



**Common Fence Point Improvement Association**  
**Quarterly Newsletter**  
**December, 2005**  
**WWW.CFPIA.ORG**

**CFPIA Elections To Be Held in 2006 - Candidates Needed!!**

Elections for the position of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be held at the February 2006 monthly meeting.

What are the responsibilities of the officers? The **President** prepares agendas and runs the monthly meetings, is responsible for keeping meetings orderly, attends most CFPIA events, and is the CFPIA liaison to the Portsmouth community. The **Vice President** assumes the role of the President in his or her absence. The **Secretary** is responsible for recording and distributing meeting minutes, and for all written correspondence. The Treasurer is the primary bookkeeper. The Treasurer is responsible for paying bills as directed, preparing a monthly Treasurer's report and presenting it at the monthly meetings. He or she is also responsible for preparing financial reports as needed by the organization. Currently, the term of an officer is 2 years.

Regardless of which office is held, all officers should understand the purpose of the Association, share in the views and upload the vision of CFPIA. An officer representing CFPIA may need to attend Town Council or Board Meetings, should their agenda include issues that directly impact CFP. Occasionally the officers may need to meet with the Trustees to bring issues to them, or to learn of a Trustee Decision. The officers must be considerate of members' rights, insuring that all members will benefit from a CFPIA decision or ruling. Lastly, the officers must be LEADERS. We need leaders to help the Association go forward into 2006 and beyond. Interested? Please call **Barbara Jones** at 682-2799 or email her at [bsjones@pc.necoxmail.com](mailto:bsjones@pc.necoxmail.com)

**Neighborhood Crime Watch**

The Common Fence Point Improvement Association is forming a Neighborhood Crime Watch. This involves residents coming together to provide a watchful eye on their street and in their immediate neighborhood. Ideally, two or three families would be assigned on each street and would look out for suspicious behavior or vehicles. These residents would become the eyes and ears of the police, who cannot be everywhere in Portsmouth. Any questionable activity would be reported to the Portsmouth police immediately. The hope is that by reporting areas of vandalism or suspicious activities, the Police could be more vigilant in those areas.

The interim captains on Common Fence Point are **Susan Travers** and **Nancy Aguiar**. The responsibility of the Captains is to organize the Crime Watch schedule. Crime Watch members would be assigned a date and time to walk in their neighborhoods. Anyone who is interested in helping to combat vandalism is asked to contact the Captains.

**Brett Bucholz**, the Police Department patrolman assigned to the CFPIA Neighborhood Crime Watch program, has attended several CFPIA meetings and has explained the program to those in attendance. He is asking residents reporting information to the Police to be as accurate as possible in describing a suspicious person or a car involved.

If you are interested in being part of this program, please call Susan at 683-1607 or Nancy at 662-7911.

**Crime Watch Alert!**  
**Teens have been seen near the southwest corner of the Playground behind the bushes. Criminal activities continue to escalate. Please don't wait for a tragedy to happen to act. Call the Portsmouth Police at 683-0300 if you see any youths in that area.**

**'Tis The Season! Here's Our Wish List:**  
**18HP(or +) ride on lawn mower with a 22-42" blade. We need another mower to maintain the playground. Please call 683-0732.**

**Clements' Receipts - Where have they gone?**  
**Our supply seems to be decreasing. If you have been holding onto receipts, please drop them off at the Lil Corner Store. This year, we have netted \$600 to date. Since September 2001, we have taken in \$2800.00. It is a very easy fund-raiser for the Playground. Please help!**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**12/19/ 2005 - CFPIA Monthly Meeting**  
**01/16/ 2006 - CFPIA Monthly Meeting**

**01/21/2006 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine & Cheese Party - see page 3**  
**02/25/ 2006 - Mardi Gras Party & Fundraiser- see page 3**

**2005 INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP**  
**Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**The Over 50 Crowd Caught the Drift!!**

Recently, the national media referred to Baby Boomers as a selfish bunch. It became obvious on September 17th during the annual International Coastal Cleanup, that the reporter had never stepped foot in Common Fence Point! Most of the 30 volunteers for GET THR DRIFT & BAG IT were over 45 and on up to 78. The fine adolescents who helped out were in the 9-12 range. Thank you to all who set aside 2 hours on a Saturday to clean our beaches and catalogue the debris!!!

500 lbs of trash were retrieved in just 2 hours. The volunteers describe the Sakonnet River Beach as disgusting, year after year. Dirty diapers, cigarette butts, fishing line, light sticks, and 4 of the 9 syringes found on the Point beaches were found there. Hundreds of straws, lids, food wrappers and plastic bags were also tallied in the area below the Bridge. Volunteers still don't understand why there is not a NO LITTERING sign warning users of a *minimum* \$500 fine.

Thanks to Leanne Gablinske for leading a group of volunteers down to that shore to get down and dirty! And thanks to newcomers Ben Mazur, and Forest Golden, and the stalwarts who volunteer for that area year after year: Dorothy Senay, Jade Chanouyz, and Kerry Hood. Lastly, 16 of the 28 power plant scrubbers that were noted were also in this river cul de sac. (A new source says that 99% of the scrubbers ARE contained) Other notable data recorded included 77 tampons-that is more than 1/5 of the total found in the state in 2004!

My co chair, Brenda Whelan-Munro and I hope to see you all next year! Thank your neighbors for cleaning your beaches, the RI Audubon for coordinating the statewide effort and the Town of Portsmouth for picking up the trash that was hauled to the roadside by our gritty group. By patronizing the Rhode Island business sponsors, you will let them know that their environmental conscience DOES make a difference to you when you are choosing where to spend your dollars! The sponsoring businesses were BJ's, Dunkin Donuts, Ameriprise Financial, Douglas Wine and Spirits, The People's Liquor Warehouse, and Washington Trust Bank.

Contributed by **Mil Kinsella**.

***Walking and Biking Safety on CFP***

One of the advantages of our neighborhood is that it is a great place to take a walk or ride a bike. As more and more families and their pets are on the road, everyone should be safety conscious. Pedestrians should follow the rule of walking "against traffic". This will enable you to see an approaching vehicle. Bikers should ride "with traffic", and don't forget your helmet.

Also, you may have noticed the speed indicator sign set up along Anthony Road recently. This is to remind everyone that the speed limit is **20 MPH** in Common Fence Point. There have been numerous complaints recently of cars traveling at high rates of speed. If you see someone speeding, you can report the license number to our Crime Watch officer, **Brett Bucholz**, at the Portsmouth Police Station. Although Brett cannot issue a ticket, he can contact the person and give him or her a verbal warning. You may have recently seen someone pulled over and being issued a ticket. The Portsmouth Police are on the Point and cracking down on the speeders. Don't be one of them!

***Paid Your Dues Lately?***

Please return this form and make your check to payable to CFPIA, PO Box 134, Portsmouth, RI 02871.

Name: _____	<b>Single</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
Address: _____	<b>Family</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
_____	<b>Corporate</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____	<b>Patron</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>
What services can you volunteer for your community? _____	<b>Benefactor</b>	_____
_____	<b>Seniors over 65, take 10% off!!</b>	
_____	<b>Add'l Donation</b>	_____

Please indicate if you would like your *additional donation* to be applied specifically to:  
**Hall Repair/Fire Code** \_\_\_ **Playground Improvement** \_\_\_ **Land Maint and Mgmt** \_\_\_ **General Use** \_\_\_

**Thank you for your support!** **Newsletter 12/05**

## ***Come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine and Cheese Social – January 21<sup>st</sup>***

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine & Cheese Social will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2006 from 7pm to 9pm. This event is open to all residents (homeowners and renters; members and non-members) of Common Fence Point. Come meet your neighbors and help us identify activities for the coming year. Photos from 2005 events will be on display. Unsure of your membership status? A membership table will be set up with an up to date listing of members. Wine, cheese and crackers, as well as soft drinks and water will be provided. Please feel free to bring your own favorite wine to share. See you there!

## ***CFPIA Mardi Gras Party & Fundraiser – February 25<sup>th</sup>***

**Rose Esobar** is at it again! If you attended the CFPIA barbeque last summer, you know what a huge success it was, how good the food was, and how much fun was to be had! Well, Rose is creating another event to not only benefit the Hall, but also provide another great party for all in attendance. Rose has lined up a live band, the **Abbey Road Band**, to keep us dancing all night. Think of it as a Mardi Gras party with a Beatles' twist! It should be quite intriguing.

There will be of food and goodies for munching, prizes for unique costumes, raffles and silent auctions. You may bring your own beverages to this party. Costumes are optional, but greatly encouraged. All proceeds raised will go towards the sprinkler system for our Community Hall.

Tickets will be on sale at the Little Corner Store right after the holidays. Ticket Donation/Cost is \$20 per person. Tickets will sell out fast! Don't miss out on this excitingly unique neighborhood celebration! **Tickets will be sold to those over 21 only.**

## ***Fire Code Repairs Update***

The CFPIA Community Hall will soon be taking a big step towards complying with the new Rhode Island Fire Laws. We contracted L.J.F., Inc. a CFP business, to install a local alarm system that is code compliant, including smoke detectors, heat detectors, fire alarm pull stations, exit signs, emergency lighting and audible alarms and strobe lights. We are also incorporating a trip mechanism that turns the power off to the stage equipment (amplifiers, speakers, etc), therefore shutting down "noise producers" which will allow everyone in the building to hear the alarm.

Once the local system is complete we will be pursuing the installation of the Fire Alarm Master Box, which will provide direct connection to the Fire Department in case of a fire. This system will also be furnished and installed by L.J.F., Inc. At the present time the piping for the wires has been installed and the boxes made ready for pulling of the wires to make the connections to the devices. We hope that this phase will be complete by the end of the month. The cost for this phase of the project is \$12,900. Without the fundraisers and generosity of the community, we never would have made this much progress.

We would like to thank **Larry Farniarz** of L.J.F., who helped us immensely, and gave us a most favorable price.

At this time, CFPIA is getting estimates on sprinklers, including the interior building and exterior underground work. This will be the most costly of phases. Please remember that tax-deductible donations are welcome at any time!

## ***CFPIA Fire Code Fundraisers Held in November and December***

Several fundraisers were held in the last 3 months to benefit the Fire Code Fund. A Salsa Dance Lesson organized by Common Fence Music board member and CFPIA resident, **Nancy Nary** was held November 4<sup>th</sup> at the CFPIA Hall. This event raised \$665, and was a concerted effort by Common Fence Music to help us raise money for the fire code repairs. Those attending paid \$35 for a 2 hour Salsa dance lesson and were served refreshments free of charge. **Tracy Rose** of The Learning Connection graciously DONATED her talent and time to teach the lesson. She also recruited male volunteers to pair-off with those without a male partner. The Sakonnet Times covered the event, and posted a photo on the front page! Unfortunately, it was mistakenly reported as a fundraiser for Common Fence Music. The paper was contacted and was to issue a correction.

The 2nd Annual CFPIA Craft Fair was held in November, followed by a Shopper's Showcase, held in December. The total amount realized from these fundraisers was \$500.

Since the cost for the new fire alarm system alone is \$12,900, these fundraisers are critical to our attempt to keep the Hall compliant with the new laws. Thank you to all who organized these events and those who attended them.

### **Attention Business Owners:**

We are looking for items, gift certificates and services for auction and or raffling at our fundraisers! Keep in mind that it is free advertising and a great tax write off. CFPIA is a 501c3 non-profit organization. We have been successful in past fundraisers, but now face the insurmountable task of raising enough money to install a sprinkler system. We need the help of community businesses to keep our Hall open. Donations are being accepted now for the Wine and Cheese and Mardi Gras parties. Please contact **Pat McHale** at 683-4826 or **Jackie Shearman** at 683-0916

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

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***Halloween Happenings at the Hall!!!***



Just a few of the CFPIA children, who with their parents were treated to cookies and cider at the Community Hall on Halloween night. Thanks CFPIA! See more photos at the Wine & Cheese Party in January.

