



THE CONASHAUGH COURIER

The Conashaugh Lakes Community Newsletter

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Conashaugh Lake Photo Credit: Deborah Henry

Committee Email Update

We would like to announce that there are now individual email addresses for all of our community committees as well as for the Board of Directors. For those members who wish to offer a suggestion or ask a question about something specific, you now have the ability to send an email directly to the board or liaison of our committees. Please use the email addresses listed below.

Board of Directors: CLCAboard@conashaughlakes.com

Communication committee: communication@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: Betty Buccine)

Design & Review committee: designandreview@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: Kurt Budveit)

Environmental committee: environmental@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: Valerie Ferlauto)

Finance committee: finance@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: TBD)

Maintenance committee: maintenance@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: TBD)

Recreation committee: recreation@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: Marisa Jara)

Rules and Regulations: rulesandregulations@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: Laura Budveit)

Security committee: security@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: Rich Schlosser)

Strategic Planning committee: strategicplanning@conashaughlakes.com (Liaison: TBD)

Recreation Committee Schedule of Events

November 12th Veteran's Day breakfast for all who have served or are currently serving. Please join us with one guest for breakfast at our recreation building from 9 am to 11 am. RSVP to recreation@conashaughlakes.com.

November 15th will be our next "Food Fight" donation collection night from 6pm to 8pm at the recreation building. Non perishable food items as well as self care and cleaning products will be accepted to help local families in need during the holiday season. There will also be a collection bin on the office deck until Nov. 20th

November 16th Wine and Spine Book Club meeting starting at 7pm. Doors open at 6:30pm.

November 20th Angel Tree tags will be available for pick up in the CLCA office until November

December 4th through the 8th please drop off your unwrapped and labeled Angel Tree gift(s) to the office.

December 10th from 12pm to 3pm the recreation committee will be hosting our annual Kids Christmas Party. Please bring an unwrapped, labeled gift (no more than \$10) to the office for your child by Dec. 8th so Santa has a gift to give them at the party. RSVP to recreation@conashaughlakes.com by Dec. 1st.

December 17th from 12pm to 4pm will be our Wrapping Party! This is a "No Kids" zone where you can wrap your gifts while enjoying drinks and holiday movies with friends and neighbors. Please bring your beverage of choice, favorite wrapping paper, scissors, tape and ribbon!

December 21st Wine and Spine Book Club meeting starting at 7pm. Doors open at 6:30pm.

Community Angel Gifting Tree

This year our communication committee along with our recreation committee will be hosting an Angel Tree to assist some of our families who may need help during this holiday season. If you are in need of help bringing the joy of the holiday spirit to your family, or know of a family that may need help, please click on the banner at the top of our webpage [Conashaugh Lakes Community Association](#) to sign up. The last day for sign ups will be Nov. 17th. We are limiting the amount of spots to fifty (50) people. Anyone who does sign up for assistance, please rest assured that your information and request for help will remain confidential. This is not just for children, this is for parents too. This is also not just for toys, it is for clothing items as well. For those who do sign up, please remember gifts are not guaranteed.

For those members who may be interested in helping to purchase gifts for a family, we will announce when you can visit the CLCA office to choose a tag and sponsor a family. Black Friday is a great day to get some good deals. If you are unable to find what is requested on the slip, any similar item would be more than welcome. Purchased gifts need to be returned to the office no later than Dec. 8th.



Things to Keep in Mind When Donating Items During the Holiday Season

There are so many wonderful donations being given during the holiday season, but there are also many every day items that we overlook and assume most people have. Many of us donate canned items, boxed mac and cheese, noodles and sauce, peanut butter and jelly. What about the can opener to open all the canned veggies and soups we donate? Or the milk for the mac and cheese? What will the peanut butter and jelly get spread on if we don't include the bread? Many collections are done through some sort of organization that then brings the food to the pantry location, which is why non perishable items are usually requested. If you have the ability to donate directly to the food banks, please keep the following in mind: milk and butter are necessary ingredients for the mac and cheese, oil is needed for most boxed rice mixes, Hamburger Helper needs ground beef or its just noodles and sauce. Butter, margarine, eggs, milk and fresh veggies are hard to come by in most food banks. A boxed cake mix with frosting makes it possible for a child to have a birthday cake. Some of the most needed items are boxed milk which can be used for cereal and mac and cheese. Spices or salt and pepper are rarely donated, but would be absolutely welcome. Tea and coffee are definitely needed, just as sugar and flour are. Canned tuna and crackers can be a child's snack or lunch. Non food items are also very necessary such as shampoo, conditioner, soap, body wash, cotton swabs, dish soap, hand sanitizer, all-purpose cleaners, disinfectant wipes/sprays, laundry detergent, shaving cream, tooth brushes, tooth paste, mouth wash, dental floss, hair brushes, deodorant, razors and feminine hygiene products.

This year, if you have the means to donate to local families who need assistance, keep in mind your neighbors who may not be as fortunate as you. If you would like to donate any of the above items to our Angel Tree, the committee members will distribute your donated items between the families who sign up for help. The holidays are a time to be thankful, to reflect and to give thanks. Let's give our neighbors a great reason to be thankful they live in a community that cares so much about each other!

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

November

November 11th Intermittent Membership Meeting 10:00 am

November 14th Recreation Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

November 18th Design & Review Committee 10:00 am

November 29th Environmental Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

December

December 5th at 7:00 pm Security Committee

December 7th at 7:00 pm Finance Committee

December 9th at 10:00 am Membership Meeting

December 12th at 7:00 pm Recreation Committee

December 16th at 10:00 am Design and Review Committee

Dates to Remember

November 20th Angel Tree Gift Tags available for pick up at CLCA office

November 23rd through November 27th Thanksgiving Break—Schools are closed

November 23rd, 24th and 25th—CLCA office closed for the holiday

December 8th Deadline for Angel Tree gifts to be returned

December 25th through January 2nd Christmas Break—Schools are closed

December 23rd and 25th Christmas Weekend—CLCA office closed for the holiday

December 30th and January 1st—CLCA office closed for the holiday

October 2023 Security Report

St. Moritz conducted the following activities:

Medical Response: 1	Suspicious Activity: 2	Speeding: 1 (38 in a 25 MPH)
Homeowner Assists: 3	Other: 1	Conducting Radar: 8
House Checks: 1	Protection from Abuse: 2	Maintenance Reports: 3
Unsightly Properties: 6	Visitor Assists: 3	Noise: 1
Gate Malfunction: 1	Parking issue: 1	

In addition to the above list of response activity, our security also monitors the bus parking lot, conducts daily tours of our roads and checks our community buildings to make sure they are secure.

Note regarding dogs at large. There has been an increase in the number of running at large calls since September. Most of the violations stemmed from one member’s home. The Pike County Dog Warden has been in the community several times and summonses were issued to the owner. The Dog Warden took the owners to court. Once the Dog Warden opened his case the office was notified to cease and desist issuing fines. This is because we cannot (double) fine an owner for matters being fined by the Dog Warden.

Radar– Administrator Kimberly Decker and St. Moritz Supervisor John Shaefer conducted location checks for radar within the community for the purpose of identifying safe areas to conduct radar. Ten (10) areas were identified.

We ask that members please do not disclose the location of our security guards when they are conducting radar. One of the top concerns from our members is speeding in the community. Our security team is out in the community diligently trying to slow down speeders. We all have to work together to make our community safe for everyone.



THEN AND NOW: OUR DOCK

Good bye old dock, hello new dock! You served us well old dock. Community members have great memories and stories to tell about the old dock. The old dock was a labor of love by our Fishing Club. We were a different community in those days. Members worked together to raise the money for the dock by attending Pancake Breakfasts.

Overtime the dock began to sag and the supports began to bend. The dock was never removed from the lake in the winter. In time, Mother Nature with her freezing lake water, began to take its toll on the dock

May 2023 a few members planned a fishing day and noticed that the dock supports were broken. The broken pieces were sharp and created an “accident waiting to happen” situation. Our Maintenance Employees removed the old dock before any accidents could occur. At the same time, Jerry Colotti and Chris Pantuso, members of our Environmental Committee, began a ninety plus hour journey to find a replacement dock, get approval from the Pike County Conservation District and work with the company to arrange the purchase and installation of the dock.

Between these two gentlemen over 150 miles were added to their personal vehicles. Four different companies were re-researched. One was eliminated immediately and three others were visited by these two fishing enthusiasts. They physically visited with all three companies and realized how drastically materials for docks has changed since Conashaugh Lake’s last dock was purchased. There were several factors that came into play in the search. The first and most important was the change within our community with people no longer committed to volunteering in order to make things happen. Knowing this, they searched for a dock that would require the least amount of maintenance. As well as looking for a quality dock that would handle our dramatic four season changes. Durability and sustainability were important factors for these men.

Three different companies were proposed to the Environmental Committee with two unique dock systems. The dock that was voted on by both Environmental Committee members and the Conashaugh Lakes Board has a life expectancy of thirty years. It is a system that can have pieces added to it if the needs of the community were to change. It can stay on the lake 24/7 365.

Unfortunately, our dock was vandalized last month. Two of the support poles were removed and thrown in the lake. The company that installed the dock informed us that it would have taken a lot of aggressive man power to remove those poles as they were pounded into the ground. The company that manufactures the dock informed us that they have never heard of this occurring and found it unlikely that it was done by “accident”.

One of the poles was retrieved from the lake. With the help of Jerry Colotti of the Environmental Committee and Rich Schlosser of the Maintenance Committee and the Conashaugh Lakes Maintenance crew the one pole was put back in place. Spring 2024, at an expense to our community, the missing pole will be purchased and installed.

Our new dock is making great memories for our members. A number of them have come forward with some great comments about how much they are enjoying the new dock and how easy it is to get their kayaks on the lake. Please send any pictures you may have of your dock experiences you have had to communication@conashaughlakes.com so that we can put it in our next Newsletter.



Our old dock



Our new dock

Here is a real “fish story” as told by Larry Farnum, original member of The Conashaugh Lakes Community Association Fishing Club:

Sometime around 2007-08, a group of Conashaugh fishermen decided to form a fishing club. Our thinking was, being that no one was raised local, we would learn about fishing opportunities in the area. John Crerand was President of Conashaugh Lakes Community Association at the time and he gave us \$300.00 from his own pocket to start the club. We all paid dues of \$20.00 for the first year and there were no dues after that. Our main funding came from Pancake Breakfasts that were held in the Recreation Building.

We elected Kevin DuPree as President and I think it was Neil Johnson as the Treasurer.

The first thing I remember we did was to stock Conashaugh Lake with about 20 crappie, you can still catch some big ones today. Members of the Fishing Club caught these crappies and transported them to the lake, making several stops along the way to refresh the water.

Then we decided to stock Seneca Lake with trout for a Fishing Day in late April or early May. At first we served hot dogs and drinks on the Fishing Days but over the years it was cut to coffee, juice and donuts. The days were cold but we always had a fire to warm us and a lot of stories around the fire.

Our best project was to buy and install an “L” shaped, aluminum dock which we paid \$1,100.00 for, fully funded by the Pancake Breakfasts. We found a used dock and members of the Fishing Club picked it up, transported it to the community and installed it. This dock lasted from 2009 to 2023. The dock was well used over the years, but it was time for a new one.

Sadly most of the club members have moved away or passed away and this club has gone away too.

