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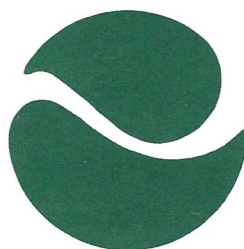
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"A
river
is more than
an amenity,
it is
a
treasure."
Justice Wm. O. Douglas

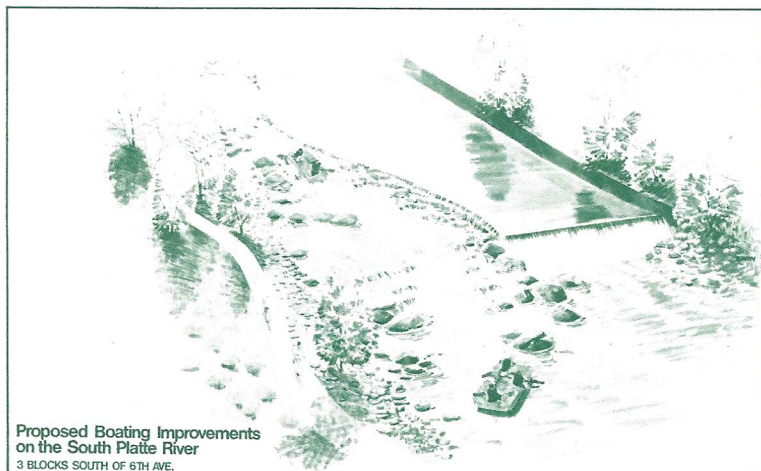
Vol. 5 No. 3
Fall 1983



THE GREENWAY NEWS

Third Avenue Boat Chute Becomes a Reality

Due to the combined generosity of the Gates Foundation and the Urban Drainage & Flood Control District, the Platte River Greenway is currently constructing its **fourth** white-water boat chute. This \$250,000.00 project which began last month will change a boating liability into a major recreational asset.



Proposed Boating Improvements
on the South Platte River
3 BLOCKS SOUTH OF 6TH AVE.

The current structure is a 7-8 foot check dam which, in addition to the severe and sudden drop of the River, has a potentially dangerous back-wash problem at the base of the drop structure. In its place will be a multi-tiered boat chute which will permit the raft, canoe and kayak enthusiast a portage-free route down the South Platte from West Florida Avenue to Denver's northern border and beyond.

Our gratitude goes out to those at Gates and UDFC for making such a unique and vital improvement to The Greenway possible.

Children's Museum Opens on Greenway

by Dr. Richard Steckel — Executive Director
Children's Museum

The Children's Museum, Denver's outstanding center for family fun and discovery, will proudly open the doors of its fabulous new facility in January, 1984. The new building which is bright green with a glass pyramid at its entrance is situated in Gates-Crescent Park on the Greenway. The new Children's Museum will accommodate over 250,000 visitors per year, twice as many as we handle at our current facility at 931 Bannock Street. Not only is the new building quite unique but the location is very special to us, too. Our site is enhanced by the Gates-Crescent playground, the Platte River, the Greenway's bike path and a sensational view of the downtown skyline.

It is my hope that families will make their visit to the Children's Museum a day long event by enjoying the beautiful adjacent Greenway parks and trails, too. As the "new kid on the Greenway", we at the Children's Museum look forward to working with the Greenway Foundation to increase awareness of both our unique facilities and to provide special events and activities for the citizens of metro Denver.



1983 — A Year of Maintenance, Growth and Awareness

By Jeff Shoemaker — Executive Director

As yet another active year on the Greenway begins to wind down, I find it exciting to look back and reflect on the many accomplishments we've seen occur during the past months.

The hiker-biker trail along the Platte River in Denver is now complete, extending the entire length of the city from Bates at the south end all the way to 54th Street at Denver's north border. Thanks to the combined support of the Johnson Foundation and the Boettcher Foundation, the 1.5 mile southern extension was completed this summer along with our newest park, Grant-Frontier: West Bank. The new addition to the trail begins at this park, located just south of Evans, and extends southward to the equivalent of Bates Avenue.

Also completed this past summer, the NorthWest Denver trail connection allows the residents on the west side of I-25 a hazard free means of reaching the Platte River Greenway. This two mile long linkage begins at 19th Street and the River, heading north where it connects with Rockmont Drive. The trail resumes at I-25 and Rockmont Drive, travels under the Interstate and connects up with Jason Street. The Greenway joins with NorthWest Denver residents in thanking the Community Development Agency, the Denver Foundation, and the O'Fallon Trust for funding this needed connection.

The 1983 Greenway Trail Rangers have completed the longest and most accomplished season to date. Over 5000 miles were logged by the six member crew, on their bikes, over the course of the 16 week work schedule. In addition to picking up litter and keeping weeds and debris off the trail, this multi-faceted crew was involved with numerous other tasks ranging from River sign painting, minor carpentry work, and repair/upkeep of the Clivus-Multrum, to planting and maintaining flower gardens, assisting at all special events, and providing information and assistance to Greenway users.

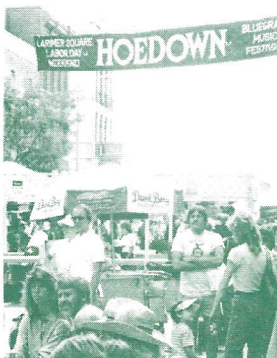
As a member of The Greenway Foundation, your contribution has helped bring about over 3500 man hours this summer spent in direct efforts to further improve our River. We hope to make even better use of this highly qualified and necessary summer crew in 1984.

Special Activities were held continually through the summer months with large crowds turning out to participate and enjoy. "A Day on the Platte in June" which combined THE GREAT RELAY RACE and THE GREENWAY'S ARTFEST brought in excess of 1,500 people to Confluence Park. Relay Race participants and ArtFest enthusiasts, along with music, clowns, arts and crafts displays, and lots of food and beer, helped make the day a memorable one.

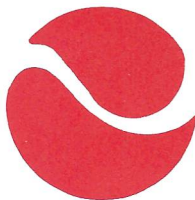
Our three CONCERTS ON THE GREEN also brought record crowds. An estimated 3,000 music lovers turned out at the Confluence Park Amphitheatre over the course of the summer to hear jazz, classical, and Top-40 favorites.



Don Cordova, Board Member of the Denver Foundation, and new friends on the Northwest Trail Connection.



HOEDOWN AT LARIMER SQUARE over the Labor Day Weekend was a marvelous new experience for The Greenway. In our new role as co-sponsor, this three day Country Faire kept us hopping. Large selections of food, crafts, and country music filled The Square during the holiday weekend. Our thanks goes to the tremendous folks at Larimer Square for allowing us to be a part of this unique festival.



THE GREENWAY

November 15, 1983

Dear Friend of the River:

It is always a pleasure to be able to report progress to the users of a facility that they have helped make possible. The year of 1983 was a good one for our project and on behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to thank you for your continuing support and usage of this unique resource.

With the help of generous donations to this public/private partnership, we:

- Completed the Northwest Connection Trail to provide access to the Northwest residents of Metro Denver.
- Completed the South Connection of improvements including the Grant Frontier Park . . . bringing the trail and improvements all the way south to Bates Avenue.
- Expanded our Trail Ranger Program to include five rangers plus supervisor from Memorial Day to Labor Day on the 10 miles of trail.
- Received a grant from the Gates and Atlantic Richfield Foundations to refurbish the dam at 3rd Avenue . . . providing a safe 'boat cut' through the structure
- Provided the public with three Concerts on the Green at Confluence Park and an expanded Great Relay Race along the River's corridor.

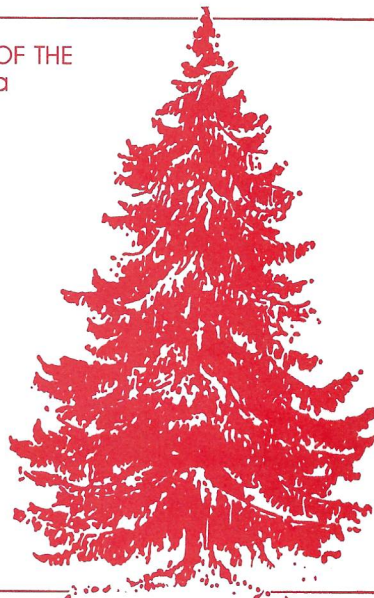
This past year we emphasized public awareness and maintenance of the trail and parks that make up the Greenway Project through Denver. With your help in 1984, we would like to emphasize the educational value of THE ONLY RIVER IN TOWN.

As 1983 draws to a close, we invite your participation in the further 'GREENING OF THE PLATTE'. For a \$50 tax deductible investment in the Greenway, you can donate a living Christmas tree to beautify your 18 parks along the River.

What better Christmas gift than committing a tree in the name of a loved one or friend on the River! For your donation, we will:

- Send your designated recipient a certificate indicating your gift.
- Send you a copy of THE OTHER COLORADO (a full color descriptive booklet on the trails of Colorado).
- The Greenway Newsletter to yourself and to your loved one or friend for a full year.

Our commitment to this project has been continuous over the past 9 years. We hope you will join us as an 'investor' in this exciting project. Please use the following form and the enclosed business return envelope for your convenience in returning your HOLIDAY TREE FOR A FRIEND donation to the Greenway Project.



Best regards and see you on the river!

Board of Directors of the Greenway Foundation;


Joe Shoemaker, Chairman


Ted Bendelow, Treasurer



Bill Avery

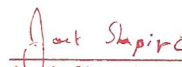

Bill DeGroot


Edna Doyle

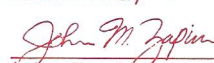

Carol Gessard


Marjorie Hornbein


Glenda Lyle


Jack Shapiro


Judith Wray


John Zapfen

Name of RECIPIENT for the HOLIDAY TREE _____

Address of RECIPIENT _____

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

The FRIENDS OF THE RIVER PARTY on September 11th helped us bring this fabulous summer season to a close with our annual "end-of-the-year" fiesta at The Chili Pepper Restaurant. A large crowd filled the patio overlooking Gates-Crescent Park as Bob Palmer, Mayor Pena, and the Greenway Foundation Board of Directors all joined the rest of the party to honor our 1983 FRIENDS OF THE RIVER AWARD Winners (featured in the July Newsletter).

Each year brings more improvements, additions, and refinements to your River. Our proposed theme and primary goal for 1984 is to concentrate and promote our efforts toward encouraging the various educational institutions to include Denver's newest and greatest natural amenity as a regular part of their curriculum.

All of our efforts, however, are dependent upon your continued support. We are extremely grateful for the important part you've played in 1983. Together, 1984 will see us continue to make The Platte River Greenway one of Denver's greatest gifts to its residents and visitors. Always remember: "IT'S THE ONLY RIVER IN TOWN!"

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Mayor Pena, along with Greenway Board Members help honor the Friends of the River Award Winners.

South Platte River Master Planning

The Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, joined by over a dozen local governments, has contracted with Wright Water Engineers to provide a Master Plan for the South Platte River from Chatfield Dam to Brighton. Identifying the flood plains, drainage problems, conflicting uses, and recreational opportunities are just some of the items in the work program. Eventually, public hearings will be held to get citizen input for better use of the River corridor.

The entire process, as directed by Ben Urbonas of the Drainage District Staff, is an exciting opportunity to plan for upgrading the uses of the River corridor. A periodic report in the form of a Newsletter will be furnished to interested citizens. If you wish The Greenway to include your name as one who wishes to receive the Reports on the Master Planning, use the back of this Greenway Newsletter which, upon receipt in The Greenway office, will be forwarded to Urban Drainage and Flood Control District.

Update of Colorado Greenway Planning

The Greenway Foundation, with a Piton Foundation grant of \$40,000, has contracted with Urban Environments, Ltd., to provide the preliminary design for eight trail loops in the Denver area, all connecting to the South Platte River. The State Legislature, in Session in October, appropriated \$300,000 of additional lottery proceeds, at the request of the Governor and the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, to fund the final design and construction of the necessary linkages of one of the eight loops under consideration by the Greenway. One of the conditions of the Appropriation is that the \$300,000 must be matched by the local governments involved. This is a prototype for a state-wide program of the Division, using proceeds from the lottery.

The Greenway plans to select one loop of the eight (four on the west side of the River and four on the east side) in December, finish final design by January 1984, go to bid in February and commence construction in March, taking seven months for construction. The completed loop will give the Legislative and Executive branches an opportunity to see whether state lottery funds are being put to good use. It will provide local governments and the State Division with an example of how to combine local lottery funds with state lottery funds and private funds to benefit large numbers of Colorado citizens. State Parks Director Ron Holliday has named Ralph Schell of his staff as Coordinator to work with the Greenway on this first and important combined use of lottery funds. Subsequent combined projects will be under the direction of Mr. Schell. The Greenway is enthusiastic about the concept and looks forward to working with the many interests involved to turn out a first rate recreational amenity.

The Greenway Foundation Salutes:

- 1) **The 1983 Greenway Trail Rangers**
 - Chuck Longwell-Supervisor
 - Merle Grimes-Assistant Supervisor
 - Lynn Pagano
 - Doug Owens
 - Chris Jensen
 - Randy Law
- 2) **Arkansas Valley Seed Co. (Mr. Tom Vogus-Owner)**
for donating wild flower and wildgrass seed to The Greenway.
- 3) **Metro Denver Sewage-Disposal District #11(Bill Martin and Marvin Webb)**
for donating several pounds of their sludge product used as fertilizer for wild grass seeding at Habitat Park.
- 4) **Cub Scout Pack #195 (and project leader Don Bowden)**
for spending several weekends on a litter cleanup of the entire 10.5 mile, 400 acre Greenway System. This project helped the Cubs earn the SOAR (Save our American Resources) Badge.

THE GREENWAY FOUNDATION
1666 SO. UNIVERSITY BLVD.
DENVER, CO 80210
(303) 698-1322

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