

Fred McIntyre -2014 Civitas Award

Selection Committee – Barb Frye, Sandy Powers, Amy Sage, Anne Register (I'On Board rep.), Annie Bonk, Ed Clem

This year's recipient is Fred McIntyre, who was the unanimous choice of the committee. Those of you who know Fred, I'm sure are not surprised by this choice; for those of you who don't know him, I would like to tell you of the many services he has provided to I'On and the Greater Charleston area over the last ten years.

Fred and Dawn moved into I'On in 2004, and both of them have been very active in the community ever since. They immediately exhibited a strong commitment to and love for their new home, and many neighbors have benefited from their many contributions. Fred has always pitched in to help with projects that needed doing (usually without having to be asked) and he has been the impetus for many of them, a quiet man who never sought recognition, just an opportunity to help, and was always there to lend a helping hand. Folks who know him know that he can always be counted on.

As a graduate of the US Navy academy, and a military pilot, he has been very interested in promoting patriotism and showing appreciation for our active military and our veterans. In fact, Fred has lived his life in a manner that reflects the very best that the Naval Academy stands for; honor, commitment, patriotism and dedication.

He put together a small committee to help encourage sales of our flag in I'ON. He researched sources for flags and the poles and brackets that made up the kits for displaying these flags and handled the orders as they came in. His committee then worked to install the brackets for

those who ordered the kits and needed some help. A small donation for this work was then given to the Trust. This project went on for more than three years.

He and Dawn were in charge of the July 4th Celebrati'On for two years. They added the very popular elements of the activities for children (jump castles and face painting) and encourage local vendors to participate. Their initiatives took the concert part of our special Independence Day observance to a new level. As you know, this is the best attended event each year.

Fred has also helped with the parade for a number of years, including this year. He suggested that we needed a Color Guard to lead the parade as well as a flag raising ceremony at the Square. He personally arranged for the Color Guard and a group of military singers as well as handling the logistics of the flag raising. These elements have now become a vital part of our July 4th tradition at I'On and help to remind us to show respect for our country on this important day. When the members of the Guard are our guests, Fred has always lined up volunteers to help greet them and provide coffee, donuts and water for them.

He also came up with the idea of putting flyers on the cars parked along the Shelmore avenue route of the parade asking owners to move their cars during the time of the parade. And he went the extra step by going door to door along N. Shelmore reminding homeowners that vehicles should be off the street during the parade.

Fred has been a strong supporter of the Trust and its importance to the community. He has been on the Program Committee and is now the Vice President of the Board of Directors. On a number of occasions he has helped with plans for the program, from initiating concepts to helping with implementation. Most recently, in April, he arranged for I'On neighbors to visit the site of a colonial ship building location at Hobcaw Point.

On a number of occasions, Fred and Dawn posted mailbox flyers about Trust events, another example of reaching out to help. In years past, when the Trust was charging fees for some of the events, Fred and Dawn sold tickets to the events and worked as gatekeepers when concerts were held at the Amphitheatre.

Fred was involved for a few years with the Landscape and Infrastructure Committee of the I'On Board and helped ensure that proper oversight was given to maintaining the “ hardscape” elements of our community as well as preservation of the common areas trees, shrubs, lawns and other landscape features.

Fred and Dawn have been hosts for First Friday events and active in almost any activity that take place on Maybank Green in front of their home on McDaniel. Fred has helped the Conservation Corp in their periodic cleanups along Mathis Ferry Road.

In the Greater Charleston area, Fred has volunteered with East Cooper Habitat for Humanity, the Ronald McDonald House, in the emergency

room of the Veterans Administration hospital, and with his church, St. Michael's Episcopal. He and Dawn have recently been involved with a unique service to active military families who are offered a place to stay for R and R in the lowcountry, often during a time of transition when a military person was returning home. They helped in a liaison capacity between the military families and those who donated the use of beach homes or other locations for their enjoyment and special family time.

I'm sure some of you can think of things he has done that I have missed, but I think you can now see why we chose Fred for this honor. To add to the moment, it turns out that today is Fred's birthday.

Unfortunately, Fred cannot be here tonight to receive this token of our gratitude for his services in person. As many of you know, Fred has been besieged with some serious health issues this year, and for several months he has been at Franke home. A short time ago, recognizing this to be the case, a small group of us went to Franke home to present this award to him. True to his nature, he felt he did not deserve this recognition, but was very honored to have been selected.

We are fortunate, however, that the other half of this dynamic team, Dawn, is here tonight, along with their son and his family, so please join me in a tribute to this great man, as Dawn comes forward to accept the 2014 I'On Civitas Award, which reads "Fred McIntyre, for outstanding community service, making I'On a better place to live."