

Juneau Urban Forestry Partnership

Annual Report

2007

Introduction

The Juneau Urban Forestry Partnership was established in 1998 to promote the selection, planting and care of trees on public and private lands within the Juneau Community. The partnership is working towards the establishment of a community forestry program for the Juneau borough. The partnership was incorporated in Alaska in 2003 as a 501 c (3) nonprofit corporation. It is governed by an uncompensated Board of Directors and is funded through individual, corporate, state and local government donations and grants.

What We Do

- Promote the planting and care of trees in the Capital City.
- Sponsor programs and workshops to help people learn about trees and their care.
- Work with local schools and youth groups to promote the understanding and love of trees.
- Provide tree and forestry-related services and expertise to the community such as Arbor Day projects.
- Facilitate partnerships among businesses, local government, nonprofit groups, and homeowners with the goal of a community forestry program.

Board of Directors and Officers

The partnership held its annual meeting on February 15th, at which time the following members were elected to the board:

Chris Mertl, Chair, was a co-founder of the Juneau Tree Committee in 1998 (which later became JUFPP). He is a landscape architect and a certified arborist.

Jeff Barnard, Vice-Chair, has been active in the partnership since 1999 and is a biologist with the U.S. Forest Service.

Terry Laskey, Treasurer, active in the partnership since 2004, operates a garden business in Juneau.

Carol Scafturon, Secretary, has been active in the partnership since 2004. Carol became interested in JUFPP while serving as Director of Visitor Information Services for the Juneau Convention & Visitors Bureau. Her primary interest is in the development of "tree walk pamphlets."

Elizabeth Bochynski, has been active in the partnership since 2004. She is Chair of the Alaska Community Forestry Council.

Sondra Stanway, active in the partnership since 1999, is a retired librarian with an interest in trees and conservation issues.

Mike Scott, active in the partnership since 1999, is Streets Superintendent for the City and Borough of Juneau.

Membership

Annual Dues are the following:

- ❑ \$20.00 Standard Membership
- ❑ \$350.00 Lifetime Membership
- ❑ \$5.00 Student
- ❑ Or any donation including volunteer hours

There are approximately 15 active volunteers from the community. In addition, JUFPA provides information to over 110 local e-mail addresses. Volunteers worked a total of **445** hours throughout the year on tree-related projects.

Treasurer's Report

January 1, 2007 bank balance: \$6288.01

December 31, 2007: \$6,159.45

Monthly meetings

We met for approximately one hour on the following dates:

Feb. 15th

March 14th

April 18th

May 23rd

Nov. 14th

Dec. 12th

Arbor Day Activities and Tree City USA Ceremony

This year's Arbor Day, celebrated June 15th at the Treadwell Arena in Douglas, was a multi-faceted project that included the following:

- Tree education session with children aged 7 to 11 attending the City and Borough of Juneau's Summer Earth Camp at the Treadwell Arena. The education session discussed basic tree biology and taxonomy and included a tree walk to identify native trees. The walk included the use of plant keys and discussing the benefits of trees and the environment.

- A public tree-planting event at the CBJ Treadwell Arena, creation of a birch grove and public Arbor Day ceremony with proclamation.
- Recognition of volunteers who have participated in tree planting events in Juneau by providing T-shirts with our logo printed on it to help promote tree planting and our organization.

The Arbor Day planting was a community event with approximately 35 people in attendance. Groups and organizations participating in the Arbor Day event included:

- Juneau Urban Forestry Partnership
- City and Borough of Juneau: Parks and Recreation
- City and Borough of Juneau: Office of the Mayor
- City and Borough of Juneau: Jenson Arboretum
- Juneau Master Gardeners
- Douglas 4th of July Committee
- Treadwell Arena Summer Earth Camp Children and Camp Leaders
- Juneau-Gastineau Rotary Club
- The general public (approx 30)
- Local media: KTOO-FM (public radio) and Capital City Weekly (newspaper)

The planting included the following species:

- 10 Himalayan Birch (*Betula jacquemontii*)
- 2 Alaska Yellow Cedar (*Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*)
- 4 Rhododendron sp. (relocated)
- 2 Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)
- 50 Ferns (various native species)
- 500 Spring bulbs (daffodils, tulips, iris, and crocus)

On Sunday, Nov 4, volunteers completed the project with the planting of ferns and spring bulbs.

Summer Tree Maintenance

Beginning in June, JUFPP members, Tree Stewards and other volunteers met approximately once a month to work at sites throughout Juneau in an effort to maintain the trees previously planted by the partnership. Volunteers put in approximately 17 hours of work during this period, pruning, weeding, mulching, etc. They were Jeff Barnard, Elizabeth Bochynski, Mark Millea, Carol Scafturon, and Sondra Stanway.

The schedule was as follows:

May 19—Millennium Grove
 June 27—Yacht Club
 July 21—Cathedral Park
 Aug. 15—Channel Drive

Grants Received

- **Arbor Day Grant:** We received a \$2150 grant from the Alaska Community Forestry Program which we used for an Arbor Day tree planting project at the Treadwell Ice Rink.

Publications

- Newsletter. The partnership produced an email-distributed newsletter of partnership news and tree-related articles in April. The newsletter was distributed to over 110 Juneau email addresses.
- The partnership produced an updated version of the downtown tree walk brochure.
- Sent pdf's of the downtown tree guide and updated downtown tree walk to Liam McClannahan of the University of Minnesota who is working in cooperation with USFS and Treelink, collecting materials from urban forestry groups nationwide to create an online database of urban forestry materials, the urban forestry index: <urbanforestryindex.net>.
- In preparation: Evergreen Cemetery tree walk brochure.

Training

On August 24 City of Spokane Urban Forester, Jim Flott, presented his seminar "Roots: Where Tree Planting Begins," at The Church of the Nazarene. This workshop presented material to attendees to learn the most up-to-date tree planting techniques and how to deal with root and root-collar issues.

Through lectures and field demonstrations, this workshop focused on recognizing and treating root-related problems for new installations and existing trees. There was an opportunity to root wash, treat problems, and plant two trees following the root washing and problem correction treatments. The seminar was sponsored by JUFPP and Alaska Community Forestry Program.

Community Outreach:

- The partnership had a table with educational displays at the March Juneau Homebuilder's Association Home Show. Volunteers distributed tree-related information and made contacts with the public.
- The partnership set up brochure displays, provided by the Alaska Community Forestry program, at three nurseries and garden centers in the Juneau area: Landscape Alaska, Don Abel Hardware and Glacier Gardens.

The brochure displays include pamphlets on tree care and a poster explaining tree planting.

- Chris Mertl attended a Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) meeting. He spoke about our organization's purpose, projects, and interest in partnering.

Other

The board approved a one-year trial membership of the Alliance for Community Trees (ACT), a non-profit, national organization, which is the only national organization solely focused on the needs of nonprofit and community organizations engaged in urban forest protection.

Garden Club Workshop—Chris Mertl gave a presentation to the Garden Club. Elizabeth Bochynski attended and provided JUFPP materials at a table; and also collected some names on a sign-up sheet.

T-Shirts—The Board approved a design, and ordered shirts. The shirts will be given to volunteers-as recognition of service on partnership projects.

United Way—Chris Mertl provided volunteer organization information to the United Way.

Distribution of JUFPP brochures—Carol Scafturon provided tree walk master copies to five visitor-oriented organizations.

Arbor Day event at the Treadwell Arena



Tree Seminar



