

THE CHEROKEE CHATTER

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



Heidi Lutz photo

March 2025

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LEASE RENEWAL REMINDER

Payment is due April 1st for those shareholders that took advantage of the split payment option for the annual 2024-2025 lease renewal. If payment of \$825 is not received in the CWC office by April 30th, 2025, a \$100 late fee will incur.

2025 Fuel Center Hours

(Weather permitting)

Credit/Debit Card ONLY

Will be selling Gas only at the fuel center.

No additional products

Springtime hours: March 1st - May 1st

Tuesday 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturday 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Summer hours: May 1st - Sept 30th

Monday closed
Tuesday - Friday 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Holiday dates/hours:

Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, July 4th 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Monday, September 1st 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Fall hours: Oct 1st - Oct 31st

Tuesday 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturday 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

November 1st - February 28th

CLOSED - Watch for pop-up dates/hours!

Cherokee Water Co.
NK20 Lake Cherokee
Longview, TX 75603

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

from the
MANAGER

Kevin Jones
General Manager,
Lake Cherokee



Hello lake family, I hope you've had a great winter here on the lake, but if you're like me, I'll be glad to see it behind us. In several weeks, we'll welcome the opening day of Spring, and in several days, we'll be springing those clocks forward and getting ready for longer and warmer days ahead!

This will be a little longer of a message this month because I want to address one of the biggest issues we deal with here at the office. That is water drainage. I'm not talking about the drainage from all the creeks feeding the lake, but the excess water drainage from one property to another. I'm hoping this article will in some way resolve not only the need to get the CWC involved, but also to encourage neighborly communication concerning this matter and most importantly, to possibly help mend some of the fences some of you have mentally put up between you and your friend next door. Please read this with an open and understanding mind.

**Managing Surface Water
Drainage and Property Owner
Responsibilities**

Excess rain and surface water drainage are common concerns for property owners, particularly in areas with frequent rainfall or poor drainage infrastructure. Proper water management is crucial to prevent flooding, erosion, and damage to homes and roads. When water flows from one property to another, it can sometimes lead to disputes, especially if drainage patterns have been altered by landscaping, construction, or neglect. In general, property owners are responsible for managing the drainage that originates on their land. This means ensuring that water is directed in a way that does not cause harm to neighboring properties.

When it comes to lake lots, especially here at Lake Cherokee, the topographical nature of the land can create uneven terrain, with some areas being higher or lower than others. This unevenness can significantly impact water drainage, as water naturally flows downhill. However, determining the appropriate drainage flow can be complex, especially when one property experiences water runoff from a neighboring lot. In some cases, the higher lot may inadvertently direct water onto the lower lot, creating potential flooding or erosion issues. Due to the lack of obvious

or consistent factors, or clear evidence of negligence or violation, the responsibility can sometimes be difficult to assign.

To prevent conflicts and potential legal issues, leaseholders are encouraged to work together to find practical solutions for drainage problems. Cooperation between neighbors can lead to cost-effective, long-term fixes, such as installing French drains, grading land for better runoff, or maintaining existing drainage channels. Open communication and joint efforts help avoid costly disputes while preserving the integrity of the surrounding landscape. Ignoring drainage issues can lead to pooling water, foundation damage, and road deterioration, which affect the entire community. Before the CWC will become involved in drainage disputes, both parties should attempt to resolve the issue through direct communication and responsible mitigation measures.

Ditches and culverts play a crucial role in managing excess water by directing it away from roads, homes, and other structures. However, these drainage systems can become ineffective if they are clogged with yard waste, leaves, or other debris. Property owners should avoid discarding grass clippings, branches, or other refuse into ditches, as this can obstruct the flow of water and lead to backups or localized flooding. Blocked ditches can also create standing

water, which may attract pests and contribute to unhealthy conditions.

Culverts, particularly those beneath driveways, must also be maintained to ensure proper water flow. It is the responsibility of property owners to keep culverts on their land clear of debris to prevent blockages. A clogged culvert can cause water to overflow onto roads, leading to erosion, pavement damage, and hazardous driving conditions. When water cannot flow properly due to obstructions, it not only affects individual properties but also puts public infrastructure at risk. Regular maintenance, such as removing leaves, sediment, and trash from culverts, helps prevent costly repairs and ensures that drainage systems function as intended.

I encourage each of you to do your part to work together on this or possibly any other issue that has potentially driven a wedge between neighbor friendships. Maybe your willing to begin communication again with your direct neighbor or someone across the lake, but you would like a neutral meeting place. I'm not promising I'm the world's best mediator, but I'll offer my office and myself if that's what's needed to resolve the issue and mend a friendship.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jones, GM

*Welcome to
Lake Cherokee*
January 2025 Transfers- 2

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

Variance Deadlines 2025

- 2/4 -2/20 Board meeting
- 3/4 -3/20 Board meeting
- 4/1 -4/17 Board meeting
- 4/29 -5/15 Board meeting
- 6/3 -6/19 Board meeting
- 7/1 -7/17 Board meeting
- 8/5 -8/21 Board meeting
- 9/2 -9/18 Board meeting
- 9/30 -10/16 Board meeting
- 10/28-11/13 Board meeting

Permits	
January 2025	
Permit Type	#
Accessory Building	1
Boathouse - New	3
Boathouse - Repair	0
Demolition	0
Dirt Work / Drainage	1
Driveway / Walkway	1
Fence	0
Home Repairs / Additions	1
New Construction	4
OSSF	1
Other	0
Outdoor Enhancement	0
Pool	0
Retaining Wall	4
Total Permits	17

**LAKE CHEROKEE
SECURITY REPORT
JANUARY 2025**

FACILITY CHECK: 2297	EXTRA PATROL: 158
OPEN DOOR: 9	DISTURBANCE: 2
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE/ PERSON: 8	ALARMS: 5
WELFARE CHECK: 2	VEHICLE / BOAT ACCIDENT: 0
ASSIST SHAREHOLDER: 10	WATER RESPONSE/ BOAT TOW: 1
ISSUE TREE PERMIT: 13	ASSIST AGENCY: 4
ANIMAL ASSIST: 2	BURGLARY/ THEFT: 1
CLEAR ROADWAY OF TREES /DEBRIS: 6	

**Board Members and CWC GM
meeting with the City of Longview,**

February 17, 2025





MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CHEROKEE WATER COMPANY
Thursday, February 20, 2025

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

Gary Mapes, President
David McDaniel, Vice President
Randy Graves, Treasurer
Dee Rea, Secretary
Kristina Coolidge
Justin Simmons
Cody Edmonson
Cory Eason--- Absent
Mary Yoder
Alan Koelemay
George Steele
Jeff Patty

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 of Board of Directors Cherokee Water Company, Thursday, January 16. Second by David McDaniel. The resolution passed by unanimous consent.

General Manager's Report:

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

1. Kevin gave an update on the lease renewal for Christus EMS.
2. Permanent closing of the drainpipe in the dam is close to completion. The actual sealing of the pipe will go out for bids next week. Also included in the bid will be the removal of the platform and valve located at the dam.
3. A new lease agreement for the golf course is being finalized.

Treasurers Report:

A motion was made by Randy Graves to certify the bills paid for the month of January 2025. Dee Rea seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Randy Graves to approve reporting of Financials for January 2025. Dee Rea seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Rules, Policy & Variance Committee:

David McDaniel, Chairman
Committee Members:
Cody Edmonson
Alan Koelemay---Absent
Cory Eason
George Steele

Tammie Sanders, Compliance Officer
Others present: Gary Mapes

David McDaniel presented variances to the Board for consideration:
Two Variance Requests were considered.

NG 25: Committee voted to deny a variance for NG 25 requesting to build a new boat house extending out 108 feet. Tammy informed the committee via email the next day that the leaseholder had sent in a new variance requesting a new boathouse extending 88 feet into the lake (88 feet is where the leaseholder has 5 feet of water). The committee voted via email to approve the new variance requesting building a boathouse extending 88 feet into the lake. David McDaniel made a motion to the Board to approve the variance, 2nd by Alan Koelemay. Justin Simmons abstained from voting due to conflict as the builder. The motion passed unanimously.

NF 21: Committee voted to approve a variance at NF 21 requesting building a patio cover 4 feet 2 inches from the neighbor's property line. David McDaniel made a motion to approve the variance, Randy Graves 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Natural Resources Committee Report:

Dee Rea, Chairman
Committee Members:
Justin Simmons
Alan Koelemay
David McDaniel
Cody Edmonson
Additional Attendees:
Kevin Jones, General Manager
Mark Svoboda, Head of Maintenance

The meeting began with a general discussion of the purpose of the Natural Resources Committee. In review we discussed the status of certain gas wells close to or on CWC Properties and brought their status to the attention of the Texas Railroad Commission. We were informed by The Railroad Commission that the wells are in compliance.

We also have contracted with Canvas Natural Resources to help manage the timber on CWC properties. The Committee and BOD have concluded there will not be a clear cutting of timber resources on CWC Properties in the foreseeable future. We must, however, thin and clean out underbrush in timber areas for good timber management and fire prevention.

We all agreed that the purpose of this meeting was to identify areas of profound siltation problems, to identify locations of all siltation ponds in existence and identify areas for the need of additional siltation ponds. It is the opinion of the committee that this BOD must provide assets, funding and training for Kevin and Mark to accomplish this job. Without doing this the long-term viability of Lake Cherokee could be in doubt. At the conclusion of this discussion all 5 members of the committee travelled around the lake to all known sedimentation ponds. We visited 10 known locations and 3 locations where

ponds are needed.

OBSERVATIONS:

- 1) 3 locations observed were not on the map provided to us. All locations visited are marked on a new map titled Sedimentation Ponds
- 2) None of the locations were in good condition or functioning properly.
- 3) Spoils that were captured in the past were excavated and placed beside existing ponds. This was observed at every location visited. This practice allows sediment to reenter the lake which in turn directly causes water volume loss.
- 4) Material used to construct the dams in many locations is of inadequate size and will not withstand the hydraulic pressure of the drainage which they purpose to sustain. This can be clearly observed as dams have been blown out in some locations.
- 5) No locations had any structures to slow water flow down before dam impact.
- 6) No locations had been constructed in a manner which would make maintenance easier without causing the destabilization of ground surrounding the ponds.
- 7) Sedimentation ponds should be designed and built to accomplish the purpose consistent with their intent.
- 8) IMMEDIATE ACTION should be taken to remove the spoiling material and stabilize the ground around the ponds.
- 9) An engineer will be consulted to help with the design and construction of future sedimentation ponds. We will be meeting with an engineer next week to help design future ponds.
- 10) A maintenance plan will be created and executed to maintain the sedimentation ponds once corrections are finalized.

4 LOCATIONS THAT ARE IN THE WORST CONDITION

- 1) NQ Cove
- 2) Eagle Cove
- 3) Mud Creek inlet
- 4) SS Cove

Dee Rea, Chairman, called a meeting of the Natural Resource Committee to meet February 24, 2025, at 3:00 PM. Topics to be discussed are: 1) funding; 2) putting out for bid or using in-house maintenance; 3) timeline.

All committee members and board members are requested to attend.

Community Relations Committee Report:

Kristina Coolidge, Chairman, introduced the committee members:
David McDaniel
George Steele
Mary Yoder
Justin Simmons
Cathy Hite-Ex Officio

The Committee finalized Shareholder Survey to be posted and sent out March 1, 2025. It is very important that each shareholder complete the survey. It is hoped that a response rate of 25% will be obtained.

Kristina asked the Board to mark their calendars for Wet and Wild Boat Rally to be held on June 14, 2025. The Board of Directors will host a boat house at the Water Company Office. Kristina promises the Dunking Booth will return with a surprise participant to sit in the Dunking Booth.

Another event mentioned for everyone to mark on their calendars is the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled April 19, 2025. Kristina asked the board for their presence at the various events.

With no other business, Gary Mapes adjourned the meeting at 6:30 pm.

ATTEST

Dee Rea, Secretary



**Minutes of the Special Meeting
of the Board of Directors
Cherokee Water Company
February 24, 2025**

A special meeting of the Board of Directors for Cherokee Water Company was held on Monday, February 24, 2025, at NK 20 Lake Cherokee, Longview Texas 75603 with the following directors present:

Gary Mapes, President
David McDaniel, Vice President
Randy Graves, Treasurer
Dee Rea, Secretary
Kristina Coolidge
Cody Edmonson
Jeff Patty
Cory Eason – absent
Mary Yoder – absent
Justin Simmons
Alan Koelemay
George Steele

The Natural Resources Committee and majority board members met to discuss a proposal for the removal of sedimentation from the NQ cove. They also discussed the next steps for the committee in the development of a long-term plan for sedimentation management. At the conclusion of the committee discussion, the board moved into a special session at 4:00 pm to vote on the next steps.

A motion was made by Dee Rea, Chairman to authorize up to \$60,000 from operational expenses to fund sedimentation removal of the NQ cove. In addition, 3 bids are required prior to proceeding. Any remaining funds would be used to improve Eagle Cove. David McDaniel seconded the motion. Kristina Coolidge, Cody Edmonson and Jeff Patty abstained from voting. The motion passed by majority vote.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Attest:

Dee Rea, Secretary

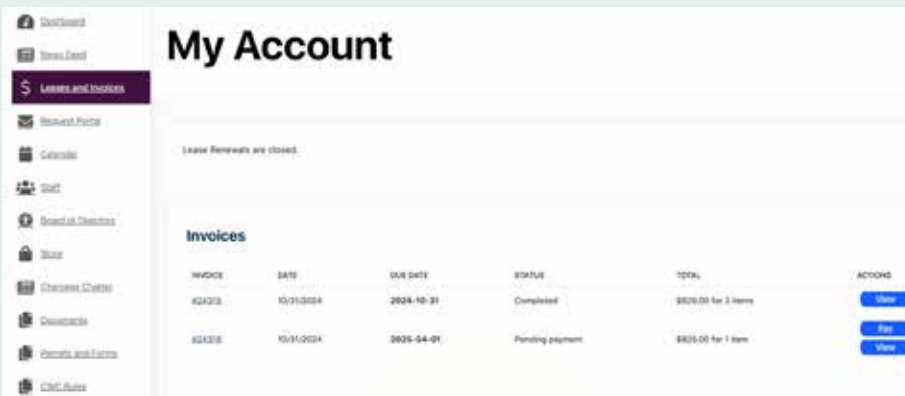
CWC Office Manager Article

I have (4) topics for you this month. First, if you chose to split your lease dues payment, **the 2nd half of your dues are due on April 1st**. For those of you that renewed your lease online via the Portal, your 2nd half invoice is online. You can access the invoice, via the Portal Dashboard, left hand menu option – Leases and Invoices.



Cathy Hite
Office Manager, Lake Cherokee

Select the 2nd invoice with due date of April 1st – pending payment – Pay. You have the same options as before, either pay in office, mail a check, pay via echeck or via credit card. If you have any issues or questions, contact the office the CWC office for assistance.



Second, on **March 1st we will be sending out the 2025 Shareholder Survey**. This is your opportunity to provide feedback and input regarding key priorities for Lake Cherokee. The Board of Directors and CWC Management will utilize this information during the 2026 planning cycle.

March 1st, there will be a short poll, on the Portal dashboard where you can provide us some feedback on how we could improve the store. Your feedback is important as we consider options and direction in the upcoming year. We have most of the current items in the CWC office if you would like to see the items.

The email will have the Subject Line: 2025 Lake Cherokee Shareholder survey and will be from Lake Cherokee. This should make it easy for you to find in either your inbox or spam file. It should only take you 5-10 minutes so please provide your feedback.

Last topic but maybe most important for several of you. **The Fuel Center will be Open starting Saturday March 1st at 2:00 pm**. The Fuel Center will be open on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 2- 6 pm until Memorial weekend when expanded hours will begin.

Third, On the Portal there is a direct link to the official Lake Cherokee Store. There is also a QR code in the chatter each month that will take you directly to the Store. The store has not gotten enough traction this past year. **Starting**

Don't forget to Spring Forward on March 9th at 2:00 am

Cathy

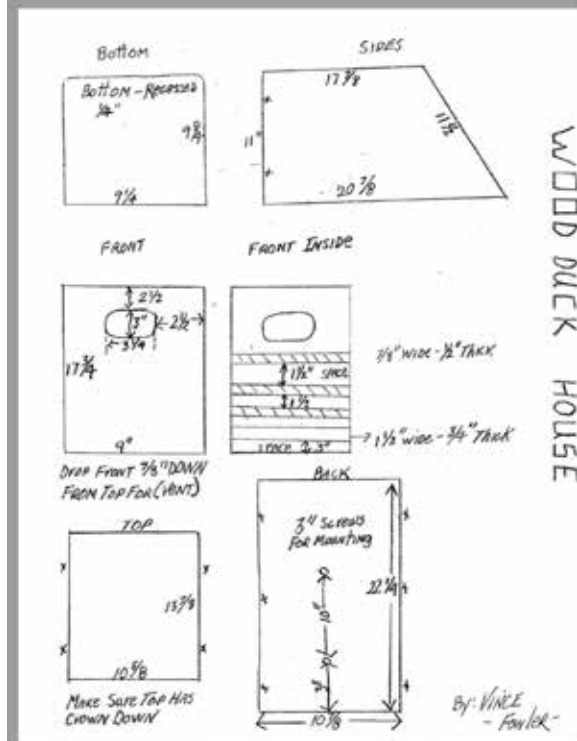
Mark Your Calendars:

Spring Bass Tournament	March 22, 2025	Fireworks Spectacular	July 5, 2025
Spring Clean Up	April 11—13, 2025	Family Fun Fest	August 30, 2025
Easter Egg Hunt	April 19, 2025	Crappie Tournament	September 27, 2025
Boater Education Course	June 7, 2025	Fall Bass Tournament	October 18, 2025
Wet-N-Wild Boat Rally	June 14, 2025	Fall Clean up	October 17—19, 2025
Boat Parade	July 5, 2025	Chili Fest	November 8, 2025



How to Build a Wood Duck House

A wood duck box should be mounted on a 10' 4x4 or 4" round post. This length post allows you to drive 2-3' into the lake bottom. You must use a baffle to prevent snakes from entering the box. Make sure the box isn't under a tree and it's 2' away from cattails. Cattails allow snakes to lurch over the baffle. Use 2-2x4 brackets on posts and place in opposite directions. It's not a good idea to place the duck house on the side of boathouses because snakes will climb the wood. Place 3-4" cedar shavings in the bottom of the box. Good Luck & call Vince Fowler if you have questions! 903.738.7158



CWC OFFICE HOURS

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

If you are unable to make it to the office during business hours, give us a call.

We can help!

(903) 643-3933 barbara@lkcherokee.com



PRISTINE LAKE MANAGEMENT

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Aquatic Mammals - An Overview of Texas Species

Introduction

There are multiple species of semi-aquatic mammals found throughout Northeast Texas and much of the Southeastern United States. These mammals can be divided into two categories: carnivorous and herbivorous species. Carnivorous mammals include otters and minks, while herbivorous mammals include muskrats, beavers, and nutria rats.

Carnivorous Mammals

Minks

Minks are native to Texas but have declined in number and are relatively uncommon. They are relatively small in size with adults measuring 22 inches in length and weighing up to 3 pounds. Minks are excellent swimmers and prefer to live near surface water. They are opportunistic predators and will consume a diet consisting of small mammals, frogs, crawfish, and fish. Due to their low abundance and small size, minks rarely pose population issues to ponds and small lakes, however when frequent predation is common, can have a negative impact on fish populations.

Otters

Northern river otters are notorious for consuming large quantities of fish of various sizes. Otters are much larger than minks and can reach 4ft in total length and weigh up to 22 pounds. They are voracious predators and excellent swimmers, causing them to be problematic for fish populations in small ponds and lakes. Otters are more abundant than minks but are elusive and rarely seen actively swimming in ponds. Their presence is best identified by their "slides" which they use to travel in and out of the waterbody, and their scat, which typically accumulates in one area.

Management of otters and minks can be performed only when considered a nuisance that causes damage to personal property, livestock, etc. or by a licensed furbearer. Pelts and carcasses of otters may not be sold or possessed when killed for nuisance purposes. See <https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/hunting/fur-bearing-animal-regulations/general-regulations> for more details.

Herbivorous Mammals

Muskrats

Muskrats are small rodents weighing up to 2.25 pounds that feed primarily on the tender roots and shoots of aquatic vegetation. Muskrats, like minks, are native to Texas, but are uncommon. These rodents are known for digging small burrows into banks and levees of impoundments, which can cause structural failure.

Nutria Rats

Nutria are not native to Texas and the United States. These rodents originate in South America and were brought to the United States in 1938 as part of the fur trade. Nutria are similar too beavers in overall appearance but have a long slender rat-like tail, as opposed to the flat tail of a beaver. Nutria tend to be smaller in size and can reach up to 22 pounds. Like other herbivorous rodents, nutria primarily consume aquatic vegetation. This non native species is notorious for burrowing into pond levees and banks which can lead to structural failure. It is also hypothesized that nutria introduction and rapid abundance led to the decline in the muskrat population.

Beavers

Beavers are large semi-aquatic rodents capable of reaching nearly 60 pounds. These rodents, like must rats, feed primarily on tender roots and shoots of aquatic vegetation. Often referred too as "animal engineers" beavers construct huts and dams out of small limbs, mud, and other debris. Huts and especially dams can cause issues with water flow and lead to structural failure of levees and pond dams. Beavers do not tend to burrow into the ground as often as muskrats or nutria, however, their structures may be problematic.

Management of herbivorous semi-aquatic mammals has similar rules to carnivorous mammals. All of the above species are considered forbearers and can only be legally killed when deemed a nuisance or by a licensed furbearer (with the exception of nutria in some states). See the above website for more details.

Summary

Aquatic mammals, namely otters, beavers, and nutria, are fairly common in Northeast Texas and can be problematic in some situations. The above information is only a short summary of each species and more information should be sought prior to taking management actions. In most natural settings and large impoundments, aquatic mammals are not detrimental to the ecosystem. However, when located near dams or small impoundments each species may present its own set of problems. Be sure to always follow state and local laws prior to taking or managing aquatic species.

For more information on aquatic mammals feel free to contact our biologist at: Garrett@pristinepondsolutions.com

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Before



After



CWC Spring Clean- Up Friday, April 11th – Sunday April 13st

During this 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 the CWC office to 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
- Tires
- Mattresses
- Dishwashers
- Construction Material
- Mini Refrigerators

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 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:

- Some appliances including those that contain Freon such as air conditioners.
- Vehicle batteries will only be received at the north side disposal site

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.



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KIDS FISHING

ANNUAL KIDS
CONTEST

APRIL - SEPTEMBER

Contest

\$50 MONTHLY
PRIZE FOR:

BASS, BREAM,
CATFISH, CRAPPIE



IT'S BACK, LAKE CHEROKEE!

ENTER YOUR CONTEST SUBMISSIONS AT
FISHING@LAKECHEROKEE.COM

Coolidge & Co Real Estate & Cherokee Fishing Club Announce :

Youth Fishing Contest April 1st-September 30th

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

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

Below are the contest rules:

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

GOOD LUCK and get to fishing!!!!

BRIDGE CLUB

By Jeanne Collins

The St. Patrick's Day spirit will be here soon, and we are all in need of Irish levity. While we all wish our governments would manage our monies more frugally, here is a story of how one Irish widow managed hers:

"When her husband died, she called the newspaper to place his obituary. The newsman said the cost was \$1 per word. 'Oh, I only have \$2, just print "Paddy died"'. The newsman, feeling sorry for her, said he would give her three extra words at no charge. 'Aye, and what a kind man you are, she said. Then print it this way: "Paddy died. Boat for sale."

CWC bridge club members try to keep our sense of humor when the cards fall wrong, but we play each hand the best we can. Bridge play at the CWC club is very informal, and men and women of all skill levels are welcome. The person with the high score for the room each Wednesday gets to put his or her name "On the Wall".

If you do not know how to play, we will teach you. We play every Wednesday at the CWC Library, next door to the CWC Office. We start at 11:30 am and play four rounds, usually finishing around 2:30 pm.

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



Please advise your contractors not to use the dumpsters for construction debris.



Irish Chicken and Dumplings

Serves: 10
Prep Time: 35 Min
Cook Time: 20 Min
Ready In: 55 Min

Ingredients

- 1 pound dry ziti pasta
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 2 (26 ounce) jars spaghetti sauce
- 6 ounces provolone cheese, sliced
- 1 1/2 cups sour cream
- 6 ounces mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

Directions

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add ziti pasta, and cook until al dente, about 8 minutes; drain.
2. In a large skillet, brown onion and ground beef over medium heat. Add spaghetti sauce, and simmer 15 minutes.
3. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Butter a 9x13 inch baking dish. Layer as follows: 1/2 of the ziti, Provolone cheese, sour cream, 1/2 sauce mixture, remaining ziti, mozzarella cheese and remaining sauce mixture. Top with grated Parmesan cheese.
4. Bake for 30 minutes in the preheated oven, or until cheeses are melted.



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Lake Cherokee Groups and Clubs

We have several clubs that have been formed and led by Lake Cherokee Shareholders. You can find more information about these clubs in the Shareholder Portal. Key contacts with phone numbers are provided online in the Portal.

Preservation Club

Deanna Kalmus, President
Meetings are 3rd Thursday of each month following Board Mtg

Fishing Club

Genia Holland, President
Meetings are 2nd Monday at 7:00pm at CWC office

First Friends

Roxanne Lane-Brink
Gail Fowler
Lunch 3rd Thursday of each month

Photography Club

Holly Treadway
Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month

Bridge Club

Norvella Skarda
Play every Wednesday at 11:30 am at NK21

Lake Cherokee Community Foundation

Non-profit organization benefitting the community More information: www.lakecherokeecommunityfoundation.org


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First Friends



First Friends met at Barb Robar's home on Thursday, February 20th for a lunch of soup choices and desserts.

The program was brought by Barb and she shared a little about the history of quilting way back to the 14th century! Several ladies brought quilts made by great grandmothers, grandmothers, mothers and the ladies themselves for show & tell!



Barb then allowed us in to her own quilting studio for a tour of her "longarm" quilting machine.

It was a great time together and everyone enjoyed the sharing of our quilts.



We had multiple door prize winners this month thanks to Barb!!

NEWS FROM THE 19TH HOLE

by Alyce Clark

The Pro Shop hours for March are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Tuesdays through Sunday. The Pro Shop is closed if the temperature is below 45 degrees and on Mondays for course maintenance.

Join us March 15th for our BRING A GUEST 4 person team tournament starting at 10:00 am depending on the weather. The sign-up sheet will be in the Pro Shop and the cost of the tournament will be \$30. Please note if you only have three players you will have a three member team.

The WOMEN'S group plays every Tuesday morning usually @ 9:00 or 10:00 am depending on the weather. Hours may vary so please call the Pro Shop for tee time.

SATURDAY FUN BUNCH: every Saturday except for tournament days @ 10:00 am depending on the weather. It is a choose up style tournament and a lot of fun. Teams are picked randomly the morning of the tournament so plan to arrive early.

Board elections were held Thursday, February 13th. The two incumbents who will be returning to the board for 2025 are Nan Friend and Danny Matherne. CCGA board for 2025 includes Alyce Clark, Nan Friend, Mike Irwin, Danny Matherne, James Patterson, Phillip Works.

CCGA officers
President-Phillip Works
Vice President-Danny Matherne
Secretary-Alyce Clark
Treasurer-Nan Friend

The next board meeting will be on Thursday, March 13th @ 6:00 pm. It is an open meeting and all are welcome to attend and ask questions.

Sadly, due to weather CCGA was forced to cancel our PRESIDENT'S DAY tournament. Please pray for warmer weather! Our golfers are stir crazy and need to play some golf!

Mark your calendars and bring your kiddos!

First Tee
Saturday, March 22 – May 3
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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)

EST. 1983
EST. 1983
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

Lake Cherokee Photography Club

The February 11, 2025 meeting of the Lake Cherokee Photography Club was held at the lake office. Allan Franklin provided a mat cutting demonstration and cutters for us to try. He has years of experience demonstrating at trade shows, so he was able to help each of us as needed to learn the process. He had cutters available for reduced price, and two members took him up on his offer, and brought them home. We learned simple window cuts, how to make double mats and fancy cuts too. He has additional supplies that work with the cutter like glass cutters, special rulers, books and handouts. Thank you Allan!

March 11, 2025 meeting will be at the home of Deana Harkness, SD2. She will teach us photo stacking.

She requests we bring a macro subject like a leaf, flower, or small 3 dimensional object. She has black and white backgrounds. If you want a different color, it needs to be 12x12 inches. She indicated there was tight parking at the end of the drive, and can assist those who need help to the house. The drive is paved and reasonably flat.

April 8, 2025 Deana has offered her yard and dock to take environmental and people pictures. She has a "photographic" boat which could make a good prop. Think of other props that might go with it for more interest. We can discuss at the March meeting.

May 13, 2025 Patty Stewart is presenting. Her program is still in development.

June 10, 2025 Marc Bailey will present again. He will present a class and most likely send us outside to put the evening's concepts into practice using our camera phones. In the past, he has looked at our "best" image and made critique.

July 8, 2025 Pliny Meir is a nature and birding photographer who recently moved to Longview. During his years in San Antonio he co-founded La Lomita Wildlife Photography Ranch where he guided and mentored photographers from around the world from 2017 to 2023.

August 12, 2025 ???Boat Safari???

The Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6 P.M. usually at the lake office downstairs, unless otherwise noted. There is a Lake Cherokee Photography Club Facebook page where latest news and reminders are posted. We have an email list too, so let us know if you want your name added. We encourage all lake residents who take pictures to join the group. We do not collect dues or serve food, we just come for learning and the joy of photography. Most group members are phone photographers. Some members use other equipment as well. For questions, please TEXT Holly at 903-399-0066 (My phone blocks unknown calls, but transcribes voicemail) or email me at greytbiker@yahoo.com and put "photo club" in subject line. I will get back to you.



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Cherokee Fishing Club

NEW: Registrant or One Team Member must have 2025 CFC Membership

Spring Memorial Bass Tournament Entry Form

March 22, 2025

Event Start Time

6:30 A.M.

Event Weigh-in Time

Opens 1:00 P.M. **Must be in weigh-in line by 3:00 P.M.**

Team Members

Name: _____ Name: _____

Cherokee Fishing Club Member Information (CFC Member is Shareholder/Privilege Card holder/CWC Employee) Adult Member \$20 (Youth Member \$10)

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Lake Lot #: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Entry Fee is \$50.00 for a boat/ 2-member team or single-lone fisherman.

CFC Membership: _____ Entry Fee: _____ Donation to Hatchery: _____

Total Amount Paid: _____

Mail entry form to Cherokee Fishing Club, SD 14 Lake Cherokee, Henderson, TX 75652, must be received by Thursday, before tournament. Or drop off at CWC Office, no later than 3:00 p.m. on the Thursday before tournament.

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

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 above signed 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.

CHEROKEE FISHING CLUB
CFC BASS TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

CHANGE FOR 2025: Cherokee Fishing Club's 501(c)7 IRS Tax-Exempt Status restricts the amount of money derived from non-members' use of Club services. The Fishing Tournament Registrant or One Team member must be a current paid member of the Cherokee Fishing Club. The Annual adult membership of \$20 (\$10 Youth) is used for member activities including running and sponsoring the fishing tournaments.

- A. Tournament length and bag limits for Bass – Black, Spotted, Florida, or any combination thereof.
1. Fish must be a minimum of fourteen (14)” or greater in length.
 2. Bag limit five (5) fish per boat.
 3. No dead fish allowed at the weigh-in. Dead fish will be assessed a weight penalty.
- B. Tournament Rules
1. No more than two people per boat.
 2. Winning places to be paid will be determined by the Tournament Director and in the absence of the Tournament Director, an officer of the CFC.
 3. All weigh-in results of the Tournament Scale are official. Any protests must be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director at the time of weigh-in. The Tournament Director’s decision will be final.
 4. Prizes will be awarded based on team results on the heavy stringer. The Tournament Director may have individual prizes based on heaviest Bass, 2nd Heaviest Bass, and additional levels of Heaviest Bass.
 5. No Fishing is allowed within 100 yards of the tournament weigh-in location
 6. Fisherman must be in the Weigh-In line no later than the designated time of the end of the tournament.
 7. The Cherokee Fishing Club does not provide tournament weigh-in bags and all fish must be placed in a tournament bag, with sufficient water to keep the fish alive during the weigh-in process.
 8. Entry fees will not be refunded unless the tournament is canceled or postponed by the CFC President or CFC Tournament Director.
- C. General Rules
1. All Texas rules of the Texas Water Safety Act will apply to all tournaments. The CWC Lake Patrol will enforce the CWC Rules, TP&W Rules and Regulations, and Texas Water Safety Act.
 2. Each boater must wear a USCG-approved life vest any time the main motor is started or running. Inflatable life vests are permitted, provided they are worn at all times.
 3. No alcohol or drugs are allowed while fishing in the tournament. Violations will result in disqualification.
 4. Any person found to be cheating or endangering watercraft, its occupants, or the property of others will be disqualified and may be banned from all Cherokee Fishing Club events.
 5. All participants must display good sportsmanship. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including cheating, harassment, or verbal/physical interference with tournament weigh-in or with other participants, will result in disqualification.
 6. Participants may fish from the bank, a dock, a boat, canoes, kayaks, rubber rafts, and float tubes.

Generally, Fishermen may not retain any Bass brought to weigh in. All Bass brought to weigh-in will be released back into the lake unless the Tournament Director elects a Harvesting option.

Updated January 2025



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Cherokee Fishing Club (CFC) News
March 2025

The February Meeting had 48 members and family, including six new members! Pete and Carol Staiti's pork loin with mashed potatoes was a big hit. Cookie People Genia Holland, Pete and Carol, Larry Willis, Roxanne Brink, and Anna O'Brien provided desserts and additional sides. Barely a smear of frosting was left of Genia's chocolate cake!

CFC welcomes new members Marc Bailey, David Googe, Ryan Hill, Ben Mack, Jeff May, and Ben Tullos.

President Genia Holland will contact local suppliers to obtain door prizes for the Spring Memorial Bass Tournament. She also noted the recent passing of long-time CFC member and ardent supporter, Lou Caffey.

Subcommittee Lead Lori Klump provided an update on restarting the Kids Fishing Tournament in collaboration with Coolidge & Company Real Estate. Several CFC support roles were discussed and volunteers were assigned.



Bryce Tawney, Secretary/Treasurer, provided a financial update for January. Bryce noted CFC's 2024 Tax Return has been filed. He is using the Cherokee portal for CFC forms and documents and encourages members to join the CFC Group within the portal. Bryce also secured interest and support in CFC obtaining a Berkley fishing line recycling bin for access at monthly meetings. PVC receptacles are currently available at the NA and Silvey Bridge boat ramps.

Gary Lindsey, Hatchery Director, noted that 3 brood ponds are still empty and the pump is winterized. 2 ponds are raising bluegill and redear sunfish. In the spring, CFC will coordinate with Pristine Solutions and the CWC Manager to review options, including additional forage fish. Due to the lake's overabundance of catfish and crappie, we will not raise these species for the foreseeable future.

George Steele, Habitat Director, reported the habitat team had two work

days since our last members meeting. Another source of Christmas has been identified and a future work day was discussed. The brush team's efforts are to replenish existing brush piles.

David Wilson, Tournament Director, noted the Spring Memorial Bass Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 22. Tournament rules and entry forms are available in the February and March Chatters and the CFC Group within the CWC Portal.

The evening's program featured Dana Deason and Ryan Hill. Dana discussed his passion for competitive bass fishing and the good fortune of having some great fishing mentors, which he now enjoys paying forward. Dana is currently fishing the Bass Champs trail and is a rep for Pride Rods. Since moving to Lake Cherokee in 2021, he has found Cherokee to be an excellent fishery. In 2024 alone, he knows of a large bass caught weighing 12 lbs 6oz, three bass over 11 lbs, and he caught two over 9 lbs. Dana suggested the best lures and colors, water depth, and structure for fishing the current pre-spawn. Dana hosted a jackpot tournament on Cherokee in November and Spencer Patterson hosted one in February. Contact Dana if you want to be on the contact list for future jackpot tournaments. CFC and Dana will collaborate on a Pride

Rod Bounty contest with more details forthcoming.

Ryan, also a passionate bass fisherman, discussed his hobby of making hand-tied jigs, under the name Pud Jigs. He has a few sources for the jig heads, then uses a variety of materials for skirts and trailers, combined with innovation to produce a variety of attractive and proven bass jigs.

Congratulations to our Raffle winners this month: Tackle Gift Bags by Mike Hendricks, Ben Tullos, Dana Deason, and Mike Burk. Gas can by Bryce Tawney, Cash Envelope by Tandy Deason, and a Berkley spinning rod by Anna O'Brien. Pud Jigs by Mike Fleener, Christian Godwin, and Jack Mills.

CFC looks forward to seeing everyone on Monday, March 10, including any shareholders who want to join or visit!!



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Once you've found one, keep looking! The mutation found in four-leaf clovers exist in the roots and the likelihood of finding others in the same space drastically increases. The most four-leaf clovers found by an individual is over 111,000 in a period of fifteen years. No word on his lottery winnings.

And remember—to find a four-leaf clover is lucky, but give it to a friend and your luck is doubled.

<https://www.hgtv.com/lifestyle/holidays/how-to-find-a-four-leaf-clover>

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						1 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm
2	3	4 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm Variance Deadline Mardi Gras	5 Bridge Club Luncheon	6	7	8 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm
9 Daylight Savings Begins @ 2am	10 Fishing Club	11 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm Community Gardeners Photography Club	12 Bridge Club	13 Golf Course Board Meeting	14	15 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm
16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm	19 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	20 First Friends CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club 1st Day of Spring	21	22 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm Spring Bass Tournament
23	24	25 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm	26 Bridge Club	27	28	29 Fuel Center Open 2pm-6pm
30	31					

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Variance Deadline 2nd Half of 24-25 Annual Lease Renewal Due April Fool's Day	2 Bridge Club Luncheon	3	4	5
6	7 Fishing Club	8 Community Gardeners Photography Club	9 Bridge Club	10 Golf Course Board Meeting	11 Spring Clean-Up	12 Spring Clean-Up
13 Spring Clean-Up	14	15	16 Chatter Deadline Bridge Club	17 First Friends CWC Board Meeting Preservation Club	18 CWC Office Closed Good Friday	19 Easter Egg Hunt
20 Easter	21	22	23 Bridge Club	24	25	26
27	28	29 Variance Deadline	30 Bridge Club			

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