



INDIAN LAKE UPDATE

FALL 2019

2019 OFFICERS

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

Board Members

2017: Bob Easterday
Fred Reichert
2018: Sharon DeVault
Pete Gerace
2019: Pete Lowe
Nathan Thatcher

Committee Chairperson

PR/ Communications – Randy Wax
Memorial Trees – Dale Frymyer
Parks/ Dredging Liaison – Bob Easterday
ILDC Volunteers – Linda Coil
Membership – Dave Leiter
Special Events – Larry Blinn
Park Volunteers – Open
Historian – Dave Helgeson

MEETINGS

All are welcome to attend!
Our meetings are held at the Indian Lake State Park Campground in the 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

Maple Syrup Festival
March 14-15, 2020
(See Page 4)

Fall Festival
September 25-27, 2020

Look What ILDC Accomplished in 2019!

We realize that while we have 625+ members, not all members know what we've been up to between newsletters. This Update is intended to help keep you informed on how your 2019 \$15 annual dues were used, what our fundraising activities have accomplished, and how our volunteers have worked to improve the Indian Lake State Park (which encompasses the entire lake!). Since 1983, our mission has been to assist the Indian Lake State Park manager for a better Indian Lake!

So just what has ILDC accomplished in this past year? How about:

- Two new shade shelters at Old Field Beach were completed including the concrete pads and walkways.
- ILDC became sole sponsor of the Maple Syrup and Pancake Festival in 2019. Volunteers expanded the event to include improvements to the sugar shack and displays, added vendors, Christian puppet show and more.
- Installed and maintained a 9-hole Disc golf course at Old Field Beach. The course has tee boxes for novice and expert players.
- Installed an ADA handicap ramp and dock at the Russells Point harbor. Local residents provided the funding through ILDC and ILDC volunteers did the installation.
- Volunteers manned the ILDC information display at the boat show in March, the Cowsills' 50 year ILHS celebration, and Honda Transmission's Earth Day activities to explain our mission and goals.
- ILDC volunteers painted the multi-purpose building interior during United Way Community Care Day. ILDC volunteers replaced several damaged sections on wood ship playground equipment at the Moundwood area.
- In the spring, on two occasions, HondaGo volunteers (25+) along with ILDC volunteers cleaned shoreline debris, placed stone along washed out dock seawall, mulched around memorial trees, replaced sand on playgrounds in campgrounds and painted restrooms.
- ILDC volunteers landscaped, planted flowers and bushes and maintained the flower beds around park signage. Two more sign locations (Chippewa and Pew Island) were added to this volunteer opportunity.
- The memorial tree and bench program added and/or replaced 23 trees and added five new benches. Kicked off new Fox Island inclusive playground project. This playground will include equipment for children of all capabilities. Currently writing grant applications to support funding efforts. State considering budget item that will provide funding for a new restroom there.

- Project team met with landscape architect to discuss designs for new gateway "Welcome to Indian Lake" at Lakeview Harbor (Southwest corner).

What to expect from ILDC in 2020?

- Continue to expand the Maple Syrup and Pancake Festival. New equipment will be added to the sugar shack that will make real maple syrup to sample. More vendors will be added. More fun for all.
- Continue to display ILDC information boards at local shows to explain how ILDC volunteers and fundraising are working to make Indian Lake a better place to live and play.
- Maintain disc golf course which includes having a sponsor for all hole signage.
- Possibility of a new ADA dock modification at Lakeview Harbor.
- Continue to landscape and maintain the flower beds around state park signage. Add more locations as requested.
- Continue the Indian Lake Memorial Tree/Bench Program.
- Continue to design/plan and raise funds, including grant applications, for Fox Island inclusive playground. **This project is HUGE! We need HELP!** Your help would be appreciated.
- Continue to design/plan and raise funds for the Indian Lake gateway sign.

Other suggested projects will be considered, if volunteers are available.



Fall Festival Volunteer Recap

by Linda Coil, ILDC Volunteer Coordinator

This fall we saw another great Fall Festival at the Indian Lake State Park campgrounds. Rather than ILDC running the food tent, we chose to have a Schmidt's Sausage Haus food truck take our place! The truck was well received and everyone enjoyed their brats and famous cream puffs! In addition, ILDC made more money using Schmidt's than when we ran our own food tent.

Another record was broken with the money raised in the 50/50 raffle. We took in \$3,050.00 with \$1,525 going to Vanessa Schwartz of Celina.

Thanks to all the volunteers who worked the ticket sales and the archery. The volunteers included Pat and Larry Blinn, Heather Blinn, Skip and Sally Dailey, Diane Frank, Dale and Terri Frymyer, Dave and Sandy Helgeson, Jo Hickman, Deb Innis, Jeff Leiter, Ed and Kathy Leonard, Pete Mariotti, Pat and Susan McAtee, Ron and Rozella Orosz, Mark and Carol Savchitz, Nathan Thatcher, Don Thompson, and Joe Zuppardo.

Thank you also to Fred Reichert. He supplied our new ILDC Volunteer tee shirts. The shirts added a team image for our volunteers.

The Indian Lake Memorial Tree and Bench Program

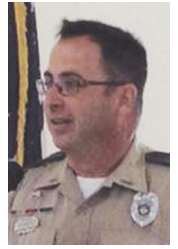
by Dale Frymyer

The Indian Lake Memorial Tree/Bench Program had another successful year. ILDC added another 23 trees and five benches to the program. The ILDC goal still exists to edge, spray and mulch around each memorial tree as time and funds are available. If you are interested in supporting this cause come next spring, please let us know as we will be targeting the West and South bank. The Honda-Go volunteers supported ILDC again by mulching around many of the Moundwood memorial trees earlier this past spring. A memorial tree can be purchased for \$250, which includes the tree and stainless steel laser etched plaque. A memorial bench can be purchased for \$1000, which includes a 6 ft composite bench mounted on a concrete pad with a memorial plaque. Memorial Tree and Bench order forms are available at the Indian Lake State Park office, Choice Properites Real Estate office in Russells Point, The Depot in Lakeview or online at www.ILDCohio.org.



Indian Lake State Park UPDATE

by George Sholtis, Indian Lake State Park Manager



Summer 2019 is in the books! The 2019 chapter started wet and rainy but soon turned dry and warm. Camping occupancy was up and day use crowds as large as ever.

Great things continue to happen at Indian Lake. Most notable is an increase in our annual operating budget. Statewide the Division of Parks and Watercraft received a budget increase of nearly \$15 million over the 2-year budget period. In 30 years of service to our parks I have never witnessed an increase like this. The support is appreciated and will be put to good use. Indian Lake's share includes:

- Addition of one full time maintenance position and one part time camp coordinator.
- Bike path repairs. Includes repaving 1.25 miles and the resurfacing of an additional 1.25 miles. Spring 2020, \$98,000
- Moundwood marina seawall repairs. Spring 2020, \$100,000
- Camp restroom repairs, B area. Underway, \$25,000
- New tractor. \$29,000

Indian Lake also appreciates the support of the ILDC. This year a new disc golf course can be added to their long list of accomplishments. The next project is their most ambitious ever. The Fox Island Inclusive Playground is being designed to accommodate all children including those with physical or developmental challenges. Enthusiasm is high and the project is in the early stages. You can help! Stay tuned for future opportunities to support this great addition to Indian Lake.

Although the heat is gone there's no reason to stay home! There is lots to do here all winter long. Take a walk, hunt, fish, bird watch, dog park, camp, jog, you can even fly a kite in the winter. Regular activity is good for the mind and body. While you are here know that the staff is quietly working, maintaining equipment, making repairs and planning for next season. Best Regards.

Membership News

ILDC finished up the 2019 membership year with approximately 635 members, a considerable increase of 90 members over last year's record total! We had set our membership target for 2019 at 700 members, which we missed by just 65 members 😞. Maybe in 2020! I believe our membership will continue to grow as local residents and visitors are able to see the many accomplishments ILDC has from one year to the next.

Just a reminder that ILDC increased last year to \$15. 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 2020 membership application form is attached with this newsletter, so please rejoin and if you wish, make an additional donation to help with our upcoming projects (see article on page 1).





A Glance Back: The ILDC Presidents

At a recent ILDC meeting the membership unanimously voted to install a bench at Russells Point Harbor honoring those that have served ILDC as President over the last 36 years. Since there are just a few of us around that have been with ILDC from the beginning I thought I would take this opportunity to tell you about our past leaders.

Jim Reed, owner and operator with his dad, Bill, of Spend-a-Day Marina. Jim was our first President. It was his idea

to create the Indian Lake Development Corporation out of the newly formed Indian Lake State Park advisory committee (started by yours truly). The idea was not only to get the community involved in State Park projects and programs but to draw the attention of State Government, especially ODNR (Ohio Department on Natural Resources) to the major equipment and capital improvement needs of the park. ILDC's initial thrust was improving dredging operations. Through Jim's leadership and several trips to Columbus, dredging came into focus with the folks from the capital city and some major dredging equipment was acquired.

Next was **Jim Tynan**, a reporter and writer for the *Bellefontaine Examiner* and resident of Orchard Island. Through Jim's association with Logan County's only major news source, the story of Indian Lake's importance to the economy of the area as a major tourist destination was spread far and wide. Indian Lake finally was getting the attention of those folks in Bellefontaine who only knew of Indian Lake as the previous location of an amusement

park. Jim made sure they they knew we had much more to offer.

Freda Taylor, CEO of Gillespie Oil Company and resident of the Indian Isles took a turn next. Freda was truly a Logan County and Indian Lake icon. She was way ahead of her time as a female CEO in a man's world. Her contributions to organizations and individuals in need were numerous. She was active in many boards - educational, medical and historical. For many years Freda

hosted ILDC's annual Dredge Day at her waterfront home on Shawnee Island, and what a fabulous host she was!

Although not a full time resident of Indian Lake, **Richard "Dick" Tillman** and his wife Carol from Marysville as well as Holiday Shore neighbors Pat and Larry Blinn thought well enough of Indian Lake that they wanted to make a positive impact on the lake and park. Through leading by example they took a leadership role in ILDC - of special note was their organization and planning of the ILDC food booth at the Fall Festival, our major fundraiser.

J.P. Haber, resident of Edgewater Drive, Moundwood, and Human Resources, Westinghouse Corporation, J.P. drew attention to the need for dredging in the South Fork tributary of Indian Lake. The result being the cleaning out of this channel where the river enters Indian Lake and the creation of a silt trap at the end of Moundwood Channel to capture the sediment before it enters the lake. J.P. was

(Continued on next page)

Glance Back (Cont. from prev. page)

also a leader of our playground construction crew in the days when we built playgrounds for the park.

Cliff Hoenie, "Navy Man" and resident of Seminole Island. You always knew where you stood with Cliff, ever one to speak his piece but in a good fun loving way. Cliff was not only president of ILDC, but was on the ground floor of the Indian Lake Watershed Project, as was Freda Taylor and J.P. Haber. A common thread of our past presidents is their active role in many Indian Lake volunteer organizations. Cliff lived across the channel from Pew Island, ever vigilant to make sure that that part of Indian Lake got the attention it needed. During Cliff's tenure the Indian Lake tree memorial program took hold and became very popular with lake residents

Dave Leiter, the "mayor" of Long Island and having the longest tenure by far of any ILDC president. Dave has been around from the beginning of ILDC. Not only as past president but also in charge of membership and still is! Dave has seen the development of Old Field Beach, modern park restrooms, and bike path; the stocking of saugeye; construction of park benches and playgrounds; ILDC fundraising; hosting statewide campouts for park volunteers; and trips to Columbus to spread our message - just to name a few. He has played a

major role in all this.

Dave Helgeson, Indian Lake State Park Manager 1982-2002. Once Dave Leiter finally said enough is enough, I took over the saddle for two years.

Dale Frymyer, resident of Avondale and retired Welding Engineer Honda of America. ILDC, Food Pantry, Indian Lake Historical Society, Habitat for Humanity, Honda Volunteers - these are just the organizations that I know Dale volunteers his time for. As President of ILDC his priority has been to create an active can do membership. In this light he has volunteers that plant flowers and landscape every State Park entrance area. His team of Honda Go employees have volunteered their time to clean up park areas, trimmed trees, hauled and placed mulch and general landscaping. Through Dale's leadership, we have used ILDC funds and donations to build picnic shelters and playgrounds, construct a Disc golf course, install handicap access to Russells Point Harbor and improve the community building in the campground.

In the next issue of the newsletter, I will tell you about some members who have taken their time to do some special things for Indian Lake State

Mark your calendar!



Saturday, March 14
8:00am–2:00pm

Sunday, March 15
8:00am–1:00pm

Indian Lake State Park
Campground

To order tickets, view activities, view sponsors, get more information and more, visit ILDCohio.org!
(after January 15th, 2020)