



At the Trail Head . . .

by Kay Young, Committee Chair

2018 was ushered in with cold temps, ice and snow . . . a somewhat typical Indiana winter. I was surprised to see Wawasee frozen over the day after Christmas when I returned having been gone only two days and it was open when we left.

With the winter weather the use of the trails may be down some but that does not mean those of us on the committee are waiting for warm weather to be busy.

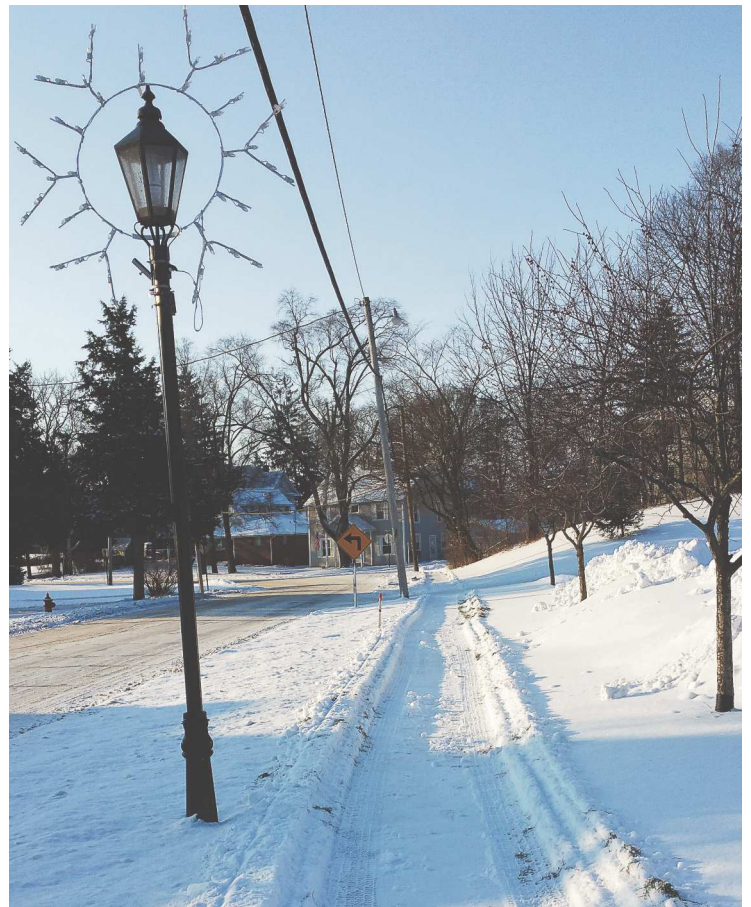
Our primary target is the planned trail section from Harkless Road through the wetlands and WACF property to the Waco Drive area. The plans have been drawn, permitting and agreements have been or are being obtained so that we can start construction soon. So far we have obtained funding from several grants and are waiting to hear on several others in the next month or so. With those funds we will be able to start construction this spring! We will still need your support as the construction proceeds and there are several opportunities for major donors who would be interested in naming this section of the trail. Not a major donor but you still want to be a part of the project? Your donation will be matched by the Dekko Foundation so every dollar you donate will become two! If you would like more information on how you can be a part of this project contact Megan at the Trails office.

This year you will also be seeing progress on the section between Wawasee High School and Brook Pointe Inn. The county has Ok'd the plans and we will be letting bids for spring construction. This section will help to provide a safe avenue for the neighborhoods along the Syracuse/Webster road to both the high school and the new elementary school.

As we move into spring weather look for opportunities to get out and enjoy the trails. The popular Tails to Trails is an early spring walk around the five mile loop starting at the community center. Like the Syracuse-Wawasee Trail on Facebook and keep up with all that is going on with the Trails.

So if you enjoy the trails we hope that you will help us to support them and to expand them. There are many ways for you to support the trails, your time, your talents, and of course your donations. Give us a call to let us know where you would like to help as we continue the dream of connecting the community and the lakes with safe, convenient trails.

See you on the trail . . .



Walking or riding the trail



My name is Becky Brower and I moved to my husband Michael's hometown about 40 years ago. I live on the trail and am the adult programming librarian at the Syracuse Library. Our house is on Northshore Drive and with our south-facing windows we get to watch the many people that use the trail from early in the morning to late at night. We see who is out in what weather, the families that are visiting and get to be outdoors over the holidays, and of course, the daily amble of John LeCount and our many neighbors that take their daily walk, usually with their dogs.

Syracuse has not always been biking and walking friendly. But, some citizens took it upon themselves to put in a walk to circle Syracuse Lake. I can now ride my bike to my bank in the village while avoiding traffic. The group hired a professional trail director and several spurs have extended in a couple of directions. From my house it is a nice bike ride past Boner Lake to Ely Lilly Road. And, we are very excited about the next phase that is extending the trail past the high school on the Syracuse-Webster Road.

Walking is the best exercise and my son and I visit Michael's brother who moved to Country Cove

Walking buddies pictures left to right: Becky Brower, Cyndi Lowe, Cindy Slavin, Malinda Pinney and Kathy Young.

from Ohio three years ago. We make a four mile loop every weekend. From our house to the end of Maxwellton and back is two miles. The trail connects us to the Lakeside Park, along with the streets and alleys of Syracuse. I have been lucky to get to share my back street rambles by having a partnership exercise program between the Trails and the Syracuse Library. The Trails and library also partner for a team in the Mudtastic Classic.

I love the extra challenge of cross-training by finding other activities than ambulation that are on the trail. My goals for the next year are to walk the equivalent of two miles every day and to try a little running, maybe even joining in the couch to 5K.



Youth walking along the trail.

**Look for the New
Brochure Coming
Spring of 2018**

Donations will be matched!!!

Though the trail is free to use, it does take time and money to build and maintain. We need your donations now to help make our vision of a community connected by safe, multi-use trails, a reality.

The Dekko Foundation will match your contribution to the Conklin Bay Trail, dollar-for-dollar. That means that your \$100 donation will be worth \$200 of beautiful boardwalk, connecting people to nature, WACF, and points south on Lake Wawasee.

Please make your contribution today.

Thank you!

Committee Members

Kay Young, Chairman
Dr. Tom Edington, Treasurer
Sam Leman
LuAnn Leatherman
Chad Jonsson
Jerry Wright
Bob Smith,
Dr. Erick Leffler

Future Newsletters

This is a quarterly newsletter. If you do not receive this newsletter at your home each quarter and would like to receive future copies, please do one of the following:

1. Go to the trail's website: syracusewawaseetrails.com and click on the "Subscribe to the Trail's Newsletter" button on the top right. This will bring you to a secure

page, where you can enter your contact information.

2. Return the donation slip below (with or without a donation). Be sure to include the address to which you would like the newsletter sent.

Thank you for your interest and support.



In order to make a donation

Please send checks with the donation slip provided below. If you would prefer to use your credit card, you can go to the trail's website: syracusewawaseetrails.com and click on the "Donations" button.

Trail Contribution Form

Please show your support with your tax-deductible contribution.

We need your help to continue to develop and maintain the Syracuse-Wawasee Trail. Contributions are appreciated.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ ☐ *check here to have future newsletters e-mailed to you*

Make checks payable to "Syracuse-Wawasee Park Foundation, Trail Committee". Your gifts are tax deductible and we will furnish a receipt.

Send checks with this form to: Syracuse-Wawasee Trail,
Syracuse Community Center
1013 N. Long Drive
Syracuse, IN 46567

Save the Date – 2018 Events

Jan. 29 — Delayed Trails Committee meeting at the Trail's Office (801 N. Huntington Street, Suite 4) at 6:00 pm. Public Welcome

Feb. 5 — Tour des Lakes planning meeting at the Trail's Office at 6:00 pm. Public Welcome

Feb. 27 — Life Long Learning- Born to Run at the Syracuse Public Library at 6:00 pm

Mar. 3 — Cabin Fever Garage Sale at the Syracuse Community Center

Mar. 24 — Easter Egg Hunt at Lakeside Park. Hunt begins promptly at 10:30

Apr. 20 — Earth Day Trail Clean-Up meet at the Syracuse Community Center at 5 pm, bring brooms.

Apr. 28 — 4th Annual Tails and Trails community dog walk, at the Syracuse Community Center at 2 pm.

May 5 — Bike Rodeo in conjunction with Touch a Truck, at the Syracuse Community Center from 10 am-2 pm.

Every Thursday — Walk with Yoga walk leaving from the Community Center at 9:30 am, followed by Advanced Chair Yoga at the Library at 10:15 am. If they are cancelled, it will be posted on Facebook.

The Trail Committee meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the trail's office at 6pm. Public welcome.

If you are interested in joining the Couch to 5K, Learn to Run group this Spring, contact Megan for details. The first meeting will be the week of May 2nd and we will end at the Flotilla 5K.

For the most up to date information on events and much more, "like" us on Facebook.



Amanda McClellan at the Community Center Easter Egg Hunt.



Syracuse-Wawasee Trail
Syracuse Parks and Recreation
Syracuse Community Center
1013 N. Long Drive
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