

Rogerson Communities Honors Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Rogerson Communities has developed and restored many properties throughout its more than 150 year history. We are very proud of having gone to battle twice to save the same property on Beacon Hill. Beacon House on Myrtle Street, once restored by Rogerson after an historic fire, was recently endangered by a storm of financial opportunity and again was saved. Rogerson Communities has purchased the property and will preserve it in perpetuity as a rare source of low-income housing in one of Boston's wealthiest neighborhoods.

Longtime residents are greatly relieved that their affordable homes will not become upscale housing. All of this was only possible with a great deal of support from both Rogerson's Board of Directors and the Beacon House Corporation, along with many State and City leaders. One such champion was Boston's Mayor Martin J. Walsh.

At a recent ceremony at Beacon House, residents joined many supporters to acknowledge the great accomplishment and to thank Mayor Walsh for his leadership and support. He was given a key to Beacon House as thanks for his administration's help in its purchase.

The building has provided affordable apartments since the early 1980's, giving low-income residents an opportunity to live in the heart of the city. Beacon House has 135 apartments, 85 are for very low-income seniors, 32 are for people with low and moderate incomes, and 18 apartments are used by nearby Massachusetts General Hospital for out-of-town patients and visitors who cannot afford a hotel stay. The historic building includes a roof deck, community room, library, and computer lab.



(Left to Right) James F. Seagle, Jr., President, Rogerson Communities; Hal Carroll, Beacon House Corporation; Brit d'Arbeloff, Board Chair, Rogerson Communities; and the Honorable Mayor Martin J. Walsh

One of the residents who spoke at the event described his home at Beacon House as the "linchpin" of his success. From a wheelchair, he told the many gathered, "It's been very meaningful. I've become the citizen I was supposed to be because I was able to live a full life."

Walsh said it was crucial to preserve low-cost housing for seniors, even in the wealthiest neighborhoods: "You have to be sure there's a component that's affordable. We don't have a lot of organizations like this," he said of Rogerson Communities.



(Left to Right) Christa Jones, Rogerson Communities Board; Mayor Martin J. Walsh; Mary J. Kakas, Rogerson Communities Board; and Ashley Beman.

Rogerson serves more than 1,500 greater Boston families through 26 facilities and programs, including housing, adult day health programs, fitness training, and memory-loss care and treatment. During the event, Rogerson Communities' President, Jamie Seagle, praised Beacon Hill residents for their support over the years, noting that in many neighborhoods residents resist low-income housing developments, but that wasn't the case with Beacon Hill.

It was a proud day for Rogerson Communities. Successes like this exemplify why we do what we do uniquely well. ■

PLEASE JOIN CO-CHAIRS
NONNIE & RICK BURNES
HAL CARROLL
GENE & LLOYD DAHMEN
FOR
WELCOME HOME
AN EVENING TO BENEFIT
ROGERSON COMMUNITIES

HONORING
MEREDITH AND GENE CLAPP
WITH THE
2015 CHARLES E. ROGERSON AWARD
FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015
RECEPTION & DINNER 6PM - 9PM
THE LIBERTY HOTEL
215 CHARLES STREET, BOSTON
EMCEE - EMILY ROONEY,
HOST/EXECUTIVE EDITOR, BEAT THE PRESS, WGBH TV.

ROGERSON COMMUNITIES

Honoring Meredith & Gene Clapp

Meredith and Gene Clapp are long-standing residents of Beacon Hill, where they raised their four children and have remained dedicated to serving the broader community. Gene is originally from nearby Wellesley Hills and Meredith was born and raised in Hinsdale, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. They met at the University of Pennsylvania and Gene went on to the University of Chicago for graduate school. After marrying, Meredith and Gene moved to New York where Meredith continued her career as an associate TV and radio producer at J. Walter Thompson Company and Gene pursued a career in finance that led to his current role as Co-Founder and Principal of Penobscot Investment Management Company.

For the past thirty-five years, Meredith and Gene have been active in the Beacon Hill community and involved in numerous nonprofit organizations in greater Boston. Meredith's commitments have included over twenty years of service as a Board member and President of Hill House, the community center of Beacon Hill; extensive work with the Hill House outreach program (HHOP) and local charitable organizations such as the Oasis Coalition; service on Rogerson Communities Board of Directors, and, as a current member of the Board of Overseers, and President of the Board that oversees Beacon House and the



The Clapps at Welcome Home! 2014.

Peter Faneuil and Joy Street Residences. Gene's commitments have included Treasurer and Board member of Partners Continuing Care, a rehabilitation hospital network that includes Spaulding Hospital; Board member of the National Rowing Foundation; King's Chapel Trustee; a Beacon Hill Civic Association Board member and Chair; the Advent School Board Chair; and, the Union Boat Club President. Gene was a Silver Medalist in rowing at the 1972 Olympics in Munich.

In addition to the Clapps' long-standing legacy of community service, Meredith currently serves as a Volunteer Case Reviewer with the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families, and Gene is currently serving as the Treasurer and Board member of the

Conservation Law Foundation of New England, an environmental advocacy organization.

The critical work they both continue to do requires a depth of professionalism, strength, and compassion that are the hallmarks of the Clapp family. Meredith and Gene were awarded the 2005 Beacon Award by the Beacon Hill Civic Association. For more than thirty years the Clapps have demonstrated extraordinary civic leadership across the spectrum of local institutions serving Beacon Hill and beyond. Rogerson Communities is proud to honor Meredith and Gene Clapp with the 2015 Charles E. Rogerson Award for Community Service. ■

Beacon House Campaign Update

Thanks to the generosity of Board members and many Beacon Hill neighbors, nearly \$1.4M has been raised so far. Rogerson still needs to raise close to \$500K to benefit from two challenge grants from anonymous donors totalling \$1M. Please contact Courtney Barth for information on how you can help, barth@rogerson.org or 617-469-5822.



Charity Warriors photographs by Michael Blanchard.

Mary Chiochios and Christy Cashman, the creators of Charity Warriors, with Rogerson Communities' charity warrior, Barbara Quiroga (center).



Top: Mary J. Kakas, Rogerson Communities Board member, was a great supporter of the project.



Bottom: Christa Jones (right), Rogerson Communities Board Member, shown here with the Principal of the Epiphany School

Charity Warriors

Saint Aire producers Christy Cashman and Mary Chiochios enlisted five women in Boston to participate in a program called Charity Warriors, a fundraising contest to raise money and awareness for their charities. The premise was that the charity warriors, each representing a charity near and dear to them, would compete to see who could raise the most money over a designated six week period. Barbara Quiroga, BQ & Associates Public Relations, took up the charge as Rogerson Communities' charity warrior.

The fundraising competition culminated in an awards gala held at Isobar's offices in Boston. Hundreds turned out to cheer on all five important charities and it was unanimously agreed that everyone was a winner that night. All tolled, Rogerson raised over \$96,000 during that period, achieving second place in the contest. Thank you to Barbara Quiroga for her commitment to Rogerson's work! ■



ROGERSON COMMUNITIES

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To arrange a tour or for more information, Please contact:

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