

Newsletter

November 2008



Newly restored stonework in time for this year's KMP Memorial Day ceremony



Aeration of trees in Kemper Memorial Park



Granite bench at Veterans' Memorial in Lasdon Park, Somers, NY

Last November, we promised to continue to work with the Board of Education to implement beautification and restoration projects to make Kemper Memorial Park a more attractive space for school and community use. Throughout the past year, our beautification committee participated in discussions with Dr. Paul Fried, Rick Marsico and Janet Buchbinder, the Board's liaisons. These meetings enabled us to discuss the Park's maintenance and to suggest ways to improve the Park's appearance. We are very pleased that all of the requests we have made so far have either been acted upon or are under serious consideration by the School District.

At one of our first meetings, we asked if something could be done about the stonework around the monument, since the stones were badly in need of cleaning and weeds were sprouting through the joints. We also suggested that it would be nice to have some flowers planted for the Memorial Day ceremony. Thanks to Dr. Fried and the Board of Education, this year's Memorial Day Ceremony in Kemper Memorial Park was enhanced by freshly power-washed and newly re-pointed stonework as well as rows of red, white and blue petunias surrounding the monument.

This August, as a result of recommendations made by an arborist hired by the District, the trees in Kemper Memorial Park were pruned and aerated to ensure their health and longevity.

This year, we also benefited from the expertise of David Miles, a retired Mamaroneck teacher and professional landscape designer who prepared for us a beautiful plan for restoring Kemper Memorial Park to its original design, incorporating new pathways, an irrigation system and plantings that will bloom from early spring to late fall. The plan has been proposed to the Board of Education and funding sources are being considered. We have also made the District aware of certain grant opportunities and they are assisting us in exploring these possibilities.

In October, our beautification committee took a field trip to the Veterans' Memorial "Trail of Honor" at Lasdon Park in Somers to get additional ideas for walkways, benches, illuminated flagpoles, etc. Many of the things we saw would be well-suited for our park, and we hope to incorporate them into a more detailed plan in the near future.

Of course, this will take money, but we are confident that it is an achievable goal that will be realized through hard work by dedicated volunteers, and a consortium of funding from the School District, grant opportunities and, as always, your continued support.

The Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund was well represented at Mamaroneck's Memorial Day Parade in May. Marching along with us this year was Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Paul Fried. We enjoyed having him and hope that he will join us again next year.



We are pleased to announce that "Wreaths Across America" has again designated Kemper Memorial Park as one of the stops it will make during its journey from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery. The wreath-laying ceremony at Kemper Memorial Park will take place on December 11. Further details will follow.

2008 Veterans Day Ceremonies

American Legion Post 90

Tuesday, November 11—11 a.m.
Veterans Memorial on Prospect Avenue
(Between Mamaroneck Ave. and Mt. Pleasant Ave.)
Village of Mamaroneck
Flag Retirement Ceremony Afterwards

American Legion Post 347

Tuesday, November 11—6:15 p.m.
American Legion Post 347 Hall
Flint Park
Village of Larchmont

Mamaroneck High School

There will be a brief ceremony in recognition of Veterans Day on Monday, **November 10, at 3:15 p.m.** at the Richard M. Kemper Park, Mamaroneck High School, Boston Post Road. Speakers will include Dr. Paul Fried, Superintendent of Schools, and representatives from the Board of Education and the MHS faculty. All are invited throughout the district and throughout the community. **Please join us!**

The Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund is a 501 (c) (3) not for profit. Please help us in our efforts. All donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law and will be matched by a generous supporter of the Richard M. Kemper Park. Checks should be made payable to the Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund (KMPPF) and mailed to: Mark Schumer, 3 Highland Road, Larchmont, NY 10538.

Thanks for your support