THE AMERICAN IDEAL The Oglebay Foundation Newsletter

VOL 1 ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2019





Our family has always enjoyed the parks, and we feel it's important to include the Oglebay Foundation in our estate plans."







ERIKS E. JANELSINS
President & CEO

DAVID M. WEAVER
Chairman

LISA ALLEN Vice Chairman

CARTER A. KENAMOND, M.D. Secretary/Treasurer

D. LYN DOTSON

JOSEPH C. EDDY

SUE SEIBERT FARNSWORTH*

JOSEPH N. GOMPERS

WILBURS. JONES, JR.*

R. GREGORY MCDERMOTT

G. OGDEN NUTTING*

JAMES M. PENNINGTON

CHAD H. REMP

KATHY PORTER SHAPELL

JOAN C. STAMP

G. RANDOLPH WORLS
Chairman Emeritus

Emeritus Board Members: RONALD L. HOBBS* DONALD H. HOFREUTER, M.D.* GARY E. WEST

*Board Members who established the Oglebay Foundation in 1996

COVER: Scott McCloskey/ The Intelligencer & Wheeling News-Register. Sean Fahey of Wheeling takes time to show his sons how to fish at Oglebay's Schenk Lake.



ERIKS E. JANELSINS

President & CEO

Office: 304-243-4160

Email: ejanelsins@oglebayfoundation.org

Friends,

We've been having an absolute BLAST enjoying our parks this summer.

Our free summer concert series *Sundaes Under the Stars* has featured music from Eli Lambie and the Mojo Kings, to Hard Days Night and the hugely popular Davisson Brothers Band. We added a recreation activity zone so little ones have a place to play, food trucks and of course, an Ice Cream Sundae Bar. This weekly concert series is sponsored by the generosity of the Elizabeth Stifel Kline Foundation.

Since we're at the height of the blooming season, the trails in the park are bursting with activity. In this issue you'll learn about the Serpentine Drive which you access on Route 88 across from Carriage House Glass. The Cleveland Hiking Club turned 100 this year and has been coming to Oglebay since 1932. They'll be making their 11th trip this summer.

Next door, the new Welcome Center has been designed to inform guests about our rich history and all the amazing opportunities we have to enjoy this magical place. Since not everyone in our community has the same ability to come to the park, we highlight our Access to the Parks Scholarship Program. Thanks to private contributions the program goes a long way to ensure the parks are open to all.

Courtney Yost, the first Good Zoo hire from our partnership with West Liberty University's Zoo Science Program shares her experiences here. The magna cum laude graduate has made quite the impression with the zoo camps and education programs she offers to the area.

Before long, fall will arrive and the kids will be back in school. Oglebayfest is right around the corner. Read some fun history about the event and be reminded of the amazing opportunities to enjoy the park year round. But until then, enjoy what's left of summer. The Oglebay and Wheeling Park Pools, golf courses, tennis, Aerial Course Challenge here at Oglebay or Good Lake activities down in Wheeling Park, Horseback Riding, I could go on and on.

Don't forget there are a couple more concerts this summer, so if you haven't been to the park on a Sunday evening, concerts start at 7pm. Activities, sundaes and food trucks start at 6pm. Don't miss the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra's 90th Anniversary Season kickoff at Oglebay on Sunday, September 1st and all of the fun events during Labor Day weekend.

While the important work of the parks is global in its scale and reach, personally, my favorite part of summers in the parks is running after the little insects that light up the parks' beautiful lawns. No matter if you call them Lightning Bugs or Fireflies, the simple pleasures of summer remain at the core of our mission.

See You in the parks.

THEN&NOW Management of the Years Management of the Years Management of the Years Management of the Years









Over our 90-year history Oglebay has grown and changed. Our parks continue to be the crown jewel of municipal parks anywhere in the world. Your contributions to the Oglebay Foundation ensure that Oglebay will be here for generations to come.

HELP US KEEP IT GOING

We've had a tremendous amount of positive feedback on this column.

We're looking for photos of Oglebay and Wheeling Park from 1975 or earlier that will allow us to continue recreating memories of the parks for years to come.

Photo submissions grant Oglebay the right to publish and use the image in perpetuity to demonstrate the park's history both digitally and in printed materials including marketing collateral.

Full color digital photo submissions only, please. Due to space limitations, submitting your photo does not guarantee that your image will be published. Limit one photo per family.

SEND PHOTOS TO FOUNDATION@OGLEBAY.COM

Questions, contact the Foundation office: 304-243-4166

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

2ND ANNUAL DONOR RECOGNITION & AWARDS BREAKFAST









The Oglebay Foundation honored the Hess Family and Hydie Friend for exemplary contributions to Oglebay and Wheeling Parks in Oglebay's Pine Room during its second annual Donor Recognition & Awards Breakfast on April 24, 2019.

The Gary & Flip West Leadership in Philanthropy Award was presented by the Wests to Andy Hogan who accepted on behalf of the Hess Family. The family's long term, outstanding philanthropy has helped endow cottages, improve the swimming pools and has consistently supported facility improvements for decades.

Hydie Friend received the G. Randolph Worls Spirit of Oglebay Award for her commitment to the park system for her 25 years of service as a volunteer grant writer. Her work has secured over \$10 million. Friend's award was presented by Randy Worls.

Eriks Janelsins, Oglebay Foundation President & CEO, and David Lindelow, Wheeling Park Commission President & CEO thanked major donors in attendance along with our community partners for their support. They underscored the critical role and impact of philanthropy on the growth and success of the parks.

If you would like to be included in events such as our recognition breakfast, please contact the Foundation to learn more.





EXPERIENCING THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF OGLEBAY is in our DNA. Hiking, exploring and enjoying the hills and woods continues to play a critical role in the park's health and wellness story. Nothing could be easier than including Oglebay or Wheeling Park's trails into being more active. Just come up to the park and take a hike, **literally**. Ideally, you'll bring a friend or two, too.

Documents show that park employees began building trails in the fall of 1927, even before the City of Wheeling officially accepted the gift of the park.

According to Naturalist A.B. Brooks' November 1938 *Trail Guide*, the early trails were created by clearing narrow paths through the woods, placing steps and bridges along the way as needed. The initial ten-mile trail system received "incidental assistance" from the Boy Scouts and members of the CCC camp when they were in the park in 1936 and 37.

The first recorded guided walk was on April 14, 1928. A guide took three people, two from Wheeling and a third from Cleveland, Ohio from the hilltop down to the falls at Wardens Run Road.

By 1938 1,200 nature walks with a total attendance of 51,500 people were recorded. The largest attendance for one walk was 250 people.

Early hikers in the park had some added incentives to maintain their active lifestyle. Brooks created a robust program for these nature enthusiasts including outdoor breakfasts, birding, identification of flowers and trees, poetry readings, nature lectures and music. He writes, "While efforts have been made to teach facts about objects along the trails, the chief emphasis has been on inspirational and recreational values."

Oglebay's system has grown to almost 20 miles of paved and unpaved trails. The trails provide opportunities beyond hiking including - mountain biking, horseback riding and Segway tours.

One of the more recent trail additions is Serpentine Drive. Serpentine Drive was initially conceived as an elaborate approach road to Earl and Sally Oglebay's summer estate. The original drive is believed to have been completed around 1905 when the Oglebays made extensive renovations to the Mansion.

Rumors persist that Sally Oglebay wanted a less steep, more gradual approach to the house, but Earl Oglebay may have been inspired by the grand estate entrances built by his contemporaries including Carnegie, Rockefeller and Vanderbilt. Whatever the impetus, Serpentine Drive was designed to look like it has always been there.

Today hikers experience what appears to be a natural setting. In reality, every curve and planting was meticulously designed by landscape architects. As the name suggests, the drive winds gradually through a wooded landscape in a path that resembles a snake. The original lookout stop and stone retaining walls are still in place.

Just shy of a mile, Serpentine Drive was known locally, but not promoted as a hiking opportunity until the summer of 2017. Since the road was never meant for speed or convenience, the Park stopped maintaining it for car travel in the 1960s.

All the trails at Oglebay are available to everyone. There are ample opportunities to enjoy the park no matter what your fitness level.

Ongoing trail maintenance and expansion are one of our strategic priorities. Please consider making a donation of support.



GETTING MY STEPS IN

The Benefits of Walking – 10,000 steps a day, really?

Turns out 10,000 steps a day was a marketing gimmick to promote a pedometer.

Researcher I-Min Lee of Harvard's Brigham and Women's Hospital wanted to know how many steps were needed to maintain good health and live a long life.

Lee's original investigation: Association of Step Volume and Cause Mortality published on May 29, 2019 in the JAMA Internal Medicine concluded that women who averaged 4,400 steps a day had about a 40 percent lower mortality rate during the four year follow-up compared with women who took 2,700 steps per day or fewer. The benefits leveled off after 7,500 steps.

So if 10,000 steps a day feels daunting, aim for 4,400 daily steps. Come back to the park daily and take note of the seasonal changes that unfold with every step towards meeting your fitness goal.

CLEVELAND HIKING CLUB

The Cleveland Hiking Club (CHC) celebrated its 100th anniversary in April of this year. It is the oldest hiking club in the nation and today, boasts more than 1,200 annual members.

The CHC was established during the national cultural and economic boom after the First World War. Inspired by President Teddy Roosevelt's love of walking and his belief in the importance of exercise, walking became a popular pastime throughout the country.

Clevelanders were eager to take advantage of their newly created MetroPark system and began hiking for exercise and camaraderie. The club's day trips soon grew into weekend trips offering hikes in neighboring cities and states.

The Oglebay-Burton family would have been well known to their year-round Cleveland neighbors. So it was only natural that the CHC would have a keen interest in making trips here to Oglebay.

CLEVELAND HIKING CLUB TRIPS TO OGLEBAY:

- 1. Decoration Day (Memorial Day) May 28-30, 1932 7 a.m. bird hike lead by a naturalist, followed by breakfast and a ten-mile hike
- 2. Labor Day 1935 nature study, golfing, tennis, horseback riding
- 3. Decoration Day May 29-31, 1937
- 4. Decoration Day May 28-30, 1938
- 5. Labor Day August 31-September, 1940 hiking, golfing, horseback riding, swimming, tennis, dancing, program of entertainment
- 6. Labor Day 1941
- 7. Decoration Day May 28-30, 1949
- 8. Labor Day September 1-4, 1950
- 9. November 2-3, 1957
- 10.1996 Bus trip

UPCOMING:

11. August 10-11, 2019 – Part of the CHC's 100th Anniversary Celebration



Cleveland Hiking Club, September 1940 at the dedication of the Oglebay Pool

WELCOME TO



OGLEBAY

NEW HILLTOP RECEPTION CENTER SHARES HISTORY AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PARK





THE NAME OGLEBAY IS SYNONYMOUS WITH GRACIOUS, welcoming, hospitality. When the family still lived here, they were known to entertain with an open hand. Today the spirit of hospitality continues to define how we cater to our overnight and day guests.

Last summer, the Wheeling Park Commission (WPC) celebrated 90-years of FUN here at Oglebay. Building on the continued success of that milestone, David Lindelow, WPC President & CEO saw an opportunity to share the Oglebay story in a new way.

This organic continuation leverages Oglebay's robust history to showcase the increased Hilltop experience for our guests. The Hilltop is the equivalent of five city blocks and hosts seven historic buildings surrounded by beautiful seasonal gardens, relaxing fountains and so much more.

THE HILLTOP IS HOME TO: accredited museums, shops, a restaurant, greenhouses, offices for the foundation, human resources, finance, and some of the executive staff. Summer 2019 adds a new dimension to the area with the addition of a Welcome Center.

The Alene Kraft Garden Center space is being transformed to include Oglebay's new Welcome Center. The center will include rotating exhibition space to highlight our historic past while looking toward educating guests on all the amazing opportunities to relax, recharge and have fun here in the park. A video screening area, friendly staff and some of the best views of the park will orient and welcome everyone.

"The Civic Garden Center Society was a great partner to Oglebay and we were sorry they decided to close. Looking at the newly available space, it was clear we had a unique opportunity to engage our guests and further enhance the Hilltop experience," Lindelow shared.

The Welcome Center's design and build out is being paid for by a private fund.

Eriks Janelsins, Oglebay Foundation President & CEO said, "With the foundation offices next door, the Welcome Center offers another opportunity to share the history of Oglebay and the amazing generosity that started this place."

When completed, the Welcome Center's hours of operation will fluctuate seasonally to meet the needs of our guests and visitors.



TO THE PARKS

PROVIDING FREE ACCESS TO ALL

THE TWO BIGGEST MISCONCEPTIONS about Oglebay and Wheeling Park are: everyone has the same opportunity to play and participate in all of the amazing activities that are available in our park system, and since we're a public park, there is no need or reason to raise money to provide anyone

Sadly, for many in our area, the cost of spending a day in the park is out of reach.

As a simple example, the daily rate for a family of four (two adults and two children) to swim at Oglebay's Pool is \$31.00. A season pool pass including the slide for the same family at Wheeling Park costs \$358.45. All day activity wristbands for four cost \$75.80. There are many families in our community that consider this a luxury.

The National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) April 5, 2019 article "Our Nation's Demographic Shift" reminds us "someone took the time when we were younger to teach each of us how to toss a ball, camp or love nature, thereby influencing how we live, work and play today." This influence affects lifestyle habits, and habits both good and bad are perpetuated generationally. The article continues, "We must continue to remove barriers that intentionally or unintentionally limit services."

W. C. Stone made a gift to establish the Wheeling Park Commission stipulating that activities in the newly created park have a fee. Fees for activities are designed to cover payroll, maintenance, and general overhead.

FOUNDATION FACT

THE COST OF AN ACCESS TO THE PARK SCHOLARSHIP IS \$133.34 PER CHILD.

Access to the Parks provides scholarships to families based on financial need. This program supports about 1,500 children and an accompanying adult each year for year-round recreational activities. On average, these scholarships result in 15,000 visits to our parks annually. The cost of this program is roughly \$200,000 a year - or the equivalent of \$133.34 per scholarship.

This scholarship program fulfills a critical mission of the Oglebay Foundation and the Wheeling Park Commission, ensuring everyone has the ability to use the park regardless of their financial circumstances. All children should know what it's like to swim, play, learn, and enjoy the one thing that makes Wheeling and the Ohio Valley an amazing place to live – our parks.

Access to the Parks Scholarships are also provided by the major support from Gompers & Associates, WesBanco, Bordas & Bordas, the Ohio County Commission, Mr. & Mrs. George S. Weaver, Jr., Wheeling Subaru, the following foundations: Bernared McDonough, August J. & Thelma S. Hoffmann, J.B. Chambers, Hess Family, as well as the Vaden and Robinson Parlin Trusts.

The Foundation hopes to raise an endowment to offset the cost of this program over time.

Won't you consider giving a scholarship to a child in our area who otherwise wouldn't be able to experience our parks? 🖖



EARL W. OGLEBAY

LEGACY SOCIETY

INAUGURAL LUNCHEON









The Oglebay Foundation hosted members of the Earl W. Oglebay Legacy Society for its inaugural luncheon commemorating the launch of this important initiative. Legacy Society Membership includes donors who have made arrangements and communicated those to include the Oglebay Foundation in their estate plans.

For information on ways to join the Earl W. Oglebay Legacy Society, please contact Eriks Janelsins or Randy Worls at the Foundation today: 304-243-4166 or visit oglebayfoundation.org.



PARTNERSHIPS IN PROGRESS:

OGLEBAY GOOD ZOO & WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY



In May 2019, the Good Zoo and West Liberty University's Zoo Science Program held its first graduation.

To celebrate this milestone, we asked Courtney Yost, Magna Cum Laude graduate, what attracted her to the program.

"I grew up in Gerrardstown, West Virginia which is in the Eastern Panhandle and I've always loved

animals. I was applying to colleges and saw a billboard for West Liberty's new Zoo Science Program. At the time, I remember thinking, 'Wow that's interesting, but West Virginia doesn't have a zoo.' Researching the program is how I found out about Oglebay," Yost said.

No longer a stranger to Oglebay, Yost is now the Good Zoo's Senior Program Keeper. Her responsibilities include the planning and presentation of all animal



programs in the area. She also dreams up the activities for the Zoo's Summer Camp series which serves more than 300 children each year.

"We are fortunate to have the Good Zoo and the Oglebay Foundation as partners in our educational mission of providing quality higher education to our region and beyond," said Dr. Stephen Greiner, WLU President. "Our Zoo Science Program is strong in part because of the hands-on learning, focus on animal care and conservation that is a big part of it, and this is greatly enhanced by our partnership with the nearby Good Zoo."



Working with juvenile alligators, armadillos, owls, and tortoises to name some, Courtney's programs are presented in the zoo, area schools, farmers' markets, nursing homes, civic clubs, "really anywhere people are interested in learning more about and getting exposure to animals," Yost added.

Dr. Joe Greathouse, Good Zoo Director and assistant professor of biology in the WLU Zoo Science major shared, "We recognized early in Courtney's academic career that she possessed incredible ambition, character, and intelligence. She developed from a student, to an intern, to a part-time member of our animal care team and performed at a high level with any responsibilities that she was assigned. We were excited that an opportunity for Courtney to join the team full-time opened up after her graduation. We are all proud of Courtney. I have no doubt she will excel at everything she wants to accomplish."

The partnership between Oglebay's Good Zoo and West Liberty University is the first in the nation between an Association of Zoos and Aquariums accredited zoo and an institution of higher education. The program was designed to give students the academic background as well as real-life experience to develop careers in the nation's zoos and aquariums.

"Our partnership with West Liberty University echoes Earl Oglebay's idea for this place," said Eriks Janelsins Oglebay Foundation President and CEO. "Mr. Oglebay experimented with crop rotation to improve soil quality and shared his knowledge with the nation. Having WLU students using our zoo to gain real, practical experience is the continuum of the hands-on education tradition that started here."

The next time you're in the Park, stop by the Good Zoo to meet Courtney and the rest of the zoo team. You're always welcome.





OGLEBAYFEST OPEN HOUSE

October 4 & 5, 2019
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Stop by the Oglebay Foundation Office on the hilltop so we can say thanks in person.





OGLEBAYFEST WAS CREATED TO THANK the residents of the Ohio Valley for their ongoing support of the park. Held the first full weekend of October, this year marks our 42nd annual event. Today it is the second largest arts and crafts festival in West Virginia.

It's hard to believe, but this park-wide festival started as a Fall Turkey Shoot. The shoot was held in the early 1970s, hosted by the Oglebay Volunteer Fire Department. As a nod to this history, fire trucks from throughout the valley are featured in the Saturday morning parade.

Highlights include live music, an artist & gourmet market, the Ohio County Fair, lake activities, a beer garden, fireworks, and so much more.

The popular artist and gourmet market was spearheaded by Phil Maxwell, Oglebay Institute's Craft Specialist. Maxwell taught pottery, jewelry making, furniture refinishing, basket weaving and other crafts. His vision of high quality handmade artistry for the vendors in the market continues today.

To honor Maxwell's commitment to Oglebayfest, the Wheeling Park Commission renamed the market "Phil Maxwell Artists' and Gourmet Market." Maxwell's contribution has had a lasting impact on artists from the region.

Maxwell and Rick Morgan, Oglebay Institute Stifel Fine Arts Center Director, created the Up and Coming Artist Program. This program provides two free booth spaces to artists with little or no experience exhibiting in festivals. The artists are selected by jury and the booth space is paid for by a fund Maxwell established.

Families from the area share stories about returning year after year. The park takes on an extended family reunion feel. So many returning guests book their cottage well in advance to be sure they get their favorite. Being introduced as "my Oglebayfest neighbor of 15 years" is not uncommon.

We at the Foundation are in the gratitude business and experience it in many ways. Gifts of time, talent and treasure aren't adequate metrics. What it all comes down to are the stories from guests, donors and friends that showcase an appreciation of, not just the amenities of this place, but the essence of a place that was made possible by a single gift to the community of Wheeling. A gift the community of Wheeling is happy to share with the world. Oglebayfest is our way of saying thanks for being here.

2019 UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LABOR DAY

August 31-September 2

Abbreviated calendar of events – check Oglebay.com for detailed descriptions, times and applicable fees

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31 (and all weekend):

Homemade Ice Cream at Schenk Lake
Annual Woodcarver's Show
22nd Annual Fort Henry Days
Crispin Center Outdoor Pool & Fountains of Fun
Face Painting & Balloon Art with Doozy the Clown
Inflatable Rides & Rock Climbing Wall
Battle for Fort Henry at Camp Russell

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Fishing Tournament

Music Under the Stars with the Wheeling Symphony Labor Day Fireworks Extravaganza

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Guided Hike of Serpentine Trail Systems Mini Golf Tournament 7th Annual Drool at the Pool



EXCLUSIVE OFFER FOR OGLEBAY FOUNDATION DONORS

In recognition of your continued commitment to Oglebay, we've created this special offer just for you!

Experience the best of Oglebay with overnight accommodations at Wilson Lodge, our famous Mountaineer Breakfast Buffet, and one complimentary bottle of Oglebay's signature wine with two commemorative wine glasses for just \$119 per night! Stay dates available Aug. 19-Sept. 30, 2019.

Book your reservation today by calling 877-436-1797 and mention the promo code '*American Ideal*' to redeem this special offer.

*Package is priced per room, based on double occupancy. Offer valid Aug. 19-Sept. 30, 2019. Package price does not include applicable taxes and fees. Package includes one (1) bottle of signature wine (choice of Pinot Grigio or Cabernet Sauvignon) and two (2) logoed wine glasses per stay. Must be at least 21 years of age to stay on package. Offer not valid on holiday or special event weekends, and may not be combined with other offers or discounted rates. Additional restrictions may apply.

OGLEBAYFEST

October 4-6

Abbreviated calendar of events – check Oglebay.com for detailed descriptions, times and applicable fees

SHOPPING:

Phil Maxwell Artists' & Gourmet Market Carriage House Glass Farmhouse Sweets & Treats Palm Room Greenhouse

EXPERIENCE:

Mansion Museum

Oglebay Institute Glass Museum
Oglebay Good Zoo
Schrader Environmental Education Center
Ohio County Fair – Levenson Shelter (Saturday and Sunday Only)
Antiques Car Show (weather permitting – Sunday Only)

ENTERTAINMENT:

Free Live Music: Rathskeller (Hess Shelter), Hickman Lounge, Glassworks Grill Clown around Town at Schenk Lake (Saturday and Sunday Only)
Quilting, Square Dancing, Butter Making Demonstrations to name some Inflatables & Pony Rides at Schenk Lake (Saturday and Sunday Only)
Oglebayfest Parade (Saturday 9:30 a.m.)
Oglebayfest Fireworks (Saturday 8:00 p.m.)

SPORTS & RECREATION:

Round Robin Tennis (Saturday) Shotgun Oglebayfest Golf Scramble (Sunday) Oglebayfest 5K Run/Walk (Sunday)



2019 BOO AT THE ZOO

Trick or Treat stations, a spooky train ride, zoo animals, and more! October 11, 12, & 13 October 18, 19, & 20 October 25, 26, & 27



November 7, 2019 – January 5, 2020

Light Up Night – Thursday, November 7 at 5:30





The sixth hole, Palmer Course – Nick Janovich, Oglebay Golf Superintendent