



# Echoes from Our Lake

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
WALKER LAKESHORES LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
JUNE 2021  
VOLUME 152

## President's Remarks

### Summer is coming soon!

This is a great time of the year; the flowers are blooming and the trees are coming back to life after a cold winter.

Our lake community is getting ready for summertime activity. Time to get your boat, kayak or paddle boat ready for the summer. Don't forget to check your safety equipment and paddles to make sure you're ready to have a safe and pleasant experience. Did you get your boat tags, your badges, and parking ID stickers for your vehicles? These items are checked by our security patrol and are mandatory at the beaches.



When was the last time you played tennis or basketball, took a walk around our community and said "Hi" to your neighbors, enjoyed the sunshine and – hopefully – some cool mountain breezes?

Don't forget there's a very nice park by Route 6 on Twin Lakes Road: Cornella & Florence Bridge Nature Preserve.

Shohola Railroad and Historical Society has a Museum in downtown Shohola. It's located in the Red Caboose on route Rt. 434 and is open Saturday and Sunday during the summer months. Check their hours of operation at (570) 832-4627.

Looking to host an event, birthday, or other special occasion? Members of our community can rent the clubhouse. Contact the office for more information.

Summer is a great time to get up, get outside and enjoy the outdoors.



Enjoy Walker Lake

— John

## Walker Lake Dam Update

WLLA has submitted information needed to have permits issued by the State of Pennsylvania to have our emergency evacuation pipe relined with a plastic liner. This liner will be inserted into the existing concrete pipe and will be bonded to the concrete pipe.

WLLA has assigned Kiley Engineering to submit all information required by the state at this time.

Presently the state requires that the following be submitted for approval:

1. A hydrologic study to determine if the spillway meets current state-mandated standards.
2. A structural engineering review of the spillway and weir walls.
3. Proof of financial responsibility from WLLA.

We are presently awaiting additional cost quotes from companies that are qualified to handle these engineering surveys. We believe we're in a good position as far as financial responsibility is concerned.

There are still many unknowns related to timing, costs, etc.

We'll keep you posted.

— John Weber

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### **IMPORTANT! Rock Throwing Prohibited in Dam Area IMPORTANT!**

#### **Please – especially you who are parents – please take note:**

The dam area has rocks that are spread near the lake edge to minimize erosion and protect the dam. Rocks are also spread below the spillway to prevent weakening of the foundation for the spillway structure.

Pennsylvania State officials inspect our dam yearly and require that we have rock barriers along the water line for the reasons stated.

The dam is the single most critical structure for which we have responsibility and is hugely expensive to repair or replace.

When people are casually throwing away the rocks that were deliberately placed there, they are – ignorantly perhaps – endangering everyone and everything that lies downstream from us *and* increasing potential expense for the Association.

And when people tossing such rocks are asked nicely by an adult to stop doing so, and they disregard such a request, they are being disrespectful in a way which bodes ill for all.

Thank You.

— Lake and Dam Committee

## Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Annual Elections

The 2021 election will be to fill two officer positions: President (1-year term) and Vice President (1-year term), and three At-Large Director positions.

Members of the WLLA community in good standing who sought election to these positions submitted a Consideration for Nomination Letter, including a short biography describing life experience, acquired skills and what can be offered for the betterment of the community. Here are those letters:

### **For Officer Positions:**

#### **President and At Large Director: John Weber**

I am running for re-election to the Board of Directors. I have been active on the Board over the past few years and will continue to serve the community. I would like to continue in my present position as President of the Association. I am also active on the following committees: Dam Repair, Clubhouse, Nominating, Road and Legal; and I help wherever I'm needed.

I have lived at Walker Lake full-time for 8 years and have been a property owner since the 1970s. I joined the U.S. Navy in the 1960s, served my tour of duty on a destroyer escort, and was honorably discharged in 1967. My hobbies include amateur radio, RVing and travel. My work experience includes engineering, manufacturing and design of new products for the commercial building products industry.

Please make an effort to vote in our community election and help our community grow stronger.

#### **Vice President: Carol Reynolds**

I have been a lakefront owner for seven years now and have a strong desire to protect our lake so that all of the property owners can enjoy it now and for years to come. My background is in civil and environmental engineering. Prior to my retirement and relocation here, I was Director of Environmental Affairs for Sony Pictures Entertainment's worldwide headquarters in Culver City, CA. I bring a unique perspective to environmental issues in that I can appreciate the views from both sides: big business and protecting the world's resources. They are not mutually exclusive.

### **For Directors at Large:**

#### **Mario Aieta**

My wife and I have been members of the Walker Lake community since 1998. I am an avid gardener, an unskilled woodworker, and, in my spare time, a lawyer. I believe that our most valuable asset at Walker Lake is the quiet beauty that surrounds us, and I will work to preserve and increase that quiet beauty.

#### **John Rolando**

My wife Dawn and I have been living in the community for nearly five years, four of which have been full time. I recently joined the Board of Directors on an interim basis and would like to extend my Board membership by being elected to a full term.

Prior to retiring in October, I was the President of Evonik Corporation in Parsippany NJ. Evonik Corporation is the North American subsidiary of Evonik Industries, a Germany-based, globally active chemical company. In my 33 years there, I had the opportunity to work in North America and Germany with roles including marketing, business development, general management and, for the last 8 years, as CEO. I also served on the Boards of the American Chemistry Council, The German American Chamber of Commerce and the Société de Chimie, a group dedicated to the advancement of chemistry across borders and specialties. Now that I am not travelling a majority of the time for work, I can attend meetings and, I believe, contribute to the Board. I look forward to being elected to a regular Board membership.

# WLLA Meeting Calendar 2021

All are both in-person at Clubhouse and on Zoom

<b>June 19</b> Board of Directors 10 AM	<b>July 17</b> Annual Meeting 10 AM	<b>August 21</b> Board of Directors 10 AM	<b>September 18</b> General Membership 9 AM
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## Walker Lakeshores Landowner Association 2021 Election Notice \* Sample Ballot

Absentee Ballots due by July 10, 2021 \* Meeting Ballots due by 10:00 AM July 17, 2021

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association 2021 ELECTION BALLOT</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <b>OFFICERS</b> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>President (Select Only One) For a 2 Year Term</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> John Weber</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vice-President (Select Only One) For a 2 Year Term</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Carol Reynolds</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <b>DIRECTORS (AT-LARGE)</b>  <b>Select up to Three (3) Only</b> </div> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mario Aieta</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> John Rolando</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> John Weber</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">NOTICE</p> <p>See Voting Instructions on Back of Ballot</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <b>ABSENTEE BALLOT</b>  <b>VOTING INSTRUCTIONS</b>  <b>ONLY ONE VOTE PER HOUSEHOLD</b> </div> <p><b>Note:</b> In accordance with Appendix II, Article VIII, Part 9 of the WLLA Constitution "Members who request an absentee ballot may not later rescind the request and vote at the General Membership (Election) Meeting."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THIS BALLOT</b></li> <li>2) <b>DO NOT WRITE ANY COMMENTS OR PUT ANY STRAY MARKS ON BALLOT</b></li> <li>3) Select up to the maximum people allowed for each position by putting an "X" in the box next to your choice for each of the listed positions</li> <li>4) <b>Note:</b> If you select more than allowed for any position your ballot will not be counted for that position. Your ballot will be counted if you choose to vote for less than the maximum allowed in any or all positions</li> <li>5) Place your completed ballot in Secret Ballot Envelope – (Do Not write on this envelope)</li> <li>6) Place the Secret Ballot Envelope in the Return Envelope</li> <li>7) Print Name under the # on Return Envelope</li> <li>8) Either mail (add stamp) or return to WLLA Office no later than July 10, 2021</li> </ol> <p><b>Deadline for sealed absentee ballots must be postmarked and/or received at the WLLA office by no later than July 10, 2021.</b></p> <p>WLLA office is open Wednesday and Saturday from 9 am– 2 pm (<b>NOTE: COVID-19 Restrictions may apply. See walkerlake.com or email office for further information</b>)</p> <p>Upon receiving your envelope, the outer envelope will be verified that it has come from the correct family.</p> <p>Once verified the secret ballot envelope will be removed from the outer envelope and dropped into the locked and secured ballot box.</p> <p>The secret ballot envelope will not be opened until the votes are counted on July 17, 2021.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #f2f2f2; margin-top: 10px;"> <b>MEETING BALLOT</b>  <b>VOTING INSTRUCTIONS</b>  <b>ONLY ONE VOTE PER HOUSEHOLD</b> </div> <p><b>Note:</b> If you previously requested an absentee ballot, you may not vote again at the July 17, 2021. Meeting in accordance with the WLLA Constitution, Appendix II, Article VIII, Part 9</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THIS BALLOT</b></li> <li>2) <b>DO NOT WRITE ANY COMMENTS OR PUT ANY STRAY MARKS ON BALLOT</b></li> <li>3) Select up to the maximum people allowed for each position by putting an "X" in the box next to your choice for each of the listed positions</li> <li>4) <b>Note:</b> If you select more than allowed for any position your ballot will not be counted for that position. Your ballot will be counted if you choose to vote for less than the maximum allowed in any or all positions</li> <li>5) Place completed ballot in ballot box on July 17, 2021 General Membership Meeting by 10 a.m.</li> <li>6) Completed ballot must be entered into the ballot box prior to the start of the count of ballots to be valid.</li> </ol>
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## Fish Stocking for Free!

Thanks to the generosity of one of our families, the members of which prefer to remain anonymous, the cost of stocking our lake with fish this year was reduced to near zero.

The family appreciated the effort our Board made in quickly pivoting to meetings on Zoom last year, making it possible for all members to participate.

At one of those Zoom meetings, and in the context of the Association's ongoing financial constraints, they learned of plans to stock the lake this year, including its cost. They figured their coverage of that cost would help ensure both the healthy below-the-surface "life" of the lake and the healthier state of our finances.

The family notes appreciatively the Board's "inclusive adventure in 'Zooming' and all you (the Board) are still attempting to do." And, not least, they remember Mary Iverson and her dedication to the care of our precious lake.

Whomever you are, dear family, we are deeply grateful.

— The Walker Lake Community



Photo courtesy of Kathleen Keady

## Geese: Our Frenemies

The large V-shaped flocks of migrating geese have always been part of our landscape. We do get migrating geese stopping over in the spring and fall but generally just to rest for a night before moving on. We don't have the large numbers of non-migrating "Resident Geese" that are found throughout New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania, but we do get several nesting pairs each year.

Geese have a tremendous urge to return to where they were born and return to the same nest area, traits that can be troubling but also help in their control. While some of us may love the sight of a goose family swimming on the lake, very few, if any, of us like the mess they leave behind which at times can close our beaches.

Your Lake Committee's goal is to minimize the impact of the geese that reside near us. We rely on homeowners providing habitat modification, egg addling and harassment. You can help by making your yard as inhospitable as possible for them. Geese are attracted to lawns and especially freshly mowed lawns. They will eat most grasses, but Kentucky bluegrass is like candy to them. Avoid manicured lawns on the lake side of your homes. If you have one let it go natural by avoiding any fertilizers and other treatment. You can install a wire or net barrier but better is to let a buffer grow at the water's edge which deters the geese and also helps with storm water run-off control.

Your Lake Committee uses the other two primary methods of control. We have a permit to addle goose eggs. Addling prevents the eggs from hatching but leaves them in the nest. If not left, the female goose will lay new eggs to replace those she lost. Our permit only allows us to addle on Association properties and we need your help in locating nests. If you know of a nest, please report it to the Office. We need permission to addle on private property. Do not try to addle on your own unless you have been trained and even then, you need to report any addled eggs.



We know that our geese tend to nest either upstream or downstream from the lake and then hike their young to the lake. We use a bird laser to harass – but not harm – the geese. This has proven very effective when the geese are able to fly. Geese molt (lose their primary flying feathers) for 20 to 40 days in early June to July. During this period, they cannot fly and harassment will chase them but not very far. Once both the adults and young can fly, we have found that the most effective way to get them off the lake is to harass them with the bird laser. The red beam from the laser appears to be a predator to the birds and they panic and take off.

There are limits to our ability to control the geese but with your help in landscape modification and addling and harassment we will continue to minimize their impact.

— Your Lake Committee

## News from the Twin and Walker Creeks Watershed Conservancy

Have you ever wondered about how septic systems work? Proper maintenance of these systems protects your own well water *and* the lake. Peter Wulforth will solve the mysteries of these systems on Wednesday, August, 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. This presentation will be a Zoom event. If interested, please email a note to [president@twcwc.com](mailto:president@twcwc.com) to register.

Get your cameras ready! There have been wonderful photos posted on the WLLA Facebook page, so pick out the best ones and submit them to our photo contest. Scott Rando, photographer extraordinaire, will judge the photos. Here are specifics:

- Mail-in Deadline: Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
- Photos can also be submitted by hand at the Clubhouse Sat., Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 to 10 a.m.
- Maximum number of submissions: 3 photos per contestant
- Please write name and email address on back of photos.
- Contestant Categories: 1) Children through 4<sup>th</sup> grade; 2) 5-8<sup>th</sup> grade; 3) 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade; 4) Adults
- Maximum size: 8.5 x 11 inches
- Please mail to: TWCWC, 108 Lakeview Dr., Shohola, PA, 18458.

The winners will be announced at the hybrid meeting (Zoom and in-person) in the WLLA Clubhouse on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> between 10 – 11 AM. More details about the rules of the photo contest are posted at <https://www.twcwc.com>. If attending via Zoom, please register by sending an email to [president@twcwc.com](mailto:president@twcwc.com).

The Conservancy has been overhauling its website. Many thanks to Marisa Boehme who taught Carol Reynolds a new software program used to revamp the website. Carol has spent this last year collecting and getting the information on the website up to date. Scott Rando helped us transfer the website to the new domain and Kevin Dowd, TWCWC's treasurer, figured out the best way to pay for this new site. Check out the new website: <https://www.twcwc.com>!

Our board meetings are open to all. Please contact [president@twcwc.com](mailto:president@twcwc.com) if you're interested in attending our Zoom board meetings!

— Pat Dawson, President



Photo courtesy of Scott Rando

## Roads: IMPORTANT AND IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION

### To all landowners and tenants along WLLA-owned and -maintained roads

#### WATERSHED RESPONSIBILITIES

1) *Responsibility for the watershed. WL landowners (and tenants) are responsible for maintaining proper drainage from contiguous roads and culverts contiguous to their property, as well as from their own lawns and property. This includes avoiding the dumping of leaves, dirt, sand, or other debris into the culverts and drainage ditches. Culverts adjacent to one’s own property should be cleared on an “as needed” basis. (Page 13 of the Red Book)*

First, we want to thank all those who have continually met their watershed responsibilities.

Making sure stormwater runoff is properly channeled is important not only for our lake but for our roads as well. Having clean drainage lines and culverts helps keep unwanted waste, be it natural or manmade, out of the lake. Keeping our lake clean from such items helps keep our lake healthy.



As for the roads, water is the number one factor behind pavement failure. Unclean ditch lines and culverts may cause stormwater to overflow onto the road causing deterioration of asphalt pavements and erosion of gravel roads. As we continue to maintain and improve all WLLA-owned roads after years of neglect, it is important that we protect the investment of our road dues. By having clean ditch lines and culverts, we extend pavement life and conserve our dollars.

During the last several years, we have notified landowners of their responsibility (or their tenant’s). However, numerous landowners, including some who live here year-round, have failed to comply. Thus, the Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Road and Rules and Regs Committees, have approved this rule: If a landowner does not clean their ditch lines and culverts, they will be notified in writing to do so. If, after a 30-day period, they have failed to comply, WLLA will hire a contractor to do the cleaning and then bill the landowner the contractor cost plus a \$50 administrative fee.

The \$50 fee covers the office secretary’s time sending notifications, processing contractor payments, billing landowners, etc. (Road Committee members, by the way, will also be forced to spend more unpaid hours preparing notification details so the office can process them.)

The Road Committee’s hope is that no notifications will have to be sent and that landowners will meet their responsibility. If that is not the case, starting July 15, 2021, WLLA will begin preparing the initial notices starting with worst, and most severe, offenders.

**Please be a good neighbor and clean the ditch lines and culverts along your property today!**

DO	DO NOT
Clean out anything that blocks water flow. Remove trees or hardwood vegetation. Clean all leaves and trash from the ditch line and the opening of the culverts. This must be done “as needed” to avoid the leaves and trash from being washed away from the property.	Rake or blow the leaves onto a property that is not yours even if the land is vacant unless you have permission of the landowner. Remove any rocks that line the bottom of the ditch as rocks help stop erosion.



## COVID Might Have Taught Us Something...

... something outside the public health sphere.

Before COVID, our national partisanship, the tendency – carried to an extreme – of sorting ourselves into opposing camps, each believing the other was a threat to life and liberty, had seemingly seeped into even our local relationships.

That, coupled with the temptation to say on social media what one might never say to another in person, led to a coarsening in some cases of local, and even family, conversations. If you're viewed as a mortal threat by me and I've become accustomed to, online, expressing my opinions unfiltered, I'm more likely, in public, to respond to a point you may be making in a less-than-gentlemanly way.

The massive loss of life, the sheer physical suffering, the grief so universally experienced over the last 16-plus months, caused many of us to reexamine our values and relationships. It caused us to recognize how much, at base, we have in common with our neighbors, and to make room in our hearts for the possibility that those neighbors are coming from a good place, even if it is a different place from our own.

As we regather as a community, made safer by a miracle vaccine, and as we begin resuming our social activities and in-person meetings, we might trust that, chastened by the pandemic, we do so in slightly different ways: less strident, more open to listening; less alienated, more respectful; less lone soldiers, more community citizens.

— Bob Fisher



## Attn: Parents of Young Drivers

Like many of you, I had a high school classmate who, driving in the dark, failed to negotiate a turn, hit a utility pole and died, and – as bad or worse, paralyzed his front-seat passenger for life.

A rash of recent local incidents suggests that some of our young drivers either do not appreciate the lethal power of a car, or do not respect the rights of other users of our roads, or both.

Whether or not you suspect that your son or daughter might be mishandling the privilege of driving, we urge you to find an appropriate way to remind him or her of what is at stake when they get behind the wheel.

One mistake can change the course of a life, and one act of discourtesy has its own ripple effects on the quality of our community.

Thank you,  
Bob Fisher

# You Are Not Alone

24-hour crisis hotline  
**570-296-HELP(4357)**

can't talk? text us at **570-798-4VIP**



During this difficult time, VIP continues to provide free services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other serious crimes.

Our trained advocates are available by phone  
24-hours a day, 7 days a week.



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Address Service Requested

TO:

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### Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Officers

President: John Weber  
Vice President: Carol Reynolds  
Treasurer: Carol Gillen  
Secretary: Janice DiMaio

Office Hours: Wednesday & Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Office Assistant: Kathy Zimmermann

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