



2024 Annual Report

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Introduction

History

- The Friends of Oak Cliff Parks Garden Club (FOCP) was organized in 2002 by David Klempin and Nola Rae Smith, with the support of John Jenkins, Regional Manager of the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department, for the purpose of restoring horticulture in and preserving the historic parks of Oak Cliff.
- FOCP is proud to be a member of the Oak Cliff Garden Forum, District X Council of Garden Clubs, Texas Garden Club and the National Garden Club. We strive to reflect in our projects the objectives of both parent organizations.



CELEBRATING 22 YEARS OF GARDENING IN OUR OAK CLIFF PARKS

Mission Statement

“ Our mission is to maintain and restore horticulture in the four historic parks of Oak Cliff, to provide educational and social activities that promote the love of gardening, to advocate for conservation and a greater appreciation of the environment, and to back public policies that support our goals. ”

Leadership Team

Board Members



Mark Lindenmayer - Vice President



Ellen Fitzsimmons - President



JD Jasso - Treasurer



Jon Papp - Past President



Barbara Barbee - Secretary



Carol Rybarski



Wendy Fenn



Birte Fehse



Judi Glazier



Timothy Clarke Jones

Honorary Board Members

The Friends of Oak Cliff Parks have been fortunate and forever grateful to have benefited by the following individuals who have served on our board. We are very grateful to these friends who have donated their time and energy in helping us make the parks in Oak Cliff a better place for all to enjoy.

- Nina Worthy
- Riley Wilson
- Steve Williams
- Becky Trevino
- Nola Rae Smith
- Cylena Smith
- Joe Revelle
- Diane Presley
- Camilla Pottinger
- Rob Nicol
- Caryl Neff
- Cynthia Mulcahy
- Bill McCain
- Helene McKinney
- Christine Massey
- Robert Mason
- Bobbie Mason
- Rosie Manzo
- Tony Maniche
- Susan Lee
- David Klempin
- Marie Jenkins
- Brian Halsell
- Frances Gonzalez
- John Mark Ellis
- Ron Blancq
- Darryl Baker
- Annemarie Bristow
- Roger Bolen

Park Highlights

2024 Volunteer Groups

A Big Thank You to:

- Boy Scout Troop 2012
- L'Oreal
- Clarion Partners
- PMG (April and December)
- Leadership Oak Cliff
- Young Men's Service League
- Girl Scout Troop 6895
- Dallas County Master Naturalists
- Dallas County Master Gardeners
- Greenspace Dallas

2024 Donors

A Big Thank You to:

- ABC Law Centers
- Adobe
- Auntie Pearl Dog Grooming
- Bellhop
- Clarion Partners
- Cretia
- Dallas County Master Gardeners
- Dallas Parks Department
- Dallas Plumber
- Dash for the Beads
- David Klempin
- David Spence
- Dial One Plumbing
- DIRT Flowers: Flowers Plants Weddings and Events
- Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center
- Dry Land Native Grasses
- Ellen Fitzsimmons
- EnergyBot
- Gil Glover
- Grapevine Vintage Railroad
- Greenspace Dallas
- Heather Lepaska
- Isla & Co.
- Jeffrey Schenkel
- JNT
- Le Sol Yoga Studio
- MR Civil Justice
- Patricia Tafoya Valenzuela
- Slaton Financial Services
- Veracruz Café
- Yeargain Foot and Ankle
- ZenBusiness

Lake Cliff

2024 Highlights

- The Crepe Myrtle area is doing well - we had a feast of blooms this year
- Lake Cliff Park hosted another successful Earth Day in April
- Unfortunately our last rose bushes on the upper level of the Rose Garden by the pavilion succumbed to rose rosette disease and we had to remove them
- We cleared the borders along the edge of the upper level ready for new planting in 2025

2025 Plans

- We have a lot of planting to do on the upper level by the pavilion!
- Lake Cliff/Founders Park Visioning Committee



Lake Cliff in Pictures



Kidd Springs

2024 Highlights

- Two Eagle Scout projects made a big impact by creating the meditation garden and resurfacing a trail in the park
- The Girl Scouts 6895 are helping us create a plant ID database for the Japanese Garden
- Amy created a wonderful dry bed
- The water feature is finally up and running again
- Several workgroups helped us with everything from cutting back bamboo, trimming irises, a LOT of mulching and forever trimming back Nandeeana....



2025 Plans

- Continue improvements to the meditation garden
- Continue expanding beds near the lake

Kidd Springs in Pictures



Kiest Memorial

2024 Highlights

- The beds survived the summer in spite of continued challenges with the rill and irrigation
- We had workays with several groups
- The Butterfly Gardens have really taken off - we spotted many more butterflies this year!
- We removed a TON of weedcloth from the beds
- We obtained recognition for Kiest with a Texas Historical Commission marker installed at the entrance of the park

2025 Plans

- Irrigation: Get the existing system working again & submit bid for a new one covering all of KMG, incl. lawns.
- Have dead magnolia trees removed
- Work with the City to finish the rill by installing overflow tank so we no longer lose 20K gallons of water daily



Kiest Memorial in Pictures



Kiest Conservation Area

2024 Highlights

- Ribbon cutting for completion of outdoor classroom in the conservation area was held in March
- We had numerous nature walks, including wildflower walks, bug walks, tree ID walks, foraging walks, birding walks and walks with pooches
- A very comfortable bird house was installed thanks to another Eagle project
- The new WFAA hiking trails at KCA were inaugurated on the 16th of November - a feat achieved through the partnership with Greenspace Dallas, WFAA and the Dallas Parks & Recreation Department

2025 Plans

- Prairie restoration by removal of invasive plants



Kiest Conservation Area in Pictures



Special Thanks



Thank you!

