

Yes! I want to help restore the Olcott Park Fountain!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Daytime Phone _____ Other Phone _____

I wish to remain anonymous

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Olcott Park Foundation at the following Level:

Patron of the Fountain — \$5,000

Gold Level — \$1,000-1,999

Bronze Level — \$250-499

Platinum Level — \$2,000-4,999

Silver Level — \$500-999

Friend of the Fountain — \$up to \$250

Enclosed is my check, made payable to the Olcott Park Fountain Fund

Please charge my credit card, using the following credit card information:

Name on the card: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____ CVC: _____

Please return your completed form to: **Virginia Community Foundation, PO Box 599, Virginia, MN 55792**

Fountain History

During the Great Depression, the historic Olcott Park Fountain and its surrounding rock garden were built by over 100 Virginians, including 70 Works Progress Administration (WPA) workers. Hexagonal in shape and made of stone, it is surrounded by a rectangular wall constructed of ornamental stone and includes a 46 by 60 foot square pool. Steps of granite flagstone lead to the terraced rock garden while the walls of the rock garden are constructed of native cut granite and greenstone coping. Powered on for the first time on August 16, 1937, the fountain water used to surge an impressive 30 feet into the air, highlighting vibrant colors that changed form as they moved through the air. There were 360 variations per hour that were possible with its extensive combination of colored floodlights and water sprays.

"...many children came into the public kindergartens speaking no English.... They joyfully shared a common language in Olcott Park."

The Olcott Park Fountain has been part of the rich historical, social and cultural fabric of Northeast Minnesota drawing populations from all over the region to its location in Virginia, MN. The fountain was so majestic and popular in it's day, that the City of Virginia had to enlist the help of policemen to manage traffic flowing to and from the site. Ardys Hawkinson Nelson, in her book, "Growing Up in Olcott Park" **"The Mesabi Iron Range was basically populated by hard working, first and second generation people who came to this rugged country as lumbermen and miners. Children of many nationality backgrounds blended and enjoyed each others' rich cultural heritages..."**

Olcott Park Fountain Restoration Project

Saving History for *tomorrow's generations!*



*Share pride
in your community!*

