



A Short History of Winona Lake

In 1881, three brothers bought land near Eagle Lake, now Winona Lake. They opened a resort called Spring Fountain Park. They began having Chautauqua programs. A Chautauqua is a series of concerts, plays, and speakers.

In 1894, the Beyer brothers sold their park. The new owners named it Winona Assembly and Summer School Association. They began holding summer Bible conferences and schools. They also continued the Chautauqua programs.

Many visitors traveled to the Winona Assembly. There were fun things to do, such as a roller coaster. By 1910, Winona Lake offered year-round schools.

In the early 1900s, many famous people performed in Winona Lake. These included Indiana poet James Whitcomb Riley, politician William Jennings Bryan, and Helen Keller. In one summer, 250,000 people came to the assembly!

Billy Sunday was a former baseball player for the Chicago White Stockings. He and his family moved to Winona Lake in 1911. He traveled around the United States preaching. Mr. Sunday spoke against alcohol during Prohibition.

In 1938, the Chautauqua ended. However, the summer Bible conferences continued. Other organizations moved into the town. Grace College began in 1948. Eventually, Grace College bought the conference grounds.

By the 1990s, few conferences were held. Local investors began the Village at Winona. Today, Winona Lake thrives as a place that celebrates the arts.

Winona Lake Timeline

Directions: Cut out the boxes from the bottom of the page. Glue them along the timeline to match the years in which they occurred. You may glue boxes above and below the timeline so the boxes will all fit.



Chautauqua closes; Winona Lake Christian Assembly continues	Beyer brothers buy land near Eagle Lake	Organizations and schools such as Grace College come to Winona Lake	Famous people perform at the Chautauqua	Billy Sunday moves to Winona Lake	Village at Winona begins	The Winona Assembly and Summer School Association begins
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Winona Lake Timeline

Answer Key

Events in order:

Beyer brothers buy land near Eagle Lake (1881)

The Winona Assembly and Summer School Association begins (1894)

Famous people perform at the Chautauqua (early 1900s)

Billy Sunday moves to Winona Lake (1911)

Winona Lake Christian Assembly continues after Chautauqua closes (1938)

Organizations and schools such as Grace College come to Winona Lake (1948)

Village at Winona begins (1990s)

Dear _____,

Today I visited Winona Lake. I saw _____

STAMP

From:

To:

Your friend,
