

When Was The Established?



By Richard Edwards 7/15/2016

Recently I passed the Leesburg Roadside Park noticing the nice improvements and the Leesburg Park Rock at the entrance. Memories came flooding back to me about family picnics, Reunions and Church Potluck suppers. The Park has been there for as far back as I can remember and I began asking around concerning the park establishment.

Village fiscal officer, Tracy Evans, advised me to contact Jerry Pausch. Jerry had the information I needed. The park originated locally with the Leesburg Lions Club and not a government project like I had thought. Here in part is the Leesburg Citizen's article Jerry emailed to me:

THE LEESBURG CITIZEN

Thursday June 6, 1940

Roadside Park Assured At Leesburg; Buy Milner Field

State To Build Shelter House And make Other Improvements

Leesburg—An agreement was reached between the Leesburg Lions Club and Arthur Milner Tuesday whereby

Milner is to sell the bottom field on the Northside of Rt. 62, just across the creek from the recreation park, to the village. The village in turn is to give an easement on it for the state for a wayside park. The old abandoned Highway on the north side of the field has also been deeded to the village by the county commissioners without cost and will be used in connection with the newly acquired Milner land making over 3 acres in all.

An Unusual Park

When completed, it will give Leesburg one of the finest and most complete roadside parks of this kind in southern Ohio, something that has long been a dream of Leesburg civic leaders and which has at last been brought to a near reality by the Leesburg Lions Club. The Lions Club and City Council are sharing the cost of the land with the city's part being \$150. Ira Young is chairman of the Park committee with T.G. Goldsberry, and T.D. Ockerman.

Soft Ball will be getting under way at the park shortly. Lions Club President, John Dewey, appointed Louis Pausch Jr. to head a committee for making arrangements for the softball season.