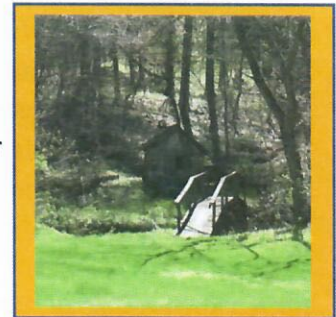




Farm and residence of Mr. and Mrs. William Linscott
Photo courtesy of *The Centennial Atlas of Athens County, Ohio* (1905)

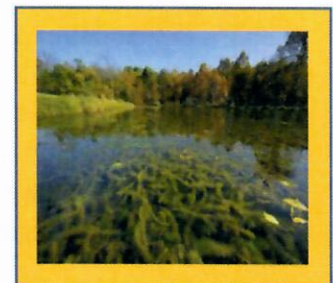
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we suspended board meetings until the warmer months, finally coming together again in the summer to begin discussing our plans for the new year. This includes three important new projects that we hope will become part of the identity of the Friends of Strouds Run.

The Linscott Springhouse: The springhouse is the surviving piece of the Linscott homestead, which we tried in vain to preserve. Listed in the Ohio Historic Register, this 19th-century stone structure is worth saving. Working with the Consortium for the Adaptive Reuse of Historic Resources, we have completed a plan for the scope of the work. Utilizing volunteer labor and collaboration with local organizations, we will begin work soon, and there is room for you to help!



The American Chestnut Movement: We would like to establish an American Chestnut plantation in the park and hope to find local and regional organizations that share this vision.

Operation Milfoil: This invasive plant forms dense mats of vegetation in shallow areas of the lake, negatively impacting the environmental and recreational future of Dow Lake by killing off fish, crowding out important native plant species, and impeding fishing and swimming. We need to find a sustainable means of eradication or control.



FRIENDS OF STROUDS RUN STATE PARK

Please join us in moving forward with three new projects.

In Memoriam

This year marked a difficult transition as we mourned the passing of our friend and colleague John Knouse and now celebrate his life and legacy. When he died in January of this year, not only did the Friends of Strouds Run lose its most visionary and prolific volunteer, but the green spaces of Athens lost their biggest advocate.

A founding member of FOSR (2006) and the Athens Conservancy (2002), John was passionate about protecting natural areas and building trails. He made major contributions to both in the 24 years he lived in Athens County. Through his own work and that of a volunteer group called Athens Trails, which he organized and administered, miles of new trails were built in the state park and adjacent lands owned by the Athens Conservancy and the City of Athens. He spearheaded many of the Conservancy's land acquisition projects, often serving as the principal grant writer.

John's knowledge of the natural world was both vast and precise. He could easily recall names of ferns, trees, and geological formations with detail and gusto when encountering them in the woods. He loved to take people hiking, and we have him to thank for our annual Groundhog Hike, which he would plan, promote, host, and prepare delicious food for every year.

John could propose an overwhelming number of projects in just one meeting, never missing an opportunity to pitch a trail concept if land managers were there to listen. No project was too big because John's imagination and persistence had no limits. We all miss him and the energy he brought to our work. The woods of Athens miss John too.



~Photo courtesy John Halley

Though we suspended in-person meetings throughout the pandemic, we continued our work.

Purchased maps and nature guides for the park, which are available for a donation at the Boathouse.

Provided funds to continue monitoring of Dow Lake's water quality. Sampling was completed in May and August of 2021 and showed that all conditions were within normal parameters.

Continued working with park staff as they made changes to their volunteer worker protocols and finalized state-wide Memorandum of Understanding documents that outline the relationship and responsibilities of FOSR and ODNR.

Installed a bench at the top of White Pine Trail for the Lemmick family as a memorial for their daughter Bailey.

2021 Board Members

Jackie Fokes, President	Lesli Johnson
Debbie Edwards, Treasurer	Mimi Morrison
Christine Freeman, Secretary	Jim Sand
Martha Bishop	Meredith Erlewine
Mac Stricklen	David Reiser