

FRIENDS OF CHATHAM WATERWAYS

2011 Annual Meeting

Monday, August 15, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Chatham Community Center

702 Main Street, Chatham

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

President's Remarks: George Cooper

**Treasurer's Report and
Adoption of FY 2012 Budget:** Nat Mason

Election of Directors and Officers
(See: Nominating Committee Report, back page)

Environmental Scholarship Awards: Dick Evans

2011 Captain's Award: Tom King

Other Business
Adjournment of Business Meeting

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Tim Wood, Editor, *Cape Cod Chronicle*

Subject: A Journalist's view of
Chatham Through the Years

A Letter from the President:

Looking back over the Minutes of FCW Board meetings for the past year, one item, **Zoning By-Law Revisions**, was on every Agenda. Debby Ecker and John Sweeney had many meetings with town staff, the Planning Board and our legal counsel on the intent and wording of four Zoning By-law articles that were brought to May's Town Meeting.

The results of May's Town Meeting and ongoing work on two zoning by-law rewrites, that will be brought to voters at the next Town Meeting, are discussed by Debby and John in this newsletter.

Getting people to serve on town boards and committees and on non-profit boards is a continual problem. We have a chronic need for folks to volunteer as Water Watchers. That entails collecting water quality data and samples on five mornings each summer, two in July and August, respectively, and once in September.

This is the 13th consecutive summer that the Water Watchers have collected water quality data and samples, currently at nine stations on Chatham's Nantucket Sound embayments and the 12th summer for five stations on Pleasant Bay. Until this summer, FCW Directors **Martha Stone** and **George Olmsted** shouldered the burden and responsibility of organizing the Chatham Water Watchers. We who succeed them in this task owe them a deep debt of gratitude. Without the impetus that they and FCW exerted in spurring the Town to start a scientific program of water testing in 1998, we would not have the water quality data that formed the basis of the Total Maximum Daily Loads for nitrogen set by Massachusetts Estuaries Project reports for our marine waters and thus the basis of our Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.

We ask you to provide your e-mail address when you renew your FCW membership on the form provided in this newsletter. Our sole use of this information is to keep you informed via **Constant Contact** on a timely basis of events and meetings that are relevant to our mission.

Lastly, our Annual Meeting will be held on August 15, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the Chatham Community Center Conference Room, 702 Main Street, Chatham. **Tim Wood**, Editor of the *Cape Cod Chronicle* will be our Keynote Speaker. He has been asked to give us an overview of the changes in the character of Chatham he's witnessed from the perspective of a newspaper reporter and editor.

George Cooper

FCW Educational Grants for 2011/2012

Educational grants totaling \$5,193.61 were awarded in June to five teachers at Chatham's Elementary and Middle schools.

Stephanie Rae, Science Leader for grades K-4, received \$763.61 to purchase Saltwater aquaria to be installed in Elementary Classrooms as part of her "**Science Discovery**" program. Students will collect plants and critters from different habitats to study in the classrooms.

Cassandra Kloumann, math and science teacher for Grades 5-6, received \$1430.00 to continue her "**Spiral Curriculum**" at Jackknife Cove and Frost Fish Creek. Students observe, collect data, perform water quality tests at these sites and create pod casts that are to be posted on the Middle School and FCW's websites. The funds requested are primarily for transporting students to study sites and to cover attendance fees at the annual **Water Festival** held at Chatham's Community Center.

Cherie Armstrong, Library Media Specialist, and **Annie Haven** and **Paula Ferullo**, 6th Grade teachers, jointly received \$3,000.00 to cover expenses of a Writer's Retreat for Chatham Middle School students held this past June at the Cape Cod Sea Camps in Brewster. FCW partially funded a similar retreat held June 4-6, 2010 at the Sea Camps. Students received training from scientists, took field notes and wrote about nature and the environment. They produced a compendium of works in a spiral-bound notebook entitled "Soul" Source Aquifer.

Pat Tarnow



FCW's Captain's Award

From its origin, FCW's Captain's Award was designed to formally honor the volunteer effort of an individual, group or organization for their work in protecting and preserving Chatham's waterways and neighboring lands. In addition, the award was developed to recognize effort on a specific project over a period of years, or for an exceptional effort to instruct pupils in Chatham's schools on the importance of conservation and what steps can be taken to achieve it.

In 2010, Bill Appleyard and I conducted an extensive drive to build upon previous years' efforts to gather nominations for the Captain's Award. We did this by consulting a broad group of men and women whom we considered to be representative of the entire town: marina owners, elected town officials, department heads and committee chairs. These were in addition to our customary polling of FCW's Board of Directors.

The winner of the 2011 Captain's Award received the highest number of nominations. When you attend FCW's Annual Meeting you will hear the name of this well-deserving winner. So stay tuned, and be sure to attend FCW's Annual Meeting, Monday, August 15.

See you there!

Tom King

Environmental Scholarships

FCW awarded two \$2,500 Environmental Scholarships in May. The purpose of these awards is to enable and encourage college and post-graduate students to prepare for careers in environmental fields. Applicants must be residents of Cape Cod and the Islands or have graduated from high school here, and must be at least a Junior in college majoring in an environmental field.

This year, for the first time, a scholarship was given to a graduate student, **Melissa Patrician**. She graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Rhode Island and has worked as a research assistant at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. She is now in the first year of a Ph.D. program at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, N.Y., where she is specializing in the ecology of whales.

Ashley Harrington received the other scholarship. A resident of Brewster, she attended Cape Cod Community College for two years with high grades and has transferred to the University of Maine at Orono where she will enter her Junior year. Ashley is majoring in Marine Biology and hopes to go to graduate school.

Dick Evans



NEW FCW BOARD MEMBER

Betsy Mosser: A graduate of Wheaton College and Cornell University, Betsy is a former high school history teacher turned antique print dealer who currently exhibits at "The Mews at Brewster" antique cooperative. She, her two children, and late husband moved to Chatham full-time in 1998, but spent the next ten years living part-time on a motor yacht cruising in the Bahamas and along the Inter-Coastal Waterway. In Chatham, Betsy has been a Creative Arts Center and Friends of the Monomoy Theater board member, and an active volunteer of the Stage Harbor Yacht Club. A lifelong birder, mariner, and community volunteer, she is thrilled to be a FCW Director.

Ms. Mosser's election to the board last November fills a vacancy created by Dr. Drew Carey who resigned from the Board just prior to the August 2010 Annual Meeting. Her term of office extends to August, 2013.

CONSTANT CONTACT

Little-by-little FCW enters the electronic age. Last year we established a website: www.chathamwaterways.org. It is a compendium of FCW information and has an electronic version of **Chatham Blue Pages**.

We just contracted with **Constant Contact**, an internet service provider, to send you timely notices of events and meetings that are relevant to our mission to protect and maintain Chatham waterways. Those who have given us e-mail addresses recently received two notices. The first, a Public Notice of a June 18th meeting: **Wastewater and Land Use/Zoning Relationships**. The meeting was recorded and may be viewed on Channel 18. The second, Notice of a Public meeting on June 30: **Shoreline Erosion on Nantucket Sound Beaches**. See: www.town.chatham.ma.us for **Nantucket Sound Erosion Assessment, Chatham, MA**.

You will note that our Non-profit Mailing Permit is now out of the Orleans Post Office. To qualify for the least expensive postal rates, we also have to use a Direct Mail Service out of Yarmouth. Two bottlenecks!

Aside from the expense, time is of the essence. Thus, we urge you to provide us with your e-mail address when you renew your membership

George Cooper.



Chatham's Tercentennial: FCW Celebrates 300 Years of Shoreline Change

George Olmsted, Betsy Mosser, Ron Bergstrom and others have been reviewing maps, charts, photos, etc. at the Chatham Historical Society, Dr. Robert Zaremba's 'Maps of Antiquity' in Chatham, the Eldredge Public Library, Kelsey-Kennard Photos, Chatham's Coastal Resources Department and private holdings to select images that illustrate how Chatham Waters and Shorelines have changed since the town's founding in 1712.

FCW will publish a booklet illustrating over 300 years of coastal change. Like the **Chatham Blue Pages** it will be mailed to Chatham postal patrons close to June 11, 2012 (Tercentennial Day) and will be distributed *gratis* at several town venues.

This publication will highlight how shorelines and land usages have changed over the past three centuries. Public awareness of the interrelation between land usage, shoreline change and water quality in Chatham's waters lies at the heart of FCW's mission.

It is our hope that the Tercentennial brochure will attract attention to our concerns.

George Olmsted



Zoning By-Law Revisions: FCW Action Agenda

During mid-winter, John Sweeney and Debby Ecker determined that their proposals for Zoning by-law changes should be placed by citizen petition on the Warrant of May's Town Meeting. While pursuing this, they continued to work with the Planning Board and staff such that by Town Meeting a mutually satisfactory agreement was reached:

- Petition 1 proposed to measure building height from natural ground level, before filling and grading, instead of from finished grade: Withdrawn with mutual agreement – see below.
- Petition 2 proposed to amend the requirement for the amount of buildable upland that is required to include wording that restricts residential construction to that area: Town Meeting approved this Article with Planning Board sponsorship.
- Petition 3 proposed to require 100 foot setbacks from inland conservancy districts: Withdrawn at Town Meeting with FCW's consent when convinced that the Conservation Commission handles this satisfactorily under their regulations.
- Petition 4 proposed to restrict large-scale land clearing without a special permit; Withdrawn with Mutual agreement – see below.

FCW, continuing its sponsorship of Petitions 1 & 4, is working with the Planning Board and staff on the wording of these two articles to avoid unintended consequences, where possible, to be ready for a possible Special Town Meeting in the fall.

An anticipated new action agenda is follow-up on the mid-June meeting conducted by town consultant, Alan McClennen, about consequences of expanded sewer hook-ups slated for late 2012 or early 2013 with the completion of the new wastewater treatment plant. Again, zoning changes would be a topic along with complementary provisions for the Water and Sewer Department's flow-neutral regulations.

Debby Ecker & John Sweeney

2012 FCW Membership Renewal Form

Return to FCW, Box 472, Chatham MA 02633

- \$25 individual \$40 family
- Additional donation \$ _____

Name/s: _____

Street/P.O. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____

Email _____

Cape Residence _____

Please make checks payable to FCW.

Contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.
FCW is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization

Thank you for your support.

- Contact me about becoming an FCW volunteer

Report of the Nominating Committee

The following are placed in nomination as new members of the Board of Directors:

Debbie Swenson and Barbara Cotnam – terms ending 2014

Continuing Directors - terms ending in 2014 are:

Dick Evans, Nell Pinkert, Tom King, George Cooper

Nominated as Officers for FY 2012

- Co-Presidents: George Cooper
 Bill Appleyard
- Vice-President: Frank Messina
- Secretary: Tom King
- Co-Treasurers: Nat Mason

Other Continuing Directors:

Terms ending 2012: Bill Coleman, Kurt Hellfach,
George Olmsted, Martha Stone, John Sweeney,
Pat Tarnow

Term ending 2013: Bill Appleyard, Betsy Mosser,
Charles Bartlett, Debby Ecker, Wayne Jostrand,
Frank Messina, Nat Mason, Ron Bergstrom

Respectfully submitted: Tom King, Chair; Kurt Hellfach,
George Olmsted and Frank Messina