



MAUDSLAY VIEWS - SPRING 2017

74 CURZON MILL ROAD, NEWBURYPORT, MA
<http://www.maudslayassociation.org/>

The Association is a 501(c)3 organization in the State of Massachusetts and all donations are tax deductible as allowable by law.

Letter from the President of MSPA

Dear 2016 MSPA Members and Donors:

Hoping that 2017 finds you and your family healthy and happy!

We take this opportunity each Spring to invite you to our Annual Board of Director's Meeting and Election of Officers, scheduled for March 23rd, 2017 at 7PM in Ober House (Park Headquarter). All members are welcome to attend.

In an effort to keep you updated on activities and projects in the Park, we have a "Maudslay State Park Association" Facebook Page and www.MaudslayAssociation.Org is our Website. Please check one or both sites for updates on the Chili Ride in November and other events held throughout the year. We are 100% volunteers, so please be patient with our efforts.

Our largest project to date is the Restoration of the Flowering Pond. When reading the committee report, you will see that, thanks to your generosity, we are believe by this time in 2018, the project will be 100% complete. Again, thanks to your support we have been able to apply and receive matching grants for this project, located in the very center of the Park.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), which is the department who oversees all state owned parks, has entered into an Historic Curatorship Program for 2 separate properties in the Park. The first property is the Bell House and Barn located on Pine Hill Ave. and the 2nd is the Coachman House and its Outbuildings located on Curzon Mill Rd. These public-private partnerships are to provide long-term preservation of threatened historic sites while the Curator agrees to rehabilitate, manage and maintain the property in return for a long-term lease. You can see a list of MA. Curatorship properties at: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/stewardship/curator/current-properties.pdf>.

We all know that the State's budget for parks has steadily declined. Therefore, the State has implemented parking fees. Those fees are not appropriated for Maudslay, but spread throughout the State Park System. The parks can no longer run 100% on state funding, yet we all want our beautiful park kept up to the standards we have enjoyed. This is why we (MSPA) especially thank our long-term, current and new supporting members!! We have added new options for rejoining and new members of MSPA. Please see our enclosed envelope or our PayPal option on our secure website. *We NEVER share any of your information.....

Thank you for your continued support.
Sincerely and Thank you!!

Terry Berns

President, Maudslay State Park Association.

The Flowering Pond Report

We are ecstatic!! After 5 years of planning and fund raising, the Pond Restoration Committee can finally report that the dredging of the Flowering Pond is complete. While we plan to continue monitoring the amount of material remaining around the base of the 3 Arch Bridge, the remainder of the pond has been beautifully transformed. Although several members of the community have expressed concern regarding the ruts in the roads, we have been assured that the contractor will perform the necessary repairs once the snow has melted and the ground is more stable.

Mayer Tree Service, of Essex, has agreed to perform a huge volunteer project on Arbor Day, including limbing the tallest trees, removing dead branches and fallen trees in the landscape around the pond. We are very grateful for their donation of time towards this project.

While DCR focuses on structural work on the dam, spillway and valve, the MSPA will begin fundraising to restore the historical plantings around the pond. We are fortunate to have the expertise of the Massachusetts Master Gardeners, who have donated nearly 300 hours of volunteer time clearing out invasive plants, pruning azaleas, rhododendrons, flowering dogwoods, and removing dead wood. The Master Gardener Association has also generously donated \$1000 toward the purchase of flowering dogwoods (*cornus florida*), replacing many of which have died over the years. The 2017 fundraising goals are to replace all of the historically planted flowering dogwoods from both sides of the pond and to install temporary protection against deer damage. We have received several individual donations of \$250 each, the cost of planting a tree in memory of a loved one. Our hope is that by the Spring of 2018, we will have completed the project for the enjoyment of all who frequent the park.

If you are interested in making a donation towards completion of the Pond Restoration, please contact mamarlysedwards1@gmail.com. Please make checks payable to "MSPA" c/o Maudslay State Park 74 Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport, MA. 01950. Please note in the memo section "pond restoration".

Many thanks to all for your support,

Marlys Edwards

Chair, Pond Restoration Committee
<http://maudslayprojects.info/>

Maudslay Equestrians

Our 2016 benefit ride was cancelled due to bad weather, but we are planning to hold the 2017 Chili Ride in the fall. Check the association and the equestrian websites for details.

Kim Hackett-Ort

www.maudslayequestrians.info

Maudslay Garden Committee

Garden Committee bloomed in 2016

The MSPA Garden Committee continued to maintain the formal Italian and Rose gardens, and took on the project of re-planting the Long Courtyard Path bed that lines the path from the Courtyard to the beech hedge along the east side of the garden. Long-time Garden Committee Chair Sandee Liversidge carried out the research and provided the design for this bed, which includes hydrangea (mostly Blushing Bride, which opens white and turns rosy-pink with time) and nepeta, to complement the replanted apple trees in that bed. Combined with the white tree peonies recently added to the beds in the Italian Garden, which echo the billows of white and pink-lavender phlox later in the season, these plantings begin to provide a sense of what the garden must have been like when newly installed for the Moseley family by pioneering female landscape designer Martha Brookes Hutcheson, more than 100 years ago. The formal gardens continue to provide pleasure to many visitors, old and young, and offer a striking contrast to the naturalistic plantings of azaleas, rhododendrons, dogwood and evergreens throughout the landscape of the Park. Don't miss the display of Lemon Glow daffodils in the Long Courtyard Path bed, when they bloom early in the spring!

You can contact us for more information about the schedule of weekly meetings for the upcoming season, by sending an email to Stefanie Hufnagel (sshuf@mit.edu) or calling the headquarters (978-465-7223). We look forward to seeing you there.

Stefanie Hufnagel

Maudslay Garden Committee

<http://www.maudslaygardens.org/>

Theater in the Open

Theater in the Open will be celebrating thirty years of performing in Maudslay State Park in 2017 with another season of free theater. While our season has not yet been announced, we promise another Panto in the Spring and Shakespeare in the Summer, and of course our annual haunted fundraiser in the Fall. Many thanks to the Maudslay community for all of the love and support we've received over the past three decades. We are committed to presenting free art in, and advocating for, this incredible public land for another thirty years!

Edward F. Speck

Artistic Director

Theater in the Open

www.theaterintheopen.org

The Maudslay State Park Association is a volunteer group devoted to restoring and maintaining park facilities in a time of tight state budgets.

OUR MISSION - To assist in the operation of Maudslay State Park and to serve as liaison between the nearby communities and the Department of Conservation and Recreation. To promote the wise use of the natural and historical resources of the Park, foster its use and enjoyment by the public consistent with the protection and preservation of its environment, and engage in such educational, scientific and civic activities as will assist the State in the formation and operation of the Park. .