



A LOT OF INTEREST - Perhaps the largest group of property owners in a number of years were in attendance at the annual Wawasee Property Owners Association's annual public meeting Saturday. The reason was Oakwood Park.

Those in attendance were given a review and update on the Oakwood Park property as well as future program plans. All in attendance, which included some residents of Syracuse Lake, appeared supportive of the future plans.

— Syracuse/Wawasee Trail —

As we submit this trail update, summer is in full swing. Our Lakes Community is bustling with activity. The lakes are full of boats, the sandbar is packed, restaurants are jumping, the town has just had its Summerfest, Sweetcorn Charlie's has corn and Saturdays is Farmer's Market day at Crosson Park . . . and happily, the trails are full of people enjoying the great outdoors.

A long planned pedestrian bridge over McConnell Ditch has been installed and the pouring of the cement approaches is scheduled to begin within the next two weeks. At the same time, the south end of the Parker-Hannifin parking lot will be converted to a pedestrian trail. The town is scheduling the construction of sidewalk through the Wawasee Heights subdivision which will complete the link from the Syracuse Village area to Wawasee High School using the new bridge.

Thanks to Kosciusko County 21st Century Heath Foundation for their \$20,000 bridge grant and to the Syracuse-Wawasee Area Chamber of Commerce members who contributed well over the \$20,000 stipulated match required by the grant. The Wawasee Heights property owners, while skeptical of the project's impact, have been great in working with us to find areas of compromise which all parties can live with. The Syracuse Town Council, the Town Manager and Town Engineer and our Chief of Police have all been great and hugely supportive in helping to get this segment done.

By the way, have you noticed the new sidewalk section along Pickwick on the north side of the old Arthur's Fresh Market building? All you Indiana University fans take a look. A very unique bench, donated in the memory of Stan Fox, a locally know real estate associate at Todd Reality and a huge IU fan, has been constructed at that location. The Trail Committee is having discussions with several people interested in the possibility of giving commemorative gifts at various trail sites.

We have been gratified by the number of volunteers who have stepped up to help us with the maintenance required by our growing trail system. For the second year in a row, the Syracuse Kiwanis Club (along with several other volunteers and Trail Committee members) sponsored a clean up day along the Mudd Lake section. They hauled away over 25 trailer loads of dead wood and undergrowth. It was a **BIG** job and we're very grateful. Joining our growing volunteer army are the Bob and Joan Szyal-Smith family and the Kathy Erb family who have adopted individual trail sections to patrol on a regular basis. Each of the groups have mentioned how passersby stop or honk to say thanks and to say how nice things look — thoughtful and appreciated gestures.

As a way of passing along our thanks for your support, the Trail Committee had an entry in this year's WPOA Flotilla. We hope you noticed us. Our entry was a neat old white wooden boat entered in the antique

boats division . . . it had a green canopy, a fun crew of people in very bright green T's and a large banner which read "THANK YOU, TRAIL SUPPORTERS." It won the coveted "DNR Award." We do sincerely thank all the Wawasee property owners who have been so loyal in helping our project over the past nine years. You can see pictures of the boat and crew at our website — www.syracusewawaseetrails.com.

As the 3.6 mile trail/boardwalk/sidewalk section, from the Wawasee Golf Course on the east to Wawasee High School on the west, nears completion, the Trail Committee is beginning discussions to determine what parts of our Trail Master Plan should be built next. The completion of the Syracuse Lake loop remains a high priority. We estimated the completion costs to be between \$90,000 and \$110,000. We continue to dream about the possibilities along the State Route 13 corridor from Harkless Dr. south to the Middle School. There are several route possibilities but funding needs to become more available for actual work to begin. Our preliminary engineering feasibility study, done two years ago, estimated the total cost to be over one million dollars. Many of us continue to believe that we should go ahead with sections of that route as opposed to waiting until funding for the whole project can be secured. At any rate, we'll keep looking for ways to get that and/or other routes started.

You have the Trail Committee's best wishes for a safe and fun summer.

Wawasee Family Album Update

Recently, Directors Carolyn Anderson and Ann Bonifas volunteered to plan a new "Wawasee Family Album" (DVD). The most recent version was made in 2004. We are using the 1999 Wawasee Memories books as a base for the new DVD. Also, we want to incorporate more recent memories of Lake Wawasee from any neighbors who would like to share them with us.

Examples of "gleanings" from the 1999 Wawasee Memories written by "Neighbors" from around the lake include the following:

"There is something about the water, particularly 'Wawasee' that adds an extra dimension to life. We seem to be more a part of the seasons and the outdoors. We revel in the sunsets. It is a place, which calls for the counting of blessings. Among these are family times and old and new friends. People come to the lake to relax and be happy, and that provides an undertow of friendly interaction for responsibility, which make WPOA and WACF work so well." — Pier 9

"This place has a tranquility like only happens in a dream." — Pier 55

"One vivid memory is the impromptu parade down Main Street in Syracuse on V-J Day, August 1945. The kids banged pan lids as the mothers walked arm-in-arm singing and cheering . . . They were relieved that their sons would not have to be a part of an invasion of the Japanese Islands." — Pier 218

"One of the kids favorite memories is getting in their fishing boat with a 9.5 Johnson and going all the way to the Syracuse town pier so they could go to the library and then get an ice cream cone at the Sweet Shoppe up-town for the ride home." — Pier 234

"In the spring and fall (weather permitting) I would drive the boat to school. My maternal grandparents lived by the dam in Syracuse so I could park at their boat house and walk to Syracuse Elementary School." — Pier 537

"In 1968 we bought our home on Waco Drive. The house had been built in the 30's by a man from Garrett, IN. He had the slot machine and other gambling concessions at the Wawasee Sphinx. We heard many tales of his connections with the Chicago mob and his mysterious activities as well as his sudden departure. Our only clues to his presence were the wall safe and the large crates in the base-

ment marked "amusement" but our children were impressed that maybe "Al Capone slept here!" — Pier 565

Roma Wilson (according to her son, Rex, spent two weeks writing about Wawasee for the Memories book. She was 93 1/2 at the time. All 13 pages of her recollections are wonderful reading! It begins with the Tabernacle in Oakwood." — Pier 685

"Susie (Dick's wife) bought the Dutch colonial house at pier 727 the day it came on the market. The house had caught her eye the day before! Only the prospect of owning a boat again kept me from tears — a nice sailing vessel to pick up where we left off ten years before." — Pier 727

"The greatest gift Wawasee has given us is the opportunity to spend time with family doing things we love." — Pier 800-801

With these memories in mind, the WPOA Board of Directors would like to produce a video that is reminiscent of the past and yet include current memories of Lake Wawasee. We plan to have a videographer capture footage of the lake throughout the year and conduct family interviews with those who would like to share their stories. If you are interested in submitting "Memories" or being interviewed by the videographer for this new production contact Carolyn Anderson at carolyn@wawasee-boat.com.

Chautauqua — Wawasee

By Ann Strong

"Prologue Season" of programming has been completed. Go to the web-site Chautauqua-Wawasee.org for information and to make contact. The four pillars of Chautauqua were presented by one event each: Recreation, Arts, Education and Religion. Watch for more next year. Exciting discussions and plans are on the way. Do submit your ideas on the web-site. Considerations: water ski event(s), sunsets with The Phil, review of subjects included in Eli Lilly's book about the area, sing along with Mimi and Carol.

The July 2 Flotilla Run/Walk through Oakwood Park was enhanced with "Chariots of Fire" music played by DJ, Calvin Kline. A picture of runners as they passed the Oakwood Hotel was printed in "The Mail Journal". This was the first time a leg of the route included Oakwood Park, much appreciated by watchers as well as runners.

The Fort Wayne Philharmonic's greatly anticipated performance was postponed due to lightening and heavy rain. Watch the web-site for The Phil's anticipated September "rain date" at Oakwood.

On Saturday, July 9th, Anna Sudlow, Bill Beamer and area residents shared valuable memories, insights, laughs and discussion of favorite lake experiences. The chapel was full of people who mentioned the root beer stand, candy and generations of good times. By popular request this series will continue next year along with other educational events. Please submit your ideas on the web-site.

Sunday, July 10th, The Reverend Kent Millard presented the first of his series, "Neighbors in our World" to the chapel full of residents, friends of Kent's and a couple who drove up from Indy for the event. Kent engaged us all with the history of Chautauqua on Winona Lake, then shared a moving story of a Native American gift of giving, ideas for next year's discussions and, as always, messages from his heart.

Please consider the form of your interest in Chautauqua-Wawasee and present ideas and questions on the web-site. C-W is meant to be an interactive as well as inspirational program. The response has been incredible, sincere and full of joy and appreciation.

Surely Oakwood Park will continue to be an oasis of hope, health and happiness.



Chautauqua-Wawasee
SYRACUSE, INDIANA

Wawasee Flotilla Highlights

Courtesy The Mail Journal

Elvis and Lady Gaga were there, along with Jimmy Buffet, a few Native Americans, The Village People, even Dick Clark and guests at the American Bandstand joined in the fun. While Kiss and a few others didn't make it to the lake, they viewed the parade from the Spink.

These are just some of the entries for the 50th Wawasee Flotilla Sunday.

"Thanks to the community for 50 boats for the 50 years," commented Holly Tuttle, Flotilla Committee chairperson.

Actually there were more than 50 boats for the 50th anniversary, which was a goal of Tuttle when plans began last year. There were 27 floats and 23 wooden/antique boats entered.

Tuttle and the committee are appreciative to the community for rallying to make this year's event a success and one of the largest flotillas in a number of years. "It was good to see businesses enter and first time entrants," she stated.

Judges for the floats had a tough time deciding who should take the prizes this year and wished there were more than three places to give out awards.

Also a success was the dance with the John Kirkwood Band Friday evening. The fundraising event for the Flotilla had approximately 175 people gathering to dance throughout the evening and enjoy the music.

"Everyone had a great time," Tuttle reported.

This year's Commodore Winner, chosen this year by the past commodores, was the entry titled "American Bandstand." Entered by Donette Smock, East Island Avenue, Syracuse, the entry was a recreation of the favorite television show many of us remember. Dick Clark was on hand to take requests and spin the music of the top hits while others danced on the boat.

Those on the boat included Donette and Ron Smock, Cindi Wells, Cindy Kaiser, David White, Ed Robinson and Jill Goldblatt.

"We had our theme for a long time," stated Ron Smock, noting he and his wife Donette, had all their friends from Alabama and Chicago putting parts together. "When they all arrived we assembled it. We had it planned out for a long time," stated Smock.

They did go all out even making White die his gray blond hair black to take on the personality of Dick Clark. The group was sitting around the table on the deck when notification came they had won the Commodore's Trophy. "Everyone was really happy with all the work gone into winning it."

The Jacqueline Nelson Family from Oakwood Park, spearheaded by her son Brett Nelson, was awarded the WPOA Award with



their Village People entry.

Syracuse-Wawasee Trails Committee in a 1957 Chris Sea Skiff won the DNR Award.

A special award, the Spirit Award, was given to the Spink Condominiums. The pier was filled with residents and a few special guests cheering on and helping to celebrate the 50th anniversary.

Category winners include:

Neighborhood — Jim Kroemer, North Pleasant Grove Road, Syracuse, with his "Elvis" entry, first; Tiffany Limbach, Greenfield with the entry "Jimmy Buffet"; A pirate looks at 40" second; and the entry of Frank and Jane Walker, Steve and Brenda Walker, North Sunrise Drive, Syracuse, titled "Wawapalooza" taking third.

Non-profit — Jerry and Mary Juergens for the National Guard, first; New Hope Pet Rescue, Syracuse, second; and Women of Today, third.

Business — Griffith's Wawasee Marina, first; Syracuse-Wawasee Chamber of Commerce and Davidson's Pier, second; and State Farm Insurance with Lady Gaga, third.

Youth — Jack Hollingsworth, North Pleasant Grove Road, Syracuse, "Cypress Garden," first; Molly Marsh, East Island Avenue, Syracuse, second; Pat and Kathy Jones, East Constitution, Syracuse, "Grateful to be at Wawasee," third; and Bob and Sandy McNary, North East Wawasee Drive, Syracuse's entry with grandchildren of the "Tiki Belle," fourth.

Wooden boat winner was Richard Eckleberger.

Antique winner was John Stump, East Northshore Drive, Syracuse, first with a 1955 Cris Craft and Dwayne Barrett, South Oakwood Drive, Syracuse, second, with a 1986 Century Arabian.

Upcoming Syracuse/Wawasee Chamber Events

Discover Syracuse events every other Saturday. The next event will be July 30, Featuring the "History of Syracuse" with a walking tour of downtown Syracuse at 10am and another at 2pm. Cost is \$3/adults, kids 16 and under are FREE. Go to www.discoversyracuse.com for more info.

Artisan and Farmers Market - Every Saturday thru October 15th. The 15th will be the last Saturday for the Market and we will close the season by celebrating with a

Fall Harvest Festival from 9am - 2pm at Crosson Mill Park. Lots of activities for the entire family; apple cider press, pumpkin decorating, hay rides and much more!!!

Holiday Magic - November 19, Holiday Magic, will take place at Crosson Mill Park, 4-7pm with lots of festive activities to usher in the holiday season to Syracuse, be sure to mark you calendar for this event.

Make sure to mark your calendars for these dates and come support your local Syracuse businesses.

Lake Patrol Update

By Jim Tranter

Greetings from your Lake Patrol. It is almost half way through the summer. I am writing this article to update you on some significant changes that have taken place in Indiana Lake Laws that have become effective as of July 1st, 2011.

1. TEAK SURFING

In recent years a new fad has emerged in boat towed sports that provides loads of fun for the participants, however, it is also proving to be deadly. It's called "teak surfing" or some may call it "drag surfing". Growing in popularity, teak surfing is performed by hanging onto the swim platform (often made of teakwood, thus the name) at the back of the boat while the boat is moving forward in slow motion. Often the swimmers will let go of the teak platform and body surf on the boat's wake. The participants can, at times, even surf back to the boat and grab the swim platform.

WATCH the BOAT PROPELLER . . . An obvious danger to this sport is the close proximity to the boat propeller, which raises serious concerns in itself. But the silent danger is: this is the area of the boat that is filled with potentially dangerous carbon monoxide, which is tasteless and odorless. To add to the problem teak surfers rarely wear lifejackets since it inhibits the opportunity to body surf. Add all three of these elements together and you can easily see how someone could drown.

Teak Surfing in Indiana, behind all motor boats as of July 1st, 2011 is illegal.

2. WAKE SURFING

Wake surfing is the act of using a wave outside of a boat to surf along side of or just behind a boat. The boat is needed to create the wave. Again, the problem is the close proximity to the boat, the boat propeller and the carbon monoxide emitted by the exhaust of the boat. Although it is still legal to wake surf behind an inboard boat that is underway, it is now illegal in Indiana to wake surf behind an I/O (inboard/outboard) or any outboard boat.

So this new law reads: It will be illegal to swim, float, or float on a board in the wake

directly behind an inboard/outboard (I/O) or outboard motor boat that is under way.

3. DOCKING LIGHTS

Many new boats, mainly pontoons are equipped with docking lights for the purpose of illuminating the area in front of the boat when docking. The key words here are "when docking" If you have been out on the lake when a pontoon is approaching you from ahead or perpendicular all you see are the bright lights from the docking lights. If you will look carefully it is almost impossible to see the red and green navigation lights when the docking lights are illuminated. The purpose of red and green navigation lights are to indicate to an oncoming vessel which direction you are heading. Of course when the red and green navigation are blocked by bright white docking lights the vessels approaching can be in a very dangerous situation. At this point docking lights are not considered illegal, but when left on while you are underway can be considered unsafe boating.

4. STAND-UP PADDLE BOARDS

There is a new recreational activity where you use a paddleboard, similar to a long surf board. You stand upright on the board and use a paddle, similar to a canoe paddle and you paddle the board on the water. A question has arisen whether you must wear a life jacket while on the paddle board. The an-

swer is **YES**. A Paddle board on the lake is handled just like a PWC when it comes to life jackets.

So the Lake Patrol will be stopping boats at night that are under way with their docking lights on. So please remember to use your docking lights for their purpose, "DOCKING" and turn them off once you are underway. They are not considered headlights and because of the vast open areas in front of and next to the boat, the docking lights have little or no value.

I just have one last comment. Last Sunday my family and I were returning from Boat-In church at Oakwood and we passed an inboard boat going about 10mph but creating a hefty wake. The boat had a teak platform on the back and standing on the teak platform was a small child approximately four years old holding onto a very short rope. Everyone in our boat were dumbfounded to believe that a parent or guardian would allow a four year old to stand on a swim platform while the boat was moving at 10mph. One slip and the propeller would have chewed up the child in a heart beat.

So everyone needs to stop and ask themselves . . . What are the consequences to my actions?

Stay safe on the water . . . The life you save may be your loved one.

The WPOA - David F. Lichtenauer Memorial Scholarship

Established by the Wawasee Property Owner's Association (WPOA) and the Lichtenauer family in memory of David's years of contributions to the association as a director, president and editor of the WPOA newsletter. His visionary leadership and devotion to his beloved Lake Wawasee and the Syracuse Community resulted in the completion of many projects as well as the Syracuse/Wawasee Trail initiative.



Mikala Perzanowski



Mattia Rostochak

Contributions to the scholarship fund may be sent to the WPOA office or the office of the Kosciusko County Community Foundation, 102 E. Market St., Warsaw, IN 46580.

2011 Artist Series — Connections

Do you have “**CONNECTIONS**” yet? **CONNECTIONS** is the title of this year’s Artist Series painting depicting the connection between the lakes of Wawasee and Syracuse under the railroad bridge. Award winning, Wawasee area artist Susie Brandes has captured the beauty of the area between the lakes as well as the movement of the train as it approaches the bridge with a boat passing through one of the openings of the bridge. Any one of us that has made that trip knows the feeling as the trains pass over head just as you go through the narrow opening of the bridge. You can purchase this year’s painting at *The Water Lily Art Gallery* in Syracuse along with the previous year’s prints by Douglas David and Andrea Bojrab. The original framed watercolor is being auctioned again this year by silent auction; it may be seen also at *The Water Lily* where you may register your bid. All proceeds from the sale of the artist series prints are donated to the Syracuse Wawasee Trails initiative.



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WPOA/SLA Breakfast

Seeing old friends and meeting new ones over fresh pancakes topped with pecans, or fruit had to be a great way to start the summer of 2011. Breakfast was provided by The Frog once again with the pancakes cooked right outside the door and delivered nice and hot to a hungry crowd.

After breakfast the patrons enjoyed visiting with representatives of

the Chautauqua group, WACF, and Flotilla committee as well as taking rides in the bucket of the new aerial truck of the township fire department. The view from the top of the outstretched bucket was fantastic!

If you missed this year’s event be sure to make a note to attend next year a great family event to begin your summer.



WPOA Fireworks 2011

What an evening it was for fireworks this year. The day itself was beautiful but as the evening approached it seemed that Mother Nature was a little unhappy with us.

As the allotted hour for the barges to be moved into position got closer so did the storm clouds and wind as we all experienced. From our "lookout" I was able to see that the barges were going nowhere at their usual departure time. Which was a good thing with 57 mile an hour winds to come down the lake they might have ended up in Noble County, certainly they would have been buffeted around and we could have had damage to not only the barges but those that man them also.

The professionals from Melrose Pyrotechnics, the company that we have used for the last 10 years to shoot the fireworks were on top of the weather as was Kerry Rookstool, who along with his crew move and anchor the barges. While they waited out the storm they were keeping track of what was coming behind it and determined with that information that we had a window that was supposed to provide time for the fireworks as well as time for our residents to be able to get on and off the lake safely. It was with that information that they made the decision to move forward and proceed. Unfortunately Mother Nature decided to throw us a curve and while the show was beautiful and went off as planned we were hit once again with rain and lightning.

We were asked by some why we did not reschedule. The provider has a packed schedule for that week and beyond, as well as we would then hear "my company can't come back, (or we had a house full of company to watch the fireworks), we won't be here that weekend . . ." All in all a no win situation for everyone concerned.

As the largest privately funded fireworks show in the state we do our very best to provide not only a top notch show but a safe show for everyone and hope that you all understand that once in a while the weather just does not cooperate . . . next year we all need to do a "NO RAIN" dance and enjoy the show.

Calendar of Events

Boat in Worship — Every Sunday through Labor Day

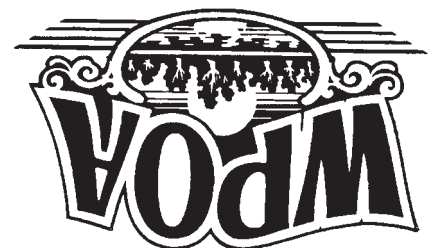
Artisan and Farmers Market — Every Saturday through October 15

August 6 — WPOA Annual Dinner

August 13 — WPOA Board of Directors Meeting

September 10 — WPOA Board of Directors Meeting

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