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spring
2014

For Members, Supporters, & Friends of The Council of Park Friends

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polypodium



Meet-up Group!

Yes! CPF has a Meet-up site. Join us at:

www.meetup.com/Clark-Reservation-Meetup-Group

or scan the QR code below. We've already had a few great Meet ups ranging from lunchtime hikes to I Love My Park Day. Join us and enjoy the wonder that is Clark Reservation. If you would like more information on Meet-up, the Nature Center, or any of the other wonderful opportunities that CPF offers, please email us at:

info@councilofparkfriends.org



Clark Reservation Meetup Group

meetup

www.meetup.com/Clark-Reservation-Meetup-Group

Letter From the Chair...



Volunteers, volunteers, they are great. Without all you wonderful people the Council of Park Friends would run out of gas. So this is my heartfelt "thank you" to all.

Now the pitch! A new season is upon us and we need all you veterans and a new freshman class to keep our tanks full.

Please consider helping out with our programs. Whatever your skills or interests are, we have a place for you. Board Members are volunteers too. Maybe that is your place?

How? You will be contacted if you:

Go to our website and send a message.

Leave a note in the Nature Center .

Ask the Naturalist to contact me.

**For Clark and all green spaces,
Martha Loew**

Contact us at info@councilofparkfriends.org
or visit us at www.councilofparkfriends.org

do *not* miss >>>

CPF annual Father's Day walk...

This Annual Event is a great way to celebrate and enjoy a nature walk led by distinguished teaching professor and author Dr. Donald J. Leopold. Dr. Leopold was the first recipient of ESF Public Service Award, has been a DEC advisor, published five books and over 50 manuscripts and educated many on the values of native plants and gardening.

He was a member of the Board of Trustees of Council of Park Friends and is a loyal supporter of CPF and Clark Reservation. His Father's Day walk has been an annual event for many years.

CPF invites all to join them on June 15 to learn about the native plants of Clark Reservation and have a good time doing it. Meet at the Nature Center at 2:00 pm. This is a rain or shine event!!

After the walk, we will gather at the small pavilion for snacks and social time. Snacks and welcome-drinks are furnished. This is also a great time to join or renew your CPF membership. AND DON'T MISS the CPF ANNUAL MEETING immediately following the social time in the small pavilion.



from the *New York State Parks* >>>

Meet Our NEW Regional Educator, Katie Mulverhill !

Hello! My name is Katie Mulverhill, and I am happy to announce that I have joined the staff of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in late November as an Environmental Educator I. While I will cover the entire Central Region, my office is at the Central Region Headquarters at Clark Reservation. I look forward to working with the Council of Park Friends and sharing my experience, knowledge and love of nature with you all!

I graduated from SUNY ESF with a degree in Environmental and Forest Biology and a concentration in Nature Interpretation. After graduation I had the pleasure of interning at Beaver Lake Nature Center, Rogers Environmental Education Center, and the Illinois State Museum. When I returned to CNY I joined the seasonal staff at Beaver Lake. Most recently I was the Education Manager at Baltimore Woods Nature Center and worked with their Nature in the City program where I got to introduce elementary students from the City of Syracuse to the nature that they could find in their own neighborhood. It was such a satisfying experience.

Now I get to spread my wings even further and venture into some new territory. I will have many new things to experience, from the Environmental Field Days at Green Lakes, to the NYS Fair, working with SUNY ESF's Environmental Education program, and doing programs across the region! I hope to see you at one at Clark Reservation! I'd also like to work with the CPF's to build up their trail guide volunteer core. The trail guides lead the guided hikes and programs that the Council runs. I'd like to lend my experience in the field by offering trainings to help strengthen their programs, and help train new recruits. The first of these trainings is scheduled for Saturday, May 17th from 12:30-3:30pm. Contact The Council of Park Friends if you'd like to become a trail guide volunteer!



CPF programs have traditionally been conducted during the warmer parts of the year, mostly during the normal Clark Reservation operating season from May to Labor Day. But there are lots of great things to do at other times of the year, too! We've started honoring special requests for things like winter hikes by Cub Scouts and are looking into the possibility of evening astronomy programs. Now we need a little heat in the Nature Center to make more of those things happen!

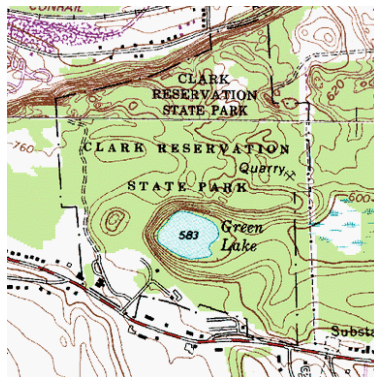
The historic stone Nature Center building cannot be retrofitted with a real heating system. We can really use the donation of several small, safe electric space heaters to use for events scheduled during colder times. We need the kind of space heaters you would use in your own home, with modern safety features and automatic shut-off.

If you can help, please let us know through the CPF website. The Council of Park Friends is a not for profit corporation and donations to CPF are deductible under the law.

Thanks for your help!

What's in a name...

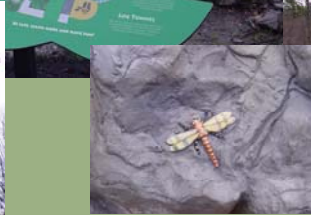
We call it Glacier Lake, but it's been called Little Lake, Green Lake, Green Pond, and Jamesville Lake. No matter what you call it, this meromictic lake is the gem of Clark Reservation and the centerpiece of our park.



New Playground for Clark...

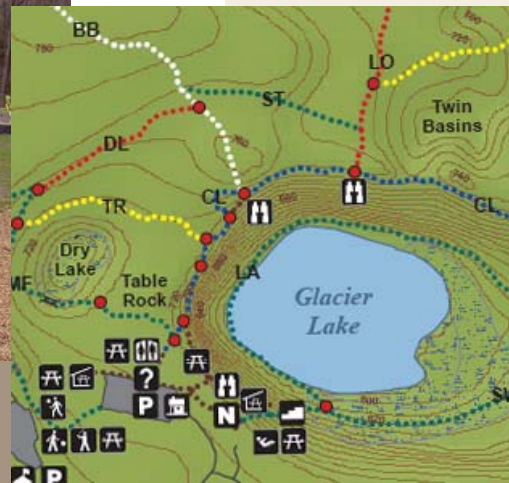
The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation has completed construction of a brand new children's playground for the park. The innovative new interpretive design is one of the first of its kind in New York. Instead of traditional-style monkey bars and the like, the new design features environmental sculptures, environmentally friendly places for kids to climb and play on, while the focus is on environmental education and stewardship.

The new playground is located adjacent to the restroom area, providing more accessibility from the parking lot for kids of all ages. Please come to Clark and try it out.



The Switchback Trail...

The Switchback Trail (ST on the map), our newest, connects the Big Buck Trail to the Long Trail a hundred yards or so from the Cliff Trail. This tenth of a mile trail passes through one of the most beautiful glens in the park. From the pines at the western edge to the moss



covered rocks in the east this trail epitomizes the sublime peacefulness that is Clark Reservation.

ask the experts >>>

Q: What is Pale Swallow-wort?

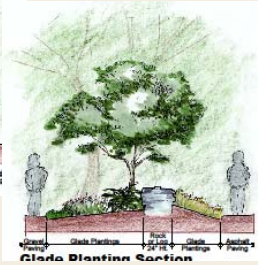
A: Pale Swallow-wort (*Cynanchum rossicum*) is a long-lived perennial, twining herbaceous vine.

Pale swallow-wort was likely introduced for ornamental purposes and was first collected in Monroe and Nassau counties in New York State in 1897. A New York study on grassland birds indicated that as swallow-wort cover increases, grassland bird presence declines. In Central New York, pale swallow-wort is displacing the federally listed Hart's tongue fern (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) at one site and poses a threat to additional populations in the state (www.nps.gov/plants/alien).



our native garden>>>

The Native Garden at the entrance to the Nature Center is a never ending work of love. With the guidance of our resident horticulturist and long standing CPF member Deb Shanahan, we are working to maintain this unique example of our woodland habitat. This garden plan was developed by Plant CNY in 2006 to highlight the unique ecological history of Clark Reservation by using only those plant species native to the reservation. It is designed to look like a part of Clark Reservation through the use of boulders and stone indicative of the park, while maintaining a sense of individuality within the park. This aesthetically pleasing living display has 4 seasons of interest, creates microhabitats through the use of layered plantings, uses topography and boulders to create shaded niches and utilizes plants attractive to butterflies and wildlife.



did you miss? >>>

First Day Hike! (yes, New Years Day)

With great thanks to our friends at New York State Parks, the Sierra Club, and L.L.Bean, Inc. we had over 160 participants to Clark Reservation's annual "First Day Hike" on a frigid New Year's Day 2014. With great appreciation for the cold old friends met new, trails were hiked, pictures were taken, and lots of hot chocolate was consumed. The Nature Center is a pretty hospitable place in the middle of winter though the old fireplace has long been retired. The Council of Park Friends wishes to thank all for such an enjoyable time and the love shown for this wondrous park.



Council of Park Friends
P.O. Box 153
Jamesville, NY 13078



**JOIN US!
or PLEASE Renew!
Membership Application**

Your membership helps us fund and improve our many programs here at Clark Reservation.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/Town: _____
State: _____ Zip/Postal: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____

- _____ Member \$20
- _____ Patron \$50
- _____ Sustainer \$100
- _____ Benefactor \$250
- _____ Life Member \$500

Please send check to: Council of Park Friends
P.O. Box 153
Jamesville, NY 13078

___ YES, please contact me about volunteering.

Thank you. All dues are tax-deductible. Membership is January 1 to December 31

Follow us on Facebook: We ♥ Clark Reservation! v2.0
and the Web: www.councilofparkfriends.org