

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2015

WOLF HILL DISC GOLF COURSE OPEN HOUSE – \$149



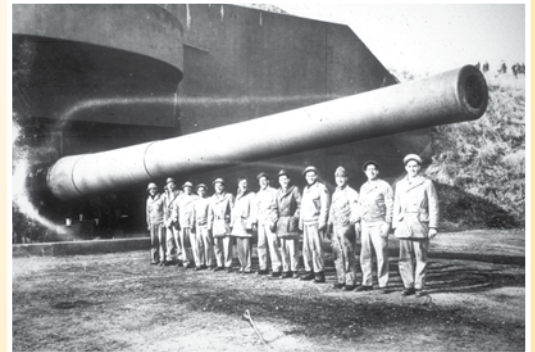
Disc Golf is the hottest rage in tournament team sports. Disc Golf is based on the game of golf, substituting Frisbees and chain baskets. Like traditional golf, courses have obstacles and the lowest score determines the winner. The *Friends of the Parks* purchased the course equipment in 2014 and were honored to be part of ribbon-cutting ceremony for the course. The *Friends of the Parks* provided promotional discs so everyone present could join in on the fun! Wolf Hill Recreation Area is located in Oceanport.

HISTORIC SERVICES KEY NOTE SPEAKER – \$600

The Monmouth County Park System was honored to be the host for the 2015 Mid-Atlantic Conference for the Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums. Dr. Richard Veit, Professor of Anthropology and Chair of the History Department at Monmouth University was the key note speaker. Dr. Veit presented on the rich history of Monmouth County from pre-historic times to modern day events.

INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT DESIGN FOR BATTERY LEWIS – \$25,000

Funding for research and artifact purchases for Battery Lewis interpretive exhibits in Hartshorne Woods Park, Highlands. Battery Lewis was part of North Atlantic Coastal Defense to defend New York Harbor from German invasion during WWII. The *Friends of the Parks* have hired a professional exhibit designer to develop interpretive displays.



2015 ANNUAL DISTRIBUTIONS

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS & PROGRAMS FOR URBAN YOUTH – \$16,313

The *Friends of the Parks* continue to support the Recreation Assistance Program (RAP) by providing 20 scholarships for children from Monmouth County's underserved communities such as Asbury Park, Neptune Township, Neptune City, and Long Branch. These campers are able to participate in week-long summer camps (including door-to-door transportation), summer concerts, boat tours, farm tours, a trip to see the Harlem Globetrotters, holiday parties, and programs at the Park System's Coastal Activity Center in Asbury Park. Proceeds from our Annual RAP Appeal support this effort.



EMPLOYEE EDUCATION & TRAINING – \$7,560

Continuing education is an important component to keeping an organization vital. Monmouth County Park System employees were able to attend national training seminars and in-house training seminars for continuing education thanks to *Friends of the Parks* funding.



MEMORIAL & HONORARY DONATIONS – \$20,120



Deep Cut Gardens, Hartshorne Woods Park, Holmdel Park, the Manasquan Reservoir, and Turkey Swamp Park have new benches for visitors to enjoy, thanks to several generous donors. In addition, several trees were planted in the Thompson Park Tree Grove, dune grass was planted at Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park, and a large number of donations were made for future projects or programs.

VOLUNTEER EVENTS, TRAIL TOOLS, NATIONAL TRAILS DAY LUNCHEON, AND HOLIDAY CARDS – \$2,207

The *Friends of the Parks* are proud to show our appreciation for the volunteers of the Monmouth County Park System. We sponsor the National Trails Day Luncheon on the first Saturday in June, provide dessert at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon in March, and pay for Thanksgiving cards and postage. In addition, the *Friends of the Parks* were proud to purchase new tools for the volunteer trail team. These dedicated volunteers maintain over 125 miles of Monmouth County Park System trails.



HOLIDAY TRIP, SEMI-FORMAL, AND DAY AT THE BEACH FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES – \$2,398

Each year the *Friends of the Parks* sponsor the Therapeutic Recreation Semi-Formal at Tatum Park, Middletown. The group also attended a beach outing and *Disney on Ice – Let's Celebrate*. The *Friends of the Parks* paid for admission, refreshments and transportation for participants and chaperons.



UPCOMING 2016 EVENTS:

Wednesday, May 18 – Annual Golf Outing, Hominy Hill Golf Course, Colts Neck
Wednesday-Sunday, July 27-31 – Monmouth County Fair, East Freehold Showgrounds

For additional information, please contact Maria Wojciechowski at
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