

Historical Highlights from 100 years at Walton Lake Crestline, Ohio (1926-2026)

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1926

First meeting of Isaac Walton Lake Club (August 15)
Officer memberships \$10/year or \$25/3 years
Fundraiser-Ground Hog Day Banquet at Railroad YMCA in Crestline
Artesian well site researched on John/Sarah Hout property
Land purchased for \$2700 for development of lake
Approval granted to construct dam, estimates gathered
Spillway Construction-two weeks to build

1927

Road improvements made
Bathing beach developed
Trees planted
12 picnic tables constructed
Dam efficiency tested

1928

January 11– Committees established: Dam, Beach, Fish, Road
Officers were elected.
Cottage leases were not granted until more lake road improvements made
Bath House built \$266.36 (labor donated)
Shelter House built \$421.50 (labor also donated)
Landscape Artist hired

1929

53 Members–three year memberships
Boy Scout usage – no charge

1930

Cottage sites laid out- two cottages built

1931

Shelter and Bath House finished

1932

Scout Cabin finished
Fish dinners held-many attended
Coon Dog field trials

1933

Cottage lots plotted

Scout Cabin repaired for caretaker's home

1934

Four cottages built

Fish fries and turkey raffles-fundraisers

"What About Betty" performed by H.S. students and proceeds to benefit
tennis courts and beach

Coon Dog trials

1935

Four cottages erected

Desire to become a private club

Community Day - band performances and contests held

1936

10th anniversary

Community Day-many attended

Bingo and card parties

1937

Two cottages built and third one started

Dam reinforced, carp "seined" from Sandusky River

Fireworks

Ox Roast

1938

Drainage assessed

Fish placed in lake

Summer program - "Showboat" performed, several thousand attended

1939

Charter Address – dues reduced to \$10.00

1940

Two new cottages built

14 lots laid out on north side of lake

1941

Camp Sites-\$1.00 for season

Two cottage sites available for lease

Community Day – hundreds attended

1942

Total 30 cottages, one was destroyed by fire

Trailers only on north side of lake

Boat landing removed - no boats on lakes

1943

Bingo

Repair of dam

Maple trees planted

Mr. Dexter – hired as Caretaker

Advertisement - Walton Lake cottage for sale-\$1,750.00, knotty pine, stone fireplace, two bedrooms, clothes closet, back porch, and toilets

Mansfield Lion Club-held meetings at the lake

1944

Tree trimming

Mr. Yost – hired as Caretaker

Tennis courts eliminated

1945

Lots added on south side of lake due to elimination of tennis courts

Year-round residency considered

1946

20th anniversary

New dam required

Silt removed from main lake

Driving platform repaired

Regulations for cottage sales developed

Colony Club-met at Walton Lake

1947

Separation from Isaac Walton Conservation League

Name change: Isaac Walton Lake Company to Walton Lake Club

Robert Lesseur appointed recording secretary, served 27 years on board, 11 years as president

Social organization-Gun Club- held trap shoots

1948

Scenic rollout

Lots on north side development

Beginning of Crestline Walton Lake Co.

Well dug by bathhouse

1949

New cottage - #35

Horse show/competition

150 members

Lots extended on north side, one eliminated

Stone wall built from beach to spillway \$53.50

1950

Re-survey of grounds

Caretaker's cottage – north side

Playground to be established

Shelter completed

Dr. Brandt's 11 year old cottage-remodeled into a novel summer home

1951

Limited members to 400 people

Pole lights around lake

Swimming lessons offered by the Red Cross

1952

Additional acreage purchased from Walter Schwert

Memberships – 450 people

Fireworks-held on 4th of July

Loan \$5,000 for improvements

Square Dancing offered for adults & students - Square Dance King:

Clarence Peaslee

Water Regatta held

1953

Alley dispute between cottages 4 and 5

New Land survey

Borrowed \$8,000 from Farmers/Citizens Bank for development/improvements

Pump House completed – Upper Lake

1954

Fireplace Oven completed

Common drainage line– to serve septic tanks to drain to stream

Retaining Wall- built from beach to Whipperoni's cottage (now Tridico's)

"Waltonettes" -Water Ballet show performance

1955 Borrowed \$3,500 from Farmers/Citizens Bank to clear loan
Juke Box purchased for shelter house
Jungle Gym purchased
Tennis Court ground broken

1956 Restroom – north side of lake \$3,200
Schwert farm (93.36 acres) purchased for \$200 per acre

1957 Pine Trees planted
Corn Roast planned
Core of large dam completed

1958 43 Cottages at lake
Lake photograph taken
Schwert farm designated in Conservation Reserve Tree program
Floor plan for new caretaker's cottage designed

1959 Request for new back road for cottages on north side

1960 Approval for new shelter house
A section of Perman farm purchased-\$1,000 on south side of lake
Bank loan \$12,000 for new plot of land development

1961 Membership fees \$25
Lots developed on newly acquired land
Ball diamonds designed
Dog bit a child- insurance settlement offered

1962 New survey of Perman property
New dive tower and diving board installed
New bathhouse and bigger beach proposed
\$13,136 for new bathhouse with glazed tile block

1963 Eight lots for sale – lease \$60
\$9,000 borrowed from Crawford County National Bank
Built bridge between lakes

1964

Mr. and Mrs. Nungesser given a complimentary life membership- only charter social members remaining
No permanent trailers allowed

Albert Holcker died 19 April 1964-Mrs. Holcker given life membership

Road to Rt. 181 opened

Shelter in picnic areas-fireplace built

\$2,000 borrowed from Crawford County National Bank

1965

Bathhouse finished

Farmhouse burned to ground

Old caretaker's cottage demolished

New caretaker's garage completed

1966

Purchase of playground equipment - Merry-Go-Round & swing combination

Construction of new caretaker's cottage-\$13,000

1967

Shoreline was 1768 ft. without beach

(This writer's cottage, #18, advertised: three bedrooms, shower in bath, insulating fan, separate water and sewer.)

1968

Fishing Derby

Membership dues \$30

Land purchased from Mr. Perman

Lounge and Fireplace added at pavilion

Laundry Equipment use discontinued

1969

Loan \$7,240 – Crawford County National Bank-to pay for caretaker's house

Lake wall repaired

1970

Stockholders' Meeting in January at American Legion in Crestline

Membership list-644 families!

Stephanie: "People used to have to wait until someone did not renew their membership to get one as a new member."

Jim: "I also remember a waiting list. You had to get to the beach early to get a spot."

Corn Roast to include social members

Bike Trail built through farm

<u>1971</u>	All new lots sold Siren purchased-switches on both sides of the lake Lake Wall completed
<u>1972</u>	Boats of any kind are not permitted Revision of By-laws Floating Dock purchased Re-construction of lake wall
<u>1973</u>	Covered Bridge built between two lakes New asphalt on roads
<u>1974</u>	Lake wall improvement
<u>1975</u>	Revised rules
<u>1976</u>	50 th anniversary of Walton Lake with Corn Roast
<u>1977</u>	Old Farmhouse – demolished, land graded
<u>1978</u>	New Rule - No snowmobiles
<u>1979</u>	Discontinued fireworks
<u>1980</u>	Proposed bypass pipes of big lake to help drain little lake
<u>1981</u>	Perman farm for sale \$1200 per acre – 28 acres purchased Proposed golf course - not approved
<u>1982</u>	Waterslide accident – court case occurred in Ashland County Proposed storm sewer under big lake – tabled
<u>1983</u>	Storm sewer approved - \$100,000
<u>1984</u>	Bathhouse – Sandblasted and painted Water flow pipe from big lake completed
<u>1985</u>	Shelter House damaged by storms – demolished and reconstructed Remodeled Bathhouse Purchased additional 4.3 acres of farm land from Perman family
<u>1986</u>	Waterslides were removed due to Dexter injury Caretaker's job description revised
<u>1987</u>	Stockholders' meeting – moved to June

1988 Plastic playground equipment purchased

1989 Back road named Pine Drive
More playground equipment purchased – bridge, swing, bubble panel, steps
More Perman property purchased

1990 Plans to burn Perman house
North side streets named: Ash, Maple Lane, and Oak
South side Park Circle Drive-established

1991 Sand volleyball court, fenced tennis courts

1992 Subich cottage to be removed, Leeper family bought it
Active time at the lake-changed from five months to nine months

1993 Corn Roast – 550 people attended
Pavilion Kitchen remodeled
Access drive from Rt. 181 to our farm land-established

1994 Dam project discussed
536 Social members
Caretaker Mr. and Mrs. Stump resigned, new caretaker: Jeffrey Brian hired
Barn fire – to be investigated, barn then raged

1995 Resurfaced Beach Drive.
Speed Bumps installed

1996 Caretaker Brian resigned, new caretaker: Bob Love
Family Reunions/Social gatherings were held

1997 New dam to be built (west side), built by Denny Kempf
Revised Walton Lake Blue Book

1998 Social members – 446 people
Corn Roast – 90 doz. ears of corn ordered
Walton Lake cookbooks - \$7.00

1999 Laundry machines not permitted
Issue - to limit the color of cottages to three basic colors? NO

<u>2000</u>	Alley disputes Line dancing in pavilion New diving board Tennis courts - patched
<u>2001</u>	75 th anniversary
<u>2002</u>	Walton Lake borrowed from United Bank
<u>2003</u>	Bob Love passed away, Memorial Rock placed, new caretaker hired Pioneer students working in west wall of lake
<u>2004</u>	Repaired Merry-Go-Round Blue Book revision – new rules made regarding open fires Decline in social membership
<u>2005</u>	Corn Roast-entertainment: Jane Horton-Country/Gospel singer Chinese Auction - profited \$2,115.61
<u>2006</u>	80 th anniversary Monday luncheons held at pavilion
<u>2007</u>	Restrooms added to pavilion Denise Jeffries - hired as lifeguard supervisor/coordinator Red Cross swimming lessons at beach Urged compassion, understanding, kindness at lake
<u>2008</u>	Constitution and By-Laws revised – strategic meetings held Reinstated fireworks - \$300 collected for the cause Algae analysis of lake
<u>2009</u>	New mailboxes, new location Pavilion and beach house remodeled Beach revamped
<u>2010</u>	Kelly Kurtzman, new treasurer - resigned soon after due to health issues Discussion on year-round residency
<u>2011</u>	Death of Bob Parr-lifetime lake resident, board member and officer

<u>2012</u>	Discussion on cleaning the beach Dredging of lakes suggested-did not happen Tennis court options discussed 30 yr. leases discussed Jason Wiley-hired as caretaker
<u>2013</u>	Leak in pavilion roof repaired Tennis courts resurfaced New aerator purchased
<u>2014</u>	Proposed a three meter diving board and zipline Lake voted in favor-not approved due to insurance liability
<u>2015</u>	149 total social memberships
<u>2016</u>	New flag pole installed New Walton Lake signs-both sides of lake 118 total Social memberships
<u>2017</u>	Dead trees removed Long-term financial planning discussed Rafts purchased for lake
<u>2018</u>	Boliantz Co. began trash removal
<u>2019</u>	New beach rules established and posted
<u>2020</u>	Employee performance review held-raise given to caretaker Covid-rental and lake usage restrictions Stockholders' meeting in July
<u>2021</u>	Storm damage repaired Holes in pavement filled
<u>2022</u>	Fish ordered for lake – perch, catfish, crappies Memorial Garden established
<u>2023</u>	Re-grind laid for Oak St., Maple Lane, and Ash St. Reminders of 13 mph speed zone at the lake

2024

Corn Roast returned

Pickleball courts constructed

Dead tree removal plan

2025

Celebrated retirements of Denis and Sharon Kempf, “Denny”-long-time

board member, years as president, caretaker, and handyman

Sharon – long-time treasurer

Kim Meehan - hired as new treasurer

2026

100th anniversary of Walton Lake Celebration - June 13

Siren use re-established