

2020 is the 25th Anniversary of 3 Garden Improvements.

2020 is the 25th anniversary year of several improvements added to the Wildflower Garden in 1995. There are 3 fountains in the Garden, constructed with limestone bases, and the newest one, being referred to here, is up on the prairie near the large White Oak. The dedication plaque is to Dr. Daniel Nordquist. The fountain was built by LaMere Concrete & Masonry and funded by the Friends via a memorial from Dr. Nordquist's mother and father. They also funded as a memorial, the wood bookcase that sits by the volunteer's desk in the Garden Shelter.



A more substantial improvement was the back gate - the one you enter in if you come from Wirth Beach - at least you could if Covid-19 protocols had not closed it for this season. This construction was designed by MPRB landscape architect Sandy Welch (as was the front gate 5 years before), built by LaMere Concrete, and funded by the Friends for \$9,089. The original design included four columns, just like the front gate, but the cost was too high, so only two columns were built. Then the iron work on the gate, the wrought iron fencing in the immediate area of the gate, plus the wrought iron fencing



that is currently around the front gate was installed by Able Fence Co. and funded by the Friends for \$8,300.

The back gate work continued into 1997 with the stone work retaining walls completed by the MPRB. Then in 2005 the Friends funded the continuation of the iron fencing from the back gate area to the back corners of the Garden.

All these 1995 improvements have held up well these 25 years.