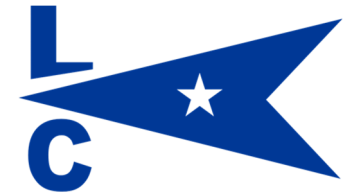


Lake Life

from the Lake Carey Welfare Association

A newsletter for the friends of Lake Carey



SPRING 2026

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A message from the President

Dear Friends and Neighbors—



Well... that was *quite* a winter. While a snow-covered, frozen Lake Carey can be postcard-pretty, I think we can all agree that single-digit temperatures lose their charm pretty quickly. I found comfort where I could—namely in summer planning, with the gentle illusion of warmth provided by an electric heater doing its best impression of a July breeze.

Despite the cold, LCWA continues to move forward in great ways. Our membership keeps growing, and we've been shaping the organization into active committees—not only to broaden participation, but to create a clear, workable structure that helps us stay organized and move projects forward.

Our current committees include:

- **Water Quality**—monitors lake conditions, supports grant initiatives, and shares updates with the community
- **Fundraising**—coordinates our four major annual events: the Garage Sale, Golf Tournament, Lake Carey Day, and Night at the Races
- **Membership**—which leads our annual drive and welcomes new Lake Carey residents
- **Communications**—overseeing content creation on our website, Facebook page, newsletters, and text alerts
- **Safety**—focused on promoting safe enjoyment of the lake and surrounding areas

We welcome *all* participation, at any level. If you're interested in getting involved—or even just learning more about a committee—please don't hesitate to reach out. LCWA works best when many hands (and ideas) are part of the effort.

I encourage you to take a few moments to read the committee updates throughout this newsletter. You'll also find additional information on our website at www.lakecareypa.com, including details on the 2025 water analysis, plant survey, and bathymetric survey conducted by Aqua Link—important work made possible by your continued support.

I'm looking forward to the next time we're together—in short sleeves, with the lake fully thawed and summer officially back!

Warm Regards,
Lewis Flinn

Dam Reconstruction Update

By Lewis Flinn

The dam reconstruction project remains a top priority for the LCWA and continues to move forward on two parallel tracks: design and planning, and fundraising.

The LCWA is working with Givler Engineering, our longtime engineering partner, to finalize a design that meets current DEP safety requirements. After extensive review and multiple discussions and zooms with our Dam Committee experts—Ed Hetzel, Jason Petlock, Peter Butler, and Paul Marshall—the revised plans were resubmitted to DEP for approval and permitting in October 2025. We are currently awaiting DEP's response.

The new dam will closely resemble the existing structure but will be larger and more robust to meet updated standards. As required by DEP, construction will involve draining the lower lake and lowering the upper lake by approximately 2–4

continued on page 2

Lake Ice Over

By Jessica Fiore, Penn State Extension MWS volunteer

We can't deny that the lake view is still captivating in winter when the shimmering water of summertime recreation is replaced by a shining sheet of snow and ice. Whether you're a fan of ice fishing or just someone who appreciates the scene of a vast frozen plain, the question remains why does the lake get covered in ice and what's happening to the plant and animal life while it's frozen?



Water

At the end of Summer into Fall, water begins to cool at the surface. At this stage, it is heavier than the warm water below, causing the cooler surface water to sink. As the water continues to cool and turn over, the lake works toward a key even temperature of 39°F, causing the water to stop circulating. Then the freezing begins!

Simply put: water is weird. Unlike most liquids that get heavier when solidified, water actually becomes less dense. Thus, as the surface temperature of the lake drops to 32°F and water starts to freeze, the ice floats. As the temperatures stay cold, the ice freezes more and more water under it, creating layers of thick ice.

Animals

With the ice on the lake, many fish keep to the warmest waters at the bottom, while a few venture nearer to the frozen surface where the oxygen levels are higher. If the ice cover were to last long enough, oxygen levels would continue to drop from not being replaced at the surface. Lack of oxygen would lead less tolerant fish populations to suffocate, causing a winterkill. Fortunately, volume also factors in, with lakes of larger volumes providing deeper areas where the fish can over-winter safely.

Plants

With ice and snow blocking the sun, macrophytes (plant life) struggle to grow and multiply. Though this affects plant life in general, such a factor can actually be useful when it comes to blocking the growth and reproduction of invasive plant species like Eurasian Watermilfoil.

In addition, more beneficial algae prefer cooler water, as compared to types of blue green algae (a.k.a. cyanobacteria) that lead to harmful algal blooms which prefer warmer water. This consequently prevents more harmful algae from dominating the population, benefitting both us and the lake creatures that feed on these organisms.

Dam Update *continued from page 1*

feet. The work will proceed in four phases: lake drawdown, construction of a cofferdam in front of the existing dam, removal of the existing dam, and construction of the new dam. We estimate the total construction period to be six to eight months, with the goal of starting after Labor Day and completing the project before Memorial Day, subject to DEP approvals at each phase. We do not know what year this will occur, but it seems unlikely that it will start in 2026.

On the fundraising side, LCWA owns the dam and surrounding land and is fully responsible for all associated costs. Thanks to strong fundraising efforts, \$180,000 has been raised to date and is being used to cover engineering and design expenses. The current estimated construction budget is \$740,000, though the final cost will not be known until the project goes out to bid.

While LCWA was previously awarded a FEMA grant, it was later disqualified due to a technicality related to the Borough's Hazard Mitigation Plan. Although disappointing, this outcome also released us from FEMA's strict project timeline. In response, LCWA applied for a **PA Local Share Allocation Grant** for the full construction amount. The application was submitted in November 2025, and we expect to learn the outcome in Fall 2026. Fingers are firmly crossed.

We will continue to keep the membership informed as approvals, funding decisions, and next steps move forward.

The process of reinstalling the boards at the dam is scheduled to begin on March 21st, provided the ice is off the lake and the flow down is below the spillway.

Join Us on the Links

By Deb Tierney



The Lake Carey Dam Association (LCDA) will be hosting its **5th Annual Golf Tournament** on Monday, June 8, 2026, at Stone Hedge Golf Club in Tunkhannock, PA. This event offers a scenic and rewarding golfing experience for all participants and supporters.

The primary goal of the tournament is to raise essential funds for the Dam Replacement Project at Lake Carey, as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to comply with updated regulatory standards.

In addition to supporting this important initiative, the LCDA remains committed to giving back to the broader community. This year's event will also benefit **Pattie's Waggin' Tails Senior Sanctuary** and **Seven Loaves Soup Kitchen**, both located in Tunkhannock. The event will feature additional opportunities such as games of skill, 50/50 raffles, and a basket raffle.



Team Registration

If you don't have a foursome, that's ok, we can help!

Player Name, Phone/Email and Shirt Size (unisex):

1. _____

Phone or Email: _____

Size: _____

2. _____

Phone or Email: _____

Size: _____

3. _____

Phone or Email: _____

Size: _____

4. _____

Phone or Email: _____

Size: _____

Join us for dinner only at the end of the event—\$45/person

Name: _____ **# of Dinner Guests:** _____

Make checks payable for registration and sponsorships to:

Lake Carey Dam Association
PO Box 637
Tunkhannock, PA 18657

For more information on the event, sponsorships, and how to donate, contact Deb Tierney at lakecareydam@gmail.com or at 732-492-2344

Send logos to: lakecareydam@gmail.com (.eps/.ai format preferred)

Sponsorship Opportunities (Circle Choice)

Name: _____

Contact Name/Email: _____

Phone: _____

Presenting Sponsor—\$2,600 (1 available)

- * 2 teams of four golfers (includes breakfast, lunch, & dinner)
- * Sponsor banner displayed at event
- * Recognition in all marketing materials
- * Opportunity to provide promotional items to golfers
- * Logo displayed at each hole

Reception Sponsor—\$1,500 (2 available)

- * 1 team of four golfers (includes breakfast, lunch, & dinner)
- * Recognition in marketing materials
- * Company logo on cocktail napkins during reception

Breakfast Sponsor—\$200 (6 available)

- * Recognition in marketing materials

Beverage Sponsor—\$100 (5 available)

- * Recognition in marketing materials

Hot Dog Lunch Sponsor—\$150 (3 available)

- * Recognition in marketing materials

Shirt Sponsor—\$900 (2 available)

- * Event shirt for all golfers with sponsor's logo on sleeve
- * Recognition in marketing materials

Awards/Giveaway Sponsor—\$250 (5 available)

- * Recognition in marketing materials

Hole Sponsor—\$125

- * Company sign on course

Program Book Sponsor (Booklet Size = 5.5"x8.5")

- * Business Card Ad—\$25
- * 1/2 Page Ad—\$75
- * Full Page Ad—\$100

Submit Business Card or print ready format.

We Also Accept Monetary Donations! \$ _____

There will be flight prizes, skills contests, 50/50, raffles, and so much more!

Only amounts in excess of \$125.00 per participant are tax deductible.

The Lake Carey Dam Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and all sponsorships are tax deductible.

NSLTR

Water Quality

By Janet Schillinger

The Water Quality Committee was formed two years ago to help lead the LCWA's renewed focus on the overall health of Lake Carey. Last May, the committee recommended, and the membership approved, hiring Aqua Link, a professional lake management company, to take a closer look at the lake through water quality testing, a plant survey, and a bathymetric survey.

Since then, the committee has continued to grow and now includes six members with backgrounds in engineering, biology, and chemistry, along with others who are simply interested in learning more about how lakes work.

The reports are now in and the group is busy reviewing the data and working with the experts at Aqua Link to understand what the results mean and what steps, if any, should be taken next. This may include identifying grant opportunities, similar to the Growing Greener grants the LCWA has received in the past.

We look forward to sharing what we learn at meetings this summer. The full report will also be available on the Water Quality page of the LCWA website in the near future.

Membership

By Patty Publik

After my first full winter at the lake, and yes, it was cold, I've come to appreciate even more that Lake Carey is truly a year-round community. Lake Carey is a shared resource, and caring for it is a shared responsibility. Because the LCWA owns the dam, the association must ensure it is properly inspected, maintained, and compliant with government requirements.

Annual dues of \$50 per household help fund this essential work, along with lake-quality monitoring and communication throughout the year.

Membership dues can be paid online at www.lakecareypa.com/membership or via mail at LCWA, PO Box 637, Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

Thank you for supporting the lake we all share.

Chapel Chatter

By Crystal Posten



We hope this message finds everyone well and feeling encouraged as we look toward the promise of spring. Following our final summer service in August, we began an interior painting project made possible by the funds raised through our last raffle. Thanks to the generosity and support of so many, that project is now complete, and the chapel has been refreshed, creating a bright, warm, and welcoming space.

In November, we were once again reminded of the strength of this community during our food drive for the Seven Loaves Soup Kitchen. The overwhelming response was truly a blessing and a powerful example of neighbors helping neighbors.

December brought moments of joy and togetherness as Brown Hill Farms generously took us Christmas caroling around the lake, joined by the Lake Carey Volunteer Fire Company. Even on a cold night, warm hearts filled the air as people came to their windows and gathered outside to share in the spirit of the season.

Our sign now shines once again with new solar lighting, a small but meaningful reminder that this special place continues to be cared for and loved. As we look ahead, we are excited for all that's to come: another food drive in June, landscaping projects, new guest speakers, and our next big goal/project of painting the exterior of the chapel.

We are happy to announce that the chapel will reopen on Sunday, May 31, 2026, and we look forward to welcoming you back to our little gem on the hill, where faith, fellowship, and community continue to grow.

Lastly, a reminder that the chapel is available for weddings, baptisms, and funerals. If you are interested, please get in touch with Lynne Bierly at 570-240-3155.

The Sirens Sound—Lake Carey Volunteer Fire Co #1

By Justin Sickler, Fire Chief



As we soon welcome the warmer days of spring, the members of Lake Carey Volunteer Fire Company would like to thank our community for their continued support throughout the year. We are especially excited to host Allied Services' annual "Run to Remember" 5K race on the morning of March 28, 2026.

Please be advised that there will be temporary traffic restrictions along the race route that morning to ensure the safety of participants and spectators. Drivers should expect brief delays and are encouraged to plan alternate routes where possible. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we come together to honor and remember while promoting health, remembrance, and community spirit.

We're also pleased to announce the return of our popular Friday Night Bingo beginning April 17, 2026. Bingo will continue every other Friday through Halloween, offering a fun and friendly evening for all. Doors will open at 5:30pm, with games starting at approximately 6:15pm. Bring your friends and family for a great night out while supporting your local fire company.

As always, we are looking for new members to join our team—whether you're interested in firefighting, supporting fundraising events, lasting friendships, and make a real difference in our community. We look forward to seeing everyone this spring—at the 5K race, Bingo, or perhaps as our newest member! Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for upcoming community events!

Sportsmen's Corner

By Crystal Posten

What began in 1954 as a small group of dedicated outdoorsmen has grown into the Lake Carey Sportsmen's Club we proudly know today. Since its incorporation in PA on June 25, 1954, the club has been built on dedication, community spirit, and a love for the outdoors. Although the club experienced a brief period of inactivity over the years, it was eventually restarted with renewed enthusiasm and commitment. Dedicated members continued to build, improve, and strengthen the organization, ensuring that the traditions and values established in those early days would carry forward for future generations.

Before our clubhouse was built, our meetings were held at several locations around the lake, including The Manor, the Lake Carey Firehouse, and the Oliver House. Our annual game dinners became a major fundraiser and grew so popular that they eventually had to be moved to the Triton Hose Company to accommodate the large crowds.

Under the leadership of then-President Roy Posten, he and fellow members purchased the property on the back side of the lake where our clubhouse now stands. Members spent countless hours clearing the lot and constructing a pavilion, which eventually evolved into the clubhouse we enjoy today. On many of those workdays, you would find Lake Carey Mary there serving lunch, cooking, and handing out hot dogs to the volunteers who generously gave their time. Their hard work and perseverance laid the foundation for the thriving club we are fortunate to be part of today.

In early November, our Club stocked the lake with fingerling walleyes, continuing our commitment to conservation and ensuring quality fishing opportunities for years to come. Walleyes are one of PA's most popular sportfish, prized for both their excellent taste and the exciting challenge they provide anglers. Known for their exceptional low-light vision, Walleye are most active from dusk to dawn, making them a favorite among open-water anglers and ice fishermen alike. Walleye fishing has a long and proud tradition in PA. Ice fishing for Walleye can be especially productive during the winter months, and as the ice recedes and spring approaches, these fish become even more active in preparation for spawning season. Our recent stocking effort helps ensure a healthy fishery and outstanding fishing opportunities well into the future.

We will once again host a Hunter Safety Course at the club on June 6 from 8:00am-3:00 p.m. Lunch/refreshments will be provided. Registration is required: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pgc/education/hunter-trapper-education>.

We will also be holding a raffle to support both our Walleye Program and our Building Fund. Check out the Community Calendar on page 8 for our Chicken BBQ dates.

Your continued support plays a vital role in keeping our club strong and thriving. Stay warm, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to the club in April!

Safety First

Low Bridge Clearance at Lake Carey

By Rob Baskin



Lake Carey is a special place for boating, tubing, paddling, and family time on the water. One area that requires extra caution is the low bridge connecting the small side to the big side of the lake. Below are some key safety reminders.

Low Clearance (4'–5'):

The bridge has very limited vertical clearance. Depending on water levels, boats with towers, raised windshields, Bimini tops, fishing seats, or passengers standing may not safely clear the opening. Please lower all equipment and ensure passengers remain seated before approaching.

Shallow Rocks on the Right Side (Small → Big Side):

When traveling from the small side to the big side, there are shallow rocks on the right-hand side of the passage. Boats should stay centered and proceed slowly to avoid prop or hull damage. **Raise your prop if possible**, to reduce the risk of damage in shallow water.

One Boat at a Time:

The tunnel is narrow and designed for **single-direction passage only**. Before entering, look through to ensure no oncoming boat is approaching. If another vessel is already passing through, wait your turn.

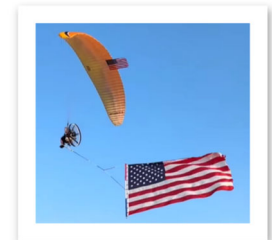
No Wake Zone:

This area is strictly **no wake**. Excess speed creates safety risks, increases erosion, and makes navigation more difficult for others waiting to pass.

Anyone fishing from the bridge should remove their lines from the water before boats pass through. This prevents entanglement and keeps both boaters and anglers safe. If fishing at night, please wear high-visibility clothing so both boaters and vehicle drivers can clearly see you in low-light conditions. This short stretch of water requires awareness and cooperation from everyone. A little extra caution ensures a safe, enjoyable experience for boaters and anglers alike. Also, please remove fishing line/hooks and trash. Let's continue looking out for one another and keeping Lake Carey safe for all.

Lake Carey's Friendly Flyovers

By Rob Baskin



If you've spent time on Lake Carey during Lake Carey Day or the Fourth of July, you've probably looked up, pointed, and smiled. Local pilot Patrick Sekely has become part of our holiday tradition—making low flyovers over the lake and often towing a massive American flag behind him.

Patrick flies an ultralight aircraft called a powered paraglider, also known as a paramotor. Think of it as a lightweight glider wing overhead with a small engine that lets him launch from an open field and cruise the skies. Sometimes people describe it as "a linen bedsheet strapped to a lawn chair." Patrick has been flying since 2018, inspired by a friend who launched right off a local farm field. Once Patrick saw it, he was hooked.

For Patrick, flying is more than a hobby. He calls it his "serotonin" and "dopamine"—something he loves and uses as a reset for his mental health. He'll even fly in winter when he can, and when conditions are right, he and friends have launched from frozen lakes.

Weather is the biggest limiter. Patrick says ideal flying is similar to hot air ballooning: sustained winds under ~8 mph and gusts under ~10 mph. The smoothest air is usually around the "golden hours"—early morning and near sunset—because midday sun can create choppy thermals and turbulence.

Patrick has set his personal altitude record over Lake Carey, as high as 10,068 feet, where he can shut off the motor and glide down for a long descent. But for holiday flyovers, especially the flag passes, he's focused on creating a safe, memorable show. He explains it as "risk and reward," and he takes safety seriously—he performs preventive maintenance, flies with flotation when over water, and often coordinates a boat chase as a backup.

Looking ahead, Patrick says 2026 will be a big year. His Fourth of July tradition began during COVID, bringing the American flag to lakeside neighborhoods when large gatherings were limited, and it has grown into something people

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Join us for the Lake Carey Community Garage Sale Fundraiser on Saturday, May 23, and Sunday, May 24, 2026, from 8:00am to 3:00pm at 12 Indian Spring Road. All proceeds support water quality initiatives.

We are collecting gently used, clean, and sellable items. Please consider items you would feel comfortable purchasing at a garage sale yourself. Acceptable donations include household goods in working condition, clothing free of rips or stains, complete sets of books, games, and toys, small furniture, tools, garden supplies, and sporting equipment. Please refrain from donating broken, heavily used, stained, or torn items, large furniture, outdated electronics, hazardous materials, or personal care products.

Donations can be dropped off or arranged for pickup by calling Barb Scanlon at 570-575-2918.

Dam Reconstruction Q&A's

By Lewis Flinn

Why does the dam need to be reconstructed?

The existing dam no longer meets current safety and regulatory requirements. Reconstruction ensures long-term safety and keeps the LCWA in compliance with Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) standards.

Who owns the dam and who is responsible for it?

The LCWA owns the dam and the land around it. As a private owner, LCWA—not a government agency—is responsible for the dam and all associated costs.

What will happen to the lake during construction?

The lower lake will be drained, and the upper lake will be lowered by approximately 2–4 feet, as required by DEP. Water levels will return to normal once construction is complete.

How long will construction take?

Construction is expected to take approximately six to eight months, though timing depends on DEP approvals at each phase.

When will construction occur?

Our goal is to begin after Labor Day and complete the project before Memorial Day, subject to permits, funding, and contractor availability. We do not know what year the construction will occur at this point.

How much will the project cost?

The current estimated construction budget is \$740,000. The final cost will be determined once the project goes out to bid.

How is LCWA funding the project?

LCWA has raised \$180,000 through fundraising to cover engineering and design costs and has applied for a Pennsylvania Local Share Allocation Grant to help fund construction.

What happened to the FEMA grant?

Although the LCWA was previously awarded a FEMA grant, it was later disqualified due to a technicality related to Tunkhannock Borough's Hazard Mitigation Plan. While frustrating, this also released the LCWA from FEMA's strict timeline requirements to complete the project.

How will members stay informed?

Updates will continue to be shared through the LCWA newsletter, website, and email/text communications as milestones are reached.

Flyovers

continued from page 6

across local lakes look forward to. This summer he's upgrading to a new Bald Eagle/American Flag themed glider, and he's continuing to experiment with smoke effects (yes, sky "writing" and smoke trails).

Most of all, Patrick appreciates the community response. He says he can hear the cheers and waves from the water, and he even uses an onboard horn to wave back—literally.

So when you hear that familiar buzz overhead this summer, step onto the dock, look up, and wave. Chances are, Patrick's waving right back.

Lake Life

Spring 2026

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Deb Tierney

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E-mail us at lcwa637@gmail.com

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Send your new contact information to
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lcwa637@gmail.com

Grinder Pump Issues

Per the LTTTSA, contact
Brad at 570-801-6900

<https://lemtunksa.org/>

Fun Facts...

Full railroad service
between Tunkhannock
and Montrose began in
1874. The fare from
Tunkhannock to the lake
and back was .25¢.

Facts from "Lake Carey" part of Arcadia's Images of
America series
by Dr. Walter Broughton

LCWA
PO Box 637
Tunkhannock, PA 18657

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Community Calendar

- ◆ 3/28—LC Volunteer Fire Co—Allied Services 5k Run to Remember
- ◆ 4/17—LC Volunteer Fire Co Bingo—doors open at 5:30pm (*every other Friday through Halloween*)
- ◆ 4/18—LCWA Trash Dash—around Lake Carey—Meet at 40 Indian Spring Rd for coffee/zone assignments at 8:30am; collect trash from 9:00-11:00am; *Rain Date 4/25*
- ◆ 5/23-24—LCWA Garage Sale—12 Indian Spring Rd from 8:00am to 3:00pm
- ◆ 5/31—LC Union Chapel Season Opening—Non-denominational Sunday Services at 10:00am through Labor Day Sunday; everyone is welcome
- ◆ 6/6—Hunter Safety Course—Sportsmen's Club from 8:00am-3:00pm; Pre-registration required
- ◆ 6/8—LCDA 5th Annual Golf Tournament—Stone Hedge Golf Club
- ◆ 7/25—Lake Carey Day—Lake Carey Volunteer Fire Company & Old Carter Barn
- ◆ 8/22—Lake Carey Night at The Races—Old Carter Barn—Time TBD
- ◆ **LCWA Monthly Meetings**—Dam Site at 11:15am (5/17, 6/14, 7/12, 8/9, 9/6)
- ◆ **LC Sportsmen's Club Chicken BBQ**—at the club from 11:00am to 1:00pm (4/19, 5/17, 6/14, 7/19, 8/23, 9/20)
- ◆ **Sewer Authority Meetings** are held the first Thursday of each month at 6:00pm at 26 Billings Mill Rd, Tunkhannock.
- ◆ **Township Monthly Meetings—Lemon Twp** meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at 2 Tague Rd, Tunkhannock and **Tunkhannock Twp** meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 7:00pm at 438 SR 92 South, Tunkhannock.



7/1	Wade Preston
7/3	Blues Night—JP Williams Blues Band
7/8	Classical with NEPA Chamber Music Society
7/11	Bluegrass Night with Joe Cirotti Trio
7/15	Americana with Lorne Clarke and Old Lynn Series
7/22	Gracie Jane Sinclair and Band (Country/Rock)

Performances at Old Carter Barn—235 Shore Dr, Tunkhannock
For more information and tickets go to www.summersessionspa.com