



FRIENDS OF
Hendricks Park

NEWS FROM THE

Park Bench

EUGENE'S FIRST PARK

Autumn 2007

The Hearn Bench

Ted Hearn, M.D., recently donated a bench, located in a new overlook site at the entryway to the Rhododendron Garden, in memory of his parents, Arthur C. and Marion B. Hearn. Ted writes:



The Hearn Bench

My mother was born in Burma, the daughter of missionaries, and my father was born in San Francisco. Both were raised and educated in California, and they met at Stanford University. Our family of six moved to Eugene in 1950, when my father took a position in the university's School of Education. We planned to spend a few years in Eugene and then return to Stanford or the University of California so my father could finish his academic career. It didn't happen that way because my parents were captivated by the beauty of Eugene, and chose to stay at the university until my father retired in 1978. During his career, he served as a consultant to

several countries, including Australia, the Philippines, and Ecuador, helping to establish a curriculum in their secondary school systems.

My mother was a renaissance woman. As well as being the matriarch in our family, she was a gourmet cook and an accomplished seamstress. She also served as president of the faculty wives' club. And she especially enjoyed the beauty of Hendricks Park and its Rhododendron Garden, where she found solace and comfort that was particularly important as she valiantly battled the terminal stages of cancer. It is my hope that the new bench in the Rhododendron Garden will allow others to benefit from the beauty and serenity of this wonderful place, as my parents would have wished. I donated the bench in their name because I owe any success in my career as a physician to my parents, who always stressed education and allowed me to grow up in this wonderful community. – Ted Hearn, M.D. 

A Popular New Feature

The Hearn Bench donation provided the impetus for developing the overlook site, which now offers a wonderful view of the city. In addition to Ted Hearn, donors to the overlook included Friends of Hendricks Park, William Cambier of Foxwood Gardens and the City of Eugene's Natural Resources crew. Robin Hostick of Parks and Open Spaces designed the area, Thomas Nesbit Masonry installed the stonework and Jim Seuss of Steel Dreaming manufactured the bench. A special thanks to Hendricks Park staff members Ginny Alfriend and Keith Stanley for their support and labor in making this project happen. Ginny says the overlook has become one of the garden's most visited places. 

New Signs for Hendricks Park

You may have noticed smart new signs at the Summit Avenue, Birch Lane and Floral Hill entrances to Hendricks Park. The signs were envisioned at the birth of the Native Plant Garden, a key concept in the Hendricks Park Forest Management Plan. Jerry Blakely, first president of Friends of Hendricks Park, decided to help fund the Native Plant Garden as a memorial to his wife, Mary Rear Blakely, who was dying of cancer. Jerry invited Los Angeles landscape architect Jin Chen, a friend and student of Mary's, to design the new garden and adjacent features. Chen volunteered his services to honor his friend, whom he had met in China when Mary was teaching there.

The crescent-shaped Moon Terrace, which overlooks the Native Plant Garden near the picnic shelter, was at the heart of Chen's concept. Redesigning the park's Summit Drive entrance established a flow pattern to the park's three main components—the Rhododendron Garden, Native Plant Garden and forest—and made the entryway more welcoming. Chen also specified

a realignment of the footpaths at the top of Summit, three new plant beds that represent the three parts of the park, raised and lighted crosswalks and new signage. The new main entryway sign with its handsome stone columns and the massive wood signs at the other two entrances have brought the first part of Chen's concept to fruition. Next will come the crosswalks and two remaining new beds (one is already in place and thriving).

The entryway signs were financed by Jerry Blakely, James Blakely (Jerry's father), Friends of Hendricks Park and the City of Eugene. Among city staff, Chris Girard coordinated the project,

Robin Hostick turned Chen's con-

ceptual drawings into architectural drawings, and Hendricks Park staff—Ginny, Keith and Shauna—contributed time and labor. Richard Nosigila made the signs from specially cut and dried cedar, Thomas Nesbitt did the stonework, and park volunteer Mark Shumate (with assistance from Fred Austin and park staff) installed the posts and signs. Regi Vaughan will fabricate copper caps for the posts. 



Entryway Sign

Volunteer Spotlight

Pat Soussan moved from southern California to Eugene in May 2006 to be near her daughter and family. She is originally from England, and moved to the states as a young adult. Very shortly after moving here, she became a regular volunteer in the Rhododendron Garden on Tuesday mornings. Since she was from a different climate zone, she wanted to learn more about plants and gardening in this area so she would have the knowledge to tackle her new yard, which is about an acre. She has found this volunteer opportunity very educational and informative. She loves to volunteer in gardens and parks, and enjoys anything to do with plants. She just returned from a week-long volunteer stint in Yosemite National Park, and guess what she was doing: weeding! She also volunteers at the City of Eugene's Native Plant Nursery. Pat says, "Volunteering is a great opportunity to meet wonderful people and to learn new skills. You get much more out of it than you put in."



For volunteer opportunities in the Rhododendron Garden, call the park office at 682-5324 or FoHP at 607-4066. 

Become a Weed Warrior!

Suppose you walk through the park 5 times a week. What if you stopped to pull 30 herb-Robert plants (an invasive species in the park) every time? In one week, that would be 150 plants, in one month 600 plants, in one year 7,800 plants. Pulling plants before they release seed reduces progeny by many thousands, maybe millions. Once you know what you are doing, it takes 2 minutes to pull 30 plants. Want to be a weed warrior? Training is free. Contact Sandra Austin (343-3452). 



Herb-Robert – Deceptively Dainty

Scoop the Poop

Volunteers spend many hours restoring the forest, and they are fed up with close encounters with animal poop.

Please clean up after your animals! Stick a plastic bag in your pocket before you leave for your walk. There are plenty of garbage cans in which to dispose of the bag. Thanks to all dog owners who already do this. 



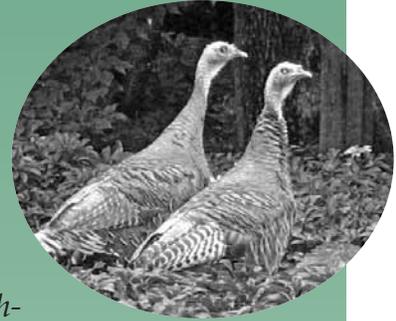
Aunt Rhodie tells all...

Dear Aunt Rhodie:

What are those large, dark birds running around Hendricks Park...could they be turkeys?

Dear Reader:

*Turkeys, turkeys everywhere! This seems to be a record year for them at the park. According to park staff, turkeys have been in the area for about 5 years. They often stop traffic as they cross the roads. They are not native to Oregon, but are native to the south-western Great Plains. A subspecies called the Rio Grande turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo intermedia*), the most common in our state, is the one presently residing in Hendricks Park. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife started releasing the Rio Grande turkey in 1975 for recreational purposes—yes, hunting. Guess what? These turkeys are prolific breeders and nesters, their numbers have increased rapidly, and they are moving into new areas all the time. In some areas, they have become a nuisance, and they can damage crops, etc. Park staff recounts problems with them in the Rhododendron Garden because the birds scratch around and make messes. They were hoping the turkeys were going after tubers of celandine, a very aggressive invasive plant in the garden, but they aren't sure at this time. The turkeys definitely have been nesting in the park, and at least 6 chicks have been sighted. The hens construct ground nests, and begin laying clutches of 5–15 eggs in early spring. Many nests are lost to predation, weather, etc. The staff has noticed a loss of young chicks this season—possibly to the bobcat that has been spotted recently in the park.*



The hunting season for Rio Grande turkeys is in the spring, when only males can be taken. In the fall, it is permissible to hunt either sex. Google “Wild Turkeys in Oregon” for lots of information on hunting and turkeys in general. One resource said that Rio Grande turkeys are not bad-tasting—Thanksgiving, perhaps??! However, hunting is not allowed within city limits, and it is regulated by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. 

Yours truly, Aunt Rhodie

Send questions to:

Aunt Rhodie, Friends of Hendricks Park
P.O. Box 3784, Eugene, OR 97403
or call 607-4066 and leave a message.

President's Message: The Many Ways to Support Hendricks Park

Members of Friends of Hendricks Park (FoHP) have helped make 2007 another great year for the park. The new entryway signs are up, and the overlook project in the Rhododendron Garden was also completed this year. Progress on forest restoration continues, with ivy removal and control of secondary invasive plants after the ivy is gone. FoHP is also organizing for the Oak Knoll restoration project.

There are many ways to give to the Park, from volunteering for work parties to monetary contributions to support FoHP's mission. Thanks especially to all our members who not only renew their membership each year, but also give something extra to support the Friends!

The Board of FoHP is setting up an endowment fund so that the Friends can be assured of a reliable funding source for the future. While the Native Plant Garden is fortunate to have an endowment supporting it, FoHP's projects in the rest of the park have so far depended primarily on yearly membership dues and a few grants. We feel that creating an endowment fund is a great way to encourage a longer-term view and provide donors with an option for estate planning.

You make it all happen,



David Moon, President

A Thank You for Volunteers

At least 32 people attended a Volunteer Appreciation Picnic the evening of September 18th. The event, sponsored by Friends of Hendricks Park and park staff, was held in the Wilkins Picnic Shelter. Guests enjoyed delicious food and appreciated a roaring fire that featured Oregon white oak logs 4 ft. long and split by Keith Stanley. (How does he do that?) Artful flower arrangements by Karen Goebel and Ginny Alfriend contributed to the festive atmosphere. 

How Is Ivy Removal Going?

A Rough Summary from Jason Blazar

Acreage pulled in 2006/7:
1.1 acre

Acreage retreated in 2006/7:
16 acres

Total acreage removed since 2000:
25 acres

New and Renewing Friends of Hendricks Park

On behalf of the FoHP Board, thank you to the many people who contribute financially to our organization. Your donation allows us to fulfill our mission with Hendricks Park.

Donors 03/01/2007
through 09/20/07

Benefactors

Oregon Community
Foundation
Jerry Blakely
Sean Easley
Olof & McKay Sohlberg

Guarantors

James R. & Pauline Rear

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Victor Sabin
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Sue & Hugh Prichard
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Earl Moursund
Peter & Maggie Gontrum

Yoko McClain
Karyn Kaplan
Eunice Kjaer
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Harold Hushbeck, Jr.
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Todd Glenz
Rowland Orum
Lemman Family
Patricia Robbins

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Larry Leverone
Theresa Jones
Kit & Marylyn Klein
Larsen
Miriam Starlin
Laurie Quies
A. Kingsley & Ingrid
Weatherhead

In-kind

Contributors

Rudy Fox, Fox Graphics
Charles Koehler, Eugene
City Bakery
Mark Shumate, Shumate
Construction

*Thanks to all our contribu-
tors, and we regret any
omissions or errors.*

Yes! I want to become a member of Friends of Hendricks Park

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- Senior/student/limited income \$20
 Individual \$30
 Family/household \$45
 Sponsor/business \$100
 Sustaining \$250
 Guarantor \$500
 Benefactor \$1,000
 Other amount \$_____

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS \$_____

- Forest restoration (i.e., ivy removal)
 Native Plant Garden
 Rhododendron Garden
 Unrestricted gift
 Memorial/commemorative gifts

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$_____
 Make checks payable to Friends of Hendricks Park

Yes! I want to volunteer

- Work parties
 Education
 Standing committees



Friends of Hendricks Park
 P.O. Box 3784, Eugene OR 97403-0784

PERSONAL INFORMATION

name _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

telephone _____

e-mail _____

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.
 Tax ID #93-1330075



Friends of Hendricks Park
P.O. Box 3784
Eugene, OR 97403-0784

**FRIENDS OF
Hendricks Park**

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Treasurer Fred Austin
Erik Fisher
Rachel Foster
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Greg Smalley

Newsletter by Sandra
Austin, Linda Sage,
Rachel Foster and
Beneda Design

Upcoming Events

Tuesday morning Rhododendron Garden volunteers meet at 9 am every Tuesday at the park office through November 13th. Tuesday volunteers will resume March 4th, 2008.

OCTOBER

Saturday October 20th, 9:30–12:30 Forest work party.
Meet at the Wilkins Shelter.

Sunday October 21st, 1–3 Meet at the picnic shelter. Native American story telling, drumming and dancing with Esther Stutzman. Very suitable for families.

NOVEMBER

Saturday November 17th, 9:30–12:30
Forest work party

DECEMBER

Saturday December 8th,
9:30–12:30
Forest work party.



Douglas Aster

A Family Event Sponsored by Friends of Hendricks Park

Join Kalapuya Native American Esther Stutzman for storytelling and an opportunity to participate in Native American drumming and dancing. Bring the kids. Enjoy a warm fire, snacks and beverages at the Wilkins Picnic shelter, 2200 Summit Ave.

Sunday, October 21st, 1–3 p.m.