



McFarlane Nature Park News

Sharing with those who work and care for the Park
June 2024

McFarlane Future Fund Endowment



New benefactors with a LONG name have completed their initial donation to the endowment. The new Founding Organization to the Future Fund is the Nordic Lodge 708 of the VASA Order of America, with the Atlanta Chapter Swedish Women's Education Association. Events this year include *Valbormassoolton*, celebrated in April, and the upcoming *Midsommar* celebration on June 22. The groups found McFarlane through their loose affiliation with the Swedish School, which has held social functions at the Park for many years.

If you have Swedish heritage, you may want to stop in!



The Gardens

We had a really good show this spring because of all the rain we received. The featured *Thermopsis* provided exclamation points in the front border. The Master Gardener crew were keeping an eye out for the hundreds of ground covers they planted last fall.

In the meadow, we were able to identify some expected arrivals as seed-sprouted *Baptisia* were evident for the first time. Maypops promise to join them.



Neighbors are welcome to join the Master Gardeners on Tuesday mornings, usually about 9 a.m. or contact Kate Mason 404.983.8033 who leads the crew.

With a Little Help From Our Friends



A team of men who belong to Mentor Discover Inspire (MDI) men's group meet at the Park on Thursday evenings. When asked if they wanted a service project, they replied enthusiastically and took on the task of restoring the storage stall behind the stable, where Master Gardeners store their wheelbarrows and some tools. Power washing, scraping, painting, repairs, and a new chipped slate floor were part of the job.



MDI plans to hold a reunion of present and past members on August 3rd from 10a-6p. Men from the neighborhood are invited to join in. A flyer about activities will be posted on the sign board.

Remembering the History of McFarlane

This summary is from a conversation with neighbor and Attorney Michael Hoffman regarding his recollection of the situation at the time of Florence McFarlane's death.

"The polo field next to the Chattahoochee River, near Columns Drive, was active at the time and brought many horse-related people to the area. Their polo ponies were pasture-boarded at the McFarlane's farm and there were stables available as well.

When she passed, Adolphus "Dolph" Orthwein, a polo player, was executor of her estate.

Orthwein wanted to pass the property on to the University of Georgia, but he was warned that he had "stepped into a bee's nest" as the neighbors firmly opposed that move which would have resulted in the property being sold into the hands of developers."

(Later legal accounts indicate that he had first tried to give the property to the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area but his offer was declined since the property was not contiguous and could not be managed as part of the park.) The courts decided that The Cobb Land Trust was an appropriate recipient of the property to meet Florence's wishes.



Deerland

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Notes</u>
10/4/1990	Death of Florence McFarlane	Age 77
10/1/1992	Certificate of incorporation	The Cobb Land Trust Inc.
5/23/1993	IRS Letter 501c(3)	Verified status as non-profit
9/8/1993	Deed Transfer	Deed recorded transferring land to The Cobb Land Trust

In the 2014 Chattahoochee Plantation Community Association directory p.5 is a brief history of our area. It states, "In April 1961, House Bill No. 631 incorporated the City of Chattahoochee Plantation, GA, complete with a mayor and five-man council. Richard Simms, Jr. was the first mayor. The council members were Herman Warren, **Bill McFarlane**, Clyde King, Fred N. Brown and William A. Ward."

From Piedmont Hospital website:

1940's

"The Piedmont Hospital Board of Trustees unanimously authorizes the purchase of property known as "Deerland" on Peachtree Road from Mr. Jack J. Spalding in hopes of erecting a new hospital."

The slate roof from Deerland was subsequently moved to the new farmhouse built for the Spaldings in East Cobb County.

If you do not wish to receive quarterly newsletters from McFarlane, please send an "unsubscribe" message to karinguzy@cobblandtrust.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Water distant trees

Take a bottle of water with you when you walk the Park and give a tree a treat.

Literature Box

Be responsible for keeping literature boxes full.

Display Gardens

Join the Master Gardener crew any Tuesday morning to maintain the gardens.

Crew chief is Kate Mason. Bring gloves.

VOLUNTEERS WHO WISH TO FOLLOW UP ON THESE OPPORTUNITIES MAY

CONTACT KARIN at karinguzy@cobblandtrust.org, or 678-860-4445

www.cobblandtrust.org

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