

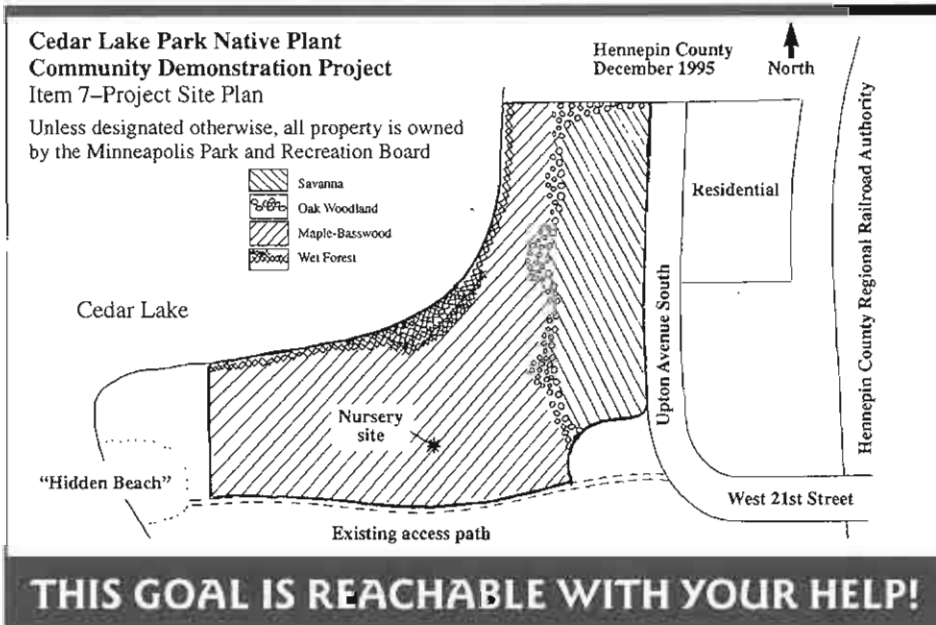
Save Cedar Lake Park

UPDATE

Spring 1996

Volume 7, No. 2

Cedar Lake Park's Future Brighter and Closer with 1996's Two Major Goals



BY NEIL G. C. TREMBLEY

The Steering Committee of the Cedar Lake Park Association decided to concentrate on two major goals this year:

- 1) start the "Big Woods" Restoration Project
- 2) support the completion of the Cedar Lake Trail to the Mississippi River.

Significant progress has been made toward trail completion. Cedar Lake Park Board member and fund-raising guru John Richter, along with activist Gene Nessly, have managed to bring in an anonymous donation of \$75,000 to help with completion of the trail. This is just the latest in a long list of donations that John has shep-

herded into the Cedar Lake Project.

The first 1996 goal, the "Big Woods" Project, was described in detail in last fall's *Save Cedar Lake Park Newsletter*. The project will begin with the planting of a number of native forest communities east of the entrance to Hidden Beach. Part of the project will include removal of buckthorn from the understory. Depending on the area, a variety of wet forest, maple-basswood, oak woodland and oak savanna species will be planted on the site. A "nursery" is also envisioned where seeds and seedlings will be nurtured and then transplanted throughout the park.

1996's Objective: to raise \$25,000 towards achieving this goal. With the help of newly elected Board member Laurie Lundy and the Environmental Operations Section of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board,

Major Gift Received for Cedar Lake Trail

CLPA recently received a generous gift to help complete the Cedar Lake Trail to the Mississippi River. For several years a handful of dedicated people have worked at raising money for the trail.

Efforts to finish the trail to the river were handsomely rewarded with a \$75,000 grant through the Saint Paul Foundation from a local family who wishes to remain anonymous.

The group's next fund-raising project is to help with the completion of the Bassett's Creek Trail, which will connect with the Cedar Lake Trail, and is scheduled to be finished this year. They are also working to raise maintenance funds for the St. Louis Park section of the Cedar Lake Trail.

—John Richter

Editor's note: Good work, John, and many thank yous to a generous Minneapolis family.

the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has recommended approval of a \$10,000 grant. The DNR grant is contingent upon our providing the remaining \$15,000. This goal is reachable with your help. Your financial contributions as well as in-kind help are urgently needed to make this part of our long-term vision a reality.

One of the major missions of CLPA is to nurture the park. This is one way to do so. The intention is to focus on one or two "doable" projects each year and concentrate our energies on what we do best.

JOIN US!



On the Horizon

BY BRIAN WILLETTE, CLPA PRESIDENT

Since the beginning, volunteers have been the heart and driving force of the Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA). Together, we have accomplished great things. Without volunteers generously giving of their talents, time and treasure, there would be no Cedar Lake Nature Park nor a Cedar Lake Trail.

Over the last several years, volunteer efforts were augmented by the hard work of Laurie Lundy in the staff position of Project Coordinator. She also volunteered many, many hours. Given the progress made so far on the park and trail and projected pace of further park and trail development, the Steering Committee, Laurie and the CLPA Board agreed to end the position of Project Coordinator at the end of 1995.

Since the first of the year, we are—once again—an ALL-VOLUNTEER organization. We have always relied on volunteers, and now we need you more than ever to carry on!

Please, read our newsletters for announcements of volunteer opportunities and projects. Call someone on the Steering Committee or a Board Member and let us know how you would like to help. Through your generous volunteer efforts, Cedar Lake Park and Trail will continue to move forward and our Vision will be realized.

Thank you again for your past volunteer efforts, and please continue to be generous in sharing your talents and time. As a volunteer, you make the difference!

P.S. Laurie rejoined the all-volunteer ranks on December 31st, and she was elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting in January. We thank her for her past work as Project Coordinator and welcome her back as a Volunteer!

CLPA Is an All-Volunteer Organization Again— And It Needs You!

As an all-volunteer organization again, CLPA has reorganized. At the Steering Committee Retreat in February, CLPA reorganized into committees to carry on the nurturing of the nature park and trail. Each committee is responsible for a variety of short-term and long-term projects — some sporadic, some on-going, and some a one-time-shot. All are fun, interesting, and a valuable learning experience.

The **Steering Committee** leads the organization and coordinates committee efforts. It consists of board members and anyone who comes to the meetings the second Monday evening of each month at Kenwood Recreation Center. Brain Willette is the president. PLEASE COME!

In addition to the Steering Committee and ad hoc committees as needed, the following standing committees, board chairs and tasks are listed so you can choose your areas of interest:

Memberships and Memorials

Chairs: Ruth Jones & Neil Trembley

Responsibilities: Canvassing; data entry; membership; memorials; phone-a-thon; specific posters and publicity; thank you notes.

Communications and Education

Chairs: Laurie Lundy & Dorene Scriven

Responsibilities: Mailings; newsletter production; posters and publicity; speakers bureau; special projects; thank you notes; tour leaders.

Grants and Special Fund-raising

Chairs: John Perentesis & John Richter

Responsibilities: Grant proposals; special projects

Projects in the Park

Chairs: Dan Dailey & Keith Prussing

Responsibilities: Adopt-a-trail; Big Woods nursery; cedar grove; fence plants; general overseeing of park (dog behavior; message boards; plantings; maintenance; security and wildlife preservation); planting celebration; special projects; spring clean-up; Volkssport event; wild flowers

Here is a chance to use your creativity, learn new skills, meet people, have fun and feel good. Call 377-9522 or one of the chair persons today!

Since the last Update the following volunteers have been the heart and soul of Cedar Lake Park & Trail:

Dick Adair	Mary Donovan	Laurie Lundy	Dorene Scriven
Richard Arey	Lorry Falk	Jan Lubov	Gary Seim
Don Beimborn	Ryan Gabel	Dee Marks	Pat Shirley
Susan Bottge	Lisa Genis	Mary McGee	Lura Shopteau
Mike Carlson	Kathryn Glessing	John McLaughlin	D'ann Topoluk
Dorothy Childers	Joyce Gordon	JoAnn Frekot Meyer	Neil Trembley
Dan Christensen	Linda Huhn	Cynthia Mueller	Sue Verrett
Jean Conroy	Ruth Jones	John Perentesis	Anne Westling
Caynal Cross	Katie Kephart	Jack Phillips	Carol White
Dan Dailey	Terry Klepinski	Keith Prussing	Lloyd White
Bob Day	Gloria Linnell	John Richter	Brian Willette
David Dayton	Mary Ann Lippey	Erik Roth	

Chain of Lakes Master Plan Underway

Early in winter the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board received funds from the Legislature to develop a five-year "Master Plan" for the Chain of Lakes.

A citizens' advisory committee, called The Chain of Lakes Framework Committee, was formed, composed of elected delegates from the neighborhoods near the lakes, appointees and the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) staff. The Purpose: to submit initial

ideas, build consensus, and make recommendations to MPRB on issues that will affect the quality of our lakes' water, the way we move around the lakes by car, bike, skates, or foot, and how we enjoy and participate in recreational activities while visiting the chain of lakes. Each lake has a task force that reports to the Framework Committee.

Citizens who have attended the Cedar/Brownie Task Force meetings have given strong

support to preserve and enhance Cedar Lake's "natural" and "wild" characteristics, consistent with the philosophy of the Cedar Lake Park Association.

Please watch the *Southwest Journal* for future announcements of meetings dates and times. Your support and participation are greatly appreciated.

—Bob Day, Elected Delegate, Cedar/Brownie Task Force and Framework Committee

Fifth Annual Meeting

CLPA Recognizes Achievements, Presents

BY DON BEIMBORN

The Cedar Lake Park Association held its fifth annual meeting on the 24th of January, 1996 in the auditorium of Lurie, Besikof, Lapidus & Co.

Our Association began as a group wanting to develop an abandoned railroad yard into a nature park. Interest quickly expanded into recognition that the piece of land was a key element in a vision of trails and greenway connections.

The annual meeting included reports on progress in reaching the vision. The once-local group called Save Cedar Lake Park has expanded its interests and influence far out into the community. The keystone of Cedar Lake Park made possible plans to connect trails west through St. Louis Park and Hopkins, north following Bassett's Creek into Wirth Park, and east to the Mississippi River. Throughout the meeting, the theme of the expanded and broader vision of the group was emphasized.

The meeting was well attended by members of the community who deserve thanks for helping make the vision a reality. Among these were Patty Baker and George Puzak, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Commissioners; Pat Scott, Minneapolis City Council Member; Ron Latz, St. Louis Park City Council Member, Dee Long, State Representative; and Kathleen Anderson from Rep. Martin Sabo's office.

In April came a Federal Highways "Environmental Excellence Award," with CLPA the only citizens' group to receive the award nationally. In April the Minn. Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects presented an "Environmental Awareness Award." In November, the group received its second C.U.E. (Committee on Urban Environment) award.

Other events of the past year included the trail ground-breaking ceremony in February. Grading and trail construction started shortly thereafter. In August, a LCMR (Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources) tour was held to demonstrate progress to legislators. September marked a trail dedication ceremony. By October, several prairie demonstration plantings were completed by volunteers.

Work remains to be done. But the trail is in, the prairie grasses came up and a lot of weeds grew. Eventually, the prairie plants will crowd out the annual weeds. Still to come are more prairie plantings and the cedar grove. A Big Woods demonstration site will be started this summer—an effort to recreate a segment of the natural forest that once covered much of our area. The trail east connecting to the river road remains to be finished. (See the good news on page 1, Major Gift Received for Cedar Lake Trail.) This link is in the final design stage, with work scheduled to begin this summer.

One focus of public interest is the bluebird boxes along the trail. In spite of the construction noise and machinery parked near the boxes, eastern bluebirds laid eggs and fledged young. Most of the chicks hatched in the park are banded. A male bird banded here in 1994 returned to nest and attracted a female



Al Singer (above) and Jeff Lee (below) of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board presented plans for 1996.



Laurie Lundy (above) was honored for her service. John Richter and Brian Willette (center) and Dick Lundy (right, with '95 President Dan Dailey) received service awards. The bluebird slide-show captivated Leonard Martinello, Mary McGee, Carol White and Dorene Scriven (far right).



The 1996 CLPA Board (above). Back row: Neil Trembley, Secretary; Dorene Scriven; Keith Prussing, Vice President; Laurie Lundy; John Perentesis; Ruth Jones. Front row: Dan Dailey, Treasurer; John Richter; Brian Willette, President.



In grateful acknowledgment—

Contributions Received Since the Last Update

Al & Elizabeth Abraham
David Abramson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Alwin
Anita & Con Anderson
Anonymous
Sally Anson
Arlene Baker
Carl & Lynn Beihl
Farrel Bergner
Jonathan & Lois Bishop
John & Mary Bond
David Borchert
Susan Bottge
Darrell Brand & Jennifer Turner
Mr. & Mrs. William F. Brooks, Jr.
Catherine Brown & Bill Moorish
Richard Brown
Susan Bunnell
Connie & Bill Cameron
Mike & Nancy Carlson
Lynn L. Charlson
Malcolm & Jean Clark
Ronald Coltman
Joe & Jean Crocker
Liz & Juris Curiskis
Dan Dailey
David & Vanessa Dayton
Cathryn Deal
Susan De Vries
George V. Doerr, Jr.
Mary & Paul Donovan
Dr. Aina Dravinieks
Pere Dworsky
Eco Trust, Inc.
Harvey & Sheri Ettinger
Logan N. Foreman
Fran & Bill Galle
Hal Gensler
Nancy Gibson
Douglas Gildner
Kathryn Glessing
Jeanne Goemer
Mace Goldfarb
Robert & Katherine Goodale
Seymour Gross
Ruth Hammerberg
Dr. & Mrs. S. Handler
George E. Harding
John Harrer & Kate Ellis
Tom Hedberg
Mike & Cathy Holmberg
Sandra Hunter
Kathleen & Wally Hyser
Ralph & Norma Jacobson
Linda Jadwin & Lee Sheeley
Susu Jeffrey
Ingrid Jones
Ruth Jones
Robert T. Kean

Susan Kettering
Ruth Kincaid
James Kirkham
Terry Klepinski
Edward J. Kosciolk
Bruce & Judy Kronick
Nan & Bud Kraehling
Harriet Kurek
Susan Lauer
Michael Lazaretti
Marshall & Rhoda Levin
Lucky & Butch Levy
Gloria A. Linnell
Steve Liss & Carol Chomsky
Dorothy Longfellow
Jan Lubov
Crystal Lundy & David McSwiggen
Dick & Laurie Lundy
Lolene Lundy & Tom Jones
Peggy Lynch
Mary McGee
Jean McIntosh
Leonard & Lois Martinetto
Fred Meyer
James Mickman, M.D. & Sarai Brenner
Philipp Muessig
Chouhei & William Mullin
Mr. & Mrs. Robert O. Naegele, Jr.
Patricia & Craig Neal
Neighbors for Dee Long
Keith & Janey Nelson
Marcella Nelson
Polly Penney
John Perentesis
Doris & Corwin Peterson
Jay Peterson & Kathy Ripke
Felix M. & Ann S. Phillips
Walter Pickhardt
Kolean Pitner & Richard Wilson
Walter & Harriet Pratt
Steve Pratt & Lisa Genis
Keith Prussing

Anne Puzak
George Puzak
E.J. Reinsmith
Martin Richmond
John Richter
Alice Ross Rogers
Jeff Royce & Nancy Tellet-Royce
Steve Rust & Jackie Danckwart
Dave & Nancy Rustuccia
Ruth Saari
Roy Sanford
Susan Sanger
Richard Schaeff
Thomas J. Schuster
Pat & Tom Scott
Dorene Scriven
Miriam Segall
Pat & R. H. Spratt
St. David's Society of Minn.
Jan & Jim Stephenson
Kathy Steward
Jim Struthers
Mary Tancheff
Barb Throman & Chip Welling
D'Ann Topoluk
Leona Van De Voort
Leo & Susan Verrett
Barry Victor
Janet Virnig & Bruce Armstrong
Karen Viskochil
Ruth Weaver
Barbara Weingarden
Lloyd & Carol White
Frank & Frances Wilkinson
Brian & Linda Willette
Carol & Jonathan Wirtschafter
Bill Woods
Leslie Zieve

And special thanks to Lurie, Besikof, Lapidus & Co. for hosting our annual meeting, and to the Minnesota Bluebird Recovery Program for supplying the cookies.

Cedar Lake Park Trophy Case Planned

The Kenwood Park and Recreation Center has graciously provided space to display the many awards CLPA has received. The display will also contain pertinent maps, photos of the park from the past and present as well as T-shirts and caps commemorating many special events.

Come to the Rec Center and see and help with the display. A special thanks to Jerry Urbaniak for this and all his other help.

—Neil C. C. Trembley

Future Plans



ded in Faribault in 1992. They raised two broods. This year marks a transition back to a wholly volunteer organization. A necessary and important part of that transition is to recognize several individuals for their work. Each received recognition and a plaque. A series of special award plaques "In appreciation of outstanding service to our park and community" went to key people in the group. Recognition went to Dick Lundy for her extraordinary service to the group. Another award went to Dick Lundy for his careful stewardship of the resources entrusted to the association. John Richter received special note for his efforts. The group gave Brian Willette a plaque in recognition of his contributions of many years of enthusiasm and vision of what might become of the old railroad.

During the summer, a group of young people in the board's Teen Teamwork program moved tons of dirt and concrete on the north side of Cedar Lake. The teenagers stuck it out through the summer. Eric Peterson, Daytona Brown, and Joseph Waring received special recognition for their work. Carol White presented candidates for the 1996 Board of Directors (see picture above). Those presented a unanimous ballot for the slate presented. At the meeting of the new CLPA Board, the following members were elected.

Special Gifts

Cedar Lake Park Association gratefully acknowledges recent contributions for memorials, tributes and gifts to loved ones. Since the last *Update*, the following memorials and gifts were received:

Christmas Gifts

For Mr. & Mrs Charles Cleveland, Ms Richard Vaughn & Mrs. Jean Wurtele from Sally Anson

Cedar Tree Funds

In memory of Paul Anderson, Bill Woods
In memory of Lee Coursen: Lucky & Butch Levy, Dick & Laurie Lundy, Kathy Stewart, Ruth A. Weaver
In memory of Jan Wishart, Dan Dailey

Cedar Trees

To honor Jay's father, Leonard Peterson, Jay Peterson & Kathy Ripke
To honor Kathy's father Mel Ripke, Jay Peterson & Kathy Ripke
In memory of Jan Wishart, Mike & Cathy Holmberg

Daffodil Project

St. David's Society of Minnesota

Wild Flower Funds

In memory of Alice Biza: Crystal Lundy & David McSwiggen, Dick & Laurie Lundy, Lolene Lundy & Tom Jones
In memory of Binky Moody-Iverson: Dick & Laurie Lundy, Doris & Corwin Peterson, Leo &

Susan Verrett, Linda & Brian Willette
In memory of Dick Rudh: Dick & Laurie Lundy
In memory of Grace Peterson: Susan Bottge, Fran & Bill Galle, Dick & Laurie Lundy, Keith & Janey Nelson
In memory of Don Wheeler: Nan & Bud Kraehling, Harriet Kurek, Dorene Scriven
In memory of Mabel Trembley, mother of Neil G.C. Trembley, Steering Committee member: Dan Dailey, David Dayton, Kathryn Glessing, Ruth Jones, Laurie Lundy, Mary McGee, John Perentesis, Keith Prussing, George Puzak, John Richter, Dorene Scriven, Carol White, Brian Willette.

Fence Plants

John & Mary Bond
Cathryn Deal
Susan De Vries
Mary & Paul Donovan
Sandra Hunter

CEDAR TREE FUND FOR

Lee M. Coursen

A tree fund has been established for Lee M. Coursen, who died November 17, 1995. A native of Munich, Germany, she shared a beautiful home on Glenhurst Road with her husband, Bob. She was an accomplished ceramic artist, with a keen eye for exquisite design. Lee was able to see the beauty in everyday scenes. With her gracious manner, she was a gifted conversationalist with a delightful sense of humor. Though people were her highest priority, she also was a champion and protector of all creatures of the earth.

Besides husband Bob, she is survived by five children, Christie and husband David Garrett, Linda and husband Robert Wilkie, Eric Coursen and friend Paul, Steven Coursen and wife Patty Sprinkle, Timothy Coursen and wife Amy Miller, and seven adoring grandchildren. Lee was a loyal and eager volunteer for Cedar Lake Park.



WILDFLOWER FUND FOR

Binky Moody Iverson

In remembrance of Binky Moody Iverson, several donations have been made for planting wild flowers. Binky's suffering from brain cancer ended at age 51, in mid-January. The Moodys lived at 19th & Drew South for over 20 years. Although all of the neighborhood children were forbidden to play at the Cedar Lake switching yards during the 1950's, it "beckoned" them. Who could have imagined that the area would become Cedar Lake Park in the 1990s? It seems appropriate to now plant flowers for our abandoned youth and wonderful shared adventures on this land.

Thank you all for the wildflower donations.
—Susan Moody Verrett

CEDAR TREE FOR

Janice Wishart

Janice Wishart loved her Kenwood neighborhood, her street, her home, her family, her friends, her neighbors and stray dogs. In short, she lived life.

According to her daughter Jody, she elaborately decorated the crab apple tree in their backyard on Sheridan Avenue for every season and holiday. In fact, she was decorating the tree years ago when a big black lab appeared at her feet. She fed it and it never left her side again.

Jan loved golf; she loved helping people and her community. She coordinated Palio, helped bring about the Kenwood Recreation Center, monitored the Sheridan elms, and was heavily involved in Jody and Steven's schools. She also volunteered at a drop-in center and The Bridge for runaways.

There were many wonderful family times: sliding down "Suicide Hill," bike rides around the lakes and putting in the dock at their cabin. Jody said, "Mom could do most anything from tiling and wallpapering to plumbing, but in 30 minutes she could look beautiful to go out with my Dad Steve. Mom loved kids and appreciated their fun. She used to take us on picnics in the old Cedar Lake switching yards, where once a train engineer gave us a ride. She was that kind of Mom."

Please remember that you can honor or remember family members and friends with contributions for wild flowers or cedar trees. A fall planting celebration is being planned. Send your tax-deductible donation to 1101 Cedar View Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55405. Indicate the purpose of the contribution and to whom you would like the acknowledgement sent. If you have questions, call Laurie at 377-9522.

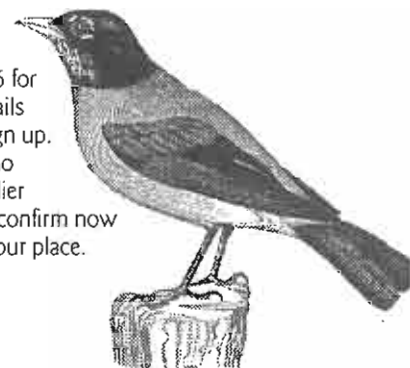
Birding Day to Be May 10

Peter Neubeck, veteran birder, has graciously offered to lead a small group of people to identify the many species of birds in Cedar Lake Park Friday, May 10 (rain date: May 17).

Call

Dorene Scriven,
922-4586 for more details and to sign up.

Those who called earlier should reconfirm now to hold your place.



Save Cedar Lake Park Update is published seasonally by the Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA). CLPA mission is to create and nurture the nature park at Cedar Lake and the connecting trails and greenways. Since 1989, CLPA has built a membership of over 3,000 households, developed a successful partnership with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Department of Public Works, and raised money for acquisition and development. Editors: Laurie Lundy & Dorene Scriven Designer: Pat Thompson



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Projects in the Park

Great opportunities to get involved!

As part of a reemphasis on developing volunteerism in the Cedar Lake Park Association, a "Projects-in-the-Park" committee has been formed under the leadership of board members Dan Dailey and Keith Prussing. The first meeting of the committee has been called for Monday, April 15th, 7:00 p.m., at the Kenwood Park Building, where a 1996 projects plan will be discussed.

Prussing said: "We're hoping to build a leadership group to take an active hand in ongoing developments in the park. Several important park projects will be coordinated this year, including the stabilization of lakeshore (through plantings) between the Cedar Lake Parkway bridge and the north shore mound, continued 'de-development' of the mound, secondary trail stabilization and chipping, wildlife restoration and enhancement, and ongoing buckthorn removal and control. Two of this year's key projects will be the planting of the memorial cedar grove by the north end of the lake, and establishing a 'Big Woods' nursery and demonstration site near Hidden Beach."

"The committee is setting out to create a

program of work, safety, and learning activities that will involve people of all ages" said Dan Dailey, who has been recruiting neighborhood parents to help establish youth activities in the park. "Creating a community with nature is the core mission of our Projects in the Park Committee," he said, adding that this year's activities will likely

include fun activities such as birdwatching, biking, hiking, and social events.

Anyone wanting to get involved can join us at our first committee meeting on April 15th, or at our first volunteer activities on April 20th in the park (see box).



Volkssport Walk & Bike Benefits Cedar Lake Native Planting Program

Everybody's walking and biking for their favorite parks on April 20, and the Twin Cities Volksmarchers are no exception! They are sponsoring a the event, with proceeds from the sale of event awards donated to help finance plantings native to Cedar Lake Park.

All CLPA supporters are invited to participate in a 5K, 10K, or 15K walk, or a 25K bike ride Saturday, April 20, 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Bryn Mawr Meadows Shelter. The fee is \$1 to \$3, depending on whether you wish to receive an award. Sale of awards is how donations are raised, so we encourage you to participate for

the award. For more information, or to volunteer on that day, call Donna Seline at 529-0552.

Earth Day Clean-up

In recognition of Earth Day, a clean-up will be held on Saturday, April 20th, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., with a celebration to follow. This year we will focus on the wooded area north of 21st and Upton. Volunteers should meet at the Upton Avenue/Hidden Beach gate at 8:45 a.m. Please come—we need you! For more information call 377-9522.