

Deepdene Park: Clutter in the Skies to Vanish Soon!



Take a good look at these ugly power lines, because they're going away! As part of the renovation of Deepdene Park, these phone poles, silver boxes, transformers, and the labyrinth of wires will be removed and all utilities buried underground in the flat area where the trolley used to run. Imagine how open and free this area will look to the public once the wires and poles come down. As an added benefit, local residents will no longer have to worry about downed power lines in this area, and the resulting loss of power.

If you want to see how the finished product at Deepdene will look, take a look at any of the other park segments, where utilities have already been buried and power poles removed, resulting in a bright, airy and unclostrophobic sky scape. In addition to new black power poles on the south side of Deepdene, old fashioned street lamps will be installed on the north side of Deepdene along North Ponce de Leon..



Streetlights will be replaced with the same lighting used in the other park segments.



What is it? Only the utility companies know for sure. This massing on the south side of Deepdene is coming down.

Photo on Left

The flat space to left of the poles was formerly the location of the trolley tracks. It will be the location of a new paved walkway along main Ponce. The row of power poles extending into the distance will be taken down and utilities buried.

**Olmsted Funding Goal Reached:
The Transition to Maintenance**

By James L Waits

Having achieved its fundraising goal of \$9.5 million for rehabilitation of the Olmsted Linear Park, OLPA now turns to another challenge: raising funds for the long-term maintenance of each park segment. While the City of Atlanta and DeKalb County make annual appropriations for general upkeep, it's clear that additional funds will be needed to maintain the park at the level of quality achieved during the past decade of revitalization.

Rehabilitation of Deepdene, the last park segment to be renovated, should be completed within the next year. In the meantime, the OLPA board is considering a long-term development effort to raise annual operating funds and to build an endowment for ongoing maintenance of the park. As a result of earlier planning, \$600,000 has already been set aside to begin the endowment. It's estimated that approximately \$150,000 will be needed annually to supplement budgeted appropriations by governmental agencies. The Board will undertake several strategies to raise these funds: an annual fund or membership campaign, naming opportunities at particular sites within the park, the annual gala and auction, and use of income from the investment of funds already functioning as endowment.

At its recent meeting, the OLPA board approved plans for the inauguration of its first Annual Fund Appeal, soliciting contributions from friends of the park at various giving levels. Naming opportunities will also be offered to designate sites within the park in honor of or in memory of someone. The gala will continue to be one of the principal fundraising events for ongoing operations and maintenance, and funds presently designated for maintenance are now invested for maximum annual return.

The response of local foundations, corporations, and other friends of the park for the rehabilitation effort has been remarkable. Citizens of metropolitan Atlanta can take justifiable pride in all that has been accomplished in the conservation of this landmark Atlanta treasure. Please join OLPA as it undertakes the next step

**Olmsted Linear Park Alliance:
Now the Annual Fund**

By Sally Sears

What a job! The Olmsted Linear Park Alliance began recapturing the soul of the Olmsted legacy along Ponce de Leon in 1997. The magnificent park designed by the father of American landscape architecture was decrepit from a century of both love and neglect. Now almost ten million dollars of donations is restoring the trees, plantings, paths and cool green spaces beloved by generations of Atlantans, their families and visitors. Today the six segments lining the curbs of Ponce de Leon Avenue are returning to vibrancy again.

So, what now for OLPA? This alliance of neighbors, foundations and friends is at a critical intersection. Keeping the park refreshed means money above what the city and county can provide, and sufficient endowment funds for unforeseen developments ahead. Thus, the Annual Fund!

Commitment Continues

It's been a deeply satisfying job to see the creek in Deepdene restored, the paths realigned and the historic vistas refreshed. Neighbors and friends who've contributed time, energy, and funds to rehabilitation of the park should take considerable pride in a job well done. But, responsibility continues to maintain the park at the level of quality we all want. In addition to basic maintenance performed by the city and county, the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance will:

- maintain its hands-on commitment to the park
- Increase the number of involved neighbors and friends to give weight to its grant applications to governmental agencies and foundations
- Raise enough money each year to help maintain the park at the high level of quality everyone expects, through donations and the annual gala.

Soon, you'll receive a letter requesting your support of the OLPA Annual Fund, and we ask that you respond generously. Appropriate recognition will be given to all donors at various levels.

Please join your friends and park neighbors with an annual contribution to the preservation and maintenance of one

**OLPA Annual Fund
Giving Levels:**

- Individual \$35 & above
- Family \$50 & above
- Bronze \$100 & above
- Silver \$250 & above
- Gold \$500 & above
- Platinum \$1000 & above



*You are cordially
invited to attend the
2009 OLPA Gala
on
Sunday, February
22, 2009
At
Fernbank Museum
of Natural History
To
Raise funds to help
maintain the
Olmsted Linear
Park*

*Complete details to
follow in the winter
newsletter and by mail.*

Inside OLPA

Fall Planting

OLPA will begin an extensive replacement planting of trees, shrubs and other plants within the five completed park segments during the next few weeks. The contract for the fall planting has been let to Valley Crest and includes 49 trees, 368 shrubs, and 422 other plants. These plantings replace those lost over the last few years due primarily to the drought.

The larger trees are being replaced on a two or three to one basis. The \$30,000 cost is being covered by \$25,000 from OLPA and \$5,000 in matching funds from Park Pride.

OLPA Moves into New Office

OLPA has moved from City Hall East to the McClatchey House located at 1788 Ponce de Leon Avenue, N.E. on the grounds of Fernbank Museum of Natural History.

The mailing address will remain the same at Post Office Box 5500, Atlanta, GA 31107. The telephone number will be (404) 377-5361 with fax number (404) 377-5362. The e-mail address will change to:
OLPA.at@att.com

OLPA to Install New Signs

OLPA will soon be replacing the large green park rules signs in parks in Atlanta with understated signage similar to the signs that were installed during the early construction phase. In addition, the damaged signs are being repaired. The replacement effort was lead by Alida Silverman. The new signs will be much more historically appropriate for the park and will reference updated park ordinances.

Thanks to The Paideia School

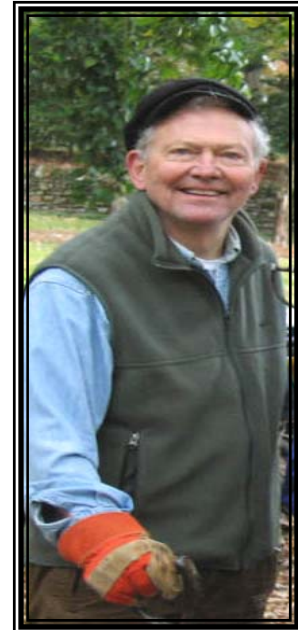
OLPA will be installing a centrally located storage shed on the grounds of The Paideia School. This will allow OLPA administrator George Ickes to store his equipment, hoses and chemicals in a convenient and safe place, rather than in his car and basement! George's wife, Nancy, is profoundly supportive of this plan!!

In Memory of Dr. Roland H. Ingram, Jr. 1935-2008

The OLPA Board lost a faithful and hard-working friend when Roland Ingram died in July, 2008. Roland brought his love for the park and his keen intellect to the board meetings, and he also performed hands-on volunteer work in the parks nearest his home.

Roland was a physician, teacher, researcher and mentor to many in the medical community in the U.S. Most recently, Roland served Crawford W. Long Hospital and Emory University Hospital and Medical School. He was a researcher and prolific writer in medical journals. Roland both instructed and inspired the classes of medical students he taught, who will carry his legacy and research in pulmonary medicine into the future. Roland's loss to the medical and scientific community is huge.

Roland's loss to Olmsted Linear Park Alliance is equally huge. Those who had the privilege of serving with Roland on the OLPA Board will recall his quick wit and amazing intellect, his cheerful smile, his encouragement, his strolls to pick up trash, and the jaunty hat he often wore when working in the park. He leaves behind a record of exemplary service to the neighborhood and to the Olmsted Linear Park. We miss him profoundly and extend our utmost sympathy to his wife Marguerite and to his family.



Roland Ingram, M.D. performing volunteer work in Dellwood Park

Gifts Given to OLPA in Memory of Dr. Ronald H. Ingram, Jr

Richard and Sally Sears Belcher
Brian Bowen
Druid Hills Golf Club Board of Directors
Doug and Jari Grimm
Sally and Norman Harbaugh
Ellen and Warren Heemann
George and Nancy Ickes
Susan K. Johnson
Pat Kelly
Larry R. Kirkland, M.D.
Mr. and Mrs. Patton H. McGinley
John and Clara O' Shea
Jennifer J. Richardson
Cynthia Runyon
Gloria Seymour
Tally Sweet
Cristina De La Torre and Erdmann Waniek
Martha Wright
Mary and Jim Van Buren
Fentress and Jim Waits



OLPA

Olmsted Linear Park Alliance

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Brian Bowen, *Vice President*
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CASH GIFTS FROM 3-15 TO 9-10-2008:

\$10,000 and Above

John and Mary Franklin
Foundation

Georgia Power Foundation

\$5000 to \$9999

Steven DeFrancis

Billy and Carolyn Hall

**In grateful appreciation for all
people who actively fought
"The Road"**

Honor Cobbs

\$100 to \$499

Barbash Family Fund

Elizabeth Boyd

Scott and Becky Bracewell

Hamish Caldwell and

Daila Judovitz

Judith Clairmont

Kate Dannenberg

Francine Dykes and

Richard Delay

Preston and Linda Herren

Julia Kyle

Elizabeth Lyon

Donald and Helen O'Shea

Dr. Martin and Holly York

**In Honor of Frank and Betty
Asbury, Patrick and Kristina
Bowen, Honor Cobbs and Connie
and Robert Kerr**

HammerSmith

In Memory of

Dr. Byron J. Hoffman

Freda Hoffman

In Memory of

Betty M. Minor

Mary Ann Hite

Gail Johnson

Alida and Stuart Silverman

In Memory of

Eli Shaheen

Leslie and Judith Klemperer

\$99 and below

Elise Burbank

Robert and Jean Gerwig

Tom and Alex Pearson

Susan Prutzman

Mark and Jill Rosenberg

William Wagner

In Memory of

Betty M. Minor

Kitty Goodchild

Henry and Joan Parmer

Mrs. J. Carlton Smith

Jane B. Smith & Family

In Honor of the Birthday of

Dr. Allan T. Williams

Jennifer J. Richardson

In Honor of the College

Graduation of

Zachary Allan Williams

Jennifer J. Richardson



SAVE THE DATE!!!!
2009 OLPA GALA
Sunday, February 22
Kevin Steward,
Gala Chair



Kirk Elifson, a board member and volunteer, helped sustain the park through this summer's drought by watering and mulching.



Tally Sweat (left) and Geoge Ickes (right) go over sites for proposed naming opportunities with Spencer Tunnell (center) in Deepdene Park. Mr. Tunnell is the landscape architect consultant to OLPA. Naming opportunity options will be announced soon.