



Sands Point Civic Report

Election of New Board Officers

An annual election of Civic Association officers was held at the annual meeting of the membership.

The 2009 executive board consists of:

JoAnn Sica, *President*
Jean-Marie Posner, *Vice President*
Carol Hanover, *Treasurer*
Georgia DeYoung, *Secretary*

Also elected to the board this year was Mary-Alice Kohs and Jessica Miller.

With Gratitude to Russ Burman

Russ Burman, immediate past President is recognized for his eight years of leadership and dedication to the association. Russ was presented with a plaque by JoAnn Sica whose remarks of praise and special "thank you" were touching and well-deserved.

Rick Sirow Recognized at Annual Meeting

Rick Sirow, long-time board member and also a former President of the association, was presented with a plaque by Russ Burman at the annual meeting in appreciation for his many years of continued and continuing service and dedication.

Message from JoAnn Sica, President



As the newly elected President of the Sands Point Civic Association, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members for their vote of confidence and for the opportunity to serve the Association.

Recently, we honored Russ Burman, our now Past President, for his 8 years of service. I like to again thank him for all of his efforts and his dedication towards preserving the Civic Association and expanding its mission. We look forward to his continued support and involvement.

As for the future, with the support of the entire Board, I hope that we can continue to serve the community in ways

that are needed. We intend to continue and expand our focus on social and educational community events. Additionally, we will continue to make efforts, spend monies, and recommend that the Village support the strengthening and enhancement of our Village's roads and public spaces. The SPCA is proud to have contributed towards the expansion of the Village tree planting program and the implementation of flower bed plantings throughout the Village. This could only happen with your support.

Watch for our periodic newsletters and emails with SPCA news, events, and alerts. If you would like to add or update your email address, you may do so at: president@sandspointcivic.org. Also, please do feel comfortable contacting us with any questions or suggestions. We are always looking for caring members who wish to become more active. With you and the support of the wonderful Board of Trustees, I look forward to continuing what the Civic Association does best and doing more of it!

JoAnn Sica, President

First Annual Village Green Day!

Please join us on Sunday, May 17th for the SPCA's 1st Annual Village Green Day "Celeb-ucation"!

It will be held at the Village Club's newly renovated Tennis House from 3pm to 6pm. Entry is free for all members! The event will include a BBQ, live band, children's activities, eco-friendly vendors, environmental education for all, and much, much more!

Come learn about practical things you can do to be more "green" and to save money. Meet "all natural" local landscapers, solar power vendors, utility reps, and many other vendors offering money-saving or enviro-friendly services and products..

There will be education for youth of all ages—from 5 to 95—all while enjoying the BBQ and the music in the Spring air.

As a wise man once said, "There is nothing better than to be able to do well while also doing good." This is your opportunity to learn practical ways to save the environment while saving the dollars.

Please mark your calendar now. We look forward to seeing you on SUNDAY, MAY 17TH, 3pm. See invitation on rear cover.

A Few Minutes with... with Village Trustee, Kay Ullman

Q: Describe your role and function as a Village Trustee?

A: I have been a Trustee of the Village of Sands Point since December 1994. The role of a Sands Point Trustee is demanding, rewarding and interesting. The Trustees are responsible for all decision-making that impacts the Village governance, finances and taxes, building, maintenance of roads, water system, the Sands Point police department, and the Village Club.

As part of my duties as a Trustee, I am the Road Commissioner for our Village. In this capacity I am charged with approving expenditures and overseeing capital projects involving the public roads in our village. I spend a good deal of time inspecting the condition of our roadways (often on my bicycle).

We develop a road plan on a rolling five year basis. The Village normally budgets approximately \$800,000 per year for road work. This includes sweeping, repair and cleaning of catch basins, engineering fees, resurfacing, pot hole repair, curbing, snow removal , and this year especially, replacement of street signs.

I also serve as one of the Police Commissioners with oversight responsibility for the department.

Q: Describe your involvement (and commitment) to community

service.

A: I have been a community volunteer for most of my life. I was the president of the Board of Education, Parents Council and Main Street School PTA. I was elected to the Port Washington School Board for 4 terms (12 years) and served as its president for 3 years. For more than four decades, I have been an active member of the League of Women Voters and a member of both the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames of America. In 2002, I was named to the Town of North Hempstead Women's Roll of Honor, and in 2003, my husband, Leo, and I were honored by the Community Chest of Port Washington as its Citizens of the Year. I am a founding member of the Port Washington Education Foundation and chair the Advisory Board. This year, in March, I was honored by the PWEF for my work with the Foundation at its annual gala. I first became involved in the Sands Point Village Government as a member and later chair of the Sands Point Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission. I also served on the board of the Civic Association for three years. In 1994 I was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Trustees. I have since been reelected as a trustee for six consecutive 2 year terms.



Q: Describe your life growing up in Sands Point:

A: My family moved to Harbor Acres in 1951 at a time when there were only a few homes there. I spent many afternoons with friends biking to the "haunted houses" on the estates in the village, many of which have now been subdivided with new sites. Many of our neighbors in those days had horses and many of the roads were just gravel.

I attended public school in Port Washington starting in 7th grade. I graduated from Schreiber High School in 1957 and chaired our 50th reunion a couple of years ago.

I met my husband, Leo, a junior high classmate, in 1951. We were married in 1960 and returned to Port Washington in 1965 to raise our family here. In 1975 we moved to Sands

(Continued on page 3)

Point. Leo and I have four children and seven grandchildren. Two of our children and three of our grandchildren live in Port Washington; one daughter and her family live in our Village.

Q: What are your special interest and hobbies?

A: Reading is more than a hobby; it is a passion of mine. I greatly enjoy membership in a couple of book clubs including, importantly, the Village Club's book club. I also worked as a librarian at the Williston Park Public Library for 15 years.

I am a fairly serious bridge player and have enjoyed being a member of our Village Club bridge team which tied for second place in the inter-club

league. I am purely a recreational golfer. I love our Village golf course and I am extremely proud of all that has been achieved in creating and operating this beautiful facility. Over the years, I have been fortunate to travel to some very exciting places. Most recently we biked and hiked in Bhutan in the foothills of the Himalayas and in Japan. Together with several grandkids we went to the Olympics in both Athens and Beijing. We also recently spent a week in Cuba.

Q: As a community leader looking ahead, what do you see as the challenges and opportunities facing our Village and town?

A: We are, of course, aware that we live in difficult times. We

have budgeted wisely and have been careful with our expenditures over a period of many years. We spend a substantial part of our budget on a police department of which we are very proud and on a very fine water system for our Village. We have had many young families who have built beautiful homes in moving to our Village and we are delighted that many new young residents have become involved in our Village either through the Club or through the various agencies of our Village government.

Regardless of the challenges of the economy, we believe strongly that our Village is well positioned to maintain its financial strength and its unparalleled quality of life.

Update from Friends of Sands Point Preserve

Save May 16th for upcoming "Ain't Misbehaving" Gala!

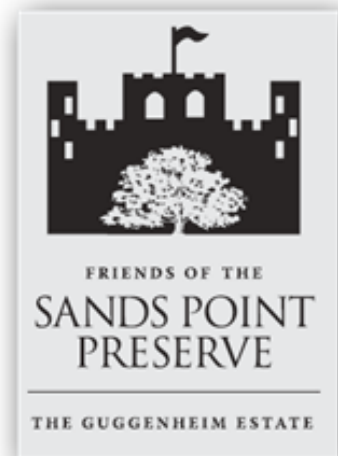
As many residents may know by now, the Sands Point Preserve has been transferred from the control of Nassau County to a not-for-profit group, Friends of the Sands Point Preserve, ("Friends"). While this group is distinct from this Civic Association, it is in the interests of the residents of our Village to see it succeed in "preserving the Preserve" as the beautiful environment that it is. As such, we will keep you up to date on happenings there in each newsletter.

Residents are invited to join the "founders" circle and attend the first annual event to benefit Friends. The money raised from this event will help to re-establish the trail system with fitness stations and new benches; create an outdoor learning center for

children, re-build the amphitheater, restore the greenhouse and establish an organic community garden. The event, held at Hempstead House, will include dinner, dancing, fabulous fashion displays, exhibit of rare musical instruments, vintage cars and many other activities. For more information, please call 944-2000.

Meanwhile Friends has been working with NBC Studios on the filming of "KINGS," NBC's new mini-series shown on Saturday nights. It's been exciting for some of the residents to meet the actors and observe the production process. Friends is utilizing the filming revenue to restore the waterfront views, improve the gatehouse and make certain repairs to Hempstead House. NBC

Studios has allowed the set for the King's (Ian McShane) master bedroom to remain intact and will be available for viewing during the May 16 event.



Dr. Geoffrey Gordon, Superintendent of Schools, speaks to SPCA members.

On April 1st, Dr. Geoffrey Gordon, Superintendent of Schools, addressed our residents regarding the upcoming school budget.

He joined us at the Village Club of Sands Point and explained where we currently stand with the budget proposal and continued with an ongoing exchange of suggestions and ideas from the audience.

He expressed an understanding of the challenging economic environment at the macro and personal levels and reminded listeners of the \$36 million in

unfunded mandates which the school system must carry.

As of the last BOE meeting, the proposed budget is currently at 2.4%, which is approximately half of what a "contingency" budget would be.

Under NYS law, if the budget were to successively fail to be passed by voters, the Board of Education would ultimately be allowed to enact a budget and commensurate tax increase of up to a maximum of 4%.

One very important and impressive note that deserves attention is that Dr. Gordon

has voluntarily frozen his salary for this coming year. Furthermore, for the first time known in NYS, the Custodian and Maintenance Workers have also agreed to suspend any increases to which they were entitled.

Meanwhile, the Board and Administration continue to work with all stakeholders to try to limit increase to 2%.

He explained that the Board was "committed to managing these reductions" without compromising the quality of the education in the classroom.

For those who did not catch the article in the New York Times, here is a link to a wonderful article discussing and praising the Port Washington School District. The article is from February 5th, 2009.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/06/nyregion/06middle.html>

It can also be found by typing "Port Washington" in the search box of the home page, "nytimes.com". It will be the second article listed.

Support YOUR Civic Association

Upcoming School Budget Vote

Please remember to vote May 19th for the school budget.

Voting hours are from 6am to 10pm.

If you reside east of Middle Neck Rd, voting will take place at the Daly Elementary School on Rockwood (off of Middle Neck Rd).

If you reside west of Middle Neck Rd, voting will take place at Sousa Elementary School (at corner of Cow Neck Rd and Sands Point Rd).

If unclear or for last minutes changes, we recommend that you check the PW School District website, portnet.org.

Year End Party – Much to Celebrate

Kudos to Another Fabulous Wine Tasting Event!

For the second year, the SPCA held their year end party in January combined with another wine tasting spectacular. On Wednesday, January 14th, about 100 Sands Point Residents gathered at the Village Club for a social wine tasting event combined with annual officer elections. The residents enjoyed varied scotches and wines from regions of California, Australia, Argentina, Italy, and Portugal.

The Civic Association would like to extend its thanks to the Village Club (especially to Ed Ronan and to Marian McMenamin) for helping to accommodate our gathering and adding its special touch. Further thanks to Black Tie Liquors who arranged for the contribution of wine and spirits at no cost to the SPCA. And a final thanks to Anthony Fiamma, of Supreme Wines Winery, who educated the attendees on wine variations and specific regions.



Year-end party at the Village Club

SANDS POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Join us for

Village Green Day

Sunday, May 17, 2009

3:00-6:00 p.m.

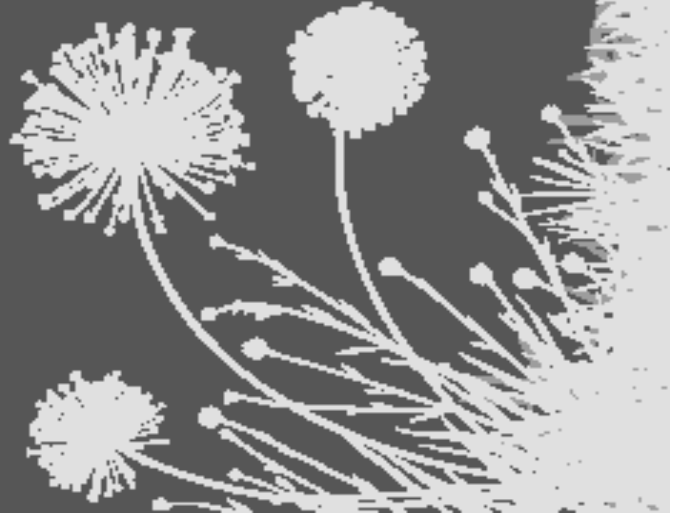
Village Club Tennis House

Featuring

Music by Lil Sammy and the Sugar Daddies
BBQ • Green Information
Interactive Children's Activities

SPCA Members
FREE

Non-Members
\$35 admission



Please visit us on the web at
www.sandspoint.org
And please send questions, comments,
ideas, news, views, thoughts and
suggestions!

President, JoAnn Sica
Vice President, Jean-Marie Posner
Secretary, Georgia De Young
Treasurer, Carol Hanover
Other Trustees: Edward Adler, Jennifer
Bellino, Peter Forman, Richard Fox, Mary-
Alice Kohs, Jessica Miller, Steve Miller, Toni
Nahas, Amrit Sethi, Rick Sirov
Advisory Board: Amy Hagedorn, Joan Gay
Kent, Ellie Kurz, Lynn Najman

Address Service Requested

P.O. Box 645
Port Washington, NY 11050

SANDS POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.



PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT No. 420
Port Washington, NY 11050