

1998 ANNUAL REPORT

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Gary Dawson, President
937-7163

Lynn Sealey, VP/Secretary
938-8807

Kim Suyama, Treasurer
937-7480

David Allen
Mary Ashby
Mike Ashby
Bruce Butterfield
Phil Georgas
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ADVOCACY

Fauntleroy's voice about ferry-system actions affecting the community grew substantially louder during 1998. King County appointed three FCA representatives and three alternates to the South Ferry Advisory Committee. It is one of 16 such committees throughout the system that involve citizens in service decisions and assessments, in this case, for the Vashon-Southworth-Fauntleroy triangle.

FCA provided our newly elected mayor and city council members with a comprehensive briefing package on the ferry situation, emphasizing the importance of their supporting a downtown terminal capable of accepting direct service to and from Southworth and Vashon. In response, Mayor Paul Schell made a "no expansion at Fauntleroy" commitment to the neighborhood and restated the city's willingness to work with us on "reasonable solutions" to ferry-related traffic problems.

FCA hosted City Councilman Peter Steinbrueck and his aides for an orientation to Fauntleroy's many assets, as well as ferry and environmental concerns.

One of the latter surfaced again with increased strength: the infamous Fauntleroy stench. After a mild winter, lettuce-like seaweed in the cove grew into giant mats that, when stirred by tidal and ferry action, released strong doses of nauseating hydrogen sulfide. FCA convinced the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team to enlist the expertise of a panel of scientists to consider the growing phenomenon statewide. In addition, County Councilman Greg Nickels found funding to collect a month's worth of data on exposure levels, which will come into play in the new year as FCA's dedicated stench committee gets to work.

COLLABORATION

The ferry system's need to increase efficiency at the Fauntleroy terminal and a mutual desire to improve community-ferry relations led to collaborative planning for a remodeled entry to the terminal. At FCA's spring general meeting, ferry staff presented drawings, fielded questions, and solicited ideas.

Shared transportation concerns brought Fauntleroy and other West Seattle neighborhoods to a transportation forum hosted by County Councilman Greg Nickels to itemize problems, surface possible solutions, and build the basic structure of an action plan. FCA President Gary Dawson moderated the discussion group on commuters.

As the neighborhood planning process wound to a close, FCA reviewed draft plans of area communities with an eye toward possible implications for Fauntleroy. One proposal that FCA convinced planners to delete would have sought a ferry parking lot near the terminal.

MEMBER EVENTS

FCA called the community out to three events during 1998:

- April 18: "Spring Clean" work party at Cove Park
- April 30: Annual meeting
- October 13: General meeting



COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

Seattle Public Utilities completed its Fauntleroy Creek culvert-replacement project just in time for an unprecedented return of some 200 Coho salmon to spawn. Scores of residents and schoolchildren watched from a viewing plaza atop the culvert as the fish climbed a natural-looking fish ladder. FCA solicited small stones from the community as part of public art created by noted sculptor Tom Jay for the viewing plaza. The FCA Board recognized creek advocate Judy Pickens for initiating the project and seeing it through.

Across the street, Cove Park began to take shape north of the ferry pier. FCA assisted the volunteer effort by co-signing a direct-mail solicitation to the neighborhood and continually publicizing the project. Pending funding, artist Tom Jay agreed to create art for the site to complement his work at the Fauntleroy Creek viewing plaza.

Other grant applications for community improvements supported by FCA during the year included the new play area to be completed in Lincoln Park by spring. FCA also joined the city and other organizations in providing financial support for an inaugural arts-and-nature festival in the park and in hosting a display table during the two-day event.

COMMUNICATION

FCA faithfully published four issues of our *Neighbors* newsletter during the year, plus an annual report and a brochure on natural points of interest in the neighborhood.

The newsletter reported FCA-related news, other community news and event announcements of general interest, regional and state news affecting Fauntleroy, and a smattering of advice (i.e., combating car prowls). "Morey's Bench," which shares the recollections of long-time Fauntleroy resident Morey Skaret, continued to be a popular regular feature. Technology improvements enabled us to begin high-quality reproduction of photos.

FCA continued to maintain a supply of publications at the "take-one" table at The Original Bakery. This has been an effective, low-cost way to share information with non-members, while encouraging them to join.

REGULAR BUSINESS

As of January 18, 1999, FCA had 224 member households.

The FCA Board met in open session on the first Tuesday evening of the month (except for summer) to address a wide variety of topics and hear from special guests. Board members Dot Rohan and Bruce Butterfield represented FCA through the year at monthly meetings of the Southwest District Council, the umbrella organization for all community groups in West Seattle.

NOT A MEMBER?

Join your community association anytime. Dues are for 12 months from the month you join.

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

ZIP+4

PHONE

\$ 10 Individual
 \$ 20 Household

This is a new membership.
 This is a renewal.

COMMENTS:

Mail this form, along with your check payable to the Fauntleroy Community Association, to
FCA Treasurer Kim Suyama
9273 Fauntleroy Way S.W.
Seattle 98136-2618.