



# Maudslay Equestrians Newsletter

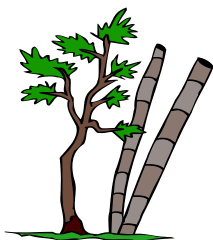
March  
2011

## News Notes .....

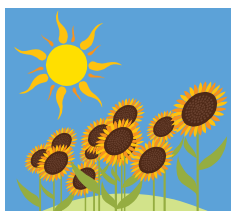
The eagles have returned to the river for the winter and all is peaceful and good.



News from Joan Ganotis that the Memorial Tree planted in memory of Nancy Dillon has been planted along the field in the park.



**BRING ON THE  
SUNSHINE !**



## **SPRING IS ON IT'S WAY !!**

The Maudslay State Park Association of which The Maudslay Equestrians are a part, held a meeting in February and discussed our plans for the Spring which will include a trails cleanup day, date to be determined but probably some time in early April. It will depend on nature's own "thaw schedule" so we just have to wait to set the date. Right now access to the inside of the park is very limited, so winter tree and trail damage will have to be assessed later in the season.

Although the trails are not really good for riding right now...with all the crusty deep snow...the park is alive with cross country skiers and snow shoers.

We discussed the entrance to the field parking for trailers, and have been assured that the park will be working on our access to the field and will either change the approach to parking, or improve the footing at the entrance, so be on the lookout for a possible fence reconfiguration at the entrance to the field.

## **ANNUAL CHILI FUNDRAISER - Sunday 11/27/11**

We have already scheduled our trail ride for this year, Sunday Nov. 27, 2011. The Annual Chili Ride has been a very successful fundraiser as well as a fun day for all. We are discussing earmarking our funds, as well as funds from other campaigns, for the pond restoration project and are forming a sub-committee for the project. See more on this on the next page.



Over 60 riders enjoyed the ride held on the last Sunday in November 2010 and \$1,200 was raised to help the park with renovations and restorations. The Chili Ride is important not only for the money it raises, but because it shows that the equestrian community is willing to support efforts to keep the park open and available for multi use.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - KIM HACKETT-ORT [roadking09@comcast.net](mailto:roadking09@comcast.net)

Newsletter prepared by [Meadowbrookdesigns.net](http://Meadowbrookdesigns.net)

## The Bridge - An Iconic symbol of the Park

The three arched bridge that connects the two sides of the park is frozen and is usually the last part of the park to thaw in Spring. The bridge spans the reflecting pond and connects the park to the mile loop which borders the river on one side and is lined with rhododendrons on the backside.



The bridge is one of the hallmarks of the park and is part of our equestrian trail system. The mortar on the bridge

*As we discussed at the Maudslay Meeting in February, sadly, both the bridge and the pond are showing signs of age and are in need of our attention.*

is crumbling and some of the stones are falling out. Every year the damage is more evident. There is some talk of perhaps trying to get an eagle scout to fix the bridge or hiring a mason to repair the bridge while it's still manageable.

## The Reflecting Pond - In danger of fading away

The pond teems with life in the Spring where the turtles can be seen sunning themselves, one of the first signs of spring. The pond restoration is not an easy project. Due to a variety of reasons, including beaver damage, our beautiful reflecting pond is drying up and becoming a hazard instead of the beautiful, peaceful retreat it was intended to be.

We are exploring several options available to address these two issues and restore them back to their original condition. Pictures of the area as it was originally conceived are available for view at the park headquarters, as well as many other pictures of the Maudslay properties and gardens in their glory days.

We have contacted the officials at DCR and we are looking forward to working with the state on a possible restoration project. As with any major project, funding is needed.

We, as an equestrian group, have already given the park over \$2,000.00 in donations and will continue to promote our "adopt an acre" program which goes directly to the park



**See the next page for information about the Adopt An Acre Program as well as membership in the Maudslay Park Association**

## Adopt An Acre Program

The Maudslay State Park Association invites individuals and groups to share its goal of preserving and protecting the natural beauty of Maudslay State Park by participating in the **Adopt-An-Acre** program.

**Adopt-An-Acre** allows sponsorship of a favorite spot at Maudslay State Park for one year. The adoption fee is \$50.00 per acre and includes free membership to the Maudslay State Park Association, also known as the "Friends Group". Members receive a seasonal newsletter and a seasonal calendar of events.

All participants in the **Adopt-An-Acre** program will be showcased at the Visitor's Center at Maudslay State Park and in the "Maudslay Views" newsletter, a seasonal publication distributed by the Maudslay State Park Association.

Funds raised by the **Adopt-An-Acre** program will be earmarked for the General Fund of the Maudslay State Park Association to maintain and enhance the park as determined by its Board of Directors

To **Adopt-An-Acre**, please complete an application and mail it along with your check to: **Adopt-An-Acre**, Maudslay State Park Association, 74 Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport, MA 01950

**Adopting-An-Acre** does not require any maintenance of the acre site by the Adopting party nor does it allow any demarcation of the site by the Adopting party.



*The Adopt An Acre Program Application is on the back page.*

*We have also included a membership application for the Maudslay State Park Association.*

*Get involved !!!*

## Maudslay State Park Association Membership

The Maudslay State Park Association (MSPA) is a non-profit, tax-exempt membership organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of the natural, historical, and horticultural resources of Maudslay State Park.

The MSPA aims to promote educational, cultural and recreational use of the Park consistent with the conservation of its terrain; to support the quiet enjoyment of the land; and to foster research and education about the history of the Maudslay property.

## The Park and Horses .....

The Park continues to provide a haven for horseback riders. Here we have a place virtually free from deerfly in the summer, with cool breezes provided by the Merrimack River and the nearby Atlantic Ocean. Intrusions by motorized vehicles are non-existent except for the occasional park ranger's vehicle. There is easy access to a flat, dry grassy field for trailer parking as well as access to public toilets. The trails are well maintained with beautiful views of rolling meadows and the Merrimack River. Pathways wind through towering pines and acres of mountain laurel and rhododendrons. It is a place designed for the genteel enjoyment of the outdoors.



For a \$2 parking fee, you can spend the day riding and picnicking and return home refreshed and happy. Please consider joining the Association and/or donating your time for our Park Work Days and Trail Cleanup Days.



# Adopt – An – Acre Application Form

**YES, I / We** want to participate in the **Adopt-An-Acre** program to support the Maudslay State Park Association.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Your adoption will expire 12 months from this date.)

How many acres are you adopting? 1 2 3 4 5 (Circle One. A maximum of five acres may be adopted)

**Number of Acres** you are adopting \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50 per acre. **Total Adoption Fee = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

If you are Adopting-An-Acre in honor or in memory of someone, please provide the following info

Honoree's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Maudslay State Park Association and mail this form to:  
**Adopt-An-Acre Maudslay State Park Association**  
**74 Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport, MA 01950**

MAUDSLAY STATE PARK  
ASSOCIATION



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Enroll me as a member

\_\_\_ \$15 Year Individual \_\_\_ \$20 Year Family

I would like to make a tax deductible gift to

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Garden Committee

**Please make checks payable to  
Maudslay State Park Association  
and return this form to:**

**MSPA, 74 Curzon Mill Road,  
Newburyport, MA 01950**

*The MSPA is a registered 501(c)(3) organization in Massachusetts.  
Donations are tax deductible as allowable by law.*