Providing adequate marina services are an integral part of the boating and recreation experience on the 10 MWCD lakes. There are currently 10 marinas on the MWCD lakes of which 5 are now owned by MWCD. These marinas are Seneca, Piedmont, Clendening, North Fork on Leesville Lake and Tappan Marina, MWCD’s newest acquisition. MWCD has enhanced services and facilities since taking ownership of these marinas while also realizing the added benefit of increased revenues.

This past year, boaters may have noticed a change and a familiar face at the Petersburg, North Fork Marina at Leesville Lake. Keith Ott, who owns the South Fork marina and provides service at Seneca Marina as Ohio Valley Boats, LLC, recently took over operations at Petersburg through a lease with MWCD. Ott’s customers are very complimentary of his skills, training and knowledge as he has certifications to service a wide range of marina engines with his 30 years of experience operating marinas on Portage Lakes, Lake Erie and even in South Florida on the Atlantic Ocean.

~ MWCD Marina News continued on page 7
Brad Janssen Appointed Chief of Conservation

Bradley P. Janssen was named Chief of Conservation for the MWCD in February by the Board of Directors. Brad has been with the Conservancy District since 2016 serving in roles as Oil and Gas Coordinator and Interim Chief of Conservation. Before joining the MWCD Brad completed 16 years in the oil and gas industry for several private companies, serving as Senior Landman/Land Coordinator of Field Operations, Land Manager, Prospect Coordinator and Senior Land Man. This experience lends itself well to property and legal issues as part of the MWCD team managing the 54,000 acres of property holdings in 9 different counties.

Janssen earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Geology at Dennison University and holds a certificate of GIS from Pennsylvania State University. “Brad’s contribution to MWCD’s management of resources in our conservation efforts are already evident through his familiarity with oil and gas leasing. These revenues will continue to be a major source of funding for recreational improvements”, stated John Hoopingarner, Executive Director of MWCD.

Janssen will manage the MWCD Conservation Department which includes the following areas:

- Water Quality Programming
- Watershed Programming
- Water Resources Management
- Forest Management
- Oil & Gas Stewardship

Chief Counsel Brought In-House

In April of 2018 the Board of Directors approved James J. Pringle as chief counsel serving on the executive team. Jim has represented MWCD as outside legal counsel for over 25 years with the Law firm of Kyler, Pringle, Lundholm and Durmann, LPA where he was president, shareholder and director. Jim is a member of the Ohio State Bar Association and the Tuscarawas County Bar Association. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Kent State University Tuscarawas and Cleveland Clinic–Union Hospital.

Jim holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in education and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English from the University of Cincinnati where he also earned his Juris Doctor Degree.

“Jim is the foremost expert in conservancy law in the state as MWCD is one of the most active of the 23 Conservancy Districts in Ohio. We are extremely fortunate to have his expertise and knowledge in our organization,” stated John Hoopingarner, MWCD Executive Director/Secretary.
MWCD Loses a Friend

In early April MWCD received news that board member, Steve Paquette, suddenly and unexpectedly passed away. With heavy hearts MWCD said goodbye to a gentleman and friend.

“On behalf of the MWCD Board of Directors and the entire MWCD team, we send our heartfelt sympathies and prayers to Steve’s family as they manage through this very difficult time,” stated John Hoopingarner, the Executive Director of MWCD.

“Although somewhat new to the Board, Steve made an immediate impact through his guidance on the MWCD capital improvement plan based on his many years of economic development experience. He will most certainly be missed as he was always genuine and a gentleman.”

Mr. Paquette was appointed to the MWCD Board of Directors by the 18-member panel of judges of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy Court in June 2017. He was in his first year of a five-year term.

The MWCD Board members and staff remember and thank Steve for his guidance and friendship.
MWCD Master Plan Updates

Marina Master Planning

The recreation department will proceed with master planning of the three MWCD owned marinas in 2018. This planning will focus on Tappan, Clendening and North Fork Leesville marinas. These marinas were not part of the original master plan conducted in 2012 as they were not part of MWCD assets. It is expected the marina master plan will uncover great opportunities for improvements in facilities and services based on stakeholder feedback. Stay tuned for more details by the end of the year!

Pardon our Dust!

Construction is in progress at every park with almost $25 million budgeted for 2018 construction and design services. We appreciate the patience of our customers through this time of transition and improvements. We trust it will be worth the wait!

MWCD Master Plan Projects Under Construction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Location</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Number of Campsites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atwood Lake Park</td>
<td>Area 20 RV Campground</td>
<td>142 lots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Area 4 and 8 Main Campground Improvements</td>
<td>55 new lots, 51 renovated lots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Special Events Parking Lot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Mill Lake Park</td>
<td>Water and Wastewater Utility Improvements Area 2a Main Campground Redevelopment Phase 1</td>
<td>79 lots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont Marina</td>
<td>Area 10 N Marina Campground Renovation</td>
<td>43 lots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Hill Lake Park</td>
<td>Area 22 RV Campground Area 23, 24 and 29 East Campground Redevelopment Phase 1</td>
<td>59 lots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seneca Lake Park</td>
<td>Areas 13, 9 and 21 Main Campground Sanitary Sewer Main</td>
<td>111 lots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tappan Lake Park</td>
<td>Area 2 Campground Renovation Phase 1 Area 23, 24 and 29 East Campground</td>
<td>75 lots, 77 lots</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bolivar Dam Awarded Best Safety Rating

Today, those in Tuscarawas County located downstream of the Bolivar Dam can rest easy that the dam is secure and safe. In fact, the good news is that the dam received the highest and best safety rating available known as a Dam Safety Action Classification of 5 or a DSAC 5. Only four out of 714 dams in the US Army Corps of Engineers portfolio are rated a DSAC 5.

This best safety rating is the result of the partnership between the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) committing resources to properly maintain the 80-year old flood reduction system. The Bolivar Dam maintenance project included construction of a 3-foot-wide x 140 deep x 4,500-foot-long concrete seepage barrier wall installed at the base of the dam along with installation of new control gates. The 2018 spring rains tested the dam and it performed with flying colors.

MWCD contributed $25 million to the Bolivar Dam project through revenues collected through the maintenance assessment while the federal government contributed $109 million. Boris Slogar, MWCD Chief Engineer, stated, “MWCD has a great partnership with the Huntington District of US Army Corps of Engineers. The significance of this project is that it was completed on-budget, ahead of schedule, and was also awarded the best dam safety rating. This is quite an accomplishment considering the complicated nature of the project.”

Officials celebrating the completion of the project and the DSAC 5 rating include John Hoopingarner, MWCD Executive Director/Secretary; Col Phillip M. Secrist, III from the US Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District; and Congressman Bob Gibbs.

Bolivar Dam was given the best and highest national safety rating after the recent maintenance project was completed. MWCD owns 835 acres of land behind the Bolivar Dam while the US Army Corps of Engineers owns and operates the dam.
Stepping up for Safety Communications

Safety of customers and staff members is a top priority within the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD). A key component in responding to emergencies is robust inter agency communications. And fortunately, the MWCD and the non-profit Muskingum Watershed Conservancy Foundation (Foundation), stepped up to ensure proper infrastructure was installed to provide this critical service not only to MWCD Rangers but also to surrounding law enforcement agencies, fire departments and other first responders.

Along the US Route 30 corridor, adjacent to Charles Mill Lake Park in the Richland/Ashland County boundary is an area just out of reach of wireless signals. A remedy to boost public safety communications was found due to coordinated efforts with the MWCD, the Foundation and the Ohio Department of Administrative Services to install a Multi-Agency Radio Communication System (MARCS) tower. MARCS provides Ohio’s first responders and public safety providers with state-of-the-art wireless digital communications, and promotes interoperability, to save lives and maximize effectiveness in both normal operations and emergency situations. The tower became active in March.

“This is a much-needed expansion of the MARCS services in the region”, said John Maxey, MWCD Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement. “It will allow for enhanced communication within the region, eliminate ‘dead’ spots and enable multiple agencies to communicate better together. It will benefit all of the first responders in the region, improve officer safety and services to the community.”

MWCD provided land for the tower location and $30,000 for required survey work, environmental assessments, cultural review, engineering plans, bidding and construction management. The Foundation contributed $5,000 and the MARCS vendor provided $200,000 for construction and installation of the tower.

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District Charitable Endowment Fund was established in 1996 through generous donations of patrons and interested parties as a means to support the mission of the MWCD. In 2001, the Foundation was officially incorporated as a 501(c)3 charitable non-profit organization providing financial resources to enhance facilities, programs and conservation efforts on or adjacent to MWCD lands and waters. Information regarding the non-profit Foundation including membership and tax-deductible charitable giving is found at www.muskingumfoundation.org.

Event Schedules Available for 5 Parks

Looking for a variety of outdoor family fun? Check out the MWCD park event schedules found on each park website. Activities at each park include moonlight kayaking, crafts, beach parties, concerts, Explorers of Nature, movies at the lake and many other family fun events!

atwoodparkohio.org
charlesmillparkohio.org
pleasanthillparkohio.org
senecaparkohio.org
tappanparkohio.org

The newly installed MARCS tower provides critical safety communications and was constructed on MWCD property. The tower serves not only MWCD.
Frequent Water Quality Testing Conducted at MWCD Lakes

Those who enjoy the 10 Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District’s (MWCD) Lakes must find comfort in knowing the MWCD has a robust and enhanced water quality monitoring program. This program is built on strong partnerships with federal, state, local, academic and private sector organizations. These partnerships were formed to ensure coordination of data collection, sharing of results, and coordinated efforts if action is needed to mitigate less than desirable water quality conditions.

Partner agencies conducting water quality data collection and monitoring at the MWCD lakes include:

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Geological Survey
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- Ohio Lake Management Society
- County Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Village of Cadiz

This past year MWCD hired an environmental scientist to serve as the Water Quality Coordinator to augment the monitoring program and enhance public education opportunities. Partner agencies have seized upon the skill set of MWCD staff. New water quality initiatives have already been organized and met with great enthusiasm.

One new collaborative effort organized by MWCD is the Tappan Lake Nutrient Reduction Initiative. Initial meetings were well attended and have spurred interest with other watersheds and lake owners to assemble similar collaborative efforts.

Brad Janssen, MWCD’s Chief of Conservation stated, “Water is one of the most precious resources on the planet and we view the MWCD lakes as one of the most precious resources in eastern Ohio. Water quality monitoring of the lakes and tributaries has been and continues to be a high priority for MWCD as this coincides with safety for those who use and enjoy the lakes.”

Some water quality testing results on the MWCD lakes are found on the Ohio Department of Health’s website at http://publicapps.odh.ohio.gov/beachguardpublic and also on the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s website at http://publicapps.odh.ohio.gov/beachguardpublic/

~ MWCD Marina News continued from page 1

Changes are also happening at the Tappan Lake Marina. MWCD purchased this facility last year upon the retirement of the longtime owners. Keith Ott once again submitted the successful proposal to provide boat and motor sales and services to MWCD customers at Tappan Marina. Customers at Tappan Lake will also enjoy the new restaurant service provided by a local well known name, Dino Pangrazio. MWCD is working with both Keith and Dino to evaluate the existing facilities and plan improvements in the coming years.

At Right: The long-time Tappan Marina operators in Harrison County transferred ownership to MWCD in October of 2017. MWCD installed new docks and upgraded electrical services at Tappan Marina in late spring of 2017 which was a welcomed upgrade by customers.

Marinas on MWCD Lakes include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marina</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atwood Lake Boats (Marina West)</td>
<td>330-364-4703</td>
<td>atwoodlakeboats.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atwood Marina (East)</td>
<td>330-735-2323</td>
<td>atwoodlakeboats.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Mill Marina</td>
<td>419-368-5951</td>
<td>charlesmillmarina.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Clendening Marina and Campground</td>
<td>740-658-3691</td>
<td>clendeningmarinaohio.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Leesville North Fork Marina &amp; Campground</td>
<td>330-627-4270</td>
<td>leesvilletake.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leesville South Fork Marina</td>
<td>740-269-5371</td>
<td>leesvilletake.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Piedmont Marina and Campground</td>
<td>740-658-1029</td>
<td>piedmontmarinaohio.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Hill Marina</td>
<td>419-938-6488</td>
<td>pleasanthillmarina.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Seneca Marina</td>
<td>740-685-0015</td>
<td>senecamarinaohio.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Tappan Marina</td>
<td>740-269-2031</td>
<td>tappanmarinaohio.org</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Designates marina facilities owned and operated by MWCD
**Designates marina facilities owned by MWCD with some or all operations leased to private entities

For a listing of services contact each marina separately as services vary for each location. Services provided may include the following: full service boat sales and service, fuel, fishing supplies, dock rentals, courtesy docking, snacks, dine-in restaurants, gift shop and rentals of pontoons, kayaks or canoes.
Reserve Your Campsite Now at mwcd.org