



**2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

## State of Our Parks & Recreation Centers

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I begin my second year with the Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation (FOPR) as the organization moves into fiscal year 2010–2011. The work that we do has never been more important and necessary. Our parks serve as a refuge for families seeking quality time with one another, as an oasis of natural beauty and spiritual peace, and as fitness centers. Oakland's parks, with its trees and landscapes serve as an attractive source of shade and shelter. They are a natural presence that provides solace to its users, while increasing property values for our city's homeowners and taxpayers.



Like most cities across the country, Oakland faces unprecedented budget cuts that have wiped out funding for the care and necessary maintenance of our parks and the rehabilitation of our playing fields and recreation centers.

FOPR's focus as always is to improve parks and recreation experiences for all members of the Oakland community. To that end we remain dedicated to raising funds to help support what the City provides and what is needed to maintain our great civic heritage. FOPR continues to serve our 70 fiscal accounts, write grants and work to help improve and maintain neighborhood parks and recreation centers. With your support, we will also continue to award grants and scholarships to youngsters for safe, educational, life enhancing programs.

We all face challenging times, but the work we do at Friends is important and does make a difference. I hope you will consider joining our efforts. We can put your time, talents and funds to good use. Please visit our new website at [www.oaklandparks.org](http://www.oaklandparks.org) or give me a call at 510.465.1850 to see how you can get involved.

With warm regards,

Paula Ramsey

## Mission

*The Mission of Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation (FOPR) is to improve the quality of life for all Oakland citizens by generating funding and other support for projects and programs that enhance and supplement the recreational, environmental, educational, and leisure activities offered through the Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation.*



## Background and Services

Friends was incorporated as a 501(c) (3) in August 1981. It was formed as a non-profit organization to support Oakland's Office of Parks and Recreation, park advisory councils, and youth groups. Friends also acts as a fiscal umbrella for neighborhood community group programs and projects that support our parks, recreation centers, and youth enrichment programs. Over the last 28 years, FOPR has accomplished these goals by providing the following services:

- **Serves as a nonprofit 501(c) (3) fiscal sponsor** for organizations and neighborhood community groups pursuing goals consistent with our mission in the parks
- **Funds and manages** capital improvement projects
- **Provides grants** and awards scholarships to worthy programs and youth

Since its founding, Friends has provided more than 380 grants, overseen more than 150 fiscal accounts, and retrofitted more than 55 playgrounds and ball fields throughout Oakland. Friends accomplishes these projects by collaborating with other organizations, and raising funds through individual memberships, donations, and private and public funding sources. The grants provided by FOPR rebuild recreation areas, teach children how to swim, sail, cook and give numerous youngsters their first opportunity to attend Oakland sponsored camps.

FOPR's fiscal accounts help keep city-wide sports programs alive with projects like the new Rickey Henderson baseball field and the rehabilitation of much needed multiuse sports fields at Raimondi Park. Students from Laney College learned how to design and install 250 lineal feet of fencing around the Japanese Garden at Lakeside Park through the efforts of FOPR's fiscal account, the Friends of the Lake Merritt Japanese Garden. North Hills Landscape Committee, another fiscal account, fundraises and provides grants that supply plants and shrubs throughout the city. As a nonprofit tax exempt organization, FOPR has managed hundreds of thousands of dollars of designated funds for worthwhile projects that continually benefit Oakland citizens.

FOPR believes that our public parks bring together and honor some of our most precious resources: our children, our community and our land. Parks and recreation facilities are essential to make an urban city livable and civil.

Friends is passionate about providing Oakland's youth with important life skills and recreational activities that help to reduce crime and improves the City's quality of life. Beautifying Oakland's neighborhoods also helps to create a more livable and vibrant city, influencing where people choose to live.

## Membership

FOPR's operating budget is supported solely through memberships, donations, fiscal fees for service, project specific administrative fees and fundraisers. The membership drive is run throughout the year. Staff and board members work to broaden the organization's base of potential members from all parts of Oakland who want to support the City's parks. In this era of harsh budget cuts to parks, your membership provides critically needed support of local parks and your community.

**You may become a member through our website:**

**[www.oaklandparks.org](http://www.oaklandparks.org)**

**or by mail:**

**P.O. Box 13267**

**Oakland, CA 94661**



## Fundraiser

**A TASTE OF SPRING:** In 2009, Friends held its sixth annual Taste of Spring fundraiser. The honorees were William “Bill” Patterson, Vice President of East Bay Municipal Utility’s Retirement Board and former Oakland Parks and Recreation manager. The Special Business honorees were long time FOPR supporters Attorneys Syvia Magid and David Stein. Thanks to the many community members who helped Friends raise much needed funds from this event.

Friends thanks the many business sponsors and sends a special thank you to the 400 community members who attended this fun event. In addition, FOPR would like to extend a special thanks to the event co-chairs, John Brown and Kim Duff for their tireless efforts to make 2009’s Taste of Spring such an incredible success.

### *Special Thank You to Our 2009 Taste Of Spring Sponsors*

PG&E	Kazan, McClain, Abrams, Fernandez,
Alta Alliance Bank	Lyons & Greenwood Foundation
Greenstein, Rogoff, Olsen & Co.	Oakland Association of Insurance Agents
McGuire Hester	Pankow Special Projects, L.P.
Phil Tagami, Rotunda Partners 2	Shorenstein Properties
Claremont Creek  Ventures	Signature Properties
Delta Dental	Terecita Dean, DDS
Give Something Back	Townsend Public Affairs
LJ Kruse Plumbing	Walls and Associates
Ilene Levenson Benefits Group	
Kaiser Permanente	



## Grant Awards 2009

Friends provided 12 grants in 2009 totaling \$12,017.00. These grants provided scholarships for children to take art, sailing, cooking and swimming lessons, attend camp, and learn about different kinds of science. FOPR gives special thanks to all individuals who provided funding for our scholarship grants at the TASTE OF SPRING auction.

Sailboat House scholarships	\$ 1,500.00
Boating Program Sailboat House: scholarships	\$ 1,500.00
Healthy Eating Willie Keyes Restoration Center cooking equipment	\$ 695.00
Camp Scholarships Feather River Camp: scholarships	\$ 1,500.00
Senior Sit and Be Fit Allendale Recreation Center: Fitness Supplies	\$ 445.00
Healthy Cooking Class Tassafaronga Recreation Center cooking equipment	\$ 750.00
World Rhythm Drums Allendale Recreation Center: world rhythm drums	\$ 1,000.00
Franklin Recreation Center: Scholarships	\$ 1,660.00
MLK Shoreline & Estuary: Human Rights Water testing kits	\$ 510.00
Dimond Recreation Center: Camp Scholarships	\$ 1,000.00
Carmen Flores Recreation Center: Cooking Equipment	\$ 750.00
Carmen Flores Recreation Center: Gardening Tools & Plants	\$ 707.00

## Fiscal Accounts

40<sup>th</sup> St. Median Project  
Ace Arts  
Bernice Ratto Fund  
Betty Price Recreation Center Donations  
Community Gardening Program  
Dimond Improvement Association  
Friends of Cleveland Cascade  
Friends of Glen Echo Creek–Panil  
Friends of Joaquin Miller Park  
Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt  
Friends of Lake Merritt Japanese Garden  
Friends of Maxwell Park  
Friends of Oak Glen Park  
Friends of Oakland Municipal Band  
Glenview Median Strip  
Grand Lake Grimebusters  
Greening of Oakland / PGE  
J.M. Community Center Fund  
J.M. Cascade Maintenance Fund  
Keep Oakland Beautiful  
Marksearch  
North Hills Landscape Committee  
Oakland Civic Orchestra  
Oakland Community Orchestra

### MEMORIALS

Burnham Bench Fund  
Delores M. Duffy Memorial Fund  
Dr. Sabra Jones Memorial Fund  
Kristin Anderson Bench  
Marcelle Weed Memorial Fund  
Simon Richardson Bench

### OAKLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Bushrod Recreation Center  
DeFremery Recreation Center  
Sponsor-A-Child  
Dimond Tot Lot  
Director of OPR  
F.M. Smith Recreation Center  
Friends of Lafayette Square Park  
Lake Merritt Boating Center  
Morcom Rose Garden Fund  
The NEWT Project  
Oakland Discovery Center  
OPR Anniversary  
Rotary Recreation Center & Duck Pond  
Sheffield Park & Center  
Sheffield Village Preschool



Studio One  
Sundays In the Redwoods  
Teen Leadership

### OAKLAND SPORTS & AQUATICS

ACE Kids Golf Program  
Adult Sports  
Davies Tennis  
Girls Sports  
US Youth Sports Games  
Young American Little League  
Youth Games  
Oakland Pools  
Castlemont Swim Team  
City Swim Team  
Fremont Pool  
Gator Sharks  
Lion's Swim Team  
Live Oaks Swim Team  
Temescal Tidal Waves  
West Side Swim Team

Oakland Parks Coalition  
O'DOG  
O'DOG: Mosswood

### WEST OAKLAND PARK PROJECTS

Raimondi Bricks  
Raimondi Field  
Raimondi Park Donations  
Raimondi–Rogers Grant  
Rotary McClymonds Grant  
S.F. Foundation Outreach Grant

Rockridge Phase 2  
Shepherd Canyon Homeowners  
Splash Pad Neighborhood

## Board and Staff

### 2009 OFFICERS

Jacqueline N. Phillips, *President*  
Howard Nathel, *Vice President*  
Steve Singer, *Treasurer*  
Matthew Inadomi, *Secretary*  
John Bliss, *Past President*  
John Brown, *Past President*  
Kim Duff  
Patricia Hardy, *Past President*  
Miye Takagi

### 2009 BOARD MEMBERS

John Bouey  
Leah Casey  
Charles Crowder  
Kristi Holohan  
Ethel Howze  
Ken Lupoff  
Sedrick Tydus  
Midge Walterhouse  
Kristin Washington  
Walter Williams

### ADVISORY BOARD

Ray Bobbitt–*Past President*  
Ces Butner  
Dave Cannon–*Past President*  
Perry Graham  
Shirley Green–*deceased Past President*  
Larry Gremillion  
Judith Johnson  
Sean Marx  
Howard Neal–*Past President*  
Ken Pries  
John Protopappas  
Ann Richter  
David Stein–*Past President*  
John Sutter  
Phil Tagami  
Donald Walls–*Past President*  
Danny Wan  
Anne Woodell–*Founder*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Paula Ramsey and Kathryn Raymond  
Judith Ming, *Administrative Assistant*

## Donor Acknowledgment

On behalf of the Board of Directors we'd like to give a special thank you to all our members and donors. You know your support makes a difference, and we want you to know we are grateful!

### OVER \$1000

John Brown  
Patricia Hardy  
Steve Singer  
Miye Takagi  
Donald Walls

### \$500 - \$999

John Bliss & Kim Thompson  
Community Health Charities  
Give Something Back  
Microsoft  
Jacqueline N. Phillips  
Schwab  
Jeffrey L. Shields

### \$250 - \$499

Ronald Blackman  
Clorox Company Foundation  
Charles Crowder  
Mike Greening  
Ethel Howze  
Linda Huber  
Martin Jaffe  
Alan Koch  
Thomas Mc Coy  
Patrick Morrin  
Howard Nathel  
Marian & Christopher Pappé  
Jim Ryugo  
Vernel Smith  
Ann Steppan  
Gordon Vinther

### \$101 - \$249

Robert Archibald  
Anne G. Bookin  
Gerald Booth  
John Bryan Family Fund  
Dave Cannon  
Don & Cathy DeCoss  
Nancy Ditzler  
Roberta Dooley  
Kim Duff  
Arlene Feng  
J. H. Fitzmaurice Inc.  
Craig Fox  
Bill Gavelis  
Andy Getz  
Brenda & Rick Gutstadt  
Howard & Pam Hatayama  
Brent Hennefer  
HFH Central Station Village LLC  
Don Hillebrandt  
Spencer Holmes  
Harlan Kessel  
Nina & Rob Leslie  
Jerry Lowden  
Marta Lozoya  
Phillis Lun  
John & Margaret Mooney  
Jason Patton  
PGA Design  
Ned & Nancy Rankin  
Kathryn G. Riddell  
Robert Riddell  
Drew Robarts  
Wade & Virginia Sherwood

Shelby Solomon  
John Sutter  
Daniel Swafford  
Sandra Venning  
Steven Weinberg  
Andrew Wiesenthal  
Michael Zittel

### \$50 - \$100

Hoang Le Bahn  
Peter Bank  
Gordon Baranco  
Steve Bellamy  
Carla Betts  
Sue & William Brusher  
Leah Casey  
John Chalik  
Willetta Clark  
Richard Cowan  
Gerald Cullinane  
Helen Danhaki  
Georganne Ferrier  
Dorothy Finger  
E. Linda Fogel  
Helena Foster  
Tom Guarino  
Charles Haas  
Howard & Pam Hatayama  
John & Tamara Hege  
Kristi Holohan  
Martin Huff  
Matthew Inadomi  
Penny Isola  
Ace Jamentz  
Patricia Kernighan  
Roslyn Kleinsinger  
William Lambert  
Robert Leslie  
Moises Levy

Monica Marcone  
Syvia Magid  
Fredrika May  
Margaret Mcalone  
R.B. Mendelson M.D.  
Aileen L. Moffitt  
Denis Mulshine  
John Nagle  
George T. Nobori  
Ellen Wyrick-Parkinson  
Arlene Pearson  
Margaret Pinter  
Joanne Rankin  
John D. Rego  
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Leila Clark Riddell  
Efstratios Righellis  
Dana Riley  
Mimi Rodgers  
Emily Rosenberg  
Elizabeth Schaaf  
Robert Schock  
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Wade Sherwood  
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Art & Liz Spander  
Linda Spencer  
James Steele  
Paul & Susan Sugarman  
Susan Sunderland  
Nancy Threatt  
Sandra Threfall  
Susan Veit  
Kathleen Walsh  
William Weeden

Steven Weinberg  
Barry Weiss  
Linda V. Williams  
Eunice Wilson  
Anne Woodell  
Roland Wong  
Jovita Zarate

**\$35 – \$49**

Ralph Anderson  
Dick Austin  
Heinz Battermann  
Joseph Berzok  
Joan Bricker  
Marguerite Chapman  
Michael & Sandra Coleman  
Suzanne Crouch  
Harry Hasegawa  
Richard Jenevein  
Richard Kaufmann  
Bonnie Killip  
Gaye Lenahan  
Michael Madajian  
Fredrika May  
Yui Mok  
Aldo Nelson  
John Nolan  
Roberta O'Grady

Shirley Parr  
William Patterson  
Gordon Piper  
Genevieve Power  
Jane Sandstrom  
Richard Schwartz  
Lucille Serwa  
Mel Silverman  
Rosemary Springer  
Mary B. Strauss  
Audree Jones-Taylor  
Hans Thompson  
Robert Turner  
Ann Williamson  
Naomi Yager  
Elsa Wollenweber

**THANK YOU AS WELL TO OUR IN-KIND PROVIDERS**

Axios  
Banfi Wines  
BC Deli Sandwiches  
Bakesale Betty  
Bernardus Vineyard  
Bert's Desserts  
Best Taste Restaurant  
The Bread Project  
Class Act Catering  
Dashe Cellars  
Dreyer's  
Dutton-Goldfield Winery  
Enat Winery  
Home of Chicken & Waffles  
Horizon Beverage  
J.Lohr Vineyards & Wines  
J.C. Cellars  
Kincaids  
La Farine Bakery  
Ladyfingers Bakery  
La Trattoria Siciliana

Marco DiGiulio Wines  
New Orleans Bill  
Niebaum-Coppola Winery  
Peet's Coffee & Tea  
PG&E/Scott's Seafood  
Saigon Restaurant  
Sequoyah Country Club  
Sonoma Valley Portworks  
The Terrace Room  
Terralsole  
Tonita's Kitchen  
Trader Joe's  
Whole Foods  
Xyclo

## Accomplishments

In June 2009 the Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation welcomed its new Executive Director Paula Ramsey. Ms. Ramsey has had a long career in fundraising in the nonprofit world, including the Museum of the African Diaspora, World Affairs Council, and Amnesty International. Welcome Paula!

### NOVEMBER 18, 2009

Friends was recognized as a Super Hero and was awarded the GREEN HEROES AWARDS by PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY and THE CITY OF OAKLAND GREENING OF OAKLAND PARTNERSHIP.



## Statement of Activities

### INCOME:

Fundraising	\$ 62,215
Membership Dues	\$ 9,334
Fiscal Account Donations	\$ 377,968
Contributions	\$ 21,891
Interest & Dividend Income	\$ 8,825
Project Administration	\$ 9,602
Raimondi Design/Project Management	\$ 48,703
Measure DD Administrations	\$ 833
All Other Income	\$ 7,398

**TOTAL INCOME:** \$ 546,769

### EXPENSE:

Fiscal Account Expense	\$ 406,158
Payroll Expenses	\$ 80,505
Insurance Expense	\$ 5,659
Office Expense	\$ 8,625
IT Expense	\$ 3,820
Rent	\$ 3,000
Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 812
Printing and Reproduction	\$ 3,428
Membership Development	\$ 1,872
Raimondi Design Management	\$ 38,841
Raimondi Project Management	\$ 6,000
Consultant	\$ 28,255
Fund Raising Expense	\$ 29,203
Grant Awards	\$ 12,517

**TOTAL EXPENSE:** \$ 628,695

**DECREASE IN NET ASSET:** \$ (81,926)

Dear Members and Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation,

This has been a busy and productive year for your Board of Directors. Our most important accomplishment during fiscal 2009 has been a successful management transition. We bid farewell to long-time Executive Director Kathryn Raymond and commended her for her invaluable contributions to FOPR. We welcomed aboard our new Executive Director, Paula Ramsey, with whom we have worked closely to help her “hit the ground running.”

We were also thrilled to attend the dedication of the new Rickey Henderson Field in North Oakland; as we played a major role by serving as the fiscal sponsor. Congratulations to the parents, coaches and supporters who made this dream possible. We are proud to be associated with you.

Friends will continue our ongoing mission to improve the quality of life for all Oakland citizens by generating funding and support for projects and programs. As the city of Oakland faces budget cuts in the area of Parks and Recreation, we are committed to supporting them.

Our success will continue as we, the board of directors, donors, and members continue to work together. Remember our mission and challenge yourself to do more. With heartfelt thanks to you all for your hard work, commitment, and dedication to the Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline N. Phillips  
*FOPR Board President*

