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# Wolf Lake Advocate

Working across state boundaries to enhance Wolf Lake

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**Mission and Purpose:** *The Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative (AWLI) is a bi-state, not-for-profit organization and land trust. It seeks to improve and enhance Wolf Lake and surrounding natural areas in three ways.*

- *As custodian of the Wolf Lake Vision as developed by the Bi-State Gatherings on Wolf Lake of 2000-2001, AWLI pursues its primary goal by implementing the vision.*
- *AWLI promotes Wolf Lake by sponsoring annual festivals, conducting tours and sponsoring other activities.*
- *It advocates for improved policies and practices through its Vision Implementation Task Force. AWLI also convenes Community Meetings on Wolf Lake.*

Governed by a Board of Directors, AWLI is served by a 27-member Advisory Group. The Legacy Foundation manages a bi-state endowment fund for Wolf Lake established by AWLI.

### **Schedule set for 8<sup>th</sup> wetlands festival:**

Tentative schedule for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Wolf Lake Bi-State Wetlands, Wind and Water festival held during Memorial Day weekend features, among other events, canoeing and kayaking, fishing clinics, kite flying, wind surfing instruction and cricket frog calling.

Sponsored by the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative (AWLI), the event, free to the public, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 24-25.

Collaborating this year with AWLI are the Hammond Port Authority, Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Ward Aldermanic Office, Hammond's Department of Parks and Recreation, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Lake County Solid Waste Management District, Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau, American Legion Illiana Post 220, Polish Legion of American Veterans, Chicago Public Library's Hegewisch and Vodak/East Side branches, East Side United Methodist Church, and Boy Scouts of America.

Funders of the event include Centier Bank, Green Fields Trading Company, Hasse Construction Company, Inc. and the Legacy Foundation.

Activities are scheduled as follows:

**Saturday Morning, May 24**

**Wm Powers Conservation Area, Chicago, near boat launch**

9 a.m: Fishing Clinic by Jerry Carter of Southeast Chicago Sportsmen's Club  
(under 16 years)

## *Keeping In The Loop*

by Michael Boos, Executive Director

### **AWLI Challenged**

AWLI is undergoing its first challenge in its history.

This month the Legacy Foundation awarded AWLI a \$2,500 challenge grant. To receive the money, AWLI must raise \$2,500 of its own, first.

To reach the match, AWLI's Membership Committee is seeking volunteers to make follow-up calls to some 500 business that have received solicitation letters. Second, it is distributing canisters to select businesses for donations.

If you wish to help, be sure to call Eveline at the office: 312 220-0120 or 219 933-7149.

### **AWLI Awaits**

The failure by the state of Illinois to pass a budget affects AWLI.

AWLI is seeking a second grant from the Department of Commerce and Economic

Opportunity through State Rep. Marlow Colvin for \$25,5000.

The Senate has passed a bill authorizing the grant, but the House has yet to vote on it.

Our initial 18-month grant received with the help from Colvin was awarded in 2006 and expired in mid-2007.

### **Grant from Citizens Savings Foundation**

The foundation of Citizens Financial Bank awarded AWLI a \$1,200 grant earlier this year.

AWLI sought the grant for its capacity-building efforts.

This is the second grant from the bank's foundation. The first paid for the design and construction of our display board.

Although they have been redesigned through the years, we still use them and we still credit Citizens Savings Foundation.

### **The Advocate**

The Advocate is the official newsletter of the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative. It is distributed at no cost to AWLI members and to libraries. Please send comments to the editor, Patrick Owens, at AWLI@sbcglobal.net.

10 a.m. Kite Flying by American Legion Illiana Post 220 and the 10<sup>th</sup> Ward Aldermanic Office,  
10 a.m. Hasse Construction Wacky Face Painting by Rebecca Moss, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, et al.

**Saturday Afternoon, May 24,  
Environmental Education Ctr, 2405  
Calumet Avenue, Hammond**  
Noon: Lunch by Dinah Ramirez, Healthy Southeast Chicago  
**Hammond's Wolf Lake Park  
intersection of Sheffield-Calumet  
Avenues**

1 p.m. Canoe/Kayak Paddle Fishing Clinic, Kite Flying by Hammond Port Authority and Boy Scouts of American  
2 p.m. Wind Surfing & Sailing Demo by Jackie Butzen, Windward Sports  
3 p.m. Happy Trails Nature Hike by Art Peschke, Wolf Lake Conservation Project  
4 p.m. Around the Lake Bike Tour by John Pastirik, Calumet Ecological Park Association

**Saturday Evening  
Nike Missile Launch Site parking lot**

5 p.m. Sunset Campfire Song & Story by John Pastirik, CEPA

**Sunday Morning, May 25  
Wm Powers Conservation Area,  
Chicago, Shelter # 2**

6 a.m. Sunrise Service by Rev. Zaki L. Zaki with Sunrise Singers ecumenical choir directed by Mary Kuzniar and Color Guard by Polish Legion of American Veterans  
7 a.m. Breakfast by Jackie Herod, AWLI  
8 a.m. Birds du Jour/Plant ID/Nature Walk by Terry Schilling, Bird Conservation Network  
9 a.m. Educational Displays, Student Demos  
10 a.m. Jennifer Tobin, UIC Extension Service on Native Plantings  
10:30 a.m. Photographing Wolf Lake by Rod Sellers, Southeast Chicago Historical Society, (bring a camera)

**Sunday Afternoon, May 25  
Environmental Education Ctr, 2405  
Calumet Avenue, Hammond**

Noon: Lunch by Dinah Ramirez, Healthy Southeast Chicago  
1:30 p.m. Tour of Environmental Education Center

2 p.m. Art at the Lake Poster winners announced by Bob Victor, AWLI  
2:15 p.m. Dian Fruth of Purdue University Calumet Extension Service on Native Flowers  
2:45 p.m. Tour of restoration along Forsythe Park by Michael Boos, AWLI  
3:30 p.m. Cricket frog call by Alan Resetar, Field Museum of Natural History  
4 p.m. Introduction to Active Living Faire by Dinah Ramirez, Healthy Southeast Chicago.

### **Ecumenical choir featured at fest:**

AWLI has inviting members of area churches to join its ecumenical choir for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Wolf Lake Bi-State Wetlands, Wind & Water festival on Sunday, May 25.

The Sunrise Worship Service will be held near the obelisk at William Powers Conservation Area, Chicago, IL. Dr. Rev. Zaki L. Zaki will officiate with a color guard provided by the Polish Legion of American Veterans.

Mary Kuzniar, choir director at Hammond's Morton High School, will conduct the singing and guitarist/singer Ken Czulno will accompany. A rehearsal will be scheduled approximately a week before the event.

The two-day festival, which is free to the public, showcases the natural resources of the Wolf Lake area in Chicago and Hammond, Indiana, and promotes bi-state cooperation. It provides a fun alternative to those seeking to avoid the high cost of travel to more distant recreational areas.

The whole family will enjoy the entertainment and such recreational events as Birds du Jour, Around the Lake Bike Tour and canoeing/kayaking. There also will be several educational presentations.

**Introduce  
friends to  
Wolf Lake  
and  
surrounds  
through  
an  
attractive  
gift set  
of  
personal  
stationery.**



*C. D. Swan*  
12200 Calumet Avenue  
Hammond, IN 46327

Dear Dwight Egret:

Purchase of this personalized stationery helps protect the wildlife habitat of Wolf Lake and surrounds. Printed on recycled gray or gray tint off-white stock or solid ivory stock, the stationery, 5.5 inches by 8.5, comes in sets of 10. Each illustration depicts wildlife that is found within the habitat that comprises the Wolf Lake area. Proceeds support the efforts of the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative.

Order from AWLI at **219 933-7149** or **312 220-0120**. A set of 10 copies sells for \$15. Two sets are \$25. Five sets are \$50. Make checks payable to AWLI, PO Box 17080, Chicago, IL 60617.

Yours truly,

*C. D. Swan*

C. D. Swan

*The mute swan is among the treasured inhabitants of Wolf Lake and surrounds.*

Besides the kite fly, Saturday's activities include wind surfing and sailing instructions and fishing clinics. Sunday begins with the ecumenical Sunrise Service, with presentations and activities continuing throughout the day.

A cricket frog call and singing and storytelling by campfire conclude the day.

The Festival is also a fund raiser, supporting AWLI's continued efforts to promote, preserve, and enhance the natural area surrounding Wolf Lake. More than \$9 million was spent on Wolf Lake during past years by federal and local agencies.

With that investment, AWLI's commitment looms even greater.

Those who wish to join the choir should contact AWLI at 219-933-7149 or 312-220-0120.

### ***May 2 deadline for art entries:***

Hammond's Franklin and Wallace elementary schools are the first to enter the poster contest for the wetlands festival.

The deadline for entering is Friday, May 2.

The festival will be held May 24-25 during Memorial Day weekend.

Winners will be announced at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 25, at the Environmental Education Center, 2405 Calumet Avenue, Hammond.

Participants are asked to depict the plants and wildlife found at Wolf Lake. Older students are encouraged to include the concept of stewardship that is required to preserve and enhance Wolf Lake plants and wildlife.

The deadline for submitting posters is Friday, May 16. Entries will be judged by a panel in three categories: grades K to 4; grades 5 to 8; and high school.

More than 190 entries were judged at AWLI's Winter Wonderland at Wolf Lake poster contest in January.

Winning posters are on display at the Wolf Lake Park kiosk and at the Environmental Education Center, 2405 Calumet Avenue, Hammond.

First place winner in each category will receive \$25. Second place winners will each receive \$15, and the third prize winners will each receive \$10.

### ***Volunteer day August 22:***

The United Way of Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties will be conducting a Day of Caring on Friday, August 22, according to Eveline Heesaker, AWLI's volunteer coordinator.

She says AWLI's projects for that day includes a phone bank and back-burner type office tasks. Further information will appear on United Way's website after May 1 or just call Eveline at the office.

### ***Wolf Lake CAT appeal:***

Response to a solicitation appeal from AWLI's Corporate Advisory Team has reached \$3,550 as of April 25.

Board members have begun followup calls which are now being made to increase the donations. To date, Jim Taylor and intern Jocelyn Baymon have contributed long hours.

### ***AWLI joins Earth Day events:***

AWLI set up table displays at Earth Day events at Gibson Woods and Sand Ridge Nature Center on April 19.

It will also attend opening ceremonies of the Earth Day Cleanup by the Wolf Lake Conservation Area. That will be held at Hammond's

Wolf Lake Park and clean up will along Boy Scout Drive.

### ***Green summit set for may 31:***

Neighborhoods in the 10<sup>th</sup> Ward are greener this year, and it's not just because of the rain received this winter and spring.

On Saturday, May 31, residents can learn about such greening efforts as new affordable, energy-efficient homes, roof gardens, community gardens, solar-operated trash collectors, and restoration of Hegewisch Marsh, the site of the Ford Environmental Education Center, Wolf Lake and Eggers Grove.

Presentations and demonstrations at the 10<sup>th</sup> Ward Green Summit will be given from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Villa Guadalupe Senior Residence, 3201 E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street, Chicago, and nearby facilities. There will be exhibits on healthy eating and energy efficiency, a bike rodeo and bike clinic and repair.

Environmental exhibits will also be on display from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Zone community center, 117<sup>th</sup> and Avenue O.

A free bus tour will be available for participants to visit locations of existing or proposed green housing, community gardens and recreational/stewardship sites in the 10<sup>th</sup> Ward.

*8th Annual Wolf Lake Bi-State  
Wetlands, Wind  
& Water*

**Festival**

**Sat.-Sun.**

**May 24-25, 2008**



*Paddle canoes, compete in fishing derby, fly kites, view wind surfing demo, learn about critters who hang out at Wolf Lake, learn about Wolf Lake history...and much more.*

For info, call **219 933-7149/312 220-0120**

**Sponsored by AWLI**

“Our neighborhoods are getting greener everyday,” explains Angela Hurlock, executive director of Claretian Associates. “We want to highlight these efforts so that the entire community will be aware of how they can improve their streets, and their blocks.

“There also are energy-efficient practices that we can adopt that will save us money. Those who attend the event on May 31 will be overwhelmed with ideas and impressed with what already has been accomplished.”

Event co-sponsors, the Claretian Associates and the Calumet Stewardship Initiative, say the inaugural 10<sup>th</sup> Ward Green Summit offers area residents a coherent presentation of currently available green, eco-friendly and healthy

initiatives designed to enhance the quality of life. Ideally, its efforts will promote economic development consistent with the community’s cultural and economic diversity.

The Southeast Chicago Historical Society Museum, located in the Calumet Park Field House and repository for many of the area’s cultural treasures, will also be open to visitors on that day.

Planning for the event began in February. The co-sponsors have involved the following network of 27 organizations and agencies:

Arnold Mireles Academy/CPS, Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative, Bush Homeowners and Tenants Association, Calumet Ecological Park Association, Carla Winterbottom–Chicago Conservation

Corps C3, Chicagoland Bicycle Federation, Chicago Department of Environment, Chicago Department of Planning and Development, Chicago Public Schools, Clean Air Counts, Field Museum’s Calumet Environmental Education Program.

Also, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Friends of the Park, Healthy Southeast Chicago, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Knowledge Hook-up, Mayor Daley’s Bicycle Ambassadors, Mighty Acorns, Neighborhood Housing Services/Historic Chicago Greystone Initiative, Sandra Guthrie/Sholeh Saedi–Solare Verde Estates, South Chicago Art Center, South Chicago Chamber of Commerce, Southeast Chicago Historical Society, Southeast Environmental Task Force, Working Bikes Cooperative, 10<sup>th</sup> Ward Aldermanic Office, University of Illinois Extension, and Villa Guadalupe Senior Center

The next planning meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 6. Those wishing to participate in the event, attend the planning meeting, or receive updated information should call 773 734-9181.

***South Shore commuters challenged:***

Commuters taking the South Shore train at the Hegewisch station will find an AWLI challenge canister at the concession counter.

AWLI’s membership committee hopes to distribute a dozen more at businesses in communities around Wolf Lake.

If you think of a good place, call Eveline at AWLI headquarters, 312 220-0120.

***Summer camps at Sand Ridge:***

Youth camps will be held at Sand Ridge Nature Center the summer.

The first two sessions call for four mornings of eye-opening exploration

**A Word from the Interim President**

*Robert A. Victor*

Did you happen to see the sunset at

Wolf Lake on Sunday, April 21?

My wife Alexandra and I and our new dog Tucker did. On the scope of world events it was not a earth shattering moment. but a pleasant moment that more people should be encouraged to share.

(Fact: A million people enjoy Wolf Lake each year).

There were many others at Wolf Lake to share the moments. The silhouettes' of a family having a picnic with the kids running around made another impression as the big orange globe set.

(Many children learn how to fly kites, paddle a canoe, and fish at AWLI's Wetlands, Wind & Water Festival. I was lucky, my father taught me to fish there.)

As we looked up at the sky there were many birds around Wolf Lake that began to call it a night.

(There are hundreds of bird

***President’s Perspective by Robert A. Victor***

species at the lake this time of year as the annual spring migration takes place.)

Another moment occurred as a fisherman tried to land a fish to show his son and daughter that, "Yes, daddy is a good fisherman.”

(Wolf Lake has a large diverse fish population. Some threatened, like the Iowa darter. Some threatening, like white perch.)

All the images we saw were Kodak moments! AWLI has helped preserve and instill this message: The importance of preserving Wolf Lake for future generations to enjoy is a passion worth sharing with others today.

AWLI needs help to continue to be a strong voice in both the states of Illinois and Indiana. I ask visitors to support and join AWLI. I urge members to renew their memberships.

Passion is important, but sometimes it takes more than passion to get the job done.

with staff naturalists.

Eye-Opener Camp (7-8 yrs) 9:30-11:30 a.m., July 7-10,

Eye-Opener Camp (9-10 yrs) 9:30-11:30, July 14-17,

In the final session, older youth will receive four fun-filled days of learning team building and basic survival skills with staff naturalists.

Outdoor Adventure Camp (11-13 yrs), 9:30 a.m.-noon July 28-31

For more information, contact AWLI director Rebecca Moss at Sand Ridge Nature Center, 708 868-0606.

**June 25:** 2 p.m., AWLI's Governance Committee

**June 26:** 3 p.m., AWLI's Membership Committee

**June 26:** 4 p.m., *ALF/WWW.COM* mittee

**June 26:** 6:30 p.m., AWLI's Executive Committee

**July 10:** 4 p.m., *ALF/WWW.COM* mittee

**July 24:** 4 p.m., *ALF/WWW.COM* mittee

**July 31:** 6:30 p.m., Board of Directors

### ***Renewed AWLI members:***

Members who recently renewed memberships for 2008 are Bob & Alexandra Victor, Fran Sowa, Ken Czulno, Ronny Bonnell, Dorothy Spencer Suerth, John Hobgood, and Jackie Butzen at Windward Sports.

If members cannot remember whether they have updated their membership, call the office and we'll gladly check for you.

### ***Native plant sale at Gibson Woods:***

Gibson Woods Wild Ones will host its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Native Plant Sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sat. May 3, at Gibson Woods Nature Center, 6201 Parrish Avenue, Hammond.

More than 100 species of flowers and grasses. For more information, call 219 844-3188.

### ***Calendar:***

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings listed are at the Environmental Education Center, 2405 Calumet Avenue, Hammond.

**May 1:** 4 p.m., *WWW.COM* mittee (festival planners)

**May 8:** 3 p.m. Membership Committee

**May 15:** *WWW.COM* mittee (festival planners)

**May 22:** 4 p.m. *WWW.COM* mittee (festival planners)

**May 29:** 3 p.m. Membership Committee

**May 29:** 6:30 p.m., Board of Directors

**June 5:** 4 p.m. *WWW.COM* mittee (festival debriefing)

**June 25:** 10 a.m., AWLI's Marketing Committee

**June 25:** 1 p.m., AWLI's Development Sub-Committee

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