

The Bay Village News

Volume 10, Issue 3

617-542-BVNA

www.bayvillage.net

Sept. 2002



THE ANIMALS AT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

NEED YOUR HELP

Please Bring Donations of
Clean Used Blankets,
Old Towels and Assorted Pet Food
to the Block Party.

A drop-off site will be provided
at the corner of
Church and Melrose Sts.

Thank You!
Barbara Warren,
BVNA Community Outreach

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

A Tradition in Bay Village for
More Than Thirty Years

September 12, 2002
Thursday evening 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Melrose Street
between Church and Arlington

Good food! Good conversation! Fun!

Food generously donated
by McCormick & Schmick's
Seafood Restaurant;
Drinks by
McCormick & Schmick's and Store 24

Tickets:
\$15 for BVNA members
\$25 for non-members
(Join the BVNA now and pay only \$15)
\$5 for students and seniors

Donations for
The Animal Rescue League
will be accepted.
Bring dog and cat food,
clean towels, blankets
and/or checks.

Please complete the form on Page 4 and return
with payment to **Nan Rubin** at 10 Melrose Street
by Monday, September 9, 2002.

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**FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF FRIENDS OF
BAY VILLAGE PARKS**



Jamie Hoag and **Bill Nigreen** lead the applause for chief gardener, **Domenic Mastrototaro**.

On the first day of summer, the Friends of Bay Village Parks gathered in Bay Village Neighborhood Park for their first Annual Meeting. The Friends have raised more than \$3,000 through annual dues and donations. Friends also negotiated plantings around the Warren Street trailers and sponsored beautification throughout the Village.

Following the meeting, the Friends stayed to enjoy the park's ambiance, along with pastries and drink supplied by **Domenic Mastrototaro**, and the pleasant music provided by the Community Music Center of Boston and paid for by **Mayor Menino**.

Report from the Crime Committee

This summer saw a pronounced increase in violent crime immediately adjacent to our neighborhood in the Theater District. The most recent example came in the past week when Officer **Zenaida Flores** became the first female officer in Boston to be shot in the line of duty. Because Officer Flores has previously been recognized at our annual police appreciation ceremony, BVNA Vice President **Christine Colley** arranged for flowers to be delivered from us to her hospital bed.

Following the severe problems we had with prostitution two years ago, Boston Police Area A introduced two bicycle officers for our neighborhood and the Transportation Building, Officers **Edward Rautenberg** and **William Griffiths**. They were on the midnight to 7:30 a.m. shift and proved remarkably effective. Unfortunately, at the end of last summer, both were injured while disarming a suspect on Charles Street South. Officer **Rautenberg** recovered within a month but Officer **Griffiths** did not and has recently elected to take disability retirement.

At the request of the Crime Committee and with the support of Commissioner **Evans**, Area A

Continued on following page.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER
From BVNA President
John Shope



Many of my professional colleagues live in the suburbs and devote substantial portions of their day to transit. When I describe to them the pleasures of walking to work, and later to fine restaurants like Pigalle, they tend wistfully to say, "My wife/husband/partner and I would love to live in the city, but we have kids."

I would like to suggest that the "but" is woefully mistaken. For evidence, Exhibit A is the young men and women I know who have grown up in Bay Village and turned out to be delightfully informed, articulate, and thoughtful people. Exhibit B is the children now growing up in Bay Village, enjoying the cultural resources of the Community Music Center of Boston, the Science Museum, the Aquarium, and the Museum of Fine Arts, not to mention the living museum that is comprised of the historic neighborhoods of Boston. Exhibit C is their parents, who have more time to spend with their children without commuting, and much less stress. A child of the suburbs, I now chauvinistically argue that children who grow up in Boston are smarter, more sophisticated, and more tolerant than those who grow up anywhere else!

A few years ago our former First Lady suggested that "it takes a village" to raise children, at least to raise them correctly. That is one reason (though hardly the only one) to build a village. Building a village is what we in BVNA strive to do. At one level is the purely physical -- what land uses will be permitted, where we shall park our cars, where we will plant flowers, and what broken street signs and gas lamps need to be repaired. That is the easy part.

At another level, however, is the communal. In some ways, building a community is harder than building a physical structure, especially in an economy that demands ever greater devotion to occupational specialty. That is why we focus on such activities as our recent cocktail party at Fleming's, our annual Street Fair (now in its thirtieth year), our Holiday Party, and the upcoming annual Block Party. Our spring and fall cleanups not only sweep our streets, but also introduce neighbors to neighbors. It is no accident that a Congressman's assistant recently gave me his impression of Bay Village as "tight" and "cohesive."

Perhaps the most important part of building community is instilling a sense that there is a whole that is both larger than oneself yet tangible enough to be perceived. To this end, BVNA undertakes endeavors such as our community outreach program with local charities and Boston High School scholarship fund. We devote hours to public commissions and advisory committees. We seek to preserve our history, both through our Association archives and our support of the Historic District Commission. We donate to worthy causes such as the Floating Hospital at New England Medical Center, and (in memory of the late Councilor Brian Honan) the Boys and Girls Club of Boston.

For both adults and children, it does "take a village." Won't you help us make that village our own?

30TH ANNUAL BAY VILLAGE STREET FAIR A GLORIOUS DAY!

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by **Mike Maddigan**, Event Chair

Thank you for making June 8, 2002, a special day for our neighborhood and city. The 30th annual Bay Village Street Fair was a great success, thanks to the following:

PRODUCT DONORS:

Finale Restaurant; Pigalle Restaurant; McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant; Maggiano's Little Italy; Solomon's Fine Rugs; O'Connor's Irish Pub; Krystal's Café; GT Florist; Crown Cleaners; Pet Shop Girls; Budget Car Rental; Clear Channel-Blue Man Group; Boston History Collaborative; Boston Duck Tours; Rock Bottom Café; P.F. Chang's China Bistro; California Pizza Kitchen; Legal Sea Food; Bennigan's Restaurant; Vapor; Fleming's Steak House; Traveler's Palm of Key West Florida; Zip Car; Boston Park Plaza Hotel; Boston by Sea; Four Seasons Hotel; Terence Janericco Cooking School; Fifty-Seven Restaurant; Radisson Hotel; George Robbins Plumbing Co.; Store 24; and the New England Aquarium.

STREET FAIR CHAIRS:

Vendors: **George Moccia**, Public Relations: **Mary Teeven**, Logistics: **Len Phillips**, Graphics: **Rick Powers** and **Stephen Schram**, Licensing and Permits: **Will Woodruff**, Food: **Mike Maddigan**, Beverages: **Nan Rubin**, Bursar: **Eric Cordes** and **David Gural**, White Elephant: **Barbara Warren** and **Barbara Gaffney**, Bake Table: **Bob Blatchford**, Raffle: **George Klauber** and **Jo-Ann Ross**, Sponsorships: **John** and **Wendy Book**, and Beautification: **Mary Anne Poole** and **Barbara Warren**.

SUPPORTERS:

We appreciate all the help from Mayor **Thomas M. Menino** and the City of Boston, specifically the Special Events Department, the Transportation Department, and the Public Works Department. Thank you to all of our neighborhood volunteers who worked that day and those who donated products to our Bake and White Elephant tables. Thanks also to our hosts for meetings and parties, including **Terence Janericco**, **Steven Schram** and **Rick Powers**, **George Moccia**, and the management and staff at both McCormick & Schmick's and Maggiano's.

The Fair raised funds for neighborhood beautification efforts, and we donated \$500 to the Boston High School Scholarship Fund and \$500 to the Floating Hospital from the proceeds. See you next year!



Boston Mayor **Tom Menino** cuts the cake celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Bay Village Street Fair; cheering him on, from left, are **Bill Nigreen**, **Christine Colley**, **Jamie Hoag**, and **John Shope**.

Crime Committee report, from page 2. . . . Captain **Bernard O'Rourke** has now appointed two night bicycle officers to assist Officer Rautenberg for the same patrol area on the midnight to 7:30 a.m. shift. These are Officer **Marc Loewen** and Officer **Jerome Hall-Brewster**, who attended the last meeting of the Crime Committee. The schedules of all three (four nights on, two nights off) will be staggered so that, barring vacations, two officers will always be available to ride together. Our abutting Chinatown neighborhood will also continue to have two night bicycle officers on the same shift, Officers **Hamilton** and **Figuroa**, who have themselves made many arrests in Bay Village. Bay Village residents are strongly encouraged to report all crime, including prostitute sightings, to 911. If you are out in the early morning, please let our bicycle officers know how much we appreciate them. **By John Shope.**

NOTES FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

by Doug Fiebelkorn

Betsy Roxby appears to be nearing completion on her renovation/restoration of 54 Fayette. The new façade is complete, restoring the look of the front to its original Federal style. Next door, **John Shope** has applied to the Bay Village Historic District Commission for approval to add a rear dormer to 56 Fayette.

David Adams at 42-44 Winchester is making good progress on his two-unit residential development. The brick front and authentic slate front dormer are complete. Another building on Winchester Street will soon become residential. **Cynthia Rouse** and **Lorlene Hoyt**, new owners of 46 Winchester, plan to convert the former union building into an owner-occupied, single-family residence. With BVNA support, they obtained approval from the Zoning Board of Appeal and the Bay Village Historic District Commission.

The largest project underway in the neighborhood -- The Columbia Building at Winchester and Church Streets -- appears to be progressing very nicely. The new units will be ready for occupancy by year's end.

Dedo Lounge & Bistro on Shawmut Street Extension has applied to change its entertainment license eliminating most of its TVs, the juke box, video games; a piano will be added to the second floor. The restaurant will open in the near future.

Davio's Restaurant plans to open in the 10 St. James building at the corner of Stuart and Arlington Streets by late October. A Boston Licensing Board hearing is scheduled for September 11, 2002, regarding a license transfer to the new location. Based upon the unique location and aspects of the building, BVNA has voted not to oppose this license transfer.

Smith & Wollensky (S&W), a well-known, publicly-traded restaurant group, is seeking to locate a restaurant in the Park Plaza Castle. A restaurant containing over 400 dining seats and 10 bar seats is planned for the turret /head house end of the building at Columbus and Arlington Streets. The entrance will be on Arlington Street. BVNA has negotiated an agreement with S&W to restrict hours, uses, and operations. With this agreement, BVNA has voted not to oppose either the zoning variance or license transfer from the Caprice Restaurant. Caprice Restaurant will continue to operate in the Tremont House Hotel on Tremont Street under an existing Hotel license.

At the request of BVNA and the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the Radisson Hotel will be adding an opaque screen to its new rooftop signage. The screen is projected to reduce excess light by a factor of ten times.

At the request of BVNA and and with the support of the BRA, the zoning variance for the new CVS opposite Bay Village on Tremont Street limits the hours of operation to 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Also per BVNA request, the BRA has required that any signage for CVS be made of wood with gilt lettering and gooseneck lighting.

**TICKET FORM FOR BLOCK PARTY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH AT 7:00 PM.
(CLIP AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO NAN RUBIN AT 10 MELROSE STREET
BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9.)**

TICKETS \$5 \$15 \$25

\$15 for BVNA Members

\$25 for Non-members (Join the BVNA now and pay only \$15)

\$5 for Students and Seniors

Donations will be accepted for the Animal Rescue League (pet food, clean blankets, towels, checks).

All reservations will be held at the door.

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

I/We would liketickets at \$5tickets at \$15tickets at \$25 each

I/We are unable to attend but would like to contribute \$..... to the BVNA Block Party.

Cash or checks only. Please make all checks payable to: Bay Village Neighborhood Association.

GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY AT FLEMING'S

By **Nan Rubin**, BVNA Social Activities

Good times abounded at the BVNA/ Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar fundraiser on June 24th. A few lucky residents went home with door prizes, including dinner at Fleming's and fine bottles of wine. A generous \$800 was raised to benefit the BVNA.

The event was a success thanks to our gracious hosts and sponsors **Michael Dearing** and **Terilynn Haak** of Fleming's and their staff, as well as the neighborhood volunteers.

Plan to be part of the next Fleming's event scheduled for Winter of 2003. Details to come.

An advertisement.

617-292-0808



MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE NAMED HONORARY US CITIZEN

From *The New York Times*, July 30, 2002.

More than 220 years after the Marquis de Lafayette helped the colonial forces win the American Revolution, Congress decided to grant him honorary citizenship. Lafayette is the sixth person in US history to receive such a distinction, following such notables as Winston Churchill, Mother Teresa, and William Penn.

Senator John W. Warner, Republican of Virginia, proposed adding Lafayette to the list, and the Senate and House acted quickly. "Now more than ever, said Senator Warner, "it is important to remember who our friends are in the world as we try to create a coalition against terror."

* * * * *

"Fayette Street, laid out in 1824, was named for Lafayette who visited Boston that year and received a hero's welcome." You can learn more by reading the historical plaque entitled "Architecture of the Area" at 32 Fayette, from which this quotation is borrowed.

THREE GREAT WAYS TO 5 GET INVOLVED AND HELP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

1. **Join BVNA** - Your dues help in many ways, such as improving quality of life, beautification, social activities, and social awareness.
2. **Volunteer** - Throughout the year we ask neighbors to help with clean-up days, the Street Fair, wreath hangings, planting bulbs, and caring for our parks. There are also many things that can be done from home so you won't need to attend meetings or come to events.
3. **Write** to the Mayor and City Councilors and attend public meetings of the Historic District Commission, the Licensing Board, the Zoning Board of Appeal, and the Air Rights Citizens Advisory Committee to make sure our neighborhood is protected.

To get involved, call the BVNA hotline at 542-BVNA and leave a message for your area of interest. Together we make things better!

EIGHT NEW RESIDENT PARKING SPACES!

Thanks to **Terence Janericco** and **Domenic Mastrototaro** for significant parking improvements in Bay Village. Eight new resident parking spaces now exist on the east side of Charles Street South. In addition, the "Handicapped Parking Only" sign has been removed from in front of 16 Church Street, opening another parking space for residents. Still to come: removal of the "Loading" sign on Piedmont Street.

Information supplied by **John Shope** and **Terence Janericco**.



**BVNA
EYEGASSES
RECYCLING DAY
BRINGS IN BIG
DONATIONS**

This summer's BVNA Community Outreach Project to collect used eyeglasses for the "Lions Recycle for Sight" program was a tremendous success, thanks to the generosity of our neighbors and friends.

190 pairs of used eyeglasses were collected and shipped to the Virginia Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Roanoke, Virginia, where they will be cleaned, categorized by prescription, and prepared for distribution in developing nations. In 2001, this center distributed 170,000 pairs of used eyeglasses.

A "very special thank you" goes to **Jerry Dyer** who collected 60 pairs of eyeglasses from his neighbors at 230 Stuart Street!

By **Barbara Warren**,
BVNA Community Outreach Coordinator

**BAY VILLAGE
HOUSE AND GARDEN
TOUR, SPRING 2003!**

The BVNA is planning a house and garden tour through Bay Village next spring. If you are interested in participating in any way please contact **Mike Maddigan** at 617-451-2593.

We are looking for people interested in showing their homes and gardens and helping to plan the event.

TASTY TIDBITS

A new column of fun, small bits of news.

RJ Martin of Isabella Street participated in the AIDS Vaccine Ride on August 28, making his way through beautiful New England towns on a bike from Montreal, Canada to Portland, Maine. He traveled four hundred miles over five days; sponsors can still call him 617-542-2628. Bay Village babies have arrived in the **Robertson** and the **Hawkins** families of Piedmont Street! **Nathanael Krulewitch** of Fayette Street turned one year old on July 30. **Patti Messini**, generally attached to a handful of leashes as she walks many of the neighborhood's finest pooches, will be moving into 6A Fayette along with her own dogs, **India** and **Dante**. Bay Village sends its sympathy to Fayette Street resident **Peggy Montgomery** on the loss of her beautiful dog, **Nicki**. **Mary Anne Poole** thanks all the neighbors who helped her following a recent criminal incident at 6 Fayette, as well as **Detective Tully** and the Boston Police for their thorough investigation. **Jo Somers** reports on the 60th birthday party of longtime Melrose Street resident **Richard Cross**, hosted by **Marcia Wetherbee** and **Leslie Colburn**, and held at **Jo's** house; **Richard** sampled three separate birthday cakes! **Kieran Kelly** reports that Isabella Street is having its sidewalks repaired. **Kathleen McDermott** and **Bill Nigreen** of Fayette Street celebrated the return of their cat **Sebastian**, lost for seven weeks; he was found in Allston. **Jerry Dyer** of 230 Stuart Street has been attending meetings to form an association of a dozen restaurants in the Park Square area; they are planning a "Taste of Park Square." **Stephen Burdick** of Piedmont Street has been selected a winner in *Graphic Design:USA* magazine's 2002 American Graphic Design Awards competition for "excellence in communication and design." Welcome to **John** and **Jean Quintal**, purchasers of 15 Winchester. In early June, author **Edward Baron Turk** of Winchester Street, celebrated the publication of the French translation of his prize-winning book on movie director Marcel Carné, *Child of Paradise*, with a book-signing and wine reception in the Latin Quarter of Paris.

Email me at kathleenmcd@att.net with short news items: promotions, recognitions, children's success, new neighbors, pets, life transitions, and any other developments worthy of note.

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

by Ruth Knopf

Residents of Bay Village are fortunate to live in a charming neighborhood with an unusual mix of architectural styles that attests to the history of the development of this section of Boston, beginning early in the nineteenth century.

In order to preserve the character of this unique area, the Bay Village Neighborhood Association sought to protect the neighborhood by having it designated an historic district, an act enabled by the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40C of 1960; Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975 and the City of Boston Code, Title 7, as amended in 1983. The actual designation of the Bay Village Historic District Commission can be found in the City of Boston Ordinances, Title 7, Chapter 4, dated June 30, 1983, and effective July 30, 1983.

The intent to have Bay Village designated as an historic district was not to freeze the appearance of the neighborhood to a certain point in time, but rather to guide the inevitable changes to buildings, keeping them sensitive to the architectural character of the area and to avoid incompatible architectural elements. It must be noted that not all changes are under the complete control of the commission or the building owners, due to city-imposed building code enforcement and certain safety requirements.

The standards and criteria of an historic district serve two purposes: to inform property owners of the kinds of external changes permitted in the district and to guide commission members in deciding what proposed changes are permissible. Therefore, property owners are required to petition the Bay Village Historic District Commission when making any exterior changes to their property that are visible from a public way. Applications, which are available at the Department of the Environment at City Hall and describe proposed changes, are reviewed by the Commission and recommendations are made by the Commissioners prior to the commencement of any actual work.

In order to provide a variety of expertise, the Commission is composed of five members appointed by the City of Boston. They each represent one of the following groups - SPNEA, Boston Landmarks Commission, Boston Society of Architects, Greater Boston Real Estate Board, and one resident. There are also three alternates, two from the neighborhood and one from the Landmarks Commission. It is the goal of the Commissioners to work diligently to create a partnership with the neighborhood to preserve the flavor of the area as well as to guide property owners to mutually successful solutions as they repair, refurbish, and maintain their property.

If you need more information about the application process, please contact **William Young**, Senior Preservation Planner for the City of Boston at 617-635-3850 or william.young@ci.boston.ma.us

Bay Village Historic District Commission Members

Name	Nominated by
Gary Buseck	Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities
Mark Stevens	Boston Society of Architects
Sally Withington	Greater Boston Real Estate Board
Two Vacancies	(Boston Landmarks Commission; Bay Village Neighborhood Association)
Alternates:	
Ruth Knopf	Bay Village Neighborhood Association
Paul Richardson	Bay Village Neighborhood Association
Mark Verkennis	Boston Landmarks Commission

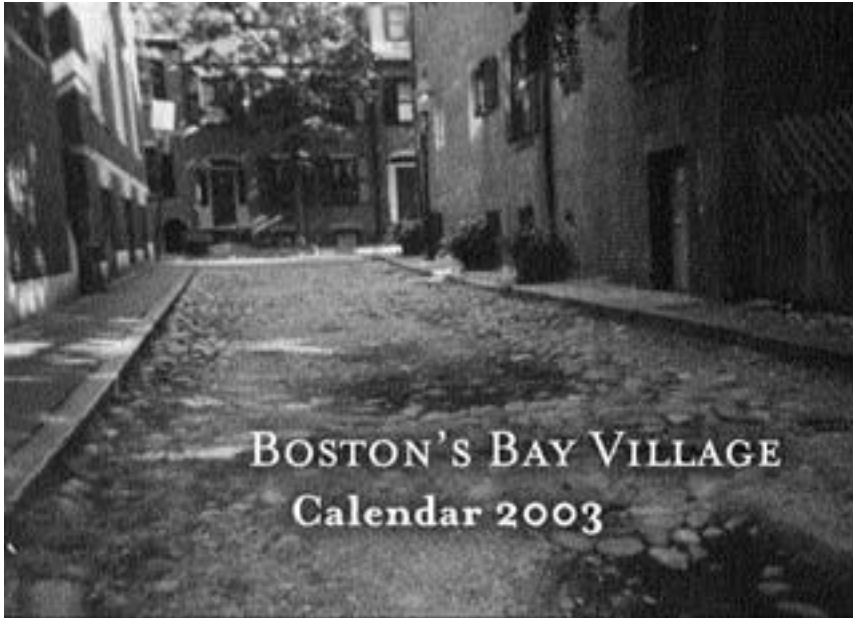
Roster provided by William Young, Senior Preservation Planner, City of Boston, william.young@ci.boston.ma.us

Note from the Editor Kathleen McDermott

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter. Thanks to everyone who contributed articles, information, and advice, including **RJ Martin, Steve Burdick, Edward Baron Turk, Kieran Kelly, Mary Anne Poole, Mike Maddigan, Sue Buta, Mary Teeven, Terence Janerico, Nan Rubin, Jo Somers, Ruth Knopf, Bill Nigreen, Daniel Krulewitch, Domenic Mastrototaro, Barbara Warren, Doug Fiebelkorn, William Young, John Shope, Jerry Dyer.**



I invite you to use this Newsletter as a forum to tell your Bay Village story. JPEG pictures are welcome or ask me to take a snap. (kathleenmcd@att.net).




**GREAT GIFT IDEA!
2003 BAY VILLAGE CALENDAR**

Bay Village residents **Gene Hale, Mike Maddigan, and Betsy Roxby** have published the 2003 calendar. This year's edition features period maps, vintage photos of the neighborhood, and contemporary photos of the newly restored Bay Village Neighborhood Park at Church and Melrose, as well as the building projects at 45 Church, 54 Fayette, and 41 Winchester.

You can buy the calendar for \$12; contact **Mike Maddigan** at (617) 451-2593. All proceeds benefit BVNA.

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To our readers: The printing cost of this issue of *The Bay Village News* was completely paid for by advertising from our sponsors. Thanks to **Jerry Dyer** for rounding up the ads on this page and on Page 5, and to all others who contributed leads on possible advertisers.

Bay Village Neighborhood Association Membership Application

Name: _____ Telephone: (home) _____ (work) _____
 E-mail address: _____
 Street address: _____ Unit/Apartment#: _____
 Would you like to receive e-mail alerts of neighborhood meetings and events? Yes ___ No ___

Type of Membership:

- Individual \$ 10.00
- Family \$ 15.00
- Business \$ 50.00
- Senior \$ 5.00
- Student \$ 5.00
- Donations \$ _____

Interests:

- Beautification
- Fundraising
- Social Activities
- Communications
- Public Relations
- Crime Prevention
- City Services
- Archives
- Membership
- Planning/Zoning
- Licensing
- Website

If you chose Family membership, please list individual family members below:

* Mail membership form to Registrar P.O. Box 1296, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117.