



LAKE CAREY AT DUSK AFTER A SPRING STORM

LAKE LIFE

A
Newsletter for
The Residents of
Lake Carey

Spring 2021

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

LCWA NEWS

by Walter Broughton

Welcome to 2021 at Lake Carey. Already significant progress has been made on several fronts. Work on the sewers is underway, a new dam design (see p. 3) has been submitted to PA's Dam Safety, the virtual store is doing good business, and the lake's various clubs are preparing for summer events.

There is light now at the end of the nation's pandemic tunnel, and, with sensible precautions, we too should be able to celebrate July 4th with family and friends, here at our scenic lake. In the meantime, please join us as LCWA members (see p. 3); it's only \$30 for an individual or \$40 for a family (no matter how large). Perhaps the most important benefit is the knowledge that you're doing your part to sustain Lake Carey and its community.

SEWERS

Milnes Engineering of Tunkhannock has begun construction on the \$5.6 million Waste Water Treatment Plant on Billings Mill Road. Another 5.6 million has been budgeted for Harger Utility Construction's installation of the low-pressure lines. Their work along the state roads (Shore and Marina Drives, Billings Mill Road) will begin after PennDOT issues a Highway Occupancy Permit. Work on the sewer lines elsewhere will begin on March 29 and end August 3; see p. 4.

Flags will be set during line installation where taps and grinder pumps are to be located later. Residents will be contacted at that time in person, by phone or email to review any concerns about the specific location of the pump serving

The Orange Canoe

Polly Wheaton Wimer recalls her summer adventures at Beech Grove Cottage. p 2.

LCWA Membership Form

Please join us with a 2021 membership; your dues support the dam, pavilion and picnic site, Lake Carey Day, the website and this newsletter. p 3.

The New Dam Design

The new dam brings improvements. p 3.

This Summer's Events

The LCWA, the Sportsmen's Club & Union Chapel are planning their events. p 4.

them and the line from the tap to it. You can update your contact information by calling Authority Secretary, Rebecca Kilmer at 570-836-0514.

Rebecca reminds residents within the service area (you've been notified by

LCWA News Continued on p.4



Figure 1 Polly on Her 90th Birthday

I started spending summers at Beech Grove on Lake Carey with my parents, Harley and Pauline Reynolds Wheaton, in the 1920's. For many years, I lived the joys and mysteries of the lake. In time, my three children continued to visit, until the cottage was finally sold in the late 1970's. Today, living in Walnut Creek, California at 93 years of age, I still feel Lake Carey belongs to me. Perhaps a few adventures in our orange canoe will explain why.

'In the old days,' I'm told, my family of Starks, Kellys and Wheatons often entertained folks from Wilkes-Barre and Tunkhannock at the lake. The families would swim, picnic, play cards and canoe. My Dad liked to tell me that he had courted my mother in our orange canoe. Pauline would sit on its floor and relax on back devices and cushions, while Dad paddled her around the lake. It must have worked, he would

*Polly is the great-granddaughter of T. J. Wheaton who built Beech Grove on land he bought in 1880.

THE ORANGE CANOE

by Polly Wheaton Wimer*

recall; in time, she said 'yes' and they married in Tunkhannock's Methodist Church in June, 1920. Thereafter, the orange canoe spent its summers when not in use at Beech Grove resting on two wooden sawhorses by the shore. (It was stored elsewhere in the winter, of course.)

In the early thirties, my parents gave me a pony in hopes that caring for it would keep me busy. Although I enjoyed riding Silver, I still found time to paddle the orange canoe



Figure 2 Polly Astride Silver

with my distant cousin, Bucky Kelly (Frank Jr.). During these adventures we found several interesting creatures up the inlet. Unlike my mother, I did not lounge on the floor, instead, I helped Bucky catch water turtles. One day he pulled in a 30 pound "snapper" and we brought it home in the canoe! The Tunkhannock paper took its picture for an article in the weekly news.

The orange canoe also allowed Bucky and me to visit the Flow Pond and the dam. We found a wooded stream at the end where Bucky caught trout with his bare hands. For a while, he and I used the canoe to look for snakes curled up in the stone wall lining Beech Grove's point. Eventually, we gave that up, but we continued to use the canoe.

Many years later, Bucky took his children and mine out in the canoe in search of turtles and other critters.

These are just a few, fond memories I have of my summers at Lake Carey.

2021 LCWA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Summer Mailing Address:

 Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Winter Mailing Address (If different from above):

 Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Cottage Name: _____

Individual Membership (\$30)

Family Membership (\$40)

Please mail with your check to: Lake Carey Welfare Association—Treasurer, P. O. Box 637, Tunkhannock, PA 18657

THANK YOU

BUILDING A BETTER DAM

By Walter Broughton & Ed Hetzel

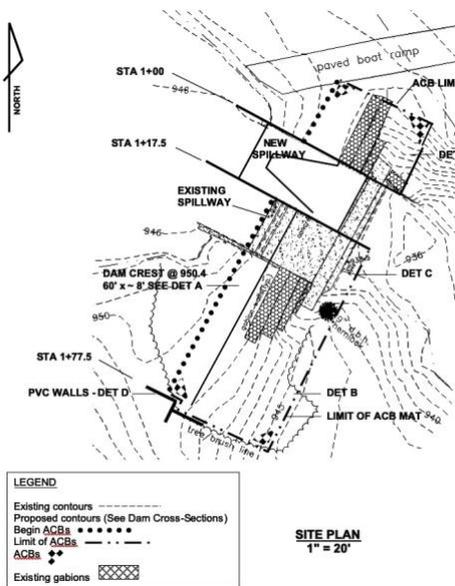


Figure 1 New Dam Design

areas downstream.

The new sluice gate will make raising and lowering the lake safer and easier. And, it will no longer be necessary to sandbag the top and shoulders of the dam when heavy rainfall is predicted.

Dr. Givler plans to place coffer dams at the causeway and immediately in front of the construction site to protect it from water. During the three months or so of construction, the lower lake will be drained, leaving a ditch carrying overflow from the big lake down to and around the southern end of the work site. One bright spot, while the lower lake will not be available for recreational use, it may be feasible to dredge it, if permits are granted and funds can be secured. Cottage owners will be able, however, to clean up around their docks. The upper lake's water levels will not be affected.

This will not be cheap, nor will it begin soon. The LCWA has already spent over \$20,000 on design costs and the new structure could exceed \$225,000. Dam Safety will likely take a year to complete their design review, and bidding the project, another six months.

On February 11, Dr. Givler submitted a new design to Pennsylvania's Dam Safety. That design addresses the present dam's shortcomings and incorporates several major improvements: a sluice gate, a new spillway, articulating concrete blocks (ACBs), and an extension of the dam to the south. The result: a safer dam, easier to maintain. Getting there, however, will impose some inconvenience, prove expensive, and take time.

At an elevation of 950 feet above sea level, the new dam will accommodate a 3-foot or so rise above the lake's 947-foot normal level. In addition, a mat of ACBs along the surface will protect the dam underneath when overtopped by as much as 3 feet. These features together can handle 6 feet of high water. Extending the dam to the south will prevent flood waters from eroding the hillside, breaching the dam, damaging

LAKE LIFE

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LCWA News Continued

mail, if you are) that line connection is mandatory. (The connection ordinances and line maps can be viewed in the Authority's office or on its website).

Line Construction Schedule:

Indian Spring Road: 3/29 - 5/14/2021
Union Chapel: 4/19 - 5/14/2021
Grams Lane: 4/22 - 5/18/2021
Lake Street: 4/26 - 6/1/2021
Holbrook Road: 4/30 - 6/10/2021
Ferncliff Lane: 5/6 - 6/15/2021
Demellier Road: 5/11 - 6/21/2021
First Street: 5/14 - 6/30/2021
Hillbilly Village Road: 5/19 - 7/26/2021
Cove Road: 5/28 - 8/3/2021

For more information, consult the Authority's website:
<http://www.lemtunksa.org>.

2021 SUMMER EVENTS

Pennsylvania currently requires masks in all indoor and outdoor settings with six-foot physical distancing.

- **Lake Carey Welfare Association**
The first meeting will be Sunday May 16th, and the last on September 4th; in June, July and August, they will be on the 2nd Sunday. All meetings begin at 11:00 am at the Dam Site.
- **Lake Carey Sportsmen's Club**
stocked the lake with 1,100 wall-eye fingerlings, in November. Its first Chicken BBQ will be Sunday, April 18, noon to 2 pm. Preorders are required, call: 570-836-6690; drive-thru only. The club meets at its clubhouse on SR 1001 at 7:30 pm the 2nd Tuesday of the month.
- **The Lake Carey Dam Association** is accepting federally deductible

donations at PO Box 637, Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

- **Union Chapel Services** from Sunday, June 20th through September 5th at 10:00 am

Hollie D'Agata has composed a gracious welcome:

There's a chapel at Lake Carey
that sits upon a hill
Built a hundred years ago
its windows sparkle still.
The service starts at 10 a.m.
mid-June to Labor Day
All who come will be refreshed,
enlightened as they pray.
A message from our leaders
brings hope to all who care
Though COVID changes things a bit
we sit in nice fresh air.
Bring a chair and your good will
and benefits will reign
Prayers and friendly greetings
will help to keep us sane.