

# FOXHALL News

foxhall.org



## FCCA Calendar

Next Meeting (special date/time):

**Tues, September 19 at 6PM**

Topic: Special Meeting on Airplane Noise

Location: 4500 Q Street NW in the Hardy Rec Center

Need a ride? Contact Bob Avery

## Volunteers To Eradicate Nasty Vines In Parkland

John Nicholson

Want to help the Park Service get rid of those nasty vines in Glover Archbold Park? Become a "Weed Warrior" for the Park Service!

If the rampant growth of nasty vines and weeds in Glover Archbold Park worries you, learn to rip out the bad and protect the good. The National Park Service will train you to become one of its knowledgeable volunteer "Weed Warriors." Call Ana Chuquin at 202/895-6077, or [ana\\_chuquin@nps.gov](mailto:ana_chuquin@nps.gov) to learn more about the "Weed Warrior" program. Participants are trained about the bad (and good) vines in Glover Archbold Park learning how to get rid of "foreign" vines like kudzu, English Ivy, Chinese wisteria and more—and letting the "native" grape vines thrive.

Those vines were strangling gorgeous walnut trees, according to a recent assessment of adverse vine growth performed by the Park Service "Natural Resource Management Specialist" Ken Ferebee. He noted there were a few walnut trees in the park behind Foxhall Village that "may be the largest diameter of this species seen in Rock Creek Park."

**'Vines'... continued on page 4**

## SPECIAL MEETING ON AIRPLANE NOISE

The next FCCA membership will be at a special time and date, Tuesday night, **September 19th, 6PM to 8PM**, Hardy Rec Center. The meeting will feature the report of findings by the consulting firm (Freytag and Associates, LLC) hired by the city to conduct its study of airplane noise in the Foxhall/Palisades.

The Mayor's office will coordinate the meeting and representatives from the District's Department of Energy and Environment, which oversaw the study, will be on hand to answer questions. This will be a special meeting open to the general public. Originally it was planned to have our FCCA meeting, scheduled for the 20th, focus on the same subject.

However, it made sense to combine the two meetings. We had also planned to have a discussion of a proposal to support a renovation of the Glover Archbold Park trolley trestle as part of a new Foxhall/Georgetown pedestrian path (see pg 5). We will postpone a discussion of the proposal until our November meeting.

If you are concerned about airplane noise we really encourage you to attend this meeting. The results of this study will play a major role in determining the next steps we take in our fight against airplane noise.

## HALLOWEEN PARADE CRAFTS & GAMES



*Tuesday October 31st*

*5pm – 7pm, Hardy Recreation Center  
Games, Crafts and Fancy Dress Parade*

Co-hosted by Foxhall Community Citizens Association, Friends of Hardy & DPR

An amazing job was done last year on organizing the Halloween crafts and treats by FCCA volunteers Melody Suemi, Nancy Matthews and Andrea Suhl. Also many thanks go to Enrique Leiva of DPR for organizing the Hardy Park parade.

Please consider volunteering this year and email, sms or call FCCA Social Events Coordinator, Leo Blyth on 202 763 6020, [leo.blyth@gmail.com](mailto:leo.blyth@gmail.com)



**FCCA Board****Bob Avery, President, Police, and GU Liaison**

338-3834, ravery@starpower.net

**Peter Kimball, Vice-President**

321-1234, peter.kimball@isscorporateservices.com

**John Bray, Secretary**

337-4115, 1ja.bray@gmail.com

**Andy Reuter, Treasurer**

847-3861., Cell 664-6107, areuter@qedgroupllc.com or cyberrottie@yahoo.com

**When possible, please contact the appropriate FCCA Board Member directly to discuss issues and concerns—Focus Areas are listed after the board member's name. General issues can go to Bob Avery**

**Leo Blyth, Community Events & Young Families Liaison**

763-6020, leoblyth@gmail.com

**Paul DonVito, Historic Preservation & Listserve Liaison**

625-0329, pauldonvito@rcn.com

**Tracy Gabriel, Young Families Liaison**

917-710-4928, tracysayegh@gmail.com

**Ann Haas, At Large, Friends of Hardy**

333-2635, ahaas212@comcast.net

**Jeff Koch, At Large, Lower Q St Liaison**

841-3202, JeffKoch@JeffKoch.com

**Caitlin Mackenzie, Community Events Liaison**

577-8770, cmackdc@icloud.com

**Sara Paulson, Aging-in-Place & Palisades Village Liaison**

333-0797, sara.paulson@gmail.com

**Frank Staroba, Friends of Hardy Liaison**

342-1130, fstaroba@verizon.net

**Peter Van Allen, DC Fair Skies & Colony Hill Liaison**

333-0586, peter@vanallen.org

**Conrad DeWitte, ANC 3D09 Commissioner**

202-780-6591, 3D09@anc.dc.gov

**FCCA Administrator****Brittany Aguilar, Administrator**

Britt.aggie@gmail.com

**FCCA Newsletter Submissions**

Send to britt.aggie@gmail.com by October 31 for the next newsletter. Generally submissions should be under 300 words, but longer pieces may run by advance arrangement.

**Who Do You Call?****City-Wide Call Center**

To request free bulk trash pickups, report dumping in alleys, rat problems, and a host of other issues, call 311.

**DC Animal Shelter** 576-6664**Police and Fire Departments**

Call 911 for both emergency and non-emergency Police matters, including noise after 10 PM.

**PEPCO**

Power Outages 877-737-2662

Street Lights Out 269-0855

Washington Gas 624-6049

**Ward 3 City Council Member**

Mary Cheh, mcheh@dccouncil.us

**Ward 3 Liaison**, Phil Thomas, Phil.

Thomas@dc.gov and Ian Maggard ian.maggard@dc.gov

**Our ANC Commissioners**, Stephen Gardner, sgardner.gardnerlaw@gmail.com and Conrad DeWitte, 3D09@anc.dc.gov

**Illegally Parked Cars**

Report cars obstructing sidewalks or displaying suspicious guest parking permits by calling 311.

**Questionable Construction Projects**

To report construction proceeding without required permits or that appears to violate code, call DCRA at 202-442-4400 and they will send an inspector very quickly. For work that appears to be contrary to the guidelines in the Historic District, call Gabriela Gutowski, 202-442-8839 or gabriela.gutowski@dc.gov

**Problem Party Noise after 10 PM**

Please call the Police at 911. There are significant fines and the possibility of a criminal record for violators.

**Georgetown 24/7 Community Hotline**

Report student activities that negatively impact our community at GU's 24/7 Hotline, 687-8413

**Going out of town?**

Email Officer McElwee to check on your home periodically at anthony.mcelwee@dc.gov

**Join the FCCA Listserv!!**

Keep up-to-date with all happenings in your community by joining the FCCA Listserv. Register today at [foxhall.org](http://foxhall.org)!

**Scheduled BZA Meetings**

Share comments and concerns so they can be aired at the Board of Zoning meetings—public meetings that institutions are required to schedule with local communities according to their agreements with the BZA.

**GDS** 6:30 pm, Library*Sept 26**Dec 12**March 6**May 1***Lab** 6:00 pm*Sept 19* *Foxhall**Dec 5* *Reservoir**March 13* *Foxhall**May 8* *Reservoir***St. Patrick's** 7:30 pm*Oct 17* *Whitehaven Campus**Jan 16* *\*MacArthur Campus**April 17* *Whitehaven**July 17* *\*MacArthur*

\*Address for new MacArthur Campus is 4590 MacArthur Blvd

**Membership for 2017**

2017 FCCA Membership: 85% of Goal

As we gear up for the last four months of 2017, the FCCA membership roll has reached 85% of our overall goal. Membership runs according to the calendar year, so there is still time to join for 2017. FCCA stands ready to support you with some of the vital concerns facing our neighborhood.

Current issues include the status of:

\*MedStar/Georgetown University Hospital expansion

\*GDS Lower School and Foxhall Campus/Lab School

\*Hardy Park and Recreation Center Improvements

\*Airplane noise reduction

Unsure if you are a 2017 member? Please check the back of this newsletter for your name. You may join online at [www.foxhall.org](http://www.foxhall.org) or by sending a check along with the membership form on the last page of the newsletter.

Thank you, and we look forward to your support.

## All Users, Come to a Special meeting on Dogs in Hardy Park

Frank Staroba, for FCCA and FOH

FCCA and Friends of Hardy will jointly sponsor a special meeting to discuss the problem of dogs in Hardy Park on Wednesday, October 24th at 7:00 in the rec center.

We want to find a legal and enforceable solution that is acceptable to all users. We are looking for a small group of dog owners to represent the interests. Here are some important things for all parties to consider.

**Department of Parks and Recreation regulations.** No dogs off leash are allowed anywhere in the park. Dogs on leash are allowed around the building and in the area next to the tennis courts and along the alley. Only the police with ticketing authority can enforce the regulations, and they insist on clearer information and posting of what's allowed. DPR is in the process of installing more signs that make these areas clear. Friends of Hardy is working with DPR to prepare a map of areas open to dogs on leash to distribute so everyone will know exactly where these areas are.

The rational for these regulations comes from the DPR Office of Risk and Security. They cite the increased density of both human and canine populations in the District as a change that increases the need for enforcement. Public health and safety are paramount.

**Hardy as unofficial dog park.** For decades dog owners and walkers have used Hardy field for running and playing with their dogs. During the past ten years there have been several instances of dogs off leash biting other dogs on leash and their owners. Victims have not reported these incidents, sometimes because they could not identify the owners and other times because they did not want to get involved in the legal process. The danger still exists.

**Loose dogs discouraging some users from coming to the park.** Seniors and families with little kids often avoid the park because of loose dogs jumping, playing or even nipping them. Owners who keep their dogs on leash find that loose dogs engaging with their leashed dogs creates a difficult situation for both, so they avoid the park.

**Dog park as a solution.** Some people suggest a dog park as a solution. DPR has established design standards and process for such parks. DC currently has ten. The standards are available at [https://dpr.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dpr/publication/attachments/dpr\\_DogParkDesignStandards.pdf](https://dpr.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dpr/publication/attachments/dpr_DogParkDesignStandards.pdf). Key among them is establishing an official dog owners group that would accept responsibility for managing and maintaining the dog park. The process for a final plan would require community approval. Once approved, construction would depend on the availability of funds. Reviews by a large number of DC dog park users show the advantages and problems of parks already built. (See [yelp.com](http://yelp.com).) Key issues are size, best surface, separate areas for big and small dogs, availability of water, controlled access, and responsibility for maintenance.

Most people agree that the park is a great place for dogs, but that dogs off leash are a problem. We hope that a special meeting in October will start us on a path to find a solution that works for all users. We encourage everyone – dog owners and non-dog owners alike -- to attend.

## Foxhall Locals Work to Make Sidewalks Safe For All!

Heart-felt Thank Yous to MaryAnn Griffin, Foxhall Village resident, and Phil Thomas, Mayor Bowser's representative to Ward 3 and Palisades resident. Without their persistence, Foxhall Village would still have cracked sidewalks, raised cement, and pools of water after a rain -- trip hazards all. During July's heat wave, the City repaired and/or replaced the worst sections of concrete. They worked quickly and did their best not to inconvenience residents. Thanks to MaryAnn and Phil, we can now walk without fear of tripping and slipping.

## Glover Archbold Bridge and Sewer Limbo

John A. Bray

Barricaded for more than a year because of safety concerns, the south end of the Glover Archbold National Park trail that runs under a dilapidated trolley trestle remains closed as the government agencies involved try to decide what to do about the structure.

The trestle, once a conduit for streetcars, has been falling apart for decades. And all along, people have been traversing the trail under the rusted steel hulk, and they still do, despite the warning signs and posted detour.

But the abandoned trestle isn't the only structure along the trail that is in limbo.

A nearly century old and deteriorating major sewer that runs through the park faces an uncertain fix and the revamping of a pipe junction box it feeds into by the Potomac River is pending design approval.

Park erosion continues apace, with heavy recent rains adding to the debris piles against sewer accesses and washing out a boardwalk along the trail, just north of the Reservoir Road berm, which is holding back an expanding mud flat. (See, Runoff: Glover Archbold National Park, September 9, 2016, TheHoe.org)

The National Park Service manages the park, which runs between Van Ness Street and the C&O Canal. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority owns the trestle. The DC Water and Sewer Authority oversees the pipe-work, which handles sewage and storm water.

NPS closed the trail under the trestle on August 8, 2016 and noted a plan for a covered walkway under the trestle. But it has yet to be installed. The snow fence barrier has been broken, allowing people to easily pass.

WMATA seeks to push trestle ownership to the District of Columbia via the city transportation department, according to WMATA spokesman Richard Jordan.

"We are focused on addressing the Metrorail system's infrastructure needs and challenges," Jordan said. "Meanwhile, in the short term, Metro is working through the permitting process with the National Park Service on a covered walkway."

The trestle's condition was evaluated in 2014 by Structura, a Rockville, Maryland, firm, with the goal to determine whether it could someday be used as a bike or pedestrian path, according to the company's website.

Asked for a copy of the report, Jordan responded with an

e-mail directing me to file a formal request. "The document you are requesting may contain sensitive information and therefore is subject to PARP," the e-mail stated, referencing WMATA's Public Access to Records Policy. It includes a fee structure, where the first 2 hours of search and review time are free. "Thereafter, requesters are generally assessed processing fees calculated at the employees' basic rate of pay, plus an additional 50 percent to cover benefits, for the time spent responding to the request for records," says the website.

Jordan was able to let me know the cost of the report, which was \$31,216. Three years later, to what use the report has been put is unclear.

### 'Vines'... continued from page 1

When asked about the large deer population in Glover Archbold, Ferebee acknowledged that gardeners near the park are often plagued by deer eating hosta plants and anything else that's green and tasty. First, he noted the successes of the four-year-old culling program that has reduced deer count in the greater Rock Creek Park areas. Second, he said first there must be a valid "count" of the deer in Glover Archbold; not until autumn when leaves drop can a count be made reliably, he pointed out. At that point the size of the herd must be assessed, to see if culling would be worthwhile. Only females are culled to limit the herd's growth, so not until late Fall will any decision be made, he explained.



To be discussed at the November 2017 FCCA membership meeting

A RESOLUTION

**In support of preserving all or portions of the Foundry Branch Trolley Trestle as an enduring example of local rail history of the late 19th Century and for use by the public of a renovated/rebuilt bridge as a multi-purpose pedestrian trail and transportation corridor from Foxhall Road to Prospect Street, NW in Georgetown.**

**Whereas,**

The Foundry Branch Trestle (the "Trestle") is located in the air rights over the foot of Glover Archbold National Park at Canal and Foxhall Roads; and

**Whereas,**

From approximately 1897 to 1962 the Trestle served the Washington, DC community as bridge over the Foundry Branch valley for the trolley line which ran from Prospect Street in Georgetown to the DC/Maryland state line and beyond to the historic Glen Echo Park; and

**Whereas,**

The Foundry Branch Trestle and the land for the trolley right of way corridor immediately adjacent to the Trestle is owned by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA); and

**Whereas,**

The National Park Service (NPS) has jurisdiction over the land under and adjacent to the Trestle and therefore has a vested interest in the status and use of the Trestle; and

**Whereas,**

The District Department of Transportation is responsible for the development of multi-purpose trails and transportation corridors within Washington, DC; and

**Whereas,**

The sidewalk along Foxhall Road, from MacArthur Boulevard to Canal Road and along Canal Road to M Street, NW does not meet ADA standards for accessibility and is unsafe to both pedestrians and bicyclists trying to travel to and from Georgetown to Foxhall Road and points west in the Palisades; and

**Whereas,**

The Foundry Branch Trestle, lies within the boundaries of the Foxhall Citizens; and

**Whereas,**

WMATA commissioned and published in 2014 an engineering study of the physical status of the Trestle which revealed that the structure was in need of immediate repairs and was likely in danger of collapse; and

**Whereas,**

Representatives of WMATA, NPS, and DDOT have met to discuss the status of the Trestle, the costs to stabilize and repair it, the costs to rebuild and/or replace it; and

**Whereas,**

The DC Preservation League, the Rails to Trails Conservancy, the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, the DC Recreational Trails Advisory Committee, and the Georgetown BID are in favor of preserving and restoring the Trestle as part of a trail from Foxhall Road to Prospect Street in Georgetown; and

**Whereas,**

The Palisades Citizens' Association conducted a survey of its members and citizens in the area and obtained over 800 responses revealing widespread support for saving the Trestle; and

**Whereas,**

The Foxhall Village community is committed to the importance of access to public non-motorized transportation corridors, the concept of historic preservation, healthy recreational alternatives, and neighborhood connectivity;

**Now therefore, be it resolved,**

To recommend to the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia City Council, WMATA, NPS, and DDOT that action be taken to preserve and rebuild the Foundry Branch Trestle for use as a multipurpose pedestrian and bicycle transportation corridor from Foxhall Road to Prospect Street.

FCCA Membership  
as of **Sept 1, 2017**

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Pay by check or go to [www.foxhall.org](http://www.foxhall.org) and join or renew using PayPal!

## Thank you for your support!

If you would like to talk about how your interests might mesh with the FCCA's current needs for volunteers - including newsletter delivery and attending ANC meetings - let us know!

Sure, call me!

### Membership Form for the Calendar Year

Members must reside within FCCA area, be present, and be over 18 years of age to vote at meetings. Memberships are for the calendar year. Please make checks our to the Foxhall Community Citizens Association. Send to FCCA c/o Andrew Reuter, Treasurer, 4400 Volta Place, NW, Washington, DC 20007 or bring to a meeting!

#### Standard Memberships      Booster Memberships

<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Household	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Patron
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior Household	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Advocate
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Non-Resident	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Sponsor
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Names (LAST, First, as you wish listing to appear, Ex: DOW, Jane & John Smith)

Complete Mailing Address

Home Phone

Email Address for FCCA Updates

Date