

# The Oakleaf

THE FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK NEWSLETTER

November 2007

FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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This board meets monthly to discuss issues concerning Hoyt Park. We welcome your input.

Email: [hoypark@chorus.net](mailto:hoypark@chorus.net)

All donations support your park and are tax deductible.  
What a bargain!

Mail to:  
Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc.  
P O Box 5542  
Madison WI 53705-0542

## Hoyt Park Summer Ranger

Thanks to your generous financial support, we funded a summer park ranger this year. Recent UW graduate, Matt Force worked in Hoyt Park from late May to mid-September culminating in a party at the lower shelter on September 13.

Matt's routine included removing garbage and graffiti, maintaining trails, pruning along the trail edges, removing weeds from the Ready Prairie, and removing invasive plants such as buckthorn, honeysuckle, dames rocket, garlic mustard, and boxelder throughout the park.

The amphitheatre next to the lower shelter was one of his pet projects. This entire grassy area was overgrown with junk plants, the rocks were choked with weeds, and there was no fire ring around a mound of partially burned garbage and ash in the middle. He used rocks strewn about on the amphitheater wall to make a fire ring, and hand pulled all the weeds covering the rock wall. During a period of a little over a month, he planted 15-20 ferns, 10-15 jack in the pulpits, as well as a whole coffee can full of red baneberries.



In his final report, he states, "This has been one of the most rewarding jobs I have ever held because of my opportunity to make a positive difference in the park that I have loved since I was a child."

## Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project

On Sunday, April 29 from 10:00 – 5:00, a group of scouts, family, and friends led by Zach Small identified and removed invasive species from the north end of the Ready Prairie allowing for the expansion of the prairie.

Once the scouts removed mostly buckthorn and honeysuckle, they piled the brush along Bluff Street for City removal. A day later, Brent Haglund, FHP scout coordinator, applied herbicide to the marked stumps to keep the re-growth of these invasives. Zach did a wonderful job of planning the project, instructing the volunteers during the workday (while working himself), and providing FHP with a comprehensive final report of the project.

## Multitude of Volunteers in 2007!

FHP board organizes at least 10 monthly workdays and hosts various community service projects. In addition to FHP member volunteers, we hosted Eagle Scouts, Midvale School second graders, Edgewood College students, Dane County Neighborhood Intervention, and Americorps.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

### UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

- Thursday, Jan. 10
- Thursday, Feb. 14
- Thursday, Mar. 13
- Thursday, Apr. 10

All meetings begin at 6:45  
p.m. in the Sequoia Library.

### HOLIDAY PARTY:

Thursday, December 13  
Details in separate mailing

### FULL MOON/ OWL WALK:

Sunday, January 20, 2008  
Details in a winter postcard

### CITY OF MADISON VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Wednesday, January 9, 2008  
Olbrich Gardens

Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc.  
P O Box 5542  
Madison WI 53705-0542  
hoytpark@chorus.net

<http://userpages.chorus.net/hoytpark/>

Many thanks to all of the volunteers and Madison Parks Division with access to needed materials and cost sharing for plantings. To be included on the monthly workday list, email citizenjean@tds.net; subject FHP Workday. Please make a pledge to join us in 2008!

### Annual Holiday Party and Silent Auction

Mark your calendars for the 13th of December, at the University Club at 803 State Street. This years' speaker and special guest will be Jim Morgan, retiring head of the Madison Parks Department and great friend of Hoyt Park. We will hear some words of wisdom from Jim and honor him for his much-appreciated help for our Park and our group.

§ Come join us for an End-of-Year-Celebration  
on December 13 at 6:00 p.m. at the University Club  
with silent auction and speaker Jim Morgan §  
Details in separate mailing.

We will also have an exciting and special silent auction. This year all items are all edible! Among the food items prepared by members of FHP will be Italian dinners, picnics in rural settings, hors d'oeuvres on a sailboat, special occasion cakes, gift certificates to local restaurants and many, many more delicious choices!

Watch for the invite in your mailboxes or call or email now to reserve your place or donate something edible. Contact Deborah Lawson at 238-8186 or [dlawson@restainobunbury.com](mailto:dlawson@restainobunbury.com).

### Holiday Giving

Make your generosity count this holiday season. Please give to The Friends of Hoyt Park. All donations are tax deductible. Mail to: FHP, Inc., P O Box 5542, Madison WI 53705-0542

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