



INDIAN LAKE UPDATE

FALL 2018

2018 OFFICERS

President – Dale Frymyer
Vice President – Randy Wax
Treasurer – Pat Blinn
Secretary – Brenda Moots

Board Members

2016: Vern Fischer
Russ Speelman
Karl Frederick

2017: Bob Easterday
Ed Mays
Fred Reichert

2018: Sharon DeVault
Pete Gerace

Committee Chairperson

PR/Communications – Randy Wax

Memorial Trees – Dale Frymyer

Parks/Dredging Liaison – Bob

Easterday

ILDC Vounteers – Linda Coil

Membership – Dave Leiter

Legislative – Sharon DeVault

Special Events – Larry Blinn

Park Volunteers – Charlie Strete

Historian – Dave Helgeson

MEETINGS

All are welcome to attend!

Our meetings are held at the

Indian Lake State Park

Campground (depending on

the outside temperature) in the

Commissary or Multi-Purpose

Building the third Wednesday

of every month except

December. Meetings begin at

7:30 pm and last approximately

one hour.

Key Dates to Remember

ILDC Christmas Dinner

December 12

Indian Lake Moose Club

5:30 Happy Hour

6:30 Dinner

\$12 per person.

RSVP by December 1 to

lwblinn@gmail.com or call

937.243.4820.

ILDC Projects (2018 Completed/2019 Planned)

What a year 2018 has been for ILDC!! At the beginning of the year we set some pretty lofty project goals. We were able to complete these projects and much more through the support of our many volunteers and outside companies like Honda Transmission Manufacturing (HTM) and Honda Automotive Manufacturing (HAM). Here is a list of completed projects for this past year:

Honda associates supported four clean-up days at our lake during the spring months. Each clean-up day, approximately 30 Honda associates from Marysville, Anna and Russells Point along with ILDC volunteers, prepared our lake for the upcoming season. Their activities included raking and picking up winter debris along the water's edge, initial setting up the campground pool, stoning the seawall and edging and mulching around memorial trees. According to Indian Lake State Park manager George Sholtis, we accomplished tasks that would not have happened without Honda's support.

Shade shelters were purchased and installed at Oldfield Beach. Our original plan was to raise funds for the North shelter house only. This year we were able to finish raising funds to purchase both the North and South shelters and the state park employees completed the installation in late October. Only the base concrete pad needs poured and hopefully this will be completed before the year end.

The large playground equipment set was installed at the Chippewa boat docks. ILDC has able to provide partial funding along with the Chippewa Neighborhood Association to pay for this structure. State park employees completed the playground equipment installation and a grand opening ceremony is scheduled for the spring of 2019.

ILDC continued to maintain the Indian Lake Memorial Tree Program. This year we planted 30 new trees at various state park locations. In addition to trees the Indian Lake Memorial Tree Program now offers Memorial benches for purchase at a cost of \$1000 each. So far four benches have been installed along the bike path and lake's edge. Edging, spraying and mulching has and will continue around the memorial trees.

One of our key goals in 2019 is to raise funds to replace and/or provide new playground equipment around the lake. We are currently raising money for a new playground at Fox Island. Local residents and other lake visitors requesting this so it has become a project goal. This goal provides a

similar large playground setup as that built in the Chippewa area. This will require more fund raising activity and may not be accomplished in 2019.

Various ILDC volunteers took responsibility for planting and maintaining the landscape around our state park signage and shelter houses. ILDC pays for the plants and products, but it's the volunteers that make signage appealing to Indian Lake visitors.

ILDC volunteers scraped, cleaned and painted the inside of the west bank restrooms. I believe this is the last restroom that needed painted.

Here is what ILDC plans to complete in the 2019 year. If you would like to support any of these projects, please contact us.

- Install and maintain a 9-hole disc golf course at Oldfield Beach
- Install two or more pickleball courts at Oldfield Beach (parking lot)
- Install ADA accessible ramp at Russells Point harbor
- Maintain landscape areas around Indian Lake Parks' signage
- Continue the Indian Lake Memorial Tree program including the installation of memorial benches
- With help from Indian Lake High School students, build more bird houses and install at various park locations
- Continue to raise funds for Fox Island playground equipment

If you think of any other projects we can support that would improve our beautiful Indian Lake State Park, please contact us by phone, our Facebook page, or comment on our website, ILDCohio.org.



Fall Festival Volunteer Recap

by Linda Coil, ILDC Volunteer Coordinator

The 2018 Fall Festival was fantastic! Thanks to all the great ILDC volunteers who helped:

Tim and Kay Andrews, Mac and Tiff Archer, Larry and Pat Blinn, Heather Blinn, Gary Bullock, Cory Cline, Linda Coil, Skip and Sally Dailey, Ted Dyke, Bob Easterday, Gail Falter, Vern and Marj Fischer, Joey Fischer, Karl Frederick, Leslie Frederick, Dale Frymyer, David Goff, Angela Gump, Journey Gump, Bob Hanley, Beth Hardesty, Dave Helgeson, Brian and Brenda Holder, Sara Huffman, Bub and Lynda Jackson, Morris and Phyllis Johnson, Jeff Leiter, Tom and Marty Lentz, Ed and Kathy Leonard, Sharon McSween, Jane Napier, Pat McAtee, Pete Mariotti, Ron and Rozella Orosz, Fred and Kristie Reichert, Jean Ann Richardson, Mark and Carol Savchitz, Bev Sekella, Don and Joyce Shirk, Russ and Sue Speelman, Charlie and Patti Strete, Gene and Susan Tackett, Skyler Tackett, Nathan Thatcher, Don Thompson, Randy and Pat Wax, and Joe Zupardo.

The 50/50 Raffle broke last year's record. Kerri Rodemann of Hilliard, Ohio won \$1,094! She donated \$200 back to ILDC for our future projects. Thank you!

The Indian Lake Memorial Tree and Bench Program

by Dale Frymyer

Since ILDC has taken over and restarted the Indian Lake Memorial Tree Program, we have planted 66 new and replacement trees in the Indian Lake State Park. Just a note, a few years back the state park lost over 500 trees due to the Emerald Ash Borer insect. This year alone ILDC has planted 30 trees (14 in early spring and 16 in late Oct). Honda Transmission Manufacturing (HTM) sponsored seven trees of this total along the South bank in honor of Earth Day. I wish we could share some of the stories (both happy and sad) told by those who sponsor some of these Memorial Trees. A Memorial Tree can be purchased for \$250, which includes the tree and stainless steel laser etched plaque. The order form is available at the State Park office, at Choice Properties Real Estate and on-line at www.ILDCohio.org.

Last year ILDC members helped with the installation of a memorial bench along the West bank bike path. After receiving several requests this year, ILDC now offers a Memorial Bench, which includes a 6' composite bench mounted on a concrete pad with a memorial plaque at a cost of \$1,000 each. A total of four benches were installed this past year at locations like Pew Island, Paradise Island, and along the South bank. Please check them out. You can find the Memorial Bench order form at www.ILDCohio.org.

Indian Lake State Park UPDATE

by George Sholtis, Indian Lake State Park Manager



What a great season! Great crowds, great weather, great staff and great volunteers all contributed to another successful summer. Frequent rains did not stop folks from enjoying the awesome resource that is Indian Lake. As our seasonal staff begins their journey to college, high school, or winter jobs, the full-time staff will remain in high gear to complete a variety of tasks and projects. Here are some good things happening:

- Picnic Shade Structures are nearly complete at Old Field Beach.
- New Archery range to be installed at the Moundwood boat ramp area behind the Logan County Recycling Center location.
- The parking lots at Old Field Beach and Fox Island will be sealed and re-stripped.
- The 9-hole disc golf course will be installed at Old Field Beach Picnic Area.
- Improvements to the restrooms in the campgrounds will continue with the installation of new flooring and windows.
- An ADA-accessible ramp and dock in Russells Point is funded and will be installed prior to the start of the 2019 season.
- There is a new partnership with the Indian Lake Historical Society. The park and the Indian Lake Historical Society will complete a clean up of the Indian Mound located near Moundwood. Tree removal and fresh signage will be added. Did you know the Indian Mound located there is on the National Historic Register?
- Funding has been approved to construct a new home for the maintenance and officer staff. They will share a facility at the old office location. Construction is scheduled for 2020.
- Hazardous tree removal at various locations. The invasive Emerald Ash Borer insect has made this an annual project for years. The good news is most of these trees have been removed and only a few hazardous trees are on our list.
- Construction of a new DMRA will commence soon. Located on private land in the northeast end of the lake, this DMRA will allow us to dredge areas that have not been dredged in many years.
- The Chief dredge will be winterized soon. The Scout is still working in the state park channels and will continue, weather permitting.
- Bids have been published for the sale of the old Indian dredge and the crane. They should be gone by Spring.
- Dredge crews will be working on over hanging tree removal from some areas of the lake in hopes of less logs floating around during high water events.

Fall is a time when I reflect on the ending season, count my blessings and plan for the future. One of the blessings of this park is the variety of the experiences you can have here. One visit, you may be standing shoulder to shoulder with thousands of people watching one of the best fireworks displays in Ohio while on another visit, you may be fishing only yards from a state route and easy parking, dining at one of many waterfront restaurants, skiing, or listening to live music. With a quick turn of the wheel or rudder and you can be on a quiet trail or deep in a navigable wetland feeling a million miles away from anyone. Bald eagles, herons, ducks, deer and geese are your neighbors there.

Membership News

ILDC finished up the 2018 membership year with approximately 635 members, a considerable increase of 90 members over last year's record total! We have set our membership target for 2019 at 700 members. I believe our membership will continue to grow as local residents and visitors are able to see our many accomplishments from one year to the next. *(Continued on next page)*



The Chief, the dredge that arrived two years ago at Indian Lake.

(Photo: PeakOfOhio.Com)

Dredging Up History, Again! (Part 2)

The Ohio Division of Wildlife contacted Ohio Parks in the early 1980's about a partnership project at Indian Lake called the Prairie Wall Project. The Prairie Wall is the long dike created through past dredging located south of Acheson's Resort and east of Turkeyfoot in the open lake. I have no idea when it was created and why it is called the Prairie Wall. If anyone knows, please let us know!

Ohio Wildlife's proposal was to create a wetland area behind the Prairie Wall through dredging. Wetlands enhance waterfowl, fish and water-loving animal habitat. They also improve water quality by filtering sediment and pollutants. The project entailed dredging additional three dikes behind the Wall with a clamshell dredge creating a large dredge disposal area. The large 14" Ellicott suction dredge then pumped bottom material from the Game Reserve into the large Prairie Wall area. The idea was to leave a shallow wetland area for ducks, heron, egrets, shore birds, muskrat, beaver and other water species while also improving boating access to the Game Reserve area.

The Prairie Wall Project was very successful not only for providing excellent wildlife habitat but also for increasing fishing opportunities and scenic pleasure boating.

The amount of sediment entering Indian Lake from its watershed has decreased through the creative process of dredging deep silt traps where the tributaries enter the lake. This was first done at

the entrance to Moundwood channel (South Fork of the Great Miami River) around 1990. A large 20' deep area was dredged in this area. The idea is to catch sediment moving down the channel before it can reach the main lake. Sediment traps have been very successful. The Moundwood trap has filled up to the point where it has been dredged out twice since its origin. Additional silt traps have been created at the North Fork entrance near O'Connor's and in the Blackhawk area where Van Horn's Creek enters Indian Lake. In fact, the trap at Blackhawk was cleaned out through dredging this past summer.

Dredging at Indian Lake cannot be done without first obtaining permits for each area to be dredged from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer. The idea behind the permit process is to ensure there is no negative environmental impact during dredging operations. Dredging plans are submitted to the Corps by Division of Parks planners. The plans are reviewed by several state and federal agencies including EPA, Fish and Wildlife, Register of Historical Places, etc. Dredging and the creation of dredge material relocation areas (DMRAs) cannot disturb areas of historical significance. The DMRAs must be constructed so the discharged water back to the lake is of good quality. Fish and wildlife habitat cannot be destroyed. In water DMRA dikes must be protected, usually through rock rip rap, to prevent the walls from washing back into the lake. DMRAs constructed upland from the lake are preferred. These are just a few of the concerns reviewed. The permit process can take several months.

Membership News (Continued from previous page)

There will be an increase in family membership dues from \$10 to \$15 starting this 2019 membership year. We are also deleting the business membership. This is the first increase in dues since the origination of ILDC back in 1983! This increase in membership dues will allow ILDC to take on more projects at the Indian Lake State Park around our beautiful Indian Lake. Note: If you have your membership paid through automatic banking deduction, you will have to increase the amount to \$15 to cover the new dues.

The 2019 membership application form is attached with this newsletter, so please sign up and if you wish, make an additional donation to help with our upcoming projects (see article on page 1).

by Dave Helgeson, former Park Manager and former ILDC President



Five Surprising Benefits Of Volunteering

By Mark Horoszowski, Next Avenue Contributor

(This article previously appeared on MovingWorlds.org.)

The power of volunteering has been documented for the last 2,500+ years, however a slew of recent research is shedding even more light onto its surprising benefits. Science now proves what great leaders and philosophers have known for years:

"One of the great ironies of life is this: He or she who serves almost always benefits more than he or she who is served." - Gordon Hinckle

Here are five surprising benefits of volunteering:

1. Volunteering time makes you feel like you have more time. Wharton professor Cassie Mogilner wrote in the Harvard Business Review that her research found those who volunteer their time feel like they have more of it. This is similar to other research showing that people who donate to charity feel wealthier.

Said Mogilner: "The results show that giving your time to others can make you feel more 'time affluent' and less time-constrained than wasting your time, spending it on yourself, or even getting a windfall of free time."

2. **Volunteering your skills helps you develop new skills.** In my experience, skills-based volunteering is an excellent opportunity to develop talents to help you get ahead in your career. In fact, an article in Stanford Social Innovation Review called skills-based volunteering overseas "the next executive training ground."

At MovingWorlds, we've found that skills development in technical and leadership-related areas is the primary reason corporations invest in international skills-based volunteering programs.



3. **Volunteering your body helps you have a healthier body.** A Corporation for National & Community Service report noted: "Research demonstrates that volunteering leads to better health... those who volunteer have lower

mortality rates, greater functional ability, and lower rates of depression later in life than those who do not volunteer."

The fact that volunteering has been proven to make you healthier is reason enough to engage in pro bono activities. For more information on this, read "Can Volunteering Lower Your Risk of Heart Disease?"

"I attended an ILDC meeting as a guest. I did not know that there were so many volunteer opportunities available. You have 827 Facebook followers. If I lived in the area, I would volunteer. I wonder if donors think that by donating the money they are doing their part when they could be doing even more by volunteering, even just an hour of their time?"

—Alexis Tess

4. **Volunteering your experience helps build your experience.** We consistently see this with highly skilled professionals like investment bankers and business consultants. Also, volunteering in a new industry will give you knowledge to help you switch fields. And if you want to move from the corporate world to the non-profit sector, volunteering first can help prove your commitment.

Beyond our own research, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and Next Avenue have published articles about how volunteering can help you earn your next job.

As the Journal wrote: "According to the survey of 202 human-resource executives, skilled volunteer work — such as helping a nonprofit with its finances — makes job applicants look more appealing to hiring manager."

5. **Volunteering your love makes you feel more love.** Admittedly, love is a hard thing to measure. But when researchers at the London School of Economics examined the relationship between volunteering and measures of happiness, they found the more people volunteered, the happier they were. Volunteering builds empathy, strengthens social bonds and makes you smile — all factors that increase the feeling of love.

So how can you get started volunteering? It's remarkably easy. Post your intentions on Facebook and/or LinkedIn to get connected to an organization in your network (such as ILDC!).

Mark Horoszowski is a Next Avenue contributor and the co-founder and CEO of MovingWorlds.org.

