but I still smile when boats come and tie up to fish our crappie hole. My daughter later made a sign which we put on our pier as a reminder of one who grew up fishing Lake Cherokee and who enjoyed sharing the sport with others.

Clayton Ashford Smith 1969-2017  
Rest in Peace

*Fredna Harris, a Lake Cherokee resident, taught English for 36 years and has experience in helping adults write life stories.*



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The Preservation Club met on February 16<sup>th</sup> with President Deanna Kalmus presiding.

We had a great turnout for our first meeting of 2023! Several visitors were in attendance and were converted to new members by the end of the night. It's a great group and we invite everyone to come witness what the Club does for our wonderful lake community.

The first topic of the meeting was planning for the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt that will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> on the grounds of the CWC offices. Kristina Coolidge has graciously volunteered to chair the event again. We'll keep it a secret as to who our bunny is this year! As with all of our events, **volunteers are needed**. This would be a great opportunity to jump

(or hop) right in and see how much fun you can have. We are also in need of supplies: plastic eggs, face painting pens, paint & tatoos. If you're interested in helping, please reach out to Kristina, club members or leave a message on the Preservation Club page on Facebook.

We are already gearing up for our Wet-n-Wild Boat Rally which will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup>! It's time to start considering if you're interested in hosting a boat house.

Usual Suspects will be entertaining us again on the island. Last year was spectacular so let's see if we can out do ourselves in 2023!

Speaking of entertainment...The Blaine Hart Band is already booked for June 3<sup>rd</sup>! This will be our first concert on the island and is sure to bring a big crowd. If anyone knows of other local bands that would be interested in playing on the island please let us know. Let's bust out some new dance moves this year!

Officer nominations for 2023 were held at the meeting. Deanna Kalmus will remain as president, Lanae Self will remain as secretary and Jane Wolven will be our new treasurer.

We look forward to seeing more new faces at our next meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup> following the board meeting. Remember to check us out on Facebook!



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## **Lake Cherokee Photography Club**

The February meeting of the Lake Cherokee Photography Group met on February 14th at the Lake Cherokee office. The plan for the meeting was to discuss criteria for submission of images for print.

We discussed sizing and image quality required for best results, which would also work for local contests as well. We did not review many photos this evening. A few images were shown on individuals' phones.

After the primary discussion was complete, we had the opportunity to chat and get to know each other better.

Our next meeting will be March 14, 2023 at 6 P.M. at the lake office. Our program will be provided by group member Bill Plunkett. He is a well traveled photographer who is knowledgeable in many areas related to camera, processing, and photo databases. He plans to address composition as well as other topics.

Please feel free to come to our group at any meeting. We know there are many Lake Cherokee photographers out there. We would love your input. We support each other and learn something at each meeting. Whether you have been photographing for years, or are just getting started, we are there for you.

Hope to see you on March 14th at 6 P.M. at NK 20, Lake Office downstairs. If you have questions, you may contact Nanci Gilbert at 936-652-4520 or at [nancisrealestatebiz@gmail.com](mailto:nancisrealestatebiz@gmail.com).

# What's Cooking at Lake Cherokee



By Peggy Hendon

This month's recipe comes from one of our dearest lake friends, Susan Deeds, who has been a resident of Lake Cherokee since 1996. Many of you already know Susan because of her involvement in so many lake activities: Bridge Club, KFT, First Friends, photographer and writer for the *Cherokee Chatter*, book arranger for the Cherokee Library, as well as grandmother, babysitter and all-around fabulous person! Before retiring, Susan was a Math and English teacher. She told me this recipe came from her daughter's daycare in Lorena, TX in 1988.

## Cream Cheese Bar Cookies

Susan Deeds

### Ingredients

\*1 (18.25 oz) package of Yellow Cake Mix  
 1/2 cup butter, melted  
 1 egg beaten  
 1 (8 oz) package cream cheese, softened  
 2 eggs beaten  
 3-1/2 cups confectioners sugar

Mix together cake mix, melted butter, or margarine and 1 egg. Press mixture into pan.

In a small bowl, mix together softened cream cheese, 2 eggs and confectioners sugar. Pour mixture on top of cake mixture.

Bake for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 300 degrees F (150 degrees C), and bake for 30 to 35 minutes.

### Directions

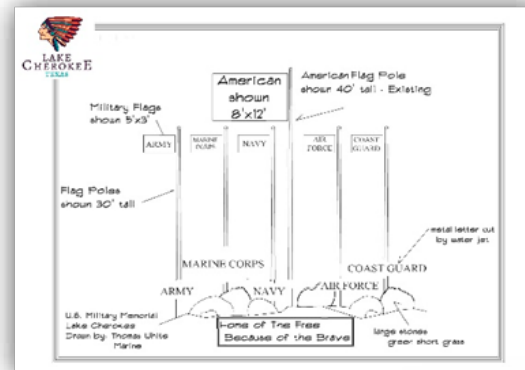
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) and grease and flour a 15" x 10" sheet pan.

Cool and cut into squares.

\*Cake mixture can vary from vanilla to chocolate or lemon. Susan's favorite is lemon.

Peggy Hendon is a retired graphic designer and publication specialist who lives on Lake Cherokee with husband Don Hendon, Yorkie-mix Maggie May, and a tiny Shorkie named Tucker. Text recipes to (903) 353-6203 or email peggycooper19@yahoo.com.

# DONATION FORM



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An idea brought forth by Thomas White several years ago is finally coming to fruition. The idea is for five U. S. Military branch flags to be flown around the American flag at the point near Firecracker Park. Up lighting, special landscaping and a plaque will finish out the beautiful tribute to all veterans.

The project is estimated to cost \$23,500 and includes five flags, five flagpoles, landscaping, lighting and plaque.

Any donation, big or small, is greatly appreciated.

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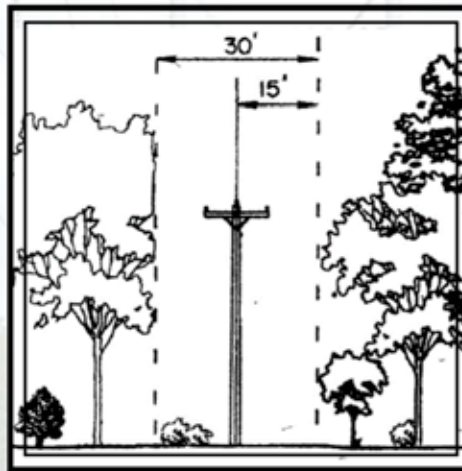
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# Vegetation Management Right-Of-Way Line Clearance Tree Maintenance

During the next several months, Rusk County Electric Cooperative, or its utility line clearance contract crews, will be pruning limbs and removing trees in the electric overhead power lines rights-of-way in your area. This work is being done to eliminate potential safety hazards and to keep power outages to a minimum. It is our desire to provide safe and reliable electric service to you. Since the last right-of-way clearing in your area, small trees may have grown or been planted within the right-of-way. These trees will need to be removed so your co-op can continue to provide safe and

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dependable electric service. If you want to keep any of these trees, go ahead and transplant them away from the power line right-of-way. A Rusk County Electric Cooperative, or an authorized contract representative, will attempt to contact you either in person, by phone, or by a notification card before removing trees within a landscaped or regularly maintained area. If routine pruning is all that is required (as performed during the previous re-clearing cycle), you may not be contacted. If you would like more information or if you would like to make an appointment, please call us.

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Extended hours:

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8:00 am-6:00 pm

If you are unable to make it to the office during business hours,  
give us a call. We can help! (903) 643-3933

barbara@lkcherokee.com

## CHATTER E-MAIL

Please send any correspondence related to *The Cherokee Chatter* directly to its dedicated e-mail,

[chatter@lkcherokee.com](mailto:chatter@lkcherokee.com)

If you regularly send items in to a CWC employee's e-mail address, please make this small change effective immediately. Thank you!

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.



# Cherokee Fishing Club News

By: Genia Holland

Thank you Pete and Carol for the wonderful Chicken Parmesan and pasta that y'all cooked for us last night. It was Great!

We had 40 guest and members present last night. This was the biggest crowd we have had in several years.

Our visitors were: Kim Bowlin, Charlie Standard, Doug and Lori Klump, William and Liam Beasley. Our new members were: Don Jones, Bubba Walthall, Kevin Bowlin, Mike Allbritton, Clint Ebey and Mike Fountain.

The cookie people were: Pete and Carol, Larry Willis, David Wilson, Roxanne Brink, Anna O'Brien, Craig Fowler, Bonnie Hegeman, and Genia Holland. Thank y'all so much.

The Spring Bass Tournament is on March 25, 2023. There will be entry forms in this month Chatter and I will have some at the March meeting. You can mail your entry to me or drop off at the lake office.

There will also be club membership forms in the March chatter. I always have forms at the monthly meeting also. Our membership starts over each January.

The ponds are doing fine. The crappie pond have about 50 brood crappie already in the pond. Catfish and Redear will be put in ponds in mid April.

Our program for February 14, 2023 was Les Milligan. Les is a guide on Lake of the Pines for crappie. He has taken several of our members on fishing trips and they have always caught their limits. Also good to know is Les will clean your fish for you. That would sell me on a trip with Les. Les asked the members what a car has that a boat doesn't. The answer is breaks. They are now starting to put a device on your power poles that can work like a break. The crappie on Lake of the Pines are starting to move up into the major creeks getting ready to spawn. When the water gets to about 59 to 60 degrees the crappie start moving towards the back of coves. The clarity of the water had lots to do with the spawn. Crappie like to spawn on sandy bottoms. Blake crappie have a smaller mouth and like more structure and are in larger schools. White crappie like to roam around, Les uses Live scope and runs about 70 feet pointing forward. Les showed the members the kinds of jigs he uses.



*Les Milligan*

Our next meeting is on March 13, 2023. Our speaker will be Brian Vickery who is another guide on Lake of the Pines. We have some really good programs coming up in the next few months. These programs will be for fisherman as well as all lake shareholders.

Our Raffle winners this month were: Solid Pawn gift bag by Liam Beasley, Gas can by Jim Barton. Bonnie Hegeman won a bag with Triple S catfish bait, hooks, sinkers. Go catch a bunch of catfish. Mike Jordan won a Valentine gift card to Texas Roadhouse.

See y'all next month.

FEBRUARY  
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# MARCH 2023

APRIL  
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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			Bridge Club Luncheon			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Deadline to Submit Variances	Community Gardeners	Bridge Club	Golf Course Board Meeting 6pm		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Daylight Savings Begins @ 2am	Fishing Club 7pm	Photography Club	Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	First Friends CWC Board Meeting 6pm Preservation Club	<b>St. Patrick's Day</b>	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	First Day of Spring 1st Day of Spring		Bridge Club			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
		Night Bridge 6:30pm	Bridge Club			

MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<h1 style="text-align: center;">APRIL 2023</h1>					MAY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1  April Fool's Day 2nd Half of 2022-2023 Annual Lease Renewal Due
2	3	4  Community Gardeners	5  Bridge Club Luncheon	6  CWC Office Closes @ Noon	7  CWC Office Closed Good Friday	8  Preservation Club Easter Egg Hunt
9  Easter	10  Deadline to Submit Variances Fishing Club 7pm	11  Photography Club 6pm	12  Bridge Club	13  Golf Course Board Meeting 6pm	14	15
16	17	18	19  Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	20  First Friends CWC Board Meeting 6pm Preservation Club	21  SPRING CLEANUP	22  SPRING CLEANUP
23  SPRING CLEANUP	24	25  Night Bridge 6:30pm	26  Bridge Club  Administrative Professionals Day	27	28	29
30						

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**SM 19**