

# Hach-Otis Sanctuary Extension Ceremony



The ceremony took place on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. at the field on Dodd Road, formerly known as the Riggan Orchard. This was a celebration ceremony to acknowledge the 80.5 acres being added to the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland's Hach-Otis Sanctuary.

The day was very warm and sunny, and there were approximately 80 people in attendance. Those attending included the staff of Western Reserve Land Conservancy (WRLC), Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland (ASGC) Trustees and members, property owners, neighbors, donors as well as:

- Willoughby Hills Mayor: Robert Weger
- Katie Burger: representative of Congressman David Joyce's office
- Lake County Commissioner: Dan Troy
- Former Lake County Commissioner: Kevin Malecek
- President of WRLC: Rich Cochran
- Members of the Edward Hach family, original land donor

Dr. Jim Tomko, President of Audubon acted as emcee. Speakers were:

- Jim Tomko, President of ASGC
- Robert Weger, Mayor of Willoughby Hills
- Paul Hach, a member of the Hach family
- Dan Troy, Lake County Commissioner
- Kevin Malecek, former Lake County Commissioner
- Rich Cochran, President and CEO of the WRLC, and
- John Lillich, Trustee and past president of ASGC.

Robert Weger, Mayor of Willoughby Hills, read a proclamation from the City and presented it to Jim Tomko. A proclamation was also presented to Jim Tomko and Rich Cochran by Katie Burger who was representing U. S. Congressman David Joyce, who was unable to attend.

After John Lillich's short talk, Rich Cochran and Jim Tomko asked his wife Carol Lillich to join him. A temporary sign was unveiled and it was announced that this 32 acre portion where the ceremony was held will be named in their honor and will be called "The John and Carol Lillich Meadows". A permanent sign will be installed at a later date.



John was also presented with a painting that was done from a picture that was taken of him standing on a ridge in the Hach-Otis Sanctuary while leading a nature walk.



Due to the extreme heat and humidity no one was interested in taking a walking tour of Hach-Otis Sanctuary.

Thanks to Carol and John Lillich of ASGC and Emily Bacha, Megan Quinn and Brett Rodstrom of the WRLC who worked together to put on this event.