

# Friends of Spy Pond Park Newsletter

## Summer 2008

### President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Summer seems to have flown by! All season there has been rapid growth in the planting beds near the edge of Spy Pond in Spy Pond Park. Since we weren't certain what plants we should try to eliminate and what plants we should encourage there, we arranged to have Kate Thompson, landscape architect with Carol R. Johnson Associates, walk through the Park with us again to offer her guidance. The Parks and Recreation Department could not fund this, so the Friends of Spy Pond Park (FSPP) paid for Kate Thompson's time. Carol Johnson also accompanied us that day. She graciously offered her ideas and advice regarding the condition of the path and the rest of the Park, a favorite project of hers. We are still waiting to hear from the Conservation Commission regarding the recommendations Kate made this past spring to improve the Linwood Beach area.

The FSPP has continued to be very busy on workdays in the Park each month this summer carrying out Carol and Kate's recent suggestions. I am proud and happy to report that many people turned out in response to emails and phone calls. They cleaned up the Park, weeded, pruned, and did outreach throughout the Park and from our tent. On behalf of the FSPP and visitors to the Park, I offer my wholehearted thanks for their efforts. Hopefully, now the ferns and flowers will flourish without the encroaching vegetation.

Although we have had 8-12 volunteers working in the Park each month, this is not enough to keep the unwanted growth in check. Therefore, at the last business meeting, the FSPP allocated funds to pay two responsible teenagers who will assist us under supervision 5 hours/week. If you know someone who fits this description or if you plan to work in the Park on Sunday, September 14 3-5:30 p.m. (we may plant some bulbs that day, too), contact me at 781-646-5990 or [fspp@friendsofspypondpark.org](mailto:fspp@friendsofspypondpark.org). Bring garden tools: gloves, clippers, shovels, saws, rakes, hoes, and shears. We have some equipment if you don't have any. Meet at the playground end of the Park to help out. Once you have spent some time working with an experienced FSPP member, you can go to the Park on your own or arrange to meet others to do some maintenance. It is a rewarding experience.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) and consultants have also been hard at work. They repaired the irrigation system and areas of the path that were eroded from the heavy rainfall and have done the usual basic park maintenance. Due



**Preliminary sketch of proposed Spy Pond Mural (story, p. 4)**

to a dangerous, widespread infestation of sand wasps, the DPW has had to close the playground in the Park. It may not be safe to reopen it until the weather gets colder. We will be discussing the feasibility of introducing an alternate surface for the playground in the future since this seems to occur annually. Unfortunately, this is the worst it has been.

Soon it will be Town Day on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We will again have a FSPP booth where we will offer games for children to play, make passers-by aware of our beautiful Park and what our organization does, recruit members, and sell t-shirts. Come see us to pay dues, buy a tee shirt or just stop by and say "hello". Email Kathy Modigliani: [kmodigliani@hotmail.com](mailto:kmodigliani@hotmail.com) or call her at 781-643-0766 to arrange to help out that day; we need people to sign up for 1-2 hour time slots from 9am-3pm.

Lastly, I would like to mention some housekeeping issues. Please send us your email address, if you haven't done so. We can communicate with you about our activities in a more expedient and ecological way via the Internet. You'll even be able to view the photos in the newsletter and flyers we send out in color! Also, it is not too late to send in your membership dues. Go to our website: [www.friendsofspypondpark.org](http://www.friendsofspypondpark.org), fill out the form, and send it with your check to our P.O. box. Thanks for your support for Spy Pond Park.

Sincerely,  
Karen L. Grossman  
President  
Friends of Spy Pond Park

# Community Rallies to Save Baby Swan (Please Clean Up Fishing Line and Hooks!)

by Amy Dillingham



On a Sunday evening in July, a number of people on the bank of Spy Pond noticed a baby swan, or cygnet, tangled up in fishing line and in great distress. It was calling constantly and swimming with difficulty. Its efforts to wriggle free were pulling its face under water. It looked as though it would drown or die in the struggle to free itself. It was heartrending.

An impromptu rescue squad formed among strangers on the shore. Multiple attempts were made to capture and tend to the distressed animal. But the swan parents kept close watch, aggressively protecting it from anyone who came near. Concerned onlookers followed the family of swans down the shore and tried to lure or frighten the parents away long enough to intervene. At last they backed away several feet and the baby was captured.

The group sprang into action, instantly collaborating to aid the animal. Two people went to work cutting the fishing line from its body with nail clippers. Others made numerous calls on their cell phones looking for help. There was line firmly wedged in the bird's throat; it seemed it had swallowed a fishhook. We discovered it's not easy to find veterinary care for a wild bird on a weekend night. Three little girls patted the cygnet's soft down and helped us brainstorm, "Can you call the police? Or an ambulance?"

At last a wildlife clinic was located in North Grafton at the Tufts Veterinary School. With the help of a cat carrying case, Ron Rivest volunteered to drive the little swan to the clinic. Before he departed, he took names and numbers so he could keep people informed and invited others to come along for the drive. It was a 60 mile round trip.

The clinic staff named the baby "Nellie" (though at this age it's not possible to know whether Nellie is male or female). "She" was X-Rayed and treated overnight. The next day Ron drove back to the clinic to pick Nellie up and return her to Spy Pond, alerting others of her impending release. We knew it could be precarious as swans other than her parents might attack her. We took our best guess and released her near where she'd become entangled. We guessed wrong. A male bird began to attack. Things looked grim for a few tense moments, but we were able to frighten the adult male and Nellie in opposite directions. Nellie paddled away down the shore, luckily back into the protective care of her parents.

Not a week later Nellie was once again entangled in fishing line! This time line was wrapped around her face and she was dragging a stick. Another impromptu group formed led by Ron and his wife Gail. We were not able to capture her. Calls were made, but the Animal Rescue League and Animal Control were closed. Gail resumed the effort to find help the following day and left no stone unturned. Some Spy Pond visitors reported rescue attempts by a kayaker and later a group in kayaks and canoes presumed to have been from the Animal Rescue League - but perhaps this was another rescue league of the informal kind. Finally, Arlington Animal Control Officer Thomas Quintal captured Nellie at North Beach and took her to a vet. A few hours later he reunited her with her parents who were waiting at North Beach while lots of kids looked on. He called it "a really good experience."

Nellie and her parents can frequently be seen from the shore of Spy Pond Park thanks to the numerous people who rallied to come to her aid.

More people than ever seem to be enjoying fishing at Spy Pond. Fishing line and hooks are sometimes left behind when they get caught on vegetation. Discarded line and hooks pose a





risk to the ducks, geese, swans, pets and kids who frequent the shallows of the pond. Not only is there is risk of entanglement, but waterfowl can also swallow line that is caught up in the long strands of aquatic plants they eat. So please, if your fishing line gets snagged on something, do your utmost to retrieve it.

## FSPP Newsletter Editor Vacancy

We are seeking an Editor for the FSPP Newsletter. The following responsibilities would begin in January, 2009.

1. Encourage timely submission of articles, sometimes on specific topics, for the Newsletter by alerting specific members about the need for such articles with the time-line for their submission;
2. Write articles, editorial commentary, and/or announcements from time to time on specific topics or relative to specific articles written by others;
3. Read submitted articles, revising them as needed and coordinating with the writers of the articles about suggested revisions;
4. Submit articles, edited as needed, to the President of the Friends of Spy Pond Park for the President's review and coordinate with the writers of these articles any further suggested revisions as agreed upon by the President and the Editor.

Unfortunately, our present Editor, Eric Berger, is regretfully resigning this position to assume other important responsibilities as co-chairperson of a citizens based task force to help reverse the terrible trend of school districts throughout MA cutting out school librarians, while at the same time mouthing the importance of developing in children literacy, love of learning and research. With the wholesale slashing of school library media specialists, such important educational emphases as literacy development are being honored, as Shakespeare would say, more "in the breach than the observance". If you would like to assume the much needed editorial position or discuss the above description of responsibilities with Eric Berger who has performed this valuable service for the past year, please contact him at [berkshire2@juno.com](mailto:berkshire2@juno.com).

## PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

High levels of microcystis algae were detected at Spy Pond during water sampling. This type of algae can be toxic if ingested and can cause skin irritation and a rash after wading or swimming. The Arlington Board of Health strongly advises residents not to swim or stand in the water and especially urges residents to keep pets away from the water.

## FSPP Help Maintain and Create Beauty in SPP

by Eric Berger

On Sunday afternoon, July 6th, a number of members of the Friends of Spy Pond Park volunteered to help maintain and create beauty in Spy Pond Park. Working tirelessly under a hot summer sun, these volunteers pruned bushes, removed weeds and picked up rubbish with such focus and effort that they filled approximately fifteen large four-foot double brown bags. In addition to this effort, President of FSPP Karen Grossman circulated throughout the Park to raise awareness about the FSPP organization and to encourage membership. While Karen walked around, other members of FSPP remained under the FSPP canopy to greet interested visitors to SPP, to explain about the organization and to sell FSPP tee shirts. In addition, FSPP member, Anne Ellinger, brought her face painting equipment and skills with her and delighted many children who left SPP with Anne's fine art talent proudly displayed. The children even added their own personal artistry on their arms and legs to complete the show!

One woman shared a SPP love story in one of the notebooks left in the Park for visitors to write their memories and impressions. She said that a friend of hers went on one of her first dates with a young man to a restaurant in Arlington. Then that couple walked to SPP after dinner to spend the rest of their time together that evening. Wouldn't you know that a month or two ago, that couple became engaged...in SPP no less! Who knows how many other engagements have blossomed in lovely SPP.

The many hearty volunteers from FSPP who helped on Sunday, July 6th, in addition to Karen Grossman and Anne Ellinger, included Eric Baatz, Eric Berger, Doris Birmingham, Elizabeth Blumenthal, Judith Borit, Elizabeth Karpati, Jacki Katzman, Uta Low, Gail McCormick and her sister, Teri Ann Nolan, Agnes O'Donnell, Lisa Reynolds, and Lally Stowell. Others joined us on August 3 before and after the intermittent rain. They hunkered down under the FSPP canopy along with the people waiting to take out canoes or kayaks until the downpour was over. Thanks, also, to Bill Eykamp and Greg Watt and his son who helped that day to amass eleven brown bags of debris. We are so grateful to everyone's energy and devotion to the Park.

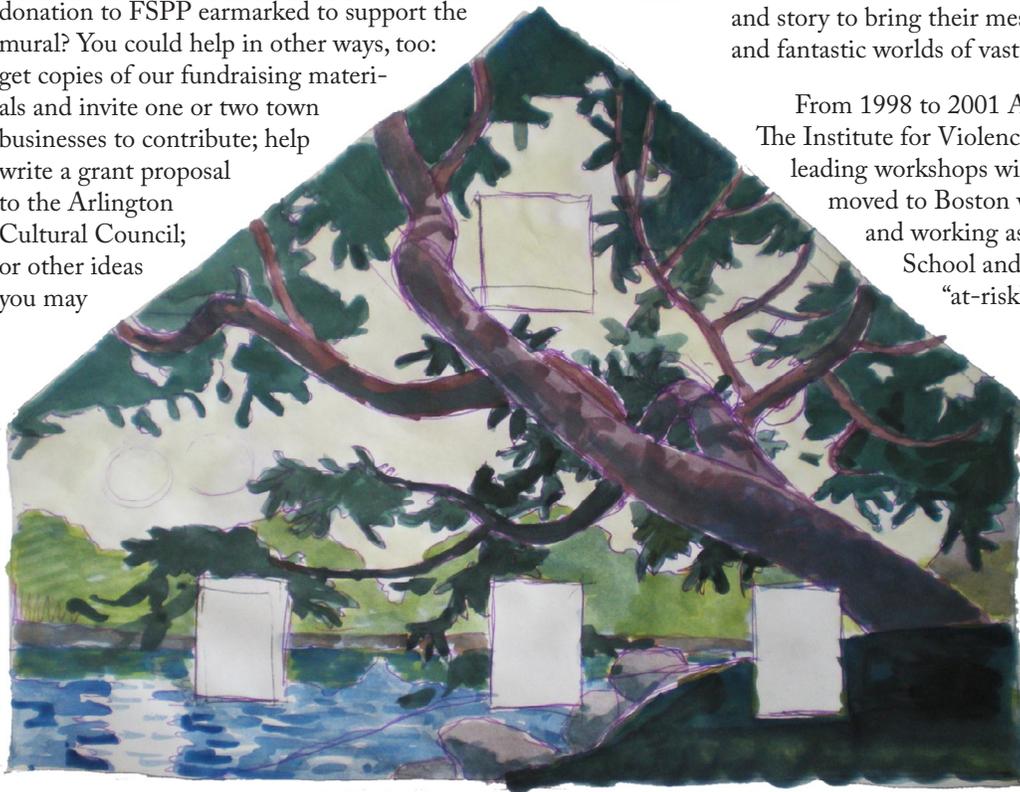
# Spy Pond Mural

by Anne Ellinger

Picture this: You're on your way to shop at Walgreen's in East Arlington. When you park in their parking lot, a breathtaking mural catches your eye just to the left of the Walgreen's entrance. You see sparkling water through the branches of a shapely tree. It's a painting of Spy Pond as seen from the Park, reminding hundreds of Arlington shoppers every day of the natural treasure lying just beyond Walgreen's store! As you draw closer, you will notice that hanging near the mural there are plastic boxes containing Friends of Spy Pond Park (FSPP) brochures and other informational materials. You realize that this is a great, new way to raise awareness about FSPP. It creates the means for disseminating important ideas to more people concerning how to make Spy Pond healthier and keep Spy Pond Park beautiful.

We hope this dream will become reality this coming May, assuming the mural gets approved by the town Zoning Board. The Friends of Spy Pond Park (FSPP) has agreed to be a fiscal sponsor and contribute \$500 towards the project (which will support FSPP's outreach and membership goals). Anne and Christopher Ellinger, who are long-time FSPP members offering use of the large wall on which the mural will be painted, have agreed to spearhead the fundraising effort for the \$5,500 project.

They could use your help. Might you be open to make a donation to FSPP earmarked to support the mural? You could help in other ways, too: get copies of our fundraising materials and invite one or two town businesses to contribute; help write a grant proposal to the Arlington Cultural Council; or other ideas you may



Please note that this is a very preliminary and rough sketch of what's planned – just to give a general idea. The artist is still very open to input and ideas. Most likely the three windows across the bottom can be boarded over and then included in the painting. An area on the lower right or left will be reserved to name the mural sponsors, and an information box set up to the left of the mural for brochures.

have. If interested, please contact [anne.ellinger@gmail.com](mailto:anne.ellinger@gmail.com). Send donations made out to FSPP to Anne Ellinger, 21 Linwood St., Arlington MA 02474.

Accomplished mural painter Alex Cook has done the preliminary sketch below. Next Spring, when Alex paints the mural, he will offer several Q+A sessions for anyone interested in learning how to paint murals.

The Friends of Spy Pond Park is excited about this opportunity. Wish us luck with the Zoning Board, and hope to see you at the completion party in May!

## Alex Cook – Muralist

Alex is a muralist, sculptor, musician, poet, and storyteller. He has painted over 50 murals all over the US and in Kenya. His work has been shown in galleries and on street corners.

Beginning with his first mural in 1997 Alex began to feel deeply that to express beauty and wonder in public settings is a holy and life-saving activity. Since then his conviction has grown that soulful, loving art, brought to the public mind and eye has the power to transform and save lives.

Alex's murals draw on nature, the human figure, symbol, and story to bring their messages of uplift. He creates realistic and fantastic worlds of vastness and intimacy, gravity and delight.

From 1998 to 2001 Alex lived in Athens, GA, working for The Institute for Violence Prevention, painting murals and leading workshops with adjudicated youth. In 2001, he moved to Boston where he continued painting murals and working as an educator at Dorchester High School and Community Academy (a school for "at-risk" high-schoolers).

In 2004 Alex founded Art Builds Community, an organization which hires Boston teens and teaches them the art of mural painting and practical art. In 2007 he handed over the reins of the organization in order to pursue his own art more fully. The organization continues and is looking forward to its 5th season.

Alex's words, paintings and sculpture have been featured in the Boston Herald, MediaArts Magazine, the Christian Science Monitor, the University of Massachusetts Alumni Magazine, Athens Magazine (Athens, GA), and several local newspapers.

# Holistic Environmental Health

by Uta Marion Low

I finally made it to the Waterhouse Wellness Center in Arlington several weeks ago and had Reiki and Swedish massage with Dr. Ricia Fleming. Ricia has donated several ½ hour massages as a reward for people who have volunteered their time and energy to help beautify Spy Pond Park. I am very glad I went to Ricia to receive the wonderful treatment I describe below.

Reiki is similar to CranioSacral Therapy which uses very light touch and is extremely relaxing. CranioSacral Therapy works with the body's central control and guidance system: the brain and the spinal cord. It coordinates the flight/freeze responses and relaxation response. Ricia also works with Somato Emotional Release that is an expansion of CranioSacral Therapy. It frees the spirit and the body of traumas of the physical forces from accidents, injuries and emotional shock on the body, clearing negative memories and emotions. CranioSacral Therapy works with the central nervous system. It has been used to help Vietnam Veterans and, after 9/11, people at Ground Zero. It also has been used with people with chronic pain, chronic fatigue and stress related problems. In short, it helps recipients regain balance. Reiki is gentle and non-intrusive therapy. Just as the Wellness Center, it is extremely peaceful, meticulously clean and physically, emotionally and spiritually relaxing.

Ricia is very professional and knowledgeable about Reiki, massage and psychotherapy. She is calm, gentle, reassuring, open, friendly and welcoming. She provides a soothing, professional presence and adjusts the strength of her massage to the wishes of her clients. I felt extremely relaxed after the experience, ached slightly the following day, like after exercising, and felt very invigorated.

I can highly recommend the experience to anyone in our presently very stressful technological age and it would certainly be very beneficial for people involved in the maintenance and beautification of Spy Pond Park. It is also an excellent balance to all those who do strenuous garden-work at home during the summer and fall.

Just as Ricia tries to create a physical, emotional and spiritual balance in her clients through Reiki and massage, so the FSPP seeks to create an ecological and visual balance in the Park and around the Pond through what it endeavors.

Dr. Ricia Fleming, NCTMB  
Licensed Psychotherapist  
National Certified Massage and Bodyworker  
CranioSacral (Upledger) Therapy  
SomatoEmotional Release  
Reiki, Deep Tissue, Hot Stone

Collaborative Mindfulness Massage  
781-639-4453  
Water House Wellness Center  
742 Mass. Ave.  
Arlington, MA. 02474  
Massage  
30 minutes \$ 40.00  
60 minutes \$ 75.00

## Editorial Comment:

The FSPP greatly appreciates Dr. Ricia Fleming's most generous support of the efforts of the members of our organization to maintain the wondrous beauty of Spy Pond Park. Other businesses can reward our volunteers by giving them free coupons as an incentive and reward for the remainder of this summer and into the fall. Try to find other businesses that want to and can support the efforts of the Friends of Spy Pond Park. Tell them they can make more people aware of the services they offer in this valuable way. They can send their contact information to Eric Berger at [berkshire2@juno.com](mailto:berkshire2@juno.com).

## RIP Marilyn the Coyote

by Betsy Leondar-Wright

The fiberglass coyote, which FSPP planted on the shore of Spy Pond to dissuade too many geese from congregating at the park, disappeared in mid-July, presumably taken by a thief or vandal. Once before Marilyn, the coyote, disappeared earlier this summer, but Jacob Friis found it floating on the water in two pieces, head and body, and she was put back together and re-planted. But this time it doesn't seem to be anywhere around the pond.

The coyote was named after Marilyn Hepner, FSPP's former Treasurer, who passed away in 2005; it was purchased with money donated in her memory. I'm sure that if she looks down on Spy Pond from her well-deserved goose-poop-free heaven, she would be pleased that her namesake contributed to two of the years in the last decade with the least goose overpopulation in the Park.

The coyote, however, can't take all the credit for the lowered goose population. The egg oiling seems to work well. Some swans have also taken the area near the park as their territory this summer, and they are scaring away many of the geese, so we don't seem to have the oversized flocks in the park that we had in past years.

Nevertheless, I'd love to deliver to the thief's home any goose poop that may appear throughout Spy Pond Park because of the theft of Marilyn. And may the honking of a thousand geese ring over and over in the ears of the thief for days on end as a haunting reminder of his/her misdeed!

## Spy Pond is my...

by Betsy Leondar-Wright

When I commuted from Alewife T station, I used to look at the pond every weekday as I walked by. I got in the habit of thinking "Spy Pond is my..." filling in the blank, and then expanding my answer into a little tiny "poem" about what I saw.

Here are 9 of them. I offer them to FSPP not because they're great poetry, but in hopes of starting a trend. When you walk by Spy Pond, what is the pond to you at that moment? How about sharing your answer with other pond lovers?

We could also start a series of cynical ones, if that's more your bent. For example:

"Spy Pond is my garbage dump.  
Yes, I do own the place."

E-mail your answer (heartfelt or sarcastic) to the newsletter editor at [berkshire2@juno.com](mailto:berkshire2@juno.com) and he'll run some others' answers in a future issue or on the website.

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Spy Pond is my stained glass window  
Red, yellow, green leaves shimmer

Spy Pond is my mirror  
Smooth silver, reflecting moon face

Spy Pond is my sky  
Vast expanse of cornflower blue

Spy Pond is my lap blanket  
Fluffy gray for winter coziness

Spy Pond is my hammock  
Calm expanse strung between trees

Spy Pond is my flag  
Waving rippled by the wind

Spy Pond is my jungle gym  
Inspiring kinesthetic glee

Spy Pond is my pop-up book  
Animal surprise at every turn

Spy Pond is my snowball fight  
White and wet, exhilarating

## Fauna Galore

By Betsy Leondar-Wright

Several years ago, I took the then-editor of the Arlington Advocate out on Spy Pond in a kayak to show him the sandbar by the Rt. 2 drain - but of course along the way I also showed him lots of the Pond's wonders.

I told him, "I go boating on the Pond about 20 times in a summer, and every single time I have a new and different animal encounter." He quoted me in the article as saying, "Every time I go boating on Spy Pond, I have one animal encounter or another." I don't think he was just editing my quote for length; I think when he got back to his office and looked at his notes, he couldn't believe he had it right. How could someone have 20 unique and different experiences with animals in 20 boat trips on a small pond?

But in truth, it's a rare occurrence if I paddle the Pond and only run into animals I've seen already that summer, doing things I've already seen them do. There's always something new going on.

Some new animal encounters are the predictable "firsts" of the season: the first nesting goose, the first baby cygnet riding its parent's back, the first turtle sunning itself on a warm branch, or, in the fall, the first huge flock of birds migrating South.

But others are more surprising - or even better - mysterious questions I can't answer:

- Why was there a cream-colored cormorant on a log this year, when in the past they've all been solid black?
- Why do certain fish start thrashing around and hurling themselves out of the water at one point every July?
- Since most swan families have two adults (or just one), what's up with the trio of adults and two cygnets hanging together near the Park this year?
- Where does the visiting great blue heron hide when I startle it and it flies across the pond and disappears?
- Why do the swans sometimes hiss and snap to chase the ducks away and sometimes coexist with them peacefully?

And then there are the mysterious absences. To where did all the muskrats disappear? Has our night heron, that spent his days under the willows across from Spy Pond Condos for four summers in a row, disappeared forever?

We're so lucky to get to live in the suburbs of a major metropolis and still get to have so much wildlife right here in East Arlington, thanks to Spy Pond.

## Arlington Town Day: September 20

Soon it will be Town Day on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We will again have a FSPP booth where we will offer games for children to play, make passers-by aware of our beautiful Park and what our organization does, recruit members, and sell t-shirts.

Kathy Modigliani, who is organizing our Town Day booth, is looking for your help. You can sign up for 1–2 hour time slots to assist setting up, breaking down, or helping out during the day. Kathy also needs some quick, new children's games/activities on paper, related to the environment, that we could have at the booth. If you can offer your assistance, please contact Kathy at [kmodigliani@hotmail.com](mailto:kmodigliani@hotmail.com) or call her at 781-643-0766

Be sure to come see us on September 20 to pay dues, buy a tee shirt or just stop by and say "hello."

## Our Award-Winning Contractor

by Betsy Leondar-Wright

I went to the New England Flower Show this past March, and there I saw the garden exhibit by Heimlich Nurseries, the Woburn business that implemented the present design for Spy Pond Park.

The exhibit was called "Looking Up." It was about the size of an East Arlington backyard, full of hundreds of low flowers in the front, flowering bushes and a towering waterfall fountain in the middle, and tall trees behind. The waterfall fell from a rough horizontal granite slab, which was balanced on top of two very tall rough stone pillars reminiscent of Stonehenge.

Besides the President's Award and two awards given by judges for the "best azaleas or rhododendrons" and "best perennials and bulbs," the Heimlich exhibit also won the People's Choice Award (based on a visitors' vote taken during the first two days of the Flower Show) and the Exhibitors' Award (based on a secret ballot of all professional exhibitors.) Since the Flower Show had hundreds of stunning floral arrangements, plants and gardens, they had to beat out some stiff competition to get all these awards.

Some of the other professional garden exhibits relied on gimmicky or prefabricated elements, such as a tall statue of two

frogs kissing, or daffodils arranged to spell a word. The Heimlich exhibit had nothing like that -- nothing that you wouldn't want in your own yard or park, in other words. It was just plants chosen, grown and arranged well around a striking stone waterfall.

When I first saw the beautiful combinations of stones (with harmonious color and shape combinations) that Todd Heimlich chose for Spy Pond Park, I told him that I was surprised he was such an artist of stones. Now that I've seen another of Heimlich's garden designs, I realize that I shouldn't have been surprised, because it's a hallmark of their business.

## Rain Gardens

by Elizabeth Karpati

A few years ago some leaching catchbasins were installed around Spy Pond to trap and filter rainwater and keep debris and pollutants from washing straight into the pond. Vision 2020 Spy Pond Committee enjoyed a presentation on rain gardens, which are a prettier version of the same idea. They involve creating a low area planted with native species and directing runoff into it to soak into the soil gradually.

A rain garden is not a wetland. It has a deep bottom layer of porous soil (made by adding liberal amounts of sand or gravel) so that the trapped rainwater drains within two days. Many plants that like lots of moisture but don't want constantly wet feet will enjoy life in a rain garden. Mosquitoes, on the other hand, are not a concern: unless we get weather conditions resembling Noah's flood, the garden will drain before any eggs laid in the collected water can develop to the hatching stage.

A rain garden set in a lawn looks like an island of lush vegetation in a sea of grass. It can handle the runoff from a roof about three times its size. It needs to be located a little distance from the house so that the water percolating into the soil does not seep into the basement. Another place for a rain garden would be as a strip along the bottom of a gently sloping lawn. If this is a pondside lawn, the "island" of plants may even serve as a bit of a deterrent to Canada geese swimming along and looking for a lawn to graze.

An added benefit of a rain garden is that it replaces part of a lawn, because lawns hog water, fertilizer, and pesticides -- the National Wildlife Federation estimates that anywhere from 30 to 60 percent of potable water in this country is gulped by lawns!

The presentation to the Spy Pond Committee provided printed handouts only; but coincidentally at this year's New England Flower Show the Massachusetts Horticultural Society was also promoting rain gardens, and it mentioned two websites. Anyone who is inspired to consider creating a rain garden is invited to check the following for how-to information:

<http://www.umext.maine.edu/onlinepubs/htmpubs/2702.htm>,  
<http://www.rewaterlady.com/>

**Friends of Spy Pond Park  
next meeting  
at  
Karen Grossman's  
Sunday, Sept. 7, 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
32 Hamilton Road #402**

RSVP to 781-646-5990  
email [klgwoman@comcast.net](mailto:klgwoman@comcast.net)

Park on Linwood Street off Mass. Ave. or on Lakehill off  
Lake St. at the far end of the complex.

**To join Friends of Spy Pond Park...**

Send your annual dues of (\$15 individual, \$25 household,  
\$5 low-income) to  
FSPP, P.O. Box 1051  
Arlington, MA 02474-0021

For more information, call a Friends officer.

- President: Karen Grossman (781) 646-5900
- General Vice-President: Open
- Treasurer: Eric Baatz (781) 641-7479
- Recording Secretary:  
Elizabeth Karpati (781) 643-4172
- Chair for Publicity and Outreach:  
Eric Berger (781) 859-5096
- Co-Chairs for Beautification: Open
- VPs for Communications(Newsletter):  
Eric Berger (781) 859-5096  
Jamie Ciocco (781) 316-1662
- Website Chair: Fred Moses (617) 304-4451
- Outreach/Park Events Coordinator:  
Anne Ellinger (781) 646-1705

For newsletter contributions, contact [berkshire2@juno.com](mailto:berkshire2@juno.com)

Friends of Spy Pond Park  
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