

The Hermann Park
Conservancy is a citizens'
organization dedicated
to the stewardship and
improvement of Hermann
Park — today and for
generations to come.









Do you remember your first ride on the Hermann Park train? A tradition

enjoyed for over 50 years, riding the train remains a precious memory for many grown up visitors to Hermann Park. In fact, many Park patrons often describe how special it is to be able to share the experience with their children and grandchildren today.

Of course, every 50 years or so, even the best of traditions may be in need of an update. Hermann Park Conservancy took on the renovation and improvement of the train and its track this year, showcasing the new train and extended route to an enthusiastic public in March. As a part of our strategic direction to generate additional funding for Park operations, the Conservancy was pleased to take over management of the train this year. Now, not only will Hermann Park Railroad be an enjoyable activity for Park-goers, but it will produce valuable revenue to support Park maintenance.

And soon, our train will have a worthy new home! Kinder Station will greet visitors to the new Lake Plaza, scheduled to open in March 2009. Lake Plaza will offer many new amenities to Park visitors, including a café and dining terrace, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation Bridge, boathouse and maintenance facility, public restrooms, and gift shop.

The Conservancy is especially

thankful for the support of the Kinder Foundation, Houston

Endowment Inc., and The Fondren Foundation this fiscal year for helping us realize our vision for Lake Plaza.

This year we saw great enthusiasm from our community, whether at the dedication of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. statue in December, the new Hermann Park train debut, or the sold-out inaugural Bob and Elyse Lanier Awards Luncheon in March. I look forward to seeing Lake Plaza bring people together more than ever once open next year.

I am proud to have served as board chair during this exciting revitalization of Hermann Park. Established nearly one hundred years ago, it is hard not to marvel at its enduring legacy within our great city. The Conservancy would not have been able to carry out its impressive list of improvement and maintenance projects without its dedicated base of supporters. We humbly thank you for your gifts of funding, time, and encouragement. I would like to give special thanks to Mayor Bill White, City Council, and Joe Turner, director of the Parks and Recreation Department, for their support. I would also like to thank our board for their leadership, and Doreen Stoller and the Conservancy staff for all their efforts.

We hope you'll join us as we move full speed ahead in 2009!

Sincerely,

Soudd W. Short

Donald W. Short

This year, Hermann Park drew an estimated **six million visitors** — more than all of Houston's sports venues combined.

Over **288,000 tickets** were sold for the Hermann Park Railroad.

The Hermann Park pedal boats made nearly **12,000 trips** around McGovern Lake.





Hermann Park Railroad

- The new and improved Hermann Park train, with larger seats and wheelchair accessible cars, made its debut in March.
- Hermann Park Railroad's track was extended to two miles around the Park.

Japanese Garden Renovation

- Esteemed landscape architect Terunobu Nakai and landscape gardener Hiroshi lwasaki visited Hermann Park in September 2007 and March 2008 to continue restoration efforts.
- Over 30 trainees developed skills needed to volunteer in the Japanese Garden.

Lake Plaza

 Construction began on the new Lake Plaza, paving the way for its expected opening in March 2009.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Statue

 Community leaders came together in December 2007 to dedicate the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. statue in the Garden Center in Hermann Park.







Volunteer and Educational Programs

- Over 90 individuals made a visible difference by contributing more than 1,500 hours to beautify Hermann Park.
- Nearly 70 corporate, family, college, and community-based groups, pulled together almost 1,600 volunteers to complete nearly 8,000 hours of service.
- Eagle Scouts took on projects within the Park, bringing together over 60 volunteers and producing over 300 volunteer hours.
- 15 middle and high school students participated in the Conservation Posse pilot program this summer. Through a variety of educational and volunteer projects, they enthusiastically completed 900 volunteer hours.
- The Conservancy launched the Job Shadowing program, designed to give young adult volunteers the chance to learn more about working in the Park and gain valuable job skills.
- Through partnerships with Alabama-Coushatta, ExxonMobil, and Shell Oil Company, the Conservancy trained six interns, who together spent more than 1,200 hours working in the office as well as the Park, saving the Conservancy nearly \$11,000.

Stewardship and Tree Care

- Over 60 trees were planted, adding to the Conservancy's inventory of nearly 6,800 trees.
- Over 80 trees were protected prior to Lake Plaza construction.
- Over 20 trees, including large pines and live oaks, were transplanted to make way for the new train maintenance facility.
- Over 5,500 hours of maintenance were facilitated through the Harris County community service program.
- Maintenance staff completed over 3,500 hours of Park beautification.

Through volunteer and maintenance programs, Hermann Park Conservancy coordinated more than 21,000 hours of service in the Park.





- Over 1,000 runners, wheelchair racers, walkers, and children participated in Park to Park Run, an increase of 25% over 2007.
- The Evening in the Park Gala raised over \$437,000 for Conservancy programs and operations.
- Over 250 tickets were sold to the inaugural Bob and Elyse Lanier Awards Luncheon, otherwise known as the Ladies' Hat Day Luncheon. The event was recognized by the Best Charitable Events as the Best New Event of 2008.
- Urban Green, the Conservancy's young professionals' organization, continued to inspire a new generation of supporters through two signature events, the Holiday Al Fresco and Zen Dig II.









Hermann Park Conservancy is grateful to all its contributors during the 2008 fiscal year for their invaluable support.

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Mary and Terry Murphree Neenah Paper, Inc. Kim and Chris Reichert Christopher and Carol Simard Marie Swartz Vicki and Bradley Wertman Lorraine and Ed Wulfe In honor of Sanford Criner KBS Realty Advisors In memory of Jean Lykes Grace The Wilder Foundation In honor of Breckinridge Knapp Lynda and David Únderwood In honor of Christopher Lykes Knapp Lynda and David Underwood \$100-\$499 Chinhui and Eddie Allen Anonymous Madeleine and Michael Appel Sherry Applewhite Benno J. Bauer, Jr. Karen V. Bentsen Billye J. Bowman Nancy and Patton Breland Robin and Richard Brooks Ginny Burnell and Ed Szkaradnik James Carter Leslie Chandler and Brian Wong Ray Childress Auto Group Karen and Harry Deakin Julie and Ron Ďokell Anne F. Farish Nancy Farr and Mary Ann Rydowski Andréa and Ďavid Faulkinberry Kim E. Ferrarie Bill and Fredrica Fester Robert Franklin Susan and Mike Garve Lotty and Karl Gautschi Michael B. Good Rene and Mike Gregorcyk Monica and Steven Heal Dan Hedges Elizabeth and Rogers Herndon Houston Endowment Inc. Demaris and C. M. Hudspeth Mary Jo and Don Inman Jean and Richard Jenner Josephine and Philip John Betty and Jim Key Dolores and Otmar Kolber Kroger Share Card Program Diane Lee Kathy Lord/Trees For Houston Marie and Stewart Masterson Linda K. May and John Morrison Sue McRaney John Middleton Carolyn E. Mitchell Sandra and Ken Moffet Eleanor D. Montague Patrick R. Newport Tassie Nicandros JoAnn Peeks and Allan Ring Mr. and Mrs. Peter F. Quinn Macey and Harry Reasoner Barrie Scardino Leanne and Sam Scott Peggy and Bob Sides William Simmons State Employee Charitable Campaign Emily and Albert W. Stein Harry L. Stille

Letty and David Knapp

Ruth and Marvin Taylor Joe Turner Kristine and Stephen Wallace Doris A. Williams and Jeff E. Ross Susan Young In honor of Dorothy Ables Lucie Wray Todd In memory of Karen Bowen Woodway Financial Advisors In honor of Leslie and Bill Coe Carolyn and J. T. Rogers In honor of Revonda Deal's 70th birthday Sheralon Deal In honor of the GLBT Community Charles E. Armstrong In memory of Jean Lykes Grace Stewart Bertron Susan and Sanford Criner Dorothy and Samuel Crocker Susan and Richard Keeton Grace Pierce Anne and Taft Symonds In honor of Christopher Lykes Knapp Marilyn and Charles Gregg In memory of Forrester Lord Anne and Peter Brown In memory of Erin Gregory Neale Judy and James Bozeman Michael Hecker In honor of Tye Taft Kathleen and Jean Brown In memory of Grady Wicker Waldrop Douthit Design Group Desolyn Foy Willy Kuehn In honor of Suzanne and Jim Waller Shelley and Steven Lindley In memory of Grace Keller Ware Mr. and Mrs. Peter F. Quinn In honor of Beth and Joe Weikerth's Birthdays Becky and Don Hayes Kathy and Tom Tellepsen II

George Hermann Society

May Shelmire Duncan Steppie and Bob Holsclaw Jackie and Malcolm Mazow Doreen Stoller and Dan Piette John E. Walsh, Jr.

The George Hermann Society recognizes donors who have provided for the future of Hermann Park through bequests or life income gifts to Hermann Park Conservancy. The names listed in this annual report include donors who made gifts and pledges of \$100 or more during the fiscal year from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Please contact the Conservancy if we inadvertently have not included your name or if you would prefer to have your name recognized differently in future listings.

FINANCIALS

Statements of Financial Position as of June 30, 2008

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Cash Money market funds Accounts and government grants receivable Pledges receivable Prepaid expenses and other assets Investments Property, net	109,738 6,827,394 52,567 3,800,068 56,343 1,898,542 1,718,166
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 14,462,818
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Liabilities: Accounts payable and accrued expenses Construction payable Line of credit Funds held on behalf of City of Houston Total liabilities	156,253 2,299,028 1,430,461 1,138,355 5,024,097
Commitments	
Net assets: Unrestricted Temporarily restricted Permanently restricted Total net assets	1,291,007 6,400,526 1,747,188 9,438,721
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 14,462,818

Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2008

ended June 30, 2008	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
REVENUE				
Contributions	\$ 738,444	\$ 4,491,327	\$ 17,070	
Special events	662,745			662,745
Donor benefit costs – special events	(106,807)			(106,807)
Park concessions	328,266	74.205		328,266
Investment return	(144,215)	74,395		(69,820)
Total revenue	1,478,433	4,565,722	17,070	6,061,225
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Park projects and programs	1,352,475	(1,352,475)		
Total	2,830,908	3,213,247	17,070	6,061,225
EXPENSES				
Program services:				
Visitor services	1,257,897			1,257,897
Planning, design, and construction	1,146,010			1,146,010
Park program and maintenance	267,682			267,682
Total program services	2,671,589			2,671,589
Management and general	166,841			166,841
Fundraising	375,221			375,221
Total expenses	3,213,651			3,213,651
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	(382,743)	3,213,247	17,070	2,847,574
Net assets, beginning of year	1,673,750	3,187,279	1,730,118	6,591,147
Net assets, end of year	\$ 1,291,007	\$ 6,400,526	\$ 1,747,188	\$ 9,438,721



We need your help to ensure Hermann Park Conservancy's success in the upcoming year! Please continue your support and consider getting involved in new ways. Here are just a few ways you can make a difference and help us reach our goals:

Contribute to the Centennial Campaign

Help us complete the master plan for Hermann Park before its 100th Birthday in 2014! Pledges are payable over several years and naming opportunities are available.

Join or renew your Conservancy Membership

Be a part of our dedicated network of friends by becoming a Conservancy member. Members enjoy special privileges and unique opportunities. Consider giving the gift of membership for holidays and special occasions!

Plant a Tree or Dedicate Park Furnishings

Contributions to plant a tree or for a Park amenity such as a bench, picnic table, or light fixture, may be made in honor of loved ones or to celebrate special occasions.

Sponsor an Event

Encourage your company to support our environment and community by underwriting a Conservancy event. From the Park to Park Run to the Evening in the Park gala, a wide range of opportunities are available.

Join the George Hermann Society

Help ensure the well-being of Hermann Park for future generations by including the Conservancy in your estate plans. Talk to your financial advisor about naming Hermann Park Conservancy in your will or as the beneficiary of a trust or retirement account.

Volunteer

From gardening or weeding to helping out in the office or at events, volunteers are essential to the Conservancy's success.

Please visit our website, www.hermannpark.org, to donate or learn more, or call us at 713.524.5876.





Chair Donald W. Short

Executive Committee Jane Anderson Curtis Jay Baker William G. Bowen, Jr. William M. Coats Sanford W. Criner, Jr. Danny David Thomas Downing Gregg Hollenberg Margaret L. Kripke, Ph.D. Diann L. Lewter Terrylin G. Neale Warren R. Nicholson Chris J. Reichert

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Executive Director Doreen Stoller

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The Conservancy Team

Doreen Stoller **Executive Director**

John E.Walsh, Jr.

L. Burke Windham III

Joe Weikerth

Herbert Yuan

Stephanie Atwood Finance

LaTonya Dilworth Assistant Manager, Visitor Services

Mona Fluitt Development Director

Denise Furlough Special Events Manager

"Big John" Glaze Train Engineer

Barbara Jo Harwell Conservation Director

Mike Johnson Project Manager Veronica Juarez Community Development Manager

Rebecca Leija Development and Office Coordinator

Meghan Miller Major Gifts Manager

Sam Molina Volunteer and Education Coordinator

Michael Scott Maintenance Manager

Daniel Tighe Project Manager

Eliza Wright Marketing Manager



These lists reflect those who were members of the board or staff during the fiscal year 2008.



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