



NEWSLETTER

1st QUARTER 2008

President's Message:

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." – Edith Lovejoy Pierce

The FVNCA "book" of 2007 includes a few substantial changes and improvements to the Village. New sidewalks on Sawyer, a new speed table on Mussey, upgrades to the School St. playground, a new FVNCA sign on Pine, a memorial fund, etc.

For some of us, the change has been slow-coming knowing how long we have worked at getting these improvements made. And, we're impatient knowing there are many more improvements needed. But, it is the New Year and with it brings the hope of new beginnings and the promise of new opportunities.

We start this first chapter of 2008 with our first visit by the new School Superintendent, Suzanne Godin. I am hopeful her presentation will appeal to the many parents in the Village and that we will have a good turnout.

I am also pleased to announce that our new City Manager Jim Gailey will visit us as the guest speaker at our April meeting.

Another new item is the election of Derek Walker as our Vice President. We welcome Derek, his wife Patricia, and their new baby girl to the Village. We are thrilled not only to have them as members, but that Derek has stepped up to take such an active role in the organization.

My hope for 2008 is that we see more new faces at our meetings. If you have a new neighbor, please tell them about FVNCA and invite them to join. Together we can continue moving forward and improving the quality of life we strive for here in the Village. Here's to the "book" of 2008!

Sincerely,
David Jacobs – 2008 President

January 17th @ 7pm
Betsy Ross House – Meeting room
99 Preble Street (Rear entrance on Henley Street)
PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN RESIDENT PARKING LOT

The meeting agenda includes:

South Portland School Redistricting Plan

Guest speaker Suzanne Godin, Superintendent of the South Portland School System, will discuss the upcoming school redistricting process. She will be available to answer questions about this topic and any other educational issues that come up.

For more info, feel free to contact the Superintendent's office at:

130 Wescott Road
South Portland, ME 04016
Phone: 207-871-0555
E-mail: godinsu@spsd.org
Website: www.spsd.org

Artist / Designer / or Architect needed!

As discussed at previous meetings, FVNCA submitted a grant request to the Community Development Block Grant Committee for the rehabilitation of the City-owned lot at the corner of Sawyer and High. The vision we presented was of an old-fashioned city park with a meandering path, park benches, lamp posts, and landscaping. The goal was to create a comfortable meeting place in the heart of the Village, an attractive entrance to the oldest neighborhood in the City, as well as a way to commemorate the role the Village played in the beginnings of South Portland.

While we were pleased to be awarded the grant, it came with the provision that a basketball hoop remain at this site thereby negating the intent of the grant and the rehabilitation of this lot. We have asked for another meeting with the CDBG committee and are awaiting the date from the new City Manager, Jim Gailey. We will let residents and members know when this is scheduled so we can seek your input.

In the interim, we have put out a request for an artist to help us produce a rendering or sketch of our vision for this park. **If you know if anyone that may be interested in assisting us with this creative task, please have them contact us.** Thank you!

Other January 17th Meeting Agenda Items

- PROP Lease update
- Old Joe's Pond Update
- Ferry Village Memorial Fund activity
- Business sponsorship subcommittee
- Next Meeting – April 10th: Guest speaker – new City Manager Jim Gailey.

Volunteer Opportunities

FVNCA is always looking for able bodies to assist with distribution of our newsletter, to help with the annual Earth Week clean-up, to serve on subcommittees, and to help with membership recruitment. If you are interested in helping make Ferry Village a better place to live, work, and play, please contact us to volunteer.

Web Site - www.FerryVillageME.org

Help us preserve our history: We are looking for photos and stories to include in our archives on this website. If you have anything you can share or let us scan / copy, please contact us. The graphic to the right is on our website. It is a scan of an old postcard depicting the **Bug Light** breakwater. While many of us may recognize the top of the lighthouse, how many have seen the lightkeepers' building that was attached?

Won't You Join Your Neighborhood Organization?

FVNCA membership dues are only \$5.00 a year. To become a member or to renew your membership, please fill out the form below and return to us. Come meet your neighbors and learn more about your neighborhood! Visit www.ferryvillageme.org for more information.



2008 FVNCA Officers Contact Info:

David Jacobs, President

Cell: 329-5005

Email: davidjacobs@mindspring.com

Derek Walker, Vice President

Email: dcwalker@maine.rr.com

Betsy Morrison, Secretary

Email: havechef@qwi.net

Jennifer Kirk, Treasurer

Email: jkirk@propeople.org



Ferry Village Neighborhood Conservation Association MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership runs from September 1 to August 31. Becoming a member guarantees continued delivery or E-mail of the FVNCA NEWSLETTER. **Please print clearly.**

Please check off () Household Membership Business Membership Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
 New Membership Renewal

Name(s): _____ Business Name _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Date: _____

Make check payable to: Ferry Village Neighborhood Conservation Association (or FVNCA)

Send to: Jennifer Kirk, 101 Stanford Street, So. Portland, ME 04106