

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume V, Issue 3 September 2017

Archaeology Month By Jamie Clemons



Every September, Indiana celebrates Indiana Archaeology Month. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) works with other organizations throughout the state to bring talks and activities to these venues in order to bring more awareness to the prehistoric and historic histories of our great state. If you are interested in what is being offered, look on the IDNRs website at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/3674.htm> for the complete listing of sponsored events. This year is focusing on Eli Lilly and his contributions to the archaeology of Indiana.

During the summer of 1929, Lilly visited J.P. Dolan, who had a large collection of Native American artifacts. Dolan was well known for his "Indian Cabinet" of artifacts found around Lakes Wawasee, Syracuse, and Waubee. It is this collection which makes up the bulk of the museum's Native American collection today. Following this visit, Lilly began building his own collection and his understanding of archaeology and the historic past for the next two decades. By early 1931, Lilly owned several shelves of archaeology books, of which he would spend his summers reading while at Lake Wawasee.

After focusing his attention of chronological sequencing, Lilly put Glenn Black in the field and they became the closest friends. Black would go on to contribute more to Indiana archaeology than any other person. Lilly would go on to publish *Prehistoric Antiquities of Indiana* in 1937, *Early Wawasee Days* in 1965, and other books on the subject.

IN Historical Grant Acceptance By Ann Vanderford Garceau

"A Virtual Window on the Dawn of Indiana Archaeology: Digitizing the Dolan Collection"

The museum has submitted a \$20,000 request to the Indiana Historical Society for an Indiana Heritage Support Grant underwritten by the Lilly Endowment to develop a virtual exhibit of a large and significant collection of Indian artifacts amassed by Mr. J.P. Dolan in the 19th and 20th centuries. Mr. Eli Lilly was drawn to view Mr. Dolan's "cabinet of artifacts" during his summers at Lake Wawasee influencing his lifelong interest in archaeology. In collaboration with Ball State University's Applied Anthropology Laboratories, artifacts in the collection will be categorized, identified, labeled, and cataloged. New interactive exhibits will also be created. The museum will be looking to the community to support the required 15% (\$3,000) local match.

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The Syracuse Public Library and the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum have received an \$11,000 grant to expand the already established Syracuse-Wawasee Indiana Memory site on the Internet. Becky Miller has been hired to digitize this expanded collection which will include Garry Ringler's postcards and photographs of local landmarks and people of the Syracuse area dating back to the 1800s, several early maps of Lake Wawasee, architectural plans of W.E. Long's teahouse, Syracuse High School composite photographs 1909 - 1968, and a 1910 year-long, weekly newspaper series of articles by George Miles on the history of Syracuse. Check the website out regularly for new additions.

Summer Updates

Centennial Homes Talks

This year, we attempted something new. Something exciting! I'm talking about the Centennial Homes Talks. In 2016, we began this adventure with one talk for the summer. We quickly learned that this was just too interesting of a topic to hold on one day. This year, we attempted having one of these talks each summer month and it was a great success.

June: Oakwood
 July: Pickwick Park
 August: Frank Remy Connection

It has been a great honor to host the homeowners and to learn about the history of their homes and the area. The museum is working on putting a DVD together of all of the 2017 talks that will be available for purchase. The 2016 talk is already available for the purchase price of \$5. Topics of next summer's Centennial Homes Talks will be released in the spring.

Youth History Club

The 2017 edition of the museum's Youth History Club was a wonderful success this year! We had a record 107 kids participating in the eight week program. The programs that brought in the most kids were "Tree Identification", "Knot Tying", and "Making the Atlatl".

The museum was extremely happy to include the kids from Lakeland Learning Center's "Latch Key" program for several of the topics. The museum also hosted 23 kids from the Ft. Wayne Area Conservancy's day camp program for a fun-filled day learning about the Miami tribe and their farming techniques, clothing, habitats, and hunting methods. During this time, the FWAC kids participated in making atlatls, learning weapon safety, and testing their atlatls out behind the community center.

Next summer's topics for Youth History Club is still in the works, but we will again host Archaeologist Cathy from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources during the first weeks of June. The director welcomes any suggestions and help in planning next year's topics. If you think you have an interesting topic that could be engaging to children in grades 1-8, please don't hesitate in contacting our director to discuss the possibilities.

Fall Programs & Center Events

- September 23—"Eli Lilly and the Dawn of Archaeology" Talk, 10:30am & 1:00pm, Celebration Hall
- September 23—Museum's 30th Anniversary Open House Celebration, 11:30am-1:00pm, Celebration Hall
- October 14—Harvest Fest in Lakeside Park
- October 21—Community Garage Sale, 9:00am-2:00pm, Syracuse Community Center, Concessions by the museum
- October 28—LYC Fall Festival, 6:00-8:00 pm, Syracuse Community Center
- December 2—Breakfast with Santa, 8:00-11:00am, \$3/adult, free for children, Reindeer Food craft in museum

The following is taken from the history of Syracuse and Lake Wawasee, compiled by George W. Miles, and printed in the Syracuse Journal weekly, in 1909:

Indian Hill, across the lake from where Pearl Street in Syracuse runs down to it, was a place of some sort of ceremonies, or dances, or incantations, the meaning of which we do not know, though we wish we did, so that we could tell you. What we do know is that the ground on top of it was barren of grass, and was patted down solid by the feet of the natives in their ceremonies there. And it was reported in after years that it had been used, too, as a burial place for children, whose coffins, made by burning hollow places in logs, were hung in the trees there, but we were never able to verify this report, and whether it is true we cannot tell you. And indeed, it matters little whether it is true. Certain it is that this little mound was sacred ground to the aborigines, and its name is most fitting and should never be changed.

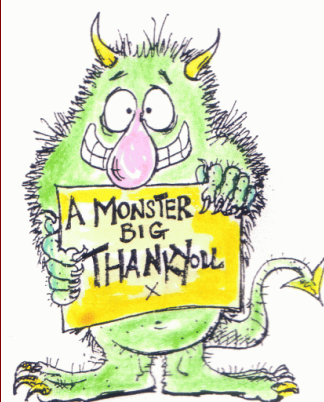
Across Wawasee the lake from Black Stump Point (changed to Lake View by George Lamb and Joe Moore, who did no service for the when they made the change) to Howser's Landing (now Wright Place) lies what has been known as long as the oldest settlers can remember as Indian Trail, and there is a legend that the Indians used to ride across the lake there on their ponies, though the distance across is nearly a mile and a half. And we used to accept this legend without question, though the water there now is too deep to be forded; for you must remember that no dam had yet been built across the outlet of the lake and the water therein was shallower than we know it. True, there is a deep ravine running down the south side of the lake just out from Black Stump Point, but it is narrow and the Indian ponies could easily have swum across it. But of late years we have learned that the bottom of the lake from where the shallow water begins after crossing this ravine, almost to the north shore, is soft marl, into which the ponies would have sunk and through which it must have been quite impossible for them to have made their way; and so we have been compelled to discredit the story. But "The Indian Trail" remains—and it is good fishing ground all the way across.

[...]And this "Indian Trail" that we had known so long, when the boys of the biological station of the Indiana University came to take soundings and map the bottom of the lake, proved to be not a "trail"—a narrow ridge, as it had always been believed to be, but a portion of a large flat that extends all down the north side of the lake from Ogden Island to the outlet.

Donations

Another great season for donations to the museum!

- ◊ Curt and Doris Stucky—Laura Stucky's "Syracuse Business & Professional Women's Club" favorite recipe book; Jim Stucky's Mail-Journal newspaper clippings RE Shanna Zolman
- ◊ Rowena Impey—A Girl Named Zippy (book)
- ◊ Myrna Harting—Glasses belonging to Ralph Leacock, (SHS class of 1930) and Turkey Creek Golf Course stroke keeper
- ◊ Carolyn Baker—SHS 1966 Cheer block photo, SHS dismissal bell
- ◊ Clifford Wogoman—3 Don Byrd clubs
- ◊ Mary Fisher—Wawasee Plaza Marina keychain bobber and two Sesquicentennial medallions
- ◊ David Bushong—Avon Bushong complete WWII uniform
- ◊ Marilyn Grigsby—NORWAY magazine of basic facts on Adolph Hitler
- ◊ Robert Rush—Sargents Hotel wooden chair
- ◊ Matthew W. Roth—"Lilly At A Glance" book
- ◊ Jack Darr—Wooden carved jug with printed "Lake Wawasee" and Waco framed photos
- ◊ Anita Cassidy—Sesquicentennial shot glass
- ◊ Richard & Becky Bushong—Items belonging to George Bushong
- ◊ Susan & Jeff Barnes—WPOA directories
- ◊ Dan & Tiger Sommers—Putter and ball from Tiger's Miniature Golf





Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum

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Email: director@syracusemuseum.org

Website: www.syracusemuseum.org

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

“Eli Lilly and the Dawn of Indiana Archaeology” Talk &

Museum 30th Anniversary

September 23, 2017

10:30 & 1:00

Celebration Hall

**Anniversary Celebration will take place between
talks. Free admission!**

Thank You! By Ann Garceau

*“IN GOLF AS IN LIFE,
IT IS THE FOLLOW THROUGH
THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.”*



And follow through they did! The museum couldn't have asked for better co-operation from the three area golf courses – Maxwellton, South Shore, and Wawasee – in loaning items for display. Tom Tuttle added memorabilia from his family's association with South Shore. Brad Cox, Myrna Harting, and Bob Baugher brought the long-gone Turkey Creek Golf Course to life. We continually learned more throughout the summer about the many area miniature golf courses. Perhaps the research highlight for Ann Garceau was a perfectly delightful, two hour chat with Dan and “Tiger” Sommers who cherish the memories of Tiger's Miniature Golf Course on SR 13. It was heartwarming to listen to comments from friends and family of the honored, former standout area golfers –Stephen Conrad, Karl Freese, and Darrell Krugman. The Indiana Golf Federation was very generous in loaning their Don Byrd exhibit, and Georgia Ernst loaned Frank Remy items honoring the founder of the Wawasee Golf Course. Cliff Wogoman even donated three of Don Byrd's personalized persimmon golf clubs. Thanks go to Mill Creek East Elementary in Clayton, Indiana, for sharing their miniature golf “hole.” It provided lots of fun for young and old alike. Those making a hole in one on their first try were treated to blizzards compliments of Dairy Queen. Overall, the entire exhibit scored a “Hole in one!”