



# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2009

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Karen Hayes  
President

Kimberly Ellis  
Vice President

Jackie Bouley  
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## Board of Directors:

David Damico  
Jeff Donahue  
Kimberly Ellis  
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Patrick Hayes  
Tim Murphy  
Paul Sieswerda

Friends of Oak Grove, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization formed by the residents of Malden, Massachusetts with the purpose of enhancing the communities in which we live through the sponsorship of activities and events (which focus on the health, education, entertainment and general well being of the Malden residents)

## FOOGI ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It is with great sorrow we announce the passing of FOOGI Board Member, Lee Peterson. With Lee's passing, we have lost not only a genuine partner but a true friend. Lee was sincerely committed to the community and a willing participant at all FOOGI's events. Lee's gentle spirit touched us all individually and he will be greatly missed. Being a runner himself, Lee was an advocate for exercise and a key organizer for the Haunt Jaunt. It is fitting that we honor his spirit by dedicating this year's FOOGI 5k race to him. Lee's lovely garden brightened our neighborhood. We will follow his lead by using the proceeds of the race for a memorial garden at Patchell Park.

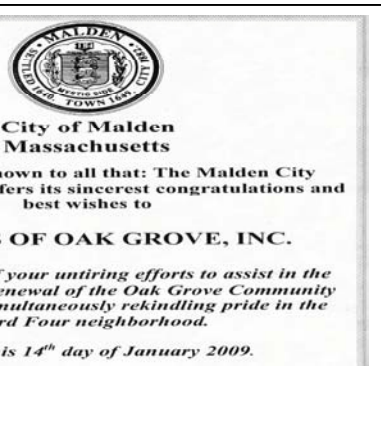
was our first year sponsoring this program. Thanks to Chris DiPietro, we were assigned two summer employees from the Youth and Recreation Department. This program had very good results. We had a nice turnout of families and were able to run a variety of activities. This well received program will be something we are offering again this summer. *Be on the lookout for dates and locations.*

### FOOGI 5K HAUNT JAUNT

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2008 FOOGI 5k Haunt Jaunt. Thank you to all of the local businesses, elected officials, neighbors, and friends who contributed to the success of the Third Annual Road Race & Fitness Walk. With each passing year, this wonderful event continues to improve. The look of accomplishment on every face- especially the newcomers and families while crossing the finish line is priceless.



Special thanks to our Monster Sponsor, Danversbank & Fitzgerald Physical Therapy Associates. For the third year running, Applebee's was out in full costume with give-aways, along with 105.7 WROR. Our gratitude to our FOOGI friends including Mai Du from the Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tia Chai Academy, Sharon Burton from Hallmark Health, Cataldo Ambulance and the Malden Police who all contributed to a fun and safe day. We have already started



### CITY CITATION

We are honored to receive this thank you from the City and will do our best to continue our efforts to improve the community. It is a pleasure working together with the City to accomplish our goals. In particular, we would like to thank Jim Nestor for recognizing FOOGI with this award.

### FOOGI FUN & FITNESS

This program is aimed at keeping the children in Malden healthy and fit with organized activities, crafts, free play, fitness goals, incentives and rewards. This past summer



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planning for next year and you should too! Our goal is to get Malden Moving!

Contact us regarding Sponsorship.

## FOOGI "STEPS UP"

Anyone who has been to, or driven by the Oak Grove Community Building can't help but notice the drastic improvement to the front steps. FOOGI volunteers, along with contributions from the Malden Sketch Group, the International Baptist Bible Study group and the City of Malden came together to repair the brickwork.

The steps were a danger to users of the building, and before someone was seriously hurt, FOOGI completed the emergency repairs. Our volunteers worked very hard.



Guided by Nick of Antonucci Enterprise, we finished the job just in time for the Haunt Jaunt!

## URBAN ART COMPETITION

Lincoln Park summer

It was a day of sun and fun to appreciate the arts and self-expression. Mai Du, from the Wah Lum Kung Fu Academy teamed with Youth A.C.T. which is a youth-led, statewide organization that addresses public issues through innovative and collaborative approaches. They celebrate diversity and youth leadership, uniting to promote peace, justice, health, and green space. FOOGI was a proud sponsor of this event and has purchased one of the paintings. We will donate this painting to the Oak Grove Community Building –what a perfect setting for this local youth's artwork.

## FOOGI GOES GREEN!

Malden Observer- "TV chef Emeril Lagasse lent his cooking expertise to help one Malden organization throw a block party that will be healthy — both for celebrators and the environment. Three members of Friends of Oak Grove, Inc. (FOOGI), a Malden-based nonprofit dedicated to enhancing the health and betterment of the community, decided it was time to lighten up the fare at their organization's annual block party slated for Sept. 8. So, they turned to Lagasse for help. Karen Hayes, Jackie Bouley and Kimberly Ellis applied and won a spot on



*Planet Green's new television series, "Emeril Green," a cooking show set in Whole Foods Market that teaches individuals how to cook with organic and locally grown foods."*



This once in a lifetime experience was something we won't soon forget! We traveled to Virginia to tape the show with Chef Lagasse, or as he likes to refer to himself "The Talent." He was welcoming and a lot of fun. He loves to teach and we took home to Malden what we learned. A trial run block party was filmed on Beltran Street, a preview to our annual neighborhood party held at Patchell Park. We served the "Boston Bean Town Burritos" he showed us and utilized all the advice for making it as "green" as possible.

This year's addition of the Pie and Chili contest made it both competitive and fun! The winner of the Chili contest was Jennifer C. We think it was the secret addition of the Feta cheese that won the judges over. The winner of the pie contest was Maya Hayes with her own creation "S'more Galore" a homemade chocolate custard with graham cracker crust and marshmallow topping. It was a tough call for the judges, (Donahue and Lightbody) as all the entries were delicious. Having the party at our local park made it more enjoyable for the families. The children got to play on the park equipment as well as on the Bouncy we rented. We had a great turnout and beautiful weather- what more could we ask for? The summer just wouldn't be the same without the annual community party! *Check our website soon for the date.*

## MALDEN ROTARY CLUB ST. PATRICK'S ROAD RACE

Once again, FOOGI was out to help the Malden Rotary Club with participants for their St. Patrick's Day Road Race. What a wonderful day for a walk-Team FOOGI had a great time and we look forward to next year.

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Holiday Season started off right with our annual Christmas party and tree lighting. This year's book theme, *A Charlie Brown's Christmas*, spoke of the true meaning of the holiday. Once again we were treated to an animated reading of the story from our own Jackie Bouley.





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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **PLANT SWAP**

Believe it or not, spring is almost here! We are planning our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Plant Swap. Whether you are an experienced gardener willing to share your knowledge, or someone just wanting to learn, this is the place for you. It's fun and it's free—just bring your plants to the Oak Grove Community Building and trade with your neighbors! *Check our website – the Saturday in June will be announced soon.*

### **DOCKSIDE FUNDRAISER!**

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Come join us at our FOOGI **FUN**draiser at the Dockside Restaurant in Malden. Come down and join the fun while raising money for future FOOGI happenings. Jackie Bouley will be our "Celebrity Bartender" and Jeff Donahue will be the master of ceremonies while we ROAST our Board Member, Paul Sieswerda on his birthday. You don't have to know Paul to come and have a good laugh at his expense!

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

Why should you donate blood? The answer is simple: You could save someone's life.

This July, FOOGI will be sponsoring a local blood drive at the Oak Grove Community Building. The Mass General Blood Donor Center will be sending one of their bloodmobiles which are state of the art, completely self-contained and self-supporting. We will be working with Healthy Malden, Hallmark Health and Cambridge Health Alliance to get as many donors as possible. We will be posting fliers soon at all locations.

### **TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT**

We are sponsoring Texas Hold'em Tournaments on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m., Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at The Silver Fox Function Hall, 530 2nd St., Everett. We hope to see you there!

### **JAZZ FESTIVAL**

In the works: We are in conversations with Gary Christenson, Ward 1 Councilor about partnering with their annual Jazz Festival. We hope to add to this already successful event with a FOOGI twist. This event will take place in August 2009.

### **IMPROVEMENTS AT PATCHELL PARK**

As part of our park improvements, we have been in discussions with Councilor Paul DiPietro regarding Patchell Park. As part of our mission, we realize that fitness activities and an active lifestyle are

essential to good health for both adults and children. What better place than your local park to enjoy family fun and get some exercise. Our plan is to add outdoor fitness equipment in addition to a memorial garden and a water fountain in memory of our board member, Lee Peterson. Please contact us if you would like to be involved in this project.

## **ABOUT FOOGI**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a 501 c(3) organization.

It is our mission to encourage good neighborhood relationships; to promote community cohesiveness; and to beautify the public areas in and around Oak Grove.

### **FUNDRAISING**

It is our goal to raise funds throughout the year so that we can continue to improve our city and aid other charitable organizations in Malden. We organize several annual events, including our Haunt Jaunt Road Race, and have fun and exciting plans for the future. Every penny we raise stays in the city of Malden and benefits its residents. If you have any ideas for upcoming events, let us know.

### **MEETING TIMES**

Date: We have fixed meetings the second Friday of each month  
Time: 6:30pm  
Location: Oak Grove Community Building  
6 Grove Street, Malden  
Massachusetts

General meeting are always open to the public. Please join us to learn more about our group and the activities we have planned. You do not have to live in Oak Grove to participate and enjoy the fun!

### **CONTACT US**

If you have any questions or would like to get involved in our community efforts, contact us:

Karen Hayes at [kcolonhayes@gmail.com](mailto:kcolonhayes@gmail.com) (781) 397-0744, Kimberly Ellis (781) 727-6206  
Jackie Bouley (339) 224-1016

### **DONATIONS**

To make a tax-deductible donation, make check payable to:  
Friends of Oak Grove, Inc.  
105 Wyoming Avenue  
Malden, Ma 02148