



Common Fence Point Improvement Association
Quarterly Newsletter
July, 2007
WWW.CFPIA.ORG



Earth Day, 2007- Start 'em Young!!

Thank you to all who participated in the Earth Day Clean Up this year. We not only had a gorgeous day, we also had the best showing ever for volunteers! There were over 75 volunteers who signed in. DEM gave us 75 bags and we distributed every one of them. We actually had a few bags left over from previous years that we had to use. In addition, we need to thank all who contributed food and drink to feed the volunteers. It was all greatly appreciated.

In conjunction with the Earth Day Clean up effort, CFPIA resident **Joel Camara**, owner of Camara Excavating, volunteered his and his staff's labor and backhoe to dredge the mouth of the restored salt marsh at the Montaup Path and Attleboro and Berkley Avenues. The work Joel did to dredge the opening to the restored salt marsh is invaluable. The opening was almost completely shut off from the tidal flow and the phragmites were starting to take hold again. Anyone familiar with excavation work and cost, will appreciate the generosity of Joel and his staff. We estimate he saved CFPIA at least \$700. Thanks Joel!

Earth Day 2007 was co-chaired by **Brenda Whalen Munro** and **Mil Kinsella**. Thanks to these environmentally friendly ladies, we had a very successful day, resulting in a cleaner Common Fence Point!

2007 CFPIA Membership Dues are Due

CFPIA membership reminders will be mailed out in the coming weeks. We are trying to simplify the process by doing a yearly mailing. New residents will receive their membership form as soon as possible after they purchase property on CFP. Your annual dues are used to pay for expenses in running and maintaining the Hall, insurance, printing costs (like the Newsletter) postage (ditto!), and other expenses. This year we voted to purchase a new lawn mower, which was sorely needed to maintain the Playground and ball field. We appreciate all members who pay their dues! To insure your dues are spent wisely, come to the monthly meetings, held every 3rd Monday of the month, beginning at 7:15pm. The membership form is also available on www.CFPIA.org. If you have any questions on membership, please call **Barbara Jones** at 401-682-2799.

Eagle Scout Project Will Benefit CFP

Ben Ricci, a CFP resident and Boy Scout, has offered to build a shed on the CFP Playground, which will house our mowing equipment. The 10 by 20 foot shed will be located at the edge of the park, on a cement slab. As part of his Eagle Scout project, Ben is responsible for the design, the solicitation of funds and materials, and the construction of the building. Ben is looking for donations. If you can help, please contact him at 401-683-1970. We will follow up in future Newsletter issues with his progress. We applaud him for taking on this project to contribute to a community need.

DATES TO REMEMBER

07/11/2007 – Teddy Bear Picnic – Page 4

07/28/2007 - CFPIA Summer Cookout- Page 2

9/15/2007 - Get the Drift Coastal Clean Up – Page 3

08/04/2007 – CFPIA Property Walk – Page 3

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4th of July and the CFPIA Bonfire Policy

The official CFPIA policy regarding bonfires was drawn up in response to complaints from both the Portsmouth Fire Department and the Coastal Resource Management Council, which occurred in 1998. Each complaint cited the piling of debris and burning of said debris without permits and within close proximity to the shoreline. **CFPIA adopted the following resolution regarding bonfires at its quarterly meeting June 15, 1999:**

“Bonfires are allowed on Common Fence Point Improvement Association (CFPIA) property by permit only for the 4th of July holiday only. Permits to be let by the Portsmouth Fire Department no earlier than 7 days prior to the burn. Permit holder will be responsible for monitoring the build of the pile, for monitoring the actual burn start to finish, and for the cleanup of the remains. Removal of any remains is to be performed within 7 days of burn.

Bonfires shall consist of untreated wood only. The Portsmouth Fire Department may issue permits to CFPIA Trustees only at other times of the year for ground maintenance.”

Trustees of Record in 1999: Scott Boyd, Patricia Freeborn, Thomas McHale, Sara Farina, and John Silvia
Trustees of Record in 2007: Sara Farina, Mil Kinsella, Tom McHale, Bill Lund, and John Silvia

Implied in this policy statement is that piles cannot be constructed any sooner than 7 days before the 4th of July. Explicit in this policy statement is that someone must take full responsibility for all aspects of a bonfire, including getting the permit. Burning without a permit from the Fire Department is a punishable offense. Piling debris on a coastal resource is a punishable offense. Tradition does not excuse any of us from responsibility. You **can** have a bonfire. Have a safe the 4th!

The Dirt from the Playground

Please keep those Clements receipts coming! To date, we have collected over \$4,000 from these receipts. They can be dropped off at the Corner Store. Clements receipts are used **solely** to fund the Playground. Like any back yard, the playground needs occasional maintenance, however, we are faced with ongoing vandalism, and sometimes need to replace or repair equipment. This past spring, we needed to purchase more mulch and were able to do so, thanks to your receipt donations! We also need to thank **Joel Camara**, who helped spread the mulch by machine and **Dana Sumner** who helped with muscle and sweat! Please support the Playground and thank you!

Common Fence Point Summer Cookout is Coming - July 28th

Dust off your picnic baskets and lawn chairs! The Point Summer Cookout will be held on Saturday, July 28th from noon until dusk. The cost will be a \$6 donation per person and children under 3 are free. The menu will consist of hot dogs, hamburgers, corn, potato chips, and ice cream. Thanks to the generosity of the National Guard (and the tenacity of **Jackie Shearman**), we will have a climbing wall! The National Guard will set it up, man it and remove it at the end of the day. Other activities scheduled to date are face painting, children games, the ever-popular bounce about, and many more surprises.

We have been fortunate to have numerous residents and businesses that donate prizes and money towards our fund raising efforts. Our raffles have been a huge success in the past because of this, and so, we are asking again for donations. This year the raffles are taking on a new twist. We are requesting donations for specific themed gift baskets. The themes are “Entertainment”, “Beauty & Spa”, “Sports”, and “Back to School”.

In addition to the gift baskets, we also encourage businesses on the Point to donate items or services and include your business cards. How about a couple of hours of home repairs? Or tutoring? Or landscaping? Or a product? What better way to get free advertising for your business and hopefully some local customers!

The CFP Girls Youth Group will also be holding a used book sale at the Cookout. They had good success with this event earlier in the year. If you have any used books suitable for children or adults that you would like to donate, bring them on the day of the Cookout.

Tickets for the Cookout can be purchased at the Lil Corner Store or by calling **Pat McHale** at 401-83-48126, **Jackie Shearman** at 401-683-0916, **Carol Overbury** at 401-683-9082, or **Marilyn Napier** at 401-934-0980. If you have items to contribute for the raffles, please contact Pat, Jackie, Carol, or Marilyn to arrange a pick up or drop off. Items must be received no later than July 21st. Cash donations will also be accepted.

See you there!

CFPIA Hall Table MIA!!

We are missing a large, round folding table from the Community Hall. If you have borrowed this table from the Hall, please call **Pat McHale** at 401-683-4826 to arrange a return date.

CFP Egg Hunt, 2007

There's a new crop of bunnies on the Point! If you attended the Annual Egg Hunt on April 7th, you probably noticed a group of young girls with bunny ears. They volunteered to fill the eggs (over 1000!) with candy and hide them. We truly appreciated their help with this event. Many thanks to the girls for making our hunt a success!

We would also like to thank **Moira Maloney**, who again this year was able to line up the Easter Bunny for us. The Easter Bunny was a huge hit with the children and provided lots of opportunities for photo ops. Moira has the best connections!



CFP Bunnies Just Before Hopping Off to Hide 1,000+ Eggs

Front row from left to right: **Laura Blanchette, Samantha Pridgen, Kaitlyn Shaker, and Laura Shearman.**
Back row, from left to right: **Kristen Fontaine, Jessica Viveiros, Sabrina Aguiar, and Ashley Jefferds.**

Annual Get The Drift and Bag It - September 15th

Volunteers interested in cleaning the shoreline this year are asked to call **Mil Kinsella** at 401-633-2606 or email preserveportsmouth@cox.net to register. Pre-registering will help to determine the amount of supplies needed, including the number of tee shirts to order! The time of the clean up will be determined by the tides. Watch for signs at the Entrance Garden or updates on the website.

This is the cleanup where volunteers are asked to record all debris picked up and tally the amounts on a data card. The information is used by The Ocean Conservancy to educate people and create solutions to the problem of solid waste and litter.

Attention CFPIA Residents – Road Race to Be Held on August 19th at 10am

This is the 4th Annual CFP Road Race to benefit the Portsmouth High School Boosters Club. The route takes the runners onto some CFP streets. All residents, and in particular, those that live on the following streets may experience some short traffic delays: Anthony Rd, Attleboro Ave, Common Fence Blvd, Greenfield Ave, Massachusetts Blvd, Rhode Island Blvd, Massasoit Ave, Narragansett Blvd, King Philip St, Rayham Ave, North Water St, Summit Rd, and Sakonnet Drive. For more information on the race, please call **John Santillo** at 401-683-4733.

Looking for a few good volunteers

We are looking for some volunteers to help install signs along the playground and ball field to prevent vehicles from driving in these areas. If you can help, please contact **Scott Boyd** at 401-683-0732.

CFPIA
PO Box 134
Portsmouth, RI 02871
Meetings Held 3rd Monday of the Month 7:15 PM

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MORE CFPIA 2007 UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS!



A Teddy Bear Picnic! – July 11th

On Wednesday, July 11, 2007 a Teddy Bear Picnic will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Community Hall for children up to age 8. The event will consist of dancing, songs, games, snacks and surprises. The cost of the event will be \$5.00 per family. For further information, you may call **Jackie Shearman**, 683-0916.

CFPIA Property Walk – August 4th

Do you know how many acres CFPIA owns on the Point? Do you know where this property is located and where the rights of way to the beach are? Have you visited our restored salt marsh? Join us for a walk of the property on August 4th to learn the answers to these questions and much more. Contact **Mil Kinsella** at 401-633-2606 for more information, the meeting place, and time. You may also email her at preserveportsmouth@cox.net.

Scholastic Books Community Book Sale – August 10th

Scholastic Book Fairs will hold a 'Community Book Sale' at the Community Hall on Friday, August 10, 2007 and Saturday, August 11, 2007 from 9 am to 4 pm. All books and associated products will be offered for sale at 50% off the printed price. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the Fire Code Fund to install sprinklers in the Community Hall. Volunteers are needed as cashiers and to help set up and clean up. Refreshments will also be on sale so we need donations of baked goods. If you can help in any way, please call **Jackie Shearman** at 401-683-0916.