

2006 Annual Report

The Four Branches of Our Mission

Beautification Projects

Hilltop Neighborhood Park
West Broad Street Planters
Tree & Flower Plantings

Clean Ups

Operation Hilltop Cleanup
Lechner Avenue Traffic
Calming Elements
West Broad Street cleanups

Recognition

Annual Beautification
Awards

Activism

Community
Volunteers
Business &
Organization Partnerships
Government Partnerships



Our Roots

Friends of the Hilltop is an independent nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization guided by a devoted Board of Trustees and sustained by a vigorous membership.

Founded more than a decade ago by a small group of Hilltoppers interested in community revitalization, Friends of the Hilltop has blossomed into one of the premier civic groups serving the Greater Hilltop area.

Combining a desire to bring about a Hilltop Renaissance with a mission-driven attitude, Friends volunteers have picked up more than a ton of refuse and planted dozens of trees and hundreds of flowers over the past decade.

By Working Together, We Can Make a Difference

Community Volunteers

We are an all-volunteer organization. Everything Friends accomplishes is done by volunteers.

Organization Partnerships

Greater Hill Area Commission
Hilltop Business Association
Greater Hilltop Area League for the Arts
and others

Business Partnerships

Schoedinger Hilltop Chapel
Master Foods
Hilltop Marketplace

Government Partnerships

City of Columbus
– Recreation and Parks Department
– Forestry Division
– Keep Columbus Beautiful
and others

Our Mission Statement:

The purpose of Friends of the Hilltop is to foster a sense of community, thereby encouraging reinvestment in the community, and ultimately in the re-emergence of the Hilltop as a respected, powerful part of the great city of Columbus, Ohio.

2006 Board of Directors

Gary L. Baker, II, President	Ron Riggs
John Lowry, Vice President	Jeremy Search
Marilyn Zimmerman, Treasurer	State Senator Steve Stivers
Judy Manley, Secretary	Venie Vawters
Barbara Lowry	Danielle Weber
	Diane Wendel Baker

2007 Board of Directors

Gary L. Baker, II, President	Judy Manley
John Lowry, Vice President	Ron Riggs
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Sue Laughlin	Danielle Weber
	Diane Wendel Baker

Businesses & Individuals Honored with Beautification Awards

The Tenth Annual Residential and Commercial Beautification Awards were presented at an August 6, 2006 ceremony held at the Hilltop Senior Village.

The awards recognized 121 individuals and 10 businesses that are making a difference in the Hilltop through their special efforts to beautify our community with attractive and well-maintained landscaping.

Committee Chair: John Lowry

Volunteers Make Operation Hilltop Cleanup a Success!

The number of participating families and groups in Operation Hilltop Cleanup continued to grow. The families adopted streets and alleys through this program.

Free clean up supplies and loaner equipment was made available through our partnership with Keep Columbus Beautiful. The adopting families performed at least three cleanups throughout the year.

Committee Chair: Jeremy Search

Working Hard to Bring About a Hilltop Renaissance

Volunteer members of the Beautification Committee were very busy in 2006, working on several large projects.

- *Hilltop Neighborhood Park:* Friends continued our work on the pocket park located at 2105 West Broad Street.

Annuals and perennials were planted and cared for, and the grass was mowed regularly. The park is a visual gateway welcoming visitors to the Hilltop and providing an appealing green space in the urban area.

- *West Broad Street Planters:* Colorful flowers were planted in the decorative planters along West Broad Street.

With much attention and water, most survived and thrived through the heat of the summer, providing a visual sense of unity along one of the Hilltop's main thoroughfares.

- *Tree Plantings:* In partnership with the City of

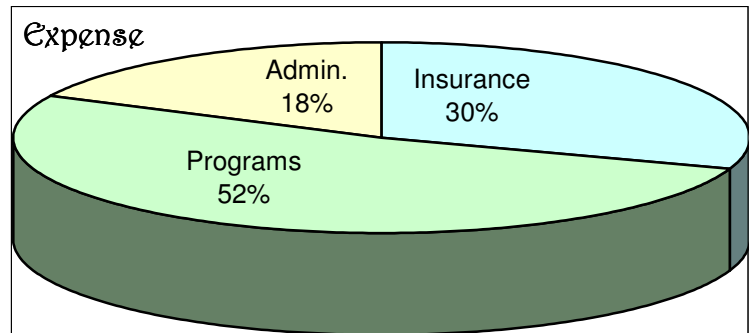
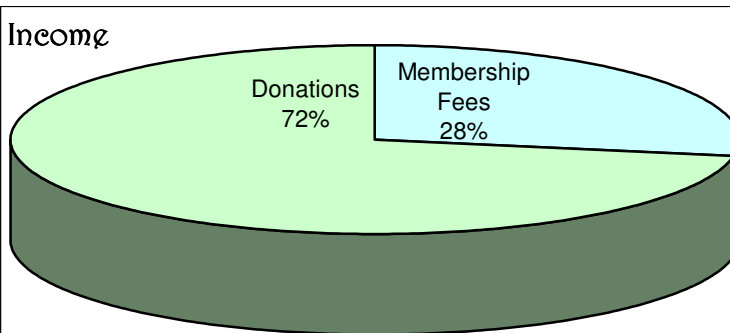
Columbus Forestry Division, Friends planted 10 trees in Hauntz Park and 3 trees at Big Run Park.

- *Lechner Avenue Traffic Calming Elements:* Friends did periodic cleanups and weeding of the bump outs

on Lechner Avenue. In addition, we planted numerous perennial groundcovers to help beautify and reduce the weeds in the calmers. **Committee Chair: John Lowry**

Got perennials taking over a flower bed? Friends can help! We are always in need of perennials – especially groundcovers and those hardy ones that like to take over – to help fill in raised flower beds and the traffic calmers.

Annual Financial Summary



2007: Come Grow with Us! Gary L. Baker, II - President

2006 was another successful year for Friends of the Hilltop. Our membership continued to grow, and we worked diligently in partnership with other Hilltop organizations, working together to bring about the Hilltop Renaissance.

As the Board of Trustees worked to set goals for 2007, we decided, rather than *branching* out into new areas, to return to our *roots* and focus on our key priorities to *grow* Friends into an organization that

is better able to serve the Hilltop community.

For 2007, Friends of the Hilltop has set several goals, including growing our membership, growing our volunteer force, growing more flowers and trees, growing our donations, and growing West Side Pride.

Please consider joining Friends in our efforts by becoming a member, offering your time or money, or making an in-kind

donation of a perennial or other gardening oriented gift.

Long live Hilltop, USA!

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.
– Margaret Mead

Come Grow with Us!

Please return this form to us to let us know how you would like to help Friends of the Hilltop grow in 2007.

Volunteering: (check all that apply)

I am interested in volunteering, please contact me about:

- planting flowers
- adopting my street
- watering the planters
- weeding
- cleanups
- helping with the web site



Attending & Participating in Board Meetings:

The Friends of the Hilltop open board meetings are on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hilltop Library, 511 South Hague Avenue. We do not meet in January, July or December. Active members of Friends of the Hilltop have full voting privileges at all board meetings.

Donating: (check all that apply)

- perennial cuttings from my garden
- top soil
- annuals for the park or planters
- mulch
- money: \$ _____

Purchasing a Gift Membership for A Friend:

Gift Membership recipients receive a special gift recognition certificate along with their membership card.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Membership Type & Annual Dues (check one):

Family (\$15)

Individual (\$10)

Becoming a Member/Updating My Information:

- Yes, I want to join Friends of the Hilltop!
- Yes, I want to renew my membership!
- I have updates for my current membership

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Membership Type & Annual Dues (check one):

Family/Group (\$15)

Individual (\$10)

Corporate (\$25)

Please make your check payable to Friends of the Hilltop and mail to

Friends of the Hilltop
Post Office Box 44435
Columbus, Ohio 43204
Hilltop, USA.

The 2007 Adopt a Planter/ Adopt a Park Program



The 2007 Adopt a Planter/Adopt a Park Program is a chance for businesses, organizations and individuals to promote and continue improvements in the Hilltop. Your contributions will support endeavors in the Greater Hilltop area such as planters along West Broad Street, tree and flower plantings and cleanups.

Yes! I want to support Friends of the Hilltop. Please find my enclosed contribution at the following level:

Adopt a Planter *Flower planters along West Broad Street help create a sense of unity in the Hilltop, as well as visually improving the look of this major thoroughfare.*

Geranium ----- \$50

When you participate in the Adopt a Planter program at the Geranium level, you will receive an official adoption certificate suitable for framing and hanging in your business or home. You will also be listed in the program for the 2007 Friends of the Hilltop Eleventh Annual Beautification Awards ceremony.

Lily ----- \$150

When you participate in the Adopt a Planter program at the Lily level, you will receive an official adoption certificate beautifully framed and suitable for hanging in your business or home. You will also be listed in the program for the 2007 Friends of the Hilltop Eleventh Annual Beautification Awards ceremony and included in the associated press releases.

Rose ----- \$300

When you participate in the Adopt a Planter program at the Rose level, a plaque will be affixed to your planter in acknowledgement. Also, you will receive an official adoption certificate beautifully framed and suitable for hanging in your business or home. You will also be listed in the program for the 2007 Friends of the Hilltop Eleventh Annual Beautification Awards ceremony and included in the associated press releases.

Adopt a Park *The Hilltop Neighborhood Park, located at 2105 West Broad Street, is a visual gateway welcoming visitors to the Hilltop and providing an appealing green space in the urban area.*

Spirea ----- \$75

At the Spirea level, you will receive an official adoption certificate suitable for framing and hanging in your business or home. You will also be listed in the program for the 2007 Friends of the Hilltop Eleventh Annual Beautification Awards ceremony.

Burning Bush ----- \$200

At the Burning Bush level, you will receive an official adoption certificate beautifully framed and suitable for hanging in your business or home. You will also be listed in the program for the 2007 Friends of the Hilltop Eleventh Annual Beautification Awards ceremony and included in the associated press releases.

Canadian Hemlock ----- \$500

At the Canadian Hemlock level, you will receive an official adoption certificate beautifully framed and suitable for hanging in your business or home. An engraved paver will be placed in the Hilltop Neighborhood Park in acknowledgement. You will also be listed in the program for the 2007 Friends of the Hilltop Eleventh Annual Beautification Awards ceremony and included in the associated press releases.

Please send me more information about becoming a member of Friends of the Hilltop.

I am not interested in participating in the 2007 Adopt a Planter/Adopt a Park Program but keep me on your mailing list.

Name as it will appear on paver, plaque and/or certificate:

Please make your check payable to Friends of the Hilltop and mail to Friends of the Hilltop, Attention: Adopt a Planter/Adopt a Park Program, Post Office Box 44435, Columbus, Ohio 43204. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

