

TRAFFIC WOES FOCUS OF JANUARY 30 MEETING

By Martha Callard

Community response to FCA's request for input on local traffic problems has been extensive and eye opening. About 25 specific neighborhood problem locations were identified for consideration at the **January 30** traffic meeting at the **Fauntleroy Church Fellowship Hall at 7 PM.**

The purpose of the meeting is to define the most pressing problems and develop possible solutions to

be presented to the appropriate city officials with the assistance of the FCA. Ferry traffic complaints and speeding were on the top of the list of concerns, with motorcycle noise, lack of crosswalks and Lincoln Park traffic control issues also frequently mentioned.

Your participation at this meeting is essential if we are to have success in solving some of our most difficult traffic concerns.



IN CASE YOU MISSED THESE EVENTS . . .

DRUMMING CALLS LOCAL SALMON HOME

Over 100 adults and children came to the Fauntleroy Creek fish ladder overlook at sunset on October 13 to attend the "Drumming the Salmon Home" ceremony led by Jamie Shilling, with story telling by overlook artist Tom Jay and his wife, Sara Mall Johani.

Participants joined Jamie in drumming, song and dance. Backed by Tom and Mall's narration, actors drafted from the audience portrayed the folktale about how salmon were spread over the entire world from their European origins.

FIRST FALL FESTIVAL DRAWS CROWD

Hundreds of children and adults enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of pumpkin painting, face painting, music, games, story telling, scarecrow making, birdhouse building, pony rides, dancing, and food at the first annual Fauntleroy Fall Festival.

The October 20 event was a joint undertaking of Fauntleroy Church, Fauntleroy YMCA, Fauntleroy Hall, and FCA, with the support of many area businesses and dozens of volunteers. Judging from the mass of smiling, enthusiastic people, a number of whom stayed into the evening, the festival was a rousing success. (Photos by Lynn Sealey)



WHAT DOES THE FCA DO?

By President Bruce Butterfield

There is always something going on in Fauntleroy, and the FCA is often involved in some way. New neighbors and nonmembers are routinely surprised by the activism and support of the FCA, but people continue to ask "What does the FCA do and what doesn't it do?"

Here is the FCA's statement of purpose:

Since 1980, the nonprofit Fauntleroy Community Association has been the voice of neighborhood residents, businesses, and institutions on matters of interest and concern within city, county, and state government. It also serves as the focal point for projects that enhance the quality of life and natural environment of this West Seattle community.

The origins of the organization were environmental in nature, but the complexity of city life caused the FCA to evolve into a collective voice for all quality-of-life issues.

Suggestions, ideas, and concerns of neighbors come to the FCA through casual conversations with members or by e-mail, phone, or letter. Over the years, the FCA has gained the respect of local and state agencies and politicians, and these connections are tapped to get information and support for the community. We support residents in their efforts to gain knowledge of policies and regulations or to seek grant funding for worthwhile projects.

The FCA is *not* a political organization and does *not* take positions on candidates or initiatives. It does *not* take on issues to effect change, but it *does* work in an advisory role where neighbors volunteer their time and passion.

During my tenure as an FCA Board member and now president, I have seen a great deal accomplished through the efforts of members and the community as a whole. Those people who are passionate about our neighborhood have effected change, however, the job is never over and involvement of residents is critical to keeping our little corner of the city a wonderful place to live. The forces of change keep on rolling and without those who have a real stake in the outcome getting involved; change happens *to* you rather than *with* you.

Those who are newer to the neighborhood may not know that, if not for FCA involvement, one big change *could have* resulted in Fauntleroy Way becoming Fauntleroy State Highway!



Also, ferry dock expansion in the 70's and 80's, might have been realized had the community not said, "Wait a minute! We need to talk about this."

The FCA does not always *do* the work but we have the "toolbox." We have fostered relationships with government agencies and elected officials to bring about the changes those who *live here* want to see, rather than for the convenience of those who drive through or fly over.

Ours is an OPEN neighborhood organization, looking for community input and ideas. Please feel free to join us at community meetings and social events, monthly board meetings or on special committees. If your interest is in bettering your community, your ideas are welcome and our toolbox is always open. Let us help each other and keep Fauntleroy a wonderful place to live.

WINTER BIRDING HINTS

By Lynn Sealey

Winter is a great time to go bird watching. Take a pair of binoculars, a bird book, and wander around the woody areas of Fauntleroy and Lincoln parks where several bird species can be seen. Species that may be seen in the parks include: Great Horned Owl, Bushtits, Bewick's Wren, Winter Wren, Varied Thrush, Black-capped Chickadees, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Brown Creepers.

Fauntleroy Cove and the stretch of beach at Lincoln Park offer many birding rewards. Toward the end of the ferry dock on the north side you may see Surf Scoters swimming in a line. Double-crested Cormorants and several Grebe species such as the Eared, Horned, Red-necked and Western also may be seen. Also watch for Common Goldeneyes, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Buffleheads, Red-breasted Mergansers, and American Wigeons. At Cormorant Cove (3700 block of Beach Drive), you may spot the colorful Harlequin Duck or the handsome Brant goose. Brants are most often in large flocks.

**Check out the FCA website at
www.fauntleroy.net**

FAUNTLEROY WATERSHED COUNCIL REPORT

SPAWNER RETURN TO FAUNTLEROY A HEARTBREAKER

By Judy Pickens

The annual fall return of coho salmon to Fauntleroy Creek was nearly a non-event this year. Only five spawners returned and only one pair left eggs for the next generation.

A nearly two-week delay in the start of our "rainy season" likely played a significant role in the meager return here and elsewhere in the area. Other factors are being examined as well, including construction activity while spawners were gathering in the cove and unstable conditions at the mouth.

Despite a heartbreaking lack of fish to count, the annual salmon watch made gains in other respects. The nearly three dozen volunteers included many new faces. We expanded our leadership base, and improved monitoring procedures. Our watchers were well informed about coho behavior and habitat needs by Seattle Public Utilities and Washington Trout..

Another plus is increased interest by city and state agencies in working with us to address the problem of sand buildup at the mouth of the creek. Fauntleroy Ferry Advisory Committee Chairman Gary Dawson is facilitating our request that Washington State Ferries aid in finding a solution.

Thanks to neighbors Tom Linde, Sherry Richardson, Steev Ward, Gail Hlavacek, and Phil Sweetland for exceptional effort. Also to Kapka

Cooperative Primary School for creating the salmon sock that flew at the viewpoint on those days all too rare days we had fish.

WORK TO ENHANCE HABITAT

Seattle Public Utilities and the Fauntleroy Watershed Council have begun planning for a multi-year project aimed at reducing erosion, improving movement of sediment, and diversifying habitat in Fauntleroy Creek. Most of the work will be in Fauntleroy Park where adding logs, for example, would control velocity and protect streambanks.

Park users will notice improvements where trails intersect the creek; work will be similar to that done over the summer by the crew of youth from Consejo Counseling & Referral Services.

EarthCorps (an international training program) will do most of the construction, which is expected to start in late spring. The \$80,000, two-year project is intended to attract additional funding and volunteer investment, as well as stimulate educational opportunities.

WHO'S WHO IN YOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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The FCA Board meets on the **second Tuesday** of the month in the conference room at the Fauntleroy schoolhouse, starting at **7 PM**. Any FCA member is welcome to attend.

FCA's mailing address is **P.O. Box 46343, Seattle 98146-6343**. Web address is **www.fauntleroy.net**

Contact Newsletter Editor, Martha Callard, by email at **news@fauntleroy.net**

FERRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

BUDGET FOR FERRY OPERATIONS A TOP CONCERN

By Gary Dawson

Commuters and Southworth and Vashon Ferry Advisory Committee members attended the November 12 South Sound FAC meeting hosted by the Fautleroy Ferry Advisory Committee. Department directors from Washington State Ferries presented operation reports detailing traffic volumes over the last quarter, WSF's compliance with Coast Guard security requirements, and scheduling issues, including efforts for more efficient operation on the Fautleroy/Vashon/Southworth route.

The primary agenda item, however, was the discussion of operating and capital budget for WSF following the defeat of Referendum 51. Budget support for passenger-only vessels between Kitsap County and downtown Seattle fell victim to that defeat.

For complete details on Washington State Ferries' proposals for future service changes and possible cuts, see the WSF website at www.ws.dot.wa.gov/ferries/ and click on "Foundation for the Future."

Following the FAC meeting, Russ East, WSF, director of terminal engineering, attended the FCA Board meeting to request community feedback following the September and October Fautleroy terminal construction. The FCA Board provided For complete details on during the project. Later that week, WSF representatives attended the Fautleroy Watershed Council meeting (see story page 3).

FCA President Bruce Butterfield and I have applied to the King County Council for appointment to additional four-year terms on the committee, the previous appointments having recently expired. Chuck Sawyer is currently the only active member. However, please continue to direct any questions or requests for information regarding committee issues or Washington State Ferries to Bruce, Chuck, or me.

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEIGHBORLY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ Join the Fautleroy Community Association
- ◆ Renew your membership now
- ◆ Attend a board meeting (and bring a friend), second Tuesday, 7 PM, Fautleroy schoolhouse
- ◆ Commit to deliver a "Welcome New Neighbor" bag
- ◆ Consider becoming a board member
- ◆ Volunteer for Cove Park cleanup event this spring or summer
- ◆ Join a Fautleroy Park weeding party second Saturday and Sunday of the month from 1 to 3 PM
- ◆ Suggest and coordinate a neighborhood event

Address Service Requested

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