December 2014

Year in Review

Eagle Point Acquisition

The high point of our year was the Eagle Point celebration in September introducing you all to this newest addition to the Parkway. Since then, the Parks Department has been doing extensive clearing of the many weedy tree and engulfing invasives around this viewpoint. We look forward to the public process of defining goals for how the site should look and function. See our website and the Eagle Point History article in this newsletter for more about the event and the property. And see the Gift Ideas in this newsletter for information on where to buy the Legacy of the Olmsted Brothers book that Bill Hawkins introduced during our event.

Advocacy
Board members have been busy monitoring and commenting on multiple issues and planning efforts relating to the Parkway. Just a few of these topics include:

> Participating in the complex long term planning for the SW Transit Corridor, with a focus on keeping the natural scenic character of the Parkway and finding good rapid transit alternatives for traffic to OHSU.

> Meeting with the Bureau of Transportation for an on-site tour of safety and scenic considerations for the Parkway. As just one result of this meeting, the visual clutter on the Parkway has been reduced with the removal of the Pothole Hotline signs.

> Participating in the planning process for the work on the Chestnut / 7th Street and Capitol Highway intersections, with a continued focus on natural planting and pedestrian/bicycle safety and convenience.

**Restoration**

WOW, what a year! Friends of Terwilliger hosted 15 work parties in 2014. Thanks to our partners: Hands on Greater Portland, Portland Parks & Rec, Homestead Neighborhood Assoc, University of Portland, SW Trails, and countless individual volunteers we cleared almost 2 acres of ground ivy, blackberries, and clematis. We also freed over 280 trees of suffocating ivy and helped preserve our tree canopy. Our volunteer efforts continue to grow thanks to all of YOU!! Over 200 community volunteers contributed to making the Parkway a very special place. THANK YOU!!

We hope to see you **this coming Saturday** and throughout 2015. See our upcoming **workparty dates** in the sidebar.

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**Holiday Gift Ideas**

*Bill Hawkins' new book,* The Legacy of the Olmsted Brothers in Portland Oregon, is available from the author: online, or at (503) 497-9084.

It’s also at Powells, the Oregon History Museum, the Portland Art Museum, Hoyt Arboretum and other outlets. If you missed the book’s introduction at our Eagle Point event, here’s a link to the Oregonian’s review.

**Portland Parks’ new map of the Council Crest, Marquam, Terwilliger area.** Get an electronic copy from our website or email info@TerwilligerFriends.org for a printed copy. No charge!

**Make a donation** to the Friends of Terwilliger for someone who wants no more “stuff.”

**Special Offer:** For a donation of $250 or more, choose:

- a guided biking or walking tour of the Parkway for up to 4 people, or
- a tour for one on the back of a tandem!

**New Year’s Resolution Support!** Schedule your own ivy removal party in 2015. Help all your friends follow-through on their “get outdoors” and “be active” resolutions while having fun and improving the Parkway.
Outreach and Education

We introduced this e-newsletter in the spring and have been pleased with the positive response. Please let us know (info@TerwilligerFriends.org) if you have any suggestions for additional topics, questions or comments on anything we’ve written, or “letter to the editor” thoughts you’d like included in the next issue.

We’re also continuing to work on plans for attractive informational signage for the Parkway – south and central entrance signs for basic public awareness to match the north Terwilliger Parkway sign at Duniway Park, and interpretive signs at key locations.

Capitol Highway-Terwilliger Intersection

* A brief synopsis of a fuller article on our website *

The Bureau of Environmental Services and the Water Bureau have been working for the past two years in and around the intersection of Capitol Highway and Terwilliger. The Water Bureau work is expected to be completed next February. While the maintenance of our water and sewer system was needed, we’ve all noticed the disruption to the area. BES has designed a landscape planting plan to mitigate the disturbance to this important entrance to Terwilliger Parkway.

In the final project stage, the Bureau of Transportation will reconstruct and reconfigure Terwilliger Boulevard in this area to improve its function for all users. The changes include a) widening Terwilliger on the north side of the intersection to better allow Trimet buses to make their turns around this curve and b) separating northbound bicycle traffic around the island with a raised cycletrack adjacent to the new curb.

See more complete descriptions of the projects in the full article on our website.

See the “Celebrate” article in our Spring 2014 newsletter for an example of how this works.

Volunteer Needs

Newsletter Assistance

Use your writing, design, and/or organization skills to help improve our communications with present and future Terwilliger Parkway fans.

Grant-Writing Assistance

Help us enhance the Parkway through identifying grant possibilities, writing and/or editing grants. We’re interested in grants in the areas of restoration and public education/outreach.

Ivy Removal / Restoration Workers

Join a crew, lead a crew, or help planning priorities and monitoring results.

Donate!

All donations go directly to support our restoration, advocacy and outreach efforts.

Donate online: TerwilligerFriends.org/donate

Donate by mail: Send a check payable to “Friends of Terwilliger” to

16 SW Canby St.
Portland, OR 97219

Have a Fred Meyer Rewards card? Help us earn corporate donations by enrolling in Fred’s Rewards program.
article and accompanying diagrams on the projects page of our website.

Eagle Point History

We continue to be infatuated with Eagle Point, the latest addition to Terwilliger Parkway. Besides being a spectacular site, it has a fascinating history. Would you believe that John Muir owned the property at one time? Later, in 1893, an artist named Frederick Walpole, who was employed by the U.S. National Herbarium, purchased it. Over 800 of his botanical illustrations are owned by the Smithsonian Institution and can be viewed on-line. The home Walpole built on the top of the knoll had a windmill and was prominently featured in a June 12, 1904 Sunday Oregonian illustrated article about “Picturesque Hillside Homes in Portland”.

The 1903 plan for Terwilliger Parkway by the Olmsted Brothers included Eagle Point as a major viewpoint along the route but the property was never purchased because of “lack of funds.” Nevertheless, in the 1920s Walpole’s heirs donated land to the city for a loop road around the point and land down-slope for a viewpoint (now overgrown.)

In the 1960s the remaining property became the home of John Kenward, the first Director of the newly created Portland Development Commission. Kenward led the South Auditorium Renewal project and was instrumental in bringing renowned landscape architect Lawrence Halprin to Portland to design the highly successful parks, walkways, and fountains of that area. Kenward’s heirs sold the property to Portland Parks and Recreation in 2013. Thus, a one hundred year old vision to make Eagle Point a part of Terwilliger Parkway was finally realized.

It is both uncanny and fitting that the property has had Meyer’s Community Rewards program. Just follow this link and select organization code 86183 for Friends of Terwilliger. The regular reward points and rebates you earn for your own use won’t be reduced - but we’ll earn a share of their community donations.

Our Partners

We are one of the founding members of West Willamette Restoration Partnership, an active coalition of community groups, landowners and organizations working to enhance the natural areas of SW Portland.

Portland Parks & Recreation manages the Terwilliger Parkway natural areas. We all benefit from their skills at restoring and preserving nature in the city, making these areas welcoming residents and visitors, and helping volunteer citizen groups achieve our joint objectives.

Who We Are

Friends of Terwilliger is an active group of volunteers dedicated to protecting and enhancing the scenic corridor character of Terwilliger Parkway. Learn more about the organization and the history of the Parkway on our website.

We are a registered 501(c)(3)
links over the years to notable naturalists and landscape architects. Visit the history tab of our website for a more detailed history of Eagle Point, and to learn about John Muir.

No-Ivy Day and Parke Diem Results

Two city-wide volunteer efforts for our parks brought over a hundred volunteers to Terwilliger Parkway this fall.

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> At George Himes Park, Friends of Terwilliger sponsored two volunteer groups who removed a combined 26,000 square feet of ground ivy and cleared 61 trees of ivy.
At the Woods Street Trail between Barbur and Terwilliger the Parks Bureau and Southwest Trails members built steps and spread gravel on this route from Barbur up to OHSU.

At Duniway Park, Portland Garden Club prepared the Lilac Garden for winter. A Parks Bureau team of volunteers rescued rhodies and other shrubs from fallen limbs, cleared a mammoth cedar of ivy, and filled a truck with blackberry vines.

Then on No Ivy Day, October 25, Friends of Terwilliger partnered with the Homestead Neighborhood Association to lead 17 experienced volunteers in the area south of Hamilton Street, near Terwilliger Creek. At times working on challenging steep hillsides, volunteers cleared 10 trees of ivy and 9,000 square feet of ground ivy. Thanks to their efforts, Terwilliger Creek itself remains “ivy free” in the area immediately adjacent to Terwilliger. Check it out!