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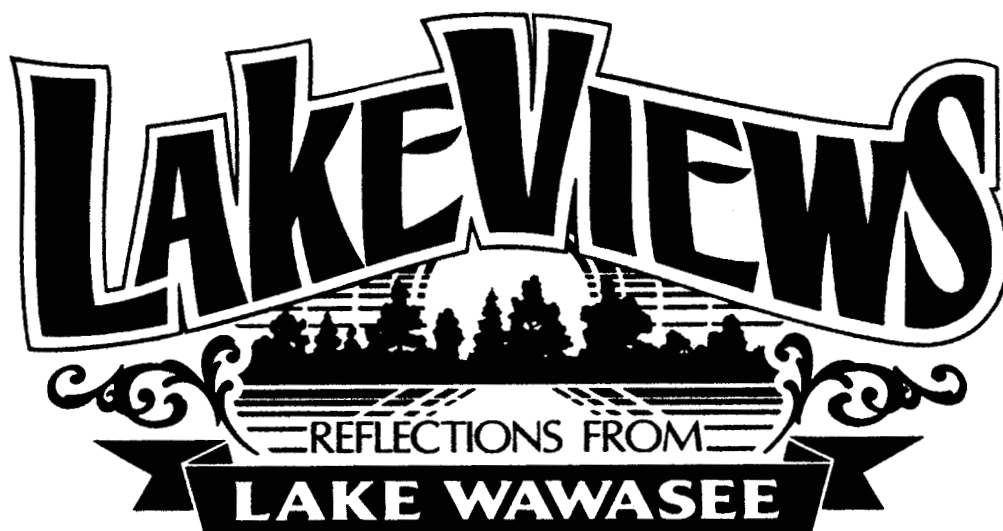
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AT THE HELM — EARLY WINTER 2016

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

By Kay Young, WPOA President

I cannot believe that another year has passed and we are embarking on 2017 already. It seems like just yesterday that we were all enjoying the warm summer days at the lake. But, winter has come to Wawasee!

Our first measurable snow has blanketed the world around us with a thick blanket of snow. While the lake has not frozen as of the writing of this letter (mid-December) the channels have started to freeze and the early ice fishing has begun. If this weather continues the lake could easily be dotted with ice fishing shanties by the time you receive this newsletter.

As I look back on the past year it all seems to be a blur it seems like yesterday that the piers were going in, boats were starting to fill those piers, schools were out and our summer friends were starting to come back to their treasured Wawasee homes.

We greeted returning neighbors at the annual breakfast in June with our Syracuse Lake neighbors, enjoyed an evening of great music by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic during "independence week" as well as watched fantastic fireworks over the waters of the lake. Later on there was the Art Festival held on the Oakwood grounds and an enjoyable evening on the Lilypad for our annual meeting. I hope you found time to enjoy some of these events with your friends and neighbors.

While for most of us the summer is a fun time at the lake I want to be sure and thank one group of people that not only help to make our lake a fun place to be but a safe place as well. They are the volunteers of our Lake Patrol. We have a fantastic group of people that give up their time during the summer to patrol our lake keeping watch for any issues that might arise. Their main focus is to educate but occasionally they

are called upon to assist with an accident or boating infraction. Thanks to the hours that they put into training we have a group of men that are up to whatever they are called upon to do. Our lake patrol is a model for other lakes to follow.

I also want to thank the directors of the WPOA board for the time that they put in during the summer to make all our events successful. They are also always available to you, our members if you have questions or concerns. Check out your *Neighbor's* book to find the director that is in your area.

Speaking of the *Neighbor's* book, did you receive yours this year in the mail? The books were mailed in mid-May to your permanent address. As long as you pay your dues by March 1 you will receive this valuable and informative book. The mailing has worked well. Very few were missed, the books arrived in good condition and we did not have to recruit more than 70 people to deliver the books by hand. All in all it proved to be a good thing!

Fall brought quieter days to the lake. Piers being removed, geese gathering and preparing for flights south and homes being prepared for the cold weather. It also brought sadness at the loss of one of the board's hardest workers. Phil Hartley, our Administrators husband lost his battle with cancer. While many of you may not have noticed Phil, we all know how hard he worked helping Janet. He stuffed "thousands" of envelopes each year for the many mail outs, carried equipment to various functions, answered the phone, sorted directories, you name it, Phil was always there to help Janet and the rest of us. Plus Phil LOVED Wawasee! He will be missed by us all.

So the seasons have come full circle and we are looking forward to a new season. If you happen to be around in January be sure to put the Winter Carnival on your calendar. January 28, 2017, is the date. Activi-

WACF activities impact thousands

By Pam Schumm, WACF Education Chairperson

The year 2016 has been an extremely active one for the Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation, with WACF activities impacting 3,375 individuals in our community.

The Education team put together numerous programs for youth in the area.

We began the year by hosting a site for the Mother-Son Adventure sponsored by the Youth Center. The boys and moms made pine cone bird feeders to take home. It was sloppy spreading peanut butter and shortening on a pinecone, but the boys didn't mind it a bit!

April saw us hosting our first Earth Day celebration. Students made posters, went on a scavenger hunt, learned about what trees do for the Earth and how wetlands help a lake. In addition, they planted 50 tree seedlings.

In May two groups of students from Milford came to the WACF to "Make an Impact" by helping mark trails and plant native flowers along the bank of the channel. We also hosted a Rock Solid outdoor adventure.

Lake Talk and Eats began in June with the annual Native Plant sale. In July we hosted the annual Bug Catch — always a crowd pleasing event. Bring your children or grandchildren to this event next summer. You can wade in the water and catch water macro-invertebrates! "Experts" will be on hand to identify the little critters that are caught.

The August Lily Pad Cruise was a sell-out this year. We toured Wawasee and learned about history, ecology, water testing, and the state of the lake and hung out with friends and neighbors. We look forward to seeing many of

Fourth grade students participating in a game to learn about camouflage.



you on the cruise this coming summer, currently scheduled for August 5.

July ramped up the WACF activity as we hosted Wetland Adventures each Thursday morning. Children with adult supervision could participate in several different activities including a canoe scavenger hunt each week. This was a huge hit and will be continued in July 2017.

In early September we hosted all incoming freshmen at Wawasee High School to a Watershed Rafting Adventure on Mud Lake and into Syracuse Lake. Over 200 students participated in water testing, plant identification and learn-



Second graders finger painting bird feet.

ing the value of wetlands in a watershed.

Wawasee School Corporation allowed teachers to chaperone the event and provided them with a sub for the day. Not only were teachers and WACF volunteers a part of the adult crew but administrators, conservation officers, state police and lake patrol were along for the educationally fun trip.

On the heels of the rafting adventure came the second annual fourth grade Bug Fest at the Levinson-LaBross Education Center. Each fourth grade student in the Wawasee Corporation attended this adventure to learn all about bugs!

In October we enjoyed the wonderful weather by hosting Syracuse Elementary second and third graders to two different field trips. Third graders learned all about trees while those in second grade enjoyed activities about birds.

Our Fall-Tastic Trail Walk saw dozens of people walking the decorated trail on the Center property. A crackling fire, cider and donuts were waiting for the walkers to come relax and

Continued on next page

WPOA now on Facebook

The Wawasee Property Owners Association has officially joined the 21st Century. We now have a page on Facebook.

Please like our page so you can get updates as they appear.



WPOA also now has a PayPal account so you can make donations or pay your dues that way in the future.

Enjoying a scavenger hunt from a canoe.



Continued from previous page



Third graders doing leaf rubbings as they learn about trees.

enjoy the Ruddell Pavilion.

Mark your calendar in 2017 for the following events:

• April 22 will be Earth Day Festival – bigger and better than before we will be hosting numerous vendors at the Center as we celebrate Earth Day. Bring the entire family there will be something for all ages!

• Lake Talk and Eats will continue on June 3, July 1 and Aug 5.

• July 6, 13, 20 and 27 will be Wetland Adventures for elementary students and their chaperone. Remember to bring a life jacket

• We will be hosting another Freshmen Watershed Rafting Adventure in either late August or early September followed by the Bug Fest (grade 4), Tall Trees (grade 3) and It's for the Birds (grade 2) field trip opportunities.



Planting tree seedlings for Earth Day.

• The third annual Fall-Tastic Trail Walk is tentatively set for Oct 21 and 22.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help with these fun programs. If you have an interest, please email education@wacf.com

Museum preserves area's history, culture

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum, located in the Syracuse Community Center, was started in 1987 during the town of Syracuse's sesquicentennial celebration as a means to preserve and display, town and community history.

Part of the museum collection is on permanent display, while other items rotate on and off display throughout the year.

You can visit the museum's website (www.syracusemuseum.org) to download a membership form, look at the current calendar of events, view current and past newsletters, and access the Syracuse-Wawasee Digital Archives through the Indiana Memory Project.

Membership at the museum entitles you to first-hand information of museum happenings, discounts on museum programs, a quarterly newsletter, and the knowledge that you are helping the museum carry out its mission of preserving local history.

Membership options include annual memberships (Jan. 2016 - Dec. 2016): \$20 per individual or \$30 per family, and lifetime memberships, \$150 per person.

Items for sale in the museum's gift shop include local history books, DVDs, artwork, and souvenirs.

The collection housed at the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum highlights the colorful history of people and places of Syracuse, Lake Wawasee, and Turkey Creek Township. Old hotel memorabilia, household objects, and historical clothing help tell the

story of our area.

Personal correspondence, diaries, and journals written by local residents give us a glimpse into the lake and town life enjoyed by so many in the past as well as in the present. The museum displays a 1905 Mier car, the prototype of which was developed and built on Syracuse Lake, as well as a large cache of Native American artifacts that is renowned in the state of Indiana.

The museum is a non-profit organization which relies on the generosity of donors to help

fulfill its mission of acquisition, preservation, and exhibition of artifacts for the area. If you have artifacts, objects, documents, books, audiovisual or digital materials, or photographs relating to the history, culture, and/or people of Syracuse, please consider donating them to our museum for their preservation and display. Monetary donations are also accepted and appreciated.

Check out the museum's webpage to view upcoming events and programs offered to the public.

Important Wawasee Web sites

Wawasee Property Owners Association

www.wawaseepoa.org

Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation

www.wacf.com

Wawasee Flotilla

www.wawaseeflotilla.com

Chautauqua Wawasee

www.chqw.org

Syracuse/Wawasee Trails

www.syracusewawaseetrails.com

Wawasee Yacht Club

www.wawaseeyachtclub.com

Oakwood Resort

www.oakwoodresort.com

Center for Lakes and Streams

www.water.grace.edu

Kosciusko County Cancer Care Fund

www.cancercarefundkc.org

Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum

www.syracusemuseum.org

Wawasee Navy SEAL Foundation

wawaseenavysealfoundation.org

To have your web site added to this list, please contact the editor at jim.kroemer@gmail.com.

How streams affect Lake Wawasee

By Dr. Nate Bosch, Director,
Center for Lakes & Streams

Like trains transporting people and goods from one city to another, streams carry water, sediment, and nutrients from the land to the lake. Luna Leopold describes streams as, “The gutters down which flow the ruins of continents.” However, streams do more than simply transport cargo, unchanged, while

flowing across landscapes; streams are dynamic ecosystems that recycle shipment as it travels.

The relationship between nutrients and Lake Wawasee’s aquatic life is sensitive. Food chains in both lakes and streams begin with nutrients, whether brought in by residential and agricultural fertilizers, livestock and human waste, sediment particles, or fallen leaves and grass clippings. In limited amounts, these nutrient sources support intricate and dy-

namic ecosystems in both streams and lakes, with plants and animals making up the next links in the food chains.

Unlike lakes, however, the plants using the nutrients in streams tend to be attached algae (periphyton) rather than free-floating algae (phytoplankton). Along with aquatic rooted plants (macrophytes), attached algae anchors itself to stream bottoms to avoid washing away.

Aquatic insects, such as Caddisflies and Stoneflies, graze on attached algae like cattle, or shred and collect tiny bits of leaves. These aquatic insects are often used as indicators of stream health due to their intolerance of poor water quality.

Fish make up the final level of the stream food chain as they utilize aquatic insects for food. Some fish species common in our lakes, such as Smallmouth Bass and Sunfish, also live in local streams; however, other fish species, such as the Mottled Sculpin and Rainbow Darter, are unique to our streams.

A stream, therefore, is not merely a “gutter” which transports materials from land to lakes; it is an active ecosystem worthy of value and care. The Center for Lakes & Streams studies Lake Wawasee’s four major inflowing streams and one outflowing stream every two weeks year-round to better understand the lake and how to make it cleaner in the future.

Whether a large river, small agricultural ditch, or a woodland creek, a stream’s added importance comes from the fact that it is an efficient transporter of the nutrients and sediments that, in excess, cause many challenges in our lakes. Thus, the way we use the land miles away from Lake Wawasee can still impact the lake downstream.



The project to widen the Syracuse-Wawasee trail along Eli Lilly Road trail has been completed and is now open. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place in October. Pictured in front is Amara McClellan (on her bike). In back, from left, are Andrea Reed, Syracuse-Wawasee Chamber director; Bob Fanning and Ron Baumgartner, Eli Lilly Road residents; Megan McClellan, trail’s executive director; Dr. Erick Leffler, trail committee chairman; Dr. Tom Edington, park foundation president, trail committee member and treasurer; and Holly Swoverland, K21 Health Foundation. (Photo by Phoebe Muthart, The Mail-Journal)

Eli Lilly Road trail widening project officially completed

The Eli Lilly Road trail widening project has been completed. Syracuse-Wawasee Trail Committee and other members of the community took part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony along that section of trail in October. The new section is 2,100 feet long, or about 0.4 miles.

The project was made possible by private donations and a grant from the K21 Health Foundation. Eighty percent of the project was paid for by private donations and 20 percent paid for by the K21 Foundation. The donations were specified that they be used for the Eli Lilly Road project.

The project lasted six weeks and was com-

pleted by Pulver Asphalt and Paving, Albion. Several upgrades were included. A rolled sidewalk was added so homeowners can access their property. Also, Kosciusko County required the sidewalk be a rolled curb for easier snow plowing.

The three-foot wide edge of the road was originally separated by a white stripe, however, the new section is now five-and-a-half feet wide and features a raised curb sidewalk. The new section connects the original section along Eli Lilly Road to the rest of the trail system.

For more information, visit www.syracuse-wawaseetrails.com.

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ties include a Winter Warm Up 5K run and, weather permitting, lots of outdoor activities. If you have not been here in the winter you will find that summer is not the only time of year that there are activities on the lake! Come and see for yourself!

My best wishes to each of you for a Merry Christmas and many blessings for the New Year . . . and remember If you’re lucky enough to be at the lake . . . you’re lucky enough!

See you in 2017!

Ian Rolland releases memoir, proceeds to benefit charity

About 50 people gathered at The History Center in Fort Wayne in late October to celebrate the publication of Ian Rolland's memoir, "Ian Rolland: With a Bias Toward Action." The book was written in collaboration with Donna L. Reynolds, an author from Indianapolis.

Rolland is a long-time resident of Lake Wawasee who has been active in many efforts to improve the quality of life on and around the lake,

Proceeds from the book will go toward The History Center and the Lincoln Association. "That makes it a bit more tolerable. I didn't keep any margin," Rolland told the crowd.

Message from your conservancy

By Heather Harwood
WACF Executive Director

Greetings from the lake! The Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation Board of Directors and staff wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

We thank you for your support this year. WACF appreciates all the help, effort and partnerships, working together toward responsible stewardship of our lakes. WACF will continue to protect important wetlands and pursue improvements addressing threats such as inflow of pollutants, silt loading from land runoff or wave action, and erosion, to maintain good water quality. As WACF begins our 26th year, we remain committed to guard against threats to our watershed.

Thank you to all who joined us at our Annual Christmas Lighting event! If you missed it this year, try to join us next year - the first Friday of December. Go to www.wacf.com for updates on events, wonderful photos of the watershed, conservancy news and our own WACF radio.

We look forward to seeing you in 2017, be safe and be a good steward wherever you are. We are all in this together.

Ian Rolland and his son, Bob, share a laugh during the launch of Rolland's memoir, "Ian Rolland: With a Bias Toward Action." Proceeds from the book will benefit Fort Wayne charities. (Photo by Lauren Zeugner, The Mail-Journal)



Frank Walker, a fraternity brother and Lake Wawasee neighbor of Rolland's, was instrumental in convincing Rolland to take on the project. Walker had Reynolds write a book about his family business in Indianapolis, which was started by his mother, as part of the business' 75th anniversary. "I'm very pleased to play that small part," Walker said about his role in Rolland's memoir being written.

Walker said there are "tons of corporate books out there," but one on Rolland was important because "The things he's done in the community. Some of the classic things like taking on the city (of Fort Wayne). Ian would see things that were not right, in his mind, and do something about it."

Fran Foster, a former assistant of Rolland's, explained the book is about some of the obstacles he encountered while running Lincoln Financial. Some of those obstacles included pushing women into leadership positions and

equal rights for same sex couples back in the 1970s.

The project began about a year ago, with Rolland making a list of approximately 40 people he wanted Reynolds to talk to. "Every one of his kids teared up talking about their dad," Foster said.

At the launch, Rolland told the crowd he "had more fun writing the book than those helping him." He spoke about how "relationships don't stop like a lot of other activities we participate in," and how relationships have affected both his and his children's lives in a positive way.

The book can be purchased at The History Center or by mailing a check for \$20 made out to Ian Rolland to 1925 Florida Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46805.

For more information send an email to rollandcarol@yahoo.com.

(From The Mail-Journal)



Lake Patrol completes busy summer keeping Wawasee waters safe

By Jim Tranter
WPOA vice-president

Allow me to repeat myself. Wow, where has this summer gone? It seems like just last week when we launched the patrol boats and started ramp inspection.

I am among many who want to say thanks to our property owners on the lake for having the willingness to support a lake patrol. As a visitor from a big lake to the north of us told me a few weeks ago, "you are very fortunate to have such a great program on your lake" and I echo those words.

From the beginning of the summer when we launched the boats to Labor Day your lake patrol made 761 contacts, patrolled 535 hours on the water and made 46 boat inspections.

The stops consisted of written warnings and written citations, along with registration issues, equipment violations, crash investigations, thefts and unlawful use of a watercraft, etc. Of course things are not perfect yet but we are far closer than years back.

We also want to take this opportunity to give all of you, our WPOA members, a special "Thank You." It is because of your dues that the Lake Patrol is able to operate the five boats on both Wawasee and Syracuse Lakes. And your special donations to our Capital budget allow us to keep our boats and equipment up to date. We have been told that our program is second to none on Indiana Lakes. This is a recognition that all of you should be proud of.

As your WPOA coordinator to the Lake Patrol I am amazed and pleased at our Lake Patrol volunteers who give up their weekends and evenings to be patrolling out on the lake when needed. It is quite a sacrifice. Here are just a few of the incidents that the Lake Patrol was able to avert before something more serious happened:

- A Lake Patrol officer located and identified a boater that fled from a crash. The boater was later convicted during the summer.

- A Lake Patrol officer located and assisted in arresting a dangerous boater and court records indicate that he will soon plead guilty to multiple criminal charges. There is a lot of

investigative work that is put on the shoulders of the Lake Patrol that takes time to bring a case of this nature to a positive conclusion.

- Lake Patrol officer(s) assisted both Kosciusko County Sheriff's Officers and Department of Natural Resources Officers in removing and apprehending multiple intoxicated boaters from the Lake.

- There are many more cases where our Lake Patrol Officers are directly involved in investigations and incidents of good police work. So when you see any of your lake patrol officers, just a quick thanks would make them feel that we are going in the right direction.

We are still experiencing some unsafe boating practices. So I am going to repeat myself. Here are some FYIs:

- 1) Pulling wake borders when it is dark even though the boat is traveling at only 10mph. What if the person(s) being towed would fall off in the dark, can you find them? What if another boat goes between the towing boat and the wake boarder or tuber and cuts the tow rope? Remember it is dark and visibility is probably about zero. Even though it may not be against the law, common sense and safety should be the rule.

- 2) During our stops and boat inspections we are finding that life jackets are still in the plastic wrappers and stowed places on the boat that keep the jackets out of the way which in turn makes it difficult to make sure they are accessible when out on the lake. First of all, be sure and remove the life jackets from their wrappers as soon as you get them. In an emergency you may not have the time to unwrap

each life jacket. Second, keep your life jackets in plain sight when using the boat. In an emergency will everyone on board be able to find and grab their life jacket?

- 3) Two wave runners racing toward each other and then turning quickly to attempt to spray each other. Every wave you cross acts differently and it would take a blink of an eye for a wave runner traveling at 30-plus mph to skip right into the on coming wave runner. Of course this is against the law.

- 4) Remember that docking lights on a boat or pontoon are just that, docking lights, not cruising lights. Have courtesy for your neighbors after you leave your dock and when cruising at night, and turn off your docking lights.

I also want to extend a special thanks to Sudlow Pier Shop, Rookstools Pier Shop, Wawasee Boat Co., Main Channel Marina, and Griffith's Marina for making it possible for the lake patrol to have the proper equipment. We cannot forget to thank Jon Tyler, our Lake Patrol liaison with the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Dept, for our ongoing training.

So on behalf of your Lake Patrol: Jerry Babb, Bill Borrer, Todd Eby, John Kellogg, Jim Klotz, Monty Layne, Ken Nord, Dan Rice, Dave Schwartz, Tom Snobarger, Ken Troutman and yours truly Jim Tranter, we want to wish you a happy and safe winter and we look forward to seeing you on the lake in 2017.

If you are interested in learning more about the lake patrol or becoming involved with Lake Patrol, as an officer or a boat inspector, call the WPOA office and Janet will direct your call.

Food pantry could use your help



One of the town of Syracuse's most worthwhile organizations is seeking help to feed hungry families in the area

The Syracuse Food Pantry Inc., 203 E Main St., provides food and paper products for families in the community and welcomes both monetary and food donations.

Traci Helton, director of the Food Pantry,

said, "We would like to remind or let new people know we are here and still providing food and paper products for families in our community."

Traci said the food pantry currently provides food for up to 140 families a month.

Traci can be reached at 574-457-5450 or 574-518-1468.

Use trails to improve health in New Year

By Megan McClellan, director
Syracuse-Wawasee Trails

What is your New Year's Resolution? Whether it is to be more active, spend more time with your family or save money, the trails can help. Nearly 30 percent of trips are a mile or shorter, and 40 percent are two miles or shorter. These are distances that can be easily walked and biked, improving your health, providing quality family time and saving you gas.

Trails have been proven to be the most effective way to get people moving outdoors. Parks are nice but adults tend to get and sit

on a bench. On a trail, you move. Even if you don't have much time, use the trail to run errands. Grab your bike, return some library books, pick up groceries and get your hair or nails done. No time wasted looking for parking.

Trails are very family friendly. They are a safe place for kids to learn to ride their bikes, for teenagers to get some face time and for adults to stretch their legs after work, all at the same time. All this while saving you money. You will use less gas, and lower your health care costs with no gym membership required.

Need a little motivation? Consider train-

ing for our Winter Warm-Up 5K. It will be held on January 28, in conjunction with the Wawasee Winter Carnival.

We would also love for you to join our Wednesday Walks every Wednesday from 1:00-1:30pm, weather permitting. We leave from the Syracuse Community Center. If they are cancelled, it will be posted on Facebook.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year but we cannot help you with your resolutions without your ongoing and generous support of the trail. That's why I'm urging you to take advantage of our 2016 Matching Gift Opportunity today. Make your year-end, tax-deductible contribution before January 1, and it will double your impact, helping us build and maintain trails for you to enjoy in 2017 and beyond.

For more information or to become more involved, please check out our website (www.syracusewawaseetrails.com) where you can sign up to receive our quarterly newsletter, either by e-mail or post. Be sure to also "like" us on Facebook to be in the loop on trail construction and events. Our meetings are also always open to the public: third Monday of the month, 6pm, at the director's office, 801 North Huntington St (above the Down Under).

Happy Trails!



Sleepy Owl to add event center

The Sleepy Owl, on Ind. 13 just south of Syracuse, one of the Lake Wawasee area's popular dining spots, is in the process of adding an event center.

Jeff Larson bought the Sleepy Owl in 2007 and immediately began making improvements, adding patio seating complete with an outdoor fire pit.

Now Larson is expanding his successful operation into event planning and management. Catering from the existing kitchen has been available for more than six years, but now Larson and his staff, headed by Event Manager Ashley Davis, are building a completely new event center.

Known as The Owl's Nest, the event center will be located on a wooded lot overlooking ponds and a waterfall. The construction site is

at 7369 E. 800 North (the road across the street from Bart's Water Sports along Ind. 13) north of North Webster.

A grand opening is currently anticipated for this coming April. The Owl's Nest is a modern, rustic structure that Davis says is "a one-stop shop for any occasion." The facility will have seating for up to 250 people.

It will be able to handle all sorts of gatherings, from corporate events, to weddings, to small office and birthday parties, Davis said. State-of-the-art audio/visual capabilities will also be included.

In addition to the outdoor waterfall, there is also a water feature indoors. Décor includes custom stone work, decorative cedar wall trimmings and custom wood flooring. There is also a fully equipped kitchen.



The Sleepy Owl was listed in the 1938 Wawasee directory as a gas station serving beer and sandwiches. It was so-named because an owl was frequently seen sleeping in a tree near the building.

At that time supper clubs, many located away from city centers, were highly popular in the upper Midwest as a place to gather and eat. So around 50 years ago, the facility was converted to a supper club format.

(Excerpted from *The Goshen News*. Used by permission.)

WACF hosts Christmas lighting social

The smell of burning wood in a fireplace and the path to Ruddell Pavilion lined with luminaries greeted approximately 50 guests to the second annual Wawasee Area Conservancy Christmas lighting social Friday evening, Dec. 2.

The event took place at the WACF Levinson-LaBrosse Lakes & Wetlands Education Center, one mile south of Syracuse on SR 13.

The pavilion was outlined with multi-colored Christmas lights, with music for the season being played in the pavilion. Hot cider, hot chocolate, chili - traditional, vegetarian and chicken with bacon, chicken and noodles, ham and beans, corn bread, brownies and more were available for the guests to enjoy while socializing.

A brief lighting of a live Christmas tree, donated by Donn and Linda Baird, started the evening, along with recognition of Priscilla Ruddell Elliott and her husband Hoagland, who donated funds for the roll curtains installed on the pavilion. Bill Coon was also recognized for his donation of panels around the fireplace to keep out the cold.



READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Decorated with multi-colored Christmas lights and a luminaries-lit path, the Ruddell Pavilion on the WACF property welcomed guests to the WACF Christmas lighting social earlier this month.

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