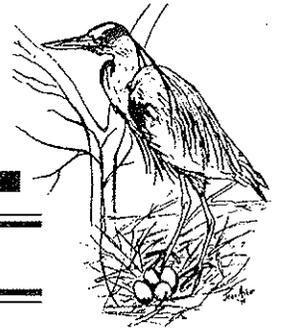


SMOKE SIGNAL



INDIAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

President's Message

Mark Rumreich

2002 was an exceptionally busy year for the board so there will be a lot of material to cover at the annual meeting in January. I'd like to use this president's message to give a preview of subjects important to everybody - the financials. I'll break this into two parts: upcoming additional expenses and more income.

Upcoming Additional Expenses

In addition to our normal expenses to maintain our lake and property, we're planning for additional expenses in three areas: insurance, more dredge discharge pipe and spillway repair fund.

Insurance

The past year we saw huge increases in our insurance premiums. The largest component of our insurance, general liability, just about doubled. Our annual insurance premiums have now risen to \$15k.

This is not unique to Indian Lake. We've called other neighborhood associations and they've been hit just as hard. We've searched for cheaper carriers and none are to be found.

The board is now reviewing all our deductibles and limits and will trim any excess.

More dredge discharge pipe

When we bought the dredge, we bought only enough discharge pipe to allow dredging Papoose and the far eastern end of the lake. Now we're ready to start dredging further into the main body of the lake. To do that, we need to purchase 1000' of discharge pipe and floats at a cost of approximately \$10k.

Without this purchase, there will be no productive dredging next summer.

Spillway repair fund

The last spillway repair was performed in 1976 at a cost of \$16k. This repair has lasted twenty-six years, but now we have deteriorating concrete on the four spillway wings. DNR performed a dam and spillway inspection this fall, noting the need for repair and citing the need to bring our spillway up to current standards. Afterward, the DNR provided a list of engineering firms qualified for this kind of project.

Two of the firms were asked to inspect the spillway. They provided preliminary estimates ranging from \$50k to over \$350k. As we do not have a budget for even the lesser amount, the board voted to create a spillway repair cumulative fund in the amount of \$10k per year.

More Income

At last year's annual meeting, a number of suggestions for generating additional income were made. The board spent a great deal of time and effort investigating each of them.

Extended membership

Extending permanent membership to nearby residents would generate additional assessment income as well as initiation fees. To study this proposal, the extended membership committee did a market research study.

Attractive brochures showing the benefits of Indian Lake membership were mailed to fifteen selected households. Follow-up phone interviews were made to each home to judge the level of interest. Initial interest was high, but once details of assessments and initiation fees were explained, less than ten percent of households felt they would join.

As only forty or so households would be eligible for extended membership, we could only expect 3-4 households to actually join the association. The board felt that the efforts to iron out the legal details of the plan and achieve the necessary 75% approval by the association was not justified.

Develop lots in section J

This was another idea to come out of last year's annual meeting. The late Joseph Ballinger spent a great deal of time and effort designing lot plans and working with realtors, the city and others to scope this out. The board is most grateful for his efforts.

As a result of this investigation, the board realized the large potential value of section J. The board also became

aware of the unpopularity of developing section J by many of the association members and realized that achieving the necessary 75% approval would not be possible. Accordingly, this proposal was tabled.

Sell a portion of Tonkawa Trail

Tonkawa Trail is between lots 122 and 123. There has been talk of selling all or part of this trail to the adjacent property owners for many years, but terms agreeable to the Association and both adjacent property owners could not be reached. After considerable study and negotiation, the board is satisfied that a good solution has finally been found, and asks for the approval of the Association. If approved, this will provide substantial income to the Association, but just as importantly, it makes good sense from a property standpoint.

All Association members will soon be receiving a more detailed explanation of the terms of the proposed agreement, as part of their annual meeting package. Board members will be visiting each home to answer your questions and obtain your proxy cards.

Bid outside dredging projects

Every stream-fed lake in Central Indiana will eventually need to be dredged. We have been putting the word out that we will bid suitable jobs. We have already looked at two possible projects.

The board understands the importance of a good match - the project must be close to home, the material must be appropriate for our equipment, there must be a suitable spoils area, etc. The board also understands that to take on an outside job would dramatically increase the cost and complexity of our insurance, taxes, bookkeeping and administration.

But with the right job, these factors could be justified. The board will continue looking for suitable outside dredging projects.

Sedimentation reimbursement from developers

Last fall, we negotiated \$2,400 from the Bradford Group for dredging reimbursement, in a rezoning petition. We received that money in spring 2002.

This year, we expanded our rezoning notification boundaries to include the entire Indian Lake watershed. When a large development within our watershed is planned, we contact the developer requesting that they commit to reimburse our

anticipated dredging expenses resulting from that development. When refused, we remonstrate at the rezoning hearing with photos showing sediment leaving their other job sites.

At the most recent case, Crossmann Communities at 46th & German Church, we convinced 3 of 8 members of the Metropolitan Development Commission to deny solely on the basis of our argument. Although we did not prevail, our argument was shown to have merit and we will continue to employ and refine this strategy.

Stormwater utility

This summer, you probably received a bill you hadn't seen before - the Marion County Stormwater Utility bill. The Stormwater Utility was created to fund projects related to stormwater. Lawrence was originally going to have its own program, but eventually joined the Marion County program under the stipulation that it would get its fair share of the money. A quick look at the projects list showed that this hadn't happened - Lawrence was being shortchanged.

We are working with Councilor Curt Coonrod to remedy this situation and submit a project to bring the Indian Lake spillway up to current standards. (This could also cover many of our spillway repair costs.) Because our dam helps prevent downstream flooding (and because of the shortage of Lawrence projects), this project could become a reality.

The bottom line

When current income can't pay for necessary expenses, the only option is raising assessments. The board understands the hardship that higher assessments cause for all households, especially those on a fixed income. The board also understands its primary responsibility - maintaining our lake, dam and property.

By voting to approve the sale of a portion of Tonkawa Trail, assessment increases will be held to approximately 17%. Without this sale, assessments would need to increase considerably more. Much of the needed increase is due to saving for the spillway repair. This hurts now, but without planning, would hurt much more in the future.

Indian Lake Directory Update:

We are in the process of updating the Indian Lake Telephone and Address Directory for the 2003 edition. If you have not been contacted by someone from the Civic Committee, please contact Ruth Peters Norrington at 826-7634. We need to have your current address, telephone number, lot number and children for the listing. We are also taking a limited number of advertisements for the directory. If you would like to advertise in the directory, please contact Ruth Peters. The cost is \$35. for a cover ad and \$25. for the inside pages. We will need your print advertisement by the end of December. The new books will be available at the Annual Meeting.

Recycling Facts

Did you know?

Indian Lake has one of the highest Lawrence Curbside Recycling program participation rates. (about 50%) With the current 30-40% citywide participation rates, the recycling program breaks even. Once participation exceeds 50%, the program turns a profit, lowering utility costs for everyone. This is one more reason to step up recycling. If you had to pick only one item to recycle, it would be newspapers. If you're not currently doing so, start today! Free plastic bags are available at Fire Station #4 at 59th and Lee Road.

The Lawrence Community has received a grant to increase participation in the recycling efforts. This grant will provide a quarterly newsletter, which will be distributed by the Indian Lake Civic Committee along with our quarterly Smoke Signal. It will also provide for calendars and bags to be kept by residents on the lake. You can now contact Ruth Peters Norrington at 826-7634 if you need additional recycling bags and a calendar. The bags can be delivered to you, thus making it easier for those who can't get to the Lawrence offices or the Fire Station.

Lighting Up Indian Lake

We will once again be lighting the streets of Indian Lake with Luminaries on Saturday, December 21st beginning at 5pm. (Rain date is Sunday, December 22nd) In preparation for this, we will be gathering on **Friday, December 20th at 6:00pm at Valerie Canfield's home, 10421 Indian Lake Blvd., North Dr. for a Pizza Party.** At this time we will be filling the 400 luminaries bags with sand and candles so that on Saturday, volunteers for various areas around the lake can be responsible for placing the bags and lighting the candles throughout the neighborhoods. This placing of the bags on Saturday will begin at 3:00pm. We need the help of many residents to assure that the lake is completely lit by 5:00pm. Please plan to join us on Friday and/or Saturday. Finally, we would appreciate it if all residents could please dispose of the bags following the event so that the bags are not left to blow away.

Monte Carlo Night

Mark your calendars and get your money ready to join in a Indian Lake gambling tradition. Monte Carlo Night will be held on Saturday, February 22nd, 2003 at the Indian Lake Country Club. Monte Carlo night is a time to join with your friends and neighbors to play Texas Poker, Black Jack, Over/Under and Chug of Luck. In addition, there will be an Auction later in the evening.

Monte Carlo is the main fundraiser that we use every two years to bring in money to support the activities of the Civic Committee. The Civic Committee engages in activities and efforts for the betterment of the community. Our fundraising efforts have helped to replace the picnic table at the beaches and parks this past summer and to add the adjustable basketball hoop at the park. We also use funds for the flowers at the entrances to Indian Lake and for the various neighborhood activities.

We are in need of items for the Auction. If you have an item, a craft, a gift certificate, or a talent that we may be able to auction, please call Ruth at 826-7634.

HISTORY OF INDIAN LAKE PART V . For many years whites and Indians had been murdering each other in the dense isolation of the forests where they thought there would be little chance at reprisal. Because of this harsh reality Elishia Reddick, the first white settler in the Indian Lake region couldn't just load his family on a wagon, round up his stock, and then search through the dense forest which covered this region until he found a place he thought was suitable for permanent settlement. Before he could move into the area he had to visit the Indians who occupied the ~~Yes~~ where we now live and gain their tacit approval for him to settle in the area . As was customary in dealing with Indians he would have brought gifts to please their leaders and their squaws. He would have spent many hours sitting around a camp fire deliberating with the Indians and convincing them he would be a good neighbor. Decent white settlers near an Indian village actually offered them a form of protection from rogue whites. In return the Indians could have shown Elishia Reddick the type of sights he wanted to settle on. Both sides had to be sure the trap lines which they used to catch fur bearing animals which were a form of wealth would not overlap. These sessions would have been long and marked by periods of silence in which each side evaluated the other, and which allowed anyone who didn't like what was being proposed to express himself. It was also common for the new comer to prove himself in competitions with the villages strongest member, fastest runner, most skilled marksman, and best tomahawk thrower, so both sides could evaluate each others skills. These competitions were critical in winning the Indians respect .

Out of courtesy Elishia Reddick would have needed to visit all three Indian settlements in the region and repeat this process in each one of them. Then and only then would he have been shown a selection of sights that both he and the Indians found mutually acceptable. He probably could not have attempted this alone, but his party should not have been so large that it alarmed the Indians. After he selected a sight he would have had to return to all three villages and sit through more pow wos to be certain everyone agreed to his proposal. Many whites found this process so frustrating they simply attacked the Indians with force and performed a little " ethnic cleansing " to shorten the process. This usually led to retaliation and a lot of people dying on both sides.

After the above ground work had been completed Elisha Reddick went back to Clermont County Ohio to pick up his wife Elizabeth Johnson Reddick, his farm tools, weapons, live stock, and a wagon loaded up with household goods and other things which he would need to survive life in the isolation of the forest.

He was twenty-five years old, had been married two years, was prosperous by the standards of his time, ambitious, confident, and apparently had the trust and support of his wife who was leaving an established home and family contacts to move into the dangerous and isolated area which surrounded the Indian Lake region in 1823.

Elisha Reddick made the difficult trip to the new state capitol where he found a few cabins and a winding path through the forest strewn with stumps higher than his wagon bed. Finally he arrived at Millersville, near the present junction of Fall Creek Road and Emerson Way. This was the jumping off place. He had to cut and clear his way through four miles of thick forest to reach the sight he had selected . He would have avoided the low ground which in his words "abounded in bayous, and swamps, and dense thickets, into which it was almost impossible to penetrate." In 1823 that probably was a good description of the land which the waters of Indian Lake now cover.

Elisha Riddick arrived at his sight on October 23, 1823. His wife must have breathed a sigh of relief when the wagons' wheels stopped turning. After looking around in the gloom of the forest she may have wondered what she had gotten herself into. They had arrived at a spot I think was near the Duck Pond opposite Fort Harrison golf course and near the present Fall Creek Valley Middle School.

Elisha Reddick went to work cutting and stripping logs for his cabin. In November he asked Chief Big Otter Skin in the village on Indian Creek if he would send help to erect his cabin. The chief agreed to send help. On the appointed day three squaws rode up to the sight Elishia Reddick had selected for his cabin. Erecting wig wams to live in was considered squaw work by the Indians. Mr. Reddick had the squaws help his wife prepare dinner. They did and remained until evening. A seventeen year old boy named Charles Johnson who had helped him move into the township and three men who were in the area prospecting for locations of their own then helped Elisha Reddick erect his cabin. It was finished in two days.

Cash was very hard to come by on the frontier. Coon skins were worth 25¢ a piece. For quite some time Elisha Reddick worked on his farm all day and then hunted raccoons nearly every night. He frequently had three or four skins stretched by breakfast. Raccoon skins went a long way toward paying for Elisha Reddicks' farm. He apparently did more than catch raccoons at night because he fathered 14 children. Six of his children died while infants. His first son James came with the family from Ohio. Then his wife had twins, William and John, which were the first white children born in Lawrence Township.

Elishia Reddick lived in harmony with the Indians, but a short distance up Fall Creek just below Pendelton the situation was much different. Three Indian families near the end of the fur trapping season were approached by white men who despised Indians. The white men asked the Indian men to help them round up some horses they claimed had run off into the woods. As planned they shot the Indian men in the back and killed them. Then they returned to the Indian encampment and murdered all of the women and children of the three families in hideous ways. When they were done they stole the Indians furs.

The Indians in this region were outraged and many were prepared to conduct raids on white settlers in revenge. Men like Elishia Reddick promised the Indians the guilty men would be rounded up and punished if they didn't go on the war path. Cooler heads prevailed and the Indians agreed to hold back knowing raids would only lead to their own total destruction in the end.

The murderers were tracked down and brought to trial at Nobelsville. They were found guilty of murder. It was the first time in the United States that whites had ever been convicted for killing Indians. The men were hung from the back of a wagon which had been placed on a slope and fixed so it would run out from under the mens' feet after the noose was around their necks. A young boy had been involved in the murders. The governor of the state waited nearby and made a dramatic show just as the boy was about to be hung. He rode up on a horse and commuted the boys' death sentence. The man who had planned the murders and had led the group escaped. He went to Ohio and was never caught. The Indians had remained pacified for a year before the trial was completed. Shortly thereafter all Indians were removed from this area. The Indians were marched west along a line between what is now 75th and 79th streets. Many did not survive the ordeal of removal. Very little effort was made to protect the young, the elderly, the sick, or the weak from dying during the long march.. This was part of the Indians reward for the patience and restraint they had shown when the murderers were being tried. It was one of the last stains on what had been a concerted effort to get rid of Indians east of the Mississippi so their lands could be sold for profit by private land companies and the government. A few people protested the way the Indians were being treated. Most settlers were glad to see the Indians gone. They thought it was part of their manifest destiny to convert the forests into farmland and cities.

A few Miami Indians were allowed to remain on reservations in the northern part of the state on land awarded them by treaty. With the Indians gone land around Indian Lake was wide open for development. Settlers poured in. More about the settlers next time. John R., Repass



Events for Our Community

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Indian Lake Country
Club Trophy Room

(first Wednesday night of each month)

CIVIC COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Mon., Jan. 27, 2003

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Jane Ann Kopitzke's

INDIAN LAKE ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Mon., Jan. 20, 2003

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Jenn-Aire Park

CHRISTMAS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Reservations still being accepted

Date: Sun., Dec. 8, 2002

Time: Begin at 6:00 PM

Locations: Karnak's, Peck's, Crouch's
\$3 per person, bring a side dish and BYOB
Contact Valerie Canfield 823-1825

LUMINAIRES PREPARATION NIGHT

Date: Fri., Dec. 20, 2002

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Canfield's

MONTE CARLO NIGHT

Date: Sat., Feb. 22, 2003

Location: Indian Lake Country Club