

Friends of Schuylkill River Park



Winter 2011

www.fsrp.org

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Announcements

June 2, 7pm-11pm: Friends of Schuylkill River Park "Eat, Drink, and be Green" Fundraiser.

FSRP Board of Directors

Lynne Hopper, President
Derek Freres, Vice President
Sean O'Rourke, Vice President
Carolyn Levine, Treasurer
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Carolyn Duffy, Membership
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Judith Parker
Suzanne Reichwein
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Leslie Young

The 2011 Fall Festival ... Feedback Says It All!

Feedback from festival attendees:
"Fantastic day!" "Great festival! You guys are awesome!" "...brings out goodwill in the community." "...kudos on the festival!"

And from vendors:
"...We had a great time, and so did the animals. Please keep us on your list for next year." -phillypaws.org (returning festival vendor)

"...I had a nice time at your Festival..." HT Pet Treats (first-time festival vendor)

And volunteers:
"It was really a great festival. I think it really does get better every year..." (perennial volunteer)

"...really fun day, and was very nice to meet the community and neighborhood" (first-time volunteer)

Also present: Mark Focht, First Deputy Commissioner Parks & Facilities
"Congratulations on a successful event!" -- and Babette Josephs, PA 182nd district Representative, who observed "The festival hasn't just grown...It's grown exponentially!"

A crisp sunny Saturday morning, October 15, warmed up to a glorious, if a bit windy, Autumn day. Once again kids, grown-ups, and pets came out in droves for the FSRP Fall Festival—the annual celebration of our neighborhood park.

Kids lined up for crafts, bouncing in the Super Moon Bounce, decorating pumpkins, decorating cupcakes, face painting by amazing artists – and the ever-popular 4-H

Club donkey cart rides and petting zoo. Popcorn and cotton candy machines (and tireless operators) could barely keep up with the demand!

The popular Signature DJs, Inc. energized kids and grownups with dancing and contests. Students of MacGuffin Theatre & Film Company, a Philadelphia-based arts education program for kids, entertained with their harmonies and choreography. Martial Posture Arts Karate School wowed the crowd with jaw dropping acrobatic moves. AND thephillydog.com hosted a dog costume contest with Arnie Zacharias (we think) in full clown regalia leading a costumed-dog conga line as they weaved through the crowd.

Vendors - some returning for the fourth year in a row - lined the bustling walkway with an eclectic mix of wares. Civic, community and educational groups were well represented with: CHOP Safety Van, Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center, CCRA, PhillyPAWS, Trinity Church, and St. Mary's Nursery. Officer Lewis of the 9th Police District gave fingerprinting demos; and Fire Department Engine 43 invited kids to climb aboard!

The food court featured drinks, hot dogs, hamburgers, hummus, and home-baked goods – all thanks to the generosity of donors: Dmitri's, South Square Market, PepsiCo, and Marathon Grill. Gavin's Café, Veg-N-Go, and GreenStreet Coffee Roasters donated a portion of sales.



The Friends of Schuylkill River Park is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The official registration and financial information of The Friends of Schuylkill River Park may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

2011 Fall Festival (Continued)

The enticing Raffles and Silent Auction were made possible by local artists and businesses – many of them perennial donors. Please patronize them! See a complete list at the end of this newsletter.

While the Fall Festival is a fundraising event – proceeds exceeded last year's record – it is also a celebration of our community. And it would not be possible without the vendors, raffle and silent auction donors, festival underwriting donors, entertainment donors, FSRP Board members, the

patience and support of the Markward Recreation Center Staff, and last but not least, the volunteers who give generously of their time. All are essential to the success of the Fall Festival – a neighborhood tradition!

Interested in donating a raffle or silent auction item, being a vendor, or volunteering for the 2012 Fall Festival, please email us at fsrporg@gmail.com or visit our website www.fsrp.org.

We All Need a Day of Rest...

...including our new field which saw a great deal of usage during the spring, summer and fall months. You may have noticed the big STOP signs on the fence surrounding the field. That is because the field is undergoing regular maintenance, which will keep it healthy for the next season. Some sports, in particular soccer, can cause a great deal of wear and tear on a grass surface. We need to replace that grass with seed but it takes several months for young seeded grass to become established. If the young grass is played on before it is established it will not survive. There are some areas of the outfield that badly need TLC so that we can enjoy the field in the spring.

Thanks to the generosity of The Philadelphia School and Taney Baseball Youth Association as well as contributions from the

Friends of Schuylkill River Park there are annual funds to maintain the field. This does not include large repair work if that is ever needed. Throughout the year, the field will remain closed on Sundays in order to give it time to irrigate and the grass time to rest and grow. Many have asked why the field is locked at certain times. The Markward staff open the gate in the morning when they arrive and keep it open throughout the evening until they leave which is generally 9:00pm. Otherwise the field is closed while there is no one there to monitor it. This keeps dogs, bikes and other things that might cause damage off of the surface. If you wish to use the field and find it locked check with Patti, Judy or Franny, our Markward Rec Center staff and they may open it for you—though keep in mind that permit holders have priority.

Friends of Schuylkill River Park Tree Tenders

The Friends of Schuylkill River Park Tree Tenders have planted about 60 street trees in Center City West with another 20+ coming this Spring. Tree Tenders relies on volunteers to plant all these trees plus to help check on the trees during their first year, educate tree owners on proper care and eventually, to help prune these trees. To participate in the last three items Tree Tender training is needed. This training is provided by Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

via their Tree Tenders Classes. The next class is being held on two Saturdays, January 21st and 28th from 8:30 am – 1:30pm. The fee is \$25.00.

<http://www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org/phlgreen/tree-training.html>

Pedestrian Bridge Update

The overall pedestrian bridge project is still on schedule with an anticipated completion at the end of fall 2012. As you can see at the Park, the contractor has completed all of the concrete columns on both sides of the train tracks as well as the concrete ramp on the river side. After the concrete cures at the ramp the contractor will remove the formwork below the deck. They will move to the Park side to install the formwork needed to support the construction of the concrete deck for the ramp around the Dog Run. The ramp's concrete will be poured and it will need to cure. After the ramp is finished on the Park side the contractor will be ready to install the bridge over the tracks!



Free Street Trees

Would you like a free tree in front of a property you own - a home or business? The Friends of Schuylkill River Park *Tree Tenders* covers the area bordered by the Schuylkill River and Broad between Walnut and South. We work with TreeVitalize to plant trees for free, including cement cutting, within our bounds. For more information and to download an application, visit: www.fsrp.org/treetenders

FSRP is a partner of...

PHILADELPHIA
**PARKS &
RECREATION**

Thank You For All You Do For Us... Volunteers in Action

The Friends of Schuylkill River Park would like to thank all our volunteers who have come out during the past year to make our activities, clean-ups, and events a success. We cannot achieve all we do without your help and continued support.

- Collate and write articles for our quarterly newsletter.
- Shovel huge mounds of woodchips into the dog run, pick up dog waste
- Plant 60 some street trees in Center City West
- Check on newly planted trees
- Water trees around O'Connor Pool
- Plant spring bulbs on the hill by the ball field
- Install the Bulletin Board by the playground
- Help man our Fall Festival – including facepainting and baking cupcakes for cupcake decorating
- Maintain the FSRP website
- Staff membership tables
- Prune trees in the ball field and playground area
- Put up a fence in the playground area
- Be a part of the Eat, Drink and be Green cocktail party committee and help out at the event
- Produce the FSRP video promotion, provide voiceover and sound mixing for the promotion
- Staff the Bicycle Rodeo
- Paint surfaces at the pool, in the Park, and in the Recreation Center

Dogs and Kids Don't always go together... The Playground is a Dog Free Zone

Dog owners please observe the new signs posts around the playground area of Schuylkill River Park. These signs indicate that the playground area is a dog free zone.

While children and dogs usually go together well, paw in hand, we're asking that dog owners please keep their dogs out of the playground area. Dog waste can carry parasites and contagions, which can cause young children to become ill. Some children are allergic to animals. Some children fear dogs.

We requested in our last newsletter that children not be permitted in the dog run area; we need to also ask that dogs not be permitted in the children's playground. Both areas have been designed to maximize the recreation and safety of children and dogs in their respective areas.

We Appreciate Our Supporters

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

AT&T Foundation
Senator Larry Farnese
Community Design Collaborative
Representative Babette Josephs
Krista and Rich Pinola
CSX Railroad
McLean Contributionship

EAT, DRINK, & BE GREEN 2011

Gold Sponsors (\$2,500)

Energy Plus
Penn Medicine
Turnersville Auto Mall

Silver Sponsors (\$1000)

Christina Hanganu-Bresch & David Bresch
Krista and Rich Pinola
Lauren Wylonis & Joe Zebrowitz
Brandywine Realty Trust
Manning Street Capital Management
PECO

Bronze Sponsors (\$500)

Bartlett Tree Experts
Hether & Don Smith
Cohen, Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman, PC
Honey's Sit and Eat
2000delanceyplace.com

Generous Guests (\$250)

Bonnie & Jay Eisner
Donna & David Gerson

In-kind Sponsors

Moore Brothers Wine Company
Drinker's Philadelphia
Bo Concept
studio:christensen
Roosevelt's
Magner's Irish Cider
Sign A Rama
Video City Production
Betty's Speakeasy
Catering by Miles
Save Some Green
Pure
South Square Market
M.O.V.E
Brian Lauer

Silent Auction Donors

Edwin Bronstein
Bo Concept
studio:christensen

Philadelphia Runner
Bruce Hopper, Jr. MD
Patricia Barerra
Philadelphia Phillies
Marriott
All That Jazz
Derma Center
Fare Restaurant
Twenty Manning Grill
Audrey Claire
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Dane Décor
Ozzie Perez
Hello World
Arcadia Boutique
Blue Horizons Dive Center
Center City Pediatrics
Prince Sports
The Wine School
Deme
Body Cycle
Nourish Your Life
Save Some Green
The Clay Studio

FALL FESTIVAL 2011

Food, Drink, Prizes, Supplies

Dmitri's
Pepsico
South Square Market
Blick Art Materials
Gavin's Café
GreenStreet Coffee Roasters
Marathon Grill
Veg-N-Go
Lora Hemphill
Boutique Fancy Fluff
PhilaPets.com
Sarah Hicks (cupcakes)
studio:christensen
Tastebuds
thephillydog.com

Entertainment

MacGuffin Theatre & Film Co.
Martial Posture Karate School

Silent Auction Donors

All that Jazz
Biello Martin Studio
Cornerstone B&B
Dimitri's
Downtown Marriott
Eye Candy
FriSatSun
Holly Waters (Sweat swimming)
Opera Co. of Philadelphia

Philadelphia Theatre Company
Paul Davis Jones
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
Prince Tennis
Raven's Wing Studios
Rosenbach Museum
Sue Frank
Sweat

Raffle Donors

4 Sisters Nail Salon
Ants Pants
Arden Theatre
Bicycle Therapy
Blick Art Materials
Buyenlarge
Central Bark
CCRA House Tour
girl. bike. dog.
Jo Thomas (purse)
Landmark Theater (Ritz)
Metropolitan Bakery
More than Just Ice Cream
Nook Bakery
Philadelphia Zoo
Resurrection Ale House
Rittenhouse Hardware
Seafood Unlimited