

This report summarizes FCA's accomplishments in 2020 - a year that gave us all ample reason to cover under the covers. With determination and creativity, though, we brought people together in new ways to continue to enhance quality of life in this West Seattle neighborhood we call home.



## CULTIVATING COMMUNITY

**EVENTS:** Public-health protocols during the pandemic forced cancellation of three popular FCA-supported events: the **Fautleroy Food Fest and FCA Annual Membership Meeting** in March, the annual spring **dine out** at Endolyne Joe's, and the **Fautleroy Fall Festival** in October.

To help fill the void, FCA initiated a well-received fall pumpkin hunt. Board members tagged real and glass pumpkins with \$500 worth of gift cards to area businesses and hid them around the neighborhood for lucky hunters to find.



Two "benefit days" in the spring and a newsletter article in December encouraged residents to patronize area eateries trying to stay in business during the pandemic.

**NATURAL HABITAT:** The closure of school buildings in March altered how 2,000+ coho fry got released into Fautleroy Creek in May. Most teachers managed to care for their fry until, thanks to creativity and coordination, students could experience a remote or actual release in May and continue water-quality research. An exceptional number of volunteers signed up to document spawners in the fall but few coho returned to central Puget Sound. Watchers documented just one live spawner and a partial carcass at the creek mouth.

**PROMOTING MEMBERSHIP:** With FCA's **welcome bags** for new residents sidelined for most of the year by

the pandemic, the Board launched a **direct-mail campaign** over the summer that attracted nearly three dozen new members.

In the fall, the Board changed FCA's membership year to align with the calendar year and, because of pandemic-related hardships, forgave 2021 dues for area businesses.

## COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

**ENVIRONMENT:** Annual maintenance of restored habitat in the Kilbourne ravine (middle reach of Fautleroy Creek) began in July, thanks to donors to the **Fautleroy Watershed Stewardship Fund**. The fund balance year's end was \$17,836.52.

A donation to the fund last year from the West Seattle Garden Tour financed creation of a **native-plant demonstration garden** at the east end of the ravine (next to the Fautleroy Schoolhouse). The Fautleroy Watershed Council teamed with Taproot School to install the plants and an interpretive sign.



**MORE IMPROVEMENTS:** Twice in August, FCA volunteers removed **political statements** stenciled on sidewalks in the Endolyne business area.

The area also benefited from ongoing volunteer maintenance of **planter boxes**, plus the planting of flowers for summer color and bulbs for a joyful spring.

The Board got five more neighborhood intersections in the city's queue for ADA-accessible **curb ramps**.

FCA continued to repair and replace **crossing flags** at 10 locations in the neighborhood to improve pedestrian safety.

The Board began mulling a city idea for how to get **additional parking** in the Endolyne business area.

## ADVOCACY

**BRIDGE DETOUR:** Closure of the failing West Seattle high bridge in the spring compelled ferry commuters to take detour routes that, according to FCA, did not take **traffic flow and congestion** fully into account. FCA went on record asking for several improvements, including a change that would reduce the making of dangerous U-turns to get into the homeward-bound ferry queue along Fautleroy Way SW.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The FCA Board received monthly crime updates from the Southwest Precinct and, as a result, we did extra community outreach about how residents could reduce theft and damage from car prowls.

In a letter to City Council members, the FCA Board opposed a major reduction in police funding without first having a clear definition of “public safety” and a plan for ensuring it by different means.

**FERRY CONCERNS:** Under the leadership of Frank Immel, the Fauntleroy Ferry Advisory Committee kept an eye on concerns related to having a very active ferry terminal in this residential neighborhood. Bill Wellington and Chuck Sawyer also ably served.

Several FCA members participated in a December stakeholder roundtable hosted online by Washington State Ferries to advance planning for a total rebuild of the terminal here.

**MEMBER SURVEY:** In the fall, FCA’s biennial survey of members netted valuable information about several issues of concern. The Board is converting those issues into action items *and* matching new volunteers with the neighborhood activities and projects that interest them.

**NETWORKING:** FCA continued as an active member of the District 1 Community Network, a forum for advocating at the city level for neighborhoods on the Duwamish peninsula.

## TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

**MEMBERS:** As of Dec. 31, paid and complimentary memberships stood at 353 - 315 households, 17 businesses/institutions, 15 government offices, and 6 complementary businesses/organizations.

**FINANCES:** Funding support for FCA in 2020 totaled \$11,520 - \$9,080 from household renewals, \$1,430 from new household memberships, \$900 from business support and \$110 from donations.

Traditionally, FCA has mailed renewal notices in March; however, in keeping with the change in renewal period (previously 3/31, now 12/31), FCA mailed 2021 renewal notices in December 2020. This resulted in a one-time gain to the 2020 statements of \$4,065 as members renewed in December 2020 instead of March 2021. FCA continues to offer members the option of electronic payment via PayPal which now includes the ability to renew on an automated annual payment basis.

Spending was reduced given pandemic-related cancellations of the annual food fest in March and the fall festival in October. Board members and Evergreen Home Loans funded the October Pumpkin Hunt.

Expenditures of \$5,124 included \$1,719 for printing the newsletter/annual report, \$951 for planter-box materials, \$132 for pedestrian crossing flags, \$98 for graffiti-removal supplies, \$313 for administrative costs, \$401 for dues-renewal supplies, \$231 for new-neighbor mailings, \$932 for the membership drive, and \$347 for the community survey. Net cash as of Dec. 31 was \$23,761.

FCA is fiscal agent for the Fauntleroy Fall Festival, which received \$1,602 in donations and spent \$203, closing the year with net cash of \$4,181. Donations included \$830 from FCA members designated during dues renewal and \$772 from 2019 festival attendees.

**MEETINGS:** Through March, the FCA Board had business meetings on the second Tuesday evening of the month in the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse. Meetings moved on line in April because of the pandemic. The Board took August and December off. The online session in May sufficed as our annual meeting.

**LEADERSHIP:** The makeup of the FCA Board remained stable during 2020 but two members increased their involvement. Catherine Bailey became vice president and Sydney Hammerquist became membership chairwoman.

Fauntleroy lost two long-time community advocates this year. In 1979, **Jeanne Hansen** co-founded what became FCA and served as president until 1991. For a half century, **Leon Harman** faithfully supported neighborhood improvements, most notably helping plan, create, and maintain Cove Park.



## Fauntleroy Community Association COMMUNICATION

Bill Wellington continued to oversee our web presence. He moved the Fauntleroy Flash to MailChimp after the city discontinued the previous service. He also supported the community survey and efforts to organize FCA’s membership information.

Judy Pickens edited FCA’s quarterly *Neighbors* newsletter and our annual report in the March issue.

## ON OUR RADAR

Issues on the FCA Board’s radar for 2021 include

- active community engagement in state planning to upgrade the **Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal**.
- community impacts of the city’s proposed replacement of the combined **Fauntleroy Creek culvert** under California Ave. SW and the church parking lot.
- **public safety**, including pedestrian crossings and hazards associated with ferry traffic.
- **crime**, including burglaries, car prowls, and police response times.
- **advocacy** about community events, homelessness, and use of savings realized by “defunding” police.

*Photos courtesy West Seattle Blog and Taproot School*

## FCA LEADERSHIP

Mike Dey, president; 206-661-0673

Catherine Bailey, vice president

Alexis Zolner, treasurer; 206-935-6721

Frank Immel, secretary

Sydney Hammerquist, membership chairwoman

Bruce Butterfield Alan Grainger David Haggerty

Kris Ilgenfritz Susan Lantz-Dey Kimberly Terry

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