

Peter Arnstein, President
Jennifer Beeler, Vice President
Brad Adams, Treasurer
Betsie Sassen, Secretary
Jacob Armstrong
Susan Ehrhard
Jim Johnstone
Ron Salski
Rob Douglass (non-voting)



February 2015
Lake Bluff, Illinois

Dear Fellow Lake Bluff Residents:

On behalf of my fellow trustees, we are pleased to offer you the 2014 Annual Report from the Friends of Lake Bluff Parks ("Friends"). The report plus additional supporting information can be found online at www.friendsoflbparks.org.

Highlights from 2014:

- As of year end December 31, 2014, the balance in the Friends Unrestricted Fund was \$34,579, an increase of \$15,649 from \$18,930 at December 31, 2013. The largest components contributing to the increase in funds were net proceeds from the Block Party and the Luau! and individual unrestricted donations. Consolidated funds at year end 2014 totaled \$90,902, including \$43,418 in the Paddle & Tennis Fund and a total of \$12,905 in other restricted funds designated for programs and assets such as the Golf Course and the Health and Fitness Center.
- The current balance of over \$34,500 in the Unrestricted Fund is over two-thirds of the way to achieving a goal of \$50,000 that the Friends expect to contribute to the Park District's cost of updating restrooms and stairs at Sunrise Beach. The Friends expect to reach the \$50,000 by year end 2015 based on estimates of total net proceeds from fundraising activities planned for the year.
- For the second year, the Friends sponsored, underwrote and co-produced the 2014 Lake Bluff Block Party held in July in conjunction with the Northwestern Medicine Criterium bicycle races. The Friends netted over \$10,000. Revenue was generated from corporate sponsorships, an Adirondack chair silent auction, a bike raffle and beverage sales. An estimated 3,000 people enjoyed the bike races, live stage performances from five local bands, food and beverages from several area restaurants and other activities.

- The Friends produced and hosted the Luau! at Sunrise Beach in mid-September. Guests dined on roast pig and danced to the live music of local band See Alice. The event generated net proceeds of over \$4,000 from ticket sales and a duck race raffle.
- In April management of the Noodles & Co. opening on Waukegan Road and Rockland Road chose the Friends as the exclusive not-for-profit distributor of opening evening discount meal coupons. Coupon sales proceeds of over \$1,500 were realized by the Friends.
- The passage of the \$3.1 million bond referendum in November and the awarding this past January of a \$400,000 Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant from the State of Illinois for the Park District's repair of the aquatic facilities were very welcome news for the Friends trustees. Though direct measurement isn't possible, we hope that producing activities such as the Block Party and the Luau! help increase community awareness of Park District programs and assets well deserving of community support.
- The Friends wish to give many thanks to four trustees who ended their terms in 2014. Jack Sheppard was an original trustee, serving since the founding of the Friends in 2005. Jim Salanty joined the Friends board in 2008. Alan Sidman made valuable contributions to financial policies and procedures as treasurer. Doug Warren took the lead in developing the web site and executing direct mailing campaigns as part of the branding and marketing effort. Thank you for your service Jack, Jim, Alan and Doug.
- The Friends welcomed new trustees Jacob Armstrong and Brad Adams, who joined in early 2014, and Betsie Sassen, who joined near year end. Brad has stepped in as treasurer and Betsie will serve as secretary in 2015. We look forward to their contributions to fundraising and energetic support for the Park District's programs and assets.
- The Friends trustees continued to work effectively with Park District staff and the Park District commissioners. Park District Executive Director Ron Salski and Park District Board Commissioner Susan Ehrhard serve as voting members of the Friends board. We couldn't have produced the Block Party and the Luau! without the energy and enthusiasm of the full Park District staff.

Looking forward:

- The Friends again will be sponsoring and co-producing the 2015 Lake Bluff Criterium and Block Party on Saturday, July 25th.
- A Luau! dinner party and dance – bigger and better - is planned for Saturday, September 12th.

- We expect to launch a targeted direct solicitation campaign in the early spring in which donors will be invited to “own a piece of the action” in the refurbished stairs at Sunrise Beach.
- We will continue to refine the Friends marketing and brand awareness activities. Some efforts have worked out well; some not so much. Our overarching objective is to help create a foundation to serve as an effective fundraising vehicle with long term sustainability.
- The Friends continue to cultivate community members interested in supporting Lake Bluff Park District by serving as trustee or as non-trustee leaders. The Friends website “About Us” tab has a link to further information and an application form. Or please contact one of the trustees or a Park District staff member.

Thank Yous

There are many people to thank for their efforts over the course of the year in 2014. First and foremost are the many donors including individuals, organizations and companies who contributed generously to the Friends to benefit the Lake Bluff Park District. The attached donor list includes sponsors and participants in the Block Party. We are working to improve accuracy in record keeping and reporting. Please let us know if you made a donation and were not listed. We apologize for any omissions.

Also many thanks to the following for their contributions of time, energy, creativity and overall support for the Block Party, the Luau and the Friends other activities over the course of the year:

Park District Staff

Deb Dintruff	Village of Lake Bluff	Christie Carey	Jim Lakeman
Honor Beeler	Lake Bluff Public Works	Sarah Bagley	Noah Mach
Katie Begley	Lake Bluff Police Dept.	Maria Ferretti	Rich Rothmann
Paul Blahunka	Lake Bluff Fire Dept.	Rob Foster	Ron Salski
Nick Cvijovic	Lake County Sheriff's Dept.	Ed Heiser	Jeff Spillman
		Micah Kamin	Tami Zylka

Thanks also to:

Phil Gayter of Brandstorm for providing marketing and creative design services; and
Nicki Snoblin of NextWord Communications for providing website design and support services.

Sincerely,



Peter Arnstein

President, Friends of Lake Bluff Parks

2014 DONORS TO LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT THROUGH FRIENDS OF LAKE BLUFF PARKS*

Individuals and Families

Adams, Brad & Sherry	Garrett, Bonnie	Pereira, Barbara
Andersen, David & Mary	Gruenes, Gordon	Pezza, Paul
Ankenman, Barbara	Grumhaus, Diane & Peter	Pickell, Randy
Austin, Jack	Hale Family	Pither, Rick & Stephanie
Bell-Weber, Linda	Hand, Ann	Potter, Charles
Bianchini, C. Joseph	Harkins, Randall	Reich, Nancy
Bisulca, Steven M.	Harris, Laura	Reid, Bruce
Blanda, James	Henderson, Philip & Suzanne	Reidy, Dan
Blume, Hollis	Hickey, Denise	Robinson, Mary & Daniel
Bromstedt, Lynn	Holliday, Bob	Rowland, Charles & Sarah
Burns, Edith	Holman, Tuck	Royer, Greg
Burns, Kevin	Hoobler, Amy & Ricky	Sievert, H. William
Carney, Kristin	Hotchkiss III, Eugene	Smith, Susan
Chan, Greg	Jacobson, Jim & Karen	Soares, Chris
Clark, Mitch	Janeck, Terri	Specketer, Rodd
Coughlin, Beth	Johnstone, Jim & Anne	Staunton, Elizabeth
Coutts Family	Jones, Brent & Molly	Stoll, Ralph & Sally
Cunningham Beeler, Jennifer	Keeper, Beth	Sullivan, Emily
Curren, Patricia	Kozel, David	Surber, Jennifer
Daddono, Kamy	Kucera, Richard	Surkamer, Rick & Judy
Daly, Mary & Rob	Lambropoulos, Patty & George	Tomek, Jonathan
Davitt, Peggy	Lange, Jack & Robin	Troyer, Robert & Mary Lou
Dennis, S.L.	Lemieux, Paul	Uhlig, William
Duman, Bonnie	Lesser, Rick & Terry	Vegh, Sara
Eliot, Lise	Levin, David & Veda	Ventling, Mike & Kelli
Elmer, Peter	Mahoney, Mary Ann	Von Borcke, Susanne
Engelhard, Paul & Candice	McMurray, Michael & Jenny	Waite, Blair
Fawcett, Donald	Meyers, Robert & Jean	Wallace, Bob
Feeney, Kenn	Moorman, James & Amy	Wallace, Diane
Fegan, Tal	Morris, Tim & Susan	Wang, David
Fiore, Barbara	Murphy, Sean	Weber, Richard
Forlow, David & Molly	Newman, Kris	Wickman, Julie
Foss, Lynette	Palmer, Marti	Wood, Roycealee
Frederick, C.H.	Pasquesi, Sarah	Wright, Carolyn
Frost, Bill	Paulson, Tom	Ziejewski, Ken
Gage, Margaret & Calvin	Pedersen, Martha	

*Direct contributors. Does not include Luau! ticket purchasers, Block Party silent auction and raffle ticket purchasers.

Companies, Organizations and Groups

Activator Cycles

Alan Graham & Associates

Colmar Productions

DeYoung Advisors

Direct Fitness Solutions

FGM Architects

Great Lakes Kayak

Hill & Stone Insurance Agency

Isabella JPS, Inc.

J & S Food, Inc.

Kinnucan

Knollwood Neighbors

Lake Bluff Brewing Co.

Lake Bluff Garden Club

Lake Forest Country Day School

Lake Forest TV

Lindemann Chimney Co.

Mariani Enterprises

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

Noodles & Co.

North Shore Distillery

Sean Burke Law

Pasquesi Home & Garden

Tavros 43, Inc. DBA Grille 43

Uline, Inc.

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