



Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy

A Not-for-Profit Organization

Member: National Association for Olmsted Parks

Member: North Essex Chamber of Commerce

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

Vol. IX Issue I

February 2010

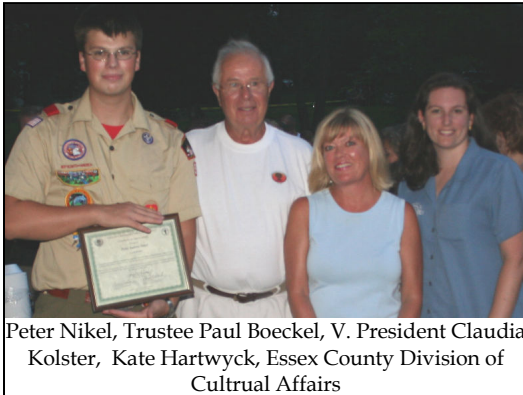
WINTER IN GROVER CLEVELAND PARK

Grover Cleveland Park is alive with the sounds of winter. Depending upon the weather, one can hear sleds skidding down packed snow or steel on ice! Ice skating started on Wednesday, January 6 and continued until January 16, 2010! Now we wait to see if the pond freezes again. There are but a few benefits to temperatures that remain below freezing for long periods in New Jersey. Essex County Park System maintains the ice by clearing it, checking the thickness, installing the ramp and providing a roaring fire to warm cold fingers and toes. When the pond is open, hours of operation are: weekdays, 3:30 - 8:00 p.m. and weekends, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Hundreds have already tested their abilities and passed pucks this year! The Conservancy offers cocoa to help warm skaters and spectators. New volunteers are always welcome to join our skating committee.

To help ensure the safety and enjoyment for all, please do not throw anything on the ice as these become tripping hazards for skaters. Also, remember that the snow only covers dog droppings until the snow melts - please continue to pick-up after your dog all year round.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

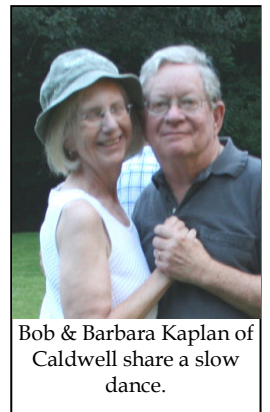
Peter Nikel of West Caldwell labeled 48 species of trees in the park in June 2009 to complete his Eagle Scout requirements. He was assisted in the identification of the trees by Rich Rombough of West Caldwell and Kathleen Salisbury of Essex County Park System. His troop assisted in the installation of the tags. Self-guided tree walk brochures were available through the fall and will be available again in March. Go on a tree scavenger hunt and learn about the selection of trees in Grover Cleveland Park. This project greatly enhances the park.



Peter Nikel, Trustee Paul Boeckel, V. President Claudia Kolster, Kate Hartwyck, Essex County Division of Cultrual Affairs

SUMMER CONCERT 2009

On August 18 concert-goers were brought to their feet as The Bronx Wanderers performed their lively music under the stars at Grover Cleveland Park. The multi-generational family group from the Bronx appealed to all ages with songs from decades past that inspired memories for some and sparked a new interest for those who were less familiar with the songs from years past. They even showcased a popular song from *The Fray* that had the younger set out of their seats.



Bob & Barbara Kaplan of Caldwell share a slow dance.

A little interruption of light rain didn't dampen the mood of the crowd. In fact many enjoyed the offerings of Italian ice cream, donated by the Nasto family of Newark and the Pucciarello family's Lucé Restaurant in Caldwell.



Conservancy volunteers enjoy the concert: Paul Boeckel, Kathleen & Doug Carrara, Jeff & Susan Zayas

Conservancy volunteers served the gelatto.

WORDS OF SUPPORT

7/1/09 - It is truly a wonderful transformation of our Park. Thanks for the efforts of your committee and all those involved. I know Joe D. is to be thanked but without this group it would not have happened. Thanks again.

7/6/09 - I just wanted to let you know how much I am enjoying the new cards on the trees telling what they are and a bit about them. I think its great that we can now learn about our park as we walk. Thank you so much.

BLOSSOMS IN THE PARK

Come help the GCPC usher in spring on April 24, 2009 when the cherry trees are in bloom. Plans are underway for the second Japanese-themed cherry blossom event. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact the GCPC.



ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be on **March 18 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Caldwell Municipal Building, council chambers. The Annual Report will be reviewed and plans will be discussed for 2010. Three expiring Trustee terms will be filled. Nominations are open - please consider yourself or suggest others who may be interested in serving. All are welcome to attend and become involved. The Advisory Board is a nice way to become involved without the commitment of being a Trustee. Please consider sharing your ideas and talents with the GCPC!

P.O. Box 203, Caldwell, New Jersey 07006

973-618-9154 • fax 973-618-9204 • gcpc@molink.com • www.groverclevelandpark.org

LANDSCAPE & GROUNDS

Plans are being drawn up for the creation of gardens at each main entrance (Westville & Brookside and Brookside & Runnymede). Also, at least 5 trees will be planted. The GCPC's vision is to start replacing the large shade trees for which the park is known. Naturally, the mature trees decline or are hit by lightning. The park is almost 100 years old, so some trees are quite mature. As trees become dangerous they are removed, as 3 were in 2009. This replanting initiative will ensure that there are trees already growing in place of trees that are in decline.

SKATE SWAP

The Conservancy is facilitating a skate swap this winter, as it has in the past. This is an informal swap based on availability and need. Some donate their skates this year in the hope that next year they will find a skate in their size. Some receive skates this year without donating another pair with the understanding that they will donate their used skates back to the swap. And of course, some are lucky enough to donate and receive skates the same year. Generally, the GCPC gets child-sized skates donated to the swap, but sometimes it has adult sized skates. Please check with the GCPC before purchasing skates and remember to donate your used skates so they may be passed down.

If you get used skates from anyone, please have them professionally sharpened prior to first use. Rust and nicks lead to a dull skate blade which can be dangerous. To avoid dulling of skate blades, do not walk on unprotected surfaces such as cement, metal or anything hard. Rubber, wood and ice are the only surfaces that are safe for unprotected blades. Also, dry blades prior to storage. Remember, sharp blades are safe blades!

LUNA MOTH

This moth was spotted on a spruce tree next to the tennis courts in August. "Based on the climate in which they live, the Luna moths produce differing numbers of generations. In Canada they can live up to 7 and northern regions, only one generation per year. These reach adulthood from early June to early July. In the northeastern United States around New Jersey or New York, the moths produce two generations each year. The first of these appear in April and May, and the second group can be seen approximately nine to eleven weeks later. In the southern United States, there can be as many as three generations. These are spaced every eight to ten weeks beginning in March." -Wikipedia.org.



NOTE CARDS



Note cards of scenes of Grover Cleveland Park are available for purchase. Ten cards and envelopes are \$15. Each package has two cards each of five different seasonal scenes of the park taken by the late Dr. David Frisch. These make wonderful gifts! Contact GCPC to purchase.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

All meetings open to the public.

February 18, 2010, 7:30 p.m. - **Open Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room. All are welcome.

March 18, 2010, 7:30 p.m. - **ANNUAL Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room. All are welcome.

April 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m. - **Spring Clean-up**. Help tidy the park for spring. Meet at the playground.

April 15, 2010, 7:30 p.m. - **Speaker Presentation**, Topic & location TBA.

April 24, 2010, - **Blossoms in the Park**, Japanese-themed cherry blossom event. Rain or Shine!

May 2010, date TBA - **Fishing Derby** - open to children 15 and under. 8:00 a.m. registration. Derby 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Prizes.

May 20, 2010, 7:30 p.m. - **Business Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room. All are welcome.

NEW JERSEY'S ECOSYSTEMS

Dr. Emil DeVito, Manager of Science and Stewardship, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, spoke on October 15, 2009 in the Pond House on the topic of the natural wonders of our state and how they are threatened by development and climate change. For such a small state, there is a wide diversity of ecosystems. Dr. DeVito started his presentation, a complete photographic depiction, in the Highlands in the northern part of the state. This mountainous area has many regions that are unique and contain animals and plants that one would otherwise find by traveling much further north.

The southern part of the state has two exceptional environments: the famous seashore and the wild, less-populated Pine Barrens. There are still several beach areas that remain untouched: Island Beach State Park and some beaches along the Cape May peninsula. The Pine Barrens, largely protected by the state, constitutes the last major wilderness area in the Mid-Atlantic region. Several animal and plant species are endemic to the area including the Pine Barrens tree frog, diamond-backed rattlesnakes, pitcher plants, sundews and butterworts. The many streams provide family fun for canoeing and swimming.

However, these areas and others, such as the Delaware River shoreline, are always being threatened by construction, invasive plant and animal species and climate change. Shore erosion, invasive species and powerful storms threaten the New Jersey ecosystem as it is known today. Dr. DeVito gave a fascinating portrait of our state which was an education for all in the audience.

LIGHTS OUT?

If you notice any lights out in the park, please feel free to contact PSE&G with this information. All you need is the number on the light stanchion and the general location. You can enter this information on their web site: pseg.com; then click on the "Town/City" option under "PSE&G Customer Service;" then click on "Report a Streetlight Outage." Or you can call: 1-800-436-PSEG (7734). Everyone can help!

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 and consider a donation as a gift for someone you care about.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

Listed below are those who volunteered their time and effort from June 1, 2009 - January 31, 2010. Without these people, the work that the Conservancy does would not be possible. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know!

Stephanie Aranowitz
Donna Badach

Diane Mensinger
Ginny Stairiker

TRUSTEES

President, Caroline Mescia '11*	Kathleen Carrara '12
V. Pres., Claudia Kolster '10	Warren Marchioni '11
Treasurer, Loren Betros '12	Barbara Pucciarello '11
Secretary, Lisa Garrity '10	Susan Zayas '12
Paul Boeckel, '10	*year term expires

ADVISORY BOARD

Wendy Callaghan	Sharon Morrissey
Roxanne Knott-Kuczborski	Suzy von Lengerke
Patty McGrogan-Fost	

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:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Member | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50+ Donor | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to receive email communication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100+ Sponsor | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to receive the newsletter via email |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250+ Lewis Lockward Circle | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500+ Andrew Carnegie Circle | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000+ Olmsted Circle | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500+ James Caldwell Circle | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000+ Grover Cleveland Circle | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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

LOCATION

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



Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy

P.O. Box 203
Caldwell, NJ 07006
973-618-9154
gcpc@molink.com
www.groverclevelandpark.org