

JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

In an effort to create an improved communications link with the Wonder Lake Area, the MPOA Officers and Board of Directors are initiating a newsletter that hopefully will continue on a monthly basis. The purpose is to bring the community up to date on lake and watershed issues that have an impact on our lake and the role of the MPOA in addressing matters specific to our lake and dam.

The MPOA Officers, Directors, and Delegates hopes that the Winter Season is an enjoyable one and that it brings good fellowship, joy, and happiness to you.

HOW THE MPOA WORKS

Each member subdivision of the MPOA selects delegates to the MPOA, one for each one hundred lots located within each subdivision's boundary. One Delegate from each of the subdivision is selected to serve as their MPOA Director. There are 19 Directors. These Directors meet on the second Wednesday of each month and are responsible for the daily management of our Lake. There are a total of 69 Delegates. Each year, on the second

Wednesday in September, these Delegates meet and elect the MPOA Officers, approve a proposed annual budget, and (by a 2/3rds vote of those Delegates present) approve any proposed changes to the MPOA Bylaws. The officers of the MPOA are President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each officer serves for 2 years with the President, Second Vice President, and Treasurer elected in even numbered years and the First Vice-President and Secretary elected in odd numbered years.

2022 DELEGATES MEETING SUMMARY

This year the Delegates reelected Dennis Gallo to serve as First Vice President and elected Brad Dennison to serve as Secretary. Their terms of service begin on January 1, 2023.

The Delegates also approved the proposed budget and to support the increase in expenses, a \$5.00/lot increase in the MPOA dues.

Beginning in 2023, the MPOA dues will be \$32.00/lot and \$46/unsubdivided acre.

DAM NEWS

In order to protect the integrity of our dam and to properly identify any maintenance issues, our dam is inspected each year by the IL Department of Natural Resources and our engineering consultants. The expense of the inspection is included in the MPOA Annual Budget. During last year's inspection, it was noted that there were some soft spots in the concrete located in the interior of the spillway. Also, the concrete wingwalls on the downstream side of the spillway appeared to have some spalling that required further inspection. In the spring of last year, the interior walls of the hollow spillway were repaired. A ramp was then constructed at the base of the wingwalls and a dam engineer was hired to inspect the walls. This resulted in a repair of both the Eastside and Westside wingwalls. The concrete cap over the Eastside wingwall will be repaired during 2023. The cost for these unanticipated repairs were over \$60,000 and necessitated the dues increase.

HOT TOPIC: DECAL PRICING

At the October and November MPOA Directors meetings there was considerable discussion regarding the impact of boat wakes on the lake shore line and islands. The Directors stated, current decal pricing is not reflecting the impact and requested that the Lake Use Committee (LUC) consider raising the price of decals and adding decal categories. The LUC met and concluded that it is not the horse power (HP) of the engine that causes the wake but more the

size of the boat and how it is driven. Wake board boats and boats with towers create the biggest wakes; however, it was agreed that it would be an administrative nightmare to create a category based on type of boat. Ultimately, the commission members agreed to add and stick with HP categories since boats that have the greatest impact on the lake generally have larger HP engines. Decal prices have remained the same since 2007, 15 years. The revenue raised from decal sales is used to cover the cost of Marine Patrol, buoy placement and removal, buoy accessories and liability insurance. All of these costs have gone up over the last 15 years. At the December MPOA meeting your Directors voted to approve the following decal price structure which overruled the LUC recommendations.

Decal Prices

Category	Previous	New
No Motor	\$10.00	\$13.00
Under 40 HP	\$25.00	\$30.00
*40 - 99 HP	\$40.00	\$50.00
*100 – 249 HP	\$40.00	\$70.00
*250 HP	\$40.00	\$100.00
PWC	\$40.00	\$50.00
Guest Pass	\$20.00	\$50.00

*New Category

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Wonder Lake Sportsman Club will be holding their annual Ice Fishing Derby on Sunday, February 5th 6:00AM – 2:00PM. Prizes and all raffles will be awarded immediately after the derby at the Lookout Point Pavilion at 2:30PM. All proceeds will go for Lake conservation.