

Indian Lake Smoke Signal

• INDIAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION •

President's Message

by Mark Rumreich

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OFTEN REQUIRE BOARD APPROVAL

We're glad to see that residents are making improvements to their properties, but the Indian Lake Covenants require that residents submit pre-construction plans to the board for approval for many projects including docks, fences, and sheds. If you're unsure whether approval is needed, contact a board member. Plans don't need to be elaborate, but they should show project dimensions and the location with respect to the property lines. They should also include a rendering of the finished result. The board usually responds to approval requests very quickly, and can alert homeowners to potential issues they hadn't considered, avoiding trouble down the road.

The Covenants are available at: http://www.indianlakehoa.com/docs/recorded_covenants.pdf

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

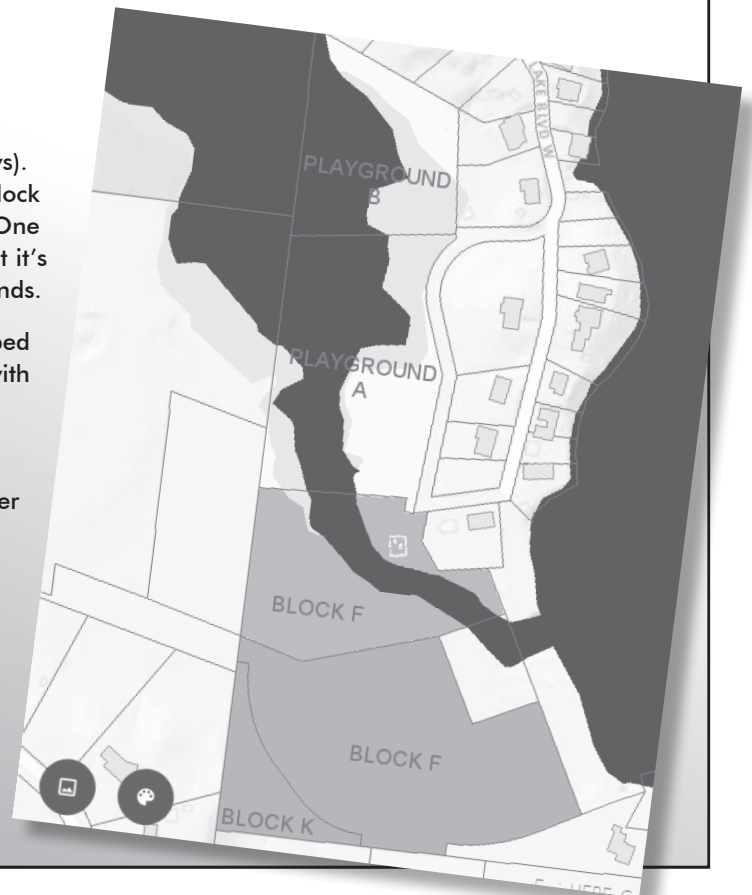
Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find some of the infrastructure projects that we embarked on this summer. I'd like to thank Phil Marble for his leadership role and the significant time and effort he devoted to making them successful.

BLOCK F, BLOCK K, AND PLAYGROUNDS A AND B

In 1977, some Indian Lake common properties were sold to residents without modifying the covenants (then called bylaws). The covenants still state that the affected playgrounds and Block K are for the common use and benefit of all ILIA members. One of these properties is now for sale, so the board believes that it's time for a written policy regarding the ownership of these lands.

The board believes that these lands should never be developed because the adjacent homeowners bought their properties with that understanding. It feels that the covenants should spell out that ownership of these lands does not confer lake use rights, dwelling construction rights, or voting rights, but that they should eventually be subject to assessments, just as other residents pay assessments on their vacant parcels.

The board will be discussing this matter with its attorney. Modifying the covenants would require a special meeting and could be expected to take place in the next few months.



Summer 2022 Infrastructure Projects

The Board completed three important projects for Indian Lake Infrastructure this summer: expanded parking at South Beach, East End spoils excavation, and the creation of a permanent dredge trailer parking spot.

SOUTH BEACH PARKING: It became apparent to the Board that additional parking was needed at South Beach to accommodate all of the new boaters and others that are using this beautiful common area. To make room for the parking, we hired a company to remove four large dead trees and grind the stumps. Secondly, our excavator company dug out and prepared the area for stone. Then a quad-axle truck brought one load of #2 stone for a strong base, and one load of #53 stone to layer on top of the 2's. Our excavator contractor then used his skid steer to level out the gravel. This should add 7-8 new parking spots to the area. This will enable us to move the port-o-let out of the main area that has the fire pit and picnic tables. We also had a donation of a really nice cement picnic table with two benches.



EAST END SPOILS EXCAVATION: Every year we dig out the large pond that we utilize to collect the silt that we pump out of the lake. It comes into the pond through a large pipe powered by the dredge, and then over the dredging season and afterward, the silt settles to the bottom. Then we hire a company to come in with an excavator to dig out the silt so that we can haul it away. This project has been completed and we estimate that 130 truckloads of dirt are piled up and will be hauled out when it has dried. This equates to approximately 1,690 cubic yards of dirt, or 2,600 tons. In order to make room for the new pile of dirt, we hauled out 112 truckloads of dirt.



PARKING SPOT FOR DREDGE TRAILER: We have created a graveled parking spot for the dredge trailer and semi-truck in the spoils area. This will be used for the dredge trailer during dredging season and the semi-truck year-round. We put down one quad-axle of gravel after our excavating company carved out a parking area.

We're sorry to report
the unexpected
passing of Indian Lake
resident Sandy Joseph
on October 4th.

The Josephs moved to Indian Lake
in the early nineties and they
started and raised their
family here. We'll miss
seeing Sandy and
chatting with her.

Our heartfelt condolences
to the Joseph family.

Blast from the Past

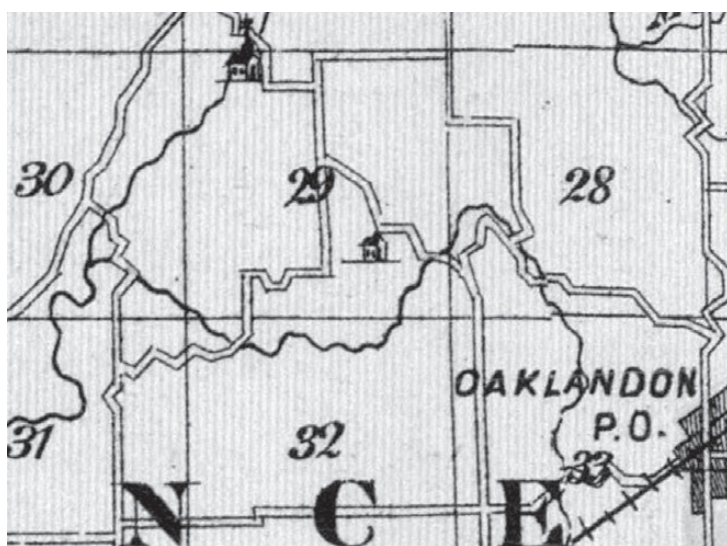
This map from 1876 shows the Indian Lake area more than fifty years before Indian Lake was created.

Fall Creek Road, 63rd Street, Lee Road and portions of 79th Street and Sunnyside Road all existed in 1876. A portion of what is now Indian Lake Road also existed, connecting to 79th Street on the north. The portion which now includes the bridge over Indian Creek did not exist, a covered bridge was built in 1899. The building symbols are for a church and a school house.

The church appears to be Pleasant View United Brethren Church. It was a log church built about 1845 on the east bank of Fall Creek on high ground known as Mt. Holy. After about thirty years, the congregation disbanded.

The school is Township School No. 5. It was one of ten frame school buildings built around 1856. The first teacher was George Speece. In 1884, James Watson was the teacher.

The small map shows present-day Indian Lake overlaid on the 1876 map. The path of Indian Creek today is quite different than that shown in the 1876 map. Either the creek has meandered or the map maker was in error.



WHY RIVERS MEANDER

Initially, when a slight curve is already present in the river, water travels around the outer edge of the curve faster than the inner edge, because it's covering a greater distance in the same amount of time.

As water moves faster, more of the sediment in it stays suspended instead of settling to the bottom. So along the inside of the curve, sediment gradually gets deposited as it settles out of the slower-moving water. Along the outside of the curve, more sediment stays suspended, and some of it scrapes against the riverbank, carving out the curve further.

This process accelerates as the meander becomes more curvy, since there's a bigger and bigger difference in water speed. Eventually, though, when adjacent curves in the river become so curvy that they meet, water punches through, looking for the shortest path. This cuts the curve off entirely, forming a separate body of water called an oxbow lake, which often dries up quickly.

We think of rivers as stable features of the landscape: something we can build towns and cities next to, and expect to stay in the same spot permanently. But in reality, they're constantly moving — and as much as we try it's impossible to keep them entirely under control.

References

1. Map of Marion County. Published by Baskin, Forster & Co. Lakeside Building Chicago, 1876.
2. 1889 Atlas of Indianapolis and Marion County, Indiana [Lawrence Township]
3. History of Indianapolis and Marion County, Indiana by B. R. Sulgrove [L. H. Everts & Co, Philadelphia, 1884].
4. <https://www.vox.com/2015/2/5/7986829/river-meander>

Creek Clearing Project

Our beautiful 60-acre lake is primarily fed by Indian Creek. This is a creek that winds through the 25-square-mile watershed. After heavy rains, there can be a large influx of debris including massive logs from fallen trees. We do our best to keep the creek clear so that there is an orderly flow into the lake.

We have concentrated most of our dredging efforts in the Papoose area of the lake in order to capture the silt that comes in through the creek, as well as trash and other debris. The big logs, if captured there, can be floated via the workboat to the beaches and then cut up for firewood. Some remain by the shoreline and provide excellent shelter for the fish population and resting places for birds and turtles.

We get into a problem when logs are floating in the lake, partially submerged in high-traffic areas or in the middle of the lake. So these are promptly removed whenever possible. With respect to the mouth of the creek, there is a deeper channel on the right side of the creek. Boaters whether by pontoon, canoe or kayak, love to experience the beautiful, albeit short trip along its shores. Unfortunately, the mouth of the creek has been blocked by a logjam of fallen trees that have floated down the creek toward the lake, as well as fallen or leaning trees from the peninsula into the creek.

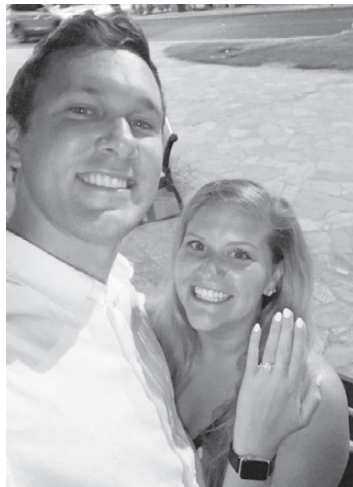


Across the Fence

Please welcome the **Boyers** to Indian Lake. Ana, Eric, and family moved to 6840 Winona Drive in August. They are a blended family with 6 children ages 2, 3, 6, 8, 15, and 17 named Wolfie, Jameson, Luna, Rain, Sophia, and DJ. They have an Australian Shepherd named Reggie and a Yorkie named Lucy. They love spending time together as a family, being outdoors, going to sporting events, going to the farmer's markets, and taking short road trips around Indiana together. Ana says they are so in love with their amazing forever home and community.



Jordan Van Treese and Tracy Thibodeau were engaged in Hawaii on Oahu in July. Congratulations to the happy couple!



Colson Conrad Van Treese was born on September 8th to Lara & Stephan Van Treese. Joyce & Dan Van Treese welcome their first grandchild! And of course, Great Grandma Linda Van Treese is beaming with the whole family!



Board meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month except November and January. Meetings are at 7 PM at the Indian Lake Country Club. All Indian Lake residents are welcome to attend.

When You Need To Call



KEEP THIS WITH YOUR
INDIAN LAKE PHONE DIRECTORY

Assessments – Jay White	296-3530
Beach reservations - any board member	
Boat slip rentals - RJ Russell	281-0024
Boat stickers - Andy Van Treese	627-0737
Car stickers - Jay White	296-3530
Civic Committee - Stevi Kersh	691-4854
South Beach gate - Andy Van Treese	627-0737

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Rumreich (president)	823-3897
Andy Van Treese (vp)	627-0737
Jay White (treasurer)	296-3530
Joe Dayan	910-7751
Ryan Free	627-5674
Kyle Hurd	416-7982
Phil Marble	702-5715
Mike Nix	538-2729
Tom Oliger	847-6328
RJ Russell	281-0024

By Kimberly Hunt

When asked what Indian Lake neighbors should know about him, Richard Urgo jovially responded, "I'm a really, really, really, really nice guy, and I have a mustache." In addition to those notable characteristics, Urgo also has a unique background. Though of Irish heritage, he grew up on an Iroquois reservation in East Aurora, New York. From this immersive experience, he maintains an avid and abiding interest in the cultures and religions of indigenous peoples. In fact, Richard and his wife, Melody, just returned from vacationing on the Seneca reservation in western New York where they enjoyed touring The Finger Lakes.

Water is another one of Richard's lifelong passions. He's had a wide range of experiences from riverboats in Vietnam to a six-person lighthouse on the Hudson River. He served six years in the Coast Guard followed by three more years on the Great Lakes with the Army Core of Engineers. Richard's work for the Army had him piloting a 110-foot tugboat and various smaller craft to perform stream flow analysis to determine the amount of environmental damage done by changing levels of rivers and lakes. Richard's crew also conducted marine construction to repair the environmental damage they found.

How does an East Coast mariner find himself in land-locked Indiana? Family. In 1978, Richard's stepfather called upon him, and his accounting degree, to assist with a factory he purchased. Richard answered the call and moved to Fort Wayne where he pursued a second graduate degree in business at Indiana Wesleyan University. (Urgo earned his first graduate degree in theology while at the seminary.)

In 2009 Richard put his military background and business acumen to work for the U.S. government in the Department of Veteran's Affairs as an authorizer for disability compensation, a position from which he will retire this year. It's probably no surprise that Richard plans to spend much of his retirement on the water. Purchasing and renovating their waterfront home on Winona Drive in 2017 was part of this plan. Now Richard is getting ready to purchase his retirement vessel, which he and Melody plan to take on long excursions up and down the expansive Tennessee River whenever they aren't floating along the peaceful waters of their own backyard right here on Indian Lake.

Meet the Neighbor: Richard Urgo

