



Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy

A Not-for-Profit Organization

Member: National Association for Olmsted Parks

Dedicated to the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of the Grover Cleveland Park

Vol. V Issue II

May 2006



MAY FEST



Grab the family for a fun, educational day in the park! On Saturday, **May 6th** (rain date May 7th) from 1 - 4 p.m. the Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy will host a day to welcome spring and enjoy the park. Learn park games or learn about nature in the park.

Bocce, shuffleboard and horseshoes will be demonstrated - the equipment is available whenever the Children's House is open. Turtle Back Zoo will bring small critters for observation and the Essex County Environmental Center will seine the pond to discover what macro and micro organisms live in these waters. Learn about organic farming and organic household products from Genesis Farms. Visit our turtle collection or learn to make a paper airplane. Try to make the biggest soap bubble or throw a frisbee the farthest! Or take a walk with Rich Rombough of American Tree Experts to discover the abundant collection of trees in the park. Phoebe Epstein of the Wild Bird Center will tour the park looking for birds. Learn the history of the park from Caroline Mescia. All the while Richard Boesch will delight us with his bagpiping. David Frisch's collection of park photographs will be on display as well as Richard Gibb's antique post card collection of the park.

Light refreshments will be available throughout.

FISHING DERBY

Essex County Park System will once again host the fishing derby in Grover Cleveland Park on **May 6th** from 8 - 11 a.m. Bring your own fishing pole, bait, chair, bucket and family! Registration is from 8 - 9 a.m.; the derby is from 9 - 11 a.m. Prizes for catching the first and the most fish. Open to children 15 and under. Stay after or come back for May Fest!

SUMMER CONCERT

Jersey Sound will delight audiences with their renditions of familiar oldies from the 50's, 60's, 70's and 80's at Grover Cleveland Park on August 15th at 7:00 p.m. This is part of the Essex County Summer Concert Series. Jersey Sound performs songs from The Duprees, Johnny Maestro & The Brooklyn Bridge, The 4 tops, The 4 Seasons, The Temptations, Dion & The Belmonts, The Spinners and many more. This should be a get-out-of-your-chair-and-dance evening with cooling refreshments available from the GCPC!



WINTER

This winter did not produce ice for skating enthusiasts. For the first time in at least 6 years there was no skating. It would have been difficult anyway with the Pond House under construction and unavailable. But keep your fingers crossed for 2006/07; the newly refurbished Pond House will be ready to host chilled skaters!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Meetings open to the public.

- April 22, 2006**, 9:00 a.m. - **Park Clean-up** - meet at the Children's House. Bring gloves and sturdy shoes - all welcome!
- May 6, 2006**, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. - **Fishing Derby** - BYO pole, bait, bucket, family. Open to children 15 and under.
- May 6, 2006**, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. - **May Fest** - between the pond and playground. Fun family day at the park!
- May 18, 2006**, 7:30 p.m. - **Business Meeting** at the Caldwell Municipal Bldg. Conference Room
- June 15, 2006**, 7:30 p.m. - **Open Meeting** at the Caldwell Municipal Bldg. Conference Room
- July 20, 2006**, 7:30 p.m. - **Business Meeting** at the Caldwell Municipal Bldg. Conference Room
- August 15, 2006**, 7:00 p.m. - **Concert** - Jersey Sound - BYO blanket, chair.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting held on January 19th kicked off 2006 with some new faces amongst us to add new ideas and energy to the Conservancy! The Annual Report was reviewed and is on the web site: groverclevelandpark.org. A fond farewell was given to two outgoing Trustees, Beth Baldino Feehan and Pam Donovan, both served from 2003. Ginny Stairiker and Susan Zayas joined Loren Betros as the newest Trustees who will serve until 2009. The officers elected are: President, Caroline Mescia; Vice President, Warren Marchioni; Treasurer, Loren Betros; Secretary, Kathleen Carrara.

Please be advised that next year's Annual Meeting will be held in February.

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

If you see one of these pests, please contact the GCPC or Essex County Park System immediately! These beetles kill hardwood trees by boring into trunks and branches. The ALB attacks many different hardwoods, including maples, horsechestnut, poplar, willow, elm, ash and black locust. Trees damaged by this pest have round entry and exit holes about a half inch in diameter and may have sawdust piled up at the base. Sap may flow out of these holes. The only way to eradicate the beetles is to burn the tree they are living in. So if they are spotted, they must be reported before they can spread to lots of trees which will then need to be cut down to be burnt.



POND HOUSE DEDICATION

The date for the Pond House and ball field dedications will be announced shortly. Essex County executive Joe DiVincenzo will dedicate these projects that complete Phase II of the park improvements.

GRANTS

2004 GREEN ACRES GRANT: The Pond House and ball field are nearing completion! The Pond House is now a more pleasing building with bay windows in front, a large portico and a squirrel weathervane added to a new cupola. Inside the floors are all covered with ice skate friendly rubber and the restrooms were completely renovated. The fireplace now has a permanent fire screen for safety and there are now cubbies for skaters' equipment to keep the floors free of clutter. And new lights brighten the inside and outside.

The ball field will receive its final grooming now that it is spring. The field now has wings for safety from foul balls and wild throws for both spectators and players. The players now have benches as do the spectators. These improvements will make playing here safer and more pleasant for those who enjoy playing close to home.

2005 GREEN ACRES GRANT: Construction plans have not begun for Phase III improvements.

2006 GREEN ACRES GRANT: On April 10th, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. presented the 30 new applications to Green Acres for the various park partnership groups across the county at a press conference at the Environmental Center in Roseland. For the fourth year, Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy is submitting an application requesting \$500,000. To wrap up the improvements to the park, we are asking to update the picnic grove, add ornamental landscaping, repair the main field, make curb cut-outs at the Bowers Road and Cleveland Road entrances, replace the concrete and metal foot bridges with more natural bridges, add more exercise stations and add some chess/checkers tables. Also, we are asking to create a proper, safe path from Brookside Avenue to the playground to eliminate the unsafe people-worn paths.

The awards will be announced later this year.

SUPPORT THE CONSERVANCY

Commemorate The Past, Preserve The Present, Secure The Future

Make your permanent mark in the park while supporting the mission of the Conservancy.

Decorate a ceramic tile at The Art Hub, 345 Bloomfield Avenue in Caldwell to adorn the walls of the Children's House. The tiles are \$20 and fully tax-deductible.



Purchase your **brick paver** to add to the pathway in the playground. We are working toward the 100th anniversary of Grover Cleveland Park in 2013; let's all contribute to the beautification of this park! Please use the order form on the back of this newsletter. The next installation of bricks will be in the fall of 2006; the deadline for orders for the next installation is **August 1, 2006**. Pavers are fully tax-deductible.



SAFETY IN THE PARK

Remember, you are the eyes and ears of the park. If you see any activities that are questionable, please alert the Caldwell or Essex Fells Police. Most of the park is in Caldwell, however, the area from the ball field and pond towards Runnymede Road is in Essex Fells. Please help us keep out vandalism to equipment or the landscape. Also, motorized vehicles of any kind are prohibited from the park. Please help us keep our park safe and looking beautiful!

OLD POSTCARDS ILLUSTRATE HISTORY OF GCP



Pond and dam bridge, circa 1930

The history of a person, an institution or even a tract of land is often difficult to uncover from the standpoint of the present. Our park, for example, is nearing its century mark and has gone through an evolution of sorts to arrive at what it looks like today. While the park must have been the subject, or at least the background, of many photographs taken over the years, any attempt at trying to collect or just view them would be a difficult and time-consuming task. In fact, one would hardly know where to begin.

However, there are images of the park that are often overlooked when trying to reveal its past. These images were commercially made to be sold as souvenir postcards and their history goes back almost to the very inception of the park. The beauty of the park was obvious from the beginning and many postcards were produced which have illustrated the changes that had occurred over the years. Many historians in the West Essex area were asked where such postcards might be found. Eventually a collector from Essex Fells was identified. Richard Gibbs has been collecting postcards as a hobby for several years, specializing in Cape May but also the Caldwells and Essex Fells. His collection is extensive and he was kind enough to allow the GCPC to copy two dozen of the postcards that showed scenes of the park, particularly the pond area, that spanned, as best as can be determined, over most of the decades of the park prior to the 1960s. Several of these images will be enlarged and put on display in the pond house when it is completed. Most of the collection will eventually be put on our website.

Not every card was postmarked, so that some of their time frames can only be estimated. It is fascinating to see the wooden building that served as a predecessor to our current pond house, the craftsmanship that went into the rustic-looking, wooden bridges that preceded our current concrete and metal ones, the swans that apparently were permanent inhabitants of the pond for a period up to the 1960s, the tall weeping willows found along the brook, the seemingly more kidney shaped pond in the past compared to its current rectangular shape, and so many other differences. We are again thankful to Mr. Gibbs for his help in uncovering the history of Grover Cleveland Park.

by: Warren Marchioni

PAVERS TO BE INSTALLED

Paver orders received by GCPC before August 15th have been placed with the engraver. It will take approximately 10 weeks for delivery. Those who purchased pavers will be notified when they are installed.

HISTORY OF THE PARK

PHOTOS: The W. Caldwell/Caldwell Recreation Program graciously donated some photographs from their archives. These are photos of fishing derbies, summer recreation and Easter Egg Hunts in the 1960's and can be seen on the GCPC web site - please view them and let us know if you recognize anyone.

ANECDOTES: The GCPC is interested in collecting stories of your memories of your childhood or your children's experiences in Grover Cleveland Park. Please share your stores of summer recreation programs or family outings and perhaps the Conservancy can bring back some of these special events. Please send to our PO Box or email address. Let us know if you wish to remain anonymous.

THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL

The date on your address label is the date of your last donation. If a year has passed, please renew your membership. If there is no date on your label, you have received a complimentary newsletter. Please make a donation to support the work of the Conservancy and to continue to receive news of the Grover Cleveland Park! We gladly accept your employer's matching gift! Continue to support the GCPC! Renew your yearly membership: \$20 per household!

TRUSTEES

President, Caroline Mescia '08*	Claudia Wilcke Kolster '07
V. Pres., Warren Marchioni '08	Greg Michales '07
Treasurer, Loren Betros '09	Ginny Stairiker '09
Secretary, Kathleen Carrara '08	Susan Zayas '09
Lisa Garrity, '07	*year term expires

EDITORS

Kathleen Carrara Claudia Wilcke Kolster
Caroline Mescia

IN-KIND DONATIONS (January 1 - April 30, 2006):

Mark A. Acquadro, CPA	Richard Gibbs
John Badagliacca, Esq. and the law firm of Garrity, Graham, Favetta & Flinn	Rich Rombough, American Tree Experts
	Brad White, J.H. Cohn LLP

GIVING LEVELS

⊕ James Caldwell Circle (\$2,500+)	■ Lewis Lockward Circle (\$250+)
◆ Olmsted Circle (\$1,000+)	★ Sponsors (\$100+)
⊕ Andrew Carnegie Circle (\$500+)	◇ Donors (\$50+)

GCPC MEMBERS

Bold indicates donations received January 1 - April 30, 2006

◇ Abbott, Edward & Jill	◇ Justus, James & Mary
★ Aharrah, Donald & Mary	Kaplan, Robert & Barbara
Albano, Nick & Anne	Keenan, Randy & Matthew Fox
◇ Badach, Raymond & Donna Macgregor	◇ Kent, Greg & Phyllis
◇ Bazerman, Marc & Carole	Knapp, Jeff & Jen
◇ Bell, Fred & Evelyn	◇ Kolster, David & Claudia Wilcke
◇ Bellasalma, Bob & Carole	◇ Kuczorski, Anthony & Roxanne Knott
Berisso, Jane	◇ Lally, Tim & Kathleen
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Blumerg, Irene	Lauri, Michael & Francine
Brady, Leo & Rosemary	◇ Lorenzo, Robert & Susan
Buovolo, Anthony & Kathryn Calvert, Barbara	★ Maguire, Michael & Julianne
★ Cane, Linda	◇ Marchioni, Warren & Ann
★ Carrara, Doug & Kathleen	◇ Markay, Jeff & Julie Yarborough
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◇ Clark, Jr., George	★ Fost, David & Patty McGrogan
◇ Collura, Pat & Grace	Mensingher, Diane & Lin Wood
◇ Conlon, Jean	★ Mescia, Peter & Caroline
Conti, James & Laura	Meszaros, Irene
Courtright, Gregory & Jeanne	◇ Michales, Greg & Carole
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Curley, Jeff & Carolyne	★ Mingle, Maureen
DeFilippis, Carl	◇ Mount Saint Dominic Academy
★ Dell, Amy	◇ Neglia, Vincent & Nina
Dietrich, Mary Anne	◇ Pirozzi, Michael & Jenny
Donovan, Patrick & Pam	Robertson, Ray & Ann
Drake, Corwin & Kay	◇ Ruble, Jay & Ellen Feeney
★ Edge, William & Johanna	Rusinow, Rozz
Eicher, Barbara	◇ Sadighi, Kay
★ Emmanuelle, Brian	◇ Sauer, Jack
Essex Fells, Borough of	Schleck, Richard & Valerie
■ Essex Lodge #7 F. & A.M.	★ Scott, Andrew & Stacey
◇ Ewing, Edith	Shapiro, Mark & Lisa
Faust, Chris & Lisa Palombo	★ Slattery, Michael & Kay
★ Feehan, Pat & Beth	Sorell, Jerry & Susan
Feldman, Stuart & Jackie Davidson	Stairiker, Peter & Ginny
Fitzburgh, Alexander & Mildred	◇ Steckler, John & Sandra
★ Fost, David & Patty McGrogan	★ Stewart, Charles & Connie
Frelinghuysen, Rodney	Stewart, James & Louise
French, Gaylord & Marlene	★ Stieve, Bruce & Cathy
Frisch, Paula	Taylor, John & Jan
Garrity, Francis & Lisa	◇ Taylor, Robert & Nancy
★ Garrubbo, Gina	★ Tighe, John & Margo
★ Garson, Donald & Sally	◇ Travers, Stephen & Diane
★ Garrubbo, Gina	Ucko, Masako
★ Gartland, Thomas & Susan	◇ Vitkowsky, Robert & Barbara
◇ Gilbreth, David	Vogelsang, Thomas & Jane
Glazier, Gwen	★ Wefferling & Co., CPSa, LLC
◇ Gurland, James & Leslie	◇ Weil, Gilbert & Shirley
Heberling, William & Lorraine	Weiss, Jay & Joan
★ Halprin, Arthur & Dorris	Wescott, Peg
Hemmel, William & Iva	West Essex Woman's Club
◇ Hinkel, Robert & Maryanne	◇ White, Brad & Ellie
Jarosiewicz, Joe & Christa	Witt, Penny
	Youderian, John & Jane
	Zayas, Jeff & Susan

CORPORATE MATCHES

◇ Business Wire	★ Tennant Foundation
★ The New York Times	

LOCATION

Grover Cleveland Park is located in Caldwell along Brookside Avenue and in Essex Fells along Runnymede Road.













PURCHASE A BRICK TO PAVE THE FUTURE

The Playground Pavers form a lovely path for easy access for all to the playground. In snowy and muddy conditions, the playground is accessible to kids of all ages! Make sure you are included in the walkway! Orders placed before August 1, 2006 will be installed in the fall 2006.

Personalized Playground Pavers are a great way to honor your kids, spouse, grandparents or even your four-legged family members! Give as a gift!

Paver choices

<p>8 x 8 Inch Paver 6 lines - 20 characters per line - \$100 or 4 lines - 20 characters per line with clip art - \$115</p>	<p>4 x 8 Inch Paver 3 lines - 20 characters per line - \$50 or 12 characters per line with clip art - \$60</p>	<p>1 1/4 x 3 Inch Replica Keep or give this miniature paver replica as a memento. \$25</p>
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1 	2 	3 	4 	5 	6 
7 	8 	9 	10 	11 	12 

When filling out the following information for your paver, use only one character per space. You can use a **maximum of 20 characters per line**. Spaces and punctuation are considered a character.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	

If you are interested in using your company logo on the 8 x 8 inch paver, please call us for special pricing.

Paver Size	Clip Art #	Clip Art Price	Paver Price	Total
4x8		\$10	\$50	
8x8		\$15	\$100	
Replica			\$25	
TOTAL				

Please make checks payable to: GCPC - Paver Fund

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail to Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy, PO Box 203, Caldwell, NJ 07006

**Support
The Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy!**

Please Join Us!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Check if your contact information has changed.

Annual Membership Levels:

- \$20 Member
- \$50+ Donor
- \$100+ Sponsor
- \$250+ Lewis Lockward Circle
- \$500+ Andrew Carnegie Circle
- \$1,000+ Olmsted Circle
- \$2,500+ James Caldwell Circle
- \$5,000+ Grover Cleveland Circle
- Other _____

I have enclosed my employer's matching gift form.

Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law
 Note: Donations of \$20 or more entitle you to a GCPC Annual Membership.

Please make checks payable to:

Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy

Send to:

P.O. Box 203
Caldwell, NJ 07006

You can also contact us at:

973-618-9154 or gcpc@molink.com



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