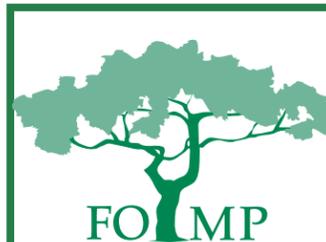




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FRIENDS OF MITCHELL PARK

Fall/Winter 2015

Friends of Mitchell Park

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332-2952
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Elegant Evening to Celebrate Mitchell Park

Around 100 friends of Mitchell Park gathered at the elegant home of Marie Drissel and Dr. Curtis Bristol on Bancroft Place NW on November 5. It was truly an enchanted evening and an opportunity to toast the park and all the neighbors who work to keep it as the beautiful heart of Sheridan-Kalorama. The Drissel-Bristol home and our park are among the great treasures of the neighborhood—and, indeed, the City of Washington.

Marie and Curtis, long-time supporters of Mitchell Park, generously opened their home for our annual celebration. A fine Georgian Revival house, the house was designed by Clarke Waggaman and was first occupied in 1919. It has a piano nobile façade, 12 foot ceilings, a secret room, a Baccarat chandelier, and an elegant mix of 18th and 19th Century European design. It is a home with an interesting history that was renovated with loving care by Marie and Curtis – only the fourth owners -- over many years. Their efforts included hand-gilding much of the molding, and rescuing the antique Georgia pine board room

from the old YMCA at 17th and K Streets, NW when it was being demolished.



FOMP President Pierre Wagner led the brief ceremony along with D.C. Councilmember Jack Evans and legendary Washington journalist Tom Sherwood. The highlight was the presentation of

the winning entries for the second annual Mitchell Park photography contest organized by Melinda Bieber.



Thus, it was fitting to celebrate Mitchell Park at their home as both reflect the determination, love, and hard work to restore important treasures and make them true landmarks.

Website

Please check our newly designed and updated website:
www.mitchellparkdc.org

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to Friends of Mitchell Park of:

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Holly Sukenik, Vice President
2401 Tracy Place, NW
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202-332-2952

December 2015



Notes from the President:

The end of summer, hot and dry, was very tough on the park. The sprinkler system did not work to full capacity and our plants suffered dearly. But then, neighbors showed up and volunteered to water.

We organized evening presentations of movies on the field, which were very well attended, but alas, some were rained out as was the promising musical afternoon where the Catholic University's Department of Music was to present extracts from the musical 'A Happy Fella'.

The herb garden got itself a new gardener and shows promise for the new season, Casey Trees is to replace the dead trees by year's end.

More events were organized, including our park's regular Fun Day with games and food, and Marie Drissel and Curtis Bristol hosted our reception/fund raiser in their exceptional home.

Photo Contest



This year's Annual Mitchell Park Photo Contest was a big success with contestants from New York City to Serbia not to mention our own homegrown Sheridan-Kalorama

neighbors. Winning photographs were, announced, awarded and displayed at the Mitchell Park Benefit on November 5th. Special guest, Tom Sherwood was our award spokesman.

There were 4 winners this year: The Grand Prize Winner

Herb Garden

At the end of the summer the herb garden found a new caretaker, Amy who moved here from Massachusetts. The garden has become immaculate. She has taken care of every plant and removed every single weed. The herb garden and all the neighborhood thank you, Amy.

These herbs are at the disposal of the neighborhood families. But please bring scissors and cut carefully what you like – with moderation of course !

As you can imagine all these happenings need work and care and are the result of a continuous effort and permanent support of our exceptional neighborhood.



We do not take our city park for granted, we are all in there, and work on it, to make Mitchell Park the vibrant, most planted and beautiful neighborhood park in DC. Mitchell Park has become a community enterprise for all to enjoy. Thank you !

Esther Piaskowski; The Mitchell Park Category Winner Evelina Mechova; The Sheridan-Kalorama Neighborhood Category Winner Monica Schneider; and the Photo Essay Winner Maria Bellotti. All the winning photographs can be seen on our website www.mitchellparkdc.org. We will be launching the 2016 contest in January, so look for the announcement on our website.



A special BIG thanks goes to our sponsors who contributed the prizes for the contest!!! The Fairfax Hotel, Eno wine Bar, Restaurant Nora, George at the Four Seasons Salon & Tabletop.

Free Little Library

When you take a stroll through the park don't forget to go by our Free Little Library in the Rose Circle.

If you have read a good book please drop it off and share your good read. And feel free to take someone else's good read to try.



Films in the Field

Films in the Field this year experimented with classic movies as opposed to popular children's films and a full house, or rather a full field each time suggests that is the direction we should continue to go. We scheduled four films, one each in June, July, August, September and one was rained out twice. Our films were: "Star Wars: A New Hope", "Roman Holiday", "The Graduate" (rained out twice), and "Some Like It Hot." Paul Pike at Sotheby's International Realty covered all our expenses and dispensed delicious snow cones and candy before each film.

Fall Fun Day 2015

Once again we had beautiful weather and a large neighborhood turnout to enjoy our Mitchell Park Fall Fun Day. The various activities and volunteers that helped make it a success were: Music to set the festive mood, managed by Cathy Williams. Barbara Meyers who sold all her magnificent cakes and cupcakes. Neighborhood ladies baked cookies and brownies which they delivered to the Bake Table, presided over by Joyce O'Brien. Cathy Massey dispensed lemonade. Jeanett Yonemoto, assisted by Alexa Addison and Karen Christie, presided at the Pumpkin-Decorating Table and the Candy Jewelry Table which were crowded with little decorators. Lucy Conboy, Alison Adkins and Ansley Adkins had a constant line of smiling faces waiting to be beautifully decorated



at the Face Painting Table. At the French Braiding Table, Ellen Kelley and her daughter Moira Kelley Gipe delighted young and older girls with their skills. The popular popcorn machine was manned by Riley Temple and Harley Duncan. Jim Bell, who sponsors Mitchell Park Fun Day every year, cheerfully ran the hot dog grill and covered all the expenses owed to Talk of the Town which set up the tables, the popcorn machine, the Moon Bounces, and provided the lady clown and the very popular balloon-animal-making man, who delighted the children with his verbal patter as well as his ingenious animal designs. Representatives from our neighborhood organizations manned tables to discuss their activities with interested neighbors. Thank you to all who helped and attended!

Report from the Maintenance Committee

Maintenance of Mitchell Park is really a tale of two cities. One is neighbors. As you will read elsewhere, the herb garden is in good shape, in part because some new helpers have stepped forward to volunteer their work and expertise to put the herbs to bed for the winter.

The other is the city bureaucracy. We have a good relationship with Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Urban Forestry, Consumer Services and private organizations like Casey Trees. With them, we are working on replacing dead and dying trees in various locations

in the park. It takes time. We wish we had pictures to accompany this, but the earliest we expect work on the trees is mid-December.

Finally, there are the contractors we hire to care for the shrubs and trees and to continue pruning, weeding and tending, their work supplemented by our volunteers. As always, we ask you to pick up any trash and urge others to do so, respect the greenery and clean up after your dog.