



L A K E
P A R K
F R I E N D S

Like a Fox Coming Out of Its Hole

A Letter from the President, Jan Uebelherr

Dear Friends of Lake Park,

Looking back, what was your year like? For us, it felt a little like we were a fox coming out of its hole. We gingerly poked a nose out and got back to normal – or something like it – in 2021.

Our Musical Mondays and Wonderful Wednesdays concerts were back at the Summer Stage. Presenters **Jeff Bentoff** and **Meg Ho** moved quickly after the County gave us the green light.

Our big annual fundraiser, **Cirque du Lake Park**, held as a virtual event in 2020, was back live and in-person under the big top outside Lake Park Bistro – with **Maria Bartolotta** and her crew from Lake Park Bistro hitting it out of the park (haha) with a sumptuous buffet, passed hors d'oeuvres and bubbly.

So we got a little back to normal, and we also got to work.

We worked with Milwaukee County Parks and funded the planting of trees to replace the scores lost to the emerald ash borer and felled by storms. We spent a record amount on that effort.

We worked with Parks again on the North Bluff Trail leading from Lincoln Memorial Drive, repaving it and installing new rails – the rail materials and work donated by **Mike Grinker** of Sid Grinker Restoration.

We finally got an ice rink liner – and a place to store it, thanks to **Tom Brittain** of Eagle Moving and Storage. With the help of **Bill Haury** and a crew known as “the Fellowship of the Rink,” that rink went up and has been maintained through the winter.

And we finally saw action on the Ravine Road Footbridge restoration. That work is ongoing.

And we planned.

This year, we celebrate the 200th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted, the storied landscape architect who designed Lake Park. The planning for that was in the works in 2021, under the leadership of **Anne Hamilton** and the LPF History Committee.

We will continue to work with Milwaukee County Parks folks to plant more trees to replace the growing losses.

It was quite a year. As always, the North Star on our journey remains preservation of this historic park.

After a year of fresh challenges and opportunities, the words attributed to legendary Packers coach Vince Lombardi come to mind:

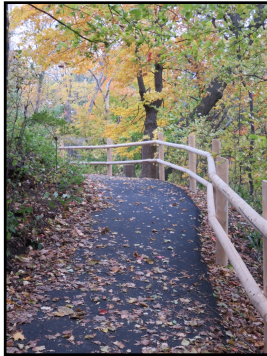
“It is time for us all to stand and cheer for the doer, the achiever – the one who recognizes the challenges and does something about it.”

I stand and cheer for the legions of doers – the **Wednesday Workers**, the dedicated and well-chilled **Fellowship of the Rink volunteers**, Grinker and Brittain and everyone who has lent a hand.

On behalf of Lake Park Friends, thank you for your continued support of this lovely old park that we all love.

-- Jan

Year in Review - Highlights



BLUFF TRAIL RESTORED - This deteriorated trail was refurbished with new posts, rails and asphalt paving. Sid Grinker Restoration contributed all time and materials.



RINK LINER- LPF purchased a 60' x 110' skating rink liner and boards. Volunteers worked, in cooperation with Milwaukee County Parks staff, to assemble and maintain the rink.



TREE PLANTING - Fifty-one trees, at a cost of \$27,000 - the most ever planted at one time - were installed throughout the park.



SUMMER CONCERTS - After a one-year hiatus caused by the pandemic, Musical Mondays and Wonderful Wednesdays returned and were a welcome diversion.



FLOWERBEDS - For 10 years, flowers at the Newberry Boulevard entrance have been a striking focal point and have welcomed visitors to Lake Park.



IN-PERSON CIRQUE - In a return to normalcy, Cirque was held in person at Lake Park Bistro and raised \$57,000.

Year in Review - Highlights



MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT - As work began at the Ravine Road Concrete Footbridge, LPF executed a \$300,000, 50-plus-year bridge maintenance agreement with Milwaukee County Parks.



VOLUNTEERS - Dedicated volunteers met weekly and put in more than 1,000 hours to improve trails and natural areas.



FUNDED INTERN - \$4,000 was spent to fund a Milwaukee County intern to battle invasive species in Lake Park.



BRANDED APPAREL - Proceeds of apparel sales helped to support our efforts and allowed neighbors to show their Lake Park Friends spirit.



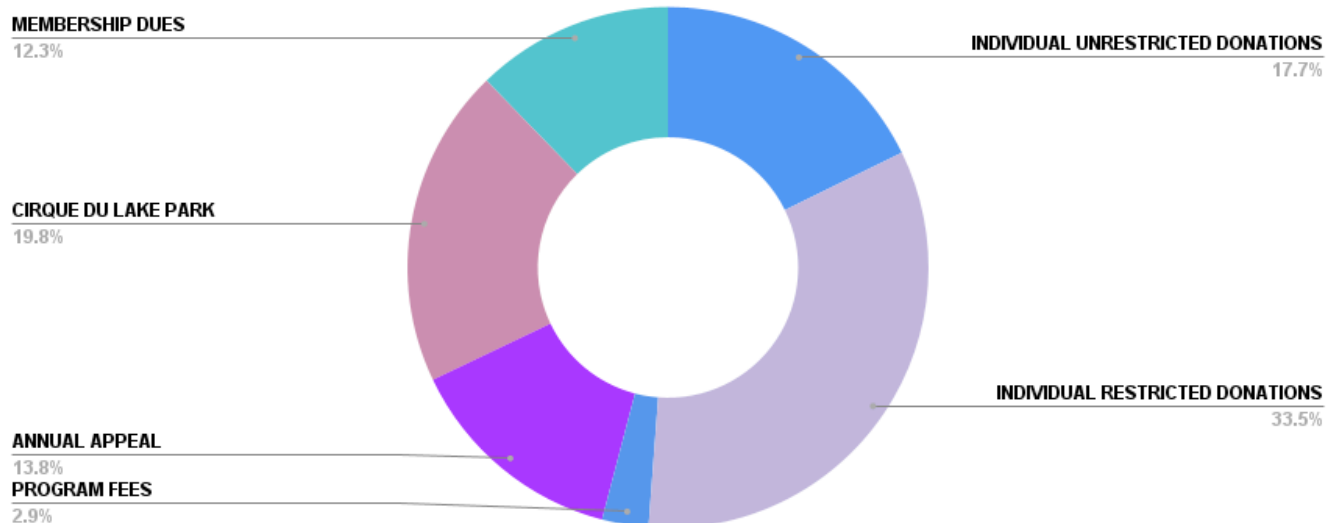
RECORD MEMBERSHIPS - The spring membership campaign saw 875 households either renewing or joining our efforts, a new record for LPF.



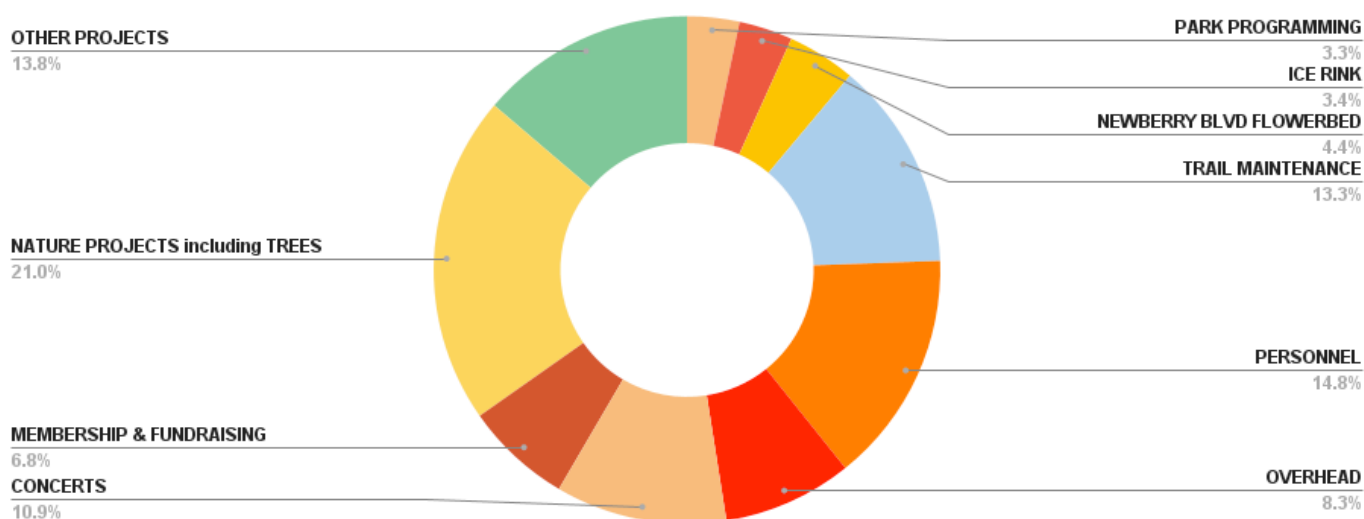
25 YEARS - In 2021, Lake Park Friends celebrated a quarter-century of preserving, restoring and enhancing Lake Park.

Financial Highlights

OPERATING REVENUES



OPERATING EXPENSES



Thank You to Our Generous Donors

WE ARE GRATEFUL for the support of these foundations, corporations and individuals who contributed to support our mission and programs. Donor levels reflect total given for the year, including membership dues, which were recorded on or before December 31, 2021. The following list includes gifts of \$150 or more.

\$20,000+

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\$15,000 – \$19,999

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OUR MISSION

Lake Park Friends is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the preservation and enjoyment of Lake Park, to sponsor educational, recreational and cultural events in the park, and to raise funds for the restoration and enhancement of the park in the spirit of Frederick Law Olmsted.

2020 Conservator Award



Sandy Wiegand was recognized for her 25 years of contributions to Lake Park. Sandy's efforts include weeding along Ravine Road, leading the Lake Park Summer Stage project and acting as Improvements Chair. Her accomplishments include the human/doggie drinking fountain on Wahl Avenue, Newberry Boulevard flowerbed sprinklers and the in-ground picnic tables near the playground.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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Phone: 414.962.1680

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