February marks just three years since a handful of loyal park users first met to form the Volunteer Park Trust, to preserve, protect and enhance our beloved park. You have been generous with your time and your dollars. We’ve enclosed our Thank You to our donors with this mailing. Thanks to your help, we’ve made great progress toward reaching our goals. We are heading into 2015 with even more ambitious projects that include: adding new plantings, improving the irrigation system, engaging the community to explore updating the band shell, and of course, hosting more popular events and ongoing stewardship.

In 2015 we’ll conduct a study on replacing or updating the 1970’s band shell on the Great Lawn north of the reservoir (see below for pictures of the park’s band shells through the years). We are pleased to share the news that in December 2014 we received a $25,000 grant from the Seattle Dept. of Neighborhoods to conduct this study. VPT co-founder Eliza Davidson is heading the task force that will hire an architect, reach out to the performing arts community, and engage the public in a series of meetings to provide input and offer feedback. The outcome will be a concept design for the new band shell. Facility upgrades we’ll be evaluating include an improved sound system and acoustics, weather protection, better rest rooms, and space for actors and musicians to change. We’ll have more news soon: stay tuned.

Doug Bayley
Chair, Volunteer Park Trust