



ECHOES FROM OUR LAKE
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WALKER LAKESHORES
LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION
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A brand new year, 2017, is already well under way, and may it be a very happy, healthy, and prosperous year for all. It may appear to have been a rather quiet winter on the Association front...but 'taint so. Lots of people have been accomplishing important things on our behalf. Be assured, though, that more help is always needed on other projects and activities. **SO, JOIN THE TEAM!!!** Be a part of the growth and success of your Association.

Heading towards spring and hopefully with the worst of winter behind us, lie the promises of a pleasant mix of weather for the spring and summer. We do need adequate rain, though, to keep the forest green, the flowers blooming, and the lake fresh and clear. Activity on all fronts will be picking up; many social events already on the docket as well as some significant actions and improvements for the lake. All this and more are examples of how dedicated volunteers are involved, helping make our Walker Lake community a pleasanter, friendlier place to live – to visit – to enjoy. I am always telling everyone not to hold back – get involved – make new friends – and have the real satisfaction of helping.

Walker Lake is not made up of only the people who come eagerly and willingly to make this a better place to live. It is made up of all home and landowners who live full time or come for enjoyable vacations and weekends at the lake. In order for the Association to offer the things you presently have become used to and enjoy, it is necessary for all of us to be here at meetings to make decisions that help keep this community operating. Do you know and care that there are committees that keep each phase of the community operating?

The lake is monitored year round to be sure it is exactly what it is, so that you can fish, swim and boat, or just sit and partake. While residents and their guests are enjoying the sparkling waters, there is a Lake Committee out there being sure that all factors necessary for a healthy body of water are tended to. The roads at Walker Lake are the best among the many communities in the area, not by coincidence, but because the Road Committee is on top of what problems exist, and working to keep them in good condition. Plus residents coming forward and discussing a specific problem with a road issue. The largest part of Walker Lake's budget goes to the roads. If you are here during this winter, you can understand why.

A number of people volunteer their time and labor to Walker Lake. We don't need to always print their names. Someone may be omitted because it is almost impossible to know of all the people who give of their precious moments. Problem is, at times, there are too few. We need you as well. It would be so much easier and quicker with more willing hands and minds.

A thought comes to mind. What if all these hard workers didn't want to participate and just threw up their hands and said, "I pay my assessments/dues, but I can't be bothered to attend meetings or serve on committees." Think of the fire department refusing to answer a call to your house because you didn't support their fund raising events. Think of a lake that fish can't exist in or that aren't worthy of swimming in. Think of beaches and grounds overgrown and strewn with garbage and graffiti. Think of roads so full of pot holes or thick with snow that they are impassable. And a clubhouse in such poor repair that you can't use it. Think of the value of your real estate. SCARY ISN'T IT?

Okay...enough from me...time to enjoy the rest of the material in this Newsletter. I wish you all the best.



Upcoming Social Events

By Fran Orth

The Social Committee has been hard at work again putting together events, trips, and activities for the members of WLLA. Following the annual "Ring in the New Year" gala at the Clubhouse on New Year's Eve, no event are typically scheduled for January and February. Just can't count on Mother Nature to behave herself and provide perfect weather when we want it!

But, February is quickly falling behind us and below is a list of the upcoming goodies. Be sure to mark your calendars and sign up as soon as possible for those things that catch your fancy as many sell out fast!

- Thursday March 23rd. trip to the Sands Casino.
- Wednesday April 26th. "Crystals" show at Mt. Airy Casino.
- Saturday June 3rd. Spring Dance with "Elvis"
- Saturday August 5th. Penny Social
- Saturday August 12th. Annual Walker Lake Picnic

- Wildwood, Cape May and Atlantic City trip September 24-28th.
- Tuesday October 10th. Joey Dee and the Crests show at Mt. Airy Casino
- Monday December 4th. Coasters Christmas show at Mt. Airy Casino

The shows at Mt. Airy are very popular and sell out fast. Cost is \$60.00pp and includes the show, bus transportation, free lunch buffet and \$10.00 in slot play. If you are lucky, you can pay for your trip with your winnings!



The Sands Casino offers shopping at many outlet stores in addition to playing the slots, etc. Price is \$25.00 and you will receive \$30.00 in slot play and \$5.00 for food.

Other opportunities are being worked on and there will be additional information, flyers, and details posted in the newsletter, on the WLLA website, on the bulletin board, and in the office.

The Committee is always looking for new members. If you enjoy putting together fun events and activities, please contact Fran Orth or leave word at the office!

New Signs Regarding the Rules and Regulations

We live in a beautiful community and have great committees that invest lots of time and effort into keeping it that way. In order to maintain the beauty of our facilities, the health of our lake, and the safety of our members and guests, there are the inevitable rules and regulations. PLEASE be sure to familiarize yourself with all the R&Rs found in the handbook and to remind everyone, new signs are



being made to replace the faded and time worn existing ones already up. They will be installed at the:

- BOAT LAUNCH AREA
- SWIMMING AREA
- SANDY BEACH
- SWEZY BEACH

They are expected to be installed before the Summer season gets into high gear. If you need a new handbook or have any questions, please contact the Office. Like all the WLLA Committees, the Grounds Committee can use willing hands. Please contact the Office if you think you can help us keep the facilities and beaches looking like a photo from National Geographic!!

PA in the 1970's to 1980's, eagles recovered and started to establish breeding territories in the region. Other states soon followed suit.

Today, there are occupied eagle territories up and down the Delaware River, and other areas in the region. There are over 20 nests established along the main stem of the river that comprises the 73 mile stretch of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River (between Port Jervis and Hancock, NY).

If you see an eagle today, it could be a migrant down for the winter, or it could be a local eagle; a member of a breeding pair or a young produced by a local pair. Many of these eagles can be seen on and around Walker



Lake during the winter, and resident eagles frequent the lake year-round. I even tracked several radio tagged eagles here on Walker Lake during a NYSDEC project in the mid 2000's. If you want to know where the best place to see eagles during the winter, visit the Delaware Highlands Conservancy Eagle site here: <http://delawarehighlands.org/eagles/>

Photograph details:

A 3-year-old immature eagle is looking for a meal as it wings over the lake during a snow squall. Bald eagles do not get their distinctive white head and tail until 4 to 5 years of age. They will also attempt to take a mate and establish a nesting territory during this time.

Emergency Dam Repairs & Aquatic Plant Control

By Peter Wulfhurst

The Walker Lake Dam repair was completed in 2016. This included coating of the top of the spillway, redoing the feet markers on the sides and fixing the middle concrete abutment. The lake level was lowered to complete the repairs and has returned to its normal level.



The lake committee worked with a new consultant in 2016 and we are waiting for the water quality analysis and fisheries analysis in early February. In 2016 Walker Lake treated water lilies along several lake front property owners. This was coordinated with our lake consultant. Unfortunately in some cases Walker Lake scrambled to get the information to our consultant.

The lake committee has established a date of May 31, 2017 for lake front property owners to notify the Walker Lake office if they want aquatic plants to be chemically treated by our consultant during June and/or July.

We selected a date so we can work with our lake consultant to plan for aquatic plant treatments for the lake.

Please contact the office if you have any questions. Thanks.

Everyone Talks About the Weather but No One Does Anything About It

By Tom Tate

If you have a fascination with weather like I do, it is getting to the point where technology is allowing people to begin changing the old saying that comprises the title of this article. Now don't get the wrong idea here, this is not some global warming/climate change rant. It is just an article about how advances in personal weather stations (PWS) are making it easy for people like you and me to provide hyper-local weather data to weather services to enhance their ability to forecast the weather.

So, how is this doing something about it? For years, I have chided the weather forecasters for their abysmal track record. It is a job I claim to aspire to...where else can you always be wrong and not get fired, outside of governmental positions? They are saddled with sparse data inputs, believe it or not. Yes, the national services like NOAA can call on satellites and really cool tech along those lines but they only have about 12,000 ground-based weather reporting stations. Weather Underground, on the other hand, has data coming in from over 250,000 reporting points! With this kind of data, their forecasts continually improve and can be tuned to a much smaller area. Now they are doing something – providing information that affects where we live as individuals.

Recently, I participated in a Kickstarter campaign for a new PWS that includes a camera for capturing the sky conditions in addition to providing the typical array of information. It is from BloomSky (www.bloomsky.com) and if you have ever wanted to get into PWS, this is a terrific product. Here is the link to my PWS on the BloomSky site: <https://map.bloomsky.com/weather-stations/jpxnrKmnqZKmmKin>

Good PWS are not cheap but the BloomSky offering has a remarkable price point for what you get. I just set mine up, have it registered with BloomSky, and am in the process of getting registered with Weather Underground so I can do something about the weather, at least in terms of forecast accuracy. Be the first in Shohola to get one of these modern marvels and help do something about the weather too.

Oh, you can still talk about it but now, you can show off your very own PWS as part of the conversation!



2017 Penn State Extension Gardening Workshop Series

The Penn State Extension is offering a series of gardening classes to interested individuals this year at the Pike County training Center in Lords Valley. The classes are split into two categories, The Edible Series offered in the morning and the Beautiful Blooms Series offered in the afternoon. You can register for all 10 classes for \$70 or individual classes for \$10 each.

Here are the classes:

Date	Edible Series - AM	Beautiful Blooms - PM
Feb 11	Plan Early for Produce	Beautify Your Space
Mar 11	Starting Seeds Indoors	What to Plant Where
Apr 8	All About Irrigation	Bring Nature Home
May 13	It's Time to Plant	Bursts of Color
Jun 10	Good Bugs, Bad Bugs	

Contact the Pike County Extension for more details: 570.296.3400 or pikeext@psu.edu or you can register online at <http://extension.psu.edu/pike/events>.

Protect our abundant wildlife...

By Tom Tate

When I tell people about the beauty of the area that envelopes Walker Lake and the amazing variety and abundance of wildlife they are invariably amazed to learn that we are just a few hours west of New York City. I was amazed myself. We are blessed with forests, glens, rivers, streams, lakes, and other natural features that harbor and nourish deer, fox, bear, turkey, eagles (see Scott Rando's article elsewhere in this issue), hawks, song birds, porcupines, and more.

To protect and manage the size of each animal population, there are laws on the books that specify what can be hunted and when. Unfortunately, there are those who flaunt these laws and take animals illegally across the State and within our Association. Hunting inside the Association is not allowed for many good reasons but safety being the top most. Illegal hunting or poaching needs to be eradicated within our grounds. If you know of or suspect poaching, please let the office or the authorities know. Our safety and the abundance of wildlife many enjoy is at stake.

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association

Turn in Poachers



There have been incidents of poachers here in the Walker Lake community that have not gone by the wayside. Some residents know who the poachers are, as well as other officials including the game warden. You are being watched, and as soon as you are caught in the act (including with strategically placed cams), you will be dealt with by the proper authorities. Pennsylvania law has penalties for poaching a single deer of three months in prison, a \$1,000.00 fine, and a five year ban on hunting. Poach several more deer and you will be facing a felony conviction, three years in prison, a \$15,000.00 fine, and a fifteen year hunting license revocation. Poach here in Walker Lake, and you will be facing far more than a monetary fine.

100 Walker Lake Drive
Shohola, PA 18458

Address Service Requested

TO:

This WLLA newsletter may contain legal notification of information from the Board of Directors and the WLLA office. Please read it carefully.

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<http://walkerlake.com/>

570-296-7788