

Calendar of Events

Mark Your Calendars!

EVENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

MONTE CARLO NIGHT

February 25

The date has been set for the upcoming Monte Carlo Night Sat., Feb. 25, 2006 - at the Indian Lake Country Club.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with this event.

Call Sherry Wallace at 823-1579.

BEACH CLEAN UP

May 6

Mark your calendars for our annual beach clean up day.

More details will be shared prior to this event.

CIVIC COMMITTEE

Meetings are the second Monday of the month at 7:30 pm.

Call Sherry Wallace, Civic Committee President, for location and details.

Indian Lake Smoke Signal

♦ INDIAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION ♦

President's Message

by Mark Rumreich

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

I'd like to welcome Paul Legge, Mike Hurd and Jim Hoskins to the board. I'd also like to thank retiring boards members Bill Asher, John Repass and Dan Miller for their service to the board and Indian Lake community.

INDIAN CREEK BRIDGE CLOSING

If you've been wondering about the bridge closing, a hole was discovered and reported to the City of Lawrence by one of our residents in late January. Upon investigation, structural deterioration was found that warranted closing the bridge.

Many residents have been enjoying the reduced traffic on their street, and some have even suggested that the bridge be closed permanently.

The City currently plans to repair the decking at an expected cost of \$75,000. It should be repaired by mid-summer.

For updates on the bridge, the proposed solid waste transfer station and other breaking news, visit the Indian Lake Improvement Association blog at <http://indianlakeimprovement.blogspot.com>

M/I HOMES - WOODS AT INDIAN LAKE

On December 5, the rezoning hearing for the Woods at Indian Lake was held at the Lawrence Government Center. From the standpoint of the ILIA board, the commitments were in order. There were no neighborhood groups remonstrating at the hearing, and the petition passed. I have received no further updates on the progress of the development.

STORMWATER UTILITY

In 2002, the Marion County Stormwater Master Plan was formed to provide a vehicle for dealing with the impact of stormwater in Marion County. To fund the plan, a stormwater utility tax of \$12 per year for all Marion County homes was enacted.

At the time, the City of Lawrence wanted to have its own stormwater master plan. Some last-minute political dealing resulted in Lawrence agreeing to be part of the Indianapolis plan with the understanding that Lawrence would "get its slice of the pie." How Lawrence would get its slice of the pie has never been worked out.

So far, Lawrence residents have continued to pay into the fund, but have gotten little or nothing out of it - that's the problem. Lawrence is essentially subsidizing Indianapolis, and is unable to fund its own stormwater projects. Starting in April, Marion County is more than doubling the rate to \$27 a year per household.

On January 30, Mayor Cantwell sent a letter of support to representative Hinkle in support of amending house bill HB-1212 to allow the City of Lawrence to keep its Stormwater Utility money (rather than hand it over to Indianapolis). This is important for Lawrence and even more important for Indian Lake for funding of crucial stormwater-related projects that will impact our lake.

On February 1, the house passed the amended bill by a vote of 70-23.

Now it moves on to the Senate.

I urge all ILIA members to write, email or call our Senator Jim Merritt in support of this!

Continued on page three...



Across the Fence

Our Indian Lake Community was saddened by the death of long-time resident, **Mary Lu Powers** on January 18, 2006. Mary Lu and Lloyd settled at Indian Lake in 1959 and raised their three children, Susan, Johnna and Bud here. Lloyd preceded her in death. Mary Lu was a very active member of the Civic Committee. We remember her especially for her help each year with lunch for the Beach Clean Up, the Easter Egg Hunt, and our Annual Picnic. She taught school for many years at Crestview Elementary in Lawrence Township. She was such fun and always had a ready smile. A memorial service for her took place at Faith Presbyterian church on January 21, 2006.

Mary Lu was laid to rest beside Lloyd at Greenlawn Cemetery in Nashville, Indiana.

THANK YOU to **Jane Ann Kopitzke** for her contribution to this edition of the Smoke Signal.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Andy** and **Christina Clifton** on the birth of their new baby boy, Henry Wyatt Clifton, born August 19, 2005. Henry weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

WELCOME to new Indian Lake residents **Michael** and **Carol Turner** and their son Paul! The Turners live at 10407 South Drive and are from Lawrence.



Your Board at Work

Most residents don't regularly attend monthly board meetings, and are unaware of many of the projects taken on by the board and its secretary/treasurer. Many are ongoing, such as administrating our dredging operation, maintaining the parks & beaches and dealing with assessment issues. Others are infrequent or unique. Here are some of the projects that the board has taken on since the last Smoke Signal:

- two new picnic tables installed to replace old broken ones
- dead and nuisance trees removed at the dam, park and easement areas
- earthen dam sprayed to facilitate inspections & prevent tree growth
- stone delivered and spread at the east-end gate
- watershed watchdogs (board & Jim Hoskins) tackled INDOT Pendleton Pike construction project
- weir pipe was extended to provide more storage volume in spoils area
- dredge discharge pipe trenched through hill to reduce head pressure and improve dredging efficiency
- researched and switched to new insurance carrier to save \$3k/year (G. Keithley)
- opposed cell tower at VFW post before the board of zoning appeals
- animal burrows on earthen dam filled with concrete (board & Bill Testin)

The excavated "French Trench"



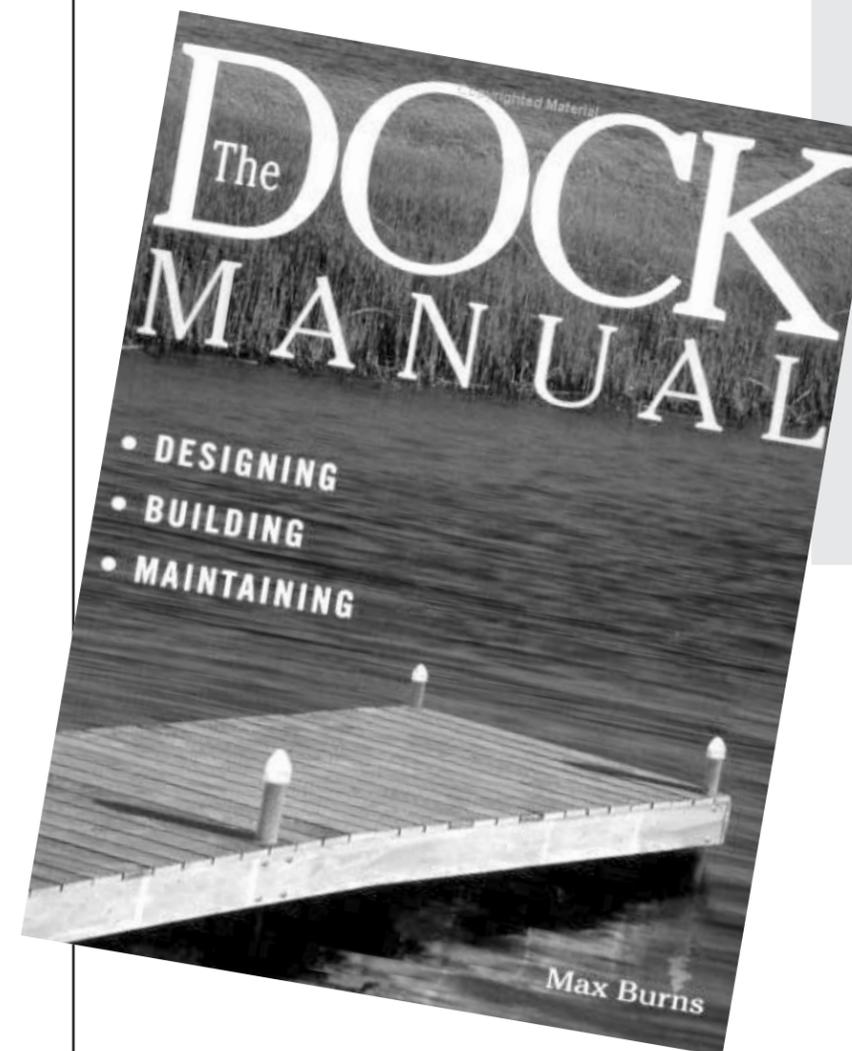
Ed French excavates a trench for the dredge discharge pipe

Dock Building 101

If you've been thinking about building a dock, there's a great book on the subject by Max Burns. It's called the Dock Manual and covers designing building and maintaining docks. Used copies are available from Amazon.com for about \$10.

As many lot owners have discovered the hard way, docks must be designed to withstand the destructive forces of ice floes and flooding. Floods can cause the water of Indian Lake to rise as much as five feet above normal pool. Submerged docks become bouyant, and can pull out from the bottom if not adequately anchored. Design your dock right and you'll be able to enjoy it for many years.

The Association also provides dock space at the North and South Beaches for a nominal seasonal fee. Residents without lake frontage can also build a dock on Association property, subject to the bylaws and approval of the board. Contact the board for details.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued from page one...

LAWRENCE HIRES NEW CITY ENGINEER

Since the departure of Mark Branaman from the office in 2002, the City of Lawrence has been operating without the benefit of a City Engineer. The City has recently hired a replacement. I'm looking forward to meeting with the new City Engineer, and discussing our neighborhood traffic concerns with her in the near future. Stay tuned for more.

SPILLWAY REPAIR PLANNED

Weather has taken its toll on the spillway, and there is spalling and deterioration of the concrete wingwalls. The concrete can be restored by removing the unsound material and resurfacing with shotcrete (pressure applied concrete).

This type of repair was performed on our spillway in the late seventies, and has worked well. We intend to do a similar repair this summer. We received a quotation from Pressure Concrete, Inc., the firm that does this type of work for the City of Indianapolis, for \$70,000. We will also obtain quotes from two additional firms.

The board has been anticipating this repair, and has been saving money in the cumulative fund for it. Accordingly, there will be no increase in assessments and the Association will not need to obtain a loan to finance the job.

The lake will need to be drawn-down (water level lowered) two to three feet to perform the work. This will also provide a good chance for property owners to do repairs on their docks and seawalls. The board will inform residents of the exact dates that the lake will be lowered.

Indian Lake Window Decals

If you ever park your vehicle at North or South Beach, be sure you have an Indian Lake decal in your back window. This lets residents know it's not a trespasser. If you need a decal, they're available from Gary Keithley.

Stay on Top of ILIA Issues

Want to stay on top of issues affecting our neighborhood? Check out the Indian Lake Improvement Association Blog at

<http://indianlakeimprovement.blogspot.com>

For even more fun, join the Indian Lake email list. The email list won't replace the Smoke Signal, mailbox flyers or blog, but it will give you Indian Lake updates and news that you won't find anywhere else.

To join (or be removed from) the email list, send an email to IndianLakeImprovement@mfr-eng.com. Your email address will not be shared with anyone else, including other list members.

Cell Tower at VFW Post Denied by BZA

Last fall, T-Mobile struck a deal with the VFW post on Lee Road, to erect a 150-foot tall cell phone tower on their property. According to the VFW, the lease income generated would be used for its philanthropic programs.

Once the residents of Trilobi Hills learned of the impending tower in their backyard, they quickly organized to oppose it. That's when they contacted the Indian Lake board. Based on the height and location of the tower, the photo shows what this would do to our view.

The ILIA board immediately joined forces with Trilobi Hills to fight the tower.

On October 18, a variance hearing was held before the Lawrence Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) to approve or disapprove the tower. Before and after photos of what the tower would look like from Indian Lake were presented to the BZA, and testimony was heard from a number of Trilobi Hills residents and their attorney. The BZA voted to deny the tower, 4-to-1.



Annual Community Meeting

Our annual Indian Lake Community meeting was held on January 17 at Jenn Park. Unfortunately, our scheduled speaker, DeAnna Lowry of the Lawrence Council, had to cancel at the last minute due to illness. We were able to have a productive meeting anyway and thank everyone who was able to attend.

At this year's meeting, three new members were elected to the Indian Lake Board. The new members, elected for three year terms, are:

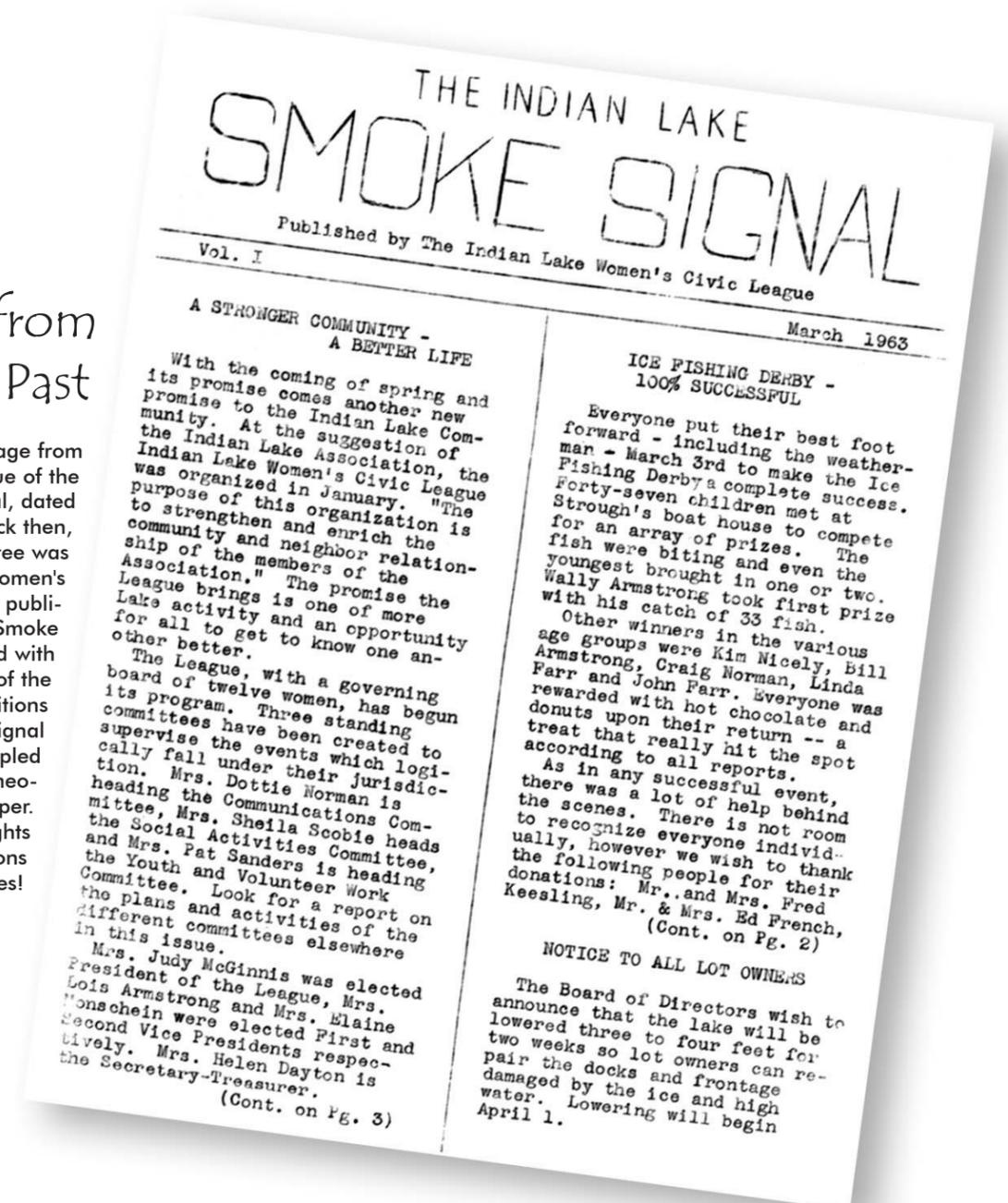
- Jim Hoskins
- Paul Legge
- Mike Hurd

At the February Board meeting, officer elections were held. The Indian Lake Board and their new positions for 2006 are:

- Mark Rumreich, President
- Bob Karnak, VP
- Gary Keithley, Secretary/Treasurer

Blast from the Past

Here's the front page from the very first issue of the Smoke Signal, dated March 1963. Back then, the Civic Committee was known as the Women's Civic League - the publication of the Smoke Signal coincided with the formation of the League. Early editions of the Smoke Signal were hand-stapled sheets of mimeographed paper. Watch for highlights from early editions in future issues!



Ad Signs in the Hood

Advertising signs in neighborhoods are more than an eyesore - they're illegal. Unfortunately, that doesn't stop buy-your-home-today businesses or even the local Pizza King from posting them. Here's what the Marion County ordinance says about signs in the dwelling districts:

Sec. 734-202. d) Prohibited signs. Prohibition of signs affixed to utility poles, etc. No sign or sign structure shall be affixed to, displayed, or located upon any utility pole, light standard, tree, public transportation or school bus passenger shelter or bench, traffic control device, or similar structure, equipment, or appurtenance located upon any public right-of-way, utility easement, or other public or private property unless authorized under section 734-210(q), public signs.

Not all signs are illegal - you can put up garage sale signs, most types of non-commercial signs, and even a home remodeling sign.

What should you do if you spot an illegal sign around the neighborhood? Call the Mayor's Action Center at 327-4MAC. They'll ask you for an exact street address for the sign, and eventually the sign will be removed. Then again, it may not. The Smoke Signal can't advise you to take the law into your own hands, but it's been rumored that illegal signs sometimes mysteriously disappear from the neighborhood only a day or two after appearing.



When You Need To Call



KEEP THIS WITH YOUR
INDIAN LAKE PHONE DIRECTORY

Assessments - Gary Keithley	823-6561
Beach reservations - any board member	
Boat slip rentals - Jeff VanTreese	823-6690
Bylaws and rules - Bob Karnak	826-1505
Civic Committee - Sherry Wallace	823-1579
Property maintenance - Fred Lee	823-4687
Security - Jeff VanTreese	823-6690
Smoke Signal - Lori Rumreich	823-3897

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Rumreich (president)	823-3897
Bob Karnak (vp)	826-8952
Gary Keithley (secretary/treasurer)	823-6561
Ed French	823-4431
Jim Hoskins	826-4944
Mike Hurd	823-0313
Fred Lee	823-4687
Paul Legge	823-7133
Andy VanTreese	823-8990
Jeff VanTreese	823-6690

Indian Lake Smoke Signal

We have created the Smoke Signal in electronic format to simplify publishing. The goal of the Civic Committee is to publish the Smoke Signal four times per year. We welcome your feedback, suggestions for topics and submissions!

Please e-mail us at RUMREICHL@hotmail.com or call Lori Rumreich at 823-3897 or Valarie Canfield at 826-1825.

Homeowners Say State Project Hurting Lake

August 15, 2005

taken from www.TheIndyChannel.com



INDIANAPOLIS -- Residents of a north-side Indianapolis neighborhood say the state isn't doing enough to keep a road expansion project from harming a lake.

At issue is Indian Lake, which is surrounded by 110 homes. A homeowners' association says the state's Pendleton Pike expansion project is increasing silting in the lake, meaning dirt is building up.

The association already uses a \$250,000 dredging machine to vacuum sediment and put it into an area outside the lake. It says the people behind the Pendleton Pike project haven't done enough to control erosion.

Concerned about the project, the association contacted Call 6 for Help.

"We don't expect miracles, but we do expect more than what they are providing right now," said Mark Rumreich, the association's president.

Call 6 contacted an engineer who is working on the road expansion. He said the state has installed features to protect the lake, and that there are plans to add more erosion prevention measures such as rocks and vegetation before the project is finished.

Call 6 was able to get the neighborhood association in touch with a person who is responsible for the road project. Both sides will discuss options to minimize soil erosion.

THEN WHAT HAPPENED?

Following the Call 6 for Help, a meeting was held between ILIA representatives Andy VanTreese, Jim Hoskins & Mark Rumreich and INDOT. Bill Howard from Marion County Soil & Water Conservation was also present.

During the meeting, it became clear that INDOT had no interest in improving their erosion control measures, claiming that they were following the project design plans and that they had already spent the \$90,000 that was budgeted for erosion control.

ILIA decided to take legal action and contacted the Indiana State Attorney General's office. Subsequently, a tort claim was filed by ILIA against INDOT for \$36,120, to cover the cost of removing sediment due to the negligence of INDOT. In December, the Attorney General determined that INDOT was indemnified through GRADEX, one of the firms contracted by INDOT for the project.

ILIA has since contacted GRADEX, and a claim has been filed with their insurance carrier. Stay tuned for more.

