

Officers and Chairpersons for Friends of Spy Pond Park*

Eric Berger from New York has a B.A. from Colgate University, an M.A. and Ed.D. from Teachers' College, Columbia University. He was Ass't. Supt. for Administration: Locust Valley Central School System, L.V., N.Y., High School Principal: Suffield School System, Suffield, Ct., Asst. Principal: Lakewood H.S., Lakewood, N.J. and Locust Valley Elementary School, L.V., N.Y., and Teacher of English. : JHS 117 - East Harlem, N.Y.C. and Pelham Memorial H.S., Pelham, N.Y. Since he has moved to Arlington, MA, he has been involved in many organizations: Friends of Spy Pond Park (FSPP) serving as General Newsletter Editor and a participant in Park maintenance, The Children's Room, and the East Arlington Good Neighbor Assn., the Huntington Theatre Company, the William O. Douglas Society, Oakland, CA, and Earth Justice.

Doris Birmingham grew up on a farm in eastern Kansas where she gardened side by side with her mother and grandmothers. She received her B.S. in occupational therapy from the University of Kansas and a Ph.D. in art history from the University of Michigan. She taught and did research in art history at universities in New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts until her retirement in 2005. She was for many years a member of the Board of Trustees and then the Board of Overseers at the Danforth Museum (ret. 2007). Since her retirement, Doris has been active in several community organizations in Arlington. She is a member of the Board of the Arlington Historical Society, for whom she also is a seasonal guide at the Jason Russell House. Doris has served the FSPP as Co-Chair for Beautification for three years.

Jamie Ciocco has been working in publishing and media for 16 years. Since 1999, he has run a small multimedia programming and design company, trendy.com, programming museum exhibits and educational software for clients including McGraw-Hill, the Franklin Institute, Hubbell Lighting, Inc., and the Liberty Science Center. Prior to that he was Lead Multimedia Programmer at SilverPlatter Education, where he programmed two CD-ROM projects that won Gold Apple Awards from the National Educational Media Network. He received his BA in English & American Literature from Harvard in 1994. Jamie returned there from 1997 to 2004 to act as Assistant Senior Tutor and Drama Tutor in residence, running a 90-seat theatre and publishing the House Facebook in both printed and online forms. He has served as the Layout Editor for the FSPP newsletter for three years.

Jason Fligg * is a fourth grade teacher in Westford where he has taught for eleven years. During the summer, Jason runs the College Gate program based at Winchester High School. He holds a M.Ed. from Fitchburg State and an undergraduate degree from Boston University. Jason grew up in Reading, MA and has lived in Arlington for the past ten years with his wife, Erin, and his dog, Cooper. In his spare time he enjoys going on long hikes with Cooper, cooking delicious meals, drinking fine wines, and enjoying the company of his friends and family. He has faithfully served the FSPP for the past two years on Work Days and recently produced and recorded a PSA for acmitv.

Karen L. Grossman is from a small town northeast of Pittsburgh, PA. She graduated from Syracuse University, B.S. and Boston University, M.Ed. and worked for 35 years as a speech and language pathologist in the Wilmington, MA Public Schools with children in preschool through high school. Karen has lived in Arlington since 1974 and currently resides on the shore of Spy Pond near the Park. She enjoys her view of the pond on a daily basis and has been involved with the FSPP since 1992. Karen has been President of the organization since she retired from full time employment in 2004, was elected to the Mystic River Watershed Association Board in November 2009 and continues to serve on the Outreach and Fundraising Committees. Her other interests include singing with the Mystic Chorale and her temple, reading, the arts, canoeing, short distance bicycling, and world travel.

Sally Hempstead * grew up in New York and Connecticut. She graduated with a BA degree from Mount Holyoke College in Art History and English Lit. She was married for forty-five years to an attorney and has a daughter in Somerville and a son living in Kure Beach, North Carolina and to her great joy, four grandchildren. She worked for thirty-five years in the real property field as a legal abstractor, legal researcher, ten years as a business owner and twenty-five years in partnership with a property attorney. She is past president of The Connecticut Association for Real Property Professionals and was the auditor of land records in her town. Connecticut government is town based not county based. For many years, she was and still is very active in church work and was chairman of the board of her local church in Connecticut. On moving to Arlington two years ago, she discovered Spy Pond and fell in love. Of course, she joined FSPP almost immediately and enjoys working with the other members in preserving this valuable resource. She also has the pleasure of reading to an extraordinary woman who is sightless once a week and babysitting for her grandchildren when time allows. Sally served the FSPP this past year as Town Day Chair and did outreach on Work Days.

Jacki Katzman still believes that the power of natural beauty is our best tool for saving the world. She holds a BA from Smith College and an MBA from the Johnson School of Management at Cornell University. She formerly worked on the bleeding edge of the information technology sector as a public relations and business communications expert. She studied at Landscape Institute at Harvard, the Arnold Arboretum and the New England Wildflower Society, and has worked as a residential landscape gardener. Jacki has been FSPP Co-Chair for Publicity since January 2010.

Betsy Leondar-Wright first participated in environmental advocacy during the nuclear power movement in the 1970s. She worked as a community organizer in low-income communities for a decade, including running youth programs at an urban community garden. Much of her work for progressive non-profits, including nine years at United for a Fair Economy, has involved public education and media relations. Betsy has a BA and MA in sociology from Boston College. She is the author of [Class Matters: Cross-Class Alliance Building for Middle-Class Activists](#) and the co-author of [The Color of Wealth: The Story Behind the U.S. Racial Wealth Divide](#). Betsy has been active in the FSPP since 1997, is a Past President and now focuses on children's activities and public education through performance and art serving as FSPP Co-Chair for Park Events.

Gail Teschmacher McCormick has an MSW from Columbia University and created OUR FRAGILE EARTH, a collection of paintings dealing with environmental issues, exhibited in museums, university art galleries and by the United Nations. She helped develop and is currently a board member of HealthLink, a Massachusetts North Shore citizens group working to protect public health by eliminating toxins in the environment through research, education and community action. Gail has been active with the FSPP for the past two years, now lives in Arlington, and has been FSPP Co-Chair for Beautification since January 2010. She is also Co-Chair of Sustainable Arlington.

Marshall McCloskey grew up in Philadelphia, PA, earned a Masters degree in Electrical Engineering from MIT in 1961-62. He met and married a local girl from Medford, MA, and bought a house in Arlington in 1968, where they raised 4 sons, and lived for 30 years, except for the six years in Huntington Beach, CA. He never designed a circuit and retired from work as a software engineer in 2008. During his career, Marshall worked on navigation systems for oil exploration, which involved extensive travel, patient monitoring devices for hospitals, adaptive optics systems, and did software consulting as an independent contractor. He now lives in Belmont, considers himself handy around the house, works as a warden at the polls when there's an election, directs a road race in Lawrence and is active in the local road running community. He gets to see his children and his grandchildren who are in the Boston area as much as he wants, which he counts as a blessing. Marshall has served the FSPP as Membership Secretary for almost two years.

Fred Moses is a Boston area photographer with over 25 years of experience. His primary concentrations are product, portraiture, and travel stock photography. A specialty is jewelry. He makes both images and computer aided design tools for jewelers. Travel and travel photography are Fred's special loves. Environmental portraits of people working, market places, and extremes are particular favorites. His work is held in private collections internationally. In addition, Fred builds informational and commercial web sites. He has been the FSPP Webmaster since 2005. He has made marbled papers that he has sold to bookbinders and graphic designers. Over the course of his more than three decade technical career, he has held management and individual contributor positions in software engineering in diverse areas including system software, computer aided design and manufacturing, financial systems, and print and web publishing systems. Fred has a BS and MS in Engineering Science from Washington University.

Lally Stowell received a B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College with a concentration in political science and Spanish and a M.A. from Southern Connecticut State College in Child Development. She has worked with inner city youth in the Harlem Education Program in NYC, at the New Haven Head Start and Follow Through Programs, and at MIT's Upward Bound. She taught child development and parenting for many years at Watertown High School and then switched to teaching ESL in Cambridge, first at Centro Presente and then at the Cambridge Community Learning Center where she has been teaching an ESL Family Literacy class since 1993. Lally has also tutored day care providers through ABCD in Boston, mentored/tutored high school students through the Posse Foundation and volunteered at the Food Project. She has been active in helping to eliminate invasive species in the planting beds in Spy Pond Park and has been Co-Chair for Publicity for the FSPP since January 2010.

Jane Whitmore grew up near a park in the Chicago area and has never stopped finding joy and balance in being outdoors. She earned a BA in Economics and French from Duke University in 1979 and played on the Women's Varsity Golf Team. After several years working in the field of Human Resources, she moved to Hamburg, Germany. There she learned to appreciate public access to lakes and rivers and the many walking and biking paths that brought people in neighborhoods together. As a Home Schooling Mother, she served as Treasurer for a 30-family cooperative and was involved with a local community-supported farm. She also taught at a preschool. Jane moved to Arlington in 2004 where she follows her interests in kayaking, yoga, folk dancing and singing. She has been the FSPP Treasurer since January 2010.

Beverly E. Williams grew up in Asia, the American South, and New Jersey and graduated from Douglass College of Rutgers University. Almost thirty years later she returned to Rutgers for a Master's in Teaching English as a Second/Foreign Language. Now retired, she still enjoys tutoring adults who are learning English. After living in Northeast Pennsylvania for over thirty years, Bev and her husband Wally Williams moved to Arlington in June of 2010. New apartment dwellers, they have enjoyed digging in the dirt at Spy Pond Park. Bev was a long-time volunteer at a Peace and Justice Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA,. She has served the FSPP since January as Recording Secretary and helped with volunteer recruitment and planting bed maintenance throughout the active seasons of 2011.

***New Committee Chairs for 2012**