

P.O Box 5112 Williamsburg, VA 23185 http://www.wm.edu/environment/FOPC/FOPC.html

2006 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

President's Report

Two thousand six (2006) was a year of renaissance for the Friends of Powhatan Creek Watershed. Although we were off to a slow start, we were up and running by early spring. We held a "Saturday on the Creek" membership drive and fundraiser. Close to fifty people came to share a glorious afternoon on the shores of Powhatan Creek. Folks renewed old friendships. Many new people joined us. If all goes well, you'll have an opportunity to attend another celebration in 2007.

New members elected to the Board of Directors were Bill Hewitt and Kensett Teller. Boots Johnson, our water testing coordinator, rejoined the board. Without these volunteers, we certainly would not have had the successes we had this year.

Much of the year was dedicated to working on legislative issues involving developers and JCC government. After more than a year of deferrals, and much citizen campaigning, Jamestown Retreat, a special use permit application to build sixty condos on the shores of the creek was unanimously defeated by the Board of Supervisors. The Board established a precedent stating that conservation lands could not be included in density computations. The significance of the Powhatan Creek Watershed Management Plan (PCWMP) was never more evident.

The PCWMP also got a huge boost from the JCC Board of Supervisors who in October unanimously approved the *Revision and Re-adoption of the Powhatan Creek Management Plan*. The significance of this action cannot be overstated. By reincorporating three previously deferred priorities, the supervisors substantially strengthened the plan. The board sent a strong message to all that they care about watersheds. Their actions will ultimately offer strong protections for all County watersheds as more plans are developed. We are extremely grateful to the Board of Supervisors for their staunch support of the Powhatan Creek Watershed Management Plan.

Finally, the Friends' Board of Directors voted unanimously to join with the newly formed JCC Concerned Citizens (J4C), a community liaison group made up of representatives from other county groups, special interest groups, HOA's, and individuals dedicated to maintaining the quality of life in the County. The emphases of the group are: protection of natural resources and environmental compliance, economic growth, avoiding traffic gridlock, schools, and government policy. The group meets regularly with County staff and attends most government committee meetings, including Better Site Design, Policy, etc. We also sponsored two Community Education Forums

Goals for the J4C for 2007 will be centered on the review process for the 2008 Comprehensive Plan. Monitoring of developments, rural lands policy, and revision of ordinances will also be ongoing. Membership in J4C is free. Just attend one of our monthly meetings or contact Sarah Kadec at skadec@verizon.net or Kensett Teller at kfteller@widomaker.com. The next meeting is scheduled for 7PM on Wednesday, February 28 at the JCC Library on Croaker Road. This past year has been one of our most successful years of stewardship. With support from our Planning Commissioners and our Supervisors, and many of you, we have been able to raise the bar of environmental standards and code compliance in the County. We offer our sincerest thanks to all who gave us their support during 2006.

Ann J. Hewitt

Treasurer's Summary

The Friends' General Account as of December 31, 2006 had a balance of \$2454.99. Our Water Testing Account had a \$1486.25 balance. Our estimated income for the 2007 General Account including memberships and donations is \$1350.00 based on 2006 totals. Our projected expenditures for printing, fundraisers, canoe trips, community forums, state and organization dues total \$2060.00. See our website for more detail.

Nominations for 2007 Board of Directors

Candidate	Service Remaining	Board Role
Ann Hewitt	1 year	President
Bill Hewitt	3 years	Treasurer
Boots Johnson	1 year	Water Testing
John Schmerfeld	3 years	Vice-president
Kensett Teller	2 years	Secretary/Membership

Annual Meeting

The slate below will be voted on by a majority of group members attending the Annual Meeting to be held on Thursday, March 29 at 147 Raleigh Street at 4:00 PM. There is no limit to the number of board members, however by-laws require four officers and that each board member have a designated assignment. Nominations will be accepted until March 29 as well as from the floor during the meeting. If anyone is interested in serving on the board of directors, please contact Ann Hewitt at 757-229-5637 or annihewitt@widomaker.com or Kensett Teller at kfteller@widomaker.com . If anyone is planning on attending the Annual Meeting, please contact either of the above before the day of the meeting in order for us to plan for space accommodations.



Friends of Powhatan Creek

Current News Items



<u>Mission</u>

Contacts

Newsletter

History

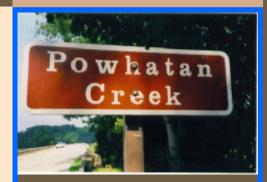
Activities

Membership

The Friends of the Powhatan Creek

Watershed is a group of citizens working together to promote responsible Stewardship of the Powhatan Creek Watershed in **James City County**, Virginia. Since 1999, our "grassroots" organization has been committed to the preservation, conservation, and enhancement of the Powhatan Creek Watershed. Under intense development pressure, the 23-square-mile watershed still harbors rare. threatened, and endangered species and played an integral part in our nation's humble beginnings at Jamestown.

Our all-volunteer group undertakes hands-on activities such as citizen water quality monitoring, stream cleanup and underwater grass restoration. Another main focus is to help to implement the Powhatan Creek Watershed Management Plan adopted by the **James City County Board of Supervisors**. Recently, we assisted in strengthening the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance and developing Special Stormwater Criteria for sensitive areas. Recently Friends of Powhatan Creek, along with the JCC Department of Development Management and the Peninsula Housing and Builders







Association developed a **consenus Document** at the **Builders for the Bay Roundtable**, Other initiatives include the Historic Triangle Corridor Enhancement Committee and pursuit of a no-wake zone for the Powhatan Creek.

It's easy to get involved! Join to support our efforts! Take a leadership role! We have active partnerships with the James City County PRIDE Program and the Keck Environmental Laboratory at the College of William and Mary. And we hope to foster relationships with local businesses. Become a Friend so that our grandchildren's grandchildren will thank us for being model stewards of our unique natural resources.

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