



The Residents of Old Wilmington, Inc.

## *Neighborhood Messenger*

November 15, 2007

### **Board Proposes Crosswalk Grant**

Following up last month's unanimous approval of a pedestrian crosswalk at the north side of Ann and Third Street, the ROW board proposed a grant of up to \$6,500 to the City for its construction. The Board proposal follows a long tradition of monetary support to civic projects downtown. The crosswalk should improve pedestrian safety for both residents and visitors to the historic district. The conditions of the grant are that the City complete the construction by the end of 2008, that ROW have input on the aesthetics of the crossing, and ROW's support be recognized at the crosswalk. Members will vote on the proposal Jan. 9.



*Plaque on Market St. honors ROW*

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### **ROW 2007 Christmas Party set at Railroad Museum**

ROW will hold its Christmas Party at the Wilmington Railroad Museum on Dec 13, 6 pm to 9 pm. The party is in lieu of a December meeting. Members are asked to bring holiday fare (heavy hors d'oeuvres).

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### **Dates to Remember**

**Dec. 13 – ROW Christmas Party, Wilmington Railroad Museum, 6 to 9 pm.**  
**Jan. 9 - ROW Member Meeting, 7 pm, Tileston School (No December meeting)**

## ROW Members Dine with Police

Over 50 ROW members dined with an equal number of our police officers on November 7. (See [Photos](#)) ROW thanks the organizers, Diane Guida and Sara Strassle, and the members who supplied a great dinner. (See [Recipe](#)). Special thanks to **St. Mary's School** for the venue and to **Port City Java** for the generous coffee setup.



Here is a message from Sgt. Donna Smith:

Thank y'all so much for the thank you dinner. that was so very nice of everyone and the food was great! those brownies were the best I've ever put in my mouth, who made them? brownies are my fav anyway, especially w/chocolate icing! i could tell everyone really had a great time, you and us! what y'all did last night is always a morale booster, which we certainly need in this line of work. Please forward this to everyone, so they will know last night was greatly appreciated, by us all!!

as always, if y'all need anything, call me and if i cant help, i will pass it along.

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## Your Name Here!

Contribute to the *Messenger* and your name could be here, All submissions considered. E-mail or mail to any board member or to [webmaster@rowilmington.org](mailto:webmaster@rowilmington.org)

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## Camacho speaks to Airport Board

Dan Camacho appeared before the ILM Airport Board on November 7 to express neighborhood concerns. Dan conveyed the need for:

- a noise abatement initiative from ILM (in cooperation with residents)
- with regards to future or in-progress initiatives:
  - consideration of effects on residential areas in/near the flight path
  - compliance with FAA Order 5050.4b, particularly Chapter 4: Public Participation

The board chairman indicated they would study the issue and respond. ROW members adopted this need as a ROW position at the November member meeting. For more information on this issue See ROW's [Noise](#) page.

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## CONA Supports ROW Position on Gateway

ROW's continued concerns about the Gateway Project beneath the Memorial bridge gained the support of the Council of Neighborhood Associations in November. In response to a ROW request (See [Request](#)), CONA adopted a strong Resolution supporting our position. (See [Resolution](#))

The Gateway project is scheduled for consideration by the City Council at their January 8 meeting. City Ordinances required the matter to be continued until the first meeting of the new City Council

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## Auto Plates Back In Print...



...and available to members for \$10; \$15 to non-members. Contact Kevin O'Grady. [E-mail](#)

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## Organizations Succeed in Renovation Grant

The Power Squadron and Wilmington Harbor Enhancement Trust led by ROW member Alan Smith led the City's effort to obtain a grant for renovation of the public restrooms on the river front. Gary Shell, Director of Parks and Recreation issued this statement on November 5:

I am very happy to report that the state has informed me that it will make recommendation to US Fish and Wildlife that the City be awarded the BIG grant for shower facilities at the foot of Market St. You may recall that these facilities will be used by transient boaters while the associated rest room expansion will serve the general public and will be paid through the City's CIP program. We'll await formal announcement from USFW.

Many thanks go out to Myra Sieve & Alan Smith (Power Squadron) for their hard work assembling the support information. Congrats also to Tammy Skinner who compiled the grant for the City. Their hard work will benefit many boaters visiting our downtown. Gary Shell

## **Add to your 911 Information**

New Hanover County's 911 Center wants to know if there is anything you'd like them to know to be more effective in an emergency situation. Does your home have an infirm person or someone with a chronic problem that EMS should know about? Does someone in your home have a handicapping condition that EMS or Fire should be alerted to? Is there anything else that you would like Fire or EMS to know about when called? Maybe there is a contact person or physician you'd like them to know about.

They have created the 911 CENTER INFORMATION SHEET so that New Hanover residents can alert them to any such special information. It will be kept in the 'premises' section of their database and transmitted to emergency responders in any emergency situation. A copy is attached for your use. Click [Info Sheet](#).

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## **CFFA Recruits Head Coach**

### **Greg Spahr Joins the CFFA**

**WILMINGTON, NC – September 20, 2007** – The Cape Fear Fencing Association (CFFA) is pleased to announce that Greg Spahr has accepted the position of Head Fencing Coach. Coach Spahr comes to the CFFA with over 30 years of fencing experience and more than 25 years of coaching experience. As a fencer he won gold medals at the Keystone Games, Maryland State Games, and Capitol Games. He served as the Chair for the Maryland division of the USFA from 1990-1992 and again from 1995-1997. He also served as Chair for the Northeast Pennsylvania division of the USFA in 2006. As Awards Chairperson for the United States Fencing Coaches Association (USFCA) (1997-2003), he coordinated the nomination and election of Coaches of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Coach Spahr has coached fencing at several institutions, including the varsity women's team at Johns Hopkins University. During his three years at Johns Hopkins his fencers won 2 University Athletic Association (UAA) squad titles, 3 individual National Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association (NIWFA) titles, and one NIWFA squad title. Also during his tenure at Johns Hopkins, he was named Women's Coach of the Year at the 1997 UAA Championships.

Coach Spahr is excited about his move to Wilmington and the opportunity to work with the Cape Fear Fencing Association, stating "I'm looking forward to coaching the CFFA fencers, and hope to bring greater access to fencing to the Cape Fear area. There is great potential down here." Mr. Spahr will offer both classes and individual lessons through the CFFA. "We are so pleased that Coach Spahr has joined our club. His credentials are exceptional and he has a terrific way of relating to fencers - we are sure to learn a lot from him," states Laurie Graham, President of the CFFA.

Under Coach Spahr's leadership, the CFFA will continue to offer beginning fencing classes that include the basic elements of fencing, the history of the sport, foundational techniques, conditioning, refereeing, and tournament strategy. Additionally, Coach Spahr will offer private instruction to fencers of all skill levels.

#### **About the Cape Fear Fencing Association**

*Established in 1997, the Cape Fear Fencing Association (CFFA) is a United States Fencing Association (USFA)-sanctioned club open to all individuals with an interest in the art and skill of fencing regardless of age, ability or experience level. CFFA offers group and individual instruction in fencing fundamentals and tactics, with both beginning and advanced classes in foil, epee and saber. For additional fencing information please visit [www.capefearfencing.com](http://www.capefearfencing.com) or contact Head Coach Greg Spahr at: 910-799-8642.*

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[ROW Picture Album – WPD Appreciation Dinner](#)



*The Set up Crew*



*Mimi Ashton and the Chief*



*Sara Strassle and Officers*



*Eating, chatting and drawing*

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