

# Friends of Schuylkill River Park



## Fall 2010

[www.fsrp.org](http://www.fsrp.org)

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### Announcements

**September 2010:** Markward Field Renovation Begins

**September 25th:** Kids clay handbuilding classes begins at Markward

**October 2nd:** Kids painting classes begin at Markward

**October 16th:** 2010 FSRP Fall Festival

### FSRP Board of Directors

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## 2010 Fall Festival

Nothing says autumn in Philly like the FSRP Fall Festival! Please join us on Saturday, October 16 from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. as we celebrate Schuylkill River Park with food and music...fun for kids *and* pets... an eclectic mix of vendors, demonstrations, a fabulous silent auction, and enticing raffle prizes!

Meet your neighbors, shop for unique crafts and gifts, take in the crisp autumn air, and feast on hot dogs, hamburgers, popcorn, cotton candy, veggie fare, and satisfy your sweet tooth at the ever-popular bake sale.

The crowd-pleasin' Signature DJs, who made their FSRP Festival debut last year, will return for an encore. They promise to energize kids and grownups alike, with dancing and contests to the latest pop hits.

The day is chock-full of kid activities... petting zoo (new this year!), arts & crafts, super moon bounce, face painting, games, fingerprinting by a Philadelphia police officer, and more! Kids can even climb aboard a real Philadelphia fire engine.

See students of Martial Posture Karate, one of the area's oldest martial arts schools, as they honor centuries old traditions. Watch a performance by stu-

dents of MacGuffin Theatre & Film Company, a Philadelphia-based arts education program for ages 3 to 18.

And be sure to enter the Raffle and bid in the Silent Auction. Many more to come no doubt, but these items are committed at press time:

*Gift certificates to: Cornerstone B&B, Eye Candy, Rittenhouse Women's Wellness Center, Marriott, Scoop Deville. Tickets for: Opera Company of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Landmark Theater, Philadelphia Zoo. Items from: Bo Concept, Bicycle Therapy, Opportunity Barks, Prince Tennis.*

The FSRP Fall Festival has become a neighborhood tradition. Bring family and friends and see why! Enter the festival at Pine and Taney Streets just west of 26th Street. Free admission. Rain date is Sunday, October 17.

Interested in donating a raffle or silent auction item, being a vendor, or volunteering for the 2010 festival? Please email us at [fsrporg@gmail.com](mailto:fsrporg@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.fsrp.org](http://www.fsrp.org).

## Markward Field Renovation Begins

The Friends of Schuylkill River Park led renovation of Markward Field begins in September 2010. The field will be closed from this time until April 2011. Please help us ensure the success of this expensive project by staying off the field and helping to keep others (and their dogs and children) off the field until the grand opening in April. Patience during this period will lead to a better final product.



*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.*

## Operation “Leash ‘Em Up” Progress Update

Since the Winter 2009 newsletter when the Friends of Schuylkill River Park introduced ‘Operation “Leash ‘em Up”, the number of dogs running loose in Schuylkill River Park (SRP), and specifically in the bowl area, has diminished greatly much to the happiness of most park users. FSRP would like to thank everyone for helping to share our limited public space among different constituents who utilize the park in a variety of ways.

Unfortunately, there seems to be someone or some people who are not very happy with the “Leash ‘em Up” project at Schuylkill River Park and the City of Philadelphia laws on which the project is based. Our “Leash ‘em Up” lawn sign have been

consistently stolen or torn down even after increased permanency of installation (e.g., cable tying the signs to the fence and epoxying and clamping the signs to light posts). Fortunately, the “Leash ‘em Up” lawn signs are in place on the dog run fence to remind us all of the importance of the agenda.

FSRP encourages everyone to report off-leash dogs to the park rangers at 215-685-0144 and to report vandalism of park property, including “Leash ‘em Up” signs to the police at 911.

(You can read the whole Operation “Leash ‘em Up” article online at [www.fsrp.org](http://www.fsrp.org) under news/newsletter.)

## Dog Run Orientation

Fall begins the dog run’s busy season. People are back from vacation and students are returning to the city. Both increase the volume of dog activity at all hours of the day in the dog run. Here are some things to think about when using the dog run:

- Bring dogs that have never been to the run at non-peak times (ie. morning, day time or late evening). The peak-time is between 3-7pm on weekdays and 9-11am on weekends.
- The entrance and the corral can be a high anxiety and stress area even for the most seasoned dogs. Keep the entrance way clear for incoming dogs by moving your dogs away from the entrance and by not hovering around the entrance area. Owners move away from the entrance area as well. If you are not hanging out by the entrance then most likely your dog will not be either.
- Remove the leash from your dog before entering the run. If there are dogs in the entrance way, your dog will not feel limited by the leash and will be able to maneuver freely. If dogs are hovering around the entrance, don’t stop with your dog, but keep walking past the entrance into a less congested part of the dog run.
- If for whatever reason your dog is not at ease in the run, bring him/her back another time. Keep in mind that poorly behaving dogs are often motivated by fear and all dogs handle fear a bit differently. Help your dog become comfortable with the surroundings by leaving and coming back later. We, the owners, are ultimately responsible for our dogs’ behavior.

## McLean Contributionship Grant & Playground Garden

Thanks to a generous grant from the McLean Contributionship in the amount of \$7,000, the Friends of Schuylkill River Park will be upgrading the playground gardens in fall 2010 and spring 2011 to include a low

iron fence (already completed) and improved plantings and irrigation capabilities. We will also install educational signage to outline the plant material present for children and their parents.

## BoConcept Arts Program Begins with Clay Handbuilding in Fall 2010

**Saturdays  
10:30 - 12:30 pm  
Markward Playground**

**Children ages 8 years and older (max. 12). 7 sessions beginning 9/25 and ending 11/13 (excluding 10/2 and 10/16).**

The Clay Class will focus on a variety of fun, fall-inspired projects using the basic hand building techniques of pinching, coiling and slab building to make functional and decorative items. The projects will include platters, bowls, vases, mobiles, and so on inspired by autumn motifs and holidays. At the end of the session, students will be invited to participate at a reception where selected work will be on display at a gallery in Center City.

To sign up contact the Friends of Schuylkill River Park at [fsrporg@gmail.com](mailto:fsrporg@gmail.com) or the Markward Recreation Center, 215-685-6649. There is a small registration fee.

## BoConcept Arts Program Begins with Painting in Fall 2010

Saturdays  
1:00 - 2:30 pm  
Markward Playground

Children 1st through 4th grade (max. 12). 7 sessions, Oct 2, 9, 23, 30; Nov 6, 13, 20

Faculty from the Fairmount Art Center will be coming to the Markward Recreation Center to lead a fantastic Art extravaganza. While exploring artists including but not limited to Georgia O'Keefe and Andy Goldsworthy, students will develop their techniques in painting, drawing, printmaking, and collage all while exploring the natural world around us.

To sign up contact the Friends of Schuylkill River Park at [fsrorg@gmail.com](mailto:fsrorg@gmail.com) or the Markward Recreation Center, 215-685-6649. There is a small registration fee.



## CDC Grant Project Begins

The Community Design Collaborative (CDC) funded the Markward Courtyard design process by providing the Friends of Schuylkill River Park with a team of design professionals to help envision physical improvements to the area around the Markward Recreation Center. Specifically FSRP is looking to repair, refurbish, and enhance three specific locations: the sidewalk and seating area out at the street in front of the Markward Recreation Building, the steps/ramp and portico that lead to the playground, and finally the water sculpture plaza and seating area near the tennis courts.

Collectively they act as a significant gateway into the park and can be imagined as the front stoop, doorway, and front parlor to our very urban park. And though some parts are well loved, others are in dire need of repair, and some may not be used as well as they could be. We asked for the CDC's help in envisioning the best way to improve this entrance. Our only real criteria were to imagine the "green" sustainable potential (it is after all a "park"), to challenge us to get the highest

and best use from all the areas, and to listen to all the stakeholders.

The first meeting was a great success. Attended by a host of stakeholders: neighbors, park users, parents, board members, political representatives who have long supported the park, the important Recreation Center employees who work everyday in the building, and finally the representatives from a variety of City offices who have an interest in the Park. It was a lively discussion as the Design Professionals led the group on a wide ranging conversation on what everyone could envision for these parts of the park. Topics ranged from green roofs and storm water gardens that could be teaching tools as well as collection points for rain water management to more mundane but no less important issues like adequate night lighting, and keeping people from climbing onto the roof of the building. We hope the Design Professionals listened well and were sufficiently inspired to create design solutions. Next step is another meeting where we see what they designed. We will keep you posted!

## Status of Pedestrian Bridge

As a reminder to all, this is the Bridge that will cross the CSX railroad tracks connecting Schuylkill Banks directly to Schuylkill River Park. The latest schedule from the SRDC is for the project to be advertised for bids in November. The bids will be opened in December. Contracts will be prepared in the next two months with **construction starting in February 2011**. The dog run will thus remain open until

February 2011. We still expect SRDC will make a public presentation to the neighborhood sometime prior to the start of construction. Construction is expected to take a little over a year but now that length may be challenged by building through two winters so conservatively the bridge would be targeted for opening sometime in the Spring of 2012.



### 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. Support from CCRA allows us to also grind stumps for free. For more information and to download an application, visit:

[www.fsrp.org/treetenders](http://www.fsrp.org/treetenders)

# We Appreciate Our Supporters

## **CAPITAL INVESTMENTS**

Senator Larry Farnese  
Representative Babette Josephs  
Krista and Rich Pinola  
CSX Railroad  
McLean Contributionship

## **EAT, DRINK, & BE GREEN 2010**

### **Diamond Sponsors (\$2000+)**



### **Platinum Sponsors (\$1000 to \$1999)**

GPS Investment Group, LLC  
Krista and Rich Pinola  
Lauren Wylonis  
Brandywine Realty Trust  
PECO

### **Gold Sponsors (\$500 to \$999)**

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Penn Medicine at The Tuttleman Center  
Bartlett Tree Experts  
Jay and Bonnie Eisner  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
David Bresch, MD and  
Christina Hanganu-Bresch

### **Good Neighbors (\$100 to \$499)**

SideCar Bar and Grille  
Becca Lewis & Benji Friedlaender with Caroline, Isabelle, Theodore, & Jack  
JtChristensen.com  
Amanda Whittenberger & Sudz Kar  
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Fitness Works Personal Training  
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Opportunity Barks Behavior and Training  
Susan Halpern, Esquire  
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CDA&I Architecture and Interiors, Ltd.  
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HNTB  
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Maureen and John Eagan

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Drinker's Philadelphia  
New Leaf Tea  
Susan Halpern and Ted Millstein  
South Square Market

### **Silent Auction Donors**

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Philadelphia Marriott Downtown  
Blue Horizons Dive Center  
Dale Levy  
Four Seasons  
Prince Sports  
Philadelphia Chamber Music Society  
Pub and Kitchen  
More than Just Ice Cream  
Salento  
Healthy Bites

### **FALL FESTIVAL 2009**

#### **Event, Entertainment, & Public Service**

Center City Residents' Association (CCRA)  
Dmitri's  
Dominic Dallago (Ask-The-Vet)  
Dorothy Kogan  
Helen Whatnell  
John Lane of The Weekly Press  
Kevin Francis Polarity Sound  
Lora Hemphill  
Maureen Chambley (Dog Behaviorist)  
Moore Brothers  
Opportunity Barks  
Paul's Paper Goods  
Philadelphia Firefighters  
Philadelphia Police  
PSPCA  
Rebecca Shandler (raffle)  
Schuylkill River Park Alliance (SRPA)  
South Square Market  
The New Andrews Sisters Revue

The Philadelphia School  
Volt Sports Energy Drink

### **Silent Auction Donors**

Blick Art  
BoConcept  
Bulb  
Cornerstone B&B  
Ed Bronstein  
Eye Candy  
Helen Whatnell  
Lauren Dawson Photography  
Marianne Conheim  
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Opera Company of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia Theatre Company  
Phoenix Salon & Spa  
Prince  
Rittenhouse Women's Wellness  
Sweat  
Woven Treasures

### **Raffle Donors**

1812 Productions  
4 Sisters Nail Salon  
Ants Pants  
Arden Theatre  
Baby Loves Disco  
Betty's Speakeasy  
Bicycle Therapy  
Blick Art  
Buyenlarge  
CCRA House Tour  
Deluxe Hair Salon  
Eastern State Penitentiary  
Fido's World in Philly  
Girl/bike/dog  
Landmark Theater (Ritz)  
Melograno  
Metropolitan Bakery  
Penn Center Bookstore  
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS)  
PhilaPets.com  
Please Touch Museum  
Pooches Choice  
Pure  
Rittenhouse Hardware  
Rittenhouse Pet Supply  
Schuylkill River Development Corporation  
Seafood Unlimited  
Sidecar  
Sue Frank  
Sweeties Pie Diner  
terra Restaurant  
Trader Joe's  
Whole Foods