

DPL Chairperson's Letter 2013/Final

Wow, what a difference a year makes! Last year we were in the midst of a drought not knowing how severe it was going to be, or how long it was going to last. It ended up that our lake water level receded almost 24 inches, which seems to be a record, at least in my more than 55 years at Powers Lake.

I am a firm believer that nature equalizes itself and runs in cycles, but I thought that it would be a long time before our lake would get back to a normal water level, and I am thankful that it happened so soon. The rebound is probably due to the unusually wet winter and continuing wet spring and summer.

This past year the board of commissioners spent a large amount of time investigating the Jefferson Island Channel (JIC) issue which was brought up at our last annual meeting. The issue was broken into two possible projects, namely Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Phase 1 was a maintenance project which was completed in November at minimal cost through the action of volunteers. This project took advantage of the low water level in the lake and restored circulation between the main body of the lake and Jefferson Bay, even during the low water level.

Phase 2 would have involved dredging the approximately 800 lineal feet long channel to remove the sediment that has accumulated in the channel. However, because of the excessive cost and uncertain ecological importance of the project, we have ceased further action and expense at this time.

For more information on the details of the JIC project, please refer to previous newsletters and minutes posted on our website, www.districtofpowerslake.org. If you have additional questions, please contact me at 630/816-4290, or at jmichels@eeiweb.com, or simply stop by 39321 Bloomfield Road for a visit.

In addition to the JIC project, we have continued our aggressive treatment of aquatic invasive species (AIS), primarily Eurasian water milfoil, through pre and post treatment surveys and chemical treatment of these aquatic plants. We also continue to monitor water quality and water level parameters in the lake.

The commissioners of The District of Powers Lake continue to implement our Mission Statement which is printed elsewhere in this newsletter. Please participate in our organization by attending our Annual Meeting on August 2, 2013 which will be held at the Randall Consolidated School.

We hope that you and your family and friends have a safe and enjoyable summer in, on or at the lake!

Respectfully,

Jim Michels,
Chairperson