A couple of weeks ago when our editor, Jim Kroemer, called to give me the dates of the upcoming newsletter I had the sincere hope that his “SPRING” edition would truly reflect spring . . . . BUT, as we all know we are still here, buried in snow with more to arrive this weekend. I am afraid that Groundhog in Pennsylvania hit it on the head this year, six more weeks of winter!

Despite the cold and snow the lake is still a beautiful sight as you look out and see it change every day. The shifting of the snow from the wind (please note I said wind not “breeze”) changes the look as drifts move from one spot to another. Early in the season the iceboats dotted the horizon as our more robust sailors took to the early ice that was smoother and with little snow on top.

This week we have watched as numerous cars and trucks have taken off from the boat launch and driven across the frozen waters.

With the continued low temperatures they sure don't have to worry about the lake not making ice, if we were keeping track I am sure this would be a banner year.

You can also tell where the fish are biting each week as the fishermen and their huts move from place to place keeping up with the various changes in locations. I am not sure what is biting in front of our condo but something must be as we have had a little village for the last week or so almost every day.

The bitter cold has also brought problems with some of our homes having broken pipes. There is nothing worse than the sight of the dumpsters in back of homes that you knew were not scheduled for a remodel. Jim and I experienced such an event this winter ourselves when the pipe carrying the water for the condo fire sprinkler froze and then broke.

Thankfully we were home and although that little pipe can put out a whole lot of water in a short time it could have been much worse. So we now have a fresh coat of paint on fresh drywall, new insulation and more in our “unscheduled” remodel. If you have not had your coat of paint on fresh drywall, new insulation and more frozen waters.

Library, museum partner for cemetery project

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum and Syracuse Public Library have partnered to present a two-part program this spring entitled Discover the Syracuse Cemetery.

The program is designed to help participants get to know the local Syracuse Cemetery better and understand the town’s history more thoroughly with the information gleaned from the cemetery.

The program will kick off on Thursday, April 24, with a lecture on cemetery symbols presented by Jeannie Regan-Dinius, of the Indiana Historical Society.
Oakwood to host Chautauqua Week July 7 - 11

By Ann Strong
Chautauqua Wawasee

This will be the first year of weekday programming for Chautauqua-Wawasee since Oakwood Inn was restored and re-opened along with the Oakwood Resort. Prior to this year, local Chautauqua programming took place only on weekends.

The Oakwood Resort is a wonderful location for hosting the type of events that are associated with the decades-long Chautauqua program, founded at the Chautauqua Institute in upstate New York. Chautauqua-Wawasee is the second most recent Chautauqua. The newest is beginning this year in Plains, GA, and was founded by former First Lady Rosalynn Carter.

There are currently 15 full Chautauqua Assemblies, although smaller programs called Chautauqua’s take place in many locations. They are usually arts festival events and take place on weekends, such as in Southern Indiana.

Since the spread of the Chautauqua Movement from its origins in Chautauqua, NY, the word “Chautauqua” has become a generic word meaning, according to Google, “an institution offering popular education courses and entertainment, typically held outdoors in the summer...”, and also referring to a person, “some sophisticate who had attended Chautauqua in other parts of the country.”

The four pillars of Chautauqua are Education, the Arts, Faith and Recreation, and all four will be celebrated July 7 - 11 with a full schedule of events at Oakwood Resort. Other Chautauqua-Wawasee events are also scheduled throughout the year.

Chautauqua at Wawasee
(Program subject to change)

The Arts
May 29 — Wine, Cheese and Chocolate Experience, Oakwood Resort
June 28 — Fort Wayne Philharmonic Patriotic Pops and Music in Color
July 7 — Anita Cast and Marianne Tobias two piano recital
July 9 — “Lust, Love and Music” narrated by Indianapolis Symphony cellist and program annotator.

July 10 — Renowned jazz band from Ft. Wayne aboard the Lilly Pad
July 11 — Yodeling
Sept. 6 — Oakwood Fine Arts Festival
Oct. 11 — OAKtober Fest, organized by CW and sponsored with Oakwood Resort

Education and Religion
Peace on Earth
Chautauqua Week
Programs include: Ron Manahan, former President of Grace College
Jim Brennamen, President of Goshen College
Panel: “The Religious-Scientific dialogue: How to Debate Ideas Where we Have Strong Differences.” Frank Levinson, self-described Silicon Valley nerd; Karen Johnston, medical doctor; Dr. Nate Bosch, Grace College Biologist; Brian Murphey, Butler University Astrophysicist, and others.

Recreation
July 4 — Flotilla Road Race SAG stop in Oakwood Resort (co-sponsor)
July 12 — Tour des Lakes sponsor with Syracuse Community Center and Kiwanis
July 26 — Cardboard Boat Regatta organized by CW and co-sponsored by More Than Just Me Foundation and Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Other events are in planning stages and will be announced as plans are finalized. For detailed information about the week of activities, costs and registration instructions please visit the organization’s web site at www.chautauqua-wawasee.org.

Donations sought for scholarship fund

For the past several years, two senior students at Wawasee High School have been presented with scholarships at the school’s awards night, a continuing legacy of Lake Wawasee activist Dave Lichtenauer.

The WPOA-David F. Lichtenauer Memorial Scholarship Fund was established at the Kosciusko County Community Foundation as an endowment fund in 2010 in memory of Dave Lichtenauer, who served the WPOA in many capacities, including editor of the newsletter.

Dave’s leadership paved the way for the WPOA to play an active role in giving back to the Wawasee community. His vision, and that of the WPOA, is to increase the number of scholarship awards given to local students each year as well as the amounts given. An endowment lends permanency to this vision, providing an opportunity for steady growth and contributions help this effort to sustain “the gift that keeps on giving.”

Donations by check may be made payable to KCCF (with WPOA-David F. Lichtenauer Memorial Scholarship Fund included in the memo line) and mailed to KCCF, 102 E. Market Street, Warsaw, IN 46580.

For credit card donations, please visit www.kcfoundation.org/donate. Your support will make a difference in the education of our future leaders from the Wawasee community.
A strong fund-raising effort at the end of the year has put the Syracuse-Wawasee Trails project in a very good position heading into the 2014 season.

Donn Baird, treasurer for the Syracuse Wawasee Trails committee, said $28,000 was raised from the annual holiday mailer. Additionally, the committee received a $50,000 grant from the K21 Foundation.

An anonymous donor had offered to match up to $50,000 raised from the mailer, and ended up donating the entire $50,000, considering the K21 Foundation grant as a match. Finally, the Harkless Foundation awarded the trails project a $5,000 grant as well.

Baird told the committee there should be enough money to finish trail sections on Eastshore and Northshore drives and move forward to another trail section this summer.

Web sites worth noting

Wawasee Property Owners Association www.wawaseepoa.org
Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation www.wacf.com
Wawasee Flotilla www.wawaseeflotilla.com
Chautauqua Wawasee www.chautauqua-wawasee.org
Syracuse/Wawasee Trails www.syracusewawaseetrails.com
Wawasee Yacht Club www.wawaseeyachtclub.com
Oakwood Resort www.oakwoodresort.com
Center for Lakes and Streams www.lakes.grace.edu
Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum www.syracusemuseum.org

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

Syracuse-Wawasee Trail

Marsha Carey, committee grant writer, reported she, Committee Chairman Mike Buhrt, and Syracuse Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson, met with James Turnwalk, a representative of Michiana Council of Governments, about pursuing a Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant for the SR 13 trail section.

A call for proposals is expected sometime between February and early April, and once the call goes out, communities will have about 30 days to write and submit their proposals.

Applicants for TAP grants must be public entities, although Carey stressed no local public dollars would be used for the grant. If approved for a grant, the trails committee would be responsible for raising a 20 percent match.

It was also recommended the committee ask an engineering firm to donate work to estimate project costs and schedule. If the grant is awarded, the committee will have to follow federal regulations on bidding the project out.

Since the trails committee will need letters of support for its grant request, Carey, Jonsson and Buhrt have discussed requesting letters from Ron Robinson, Kosciusko County administrator, County Commissioner Brad Jackson and State Rep. Rebecca Kubacki. A formal presentation will also be made to county commissioners, asking for their support.

In other trails business, Committee Member Bob Trame said snowmobilers are still running on the boardwalk section along Mudd Lake. Baird suggested installing some kind of barrier that would allow bikers and runners/walkers through, but prevent snowmobiles access, since they tear up the wood planks.

Trame also told the committee Larry Mock has the necessary equipment to cut brush back from the trail. The committee authorized Trame to begin discussions with Mock, and Trame later reported Mock would, trim the brush and trees back three times a year: Memorial Day, July Fourth and Labor Day, charging $85 an hour for the work.

Trame also told the committee he has been notifying residents along Eastshore and Northshore Drives that work on completing that trail section would start as soon as weather permits. The cost of Eastshore/Northshore drives section is estimated to be about $110,000 depending on any unknown issues that may pop up. The trails committee currently has approximately $160,000 in its accounts.

WPOA President Kay Young, a trails committee member said she and her husband Jim, also a member of the committee, will research trail options along the southeast end of Lake Wawasee as soon as weather permits. Carey asked to be kept informed as she has some ideas for possible grants.

Library, museum

Continued from front page

Society. The lecture will take place at 11 a.m. in the Syracuse Public Library’s meeting room, entering through the Harrison Street door.

The second part of the program will take place in the Syracuse Cemetery. Participants will be given a recently-developed Syracuse Cemetery Self-Guided Tour Brochure and will have until May 13 to fill out the “scavenger hunt” detailed in the brochure.

You can set your own pace as you visit the graves of prominent Syracuse citizens, investigate local gravestone symbols, make grave rubbings, and discover how gravestone data can help tell the story of Syracuse’s past.

Completed brochures will be returned to the Syracuse Public Library or Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum by May 13, and prizes will be awarded.

For more information or to register for the program, contact Becky Browner at the Syracuse Public Library, 574-457-3022, or Karen Kelsheimer at the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum, 574-457-3599.
Linda Ford and her husband Spike are typical of what is so great about Wawasee Memories 2013, a keepsake DVD about life on beautiful Lake Wawasee.

The DVD is not just usual documentary fare or dry facts and figures, it's full of personal observations from your friends and neighbors on what has made this lake so special for generations.

The Fords are just two of more than 50 lake residents, young and old, who have wonderful stories and observations to share on the DVD.

You will love hearing about some of the "characters" who have lived here over the years! There are stories about what was involved in getting to Wawasee in the late 1800's. There are also interesting stories of how people found out about Lake Wawasee. Kids, as well as adults have a lot to say about Wawasee, telling funny stories, serious stories, and sharing treasured family memories.

You'll also see video from the WPOA annual fireworks, the Flotilla Parade, a WACF water bug catch, ice boating, a summer wedding and much more.

Want to know about ice harvesting for "ice boxes" (refrigerators) in the 1930's, the 1998 N ordyke Park winter fire that took down three homes, the history and importance of "Boat In Worship", Lake Ice Fishing, Winter 2013-14.

Please cut out and return to:
WPOA
P.O. Box 427
Syracuse, IN 46567

Wawasee Memories 2013 DVD
$20.00 plus $5.00 for shipping

Name: ____________________________
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Home Address: (City, State & Zip Code)
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Home Phone: _______________________
Cell Phone: _________________________

Check No.: _________________________ Check Date: __________
Hoping the lake thaws out soon

By Nate Bosch, Ph.D.
Center for Lakes and Streams, Grace College

Ice brings our lake lives to a halt for all but the hardiest, willing to traverse the frozen surface for ice boating and fishing.

This could lead you to believe that the lake itself becomes inactive in the winter months. But under the ice there is more going on than meets the eye.

As air temperatures decrease over the winter ice begins to form on the surface of the water. In northern Indiana, ice thickness is typically seven to eight inches but can get up to 24 to 30 inches in colder winters. The ice thickness on Lake Wawasee reached about 18 inches this winter.

Lake Wawasee wasn’t the only lake that experienced higher ice accumulation this year. Ice cover on the Great Lakes reached as much as 90.5% on March 2, which is just shy of the record set in February 1979 of 95% ice cover.

This parallel is encouraging because it suggests that we can continue to look to the Great Lakes as indication of our lake conditions, just as were able to see parallels between local lake level data and Great Lakes data in our recent lake levels report.

So what does the presence of ice mean for the lakes? The ice alters the lake environment by insulating and shading the lake and forming a seal that stops oxygen transfer from the air and water.

The water temperature stays around 39 degrees for the entire winter except for the water very near the ice surface, which is close to the freezing point of 32 degrees. The ice insulates the lake from getting much colder than it is when the ice initially forms.

The ice (and especially snow-covered ice) stops some of the sunlight from getting into the lake where the phytoplankton (also known as algae) can utilize it. The colder temperatures and lower light levels decrease the activity of the phytoplankton under the ice, so they produce less oxygen.

As winter comes to a close and air temperatures start to rise, the ice melts and oxygen can enter the lake again. The question is, will the oxygen last until spring? For the sake of the lake, and for all of us having endured this winter, we hope the thaw comes soon.

WACF plans summer activities, erosion control project

By Heather Harwood
WACF Executive Director

The Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation appreciates your support and we look forward to another summer of programming at the WACF Levinson Labrosse Lakes and Wetlands Education Center and our popular canoe trips down the 10-lake chain.

Your conservancy is here to help protect our wetlands and water quality and make life at the lake even better.

Join us for “Lake Talk and Eats,” sponsored by the WACF Ecology/Education Committee and their leader Diana Castell.

“Lake Talk and Eats” will take place from 9-11 a.m. on the first Saturday of the summer months of June, July and August. If features guest speakers and a free breakfast! This summer come and enjoy this schedule:

• June 7 — Dr. Nate Bosch, of Center for Lakes and Streams, Grace College.
• July 5 — Annual Bug Catch with Nancy Brown.
• August 2 — Healthy Shorelines.

A big part of WACF’s effort includes projects in the watershed to control erosion, keeping dirt out of our lakes. Up next is sediment control into Wawasee via Leeland Channel.

The work includes a grass waterway upstream of Martin Creek (behind the Wawasee Middle School), a sediment basin and tree planting. Join us for the kick-off meeting for this project on Thursday, April 17, at 6 p.m. at the WACF Education Center, 11586 N. SR 13, Syracuse (one mile south of the Syracuse sign).

We’ll discuss the project and why the Great Lakes Commission is partnering with WACF to pursue sediment control in this area.

Also, please help us welcome Judy Shoemaker as our new Development Officer. Judy joins WACF with wonderful experience and we look forward to her energy and enthusiasm as a part of WACF.

Check out the WACF website: www.wacf.com for information on critical issues (like boating in shallow water, preventing stirring of the lakebed and getting optimum performance from a wakeboat board boat), watershed studies, projects, calendar of events, maps, aerial photos and watershed videos by our own Susie Brandes.

The website also shows WACF properties and includes lawn care recommendations and volunteer opportunities.

Hope to see you this summer!
For 17 years, the Orderly Development Committee (ODC) has protected the interests of home and property owners around Lake Wawasee by serving as a “watchdog” over requests for planning and zoning variances.

The board of directors of the Wawasee Property Owners Association created the committee in 1998 to review variance and exception applications to the Kosciusko County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

In reviewing requests, the ODC considers how the variance would affect the lake and surrounding property in several areas, including:

- Ecological soundness;
- Promotion of open space;
- Reasonable lot coverage;
- Recognition of the seasonal nature of use for development;
- Restriction or elimination of “funneling” density through small tracts or right-of-ways, and;
- Promotion of reasonable and sensible use of both lakefront and adjacent “off-water” property to create a good “fit” with the variety of conditions that exist on Lake Wawasee.

The all-volunteer ODC consists of real estate and design professionals, along with dedicated “lay-people” from around the lake together providing a balanced and informed opinion with the best interests of all Wawasee owners and residents in mind.

Each month, the ODC obtains and reviews petitions to the Area Planning Commission, and submits its comments and recommendations to the BZA for their review in considering each case. The county BZA has the final word, but over the years the BZA has come to value the ODC’s input.

For example, a detached guest-house (sometimes over a garage or boathouse) for use by family and friends (not a rental unit) on the same lot as a principal residence is not allowed by the ordinance. But, on a deep and narrow lot we find this preferable to attaching the guest quarters to the main house via a long and typically unnecessary breezeway.

In the past, the BZA often required such a connection, but has now come to agree with the ODC’s point of view and allow such development as it promotes less lot coverage and more “green” (open) space.

Lakefront patterns of use differ from other residential areas regulated by the zoning ordinance, and the ODC strives to find some consistency in reactions to similar requests. However, each request will continue to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, as special conditions often apply.

Those special conditions are sometimes hard to recognize, given the limited information required for the BZA application, and this is where WPOA members can help.

While the ODC attempts to gather as much information as possible about each case, additional material is always welcome.

The ODC collects copies of applications, site plans, and staff comments from the Planning Commission, and aerial photographs from the county database. Often, committee members will drive by properties to better understand a request.

When schematic plans, elevations or explanatory photos are available, please feel free to pass them along so the ODC can include the information in its review. That additional information can help in understanding the project intent and sometimes impact the ODC’s opinion. Just make sure to submit everything well before the BZA hearing.

If you are planning a construction project, you should be sensitive to the conditions around you. Even if your situation doesn’t require a variance or an exception, reinforcing good patterns or correcting existing problems should be a goal. Each area around the lake has developed its own character over the years, and working toward a “good fit” not only benefits individuals, but the lake as a whole.

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**Orderly Development Committee the WPOA’s watchdog**

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**‘Get Your Game On’ for 2014 Flotilla**

If you love to play games, you will love the 2014 edition of the annual Wawasee Flotilla.

The flotilla committee has selected the theme “Get Your Game On” for the 2014 Flotilla, scheduled for Saturday, July 5, 2014. This will be the 53rd annual flotilla, which began in 1961.

Participants will be decorating their boats to depict their favorite game, whether it’s Scrabble, Monopoly, Beer Pong, Portal II, or Wheel of Fortune.

The flotilla has become a staple of the Fourth of July celebration on Lake Wawasee every summer, attracting thousands of lake residents and their guests to the shoreline to watch the parade of boats cruise by.

This year, the decorated boats will gather in front of the Wawasee Spink Condominiums at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 5. The parade will begin at 1:30 and move around the entire lake in a clockwise direction.

In addition to decorated boats, folks along the shoreline are invited to decorate their piers and lakefronts with the same “Get Your Game On” theme.

In order to be eligible to win an award, participants must register. Registration forms will be available at local retailers. You can also register by calling 574-457-3775 or sending an e-mail to hollytuttle@yahoo.com. Same day registration will also be accepted.

Awards this year will include the coveted Commodore Cup, DNR, Wawasee Property Owners Association, Neighborhood, Youth, Wawasee History, Most Patriotic, Commercial/Industrial, Non-Profit, Best Wooden Boat, Best Antique Boats, and Most Original. An award will also be given for the best on-shore display.

The Commodore for the annual flotilla will be named at a later date.

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Please send all correspondence regarding LakeViews to Jim Kroemer, editor, at jim.kroemer@gmail.com
Bay Point III paid in full, how about you?

Statements reminding WPOA members to pay their annual dues were mailed out in January, and already at least one neighborhood has had 100 percent of its members pay in full.

Janet Hartley, administrative officer of the Wawasee Property Owners Association, said every member of the Bay Point Condominiums, Phase III, had already paid their dues by the middle of February. Congratulations!

Janet also reminded LakeViews readers that only residents who have paid their $75.00 annual dues will receive the Neighbors directory, listing all Lake Wawasee property owners and residents. If your dues are received by March 31, there will be a check mark beside your name in Neighbors indicating you are a member in good standing.

Remember, WPOA is your voice with Indiana state government, the City of Syracuse, the DNR, the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department, the board of Zoning Appeals and other lake associations.

Additional benefits include:

- Liaison with WACF (in fact they were created by WPOA when members saw a need for greater conservancy efforts.
- Lake safety is our high priority. We patrol the lake in boats owned and managed by WPOA.
- We provide continuing support for the development of the Syracuse/Wawasee Trails project.
- We provide and maintain the “pump and dump” stations at the public boat launch to help keep our lake clean.
- We provide funding for educational projects in local schools.
- We provide street lights at many dark points around the lake for safety.
- We have developed, installed and maintain dry hydrants for continued fire protection around the lake.
- We saw the need and helped develop severe weather warning systems around the lake.
- We develop, coordinate and implement the annual Fourth of July Fireworks display.
- We print and distribute a newsletter four times a year.
- Your directors are your neighbors, volunteering many hundreds of man hours to make all this happen at a reasonable cost.

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Please tear off and return: to WPOA • P.O. Box 427 • Syracuse, IN 46567

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Calendar of Events

May 10  Syracuse Artisan & Farmer’s Market Opens
May 16  Annual Cruise In and Car Show
May 17  Directors Meeting
May 25  Boat-Worship Begins
May 26  Neighbors Directory Delivery
May 30  Wine, Cheese & Chocolate Experience — Oakwood Resort
June 14  Directors Meeting — Public Meeting — Oakwood Resort
June 18  Chamber Golf Outing
June 21  WPOA/SLA Annual Breakfast — Oakwood Resort
June 28  Cocktails for Cancer — Oakwood Resort
July 4  Syracuse Lake Fireworks
July 5  Wawasee Property Owners Association Fireworks
July 5  Wawasee Flotilla — “Get Your Game On”

This is not a full listing for the calendar of events in 2014, more to come in next issue. Go to www.wawaseepoa.org for full listing.