

# TURTLE TIMES



A Newsletter for the Wyoga Lake  
Estates Community & Friends

August 2023      [www.wyogalake.com](http://www.wyogalake.com)

## SAVE THE DATE

### Labor Day Celebration

*September 4th*

### Closing Bonfire / Oktoberfest

*October 14th*

### Haunted Trail/Pavilion Costume Contest (6-8pm)

*October 28th*

### Neighborhood Trick or Treat

*October 31st - 5:30-7:30pm*

### Fall Meeting

*November 5th - Time TBD  
Walsh Jesuit High School*

### 2024 Park Opening

*Mid- April 2024*



OCTOBER 31 - 5:30-7:30PM



PLEASE HAVE YOUR PORCH LIGHT ON IF YOU'RE HANDING OUT CANDY

## SUMMER'S COMING TO AN END...

Formed in 1968, the Wyoga Lake Homeowners Association (WLHA) is a group of neighbors who work as a team to create a sustainable future for our park and neighbors. We exist to provide a place of social and civic involvement amongst our members to strengthen our community. This work is also furthered by the Wyoga Lake Conservation Association (WLCA) members. We are grateful for their commitment and support of our park projects and the work they do throughout our neighborhood.

We are excited to share this Fall edition of the Turtle Times. Highlighted within it are some of the best events that took place during our 2023 season. You will also find important updates with some exciting news of events happening in the upcoming months..As the end of summer is quickly approaching, we would like to reflect on what an amazing summer we had at the lake. It is because of your support and membership, that we are able to provide all of the events and improvements to our park. Just because the days are getting shorter, it doesn't mean the fun needs to stop. Keep an eye on your email and WLHA Facebook page for more details about some of our past holiday event traditions as well as new social fun for the whole family.

## CALL FOR 2024 TRUSTEES!

In order to thrive and carry on our Wyoga Lake traditions, every year the WLHA recruits three to four new trustees to serve on the board. Trustees contribute what time and abilities they are able to make our lake and park a safe and fun place for families and friends of Wyoga Lake to come and enjoy. Whether it's helping with events, managing the finances, working on newsletters, fixing up the park or doing projects on an as-needed basis . . . there is a place for everyone. We're excited to add to the many neighbors who have served in the past and welcome both new and old neighbors alike to join our ranks.

No one can do everything, but everyone can do something! If interested or you would like to learn more, please email Melissa at: [president@wyogalake.com](mailto:president@wyogalake.com)

## YEAR-END CLOSING DETAILS

The park will close for the season on **November 10th**. Services will be discontinued and the driveway and clubhouse will be locked for the Winter. If you need access after this date, contact any trustee at [trustees@wyogalake.com](mailto:trustees@wyogalake.com).

If you have a boat down at the park and wish to collect it for the Winter, please do so by **November 3rd** as the road to the park will be inaccessible via car. WLHA assumes no responsibility for damage to stored boats.

The park will **reopen mid-April, 2023**, and the gate code will be updated at that time, Please make sure to keep your eyes open for our Membership Drive to complete your application next spring.

# WLHA EVENT RECAP SUMMER SCRAPBOOK 2023

Traditions continued at the park this year with a list of popular events.



We kicked off the season with a great turn out of both new and veteran neighbors at our **Opening Bonfire**. With a 50/50 raffle, music, s'mores and a roaring fire by the lake, it was a nice way to set the mood for the start of summer.

We followed that with our **Fishing Derby**, run by Scott Jordan. He did a great job organizing the event. The fish were biting that day for all ages in attendance. The kids enjoyed taking home prizes for their biggest catches. If you have not attended this event, it is a must when you see it scheduled next season.

The traditional **Champagne Brunch** followed that, thanks to Jeff Berghoff. He provided many delicious brunch options and fun was had by all in attendance. Plenty of great conversations were had on a beautiful summer afternoon at the park that day.

Our biggest event at the park, **Wyoga Palooza**, was one that we will always remember. The rain couldn't stop the fun as we had a great live band, Instant Replay, along with superheroes, face painting, balloon animals, fantastic raffle prizes and silent auction items that did not disappoint. The kids enjoyed the bounce house that doubled as a waterslide for the event during the downpours. A big thanks to "**Reptile Bill**" AKA Bill Whitlock for bringing his scaly friends to the park. The kids had the opportunity to wrangle some very friendly snakes, lizards and other reptiles under the supervision of Bill. He definitely provided a wealth of information to both the children and adults who joined in at this fun event.

The 2nd annual **Cardboard Boat Regatta** race was a dandy! With a fantastic turn out and some very creative boats this year, contestants battled on the water to be crowned champ for 2023. Fun was had with some fantastic finishes in both the upper and lower race levels.



## THANK YOU!

*to all the businesses and families who generously donated to 2023 Wyoga Palooza!*

SUNCREST GARDENS  
WLHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
LATUCHIE TENNIS CENTER  
CLUTCH LANES BOWLING  
CLEANING WITH CARE  
STOW MASSAGE  
JORDAN/MORALES FAMILY  
WYOGA LAKE CONSERVATION  
BHHS STOUFFER REALTY GREEN/  
WENDY GRABLE REALTOR©

TRIPLE PLAY VINTAGE POKEMON CENTER  
GRECAR FAMILY  
DOODLE DRIVE IN  
SPUHLER FAMILY  
T FLEX  
SUPER NINJA ZONE  
BECKER'S SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
COLORTrip STUDIOS  
SKYZONE

THE CAFE IN STOW  
GIONINO'S  
VINCENT ESQUIRE  
TWISTED TOMATO PIZZERIA  
LATTIME FAMILY  
BIG SHOTS GOLF  
FAIRLAWN SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
SWEET DAHLIA STUDIO  
S & D FLORAL

*See you  
again next  
year!*



# MAINTENANCE UPDATE

The maintenance team and board's overall goal is to maintain the condition of our beautiful park. Whether that means replacing equipment or maintaining the overall landscape, we do our very best to stay on top of numerous projects. We continue to update items in the park including a new mounted glass gorilla backboard. Thanks to Jeremy Faulconer and Mike Simmons with their hard work retrofitting it to the pole and keeping the cost to just over \$100 including the backboard.

Additionally, fresh fluffy sand and weed maintenance will help patrons enjoy the sand areas better with the new rototiller purchased. In addition to sand upkeep, if anyone has sand toys they'd like to donate, please bring them to the plastic bin outside the lifeguard shed. Other updates occurred within the pavilion and gaga pit areas of the park. New LED lights were installed several months ago in the clubhouse to help with lighting. There was board replacement on the gaga pit due to inevitable rotting that happens due to weather. Closer to the basketball court, we built a new trash can holder.

Regular mowing and trimming are being handled by our landscape company and seem to be getting positive reviews by members. The tree next to the pavilion has suffered major damage in years past and recently, in a windstorm, a major branch almost took out the pavilion. This will have to be removed for safety if it hasn't already.

The safety of our members and guests is of the highest importance to us. It has come to our attention that the diving area is no longer at a safe diving depth (at times). WLHA and WLCA worked together to secure a company to dredge the area below and around the diving area to bring the area up to acceptable depths to ensure that that area will be safe for all of our guests. The fishing area adjacent to the beach will also be "skimmed" in an effort to help manage the seaweed in that area. The University of Akron was consulted and informed us that the sediment is safe and the action will last for decades to come. Fall over-seeding will be happening soon to keep our grass thick and healthy around enjoyment areas.

## CONSERVATION CORNER

Thanks to the WLCA trustees and their families, 750 trees were planted on conservation property east of the First Energy trail off of Hampshire. Those were paid for by a grant they received from the USDA and consisted of pin, burr and swamp white oak, sycamore, bald cypress, walnut and willow trees. Additionally, one hundred trees were bought by conservation to control erosion near the Hampshire houses fronting the frequently flooded field and along Mud Brook.

Matt Rechenberg (graduate Student, University of Akron) presented his findings for his Masters Degree on our Wyoga Lake's 10,000 year history and the 220 years of human impact on it. His study used the sediment of Wyoga Lake to quantify the impacts of land use change on sediment yield, to determine if there is a relationship between land use and the sedimentary heavy metal record. Mud Brook flows into and out of Wyoga Lake, thus the lake traps much of the sediment yield from the upper Mud Brook watershed. He also reviewed the details of the history of the old Wyoga Lake Park, the development of Route 8 near us, and the story of the development we call the Wyoga Lake Estates.

**If you want to read his whole thesis, go to the link or scan the QR code, and choose the pdf file shown on the left of the webpage.**



<https://rb.gy/07lbbx>



Are you a Halloween junkie? Do you enjoy setting up scary displays or ever wanted to be a character at a local haunted house? If you answered yes, we recommend that you grab some friends and family to bond together and help create the Wyoga Lake Haunted Martinique Trail. You do not need a WLHA membership to participate in this fun and spooky experience. The goal is to create displays along the trail in the spirit of the Halloween season. The winner of the spookiest display on the trail will come away with a prize based on the votes tallied at the after party in the pavilion. The entrance will begin at the end of Martinique and be completed at the baseball field. We will accommodate as many displays as we can, but spots will be limited based on overall spacing. We are asking to set up the day of October 28th. Tear down can be done on October 29th. Neighbors interested in participating can email the social committee ([social@wyogalake.com](mailto:social@wyogalake.com)).

# 2023 LABOR DAY Celebration!

COOKOUT, CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT AND KICKBALL GAME!



**WLHA WILL PROVIDE HOTDOGS**

**PLEASE PLAN TO BRING:**  
**SIDE DISH** (LAST NAME A-M)  
**DESSERT** (LAST NAME N-Z)

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE  
WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!**

Join us as we close out a great summer with the following activities! WLHA will provide hotdogs. Please bring a side dish (Last name A-M) or a dessert dish (last name N-Z) to share!

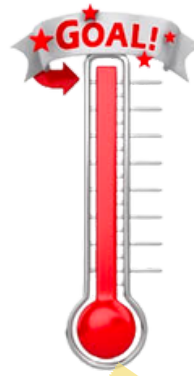
## **CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT (1:00PM)**

\$10/team or \$5/single entry. Register to Jackie at [scojacl@aol.com](mailto:scojacl@aol.com) Please bring your cornhole board/bags so there will be enough for the tournament. Cash prize to the winner!

## **KIDS VS ADULTS KICKBALL GAME (3:30PM)**

Game will start around 3:30 or after Cornhole winners are announced. This is always a lot of fun for all who participate. Everyone is welcome to play! Friends and family are welcome to participate!

# MEMBERSHIP GOAL REACHED!



Each year we set a membership goal. This year's goal was 150 membership families... and we had **156!**

Thank you to all of our members! We look forward to even more next year!

For more info, or to become a member, check out [wyogalake.com](http://wyogalake.com) in April 2024!

THANK  
YOU  
😊

# LIFEGUARDS



WLHA would like to thank our lifeguards  
(Dru Dorn, Lily Baker, Maddie McGee,  
and Keaton Adams) for keeping  
everyone safe for another season.

## WYOGA, OUR PET SNAKE

Meet Wyoga, the snake who lives in the Wyoga Lake Conservation Association lot at the corner of Diplomat and Treeside. Let's see how long he can grow!

