

Plus, Kitchens on Saturday, new Board and Staff, and more...



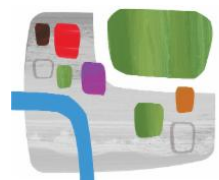
**6-Month Study Launched to Manage Change**



## CHESTNUT HILL RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION + DEVELOPMENT STUDY 2017

The Chestnut Hill Conservancy has secured a catalytic grant from the [William Penn Foundation's Watershed Protection program](#) to help broaden efforts to protect the Wissahickon Watershed from increasing development pressures. In addition to strengthening our easement program, this grant is funding a collaborative planning effort to identify conservation and preservation priorities and guide future development. The project kicked off last week and will be completed by the end of May, although some results will be available at the April 21st Visionaries Roundtable. [READ MORE](#)

Mark Your Calendar: Friday Evening, April 21



## VISIONARIES ROUNDTABLE

Visionaries' Roundtable: Preservation and Change in Chestnut Hill's Future  
**Friday, April 21, 2017 - Tickets available soon!**

An audience-interactive discussion among renowned visionaries about balancing development and preservation in Chestnut Hill. Moderated by the Philadelphia Museum of Art's Gail Harry, and featuring David DeLong, Bryan Hanes, Witold Rybczynski, Denise Scott Brown, and Richard Snowden.

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## Welcome, Angelina Jones!

Our new Conservation and Easements Manager



We are absolutely delighted to welcome Angelina Jones, who joined the Chestnut Hill Conservancy in mid-January after completing dual Masters degrees in Landscape Architecture and Historic Preservation at the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to becoming our Conservation and Easements Manager, Angelina worked as an SCA Conservation Associate at the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation in Boston. As a graduate student, she worked on archaeological sites and for the National Park Service specializing in the management of cultural landscapes. Angelina's interests include urban design, natural history and the natural sciences, and public space. You can reach Angelina at [angelina@chconservancy.org](mailto:angelina@chconservancy.org) or 215-247-9329 x203.

The Wissahickon Watershed is comprised of a vast network of publicly- and privately-owned land. The Chestnut Hill Conservancy works with property owners to conserve privately-owned land through easements, helping to protect water quality and native flora and fauna in the face of increasing development pressure. Special thanks to the **Friends of the Wissahickon** for their longtime support of the Chestnut Hill Conservancy's Easement Program, and for their conservation of the public land of the Wissahickon Watershed. **LEARN MORE** about the [Chestnut Hill Conservancy's Easements Program](#).

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## Ask the Experts: Kitchens

Come for free expert advice about your home

FIRST SATURDAYS  
**THIS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4**  
**1:30 - 2:30 PM**

*Free and no preregistration required*

Are you considering a total re-do or



just a face-lift? How about a kitchen that's both functional and beautiful? Or one that unites the rich traditions of the past with 21st century living? Ask questions, gain answers. Patricia Cove of [Patricia Marian Cove Architectural Interiors and Design](#) will guide you through the issues home owners face when planning a new kitchen. Plus, you'll receive Patricia's "7 Steps to Produce Your Dream Kitchen" [MORE INFORMATION](#)

The Ask the Experts Home and Garden Series is sponsored by:



## Chestnut Hill Explorers Club for Kids

Join the club celebrating flag day this month!



SECOND SATURDAYS

NEXT SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

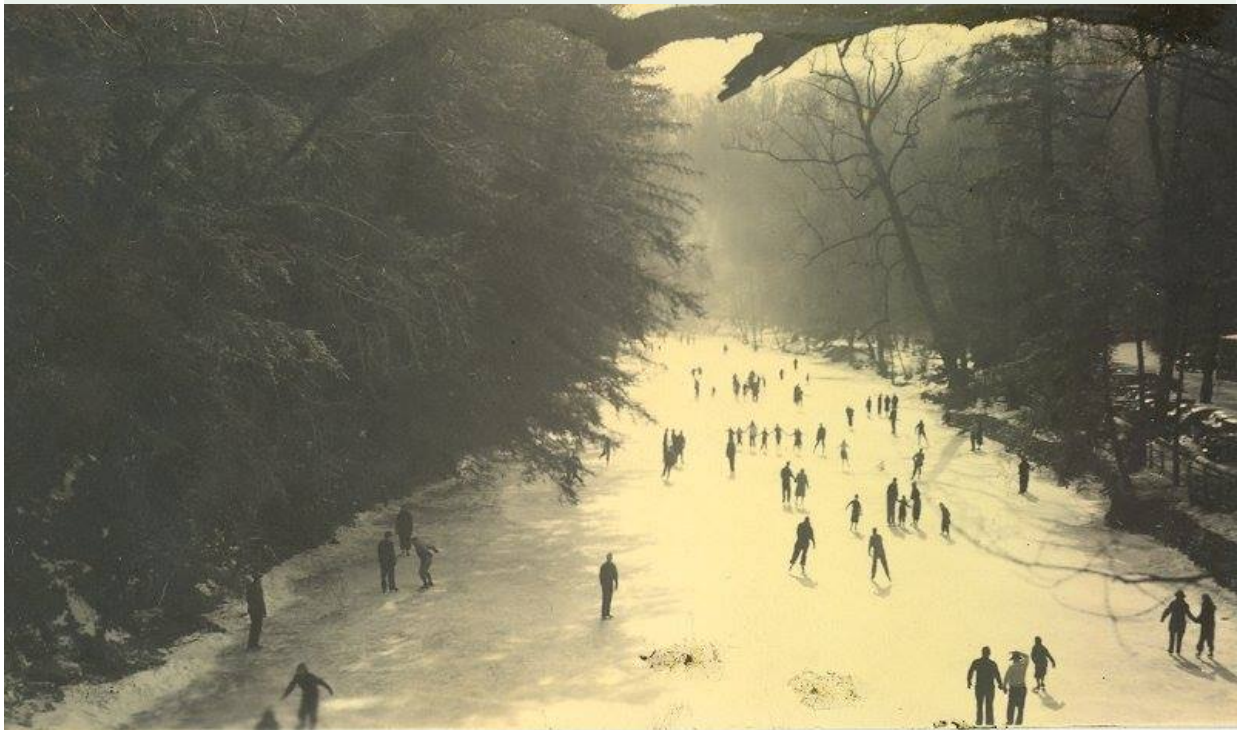
FREE for [Chestnut Hill Conservancy Members](#) (become one now or at your first event)

The Chestnut Hill Explorers Club is a free program for members with young children. Coordinated by Evan Pruitt and Lindsey Toconita, it introduces families to each other, and our youngest community members to the unique things that make Chestnut Hill a special place to call home. Though the events are planned for ages 4-7, all ages are welcome. This month, we'll be designing and making flags for Chestnut Hill while learning about Betsy Ross. The best flag will be displayed at the Chestnut Hill Conservancy! [MORE INFORMATION](#)

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## Have You Seen This Facebook Post?

It's captured the imaginations (and memories) of so many people!



*Skating on the frozen Wissahickon Creek has been a popular pastime for well over a century. This 1939 photograph taken from on top of the Valley Green Road Bridge over the Wissahickon facing down the Creek shows many ice skaters enjoying a mid-morning skate on its smooth surface. As the 20th century progressed, ice skaters found themselves frustrated as an increasingly-polluted Wissahickon Creek would not freeze over. Through the implementation of stricter environmental regulations, this condition has been reversed in recent years and the Creek now freezes more frequently.*

This wildly popular post, part of Archivist Alex Bartlett's #WissahickonWednesdays series, has reached 39,435(!) people and counting since first appearing on our Facebook page on January 4th. Comments from 73 people, 186 shares, and the interest continues....

A key part of the Chestnut Hill Conservancy mission is to collect and share the amazing contents of the Chestnut Hill and Wissahickon Archives. To see more historical photos like this one, [CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK](#), where Alex selects photos to share stories about each week. It's awesome stuff you'd probably never otherwise see.

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Thank You, Randy!

## Randy Williams steps down as President of the Board



Randy with Rev. Anne Thatcher at our Architectural Hall of Fame Gala last November

By Frank Niepold, Chestnut Hill Conservancy Board Member and former President (2008-12)

Every several years, one of our Directors agrees to take on the job of leading the organization, knowing full well that they're letting themselves in for a daunting stream of new emails, a vast number of additional committee meetings and the occasional opportunity to give a pep talk to a room full of supporters and potential donors. The Chestnut Hill Conservancy has been fortunate throughout its long history in finding Directors who have been willing to take on the job, and our success today is a testament to their hard work and dedication. Few of them, however, have had quite the impact of Randy Williams, who has just stepped down as President after four eventful years.

It can be fairly said that, under his leadership, the organization has been revitalized and transformed in important respects. His success in strengthening our financial base permitted us to fill open staff positions with a remarkable cadre of professional preservationists. This completed our evolution from a small "volunteer-led" organization to one led by a highly capable professional staff. Finally, with the support of a reinvigorated Board, new donors, and broadened membership, Randy led us through a challenging process to re-focus our activities around our principal preservationist objectives, culminating in the Board's decision last year to change our name to "Chestnut Hill Conservancy."

All of us committed to the long-term preservation of Chestnut Hill have reason to be grateful to Randy for his leadership.

*Randy will continue to serve on the Board of Directors as Treasurer, while Eileen Javers has assumed the position of President. We'll meet Eileen in next month's e-newsletter.*

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## Welcome, New Board Members!

We're proud to welcome these extraordinary community members beginning new terms on the Chestnut Hill Conservancy Board

**George G. H. Coates, Jr., Board Member**

George has been a resident of Chestnut Hill for almost 30 years, first living in the gardner's cottage on Krisheim and then residing on Bethlehem Pike, in both with his now wife Victoria. He is a winebroker and entrepreneur and also is involved in state level policy advocacy sitting as a board member of The Commonwealth Foundation. George has been involved with a number of community organizations including the Chestnut Hill Community Association, Germantown Academy and AIM Academy. He has assisted the Chestnut Hill Historical Society with the Perennial Fete, Architectural Hall of Fame and the Major Gifts committee. Currently George is involved with the restructuring of the Henry Foundation for Botanical Research in Gladwyne, where he grew up. They have a daughter, Gardner, a freshman at Blair Academy and a son, Gowen, a seventh grader at AIM Academy. When not in Chestnut Hill they reside in Washington DC and on Andalusia.

**Diane Drinker, Vice-President for Development**

Diane Drinker grew up in Abington, PA and graduated from Drexel University with a degree in Marketing. Between graduation and later settling with her husband John and children Lauren and Alex in Philadelphia, Diane led the restoration of a Jens Jenson garden in Highland Park, and the creation of a new garden to enhance the Glencoe train station. Diane's career in Development at Chestnut Hill Academy, later Springside Chestnut Hill Academy, spanned 19 years until her retirement in June 2014. Diane has been an active volunteer with the Junior League helping to raise funds for the restoration of Belmont Mansion and serving as a docent at Bartram's Garden. She was on the Waterworks executive committee and was a member of Woman for the Waterworks, raising money for and overseeing the restoration of the iconic Philadelphia landmark. She was a member of the Wissahickon Garden Club, chairing numerous committees and serving a President from 2012 to 2014.

**Tim Greenwood, Board Member**

Tim Greenwood was born and raised in Chestnut Hill and graduated from Chestnut Hill Academy and the University of Denver (where he met his wife Sandy). Tim and Sandy, their three grown children, and three grandchildren live in the area. Tim was a Partner in the Boothby Group, a business risk management and benefits consulting firm, which was acquired by Tomkins Financial Corp. He is a former Trustee of the Hurricane Island Outward Bound School in Maine and a Founding Trustee of the Philadelphia Outward Bound School. He was Chair for 8 years and still serves on the Board. He is an Emeritus Trustee of The Philadelphia Zoo and former Vice Chair of the Independence Seaport Museum.

**Dan Macey, Board Member**

Dan Macey, together with his partner, Paul Savidge, bought the Louis Kahn designed Margaret Esherick House located in Chestnut Hill in 2014. Their conservation efforts have received local and national recognition from the Chestnut Hill Historical Society, the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia as well as Docomomo. His commitment to historic preservation - especially mid-century buildings - continues with his work with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Docomomo and the Iconic House network. He has been a board member of Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center in Garrison, N.Y. where he worked to preserve the iconic house, property and legacy of industrial designer Russel Wright. Professionally, he works as a food stylist and writes about food and historic foodways, most recently contributing to *Savoring Gotham*, a food history of New York and the *Oxford Companion to Cheese*, an encyclopedia on cheese. His interest in good design and food presentation has lead him to teach at such institutions as Pratt Institute and become a sought-after speaker at culinary and design conferences. He sits on the board of the Historic Foodways Society of the Delaware Valley and periodically caters historically accurate meals.

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## 2016 Year-End Appeal: Success!

### We offer our warmest thanks to these donors

Thanks to these generous community members, the Chestnut Hill Conservancy exceeded its baseline budget goal for *Year-End Appeal* fundraising. We're off to a healthy start in 2017, motivated by our gratitude.

(Stay tuned for the results of the extraordinarily successful *Anniversary Society Challenge*, which we'll be announcing next.)

Quita Woodward Foundation Trust - Rita and Lawrence Salva - Sandy and Tim Greenwood - Dana and John Levitties - Ann and John Kelly - Catherine Worrall - Wendy and Christopher Bentley - Massimo Cristofanilli and Barbara Pro - Linda Corson - Augusta Leininger - Henry McNeil - Molly Murphy and Gregory Rigdon - Mary-Helen and Richard Boothby - Lynn and Christopher Gadsden - Gretchen and Joseph Ingersoll - Emily Cooperman and John Dixon Hunt - Nancy and Randy Williams - John McMeekin - Hannah Griswold McFarland - Craig Schelter - Teresa and Greg Rodgers - Barbara and John Kimberly - Anne and Paul Bolno - Lyn and David Montgomery - Patricia and John Pregmon - Louis Beardell and Donna Kavulich - Clive Anderson and Bea Cromwell - Barbara Ciolino - Susan and William Doran - Chestnut Hill Dental - Ann Csink and John Linck - Mrs. Gerald Fischer - Dan Macey and Paul Savidge - Susan and David Pingree - Kathryn and Edward Putnam - Yvonne and Scott Emerson - Carolyn Adams and John Meigs - Natalie and Ralph Hirshorn - Marysue and Matthew Dougherty - Jeanne and Philip Connolly - Shirley Hallam and Witold Rybczynski - Barbara Olson - Tavern on the Hill - Sally Harrison and Harry Jacobs - Mary Sue Welsh - Carol Hanawalt - Helen and John Phillips - Susan and David Dannenberg - Martha and Will Agate - David Banov and Sharon Reiss - Mrs. William C. Roxby, Jr. - Victoria and Rafael Villamil - Schuyler and Theodore Wood, Jr. - Jennifer and John Curry - Richard Bartholomew and Julia Moore Converse - Sandy and Robert Thomas - Joseph P. Archie - Mary Hopkins - Robert Koller and Noreen Spota - Judith von Scheven - Joyce Lenhardt - Jean Plante McNelis - Henrietta and Wallace Martindale - Graham Brent - Maureen Bythrow - Sandy and George Connelly - Suzanne and Thomas Duffy - Jean and John Alsentzer - Anna Toogood - Dencie Brooke - Susan Hagar - Cecile Mihalich - Bonnie Berch and John Landis - Mrs. Milton Feldman - Barbara and Howard Davis - Molly and Christopher Turman - Ruth and Edward Russell - James F. Gallagher - Gretchen and Robert Kolb - Rosemary and Terrence Foley - Marie Horchler - Charlotte Betancourt - Susan and Richard L. Brown - Mark B. Thompson Associates - Dorothy and John Dempsey - Beth and John Haak - Mrs. E. H. Bonsall, III - Mrs. Robert F. Gallagher - Jerome Choder - Alexis Barbieri

*Thank you so much!*

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**RSVP - The President's Reception Cocktail Party**





**THE CHESTNUT HILL CONSERVANCY**  
*President's Reception*

March 1, 2017

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1**

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

**A BENEFIT OF UPPER-LEVEL MEMBERSHIP**

Current members at the \$250 level, \$600 level, and Anniversary Society level, along with major sponsors, are invited to this fun annual cocktail party as one of your member benefits. For our 50th Anniversary year, we're adding a twist!...

In recognition of our growing partnership with the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, we are delighted to welcome you to a special Chestnut Hill Conservancy President's Reception in their Historic Landmark Building, the 1876 masterpiece of Frank Furness and George Hewitt, considered one of the finest surviving examples of Victorian Gothic architecture in America. Restoration of the building's marvelous slate and glass roof and ornate stone and brick exterior completed a little over a year ago. Plan to stick around after the reception, as PAFA will be remaining open until 9:00 PM for us!

For Anniversary Society members, a special behind-the-scenes tour will immediately precede the social. (Details will be sent to you directly.)

## RSVP

You must *RSVP* to ensure your name is on the guestlist

[kristin@chconservancy.org](mailto:kristin@chconservancy.org)

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts' Historic Landmark Building  
[118 North Broad Street, Center City Philadelphia](#)

Discounted parking: Be sure to get your ticket validated before you leave PAFA

- (a) Parkway Garage, [SW corner of Broad and Race](#)
- (b) Their outdoor lot at the [NE corner of 15th and Cherry](#)



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[Staff](#) | [Board of Directors](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Visit us](#) in our 1857 former parsonage

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Visit our partners to learn more about what's happening in this vibrant community:

[Chestnut Hill Business District](#)  
[Chestnut Hill Community Association](#)

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