



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 II

Fall 2010

VANDALS TARGET PARK

Grover Cleveland Park has withstood much vandalism over the year, some quite substantial. The vandals are going out of their way to destroy this beautiful park and we ask that if you see any crowds loitering or acting suspicious to please alert local police. Of course if you witness any inappropriate activities, please call immediately.

Specific vandalism this year was the forceful removal of the tire swings, the Children's House was flooded by cutting a screen and leaving a running hose in the window overnight, bicycles and other large items were propped on top of the playground gate, one of the mile markers was uprooted, many globes on the lights were broken, and there has been substantial graffiti. Most of the park is in Caldwell's jurisdiction, however the pond, picnic grove and ball field are in Essex Fells. For non-emergencies, the Caldwell Police number is 973-226-2600, the Essex Fells Police number is 973-226-3000, and the Essex County Police number is 973-621-4111.

Together, those who care about the park can get the message to those who seek to destroy it that their behavior is unacceptable and abhorrant.

SUMMER CONCERT

Jersey Sound was a big hit! The concert in the park was another success this year. On August 12, 2010, the park was filled with many area residents who delighted to the tunes by Jersey Sound which was part of Essex County's Summer Concert Series. The wide variety of tunes were enjoyed by many people of all ages while sitting in their beach chairs or dancing on the grass. GCPC volunteers sold water (donated by Nestlé), ice cream (donated by Nasto's) and glow necklaces throughout the evening.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 2011 Annual Meeting will be on February 17, 2011. It will be a banner year as the Conservancy will celebrate its 10th anniversary. Those looking to become involved or increase their involvement should contact the GCPC or come to monthly meetings. Fresh ideas and energy welcome!

The 2010 Annual Meeting was held on March 18, 2010. Paul Boeckel, Lisa Garrity and Claudia Kolster returned for another 3-year term. The Officers – Caroline Mescia, President, Claudia Kolster, Vice President, Loren Betros, Treasurer, Lisa Garrity, Secretary were re-appointed.

WORDS OF SUPPORT

Feb. 2010 - "We enjoyed reading [the winter] newsletter - Thank you!"

July 2010 - "Donated to support a lovely small, beautifully maintained park. My husband and I frequently visit: trees, turtles, ducks and flowers - so wonderful." Montclair resident.

BLOSSOMS IN THE PARK

Saturday, April 24, 2010 was the perfect day to welcome the cherry blossom bloom! Although the trees bloomed in advance of our celebration, there was no less enthusiasm! TaikoZoku drummers were present again to rouse park visitors with loud rhythmic beating of tremendous drums. The Japanese drumming group comes from the New Jersey School of Percussion. Ginza Restaurant of West Caldwell delighted attendees with green tea, Japanese flavored ices and Pokey sticks, a sweet Japanese bread stick snack.



The Conservancy raffled a free hybrid dogwood tree which was donated by Cedar Grove Nursery, compliments of Ted Cox, Sr. This tree is the same as those planted along Brookside Avenue. These dogwoods will bring a splash of color to the park which will be disease resistant.

The *Blossoms in the Park* event was organized by Kathleen Carrara with assistance from the Trustees and volunteers. She planned a wonderful cherry blossom craft of tissue paper petals on real twigs.

The GCPC remembers and thanks Ted Cox, Sr. who passed away on April 23, 2010.

LANDSCAPE & GROUNDS

On May 7, 2010, 4th grade Troop 431 from Wilson School enhanced the Turtle Garden, near the playground, with annuals. This garden is maintained by area Girl Scout troops as it was originally planted by a local troop in 2005.



Six hybrid dogwoods were planted along Brookside Avenue in June completing Phase I of the GCPC's area re-planting plan. In this plan, an area of the park is identified and a grouping, or stand, of trees is planted to increase the effect of the enhancement. The GCPC partnered with the Verona Park Conservancy to purchase these disease-resistant dogwoods from Cedar Grove Nursery at a "group" rate (see related article on page 2).

This fall many dead and dangerous trees and limbs were removed by Essex County with the Conservancy identifying those most hazardous.

Members of Girl Scout Troop 688 of West Caldwell working on their Journey requirements collected 3 large bags of trash from the ball field area in November.

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

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

FIVE YEAR MEMBERS

The following people have reached their 5-year member anniversary!

Thank you for your support!

Blumberg, Irene
Collura, Pat & Grace
Eicher, Barbara
Essex Lodge

Kocornik, Richard & Mary
Kolster, David & Claudia
McCann, Joseph & Karen
Rusinow, Rozz
West Essex Woman's Club

FLOWERS!



Grace & Sadie McMahan enjoy a summer day by the pond garden.

CONSERVANCY COLLABORATION

In June, the Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy and the Verona Park Conservancy combined efforts to purchase hybrid dogwoods together to receive a volume discount. The VPC then borrowed tree watering bags from the GCPC – following is the thank you note from Deborah MacEvoy Jacobsen, VPC President:

“Dear Fellow Trustees,

Just finished up watering our 11 new trees, and wanted to share a quick update. In way of a collective ‘Thank You,’ I am also copying [the] Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy.

... I would like to extend a warm thank you on behalf of the Verona Park Conservancy to Claudia, Paul and Caroline of Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy for their selfless contributions to our park restoration efforts.

In addition to our sister park conservators’ initial suggestion of combining purchase-power, ... - they also loaned us twelve 20-gallon Gator Bag water reservoirs for our newly planted trees...

It truly does take a village..or in this case two villages..to raise a tree! I am looking forward to a long and lasting fellowship between our two amazing organizations.”

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.

January 20, 2011, 7:30 p.m. – **Open Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room.

February 17, 2011, 7:30 p.m. – **ANNUAL Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room.

March 10, 2011, 7:30 p.m. – **Open Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room.

April 2011 – date TBA – **Spring Clean-up**

April 21, 2011, – **Business Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room.

May 2011, date TBA – **Fishing Derby** – open to children age 15 and under. 8:00 a.m. registration. Derby 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.. Prizes.

May 19, 2011, 7:30 p.m. – **Business Meeting**. Caldwell Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Conf. Room.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

Almost 50 volunteers helped clean up Grover Cleveland Park on Saturday, April 10, 2010. This was a tremendous turnout and show of support and enthusiasm. Numerous bags of trash were removed from the park – mostly from the wooded areas. Also, tree saplings were removed from within 2 feet of the brook wall to prevent the roots and trunks from breaking the wall as they grow.

MAINTENANCE

The section of Pine Brook which runs through the park will undergo a major repair project in 2011. Dewberry-Goodkind, Inc. has been retained to engineer the repairs; a contractor has not been identified. The integrity of the walls and floor of the brook will be addressed, fixing holes and replacing missing stones. The weir, which directs water into the pond, and the intake pipe will be refurbished improving water flow and the health of the pond. Previously awarded Green Acres grant funds and the County match will fund this project.

FUN FIND



This large *puffball*, a fungus, was found in the park. It was the size of sourdough boule. While these are generally safe to eat, some often look similar to poisonous fungi and without certain proof, nothing should be eaten that is found in the park.

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!

EXCITING ANNIVERSARY NEWS!

GPCP CELEBRATES 10 YEARS!

Did you know the Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2011?! Yes, the Conservancy has been working with the county to improve Grover Cleveland Park for 10 years and we are proud of all of our accomplishments!

We are planning a 10th anniversary gala celebration event on September 17, 2011. If you would be interested in helping with the planning or facilitation, please let us know! We have grand ideas that need your help!

GROVER CLEVELAND PARK NEARS 100 YEARS!

Grover Cleveland Park will be 100 years old in 2013! Essex County started purchasing the parcel in 1913, although construction of the park was delayed by World War I and was not complete until 1921.

The Conservancy is collecting photos of events or park landscapes for an anniversary book. Please share your old photos for inclusion in the book or anecdotes of fond memories.

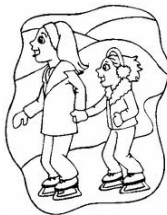
STOP!



Please be advised of the new stop signs at Bowers Road and Cleveland Road on Brookside Avenue making these intersections three-way stops. These signs, installed by the Township of Caldwell, serve to slow traffic and make crossing in and out of the park safer.

ICE SKATE SWAP

Get ready for the cold weather! Come out and enjoy the treat of outdoor ice skating at Grover Cleveland Park if the weather provides. Don't have skates? Check with us first, we run a low-key skate swap. Got some? Donate them. Need some? Just ask!



Also, remember to volunteer to help with cocoa weekends and holidays, ice maintenance and skating safety.

Skating information can be obtained from the GCPC at 973-618-9154 or Essex County Park System at 973-268-3500. Also, emails will be sent to those on the GCPC email list. Please provide your email address if you would like to receive updates.

SPEAKER TOPICS

The Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy has offered many interesting and varied topics to the public to learn about over the years. The Trustees would like to ensure that the public's interests are being met. If you have any nature, park or New Jersey-related topic you would like to learn about, please let us know and we will see if we can secure a speaker. In the past we have hosted speakers on deer, bears, dogs, birds, and New Jersey's ecosystems.

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.

GCPC MEMBERS

Bold indicates donations received February 1 - November 15, 2010

- Akersten, Eric & Teresa
- Bayard, Pam
- ◇ Beaumont, John & Jerri
- ◇ Bellasalma, Robert & Carole
Berisso, Jane
- ★ Betros, Bruce & Loren
- Binder, Paul & Suzanne
- Blumberg, Irene
- ◇ Boeckel, Paul & Carol
- ◇ Brown, Phil & Lori
Brown, Ronald & Florence
- ◇ Callaghan, Wendy
- ★ Calvert, Janet
- ★ Cane, Linda
- Cappuccio, Mark
- Carrara, Doug & Kathleen
- Casagrand, Eleanor
- Cass, Kathleen
- ★ Clark, Leonard & Lee
Collura, Pat & Grace
- Cordaro, Barbara Ann
Cosgrove, Robert & Anne
- Cummings, Richard & Anne
- ◇ DeFilippis, Carl
- ★ Dell, Amy
- Eicher, Barbara
- ◇ Einstein, Donald & Janet
- Essex Lodge #7 F. & A.M.
- Farley, Bob
Feldman, Stuart & Jacqueline
Davidson
- Forlenza, Emanuel & Mary
- ★ Fost, David & Patty McGrogan
- Garfinkel, Linda
- Garrity, Francis & Lisa
- ★ Garrubbo, Gina
- ★ Garson, Donald & Sally
- Goldstein, Neil & Joyce
- ★ Halprin, Arthur & Doris
- ◇ Hemmel, Iva
- Hosmer, Terry - in Honor of Max
Hosmer
Kagan, Rhoda
- Kaplin, Bob & Barbara
- Kearns, Avery
- ★ Kent, Gregory & Phyllis
- Knapp, Jeffrey & Jennifer
- Kocornik, Richard & Mary
- ◇ Kolster, David & Claudia
- ◇ Kou, Dawen & Yan Sun
- ★ Kuczborski, Anthony & Roxanne
Knott
- ◇ Lally, Tim & Kathleen
- ◇ Langer, Jason & Margie
- ★ Layton, David & Stacey
- ◇ List, Peter & Leslie
- ◇ Lynch, James
- ★ Maguire, Michael & Julianne
- ◇ Marchioni, Warren & Ann
- ◇ McCann, Jay & Karen
- ◇ McKenna, Robert
- ★ Mescia, Peter & Caroline
- ★ Michelsen, John & Debbie
- Migliaccio, Thomas & Theresa
- ★ Mondsini, Frank & Natalie
- Morrissey, Sharon
- Nordstedt, Mary Ellen
- Pereira-Pasarin, Luciane
- Pettit, Valerie
- ◇ Pucciarello, Anthony & Barbara
- ◇ Repoyo, Lydia
- Robertson, Glenn & Sara
Rock, Sandy
- Rusinow, Rozz
- ◇ Sandler, Richard & Susan
- ★ Scott, Andrew & Stacey
- Sebok, Dolores
- Silver, Leslie
- Sorell, Jerry & Susan
- Spillane, Thomas & Barbara
- ★ Stewart, Charles
- Stewart, James & Louise
- Stille, Peter & Lisbeth
- ★ Tierney, Adam
- ★ Tighe, John & Margo
- Tilley, Jefferson & Kathy
- ◇ Travers, Stephen & Diane
- ◇ Vitkowsky, Robert & Barbara
- Vogelsang, Thomas & Jane
von Lengerke, Justus & Suzy
- ★ Wefferling & Co., CPAs, LLC
Weiss, Joan & Jay
- West Essex Woman's Club
- ◇ White, Brad & Ellie
Witt, Penelope
- Zayas, Jeff & Susan

CORPORATE MATCHES

- ★ ADP
- ◇ Business Wire
- ★ The New York Times
- The Prudential Foundation

IN-KIND DONATIONS (February 1, 2010 - November 15, 2010):

- Mark A. Acquadro, CPA
- John Badagliacca, Esq. and the law firm of Garrity, Graham, Murphy, Garofalo & Flinn
- Cedar Grove Nursery, Ted Cox, Sr.
- Ginza Restaurant, Sara Chea
- Nestlé
- TaikoZoku
- Rich Rombough, American Tree Experts

GIVING LEVELS

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

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to those who volunteered their time and effort from January 1 - November 15, 2010. Without these people, the work that the Conservancy does would not be possible. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know!

TRUSTEES

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| President, Caroline Mescia '11* | Kathleen Carrara '12 |
| V. Pres., Claudia Kolster '13 | Warren Marchioni '11 |
| Treasurer, Loren Betros '12 | Barbara Pucciarello '11 |
| Secretary, Lisa Garrity '13 | Susan Zayas '12 |
| Paul Boeckel, '13 | *year term expires |

ADVISORY BOARD

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

EDITORS

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Lisa Garrity | Caroline Mescia |
| Claudia Wilcke Kolster | Suzy von Lengerke |

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

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Caldwell, NJ 07006
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gcpc@molink.com
www.groverclevelandpark.org