

Fourth SCLP Annual Meeting

On a frigid evening the last week in January, 68 people came out in the cold to hear about activities, plans and partnerships and to elect the 1994 Save Cedar Lake Park Board of Directors.

President Brian Willette introduced Park Board Commissioners, Patty Baker and George Puzak and City Council Member, Pat Scott. All three applauded the citizens' efforts. Baker stated that SCLP is "an example and model of collaboration." Scott said, "The accomplishment is unusual and due to citizen participation." Puzak echoed Baker and Scott and emphasized the need to turn the transportation hierarchy upside down saying, "Pedestrians should always have the right-of-way, then skaters and bicyclists with automobile drivers yielding [to the above], instead of the other way around as it is now in Minnesota.

Partnerships

Willette and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Superintendent, David Fisher, reflected on the partnership formed early in 1992. SCLP and MPRB became long term partners to plan and manage Cedar Lake Park. Later that year, Minneapolis Public Works Department joined the partnership to plan the bicycle commuter trail from Highway 100, along the edge of the nature park, to downtown Minneapolis.

Fisher told the group, "This is the most enlightened citizen process I have seen in 25 years of experience."

Rhonda Rae, representing Transportation and Special Projects; Department of Public Works, said "It is inspiring to work with citizens who are integrating another mode of transportation into the system." She also conveyed appreciation to "citizens who had the foresight to preserve and plan such an innovative nature park."

Citizens' Advisory Committee

Neil Trembley gave a brief history of SCLP and relayed the work done by the Cedar Lake Park and Trail Citizens Advisory Committee. Jointly convened

by SCLP and MPRB in August 1992, the committee produced -- by consensus -- a Statement of Philosophy and Design Principles and presented it to an enthusiastic Park Board last May.

Selection Committee

Trembley described the innovative process of the design team selection involving heavy citizen participation. The Selection Committee consisted of representatives from the three-way partnership: SCLP, MPRB and Public Works.

Trembley expressed amazement and happiness, "to see that the Selection Committee was really listening to the citizens." Further he said, "It speaks well for citizens and government agencies listening to each other and cooperating for a common goal."

Philosophy

Dan Dailey, a member of the Selection Committee, characterized the SCLP undertaking as "a movement based on two core values -- **nurture nature and citizen involvement**, and both are essential to the success of the project."

Implementation

Rae discussed the challenge of converting the philosophy and design principles into ink on paper and expressed, "the hope that all the citizens' ideas are incorporated into the plans."

Water Quality

Ruth Jones, SCLP's representative on the Water Quality Citizens' Advisory Committee reported some findings and recommendations, "According to the study, two of the biggest problems are phosphate and sediment loading of the lakes, which is primarily caused by street and yard runoff flowing unfiltered through storm sewers into the lakes. Runoff contains many substances. For example, street salt, sand and other residues, lawn chemicals and animal feces are toxic to our lakes."

Jones stated, "Money is available to implement the committee's major recommendation: reconstruction of the wetland at Cedar Meadows, near Jones

Harrison Residence, to service Cedar Lake. The area was originally a marsh that served as a filter for Cedar Lake. By returning it into a well planned wetland, phosphate and sediment loading could be reduced by as much as 70%."

Jones also emphasized, "The wetlands will not only help the water quality of Cedar Lake, but will be beautiful and increase surrounding property values."

Other Activities

Laurie Lundy led reports on other activities: Puzak displayed the Northstar Award, which SCLP received at the 1993 State Bicycle Conference, Fundraising Dinner Parties chaired by Natalie Westreich, Second Annual Spring Clean-up, Environmental Expo in Blaine, Palio, Minnesota Green, SCLP guests of John Richter at Minneapolis Rotary, and a multitude of presentations. Carol White summarized the Earth Wall event directed by Al Singer, MPRB.

John Perentesis gave an update on the Ewing Wetland and Woods. Perentesis said, "Because of the growing awareness of the importance of wetlands, the recent housing development project for the property required an Environmental Assessment Worksheet, which generated the highest response rate in the history of Minneapolis." From information gathered during the assessment, the City required a full Environmental Impact Study (EIS).

In addition to a City moratorium on platting open space and the required EIS, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District also needs to determine the suitability of building on this wetland/woods site.

Despite the various regulatory levels of environmental and urban development issues that need to be resolved, the developer/builder partnership bought the land in October 1993. Since then they have challenged the City as to the legality of the EIS.

(Annual Meeting continued next page)

(Annual Meeting continued)

Board Election

Jim Preston presented the slate of nominees for the Nominating Committee. Returning Board members are: Dan Dailey, David Dayton, Frank Dosal, Sara Mushlitz, Doris Peterson, Jeanette Sobania and Brian Willette. John Perentesis and Neil Trembley were newly elected to the board.

Special Accolades

In addition to thanking the numerous volunteers on behalf of the Steering Committee, Lundy presented Richter and his wife Martha with a plaque in appreciation of their service to the organization. Willette, and Puzak also received plaques of appreciation. Besides being the first and only president of SCLP, Brian has served as the Chair of the Cedar Lake Park & Trail Citizens Advisory Committee since September, 1992.



1994 Save Cedar Lake Park Board of Directors.

Front row: Brian Willette, David Dayton, Jeanette Sobania and Dan Dailey.

Back row: Doris Peterson, John Perentesis, Sara Mushlitz, Neil Trembley and Frank Dosal.

First 1994 Board Meeting

All Board members and the Project Coordinator attended the first Board of Directors meeting of 1994.

Dan Dailey was elected President. Brian Willette had served as president since SCLP's organization in 1989 and will continue on as Vice President. He received much praise for his leadership from those assembled. Doris Peterson and Dan were also praised for their

vision and their hard work behind the scenes. Outgoing board member, John Herman, who has served on the board since its inception, was commended in absentia for his prodigious pro bono legal work.

David Dayton was elected the treasurer, replacing Dan. Sara Mushlitz will continue as secretary with assistance from Neil Trembley.



**Spring Cleanup:
Snowed out in April, but
rescheduled for a beautiful
sunny day in May.**

Thanks to all who participated and especially to Steve Pratt, the event Chair.

Excerpt from a Thank You Letter from the DNR

"Thanks for allowing us to publish the Save Cedar Lake Park *Organizational Guidelines* * for distribution to user groups around the state. . . we field many general inquiries from [groups] who are 'organizationally stuck.' They want a trail [or park] for their community, but lack the knowledge about how to see the project through to fruition.

With just the right lighthearted

tone, you have comprehensively outlined those issues/steps that need to be addressed to be successful. I believe the guidelines will contribute to untold successes in the future.

Way To Go!"

Sincerely, Dan Collins
Trails and Waterways

* Credit was given to SCLP in a box at the end of the DNR publication:

"Nota Bene: These guidelines were shamelessly adapted by DNR/Trails and Waterways Unit from guidelines prepared by the Citizens' organization Save Cedar Lake Park, Mpls., MN - THANKS for the help!"

Brian Willette, the main author, also deserves credit.

Gems of Blue Return to Cedar Lake Park

by Dorene Scriven

Mary McGee, who keeps tabs on Cedar Lake Park wildlife, noticed Bluebirds on March 20th announcing the arrival of Spring.

Both male and female Eastern Bluebirds were checking out the four original Cedar Lake Park nest boxes that Mary and Dorene Scriven had put up in early March.

Because trail construction and prairie restoration on the north and northeast end of the lake was initially scheduled to begin in May, there was a great deal of concern about disturbing the birds during their nesting sequence.

Precautionary steps were taken in case the disturbance is not minimal; Two more PVC (plastic) Bluebird boxes were put up below the Prudential parking lot.

According to monitor Peter Neubeck, House Sparrows discouraged the Bluebirds in Peterson-type boxes at the Prudential site last summer. As a result, the boxes will be closely watched and the sparrows trapped, if possible. Unfortunately, sparrows kill both adult and nestling Bluebirds, as well as destroying the eggs.

To insure peace and quiet, two additional Peterson boxes were put up March 31st, with the help of Casey and Jim of the Minneapolis Park Board, just west of the Cedar Lake Road foot bridge.

Further, the Cedar West area could become a new breeding site for Bluebirds, providing there is no human interference.

Anyone seeing Bluebird box vandalism should report it promptly to Mary at 377-0630, Dorene at 922-4586

or the Park Board at 344-4448.

Let's try to beat Mary's record of 17 Bluebirds fledged last year! Her first success in 1987 marked the return of Bluebirds to Minneapolis after an absence of almost 40 years! The only other know Bluebird successes in recent years in Minneapolis are a nest monitored by Susan Dean in Wirth Park and another nest near the Rose Garden monitored by Bill Blum.



EASTERN BLUEBIRD

Number of Eggs Laid in Clutch:	3-6
Days to Hatch:	13-16
Days Young in Nest:	15-16
Number of Broods Each Year:	2, sometimes 3
Lifespan:	3 to 7 years

Osprey and other Bird Notes

by Neil G. C. Trembley

For the third year in a row, Cedar Lake will host an Osprey Release sponsored by the University of Minnesota Raptor Center. Two hack boxes will be erected on the east shore of the lake so the young osprey can feed and perch. Six to eight birds will be picked up from nests in Northern Minnesota and put in the boxes sometime between July 12th and 14th. Mary McGee, of SCLP and the Audubon Society of Minneapolis, said, "In the wild, the older hatchlings will often starve out the younger ones, so it really helps to take the young ones from

the nest and relocate them."

After spending the summer here, under volunteer observation, the osprey will fly south and not return for at least three years. Then, however, only the males return, usually bringing females from another location. One osprey was seen recently in Carver Park, so we can hope for further sightings as the spring wears on.

Volunteers are needed to observe nest box osprey behavior. Anyone wanting to sign up for a shift or two, please call the SCLP office, 377-9522.

On a related note, Dorene Scriven, also of SCLP and the Minneapolis Chapter of National Audubon, sighted several osprey while on her trip to the Oronoco River in Venezuela. While she could not be positive, we feel sure they were the same ones that spent the summer here last year. Allegedly, one was wearing a Save Cedar Lake Park button.

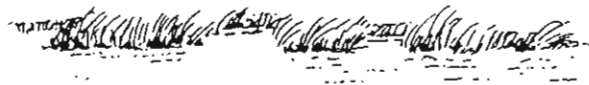
Dorene recently counted 36 Common Mergansers on the lake; unfortunately only two were female.



Have you heard the Loons? Many residents have enjoyed their haunting cry this spring. Member, Don Beimbom sagely remarks, "The loons know the exact day the ice will be out of Cedar Lake and stop off for R and R before continuing their migration north."

Nesting Season

One last note from the bird-lover Mary McGee. She noted that the nesting season for pheasants and mallards has already begun and will last until July. As these birds nest on the ground, she says that it is very important for people to use sensitivity about letting their dogs run wild.



THE HISTORY CORNER

Stetson's Cedar Lake Park

by Neil G. C. Trembley

"But oh! that deep romantic chasm which slanted Down the green hill athwart a cedar cover!"

From *KUBLA KHAN*
by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

The following is based on some fact and much more rumor, gossip, innuendo and flights of fancy. Reader beware!

When the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad (the precursor of the Burlington Northern) looped its tracks through the Cedar Lake area in 1867, it spurred the development of the land around it. A station was built near the southeast corner of the lake. And a quarter mile north of Cedar Station a large house was built sometime in the 1880's.

The owner of the house was George F. Warner. He had a varied career in Minneapolis; first listed in the 1870's as an undertaker, he later went into the furniture business and ended up as a real estate developer. As a developer, he bought a large plot of land southeast of Cedar Lake and built a house where he and his wife Mary lived until his death in 1902.

Information about this house for the next two decades is tantalizingly scant. Someone apparently bought the house and changed the character of the place. The new owner of the "house" sent out "fancy horse-drawn rigs . . . to call for patrons from the old Kenwood line, usually in the cool of the evening?" (Minneapolis Star 7/7/52)

This was Stetson's Cedar Lake Park. Who was Stetson? And why was it called a park? We no longer know the answer to those questions. In his book, Theodore Wirth describes Stetson's as "a rather gay place which could be remembered by many for the lively episodes which occurred there and were sometimes recounted in the newspaper." One can just imagine the details of some of those "lively episodes" -- the

tinkling of the piano, the raucous bellows of red-faced men, fisticuffs, horse races down to the station and back, and wide-eyed youths sneaking away from their homes to catch a glimpse of a shape in the window. For Stetson's Cedar Lake Park, one of the earliest landmarks in the area, was a brothel.

Bill Porter, a local resident who has lived around the Cedar Lake area since the early 1990's, recalls that Stetson's was widely known as a "sporting place." A

reporter for the Minneapolis Star also interviewed several people in 1952 and they confirmed the truth of this story. Unfortunately, efforts to further document this "early landmark" has proven unsuccessful.

The place must have fallen on hard times, or perhaps the area became too settled for such a "lively" place. In any event, sometime around the end of the First World War, the house was sold to the fairly prominent Boneau family who operated the Automated Carbonator Company.

Records show that in the 1920's, Mamie Boneau, the widow of Benjamin C., lived at 2700 Cedar Lake Avenue, as Park Lane was known at the time. According to an 1880's map, this is right where a large building was situated. The family turned the land surrounding the house into an apple orchard.

(One slight problem with my story is that Theodore Wirth places Stetson's north of the Kenilworth Canal, while Warner's house shown on the 1880's map is clearly south of it. Indeed,

there may have been two separate structures, but that would ruin my story and so I prefer to conclude that Wirth simply misplaced the house location.)

The Boneau house was abandoned in the 1930's and gained a reputation for being "haunted." The house was pulled down in the '40s; the old stone wall at the turn-off from Burnham Blvd. to Park Lane is the only remnant of the original structure.

(For you flower lovers, Bill Porter related that the area north of the canal, originally known as Burnham Wood, had the largest

array of wild flowers in the area in the 1920's.)

So fact and legend indicate that the east side of the lake has had a 120 year history of being somewhat "beyond the pale". A 1905 article in the Minneapolis Journal talked about "a notorious dive and old roadhouse [Stetson's? or maybe the Hotel Kenwood, but that's another story.] on the near east shore of Cedar Lake." This area has always been an out-of-the-way place where "lively episodes" take place.

Next newsletter you will learn about the Maimed and Still Late."



Warner - Stetson - Boneau House
Photo by William Walloff from
Minneapolis Public Library Collection

Midtown Greenway Coalition
is sponsoring an
**INTER-NEIGHBORHOOD
VISIONING CONFERENCE**
Saturday, June 11th
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Location to be announced.
RSVP by May 27 to
Joan at 874-1711

Bulldozers:

(Continued from front page)

Consultants

The design team of Jones & Jones and Richard Haag of Seattle with Strgar-Roscoe-Fausch Inc. of Minneapolis was chosen during an innovative selection process in which citizens were involved at an unprecedented level. Due to funding timeline constraints, the detailed trail construction plans had to be submitted to the MN Department of Transportation before the overall park masterplan was complete. However the partnership is very satisfied that the trail design will not only complement the park but will extend the philosophy of Cedar Lake Park well beyond the park boundaries.

Planning

The Citizens Advisory Committee continues to develop plans for this year, next year, and even the next 100 years! This comprehensive planning process will culminate in June with materials describing the 100 year vision for the park and trail. Meanwhile, the committee recommends new names for some areas of the park. Of course, the name of the whole park will remain "Cedar Lake Park," which includes all of the property adjacent to the lake. "Cedar Conservancy, the heart of the park is the area to the north and northwest of Cedar Lake. This nature area will be the site of prairie, forest and wetland restorations and an attempt to balance human and ecological needs. "Cedar West" is the recommended name for the trail corridor extending from Cedar Lake Parkway to Highway 100.

The Railroad Station; Unbelievably Yes! The area which is just east of the old railroad switching yards and the I-394 overpass has been named Linden Junction and is the leased site for a

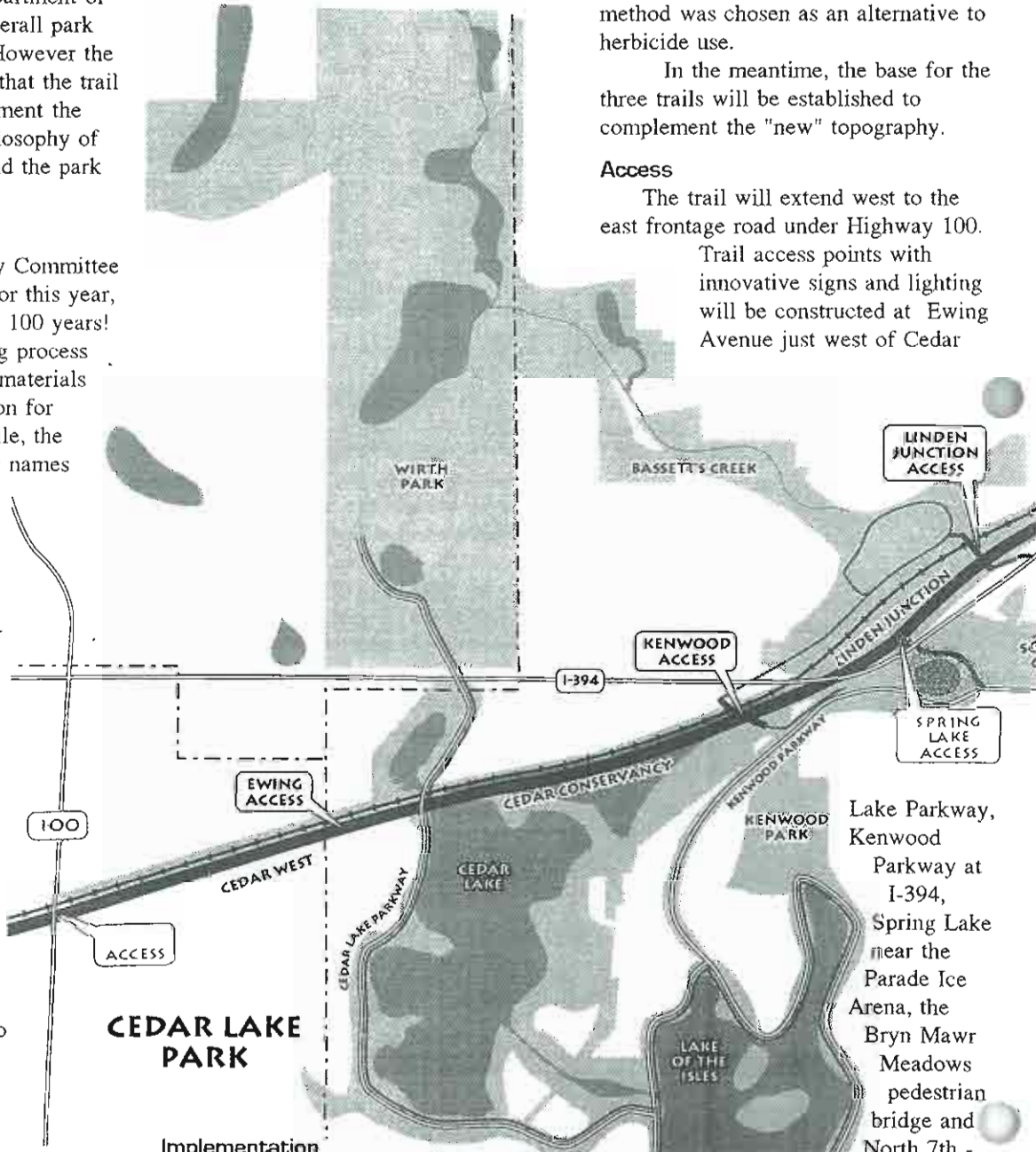
CellularOne building and antenna pole. Instead of erecting a plain concrete box, CellularOne representatives worked with the Citizens Advisory Committee to create an attractive and meaningful building -- a win-win situation. The building will be "disguised" as a small train station and will serve as a rest area and memorial to the railroad industry. Cellular One is making a significant contribution by donating the additional building costs and landscaping the site. Our sincere thanks to Cellular One.

Construction on the Cedar Lake Trail following the rail corridor and adjacent areas is scheduled to begin around the first of July. Small trees in the relatively open area north and northeast of Cedar Lake will be cleared and the soil contoured to create a series of small ridges and depressions. This area of approximately 30 acres, as well as Cedar West, will be tilled at two-week intervals to eliminate the existing non native vegetation and the millions of seeds just waiting to sprout! This method was chosen as an alternative to herbicide use.

In the meantime, the base for the three trails will be established to complement the "new" topography.

Access

The trail will extend west to the east frontage road under Highway 100. Trail access points with innovative signs and lighting will be constructed at Ewing Avenue just west of Cedar



CEDAR LAKE PARK

Implementation

Although exact details and schedules are not defined yet, here is what you can expect this summer.

Lake Parkway, Kenwood Parkway at I-394, Spring Lake near the Parade Ice Arena, the Bryn Mawr Meadows pedestrian bridge and North 7th - Street. For security, lights will be installed under the overpasses at Cedar Lake Parkway, I-394 and Lyndale Ave.

Planting

Once the major construction is done, two short grass prairie seed mixtures will be broadcast over the new rolling terrain and then dragged. Next, annual rye or wheat will be seeded to reduce erosion and shade the new seedlings. Additional seeding and planting of both grasses and wild flowers will be conducted for several years to fully establish a sustainable and very beautiful open prairie.



So, pardon the short term dust and noise. In a few years, the results will be absolutely spectacular. Thanks to all of you for helping to make it happen.

SALE
Nurture Nature T-Shirts
 Adult sizes: S, M, L, XL - \$9
 Children's sizes: 6-8, 10-12, 14-16 - \$7

While They Last

Order several for gifts
 Include the \$ amount for T-Shirts, plus \$2 postage, along with your tax deductible contribution in the enclosed envelop. List quantity and sizes. Save postage--make arrangements to pick up your order.
 Call 377-9522

Steering Committee:

(Continued from front page)

rebuffed by the County Board. There was general agreement that these setbacks must be accepted as a wake-up call, and that SCLP needs to reorganize itself to become more effective.

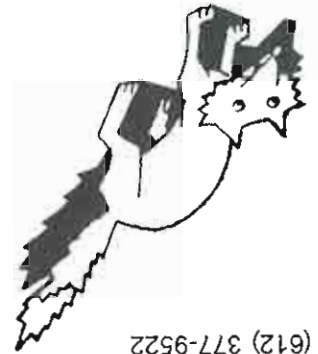
In order to establish a historical context for SCLP's work, Dan Dailey presented a history of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board in which he demonstrated the cyclical nature of park governance, financing, development, and operations. Dan demonstrated how trends seem to indicate that as our city is entering a sustained period of social, economic, and environmental crisis, the parksystem is in a strategically unique and historically-appropriate position to successfully spearhead urban regeneration.

The balance of the day was devoted to a reexamination of SCLP's mission statement and identity. Everyone agreed that both needed revision. However, there was not sufficient time during the retreat to complete the job, so the committee met three times following the retreat to review notes and draft mission statements.

Then, at the regular Steering Committee meeting it was decided that SCLP should henceforth be known as the Cedar Lake Park Association, with the following mission:

- Create and nurture a park at Cedar Lake with a thriving nature preserve and connecting trails and greenways.
- Provide opportunities for people to learn to live in community with nature and one another.
- Continue to foster citizen leadership and private involvement in the development and management of the park and trails.
- Support similar efforts throughout the metro area and beyond.

The Steering Committee meets at Kenwood Recreation Center the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
ALL WELCOME



(612) 377-9522

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Minneapolis, MN 55405

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Cedar Trees and other Memorials and Gifts

Members and friends of Save Cedar Lake Park continue to make donations for Cedar Trees for the park conservancy. A Cedar Grove is an important part of the park master plan in progress. And yes, there is still time to contribute a living memorial or tribute to a loved one.



A tax deductible gift of \$300 will provide for the purchase, planting and nurturing of a Cedar Tree in a designated Cedar Grove within Cedar Lake Park.

\$150 will provide for the planting of native wild flowers and/or prairie grasses. All memorials and donors of \$150 or more will be recognized on a permanent plaque. Portions of all gifts will be used to fund the general work of SCLP.

Because much of the conservancy is still in the planning stages, the Cedar Grove location has not been determined. However, a tree planting celebration is being planned for next summer, so when the site has been decided all donors and interested parties will be notified and invited to the celebration.

SCLP gratefully acknowledges recent contributions for memorials and tributes to loved ones.

Cedar Trees:

- *Charles & Anne Ferrell* to Honor *Laura and Catherine Ferrell*.
- *Rick Garon & Robbie Perl* to Honor their families.
- *John Herman* in memory of *Ray Luppegaard, Fred Rosenblutt* and *Mario Santrizos*.

- *Mike & Cathy Holmberg* to Honor *Arnie Waslien*.
- *Mike & Cathy Holmberg* to Honor *Vi Waslien*.
- *Denny Leach* in memory of *Edward (Ted) Glore*.
- *John Perentesis* towards the Steering Committee Cedar Tree in memory of *Holly Ramsey*.
- *Martin Segal* in Memory of wife *Gloria*.
- *Marjorie Paulson Templeton* in memory of father, *David Paulson*.
- A tree in *Nick & Virginia Puzak's* honor.

Other Memorials:

- *Barbara Kuehn Belew* and *Helen L. Kuehn* in memory of Beverly Anderson's son *Timothy C. Bauer*.
- *Mahryam Daniels & Peter Taylor* in memory of *Burton Abramson, Martin Abramson, David Hand* and *Gloria Segal*.
- *Frances & William Galle* and *Doris & Corwin Peterson* in memory of their friend Keith Nelson's mother, *Algona Nelson*.
- *Dick & Laurie Lundy* and *Lonna Lysne* in memory of their friend Nancy Vershey's grandmother, *Nellie Wyffels*.
- *Nick & Virginia Puzak* in memory of *Catherine E. Walker*.
- *Brian & Linda Willette* in memory of *David Hand*.

Other Gifts:

- *Sally & Peter Anson* to: *Mrs. Richard Vaughn, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cleveland* and *Ms. Joan Wurtle*.
- *Mahryam Daniels & Peter Taylor* to Honor *Jeff & Barb Land's* 10th. Anniversary.

Save Cedar Lake Park

UPDATE

Spring 1994

Bulldozers in the Sanctuary?

by David Dayton

This summer we will see one of the first steps in the development of Cedar Lake Park. So much planning has been going on it's hard to keep track of what will be done and when it will happen. Look out, though, its going to happen in a big way this summer, beginning in late July.

Prairie

A diverse prairie habitat will be created in parts of the open space on the north side of Cedar Lake. Small berms and depressions will be contoured into the soil to provide a variety of exposures, water and soil conditions. Prairie grasses will be planted to begin regeneration of the "Cedar Lake Conservancy".

Greenway

A "Greenway Trail" will be constructed along the rail corridor from the Cedar Lake Road pedestrian bridge in St. Louis Park to North 7th Street in downtown Minneapolis. A hard surface path will serve walkers, runners and people with disabilities. In addition, walkers and runners will have a crushed rock surface on the side of the path. Bicyclists and skaters will have separate east and west bound, all-weather trails, for major portions of the corridor. In addition to a new trail bridge over the channel between Brownie and Cedar Lakes, six trail access points will be constructed (see map inside).

Whew! There is even going to be a small railroad station!! Its going to be a busy and exciting summer.

Wild Plans?

So where did all these wild plans come from? Since the land was secured, a very large group of people have devoted an unbelievable amount of time planning the future of Cedar Lake Park. Through a collaboration between Save Cedar Lake Park, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Department of Public Works, a citizens advisory committee of over 50 people was formed. This group met almost every week over the course of a year and created the "Statement of Philosophy" and design criteria, which continues to guide the development process.

(Bulldozers continued inside)

Steering Committee Renames SCLP and Charts Future Direction

by Dan Dailey

On Saturday March 19, the eve of the Spring Equinox, the Steering Committee of Save Cedar Lake Park (SCLP) met in a day-long planning retreat. The intention was to review SCLP's accomplishments and challenges, and then to affirm and renew our shared vision for the future of Cedar Lake Park and the SCLP organization.

Over two hundred people who have been active in the Cedar Lake Park and Trail project were invited to the retreat. About twenty stalwart citizens arrived that morning at St. Mark's Cathedral, where the meeting was being held through the courtesy of parishoner-hosts Martin Fowler, Mary McGee, and John Richter. In typical fashion, everyone pitched in to help arrange the room and set up audiovisual equipment. Ruth Jones assigned herself to kitchen duty

and made everyone feel comfortable and welcomed throughout the day, by providing snacks and lunch.

Once again, by request, Shelby Andress of Search Institute facilitated the meeting because she did such a wonderful job at the last planning retreat in August 1991. The meeting featured much small-group discussion in which everyone had an opportunity to express their views.

There was a general sense of pride in what has been accomplished. Participants mentioned the purchase of land, the hiring of landscape architects, the completion of the "Design Principles" document by the Cedar Lake Park and Trail Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC), and fundraising success with both public and private funders. Many comments focused on our process accomplishments, such as decision and planning by consensus, group learning, shared leadership, and

SCLP's working partnership with the Park Board and Public Works. Amid discussion of the national rarity of successful trail and parkmaking projects such as ours, there was a new awareness of the significance of SCLP's work as a model that might help the efforts of other communities.

On the other hand, there was a deep sense of concern about whether the work may be stretching our scope, complexity, and demands of the organizational resources too thin. People expressed dismay that the Ewing Wetlands is in the hands of a housing developer, despite the fact that the neighborhood had been granted N.R.P. transitional funds to purchase the property. Too, people were alarmed that SCLP's attempt to purchase the Thomas Avenue parcels from Hennepin County for a future trailhead had been

(Steering Committee continued inside)