



The Cherokee CHATTER

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

FEBRUARY 2024

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photo by Nic Summers

Cherokee Water Co.
NK20 Lake Cherokee
Longview, TX 75603

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Cathy Hite

CWC Office Manager



On January 2nd, I read an article by Ken Hersh, President, and CEO of the George W. Bush Presidential Center. It was printed in the Dallas Morning News.

The title is what caught my attention. ***In 2024, choose Community over Chaos***

When I read this title, I immediately thought of our community. What can we each do to shift our mindset by recommitting to civility and trust? Ken quoted: President George W. Bush gave us a road map in his first inaugural address, when he said, "Civility is not a tactic or a sentiment It is the determined choice of trust over cynicism, community over chaos."

Back in 2015, I chose Lake Cherokee as my retirement community. I fell in love with the lake and the people who live here. My initial plan was more of a weekender / summer home, but within a year, I moved here full time. There was such a pull that I couldn't resist.

I began working for Cherokee Water Company in August 2023. Working for CWC, I see the community through a different lens. I am an employee while at the same time also a shareholder.

To increase trust and strengthen the Community, it takes Communication and more of it. Kevin is committed to an open-door policy. The office staff are doing our part as well by increasing communications either via email or the CWC Facebook page. I want our communications to be informative to our shareholders. I heard someone say recently, "the Soup is not ready to leave the Kitchen". What this refers to is

that it takes time to get the recipe or information together. If we only share a small part of the subject, it just generates more confusion. In addition to emails, Social media is a tool that we will use in the office to get information out to shareholders. It is NOT our tool for responding to questions or addressing rumors. If you have questions, please call the office so that we can address them directly to minimize the misinformation that can be distributed via social media.

At the beginning of the year, most folks think about their resolutions for the year. I would like to share with you CWC's top 10 List of Resolutions / Objectives for 2024.

1. **Build Community by leveraging various tools to share information that is relevant and informative to shareholders.**
2. **Modernize our public website – cherokeewatercompany.com and expanding the options and functionality of the Portal for Shareholders**
3. **Launch an Online Store for Lake Cherokee branded products for Shareholders.**
4. **Look into alternatives for Island access by land.**

5. **Reduce storage lot maintenance costs and improve access to the storage lots**
6. **Hire a new Biologist for 2024 to address our vegetation issues.**
7. **Repair CWC Maintenance equipment so maintenance can replace boat road markers. Locate a new vendor for boat road lights.**
8. **Make repairs / upgrade CWC facilities.**
9. **Continue to upgrade / repair Lake Roads**
10. **Drive efficiencies in the office by updating and using technology to add services for shareholders**

Stay tuned for more information about our Top 10 objectives. When the "soup" is ready, we will provide more details.

To close this message, I hope all shareholders will choose to Trust us and the CWC Board to address your questions and to solve top issues. That you will choose Community over Chaos to keep our community the best place to live in East Texas.

Cathy
CWC Office Manager



photo by John Wrather

SALES TAX PROPOSAL UPDATE

The sales tax proposal to benefit the Elderville Fire Department passed.

The Gregg County Emergency Service District #1 and the Elderville Fire Department would like to thank the Lake Cherokee shareholders for their support.

Do you have an email on file?

CWC is updating our systems. A key identifier for shareholder and spouse is an email address. We have upgraded technology that provides the ability to send out emails to our community. Our goal is to increase our communications and to provide more access to services online. We don't want you to miss important messages. Be sure that we have your current email address on file.



MESSAGE

from the Manager



Kevin Jones

General Manager, Lake Cherokee

Hello Lake Cherokee. I hope your holidays were great with family and friends. Can you believe how fast this fiscal year is going! We are already through Q1, and only have around one more month of Winter ahead. Before we know it, It will be Springtime and we'll be rolling the clocks forward! I can't wait!

The CWC office has been busy this year working on future improvements for the lake and finding every way we can to reduce expenses. We will continue to keep these commitments a top priority.

I will be focusing more of my attention to our storage lots in the next couple of months. One way we will increase revenue is to create more rental spaces within the storage area that was expanded a couple of years ago on

the South side of the lake. We will be verifying current tenants and ensuring the proper spaces are occupied to those who they are assigned. It will be imperative that any property (trailers, boats, vehicles, etc.) that are not in a rented space assigned to that shareholder, be moved into the correct space. If there is any property in the storage area that is not properly rented from the CWC, it must be removed as soon as possible.

Another way we are looking at reducing cost is to remove the card access to the storage lots and move to a keypad entry only. This card reader system is not as dependable as the keypad system, and its upkeep is much more expensive. Some of these reductions are not the largest, but every bit helps us reach our goal.

We're looking forward to a great 2024. If I haven't had the opportunity to meet you yet, come by the office and say hello.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jones

RENEWALS PROCESSED

Renewals processed and Decals Mailed.

All lease renewals that were received have been processed and the requested decals for vehicles and watercraft have been mailed to the shareholder. This year the vehicle decals are green and the watercraft decals are red.

If you have not already done so, place your vehicle decals on your vehicles soon.

As a reminder, replacement watercraft decals are \$50.00 so make sure to keep them in a safe place until such time they can be placed on the boat or PWC.



LAKE CHEROKEE SECURITY REPORT

DECEMBER 2023

FACILITY CHECK: 1796	CLEAR ROADWAY OF TREES/DEBRIS: 5
OPEN DOOR: 9	EXTRA PATROL: 151
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE/ PERSON: 4	DISTURBANCE: 1
ASSIST SHAREHOLDER: 22	ALARMS: 7
ISSUE PERMIT: 15	CODE VIOLATIONS: 2
INVASIVE SPECIES INSPECTION: 6	ASSIST AGENCY: 11
REMOVE ANIMAL FROM TRAP/LOT: 2	



Work continuing at the office.

The new patio is projected to be completed in 2-3 weeks.

Will be a great addition to the office.



**MINUTES OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
CHEROKEE WATER COMPANY
January 18, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Cherokee Water Company was held at 6:00 pm on Thursday, November 18, 2024 at NK 20 Lake Cherokee, Longview Texas 75603 with the following Directors present:

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

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

Dee Rea made a motion to Approve the minutes from November 13, 2023. Seconded by Thomas Merritt. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dee Rea made a motion to Approve the minutes from November 16, 2023. Seconded by Randy Graves. The motion was approved unanimously.

President's Report:

Gary Mape's message to the board of directors:

As recently as 12 months ago the CWC did not have a general manager. In April of 2023 the CWC Board hired Kevin Jones as General Manger. Kevin hired two key employees to fill vacated positions, Cathy Hite as Office manager and Tammie Sand-



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.

ers as Compliance Officer. With the addition of Kevin and his recent hires the CWC board has returned to its role as a governing board, not managing day-to-day operations. The CWC board has full confidence in Kevin and his staff to operate the business. If a shareholder has a question, comment or complaint Kevin is the point of contact. He has an open-door policy for shareholder's questions.

General Manager's Report

Kevin provided an operation report including stats on administrative, patrol and maintenance departments. Photographs were shown of the fence placed on the damn to protect it from wild hogs. A new biologist, Pristine Pond Management has been retained. He will advise on aquatic vegetation control and fish wildlife management. A new boat road has been completed west of Sylvie Bridge all the way to Beaver Creek Run. New boat road lights have been found and purchased. Soon the boat roads will be lighted again.

Cathy Hite, Office Manager reported that changes to the Chatter will bring

more information to the shareholders. Articles will be added that give shareholders a better understanding of lake life. The Web Site is being modernized and technology updated. The Portal will be updated to bring more information and services to the shareholders. Lease renewals are targeted to be implemented online via the Portal, additional information is available such as events, permits, communications and other things the shareholder can do on their own rather than come into the office. A new online store is being investigated. It will allow shareholders to purchase products that have the Lake Cherokee logo on shirts, glasses, hats to even coolers.

Treasurers Report:

- **Randy Graves, Treasurer made a motion to certify the bills paid for the month ending October 2023. The second was made by Rhonda Bullard. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Randy Graves, Treasurer made a motion to certify the bills paid for the month ending November 2023. The second was made by Alan Koelemay. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Randy Graves, Treasurer made a motion to certify the bills paid for the month ending December 2023. The second was made by Paul Oberthier. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Randy Graves made a motion to approve the Financials ending October 2023. The second was made by Thomas Merritt. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Randy Graves made a motion to approve the Financials ending November 2023. The second was made by Paul Oberthier. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Randy Graves made a motion to approve the Financials ending December 2023. The second was made by Dee Rea. The motion passed unanimously. The treasurer shared some general state-**

ments about the December FS (income is up, expenses are down). He gave an explanation for the gain in operating income. Overall we are in line for the first quarter of the year. In keeping with our open door policy any specific questions about the financials can be addressed to Randy or Kevin.

Committee Reports:

Natural Resources Committee
Thomas Merritt, Chairman summarizes the items discussed and actions taken during meeting:

- Summarized CWC's business arrangement with Canvas Natural Resource Solutions, LLC and the efforts toward development and implementation of a Forest & Land Management Plan.
- Discussed the recent engagement of Pristine Pond Management as CWC's aquatic biologist.
- Discussed the Volumetric and Sedimentation Survey prepared for, and provided to CWC by the Texas Water Development Board.
- Discussed the upcoming dam & spillway inspection that will be completed by CP&Y Engineering.

Rules and Policies Committee

Paul Oberthier, Chairman

Rules and Policy Committee discussed a new step in the variance process that allows a shareholder to appeal a decision by the committee before the entire board votes on said variance request.

No new variance requests were brought to the board this month.

With no other business, President Gary Mapes adjourned the meeting at 6:36 pm.

ATTEST:

Dee Rea, Secretary

CWC Board Committees 2023-2024	Chairperson	Additional Members	Responsibility
Executive Committee	Gary Mapes	Thomas Merritt III	Oversee the functions, operations and activities of the Board and its committees.
		Randy Graves	
		Dee Rea	
Ethics Committee	Randy Graves	Rhonda Bullard	Ensure the highest standards of ethics and integrity are applied and adhered to throughout all activities of the CWC Board and each individual board member in accordance with CWC Ethics Policy and Procedures.
		Paul Oberthier	
		Cory Eason	
		George Steele	
Finance/Risk Management Committee	Randy Graves	Gary Mapes	Review financial, insurance and risk management matters that need consideration prior to submission to the Board, and coordinate and review the annual budget and the annual audit as submitted by the appointed outside auditors.
		Thomas Merritt III	
		Cathy Hite - ex officio	
Strategic Planning Committee	David McDaniel	Rhonda Bullard	Make recommendations to the board related to mission, vision, strategic initiatives, major programs and services. Help management identify critical strategic issues. Assist in analysis of alternative strategic options.
		Dee Rea	
		Seleta Davis	
		Kevin Jones - ex officio	
Rules and Policies Committee	Paul Oberthier	Rhonda Bullard	Support the development and revision of bylaws, rules, policies and procedures which serve the growth and development of CWC and ensure they are applied in a fair and consistent manner.
		David McDaniel	
		Cory Eason	
		Alan Koelemay	
Natural Resources Committee	Thomas Merritt	Seleta Davis	Advise the board on natural resource related issues. Report the current status of natural resources to board. Monitor planned development or projects which may affect the status of natural resources including beautification and other matters.
		Alan Koelemay	
		George Steele	
		Kristina Coolidge	
Infrastructure Committee	Cory Eason	Alan Koelemay	Research and advise the board on matters pertaining to road and boat ways including but not limited to maintenance, traffic, regulation, signage, access and parking.
		Kristina Coolidge	
		Paul Oberthier	
		George Steele	
Community Relations Committee	Kristina Coolidge	Dee Rea	Encourage communication and participation between shareholders, the BOD and CWC staff. Research and identify means of assuring continued cooperation among different groups
		David McDaniel	
		Seleta Davis	
		Cathy Hite - ex officio	



December 2023	
Permit Type	#
Accessory Building	0
Boathouse - New	3
Boathouse - Repair	2
Demolition	0
Driveway / Walkway	3
Fence	5
Home Repairs / Additions	4
New Construction	2
OSSF	1
Other	2
Outdoor Enhancement	1
Pool	1
Retaining Wall	3
Total Permits	26

CWC OFFICE HOURS

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

**Extended hours:
3rd Thursday of the month
(Board Meeting night)
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**

Shopper's Corner

FOR SALE:

2018 Bennington 21 SLX
Yamaha 115 HP; 166 hours; Very Clean and maintained boat with zero issues

Contact Colton Kalmus via text or call @ 214-728-9976 for more information

WANTED:

Will buy your unwanted boat or watercraft and pay cash. 903-658-2994. If no answer please leave a message.

2024 Fuel Center **CLOSED**

FEBRUARY watch for pop-up dates/hours
Ethanol-Free • Credit/Debit Card ONLY • Oil \$10 •
Seafoam \$13 • Ice \$2.50



Correction: The January issue credited this photo incorrectly.
Photo by Kenneth Kirkland

CODE COMPLIANCE CORNER



Tammie Sanders
CWC Code Compliance Officer

We are continuing to have quite a few complaints in reference to unrestrained dogs on CWC property. We have numerous shareholders who walk or ride bicycles on our lake roads, and the number of incidents pertaining to dogs are becoming more frequent. I understand that many of these dogs are coming from off lake property, but it is imperative to remember the following rules pertaining to shareholder's dogs and cats on CWC property. Lake Patrol will become more active in locating the owners of these animals and fines can be imposed if a shareholder continues to disregard these rules.

General Provisions IV. PETS AND ANIMALS

B. DOGS AND CATS:

1. All dogs and cats shall be vaccinated for rabies.
2. All dogs and cats on CWC property shall wear a collar bearing the owner's name with current rabies vaccination tag.
3. Shareholders shall restrain their dogs, cats and other pets on their leased lots and shall be respon-

- sible for their behavior.
4. Shareholders who allow their dogs, cats, and other pets off their leased lots, shall keep them on a secure leash.
 5. No shareholder shall allow a dog, cat, or other pet to create a disturbance which would disturb the peace.
 6. No shareholder shall keep a dog, cat, or other pet of a vicious nature which either cause bodily injury or threatened bodily injury or property damage to another person or another person's property. A dog, cat or other pet shall be considered "vicious" if it causes bodily injury or property damage or if the conduct is such as to place a person of ordinary sensibilities under the same or similar circumstances in fear of bodily injury or property damage.
 7. Animals are prohibited from coming ashore upon Bikini Island or Firecracker Park.

The Pro Shop hours for February are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Tuesday thru Sunday. Closed when temperature falls below 45 degrees and on Mondays for course maintenance. There will be a member's only fun bunch choose-up tournament on Presidents Day, February 19th @ 9:00 am - the Pro Shop will be closed that day per normal hours of operation.



by Rebekah Taylor

The next tournament play date and details have yet to be determined due to extended cold weather conditions.

The WOMEN's group plays every Tuesday morning usually at 9:00 am or 10:00 am. Hours may vary so call the Pro Shop for tee time.

Saturday fun Bunch: 9:00 am every Saturday except on tournament days. Teams are picked around 8:45-8:50 so plan to arrive a little early.

The next board meeting is February 8th @ 6:00 pm. It is our annual meeting, and we will have a pizza supper. Please RSVP by February 6th to the Pro Shop if you plan to attend. It is an open meeting, and all are welcome to attend and ask questions.

FREE GOLF

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

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.

Donations for CELIA TAYLOR MEMORIAL can be made in the Pro Shop.

Call the Pro Shop if you have any questions (903-643-3571)

Variance Request Deadlines

Variance Deadline	Board Meeting
January 2 nd	January 18 th
January 29 th	February 15 th
March 4 th	March 21 st
April 1 st	April 18 th
April 29 th	May 16 th
June 3 rd	June 20 th
July 1 st	July 18 th
July 29 th	August 15 th
September 3 rd	September 19 th
September 30 th	October 17 th
October 28 th	November 14 th



“Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. it flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it.”
– ***Unknown***

Most Lake Cherokee shareholders would agree that fortune has smiled upon us and that we live in a magical place. We also understand that the bigger picture is that the freedoms and privileges of Lake Cherokee... and East Texas... and the United States, was fought for by men and women who are mostly nameless to us.

How can we express our gratitude to those who have served?

The Lake Cherokee Veterans Memorial is one way that we can honor these individuals year-round. The proposed Memorial will be located off Persimmon Point, adjacent to the fuel center, surrounding the existing American flagpole that is viewable from the lake.

The Memorial design will include the existing American flagpole surrounded by flags from the six branches of the U.S. military: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Space Force. Underneath the American Flag will be the POW/MIA flag and Texas flag.

Donors have already given close to \$10,000 to fund this project, but more will be needed. Donations are currently being accepted by CWC and are kept in a special fund; however, these donations are not tax deductible. We are working to establish a way to make future donations tax deductible.

Friends of the Lake Cherokee Veterans Memorial have put together a series of articles on each branch of the military starting with an overview of our armed forces and veterans (below). In the March Chatter, we will highlight the US Army and then proceed with other branches each month. Additionally, we will provide progress reports on the Memorial project blueprint, budget, and timeline.

Importantly, we would like to know who, among our lake residents, shareholders, and staff, are veterans, active duty, or reserve. If you currently serve or have served in any of the branches, we want to hear from you.

Please contact kacourville@gmail.com

This is the first in a series of articles on our U.S. Armed Forces. Each month will highlight a different branch. It will culminate with an article on our veterans coinciding with Veterans Day in November.



U.S. Department of Defense

The Department of Defense

“To provide the military forces needed to deter war and ensure our nation’s security.”

The six branches of the armed forces include Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Space Force. The Army National Guard and Air National Guard are reserve components and are under the authority of each state. The Department of Defense (DoD) governs all branches and is the largest US government agency. While it is the largest employer in the world (2.91 million employees), the U.S. is third in active military personnel (China and India are first and second.) The National Defense Budget is \$816.7 billion with over 3.4 million service members and civilians serving 4,800 sites in 160 countries. DoD owns 30 million acres worldwide. The US President is the Commander in Chief. The Joint Staff, comprised of leaders from each branch is led by the highest-ranking military officer, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff who is currently Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr. The DoD is housed in the Pentagon outside of Washington, DC. The Pentagon was targeted on September 11th by al-Qaeda affiliated hijackers who deliberately crashed American Airlines Flight 77 into the west wall at 9:37 am EDT. All 64 passengers and 125 people in the Pentagon were killed.

Recruitment into the military is often highest after an attack. Thirty days after Pearl Harbor attack, 134,000 individuals enlisted. In the year following the 9/11 attacks, 181,510 Americans enlisted into active-duty service and 72,908 enlisted in the reserves. Conscription (The Draft) has not been activated since 1973 however, the Selective Service System requires all males between 18 to 25 to register.

The Medal of Honor is the highest honor for valor and March 25th is National Medal of Honor Day. Presently, there are 3,525 recipients with the first being awarded in 1863. The Distinguished Service Cross is awarded for extraordinary heroism. The Silver Star is awarded for gallantry. The Purple Heart is a military decoration awarded for being wounded or killed while serving.

Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, DC is the final resting place for those who honorably served during times of war. Over 400,000 individuals are buried in land that once belonged to George Washington’s family. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier houses the remains of unidentified soldiers from WWI onward. The Tomb is guarded 24/7 by the 3rd US Infantry Regiment, “The Old Guard.” The inscription on the Tomb sarcophagus reads, “Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God.”

National war memorials attempt to pay honor to those who have served. The majority are in Washington, DC and cared for by the National Park Service. The Vietnam War Memorial is by far the most iconic and includes the names of over 58,000 service men and women chronologically etched into a “V” shaped black granite wall. Much about the wall is symbolic including the viewers’ reflection which is meant to connect the living with those who died.

This article was brought to you by Friends of the Lake Cherokee Veterans Memorial. Information came from official websites of the above-mentioned organizations.

We are trying to establish a list of veterans who are shareholders or residents (or spouse). Are you active-duty or a veteran of any of the branches? Please let us know kacourville@gmail.com

Next month: The US Army “This We’ll Defend”



Cherokee Bulletin Board

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

CLEANING

OLGA AT YOUR SERVICE

House cleaning, short or long term property management. Lake references available. 903-297-1766 home 903-746-5179 cell.

HANDYMAN SERVICES

KK'S HANDYMAN

Lake Cherokee Resident. Installation, Maintenance, Repairs, Plumbing, Electrical, Painting, Carpentry, Chimney Sweep, Pressure Washing, Brush Hogging, Appliances, No Job Too Small. Kevin 903-261-4220

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MISC

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I CAN HELP! with almost anything. House sitting, checking mail, watering plants (inside & out,) pet sitting, pet walking, running errands for the elderly or sick. Moving in? I can unpack for you. Moving out? I can clean for you. Call Selena @ (903) 263-1059. (28 year Lake Cherokee resident)

PAINT

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free estimates with lake references
Call 903-557-7321

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Interior, exterior, staining, drywall, texture, carpentry work, Popcorn & Paper Removal Free Estimates w/in lake References Call (903) 635-0692

SPRINKLERS

EXPERT IRRIGATION

Expert Irrigation is a fully licensed (TCEQ LI# 23106) irrigation contractor proudly serving Lake Cherokee. We specialize in the repair and service of all brands of sprinkler systems, especially pump systems used here at the lake. Chris Mathews 903-407-0980

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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.

Current Star Providers

Realtors

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



Contractors

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

ACTIVE ST-42 \$1,299,000



STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

ACTIVE NE-21 \$675,000

NEW ON THE MARKET!



POOL

STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

ACTIVE SG-17 \$279,000



STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

ACTIVE SA-7 \$495,000



JESSICA RADABAUGH 903-812-1577
STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

ACTIVE SB 46-47 \$499,900



RANDY RENSHAW 903-983-9314

ACTIVE SG-31 \$699,500



ETHEL BRANCH 903-235-1066

ACTIVE SS-20 \$1,100,000



MARIAN FREEMAN 903-331-7170

ACTIVE SK-15 \$575,000



STEPHEN SKINNER 903-240-0168

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Mark Your Calendars:

Spring Bass Tournament	March 23, 2024
Easter Egg Hunt	March 30, 2024
Spring Clean up	April 19 - 21, 2024
Boater Education Course	June 1, 2024
Wet-N-Wild Boat Rally	June 8, 2024
Boat Parade	July 6, 2024
Fireworks Spectacular	July 6, 2024
Family Fun Fest	August 31, 2024
Fall Bass Tournament	October 19, 2024
Fall Clean Up	October 18 - 20, 2024
Chili Fest	November 9, 2024



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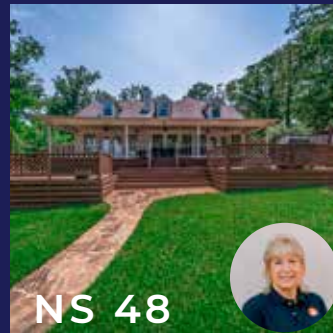
Melinda Leslie
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SB 58



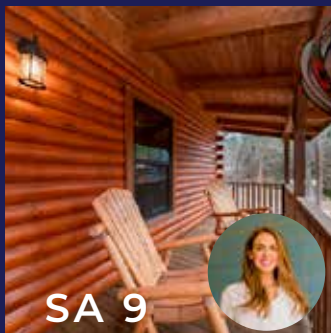
SB 24



NS 48



SL 21



SA 9



NT 19



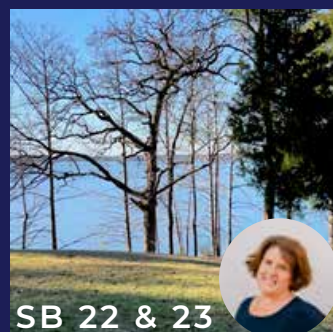
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SP 4



SB 22 & 23



NG 13 & 14



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Cherokee Fishing Club

Spring Bass Tournament Entry Form

March 23 , 2024

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**

**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
Fishing
Club**

CWC Boater Education

Lake Cherokee has been involved in providing Boater Education/Safety classes to Shareholders and their families for many years. Prior to 2009 Brian Waller, Chief of Patrol and Boat Education/Hunter Education instructor did a great job of providing classroom instruction and the collection of numerous teaching aids, most of which are still used in the program today. The closet under the stairway at the Lake Office is still referred to as 'Brian's closet'. It is stuffed with every type of life jacket, flashlights, posters, boat stickers, manuals, brochures, etc., etc.

Upon the departure of Mr. Waller, I was informed by the local game warden that our lake was in need of a boat education instructor - and he knew that I was currently teaching Sailing and boat education classes through the Longview Yacht Club. Vicki Faulkner, the Lake Manager at the time was absolutely wonderful to work with. Together we came up with a plan that included a curriculum that would not only be educational, but exciting and entertaining as well! It was successful from the start. Our first class that year had somewhere between 60 to 70 attendees. The following year we had over 100 and had to move the class to the Fire Station to accommodate the large number of students. We soon learned the necessity of limiting the class size and providing an appropriate number of instructors.

Over the past 15 years Lake Cherokee's annual Boater Education class has set the bar in the State of Texas as an exemplary program for classroom instruction. This was

confirmed a few years ago when we were visited by a member of the staff of Texas Parks and Wildlife, Area Chief Mary Carrier. She advised us that our program was "absolutely over the top, and there was nothing to compare - anywhere!" We are fortunate to have the resources of CWC with the use of our beautiful office building, the assistance from office staff, Lake Patrol, other shareholders, and visits from local game wardens, EMT's, etc. We even provide door prizes and lunch!

The CWC office does a great job of providing this class each year, always under the management of either the Lake Manager, or Chief of Patrol, and always with abounding success. Our instructors have always included the Lake Manager, many of the office staff, Patrol Chief, and select lake patrol officers. Occasionally it becomes necessary to recruit and train new instructors in order to keep up with attrition, mostly due to job changes, retirement, etc. That occasion is this year.

We are planning a training class to certify new Boater Education instructors that will be open to CWC staff, lake patrol, and shareholders. I know that there are many of you that already have the skills and knowledge that could be put to good use. Please consider getting involved in CWC Boater Education. Together we can make a great program even better!

Mike Brady
Area Chief, Boater Education
Texas Parks and Wildlife
NL-05 Lake Cherokee
903 930-2655

Boater Education Instructors Needed

If you are interested in becoming an instructor, please contact the CWC Office or send in the attached form:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Availability for Instructor Training Course:
Class is 4-5 hours.

1. Meet during the week between 8 am 4 pm?

2. Meet on Saturday between 9 am 1 pm?

Your support is appreciated and needed to keep this program going.

Send in by February 29, 2024

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BRIDGE CLUB

By Jeanne Collins

February, 2024 issue

On the first Wednesday of every month we have a “pot-luck” luncheon. At our January luncheon we celebrated the 100th birthday of one of our players, Del Knox. One of the photos accompanying this article shows him with a big birthday cake! He is a very good player and we all enjoy playing with him and learning from him. Apparently, what they say is true – playing games is good for your Brain Health!

Our players meet every Wednesday at the CWC Library, next door to the CWC Office. We start at 11:30 a.m. and usually play four rounds, finishing around 2:30 pm. We play for fun, but we all enjoy the spirit of competition.

The person with the high score for the room each Wednesday gets to put his or her name “On the Wall”, and the most wins for 2023 was Danny Coats. Congratulations Danny!

Our group is very informal. Men and women of all skill levels are welcome. If you do not know how to play, we will teach you. If you would like to join in, please do not hesitate to just show up on any Wednesday. We look forward to meeting you!



Susan Deeds, Beth Shreibner, Carol Ehl, Nancy Strong





Del Knox, Fredna Harris, Jeanne Collins, David Collins



Left to right - Joy Tate, Danny Coats, Debbie Hobson, Wanda Wallace


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“Birthday Boy”, Del Knox

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Lake Cherokee Photography Club

The January meeting of the Lake Cherokee Photography Club was held January 9, 2024 at the lake office at 6 P.M. We discussed and committed to having the photography exhibit this spring.

The theme is "Lake Cherokee" and unlike the calendar project, images can be horizontal (landscape) or vertical (portrait). You will need to frame your images. Frames must be BLACK in a style of your choosing, with a white/ gallery white mat. The image must be 8 x 10 inches or larger. Consider land, water, wildlife, and people. You must get a written release if recognizable people are in your photo.

Assignment for the February 13th meeting is to bring any number of images you are considering. If possible, put on clean SD card or thumb drive so we can project them. The more images that we look at, the better balance we will have. We don't want all sunsets for example. As demonstrated at the January meeting with the few images that were shown, the group had definite opinions about which ones were most representative and might work in the show. Critique is always positive in this group.

Please feel free to attend February 13, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. to see what we are about, and to share your images. We would like to see many of you who post regularly join us. We are a self directed group. We teach each other based on our experiences and interests, and occasionally have professional photographers as speakers. (No dues or food requirements)

If you have questions Text Holly at 903-399-0066 and she will get back to you.



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JOIN THE PRESERVATION CLUB! NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 15

Lake Cherokee Preservation Club Membership Application

(please print)

Membership Fee \$10.00 (per member) _____ Date: _____

Full name: _____

Spouses full name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone number: Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Spouses number: Cell _____ Work _____

Email: _____ Spouses email: _____

Demographic info: (helpful but optional)

Birthday: _____ Spouses Birthday: _____

Age group: 20-30 _____ 30-40 _____ 40-50 _____ 50-60 _____ 60-70 _____ 70+ _____

Number of dependent children: _____

Lake resident: full-time _____ part-time _____

Lake or personal interests:

Fishing _____ Skiing _____ Kayaking _____ PWC _____ Boating _____ Nature _____ Golf _____ Hunting _____

Hiking _____ Running _____ Cycling _____ Community Projects _____ Other: _____

Please check if you would be interested in leading or helping with a Preservation Club event

Scheduled Events

Easter Egg Hunt _____ Wet & Wild Boat Rally _____ Summer events/concerts _____

Family Fun Fest _____ Chili Fest _____ Calendar production _____

Send to:

Lake Cherokee Preservation Club

Deanna Kalmus

NF 01C Lake Cherokee

Longview, TX 75603



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

**NEXT CHATTER
DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 14**

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

chatter@lkcherokee.com

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

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

Advertising rates can be obtained by calling the Cherokee Water Company at 903-643-3933; fax 903-643-2717; email to chatter@lkcherokee.com.

Ads, submitted photos and graphics should be 300 dpi at actual print size for best reproduction.

The Cherokee Chatter is published by the Cherokee Water Company and is printed by M. Roberts Media/TCM Printing.

The Chatter does not endorse or accept any liability for any advertisements contained within the publication.

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Phone number: _____

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Name: _____

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FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Groundhog Day	3
4	5	6	7 Bridge Club Luncheon Bridge Club	8 Golf Course Board Meeting	9	10
11  Super Bowl Sunday	12 Fishing Club Lincoln's Birthday	13 Community Gardeners Photography Club  Mardi Gras	14 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club  Valentine's Day	15 First Friends CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club Meeting 6:30 pm	16	17
18	19 President's Day	20	21 Bridge Club	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Bridge Club	29		

MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Variance Deadline		Bridge Club Luncheon			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Daylight Saving Begins	Fishing Club	Community Gardeners Photography Club	Bridge Club	Golf Course Board Meeting		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
 St. Patrick's Day		1st Day of Spring	Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	First Friends CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club Meeting 6:30 pm		Spring Bass Tourney
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
 Palm Sunday			Bridge Club		CWC Office Closed Good Friday	 Easter Egg Hunt
31						
 Easter						

The American White Pelican

Article by: Lynette Bagley, NG 55

Photo by Patty Stewart, NG 40

Every year when we look out our windows and see the beautiful White Pelicans, gliding down onto the lake, excitement sets in. We are always amazed at the large numbers and size of the graceful creatures that have become a part of Lake Cherokee as much as the Blue Heron's.

These flocks of migrating gregarious birds are a majestic sight, their huge wingspans, reaching from seven to nine feet. With a blur of flapping movement, they coast to a halt onto the water with hardly a ripple beneath them. These birds ride rising air currents to great heights, where they soar slowly and gracefully in circle. Flying in large flocks in a V formation, each bird seems to take its cue from its predecessor on landings.

The American White Pelicans, officially known as *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*, stop by as they move southward toward our coastal waterways. The adults are a distinctive white with black wingtips. Their bills, legs and toes are reddish-orange or pink. Young birds are dusky than adults. The giants can weigh as much as sixteen pounds.

Unlike the Brown Pelicans, they don't plunge dive for food, but work together in groups, surrounding the fish herding them into shallow water. Dipping their heads below the surface to troll for gizzard shad and emerald shiner fish, they scoop them into their pouches, taking in both water and fish. Then they hold their bills vertically to drain the water before swallowing the food. Their average food feast is three pounds of fish a day.

Pelicans nest in colonies on sandbars, islands and peninsulas in remote, undisturbed areas. Shallow lakes and coastal lagoons are their habitat preference. White Pelicans build their nests right on the ground, mounding the earth, making deep depressions that are then lined with dried vegetation and debris.

On average, Pelicans lay two whitish eggs, but can produce from one to six.

They don't have a "brood patch" of bare skin on the belly, so incubation is achieved by using their feet. Although the birds are usually silent, on nesting grounds they will grunt or croak. When the homely, orange-skinned, helpless chicks hatch, they are dependent on digested food they must dig out of the

adult's pouch. As the chicks mature they join a "gang," feeding in large groups until they are ready to fly at about ten weeks.

In summer, the adults breed on lakes in the interior of western Canada and northwestern United States. In September, the White Pelican leaves the nesting grounds and heads south. Winters are spent in southern Mexico, southern California and along the gulf coast states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida.

In the late 1800's, these pouched birds became scarce, their feathers in demand by the plume trade. Both White and Brown Pelicans suffered population declines in 1960's and 1970's due to death from pesticides and reproductive failure due to eggshell thinning. Human disturbance and draining of wetlands have added to the decline and a significant dip in the number of active colonies in recent decades. But if left alone, they can live as long as thirty years.

While things are improving, monofilament line is still the enemy of both species, entanglements resulting in death and disfigurement.

When they return each year, bringing their own brand of entertainment, we can appreciate them even more, understanding their struggle for survival, and our role in protecting this wonderful gift God has given us to enjoy.

© Patty Stewart



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February, 2024

The January meeting of First Friends was hosted by Delores Toon at their Farmhouse. After four Frigid days, God smiled on our group and granted us sunshine and 50+ degrees! Thank you Lord !! Delores provided hot soup & cornbread and members brought appetizers and desserts. She had a cozy fire going, and we all felt like we had been released from our icy prisons, anxious for human contact and conversation.

The program was presented by Nell Collins from the Longview Story League. Nell read us a story about a young girl from the 1930's whose life was changed by a set of encyclopedias. Our current easy access to media of all kinds makes us take for granted



L-R Delores Toon hostess;
Nell Collins Guest speaker
Door prize winners Barb Robar & Roxanne Brink

the education options we now so readily have. Nell is an engaging storyteller, and we all hated for the story to end.

Next month our group will meet at the new Tia Juanita's in the former Johnny Cace's location on Thursday, Feb. 15th at 11:30 a.m. Come join us!



Seated L-R - Carolyn Matter, Debbie Hobson, Betty Heim, Judi Morgan
Standing L - R First row Penny Dant, Nan Henderson, Susan Deeds, Delores Toon, Karen Franklin, Roxanne Brink, Jeanne Collins
Back row - Donna Mitchell, Carol Ehl, Barbara Robar



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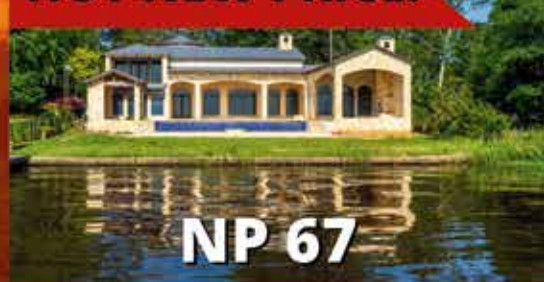
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ST 63

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NP 67

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SG 45

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SQ 12-13

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SM 19