

Both Peppermint and Necco House
Created by Board Member Robert Jenkins



Winter Wonderland. Created by architect
Cynthia Hamilton of Hamilton Snowber Architects



Wendy's Whimsy! Created by artist Wendy Garner

Gingerbread House Celebration!

Sunday, December 19

3 to 7pm

The Cleveland Park Club

Join friends and neighbors from CPC and CPCA to celebrate the season and continue the Gingerbread Celebration at the Cleveland Park Club (3433 33rd Place)

All are welcome! No charge!

From 3 to 5pm

View the gorgeous gingerbread houses (pictured) that CPHS will be auctioning, get those last minute wishes into Santa (who promises to swing by) and contribute to the CPCA Winter Clothing Drive. Bring your unwrapped donations of gloves, hats, scarves or thermal underwear (adult sizes only please).

From 5 to 6pm

Sing carols with the Cleveland Park Club

From 6 to 7pm

Enjoy a glass of wine and bid on one of the beautiful gingerbread houses featured at left as we close the CPHS silent auction.

For information on CPCA activities (Santa and clothing drive) contact Susie Taylor at tayfish@aol.com.

For information on CPC activities (caroling) contact Gwen Wright at booladc79@yahoo.com.

For information on the CPHS activities (Gingerbread House Auction) email staff@clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org or call CPHS at (202) 237-2538.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Lois Orr and Dick Jorgensen

We are honored to have been elected as co-presidents of the Cleveland Park Historical Society, which has been a key player in maintaining and enhancing Cleveland Park as a great place to live for more than 25 years. It's more than 25 years.

We look forward to serving as co-presidents this program year and working with all of our talented Board members to achieve a number of common goals. And we want to thank our critical Architectural Review Committee for its substantial work in helping to maintain the architectural integrity of the historic district over these many years. The ARC was formed in 1987.

In this 2010 – 11 program year, CPHS has two significant 25th anniversaries to celebrate: first, the establishment of CPHS in 1985; and second, the designation of Cleveland Park as an historic district in 1986. (Cleveland Park is one of more than 25 historic districts in DC.) The Board is considering several possible events including a dinner party, block party, special lecture series, Labor Day picnic, and a joint celebration with John Eaton School (celebrating its 100th anniversary this year). Please let us know your preferences and any additional suggestions.

Among the CPHS goals for this year are the following:

- Develop and strengthen collaborative relationships with other community groups and neighborhood merchants. We have a CPHS liaison person to stay in touch with the Cleveland Park

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CPHS Board 2010-2011

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VOICES

Rhona C. Hartman, Editor

Kitty Forest and Melanie Gibbons, Editorial Staff

Ashley—30th Street Step Renovation

By Rhona C. Hartman

The Ashley-30th Street Steps repair and landscape were completed in August 2010, to the relief of many Cleveland Park residents. Community activists, civic leaders, and the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) worked together for the last several years to bring about these results.

The Ashley-30th Street Steps are used by many Cleveland Park residents as a

short cut to and from the Metro into the heart of Cleveland Park. This pathway has long been a public right of way. In recent years, however, drainage problems caused severe erosion leaving the pathway and steps dangerous for pedestrians. Numerous calls for repair of the drainage problems to city officials went unheeded.

In 2008 Leila Afzal was elected an ANC Commissioner. She was immediately contacted by a constituent, Ana Evans who shared the community's concern about the safety, drainage, and disintegrated condition of the steps, pathway, and Ashley Terrace. In addition there was a fire in that area years before, which was difficult to extinguish because the fire hydrant did not work properly. Ms. Afzal, working with immediate neighbors contacted DDOT to address the drainage issues and repair the continually crumbling steps and pathway. In 2009 DDOT agreed to repair the steps and pathway, and request funds for the other repairs.

By September 2009 the pathway was totally repaired, and the Ashley/30th Street Steps became useful again. But they looked pitifully bare! Again, neighbors rallied to raise funds for landscaping, which had never been done before. The Cleveland Park Historical Society, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (through their grant process), The Cereal Bowl, and individual residents donated funds. In August 2010, European Garden Design was hired to plant greens and flowers, and the result is a source of civic pride. A band of volunteers waters daily, and will do so until the roots become established. Steve Rabinowitz, whose property backs onto the pathway, offers his sprinkler system and hose for this effort. Both John Chelan on 30th Street and Ms. Evans have been instrumental, working with Ms. Afzal, in the transformation of the pathway to its present glory.



Neighborhood Kids Give Back

Thanks to the efforts of five younger residents of Cleveland Park, ROMP is the recipient of \$140! Ten kids between the ages of three and twelve got together and sold used toys at a weekend yard sale. The much needed funds will go to providing supplies for the center as well as treats for Halloween.

A special "thank you" for kindness and generosity goes to:

Jamie & Henry Large

Will & Connor McCormick

Reese & Brock Alpher

Sofia & Lily Zook

Luke and Sam Mott

The kids and their families are hoping to make this an annual event.

If you know of any residents, young or old, who have gone above and beyond in helping to maintain our neighborhood, please let us know. At CPHS, we believe no good deed should go unpublished!

Ginger- bread House Building

December 2010



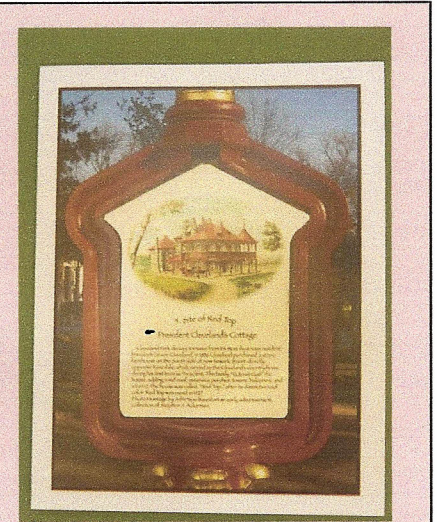
The holidays were in full swing as residents both young and old decorated homemade gingerbread houses at the CPHS Annual Gingerbread Party. After selecting one of the over 60 houses (baked by Board Members Robert Jenkins and Danny Ince) guests had access to a wide range of treats to customize their creations. Thank you to Board Member Robert Jenkins who was assisted by CPHS VP Programming, Carol Lynn Ward Bamford for coordinating the effort. See our website for additional photos.

Geology of CP Explored

October 2010



Over thirty people spent a gorgeous fall morning walking through the neighborhood and learning why Cleveland Park is a geological showplace thanks to professional geologist and Cleveland Park native Tony Fleming. Tony is the author of the modern geological map of the District and provided the group with many little-known and surprising facts about DC geology. Special thanks to former CPHS President John Poole for coordinating this fascinating effort.



Beautiful notecards
featuring photographs
of the Cleveland Park
Callboxes available
for purchase!

Commemorating some of the beautifully transformed Call Boxes seen throughout Cleveland Park, these beautiful four-color notecards are perfect for housewarming, hostess and holiday gifts. Boxed sets of 10 cards are available to members for \$12. To purchase your notecards, contact the CPHS office at 202/237-2538 or staff@clevelandparkhistoricalociety.org.

The Klinge Valley Bridge

by Mark N. Ozer (Guest Columnist)

The Klinge Valley Bridge played a crucial role in the history of Cleveland Park. When first built in 1891, it brought the Connecticut Avenue trolley into Cleveland Park from the south, on its way to Chevy Chase. Recently renovated, the 1931 replacement of the original bridge was created by Paul Philippe Cret to complement the adjoining classic art deco Kennedy-Warren Apartments.

French-born, Cret settled in Philadelphia where he taught at the University of Pennsylvania. He designed many memorials to those who fought in WW I. He is particularly noted for his design of the campus of the University of Texas and its signature central tower. In his later career, he was noted for his adaptation of classicism to art deco modernism. This is evident in the Folger Shakespeare Library on Capitol Hill that recalls classicism by its repetitive pilasters along the East Capitol Street front, but uses aluminum art deco motifs and the

Puck Fountain on its west side. His other also noteworthy buildings in the District of Columbia are the classically pure lines of the 1937 Federal Reserve Bank on Constitution Avenue and 20th Street, and the much earlier 1910 House of the Americas of the Organization of American States Building at 17th and Constitution Avenue.

Mark Ozer is the author of Washington, DC: Politics and Place and Massachusetts Avenue: Palaces and Privilege. Both books are available at Politics and Prose Bookstore.

Cleveland Park Listserv Milestone

By Melanie Gibbons

This fall the membership of the Cleveland Park Listserv has reached a milestone 10,000 members! When you post a plea for help finding your lost dog, that number represents a lot of eyes you're appealing to, thanks to husband and wife team, Bill Adler and Peggy Robin, who founded our neighborhood Listserv in 1999.

Both professional writers and published authors, they began with the simple idea that creating a YahooGroup would allow neighbors to talk more often. And Bill acknowledges that starting it was really very easy, with a few clicks of the mouse supported by old-fashioned flyers posted in local shops. In small numbers people joined in and what began more as a public safety service (police activity on Porter), quickly evolved into broad and varied discussions relating to the neighborhood.

"One of the best things about our Listserv," says Bill, "is that the community has always determined what the content would be. And in the early days our only rule was that you had to sign your name to your post."

Then a little boy from Cuba sought temporary refuge in Cleveland Park and the Cleveland Park Listserv changed from a sleepy forum into a firestorm of discussion that made it clear to Bill and Peggy that rules and boundaries were needed.

When Elian Gonzalez was brought to Cleveland Park in the Spring of 2000 to live at the Youth for Understanding campus (now Rosedale), the neighbor-

hood erupted with opinions. "We had raging posts in all caps, a totally open but heated dialogue and people from Miami posting as well, appealing to neighbors for help," remembers Peggy. "Some of the posts were unproductive and even abusive."

So the owners of our Listserv began to institute many of the rules that are now in place. "We wanted to make it a safe place to post, with good manners and good grammar, in which the posts are relevant to the neighborhood." Peggy estimates that at least 50% of all posts submitted for review are not accepted and she tries to get back to each person to explain why the post was turned down.

Today, the Cleveland Park Listserv is Washington's most vibrant electronic community and the largest neighborhood email list in the country. It was rated the #1 Listserv by City Paper in 2009. "We think of it as a daily, edited publication, clearly written and easy to read," says Bill. "It's a labor of love and almost, for us both, a second full-time job." In addition to Cleveland Park, the Listserv covers six surrounding neighborhoods and is growing at a rate of about 30 to 60 new members every week.

It's had a significant impact on our community. "It brings us closer together, helps us understand each other's views," says Bill. "In addition to public safety, we believe it has sharpened discussions and helped people focus on issues and not take viewpoints too personally."

What is the Cleveland Park Listserv?

The Cleveland Park Listserv is an email list for people who live in Cleveland Park and surrounding neighborhoods. It's a great way to exchange news and find out what's going on in the area.

How do I Join?

You can join by sending an email to: cleveland-park-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or going to www.cleveland-park.com and clicking on the "Join This Group!" button. It's easy. By selecting the "Daily Digest" you will receive a daily email with the titles of all the posts for that day – allowing you to read only what you care about.

This year, the Listserv started accepting advertising, which really appeals to local merchants. Ads are only \$50 and can be online the same day an ad is requested. So if a merchant needs to move some inventory or fill a few tables, this is a great resource. And a companion website, called All Life Is Local, www.AllLifeIsLocal.com, includes regular columns, graphics and photos and is open to Listserv nonsubscribers.

But with all the new developments, Bill and Peggy still feel that the best benefit of the Listserv is the reason they launched it over ten years ago – to put neighbors in touch with each other for whatever help they might need. "We love it when we see someone find a plumber on Thanksgiving morning or reunite with a lost dog."

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zen's Association to represent our interests, keep us informed, and propose opportunities to work together.

- Enhance the livability of Cleveland Park. We are considering several projects. This past year, for example, the Ashley Terrace Steps were replaced and the surrounding area landscaped with our help. Again, please get back to us with your suggestions.

- Continue a program of relevant activities that support our mission, which is to encourage the architectural, cultural, and historic preservation of Cleveland Park. Events this fall included a geology tour and the recent Gingerbread House Event.

- Encourage new membership in CPHS, especially through personal outreach to residents who have moved to Cleveland Park within the last couple of years. This fall CPHS will prepare an information

packet about CPHS and the community to share with new residents in our outreach efforts. Additionally, of course, we look forward to current members renewing their membership and previous members doing the same.

You can reach either of us by leaving a message at 237-2538 or email to staff@clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org We are in communication daily with Lou Ann May, our competent and helpful CPHS Administrative Director.