



Echoes from Our Lake

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
WALKER LAKESHORES LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION
MARCH 2020
VOLUME 147

Fletcher Oak

There is a tree here so beautiful it even has a name. Every morning, when it is still dark, I stand under its branches. They flow from the thick and silent trunk. One can't begin to imagine their weight. Year after year they reach, they send out smaller and smaller branches, and bunches of flat green leaves, to touch the light.

Of course this has consequences. Every year the oak tree fills with fruit. Just now, since it is September, the acorns are starting to fall.

I don't know if I will ever write another poem. I don't know if I am going to live for a long time yet, or even for a while.

But I am going to spend my life wisely. I'm going to be happy, and frivolous, and useful. Every morning, in the dark, I gather a few acorns and imagine, inside of them, the pale oak trees. In the spring, when I go away, I'll take them with me, to my own country, which is a land of sun and restless ocean and moist woods. And I'll dig down, I'll hide each acorn in a cool place in the black earth.

To rise like a slow and beautiful poem. To live a long time.

~ Mary Oliver (1935-2019), who lived in Provincetown on Cape Cod, walked most mornings in the woods and fields overlooking the sea near her home, occasionally planting acorns from The Fletcher Oak at Sweet Briar Collage in Virginia. We all need to plant acorns – of whatever sort.



WLLA Board of Director Elections - 2020



Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association (WLLA) will hold an election at its Annual General Membership Meeting on Saturday, July 18, 2020, in compliance with its Red Book Rules and Regulations. This year, the election will be to fill eleven (11) At-Large Director positions and four (4) Officer positions, those four being President (1-year term), Vice President (1-year term), Treasurer (2-year term), and Secretary (2-year term).

A nominee MUST be committed to serving a three-year term; be in good standing; be prepared to attend a minimum of nine (9) Board of Director Meetings during the year; serve on at least one (1) committee. Most importantly, all Directors and Officers have a fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interests of the WLLA community.

Any member of the WLLA community in good standing is eligible to submit a Consideration for Nomination Letter to include a short biography describing life experience, acquired skills and what can be offered for the betterment of the community. This information will assist voters in determining their best choices for the available positions. The letters and biographies can be e-mailed, dropped off or mailed to the WLLA office no later than May 23, 2020. Each submitted biography will be posted in the clubhouse and on the WLLA website and included in the June newsletter along with the slate of candidates.

Nominations from the floor from members in good standing will be heard at the May 16, 2020 General Membership Meeting. If in attendance, the nominees from the floor should verbally confirm acceptance of the nomination. It would be helpful, as well as beneficial to all nominees, for those individuals to come prepared to speak briefly about themselves. If someone is nominated by another member, but unable to attend the meeting, she/he needs to confirm their interest in running by sending a Consideration for Nomination Letter to the WLLA office no later than the May 23, 2020 deadline. If that nominee would like a short biography to be posted on the website and newsletter, she/he should include it with their letter.



The Nomination Committee encourages all members of WLLA in good standing to consider running for a Board of Director position so we can give the membership a choice of candidates and provide a wider range of people who are both involved and represented. The WLLA community is very fortunate to have a selection of diverse members with many talents and skills. These folks can greatly contribute to the important decisions currently being made by becoming directors. As important, they will affect our future as we move forward in making our community what we want and need it to be.

The Membership / Nominations / Elections Committee: John Weber - Chair, Janice DiMaio, Maryann Muschlitz, Carol Reynolds, Linda Tremain and Kathleen Zimmermann

2020 WLLA Election Timeline

- **Monday, April 1, 2020** – Letters of Consideration for Nomination accepted from any WLLA member in good standing.
- **Saturday, May 16, 2020 (General Membership Meeting)** – Nominating Committee presents candidates who submitted Letters of Consideration for Nomination. Nominations from the floor are heard and recorded.
- **Saturday, May 23, 2020** – Deadline for submitting hand-delivered and/or postmarked Letters of Consideration for Nomination and biographies.
- **Monday, June 1, 2020** – Absentee ballots will be available in the WLLA office Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and **must be signed for**. The slate of candidates is posted. June Newsletter will be released listing the slate of candidates and the submitted biographies.
- **Saturday, July 11, 2020** – Deadline for sealed absentee ballots to be postmarked or received at the WLLA office by 2 p.m.
- **Saturday, July 18, 2020 (Annual/General Membership Meeting/Election Day)** – Polls open at the Clubhouse from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. for voting. Board of Directors Meeting at 10 a.m. followed by the Annual/General Membership Meeting with announcements of election winners.

Community Security

Homeland Security (HS), our provider of security services, has a start date of April 1 with a soft opening of patrolling. Extra patrols will go into full swing come the end of May. HS will provide signage for the community to let everyone know about patrols.

HS will be patrolling all beaches and dock areas and will be checking passes for cars – both cars of guests and of homeowners. For security purposes, all homeowners need to register their guests in advance and pick up passes for them for boating and beach use at the office.

Anyone fishing needs to have a pass to use our lake. Too many people are coming from outside of our community and using our lake and fishing areas. Fishing is not permitted in bathing areas or on the beach for insurance reasons. Nobody wants a hook in their foot.

All boats and docks need to have 2020 stickers that will be available at the office for homeowners who are up to date on dues. We will need to supply to Homeland Security a list of sticker numbers for boats and cars and a current list of property owners in order for them to confirm who is a member in good standing of our community.

Homeland Security will provide the Association with weekly reports. All personnel and vehicles will be equipped with cameras to record events.

– Steve DiMaio, Security Committee

A Note from Your Treasurer



New to 2020 are several options for making your assessment payments. While we still do not accept cash, you are no longer limited to just check or money order.

We can accept debit or credit card payments, PayPal payments, or ACH transfers direct from your bank account. We've contracted with a company called "PayLease" to offer these alternate payment methods.

You can access the payment portal on our website <http://www.walkerlake.com/> via the tab on our homepage: "NEW! Pay your WLLA dues online." You can even schedule recurring payments (monthly, for example) using this payment system if you like. The fees associated with this service are paid to, and collected by, the service provider, PayLease:

ACH Payments: \$2.95/transaction

Credit/Debit/PayPal: 3%/transaction

Phone Payment: \$9.95/transaction

For most of us, ACH payments would be the least costly option with PayLease. You can always avoid these fees altogether by paying by check sent to the office.

Also new this year are "member only" Payment Plans which will divide your assessments into three payments. These Plans give you more time to pay by spreading your assessments through Oct 1 without the interest penalty that is regularly applied to unpaid accounts after April 1. Opt in by making your first 1/3 payment plus a \$20 initiation fee by April 1 and then submitting your next two remittances, including, for each, a \$3 statement fee, upon receipt of statements for same.

More detailed information is available on the back side of your assessment invoice for both the PayLease option and the Payment Plan option. With the April 1 due date right around the corner, these options will help more community members to maintain accounts in good standing.

Carol Gillen, Treasurer

Community Service/Volunteer Opportunities

If your teenager has a requirement for service hours, please consider doing that volunteering close to home in our community. Walker Lake has many opportunities for service hours, so please contact the office for available projects. Please note, though, that anyone under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Also, for adults wishing to contribute to the community but not feeling they have the time to be on a committee, there are opportunities to help. Please contact the office.

SAVE THE DATE! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO JOIN US AT THESE FUN-FILLED EVENTS!
(LOCATION: CLUBHOUSE, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)

SIP AND PAINT

JOIN US AS WE UNCORK OUR TALENT
7:00 PM SATURDAYS: MAR 28, MAY 30, JUL 25, SEP 19, NOV 14
\$15.00 PER PERSON-PAYABLE AT OFFICE
RSVP REQUIRED: WLLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 570-296-7788
(PAINTINGS TO BE ANNOUNCED BEFORE EACH EVENT)
SPONSORED BY THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

YOU KNOW WHAT SOUNDS AMAZING FOR DINNER?
...ANYTHING I DON'T HAVE TO COOK!

DON'T FEEL LIKE COOKING...?
TIRED OF HEARING "WHAT'S FOR DINNER"...?
LET YOUR PROGRAM COMMITTEE DO THE COOKING...!
NOTHING FANCY...

JUST A LITTLE SPAGHETTI DINNER WITH ALL THE FIXINGS...
(MEATBALLS, GARLIC BREAD, SALAD, DESSERT,
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TEA, COFFEE, BYOB)
SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH, 2020 – 6:00 TO 9:00 PM
\$5.00 PER PERSON
RSVP REQUIRED: WLLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 570-296-7788

MEET YOUR COMMITTEES

COME MEET THE FOLKS
THAT HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY RUNNING
JOIN ONE OR MORE COMMITTEES, LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!
BRING YOUR QUESTIONS, CONCERNS AND IDEAS
SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2020 – 7:00 - 9:00 PM

CALLING ALL VENDORS

WALKER LAKE'S VENDOR FAIR

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
CLUBHOUSE PARKING LOT
(INSIDE THE CLUBHOUSE IN THE EVENT OF RAIN)

VENDORS:

72" RECTANGLE TABLE RENTAL FEE - \$10.00
60" ROUND TABLE RENTAL FEE - \$5.00
SET UP BETWEEN 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

PLEASE EMAIL: WLLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 570-296-7788
(LET US KNOW WHAT WILL BE ON YOUR TABLE)

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST!

SPONSORED BY WALKER LAKE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
FILL YOUR PLATE WITH SOMETHING TASTY AND GREAT!
ENJOY A LEISURELY BREAKFAST OF SCRAMBLED EGGS, PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, BACON, HOME
FRIES, JUICE, COFFEE AND TEA
AFTER BREAKFAST, EXPLORE OUR WONDERFUL WOODLANDS ON A HIKE WITH ONE OF OUR
OWN COMMUNITY MEMBERS
SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2020
BREAKFAST: 8:00 AM – HIKE: 10:00 AM
RSVP REQUIRED: WLLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 570-296-7788

SAVE THE DATES:

COMMUNITY BEACH PARTY

THE COLADAS ARE FROZEN...THE THEME IS SET
 WE'RE HAVING A BEACH PARTY...YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!
SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2020

1ST ANNUAL WALKER LAKE RELAY RACES

KAYAK RACES, CANOE RACES, RAFT RACES, SWIM RACES
SATURDAY AUGUST 1, 2020

WANTED: YOUR BEST BOWL OF CHILI!

WALKER LAKE'S 1ST ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2020

 <p>Schields Container Service</p> <p>10, 12, 15 Yd Dumpsters ~ Serving PA, NY & NJ Craig Schields ~ Proprietor (570) 296-2351 dumpsters@schieldscontainer.com www.schieldscontainer.com</p>	<p>Davis R.</p>  <p>AUDREY LANHAM Professional Realtor® Since 1980</p>  <p>106 E. HARFORD ST. • MILFORD, PA 18337 E-Mail: audrey@chantre.com</p> <p>FAX 570-296-7452 Cell: 570-246-9240 website: www.chantre.com 800-372-4268 570-296-7717 ext 121</p>
 <p>ALL PHASES OF EXCAVATION <i>Foundations, Roads, Water, Sewer, Drainage, Snow Plowing and More!</i></p> <p>EMPIRE STATE EXCAVATING Commercial & Residential</p> <p>Office: 845-672-0861 Email: empirestateexcavating@gmail.com</p>	<p>Michael Misciagno 570-618-1442 147 Oneida Rd Shohola, PA 18458</p> <p>Licensed & Insured HIC PA129127</p>  <p>MCM CONTRACTING Home Improvement Specialists</p> <p>MCMContracting@outlook.com</p>
<p>GENERAC® AUTHORIZED DEALER</p> <p>PIKE COUNTY GENERATOR, INC</p> <p>STEPHEN LEECH 880 ROUTE 6 Email: pikegen@ptd.net SHOHOLA, PA 18458 www.pikegen.com 570-409-6555 570-409-3289 FAX</p>	 <p>Septic Systems Power Jetting Installation & Repairs Sewer Line Video Inspec.</p> <p>570-491-2829 888-601-0841</p> <p>Next Pump Date:</p> <p>SEPTIC PUMPING • LINE JETTING • GREASE TRAPS • SEPTIC SYSTEMS</p>
<p>MASTERS TERMITE & PEST CONTROL GUARDIANS OF HEALTH AND HOME</p> <p>"Family Owned & Operated for Over 30 Years"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood Destroying Insect Inspector • Ask about our Tick Management Options • Termite and Ant Elimination Programs • Hassle-free Pest Prevention Treatments <p>Contact: 1-888-656-2024 Web: Masterspestcontrol.com Email: info@masterspestcontrol.com</p> <p>• Bed bugs • Spiders • Hornets • Wasps • Rodents • Yellow Jackets • Fleas • Ticks • Roaches and more!</p>	<p>BOB MASTERS Proprietor</p> <p>Serving: Pennsylvania Pike Co. New York: Orange & Sullivan Co. New Jersey: Sussex Co.</p>

Beach & Grounds Activity for Spring 2020

Each day is getting longer as we move away from Winter Solstice and spring will be here before we know it. Changes are coming. The tennis court will be cleaned, repaired and resurfaced. Homeland Security has been hired to help keep our community safe and to help with enforcing WLLA rules that have gotten a little lax in the past few years. The Security Chairman, Steve DiMaio, will be our liaison with Homeland Security. Security will be patrolling our roads and clubhouse area and monitoring our beach activities and boating areas.

In order to help Security, the Beach & Grounds Committee will be ordering individual beach tags and car parking stickers for parking at beaches and boat yards. We will be giving these items out in late spring along with 2020 stickers for your boats, docks and membership badges. Security will be checking these items, so you will need to have your beach tag at the beach and parking sticker on your cars for beach and boat yards. All boats will need to have updated stickers.

There have been several complaints about the boat yard by the dam and we will be doing a major cleanup this spring. Please be aware that boats must be stored on or by the boat racks. If a rack is not large enough, you can tie your boat up to the cable that runs by the racks. **No boats are allowed to be stored along the road to the boat ramp or boat dock area.** If you have your boat or kayak in this area, please move it to boat racks.

We will need your support in helping with this cleanup. Quite a few boats at the boat yard by the dam have been abandoned and are no longer seaworthy. Many boat stickers expired years ago. All boat stickers will be checked. If they are not up to date, the boat will be given an invalid sticker and the owner will have two weeks to rectify the situation. If the stickers are not updated, the boat will be removed at the owner's expense.

A major storm last fall washed some sand away from our beaches, so we will be replenishing that. We also will be replacing the broken picnic table on Clubhouse beach. Please remember that no dogs are allowed on the beaches and no kayaks/boats are allowed in the swimming area.

The Beach & Grounds Committee could use your help with boat yard clean up, the spreading of sand on the beaches and putting rafts/safety ropes back in the water. Stay tuned for details and please respond if you can.

Looking forward to spring!

– Bill Boehme, Beach & Grounds Committee

Protecting Walker Lake

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) has informed WLLA that our dam, including the outlet drawdown pipes, has to be inspected. This should have been done 5 years ago. Our engineer, Kiley Associates, inspected the outlet drawdown pipe under the dam in August 2019 and it needs to be repaired. At the time, we were unable to inspect the drawdown pipe under the lake itself.

Therefore, in order to inspect that pipe as well as other components of our dam that are underwater, Walker Lake will need to be lowered after Labor Day.

As part of the lake drawdown in Fall 2020, lakefront property owners will have to remove docks and floats from the lake prior to drawdown, as there will be no water in the lake to support them.

All work, including making repairs to the dam and any removal of sediment that lakefront property owners want to undertake will have to be completed by early-to-mid-November. Permits will need to be obtained by property owners before any work can start, so that process needs to start this spring.

Lakefront property owners have three options regarding the removal of sediment:

1. Obtaining a dock permit for \$250 from the Pike County Conservation District that allows a property owner to remove sediment up to 10 feet around any dock. A Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) search for endangered or threatened species may have to be undertaken and a letter sent to the township and county for notification. You can find information on the permit at the WLLA website: <http://www.walkerlake.com/>
2. Obtaining a dredging permit from the PADEP with a waiver if the area over which sediment is to be removed is less than 1 acre. This would be most effective if several property owners sought a permit collectively.
3. Obtaining a dredging permit to remove more than 1 acre of sediment. No waiver is available and the cost is greater.

All permitting costs relating to removal of sediment will be the responsibility of the property owner. In addition, property owners will bear the actual cost of removing sediment and taking it somewhere offsite. A list of excavators will be available at the clubhouse.

We encourage lakefront property owners who are interested in removing sediment to contact the Walker Lake office as soon as possible. We will need to know what option you are considering.

More information pertaining to aquatic plant control for the 2020 season will be in the next newsletter.

Let's have a great summer!

– Peter Wulfhorst, Walker Lake Lake Committee

Understanding WLLA Road Priorities



This winter season has been by far the mildest I can remember in my 20 years of living here. But, though we never had a deep frost, we had enough freeze – thaw cycles, coupled with a lot of rain, to cause a number of new potholes throughout community.

If you look closely at the asphalt roads, you'll see many of the previous pothole repairs are still intact. However, new holes have formed and some of those that were previously patched but get a lot of water running around them have come out. Same with gravel roads.

But spring is right around the corner and the Road Committee is ready to strategically and methodically use the road funds we have available to make targeted improvements. We must keep in mind that our roads are severely underfunded even with the small increase in road assessments for 2020. Given that inadequate funding is something we have to live with for the time being, we must prioritize the work that gets done on the roads each year. The major priorities are:

Snow Plow Contract: Although this winter was mild, we did not save money on snow removal because we have a fixed-price yearly contract. We cannot afford the risk of paying by number of storms or inches of snow. Sure, we would have “won” such a bet this year, but think of so many seasons when we had multiple storms of 18 to 30 inches. The current two-year contract with Empire State Excavating ends April 15, 2020. We will be putting out to bid a new two-year contract in May. To save money, we now

purchase our rock salt and anti-skid material directly from quarries, as we get it cheaper that way than having it supplied by the contractor.

Patching Potholes on Asphalt Roads: Each spring we must have the potholes repaired. What's most important is ensuring that the contractor repairs them correctly to the specifications we put out to bid. When they are correctly repaired, most holes will stay repaired. In 2019, we patched potholes in June and September. I like the holes being patched when it is a little warmer because the hot asphalt patch material the contractor uses stays hot, plus the ground is warmer which allows for a better bond. We will be putting a contract out for pothole patching in May. If a second round is needed later in the year, we will request new bids for the work that must be done at that time.

Regrading of Gravel Roads: Regrading gravel roads is also a must each spring not only to provide a smoother riding surface but also to ensure the roads are properly crowned so water drains from them. After many years when these roads were improperly graded, we started last year to put the crowns back into the roadways. We will be putting out a contract in May to have all the gravel roads regraded.

What's Left? The three "must-do" project priorities discussed above take up close to 60% of the road funds we have available yearly. From what we have left we'll try to resurface a roadway. In addition, prior to patching a heavily potholed area we will look to do a pavement repair by removing a section of the roadway and replacing it with new material. This will last for years and give us fewer potholes. Then we must look to maintain the asphalt roads that are not falling apart in order to extend their lifespan. In doing so, we will look into the possibility of tar and chipping some of these roads.

It Takes Time - Not every road can be resurfaced in the same year. It will take us a few years to get there, but, if we stay with it, our roads will improve overall. Not everyone will be happy with the choices the WLLA Road Committee makes every year, but everyone should know that I am applying my nearly 40 years of experience supervising highway maintenance for the NJ Department of Transportation, and doing so with no favoritism whatsoever. Even at NJDOT, with its big budget, not all roads can be kept in top condition every year. What they do – and we must do – is to get in a cycle of tackling each year the must-do priorities and then applying the rest of the yearly road fund strategically and methodically.

– Michael DeVita, WLLA Road Committee

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO ALL WALKER LAKE LANDOWNERS WITH PROPERTY ON WLLA OWNED ROADS

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations in the Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Redbook, all landowners (and tenants) are responsible for maintaining ditch lines and culverts adjacent to their property. This will be strictly enforced starting April 2020.

Keeping Our WLLA Children Safe

On several recent occasions, children were found playing in the salt storage shed at the clubhouse parking lot. These children were told that it is unsafe to play in the shed, yet they returned at least one time. In addition to the danger that the stone or salt in the shed could be caused to slide from someone climbing on it trapping anyone below, the chemical makeup of the salt can be harmful to one's health.

Parents: We ask that you please speak to your children about the dangers of playing in the shed and take it upon yourselves to ensure that they do not do so. And please note the health hazard data below:

ROCK SALT (SODIUM CHLORIDE) HEALTH HAZARD DATA (from the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS))

Inhalation: Extremely high concentrations of dust are typically self-eliminated due to the nuisance conditions they create. Over exposure may produce irritation of the mucous membranes, nose, throat, coughing and shortness of breath. In addition certain ice melters may contain small amounts of silica particles less than 5mm in diameter. These silica particles are capable of causing silicosis if inhaled in high enough concentrations over an extended period of time. The principal manifestation of silicosis is difficulty in breathing. This condition can progress to dry cough, shortness of breath on exertion, decreased lung function and pulmonary fibrosis.

Skin Contact: May cause irritation, particularly on damp skin. Repeated or prolonged contact could lead to dermatitis.

Eye Contact: May cause irritation and conjunctivitis.

Ingestion: May produce nausea, vomiting, abdominal discomfort and, if swallowed in very large amounts, may cause increased urination and central nervous system depression.

Peter Wulfhorst – Lake-Life Guard

By Bob Fisher

Others who know him better might not describe him thus, but to the writer, Peter Wulfhorst, the chair of our Lake Committee, seems reserved, sparing in his use of words. Which, in a way, is strange because he's a teacher. With a BA in Environmental Science and a Masters in Environmental Pollution Control – both from Penn State, Peter is a Penn State Extension educator specializing in land use planning and pond and lake management, among other things.

Which means he's a godsend for Walker Lake – like having a doctor aboard a cruise ship – because he knows all about proper maintenance of lakes such as ours. And that, actually, is more of a challenge than may seem the case, because – no – all lakes are not created equal and they're not perfectly self-maintaining natural parts of the landscape, either. More about that later.

Peter Wulfhorst was born and raised in Haverford Township, PA – which, for the sake of modesty he hastens to add, is not the same as Haverford on the Main Line. The most influential element of his early years was Boy Scouts. He had a great scoutmaster who took the troop on challenging camping trips and helped Peter attain the rank of Eagle Scout. A love of the outdoors has been in Peter's DNA ever since, with hiking and birdwatching remaining high on his list of favored leisure activities.

After graduating from Penn State, Peter, a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, served as Pike County Planning Director for 12-1/2 years. This was during the latter two decades of the 20th century when the County's population was exploding as both the second-home-in-the-Poconos boom was underway and as completion of Interstates 80 and 84, 78 and 476, encouraged folks with jobs in the population centers of New York and Philly to relocate to the less-expensive exurbs. It was a "challenging situation," he says, because in Pennsylvania, the powers of land use regulation are entrusted to local communities, not counties. The best county planning can do, he says, is "to be a resource for local municipalities and provide guidance for their planners."



In 1999, Peter gave up the Planning Director role to work full time as an educator for Penn State Extension. Here, we have to take a quick dive into the subject of land grant colleges, of which Penn State is one. Established after the Morrill Act was signed into law by President Lincoln in 1862, land grant colleges came into being when the federal government granted each state 30,000 acres of land per member of Congress (most of it taken from Native American tribes, but that’s another story).

On that land, and funded in part by the sale of some of it, states were to establish educational institutions dedicated primarily to the teaching of agriculture, science, and engineering to help the rapidly expanding nation develop and capitalize on the burgeoning industrial revolution.

As part of the deal, land grant colleges were assigned an outreach mission, originally to send agents into rural areas to help bring the results of agricultural research to the end users. Today, that mission has evolved into providing practical, research-based education and consultation to localities state-wide via, among other vehicles, workshops, webinars and on-line courses. Through Penn State Extension, Peter offers his expertise in planning, policy analysis, non-profit organizations, private water systems and pond and lake management.

Which brings us back to Walker Lake, both the lake itself and our community, where Peter and his wife, Kelly have lived for 23 years and where their daughter, Allison – now a senior at Penn State, grew up. For over 12 years, Peter’s been the head of our Lake Committee, which also includes Scott Rando, Pat & Chet Dawson, Carol Reynolds, Bill Boehme, Jackie & Ralph Cozzolino and Wendy Orlansky. The Committee’s mission is to help ensure that our lake stays as clean and healthy as possible. It does this primarily by closely monitoring water quality of the lake, treating for aquatic plants when necessary and advocating landowner practices that help maintain water quality.

This is a challenge for several reasons: unlike Twin Lakes, which were formed by glacial scouring of the land and are deeper than Walker Lake, Walker Lake was originally a swamp with layers of decayed vegetative material on its bottom. It is also shallower. The development of the Walker Lake community did not include provision for storm water runoff: roads run straight down to the lake and storm water running down those roads carries both sediment from bare ground and chemicals from lawn and garden fertilizers directly into the lake. “It is very difficult and expensive to redirect the storm water runoff in Walker Lake” Peter says, but we can do our part to minimize the chemical components by keeping our septic systems functioning properly, cleaning up after our dogs, and not fertilizing lawns, or, better, not establishing lawns in the first place (“a grass lot is not much better than a parking lot, from a water percolation standpoint,” Peter says).

“We have to avoid the conditions that led to recent toxic algae blooms on Lake Hopatcong and several lakes in Susquehanna County,” he said. “That’s not just the job of the Lake Committee,” he said. “It’s everybody’s job.”

		WLLA MEETING CALENDAR 2020 All Meetings at the WLLA Clubhouse			
March 21 Board of Directors 10 AM		April 18 Board of Directors 10 AM		May 16 General Membership Meeting 10 AM	
		June 20 Board of Directors 10 AM			

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association
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. The information contained in this newsletter is intended only for use of the individual or entity addressee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by email, wllassociation@gmail.com, and destroy the original message. Thank you.

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Officers

Interim President: John Weber

Interim Vice President: Carol Reynolds

Treasurer: Carol Gillen

Interim Secretary: Janice DiMaio

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

Office Assistant: Kathy Zimmermann

www.walkerlake.com
wllassociation@gmail.com

570-296-7788