



Riverbay Association

A Message from the President -- June, 2009

Summer is here at long last. It's time to shift gears and enjoy the beauty and the special times that Chatham can offer. And, along with summer, comes an invitation from the Riverbay Association to join or renew your membership---for just the paltry sum of \$25/year. FYI: One Homeowners Association in the area is known to charge an annual membership fee of \$175. Imagine that...

We are a lovely, quiet, and well-established community within the Town of Chatham. However, can't you just picture the panic amongst some Chatham-ites back in 1962 when developer, Harold Moye, put forth his plan to build homes on 376 lots in the areas of the old George Bearse, Rufus Smith and Gershom Hall farms. Without a doubt, the proposed Riverbay development must have put the Town Planning and Zoning Boards into high gear. Scary stuff back then, I'm sure. However, we are now considered by some to be a desirable community within the Town with our own geo-reference point.

The Riverbay Association, as stated in our by-laws, is charged with the responsibility to:

- A. Maintain the character of Riverbay as a desirable residential area and promote community spirit*
- B. Promote responsibility among members to build and maintain residences, which will be a credit o Riverbay.*
- C. Foster the development, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of all property rights by members.*

These are certainly very serious and heavy responsibilities for the Board. Some of you may ask yourselves, "Why join that stupid Riverbay Association—what do I get for my 25 bucks?" After a free telepathic consultation with Jay Leno, here is my answer to that:

10 GOOD (no, make that TERRIFIC) Reasons to join the Riverbay Association

- #10) Maintaining strong property value (\$\$\$)—very important to all of us*
- #9) 'Tis always a good idea to have someone watching out for you*
- #8) New members bring "new life" to an organization*
- #7) Help keep Riverbay Estates a beautiful place*
- #6) 376 households united have a strong voice*
- #5) Support your local community*
- #4) Riverbay is "Good People"*
- #3) It's the "IN" thing to do.*
- #2) The price is right*
- AND, most importantly*
- #1) It's your HOME*
& our COMMUNITY!

Jan Whittaker, "Prez" -- Riverbay Association

Riverbay Association Calendar—Save the dates
Saturday, Sept. 12th 4:00 p.m. Annual Picnic Riverbay “Park” (Main Entrance—Park Ave)
Rain Date: Sunday, September 13th Same time
Saturday, October 3rd, 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting -- Chatham Community Center

Riverbay Beautification Committee (RBC)—Keeps working for you
Call for donations—Yes, once again....

A number of Riverbay volunteers came forth on May 16th and the 23rd and demonstrated their gardening/planting/weeding/raking and clean-up skills at the Park Avenue entrance to Riverbay. The two large flowerbeds were weeded, ageratum plants were added around the edges of both beds, and a number of replacement plants (Shasta daisies, etc.) were also put in place. Thank yous are extended to: Ann Reydel, our hard-working RBC chairperson, Chris Ebel, Rosie Fischer, Carol and Hal Knapp, Rich Morgano, Ruth Steeger, Janice Travis and Christie Turner for their work on the 16th and to John Eldert, Ron Holmes, Bob Hughes, Ann and John Randall, Ken Travis, Jan Whittaker and "repeaters" Ann Reydel and Chris Ebel on the 23rd. With all the Spring rains, the Riverbay "Park" is lookin' good—go check it out when you have a chance.

Belated thanks: *To Hal Knapp--for continuing in his role as a liaison with our irrigation contractor and arranging for some small repairs and overseeing the operation of the system AND to Ted Whittaker--for completing the painting work on all 4 Riverbay entrance signboards/support posts.*

The voluntary donations that are once again being solicited along with your annual dues are used entirely for plants and related materials with the goal to beautify Riverbay. As discussed in one of the '08 Riverbay newsletters, the RBC is utilizing xeriscape concepts—that is, using plantings that are compatible to the Cape environment, are drought tolerant and require the minimum fertilizer. Volunteers are always welcome to join the RBC. Currently, the efforts of the RBC are primarily directed towards the beautification of the entrance areas. Future plans to address other areas in Riverbay are being discussed. With the exception of the Park Avenue entrance, the lack of irrigation at all other sites is a major challenge. If any individual or group of residents would like to "adopt" an area within Riverbay and do some gardening, please let Ann know. Funds are available to help you with plants and soil amendment materials as needed. We do want you to know that your landscaping contributions are being put to good use. Although the economy is less than robust, we hope you will be able to make an extra donation to our Landscaping Beautification fund. Your financial support is very much appreciated. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, please contact Ann Reydel at (508) 945-1988 or reydel@comcast.net

Still in motion—The Riverbay Walkers Group—if interested, contact Marian Dubovik for info at MarianPaul@comcast.net or 508-945-3897

Riverbay Spring Newsletter
Sent out in May, 2009. If you did not receive a copy, please let us know. Also, we continue with our attempts to seek e-mail addresses of Riverbay residents to expedite communication, go “green” and save \$\$\$\$. Please send Newsletter requests and address/ e-mail updates to riverbaychat@yahoo.com with UPDATE or REQUEST noted on the subject line.