

Cedar Lake Park

UPDATE

Winter 2003

Trails Edition

Volume 15, No. 1

Cedar Lake Regional Trail to the Mississippi...

The Perfect Ending to a Great Trail

BY NEIL TREMBLEY,
CLPA SECRETARY

The Cedar Lake Park Association supports the off-road alignment of the Cedar Lake Regional Trail extension east to the Mississippi River. This design, originally suggested by the Wirth Study in 1990, proposes that the trail stay within the Burlington Northern rail corridor until it joins with W. River Road (see map).

The main reason we prefer this alignment is the issue of safety. The CLPA alignment avoids any at-grade crossing for non-motorized vehicles and pedestrians. The importance of avoiding at-grade crossings cannot be overstated, nor can the benefits that flow from it.

Recreational bicyclists and in-line skaters benefit from an unimpeded, secure ride. Pedestrians can stroll undisturbed down to the river without the worry of encountering motorized traffic. There's even evidence that railroads benefit by a trail next to a railroad line, because pedestrians use the trail instead of the railroad track.

Parents can enjoy a carefree walk or ride unconcerned that their children will confront cars or buses. The proposed route would also benefit our elderly and differently abled citizens.

There is an alternative plan that brings the trail out of the corridor at Washington Ave and proceeds at street level east for several blocks to the river. This causes us great concern, for it means at-grade crossings at three intersections before reaching River Road.



Looking east from the current end of the CLRT, the proposed corridor passes under the bridges in the background. Sharing and Caring Hands is to the left. In this area there is plenty of room for the trail.

Not only would the risk to bicyclists, in-line skaters, and pedestrians increase using this route, but motorized traffic flow would be impeded by an ever greater stream of recreational users whose agenda would be very different from theirs. In addition, the alternative plan would impede the flow of non-motorized commuters using the trail to and from the city. All this in a part of downtown Minneapolis experiencing tremendous growth.

This proposed section of the Cedar Lake Regional Trail is the last four blocks of a four-

mile stretch of trail from St. Louis Park, with absolutely no at-grade crossings. Citizens both within and out of government have struggled to make this trail one of the jewels of our metropolitan area, free from motorized disturbance.

You can help. Call or write your city council person and mayor. Let them know this is a concern of yours and that they need to look at the long-term benefits of keeping the Cedar Lake Regional Trail within the corridor all the way to the river.



On the Horizon

BY KEITH PRUSSING, CLPA PRESIDENT

I was standing recently on Washington Ave, downtown in the warehouse district, looking west from the bridge over the rail corridor that comes in from Cedar Lake. I let myself imagine and could easily envision a paved trail next to the tracks, with walkers and rollers and bikers moving in both directions. The corridor is wide in this direction, wide enough even to contain a potential train station which could serve light rail, commuter heavy rail from St Cloud, or even interstate traffic as represented by Amtrak. Further west, by the county garbage burner, is a favored site for a baseball stadium. A fine place for the trail. All are in favor.

Crossing the road, I then gazed off to the east, toward the river. I could see the trestle crossing the river to Nicollet Island. The corridor is much narrower, hardly wider than the bridges, with limestone block walls in places. It is this constriction that has caused the trail designers to decide that it is too difficult, too expensive, to keep the trail along the tracks. Thus, they have proposed a reasonable alternative: bring the trail up to the streets, and run it to the river. This would complete the Cedar Lake Trail.

We respectfully disagree. The original vision called for an off-road trail to the river. Much effort by many people over many years has been dedicated to this vision. We have in hand an engineering study, commissioned by CLPA and available for review, that demonstrates that the costs of both alignments are comparable. The railroad would have to cooperate. The federal government, in the form of T-21 funds, would have to go along. Private landowners would have to be compensated.

It can be done. The construction horizon is 2005. Will you help?



Gifts

BY STEVE DURRANT, TREASURER

Cedar Lake Park Association gratefully acknowledges recent contributions in the form of money, stocks, materials, volunteer time and in-kind services, memorials and gifts. Since the last *Update*, contributions have been received from:

David Abramson and Duffy Larsen-Abramson
Anita Anderson
Anonymous
Sally and Peter Anson in honor of David and Nancy Anson, Christmas 2003
Dale Antonson
Paul and Dell Askegaard
Arlene Baker
Win Bowron
David Braslau
Dr. Kevin Brenner Mickman and Sarai Mickman Brenner
Dick Brown
Larry and Lou Brust
Susan Bunnell
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Jean and Malcolm Clark
Jean and Lucinda Conroy
Robert and Marilee Cramer
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John and Ida Davies
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Ina and Larry Gravitz
Martin Green and Bonnie Carlson-Green

Roger Hale and Eleanor Hall
George Harding
Robert Harding
John and Diane Herman
Stephen Huey
Jerome and Judith Brin Ingber in honor of Joan Solomon's birthday
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Felix and Ann Phillips
Louise Platt
Dr Robert and Ruth Premer
Bob and Mary Provost
Sandy Resnick
Deborah Reynolds
Nancy Riaz
Jerry and Louise Ribnick
Tom Rice
Sandra Riecki and Keith Gunderson
Steven & Jacquelyn Rust
John Sandbo

Sandra Sandell
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Katherine Steward
Bob Taylor
D'Ann Marie Topoluk
Parker and Albert Trostel
Mary Vaughan
Irving and Teresa Victor
Myrtle and Richard Vikla
Karen Viskochil
Mark Wernick and Nancy Entwistle
Natalie Westreich
Nora Whiteman and Tom Rush
Jessica Wiley
Brian Willette in memory of Marjorie Weber
Jonathan and Carol Wirtschafter
Richard and Sandra Worthing
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Ron Bowen
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Lorrie Insiensingmay
Ruth Jones
Patricia Johnson
Jo Anne Kosowitz
Jill Kretsinger
Mary Alyce Krohnke
Mary Latta
Barb Nelson
David Payne
Neil Trembley
Suzie Zaker



Visit Our Website: www.cedarlakepark.org

How did a group of citizens living near Cedar Lake Park establish a nature park in the heart of the city? How was the land acquired? Where did money come from? Who persuaded local government that the land should become a park? When were the trails constructed?

Answers to questions about the park's creation and design can be found on the CLPA web site, along with lots of other information about Cedar Lake Park. Over the last two years, our web site has grown steadily. Our goal has been to document the park's past and describe its present and future. The CLPA web site reflects the excitement and pride we and the park's founders feel about the park. A great deal has been accomplished since 1989. We have more to do in 2003!

At the annual meeting on January 29, we will be showing a new version of the CLPA web site. Besides improving the site's look and navigation, we have added and rearranged sections to include more history, photos, and project descriptions. The new design also makes it easier to provide timely news about issues relating to the park. If additional funding can be found this year, we would like to add interactive features to encourage environment-related discussion and political action and to reformat the Master Plan for better online browsing and printing.

If you have photos, clippings or other information about the history of the land and the park, we'd love to add them to the web site! Please email us: webmaster@cedarlakepark.org.

—Meredith Montgomery

Cedar Lake Regional Trail Alternative Alignment

Washington Avenue to West River Road A SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared for The Cedar Lake Park Association by URS Corporation, Greg Brown, PE, and Anthony Wagner, PE. September, 2002

Excerpts from the Summary

See complete summary at www.cedarlakepark.org

Based on preliminary analysis, excluding BNSF and other private property issues, the alternative alignment of the Cedar Lake Regional Trail appears to be a feasible option to the proposed trail extension. The alternative alignment provides a more direct continuation of the existing alignment, paralleling the BNSF railroad and Northstar Corridor alignment. Exhibits outlining the proposed alternative alignments and adjacent properties are included on the website, however, no boundary surveys nor title work has been completed. A summary of the major issues is listed below by segments:

Washington Avenue to 2nd Street North

A connection would be made to the existing trail on the west side of and below the Washington Avenue Bridge. The major issues within this segment are the offset from the existing BNSF tracks, potential acquisition of private property and retaining wall construction.

A below grade trail crossing of the 2nd

Street North bridge appears to be feasible. The raised trail section would likely cross between the existing southern bridge pier and abutment, requiring additional fill in this area.

2nd Street North to 1st Street North

The major issues within this segment are the required offset from the existing BNSF tracks, removal and reconstruction of the existing Stillman property boulder retaining wall, potential acquisition of private property and retaining wall construction.

1st Street North to West River Road

The major issue within this segment is the location of the required connection to the existing trail along West River Road. The trail would transition from an 18-foot to 25-foot BNSF offset and from an elevated section to an at-grade section as adequate open space is available throughout the entire segment.

West River Road Connection

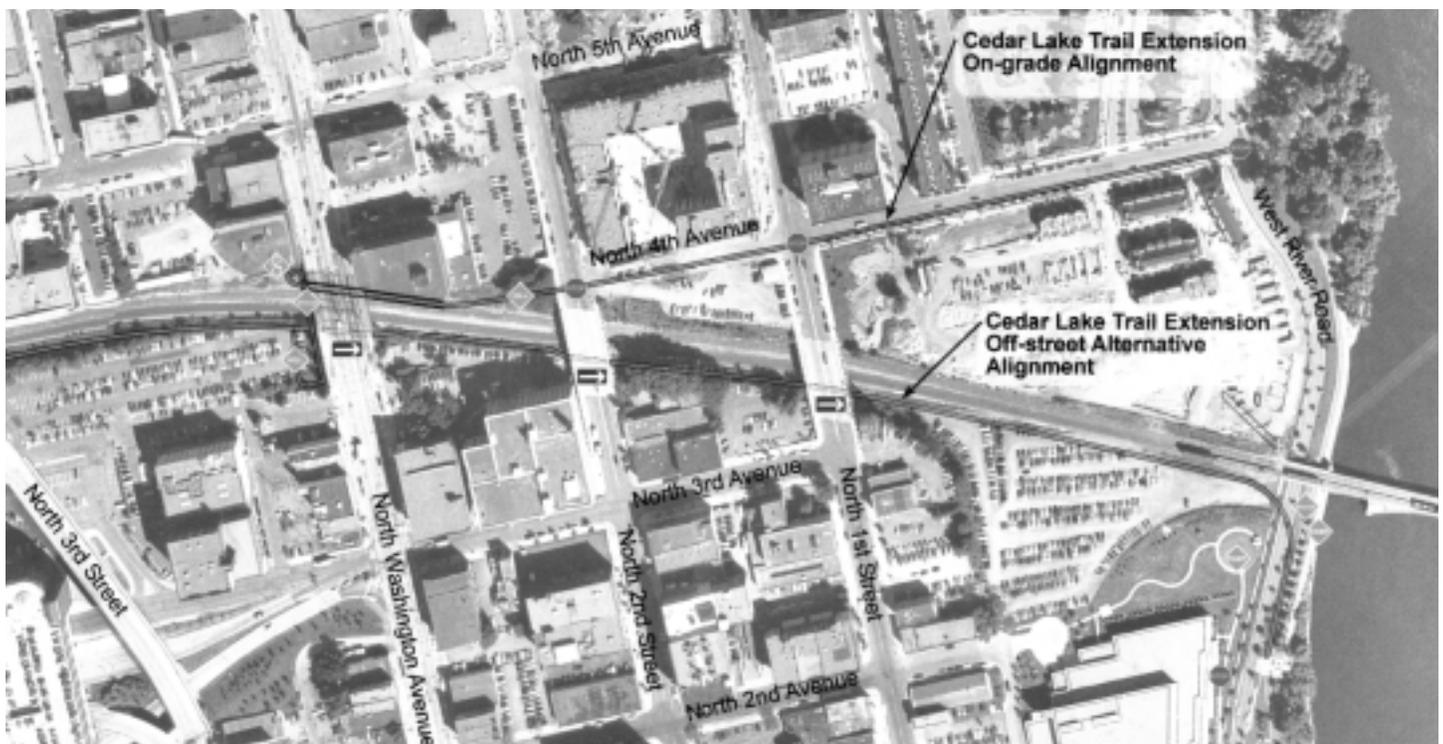
Two distinct options are available to make the connection to the existing trail to West River Road. The first option would involve construction of a bridge across West River Road, with a curved span consisting of approximately 100-feet and approach landing within the grassy median between the roadway and the trail.

The second option involves descending before crossing West River Road between the parkway and the existing concrete retaining. To reach the existing trail, an at-grade crossing of West River Road would be necessary at the existing Federal Reserve Bank crossing.

Conclusions

Based on a preliminary review, the alternative alignment of the Cedar Lake Regional Trail appears to be feasible. The major issues to project feasibility include cooperation with BNSF, Colonial property owners, Stillman property owners and estimated project costs.

Two options, including a bridge and retaining wall, were evaluated for connection to the existing West River Road trail and both appear to be feasible. Preliminary cost estimates for both options are attached. Based on the preliminary cost estimates, the Bridge Option appears to cost approximately \$350,000 greater than the Ramp. The major issues with the bridge option are cost, the potential for a trail grade greater than 5% on the eastern bridge approach and a view obstruction of the Mississippi River from West River Road. The major issues with the ramp option are realignment of West River Road and an at-grade crossing of West River Road.



URS proposal map

PROJECTS IN THE PARK

BY KEITH PRUSSING

The inaugural Minneapolis Loppet is scheduled for the weekend of Jan. 31–Feb. 1. The centerpiece of this new event is a 35km. ski race starting in Wirth Park, crossing I-394 at Wirth Parkway, across Brownie Lake and through Cedar, Isles and Calhoun.

CLPA joins the myriad volunteers engaged in supporting this event. We will have a beverage table in Cedar Lake Park along the race course to cheer on hard-working skiers. With the minimal snow accumulations so far this winter, it remains unclear how it will all work. The Mayor's office has said that the event will take place, "even if on pogo sticks."

This race, and the extensive reworking of the Wirth Park ski trails, is the result of a task force convened by MPRB Commissioner John Erwin in response to comments made by Mayor Rybak about the desirability of promoting "silent sports" (such as skiing or biking) in the city. Hence the Loppet, the first major urban ski race in the country. Hopefully, this event will become a fixture for many years to come. Check out the Minneapolis Loppet website at: www.cityoflakesloppet.com.

In November, we made a presentation to the **Minnesota Native Plant Society** at their monthly meeting, located at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge visitor center on the river bluffs near the airport in Bloomington. Entitled "Cedar Lake Park: Restoring Native Landscapes in an Urban Environment," this multimedia presentation of the ongoing creation of the nature park at Cedar Lake was very well received. Some 50 people were in attendance. This audience is particularly interested in native plantings, and it was exciting to introduce the park to many people who had known little or nothing of its existence. Further, CLPA was invited to submit an article for their January newsletter, which will communicate to a much larger audience.

MPRB forestry crews have been active in the park. The three-foot diameter fallen cottonwood near Hidden Beach (mentioned in the last newsletter) has been selectively and minimally cut to drop it closer to the ground. This was a forked tree, and the standing trunk was cut and dropped perfectly next to its twin. The skills necessary to do this are impressive, as are the logs and remaining stumps. Instead of being hauled away for disposal, all of the material was left on site, creating wildlife habitat, barriers to

bike traffic, trail logs, and a wonderful climbing area, with nothing more than three feet off the ground. It looks a bit rough at present, and with weathering and a new growing season, it will blend with the landscape.

Further south, in the Burnham Woods area, a large diseased elm was cut and subsequently hauled out of the park for destruction, to prevent hiding places for the beetles that carry the fungus that causes Dutch Elm disease.



The lack of snow on Cedar Lake has created a **rare opportunity to skate anywhere**. The lake has 10 inches of clear, smooth ice in most areas. This allows a skating experience that is phenomenal, thrilling and fun. To look through the ice window down into the depths of the lake, to see kaleidoscopes of sparkling colors, or watch snow particles dancing along, blown by the wind, is breathtaking.

Children of all ages have been having great fun. Other activities include **ice fishing**, which is concentrated largely in the bay leading to Brownie Lake. Also, the ice-man has been present near Hidden Beach, where he has kept a small area open in the lake with a sledgehammer to allow for bathing. BRRR!!! Sometimes there has been enough snow along the margins of the lake to allow for skiing, and bicyclists also can be seen on the lake or in the woods. The austerity of the landscape, with all the hues of brown, is quite striking.

An engineering study has been conducted on the **deteriorating condition of the wooden walls that line the Kenilworth Canal**, the waterway that connects Isles and Cedar. Planks are rotting or missing, and in several places the walls are buckling or collapsing, the result of pressure of land and trees. The recommended solu-

tions carry a price tag of over \$600,000. MPRB submitted a capital-funding request to the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Unfortunately, this proposal was denied, given that rehabilitation will have little influence on water quality.

Funding is being sought elsewhere. However, the engineers recommended that more active management of the banks, including removal of some vegetation and plank replacement, would slow the breakdown. Park Operations intended to do this work in autumn 2002, but was unable to due to the high water levels. It will take place in the spring. The public owns the right of way along both sides of the canal, and there will be no impact on any adjacent private structures.

There is a new water pump at South Beach thanks to the CIDNA neighborhood. Presently, there is a pump at 21st and Upton on the east side, one near the mound and trail on the north, a fountain at the beach at Cedar Point, and this new one on the south end.

The Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (**HCRRA**) has been busy removing buckthorn from their land in the Kenilworth and Midtown Greenway corridors, aided by volunteers from CLPA and CIDNA. Much material was removed just south of W. 21st St., creating new vistas and enhancing sight lines at the trail crossing.

HCRRA is committed to good stewardship of their lands, which includes exotics removal. They also have drilled a series of test wells in the area north of W. 21st St. to better determine the extent of groundwater pollution from the former railroad yards.

Finally, the **Southwest Corridor study** will be released in March. It will contain recommendations for the future transportation uses of this important access corridor from the southwest metro.

It is beautiful at **Hidden Beach** these days, with long vistas of the lake. MPRB Forestry has been periodically observing regrowth, some wildflower planting has been done by volunteers, and earlier this fall the entire area was treated for buckthorn regrowth. We look forward to spring to see what vegetation appears, as well as to continue replanting native materials. This area has the potential to be awesome. Foxes have been sighted.



Note the southern loop that leaves Cedar Lake Park, travelling towards Lake Calhoun. It reaches the Mississippi River and turns north into downtown, to join up with the proposed Cedar Lake Trail. This is part of the famed Grand Round. The full map of Hennepin County trails is available at: <http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us/transp/tp/bikeplan/bikeplan.html> or by calling county offices at 612-348-3000.

Trails Update: Name that Loop!!!

BY NEIL TREMBLEY

With the completion of a half-mile segment of trail from Belt Line Blvd. in St. Louis Park east to the Midtown Greenway in Minneapolis, a wonderful 12.5 mile loop starting and ending at Cedar Lake Park has been created.

This loop comprises four separate trails: the Cedar Lake Regional Trail (including the Hutch-Spur segment), the Kenilworth Trail, the Midtown Greenway, and the Southwest LRT. It allows for a beautiful journey through parts of Minneapolis, Hopkins and St. Louis Park.

For a guided tour of the loop just follow me. Begin your journey at the junction of the Cedar Lake and Kenilworth Trails in Cedar Lake Park.

Travel south about two miles along the Kenilworth Trail to the Midtown Greenway. Turn right. Imperceptibly, the trail becomes the Southwest Corridor. Follow the trail for four miles, past the St. Louis Park water tower, over Hwy 100, and through some uninspiring terrain. Just before reaching Hwy 169 you will have to cross Excelsior Blvd. if you want to stop at the Hopkins Depot Coffee Shop. The Depot is a great place to stretch your legs, grab

some refreshments and swap stories with other travelers.

At the Hopkins Depot turn right and re-cross Excelsior Blvd. (you actually can stay north of Excelsior Blvd. and avoid having to cross and re-cross this busy street, but then you miss the Depot). You pick up the trail again on the north side of Excelsior next to the Super Value warehouses.

The trail heads north alongside Hwy. 169 for a few blocks. But soon you move away from the highway. After crossing over the Minnehaha Creek Bridge, you travel through a marvelous section of St. Louis Park punctuated by views of Aquila Park and Victoria Lake. The distance from the Hopkins Depot to Victoria Lake is about two miles.

Soon the trail turns to your right and you are headed east paralleling the Burlington Northern rail line. After traveling another two miles along the railroad, you will pass under Hwy 100 and enter into the jewel in the crown, Cedar Lake Park.

Once you are on the Cedar Lake Trail, all worries and cares are forgotten. From Hwy 100 you travel east about 2.5 miles. You'll need to stop at the bench by the rock and tree, and fill

your water bottle at the nearby pump. As you journey across the prairie, be sure to admire the variety of wildflowers dotting the prairie. All too soon you are at the end of your journey, as you cross the final set of railroad tracks and come to the T that forms Cedar Lake Trail's junction with the Kenilworth Trail.

This wonderful loop needs a name. Let us know what you think.

Note: The Cedar Lake Parkway bridge (between Cedar and Brownie Lake) is scheduled for demolition and reconstruction starting March of 2003. The trail under the bridge is scheduled to be closed. There may be real difficulty getting around this area.

Contest to Offer Prizes for Best Loop Name

If this loop inspires you, please call, e-mail or write us with your suggestions by March 1, 2003.

Winners and prizes will be announced in the Spring 2003 CLP Update.

Volunteers Contribute Good Work in the Park

BY MEREDITH MONTGOMERY

On a bright, cold mid-November morning, a spirited troupe of students from the City of Lakes Waldorf School in Minneapolis gathered in Cedar Lake Park to do community service. Members of the Cedar Lake Park Association met the twenty seventh graders and their parent drivers at the park entrance.

Jostling, joking, and stomping their feet, the group zipped up jackets and gathered near two large mounds of wood chips provided by MPRB. Dozens of native wildflower seeds and bulbs donated by local gardeners waited in bags next to a large collection of buckets, wheelbarrows, and tools.

Springing to the top of the chip mounds, CLPA President Keith Prussing described what needed to be done. Then good-natured wisecracking ensued as tools were distributed, wheelbarrows and buckets were claimed, and work gloves were pulled on. Volunteer adults took charge and the work began.

One group energetically filled wheelbarrows and buckets. Another group struggled to wheel and carry the chips down to the trail, forming brigades and devising various other strategies to improve efficiency as the morning progressed. Rakers on the trail directed

dumping and spread chips evenly. Bucket carriers hitched rides back to the mounds in empty wheelbarrows to repeat the process. After an hour, the pile of remaining chips still seemed daunting to some. Tired shovelers made jokes

about the chips—perhaps it was a trick, the kind of pile that GROWS instead of shrinking? Meanwhile, other workers with trowels continued to plant jack-in-the-pulpit, bloodroot, and giant Solomon's seal, or to scatter heads of purple cone flower.

Ignoring cold fingers and noses (and encouraged by the adults), the



Meredith Montgomery points along the trail chipped by Waldorf School students. She sits on the stump of the recently cut large cottonwood.

group made a focused effort to get the last shovelful of chips distributed, the last bulb planted, the final log in place before leaving the park. The group plans to return to Cedar Lake Park in the spring. We are grateful for their energetic help!

This event was the last of three fall plantings in the park. In October, twenty-five volunteers of all ages planted native shrubs and wildflowers in memory of Linda Jadwin. The group, which included many of Linda's friends, relatives, and coworkers, installed nearly 150 new plants to complete the landscaping of the stone spiral seating area located south of Hidden Beach. On a warm mid-September day, Data Recognition Corporation volunteers planted 15 species of wildflowers—a total of 700 plants—in the prairie near the Cedar Grove on the north shore. We look forward to seeing these new additions in the spring!



Prairie Planting in Sight of Downtown



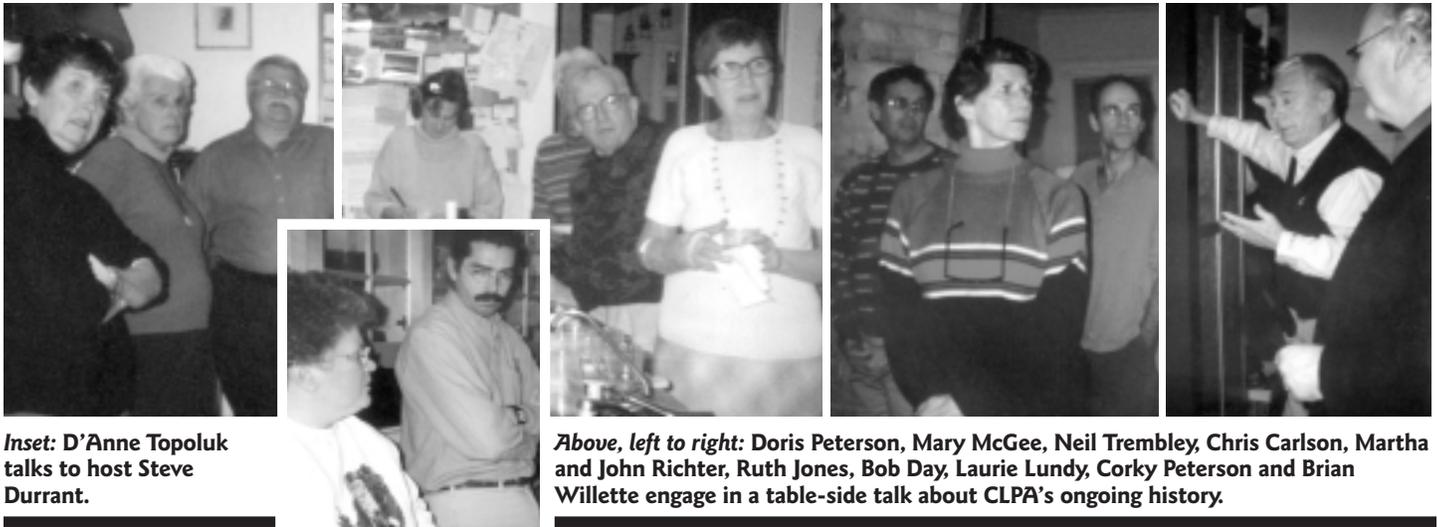
For the third year in a row, over a dozen employees from Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) planted wildflower plugs in the Cedar Lake Park prairie. This company offers their employees the opportunity to give back to their community and get paid for it. Plants were provided by the Cedar Lake Park Association and Prairie Restorations, Inc.

Beautiful Ice



With his boys Nic and Ben, Keith Prussing crosses the milfoil-encrusted ice on their way to the glistening sliding area beyond.

CLPA Founders Gather to Note History



Inset: D'Anne Topoluk talks to host Steve Durrant.

Above, left to right: Doris Peterson, Mary McGee, Neil Trembley, Chris Carlson, Martha and John Richter, Ruth Jones, Bob Day, Laurie Lundy, Corky Peterson and Brian Willette engage in a table-side talk about CLPA's ongoing history.

BY MEREDITH MONTGOMERY

One of the most remarkable things about Cedar Lake Park is the story of its creation. A group of citizens with a clear vision had the wisdom to adopt a set of organizational principles that worked well, enabling them to raise over a million dollars in private funds and buy the land that is now the park.

Drawing together many forces—small and

large, public and private, rich and poor, from individuals to businesses to state government—neighbors who lived near Cedar Lake eventually established a nature park in the heart of the city.

This was no small feat. It took courage and hard work. The result is—as my nephew says—“Awesome!”

In December, current and past leaders of

CLPA gathered to talk about the founding of the park. It was exciting to listen to stories of the park's early days and hear founders talk about how they felt, what happened, what they did and why.

How hard these people worked as volunteers to make their vision a reality! Their dedication has benefited the entire metropolitan community for many years.

WILDLIFE NEWS

Cedar Lake Park December Bird Count

BY TOM RICE

We held the bird count in Cedar Lake Park on

December 21, 2002. Results are included from December 30, 2000 for comparison. Also included for this year is the “number of sightings,” which is a very subjective indicator of abundance, but might be of interest in future years were we to see significant fluctuations in populations.

Participants this year were Peter Neubeck, Mary McGee, Barbara Galumbos, Margaret Mason, Chris Froemming, Nancy Russell, Carol Rice and myself. A total of eight, compared with ten in '00.

The temperature ranged from the low 20s to low 30s Fahrenheit, with light wind from the NW and mixed clouds and sunshine. Note that the unidentified Hawk and Accipiter were reported by separate groups.



SPECIES—19 TOTAL	Sighted 2000	# Sighted 2002
American Robin	X	—
Downy Woodpecker	X	15
Hairy Woodpecker	X	5
Red-bellied Woodpecker	—	1
Black-capped Chickadee	X	32
House Finch	X	21
American Goldfinch	X	11
Slate Colored Junco	X	69
House Sparrow	X	15
American Tree Sparrow	X	27
White Throated Sparrow	—	4
Nuthatch, White Breasted	X	8
American Crow	X	39
Blue Jay	X	9
Starling	X	0
Cardinal	X	16
Rock Dove	—	7
Gull (unidentified)	—	2
Great Horned Owl (heard only)	X	—
Kestrel	X	—
Red-tailed Hawk	X	1
Gyr Falcon	X	—
Hawk (unidentified)	—	1
Accipiter (unidentified)	—	1
Mallard Duck	X	—



A badger hole in the prairie-grass-covered hillside next to the Cedar Lake Trail extension to the river.

Cedar Lake Park ASSOCIATION

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INSIDE

Gifts, Website	2
Trail to River Route Map ..	3
Projects in the Park, Map	4-5
Volunteers Work	6
Founders Gather	7
Calendar, Mission	8

Cedar Lake Park Update is published seasonally by the Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA).

Since 1989, CLPA has worked with individuals, neighborhoods, corporations, foundations, churches and schools, as well as with state, regional and federal agencies.

We have successful partnerships with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and other city, county, regional, state and federal agencies.

Editor: Jim McPherson

Layout: Triangle Park Creative

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CLPA Update, Winter 2003

If you're seeing this CLPA Update for the first time, contact us if you want to be added to our mailing list.

Printed on recycled paper made of
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CALENDAR

CLPA Steering Committee

Second Monday of each month, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Kenwood Recreation Center. You're invited to participate.

Annual Meeting

Wednesday, January 29th, 2003 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Jones Harrison Residence, 3700 Cedar Lake Avenue.

Minneapolis Loppet

January 30–February 1.

Spring Equinox

March 20.

Lake ice out

April 10?

Earth Week

April 22–26.

Arbor Day

April 25.

May Birdwalk

Call for details, 612-377-9522.

Summer Solstice

June 21.

Your support is important—

All donations are tax-deductible.*

* To the extent allowed by law.



A view of the memorial Cedar Grove, looking northeast from the center along the solstice line. Note the 12-foot cedar; it was 4 to 5 feet when planted in 1996.

Cedar Lake Park Association Mission

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