# Save edat Lake Park

Winter 1996/97 Volume 8, No. 2

# Drum and Song Dedicate Cedar Grove

t seemed fitting to have a cedar grove in Cedar Lake Park. As a result, the Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA) has accepted contributions since 1992 for cedar trees and wild flowers to be planted in a cedar grove in Cedar Lake Park. The trees and wild flowers will honor or remember loved ones.

Until late summer, the location for the cedar grove site was unknown because master planning for the park was still in process. Immediately after the location was determined, many volunteers kicked into high-gear to plan the cedar grove dedication and planting celebration. While Mary Beimborn and Laurie Lundy led the event committee, Keith Prussing and Dan Dailey led the site planning and preparation

Approximately 100 people attended the long-awaited planting celebration at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 6. The weather was good, the turnout was great, the planting plan was interesting and the traditional Native American blessing was very moving.

Eloise Butler Park Naturalist, Tom Savre, opened the Cedar Grove

Collected water from the Chain of Lakes, the Mississippi River and its headwaters waiting to be comingled and blessed.

Dedication with a song he wrote about the chickadee. Later he closed the celebration by leading everyone in a couple of verses of "This Land is Your Land."

After the planting plan for the cedar grove was presented by CLPA Park Activities Co-Chair

LAKE

MARKIE

(Photo by Joan

Wheeler)

Durrant, CLPA President Brian Willette described the proposed marker. The highlight of the day was the traditional Native

Keith Prussing and landscape architect Steve

American blessing performed by Native

American Elder, Larry Cloud Morgen,

also known as White Feather, and his nephew Joseph Bester. Joseph sang in Ojibwa to the four directions. Larry and Joseph were



Native American Elder Larry Cloud Morgen looks on while ceremonial green ribbons are tied to a cedar tree. (Photo by Dorothy Childers)

assisted by Annie Young who stated, "This is true sustainability—planting for the seventh generation."

Water that had been collected from each lake in the Chain of Lakes and the Mississippi River was mixed and blessed before watering the new plantings. In addition to water collected from Brownie Lake by Carol and Lloyd White, Cedar Lake by Phillip and Susan Jones, Calhoun by Ruth Jones, Lake of the Isles by Ned Foster and Laura Tiffany, Lake Harriet by D'Ann Topuluk and the Mississippi River by Steve Durrant, Don Beimborn collected water that morning from Lake Itasca, headwaters of the Mississippi, and brought it to the ceremony for the blessing.

Emcee Laurie Lundy passed out tree and wild flower certificates

continued on page 4

# Mark Your Calendars

Sixth Annual Meeting Wednesday, January 22, 1997 Lurie, Besikof, Lapidus & Co., 2501 Wayzata Blvd., Minneapolis

Third Organizational Planning Retreat
Saturday, February 8, 1997

Steering Committee

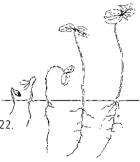
Meets every second Monday evening, Kenwood Recreation Center

To further your park and trail-making work, please consider a tax-deductible year-end gift to Cedar Lake Park Association.

# Fence Vines

Why were the fence vines not planted this summer?

Lack of moisture created a deep concern for the mortality rate of the tender seedlings. Other questions may be answered by calling the CLPA office at 377-9522.





BY BRIAN WILLETTE, CLPA PRESIDENT

ith 1996 drawing to a close and 1997 just ahead, we pause to look at the past and to the future. Use of Cedar Lake Trail continues to grow, and Cedar Lake Park continues to be developed into a sustainable nature park, which was highlighted by the first planting of cedar trees in the newly dedicated cedar grove. Thanks to all who participated in the event. In addition, thanks to all who volunteered all year. Your efforts continue to make the park and trail a success.

As we look to the new year, the concept master plan should be published early in the year, and the CLPA Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 22. Trail planning for the Kenilworth Corridor will also begin in January. The new year also promises to see additional projects in the park. Further, the Steering Committee is having a planning retreat in February. All who are interested in participating are invited and encouraged to call 377-9522 for details.

Again, thank you for your interest, support and willingness to volunteer in 1996. Please keep it up and best wishes for 1997.

# Will She Return?

# A Sad Bluebird Tale

BY MARY MCGEE

The 1996 season was disappointing for bluebirds in Cedar Lake Park. Overall, the number of nesting bluebirds was down. Only two pairs were successful in raising young this year—one pair along the bike trail and the other near Brownie Lake.

The oldest nestbox was chosen by the same banded female who raised two broods there in 1995. She had a new partner this year who seemed to be learning the art of parenting. Upon her arrival in April, she slipped into an old habit of waiting for us, or rather the mealworms we provided. After three young fledged in early June, she tried renesting only to have her nestbox vandalized by humans and her eggs lost to some unknown predator, probably a house sparrow. She tried three times, then gave up and was seen no more.

Even though there were only two successful hatches, it was exciting, as always, to welcome back these beautiful birds in April and watch them bring off their broods. Now, we look forward to next summer. Will the Female from Faribault, as we call her because she was banded there in 1993, return for the third time?

# All-Volunteer Organization Reaches Milestone

LPA will reach a one-year milestone as an all volunteer organization again. The organization can not exist without all kinds of contributions. Kinds of contributions consist of cash and in-kind donations, endowments and time. Thank you to the following volunteers who have given so generously of their time since the last Update:

Fay Atchinson Don Beimborn Mary Beimborn Joseph Bester Susan Bottge Kirk Brown Mike Carlson Dan Christensen Dan Dailey Bob Day Paul Deal Mary Donovan Steve Durrant Leif Ericsson leff Fishmann Ned Foster Kevin Gallagher Lisa Genis

Kathryn Glessing

Sharon Giesen Terry Gips Dick Hartmann Phillip Jones Ruth Jones Susan Jones Mary Ann Kanee Katie Kephart Jan Lubov Dick Lundy Laurie Lundy Lolene Lundy Dee Marks Mary McGee lim McPherson JoAnn Frekot Meyer Chris Mommsen Mike Mommsen Kathy Mommsen

Tony Mommsen lanette Monear Debbie Moran Larry Cloud Morgen Doris Peterson Rosemary Price Keith Prussing Steni Prussing Chuck Rines John Richter Dorene Scriven Terry Shiller Lura Shooteau Gail Steinman

Kathy Steward Erik Svensson Paisley Svensson Laura Tiffany D'Ann Topoluk Neil Tremblev Sue Verrett Polly Wells Bob Wheeler Carol White Lloyd White Brian Willette Annie Young

And a big thank you to the 50 volunteers from Cash Plus, Minneapolis Department of Public Works, the Tree Trust and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

# Contributions Received Since the Last Update are Gratefully Acknowledged

Sally A. Anson Ted & Ruth Arneson L Clarke Bassett Iim & Deena Behnke Carl & Lynn Beihl Lewis & Maurine Bernier Chuck & Melissa Biza Doug & Wendy Biza Karen Bıza Stephen Biza Sheila Bjorne Dorothy Borgstahler lames Brandt Douglas Bredeson Cash Plus Lynn L. Charlson Ann Christensen Jane Crane Doug & Kate Donaldson Peretz Dworsky Ida Engstrom David & Nancy Erpestad Douglas & Janet Fiola Ned Foster & Laura Tiffany Wood Foster, Jr. & Jan Severns

Elizabeth T. Foster William & Fran Galle Clark R. Gibb Mace & Audrey Goldfarb Jeff Haberer Patricia Haff David Brian Hansen Kathleen & Walter Hyser Beth H. Kelley Lester & Kathlene Kephart James & Shelly Kirkham Mrs. M.C. Koehler Margaret Kohring Kate Kromer Lasky Company Annajean & Joe Lee Floreine H. Leighton Adolph & Gloria Levine Michael & Diane Levy Tom & Rhoda Lewin Barbara S. Longfellow David & Mary Lundy Dick & Laurie Lundy W. Bert Lundy Anne Lutz Jack Lynch

lames B. Mickman & Sarai M. Brenner & Amelia & Sophia MN Human Dev. Consultants Marian Moore Sandy & Bob Morris Lee & Kevina Munnich Keith & Janey Nelson Walter & Eleanor Nyberg John & Solveig Olson Fern Pachel Polly A. Penny Corky & Doris Peterson Oliver & Jeannette Peterson Thomas Peyton William & Carla Phillips Ed & Peggy Pluimer Walter & Harriet Pratt Rosemary Price Deborah Reynolds Martin Richmond Carrie Schwert Terry & Marie Schlink

Employee Gift-Matching Foundation

Margaret & Davis Shrver Sharon Suerth Lane M. Skalberg Kathleen & Gerald Sovell Kathy Steward Erik Storlie Elizabeth Streitz Mary Streitz Casey & Elizabeth Strick Im Struthers D'Ann Topoluk **Neil Trembley** Albert & Parker Trostel Irving & Teresa Victor Ron & Marge Waldham Roy Wardell Mark Wernick Bob Wheeler Mary White Brian Willette family Timothy Wilt & Kris Ensrud Iane Wobken Mary Ann & Ron Wunderlin And thank you to American Express

Check your company's policy regarding employee matching funds! If not available, suggest starting one. It is a great way to double, or in some cases triple, your contribution. We will happily provide nonprofit status information to employers.

# Special Gifts

edar 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:

### **Cedar Trees**

in memory of **Jim Andress** from the CLPA Steering Committee

in memory of **Wood R. Foster** from his family: Elizabeth T. Foster; Ned Foster & Laura Tiffany; Wood Foster, Jr & Jan Severns

in honor of Vi Gelfend from Tom & Rhoda Lewin

in memory of Ruth Hammarberg Hyllegren from Douglas Bredeson; Ida Engstrom; Douglas & Janet Fiola; Patricia Haff; Adolph & Gloria Levine; Dick & Laurie Lundy; Minnesota Human Development Consultants; John & Solveig Olson, Corky & Doris Peterson; Terry & Marie Schlink; Roy Wardell; Brian Willette family; Mary Ann & Ron Wunderlin

in memory of **Walter & Iris Lundy** from their family: David & Mary Lundy, Karen Lundy Biza; Richard & Laurie Lundy; W. Bert Lundy; Sharon Lundy Suerth

# CEDAR TREE DONATED FOR

# **Patty Streitz**

Patty Streitz was a women of grace, humor and remarkable strength. She achieved a great deal in life: a long and happy marriage with husband Michael, the joy of raising six



daughters, Mary, Ann. Elizabeth, Sarah, Jane and Kate, and the fun of watching and loving five grandchildren. Patty was a businesswoman, a fighter for causes she believed in, an unparalleled cook and hostess, and a great storyteller. Above all, she was a stalwart friend and mentor to many women.

A cedar tree is given in memory of Patty, a long-time resident of the Kenwood neighborhood and lover of the lakes, by fellow members of the IDC, a group of women of two generations, mothers daughters and friends who gathered together with Patty and who continue to meet to celebrate the passages of life. Patty died of breast cancer on January 23, 1995. In death as in life, she inspires us.

---Rosemary Price

in memory of Patty Streitz

from IDC members: Ann Christensen; Kate Kromer, Anne Lutz; Rosemary Price; Carrie Schwert; Elizabeth Streitz; Mary Streitz; Mary White

in memory of **Timothy Wegener** from the CLPA Steering Committee

### Wildflower Fund

in memory of Alice Biza

from Chuck & Melissa Biza; Doug & Wendy Biza, Karen Biza; Stephen Biza

in memory of **Binky Moody Iverson** from childhood friend, Erik Storlie

in memory of **Ruth Hammarberg Hyllengren** from family & friends

in memory of **Howard Mechaelsen** of Story City, IA

from William & Fran Galle, Keith & Janey Nelson, Corky & Doris Peterson

### Gifts

to honor **Dr. Arnold Kaplan** for "Best Clinician" Award from Mace & Audrey Goldfarb

### CEDAR TREE DONATED FOR

# Timothy Wegener

As a result of his untimely death while working under the Cedar Lake Parkway Bridge in Cedar Lake Park, the CLPA Steering Committee will plant a cedar tree in memory of Timothy Wegener.

### CEDAR TREE DONATED FOR

# Jim Andress, Educator and Friend

The Cedar Lake Park community lost a good friend October 20th when Jim Andress passed away at age 75 after a long and difficult struggle with Alzheimer's. Jim was the husband of Shelby Andress, who facilitated CLPA's planning retreats in 1991 and 1994.

Jim was a devoted family man and an ardent outdoors man and gardener. He spent most of his working career as an educator in the Fargo, Hopkins and Robbinsdale schools. Although he retired early as the highly respected Director of Personnel for the Robbinsdale School District, he continued to do other kinds of work until he fully retired in 1982 for health reasons. Even then, he was involved in many volunteer leadership activities until 1989 when stricken with memory loss

After his Alzheimers was diagnosed in 1992, he devoted the last years of his life to educating people about the incurable disease. He and Shelby became involved in Minnesota's first support group for people in the early stages of the disease, spoke to a variety of other groups, and even appeared on the "Oprah" show. It is characteristic of Jim's deep commitment to learning and care for others that he directed his body be used for medical research.

In celebration of his life, and in recognition of Jim and Shelby's many contributions to Cedar Lake Park, the CLPA Steering Committee gratefully decided to plant a cedar tree in Jim's memory.

—Dan Dailey

You, too, can be part of the new cedar grove. A tax-deductible contribution of \$300 will provide for the purchase, planting and nurturing of a red cedar tree to remember or honor loved ones. \$150 will provide wild flowers. Individual gifts at these levels will be listed on a marker and the recipient or family will receive a certificate. All gifts will be acknowledged with a handsome card. Send your tax-deductible gift to: CLPA, 1101 Cedar View Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55405.

# Gift Ideas

### 1997 Calendar

The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board is featuring 12 vintage photos from its collection

of hand colored lantern slides, plus 12 stunning present day city images. Call 661-4800 for more information.



# Nice thick, soft Save Cedar Lake Park Sweatshirts Only a few left!

Children's—white, adult's—grey, with green "Nurture Nature" design on front. Adult: S and M. Children: 6-8, 10-12, 14-16.

First come, first served. The first checks for \$15 received will secure the remaining sweatshirts. Send to CLPA,

1101 Cedar View Dr., Minneapolis, MN 55405.

# Looking Back

# The Hotel Kenwood

BY NEIL C. G. TREMBLEY

wo very different forces worked to shape the northeast corner of Cedar Lake in the 1890's. first was the decision by the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railway to build what became a huge maintenance facility known as the M&St.L Shops. The structures, which included a roundhouse, machine shop, car shop, boiler shop and a hundred foot high smokestack along with the M&St.L yards due east of the lake required extensive labor.

The second force was the bur-

geoning recreational area headed by the establishment of the Dingley boathouse and docks. Sailing and fishing were the primary lake activities. The late and much lamented Bill Porter related that the bass fishing in Cedar Lake was the best in the state.

The need for a hotel to house vacationers seems to be the stimulus for opening the Hotel Kenwood in 1896 at 2516 W 21st Street. The original proprietors were James and Lillian Lane. Eventually they sold the hotel to Albert Toogood in 1902.

Now, the story gets murky.



The Old Hotel Kenwood at 2516 W. 21st Street, with Cedar Lake to the left.

Although the hotel was sold again, it was missing from the city register of businesses after 1903. By 1907, the hotel had become a boarding house for workers at the M&St.L shops and yards. There is

some indication that it may also have served as a bordello on the "edge of town." According to Mr. Porter, the building was torn down around 1918.

# **Trail News**

# Bassett's Creek Trail

The proposed Bassett's Creek Trail will run northwest from the Cedar Lake Trail near Dunwoody Boulevard and follow Bassett's Creek to Wirth Park. Trail funding has been committed, including Federal transportation dollars and Minneapolis NRP dollars from both Bryn Mawr and Harrison neighborhoods which border the creek.

A group of Bryn Mawr homeowners objected to this use of NRP funds and to the trail design. Several neighborhood meetings produced a change in the proposed route and a plan for neighborhood input on safety issues. On October 9, the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association reaffirmed its support for the trail.

—Dick Adair

### Cedar Lake Trail

In a collaborative effort between the City of St. Louis Park, Benild-St. Margaret High School and the Minnesota Dept. of Transportation, parking will be provided for trail users at the school lot with a trail connection to the Highway 100 access.

Thank you to the Minneapolis Park Board for promptly plowing snow off the commuter trail.

### Cedar Lake Trail East

According to Rhonda Rae, Minneapolis Department of Public Works, construction is scheduled to start in spring to continue the Cedar Lake Trail from its present terminus behind the Target Center to the Mississippi River and should be done during the summer.

## Cedar Lake Trail West

The continuation of the Cedar Lake Trail west from Highway 100 through St. Louis Park to the Hennepin Parks LRT trailhead in Hopkins has received a major setback.

In the summer of 1995, the City of St. Louis Park and Hennepin Parks entered into a Joint Powers Agreement to develop this regional trail connection. Later, condemnation procedures were started in order to acquire a needed portion of the trail. This portion, known as the Hutchinson Spur, had been purchased by a developer for under \$250,000.

Recently, a District Court appointed three-member Commission determined that the value of the Hutchinson Spur had been established at \$1.7 million, which is seven times greater than the value established by an expert appraiser. As a result, the Joint Powers Agreement was terminated.

However, St. Louis Park Director of Parks and Recreation, Chris Gears said. "In spite of this setback, we look forward to working in close cooperation with Hennepin Parks in exploring other alternatives for providing access to this great regional trail system." If you have questions, call Chris at 924-2541.

### Kenilworth Corridor

Within the Hennepin County Regional Rail Road Authority land on the east side of Cedar Lake Park, the proposed Kenilworth Trail will link the Cedar Lake Trail near the Kenwood Parkway access with the new Midtown Greenway near the Calhoun Village. A Kenilworth Trail Citizens' Advisory Committee is forming and will begin meeting in January. If interested, call 377-9522. As we go press, there is no final decision regarding rail traffic through the corridor.

# Excerpt from a recent letter

Dear CLPA Steering Committee:

Thank you for planting a cedar tree in my honor in the new cedar grove. This gift is meaningful because it is living and vital and adds beauty to the land we all nurtured for many years. The dedication ceremony was special too. It reflected CLPA's spiritual connection to the land...

Working together to create a vision and share leadership has nourished my growth and understanding of life...Because of your efforts and dedication, the park system has expanded in physical and spiritual dimensions. I am deeply honored by your gift. Thank you for nurturing me to be a better citizen.

> Yours truly. George Puzak

# **Cedar Grove**

continued from page 1

designed by Mike Carlson. Besides helping plant the trees, each participant tied a ceremonial green ribbon on one of the six trees that were used as a symbolic planting. Because of the dryness this year, only six of the 57 cedar tree gifts were planted. After the ceremony, all appreciated their stop at Kathryn Glessing's refreshment table.

CLPA is starting a group of interested people—called "Friends of the Cedar Grove"— to keep an eye on the grove and address its needs. If you are interested in the "Friends," donating a tree, want a cedar grove dedication program with all donors and recipients listed, or you would like to make arrangements to see the planting plan for the cedar grove, please call 377-9522.







Top: Landscape Architect, Steve Durrant explains the cedar grove planting plan. (Photo by Joan Wheeler) Middle: During the traditional Native American blessing, Joseph Bester sings a song in Ojibwa to the four directions. Bottom: Dan Dailey, Keith Prussing and Al Singer carefully lower a cedar tree into a predug hole. (Photos by Dorothy Childers)

# Projects in the Park

BY KEITH PRUSSING

n addition to the Big Woods project and the new cedar grove (see articles on front and back covers). Cedar Lake Park witnesses many activities.

The mountain biking culture has been altered in the southeastern part of the park in an effort to curtail erosion and promote safety. Very large trunks from trees that died or fell during sumner storms were brought to the park by the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) and skidded into place. One tree had 132 annual rings! Dangerous jumps were eliminated and natural barriers were created with the logs to reduce conflicts between the hikers and bikers. New signs were posted.

Collaboration continues with the Kenwood/Isles
Neighborhood to include Cedar Lake Park in the Neighborhood
Revitalization Program (NRP). A presentation to inform and enlist support for the park will be made at the monthly neighborhood meeting in early December.

There has been an increase in the amount of "tagging" (the in word for graffiti) throughout the park. Since quick removal is the best preventative, volunteers are needed for applying the available removal supplies.

Recently, two large willows fell into the channel between Cedar Lake and Lake of the Isles. In order to remove the trees, MPRB forestry crews will be trimming low-hanging branches along the southeastern lakeshore trail to provide access for their equipment.

In late September, on a rich autumn day, native species were planted on the lakeshore hillside near the southeast end of the Cedar Lake Parkway Bridge, CLPA provided design input and the planting was done through a partnership between MPRB, the Tree Trust and Cash Plus. a special media unit of Campbell-Mithun Esty. As part of the ongoing north shore stabilization project, eroding slopes were stabilized with logs and woodchips, and the steep access from the bridge was abated. Then with help from MPRB foresters, 3 volunteers from Tree Trust and 50 volunteers from Cash

Plus, 350 trees and shrubs donated by Cash Plus were planted.

Although six cedar trees were planted in October during the cedar grove ceremonial dedication, more than 50 are yet to be planted. Throughout the winter, there will be additional design discussions to prepare for tree and wildflower spring plantings.

Deer have been sighted in the southern interior of the park,

Although six cedar trees were planted in October during the cedar grove ceremonial dedication, more than 50 are yet to be planted.

supporting the vision of an urban nature park. However, deer are hungry and have no predators in an urban setting. Therefore their numbers will increase and much of the native plant restoration going on in the park is at risk. A dialog is open, please participate.

In late October, aluminum

sulfate treatment was completed for Cedar Lake.
According to Jeff Lee, MPRB lake specialist, this material will remove much of the existing phosphorous in the water and may result in "bathtub" water clarity this spring. The large, shiny semitrailer tanks you may have noticed Cedar Lake Parkway were part of this project. Lake of the Isles will also undergo this treatment next spring.

As we strive for a rich variety of habitats and niches, colors and textures throughout the year, there are numerous and ongoing native species planting projects planned throughout the park. Donation of any native plant materials would be greatly appreciated. Donation of funds for purchasing plants would be lovely,

Systems of communication for the park are in development and include signs, maps, and informational and educational materials. New biking signs have been posted. Look for more in the future. Help is welcome.

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Editor: Laune Lundy
Designer: Pat Thompson

development.

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

CLPA's mission is to create and nurture the nature park at Cedar Lake and the connecting trails and greenways.

Save Cedar Lake Park Update 1s published seasonally by the Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA).

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# Big Woods Project Underway— But Needs YOU!

BY KEITH PRUSSING

he Big Woods Project, near 21st. and Upton on the east shore of Cedar Lake, is well underway. In much of this area, non-native buckthorn was the dominant tree species. In order to provide for more species diversity, the buckthorn had to be removed. However, a more sophisticated approach is being used for this project. To protect desireable species, each buckthorn in certain areas were marked for removal. MPRB forestry crews cut and stacked the smaller buckthorn. Instead of clearing all of the larger buckthorn, trees that are 3" or more in diameter were girdled and/or thinned to create a more gradual transition to the "Big Woods."

Planting maps for four native plant communities—wet forest, maple-basswood forest, oak forest and oak savannah—have been developed. These maps were based on key plants that already exist on the site.

In 1997, there will be a flurry of activities associated with this project, including debris removal, planting, trail realignment, installing and furnishing a tool shed, interpretive signage, and a whole lot of fun!

The Big Woods Project and all other projects in the park need money, materials and volunteers. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to 1101 Cedar View Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55405.

# See page 5 inside for more Projects in the Park!

Volunteers are needed for all of these activities, so here's your chance to get involved.

To date, approximately \$18,000 worth of trees, shrubs, herbs, ferns, and wild flowers have been ordered. Since this Conservation Partnership project requires matching money, donations are necessary for us to fully utilize this grant. Please give generously.

As you look over this and other park and trail activities, you can see that CLPA is engaged in a wealth of ongoing activities to improve Cedar Lake Park. We are bringing forth the vision of a nature oasis in the heart of the city and serving as the green incubator to reach into the city and beyond. We are an all-volunteer, not-for-profit organization that has achieved much and we can achieve even more with your help.

I hope you will join us in making the park and the city a better place for all.

