

On the Prom

Fall Edition

Promenade Towers Quarterly

October 2010

At the Top of the Hill



Sunrise View from Promenade Towers

Our residents and guests enjoy some of the finest views in Portland from Promenade Towers. Now people all over the area can share these spectacular views thanks to a camera that WGME Television station recently installed on our roof. If you watch Channel 13 News or go to their web site, www.wgme.com and click on SKYCAMS, you may see Fort Gorges, Back Cove, lighthouses, sailboats on the harbor, cruise ships or downtown Portland—wherever the camera is pointed.

Our high-rise building on Munjoy Hill is not only a prime location for Channel 13's camera, but an ideal spot for cell phone antennas. Besides Channel 13, our Association has contracts with three cell phone companies and a radio station. The annual income of over \$96,000 from these contracts goes into our Reserve Fund which pays for major repairs and replacements. A strong Reserve Fund reduces the chance of special assessments; we can all appreciate that.

Directors Elected at Annual Meeting

On September 8, 2010 at the Association's Annual Meeting, Bruce Hopkins was reelected to the Board of Directors, and Gunnel Hansen was elected to fill an open seat. President Jim Zafirson thanked retiring Director Margie Thomsen for serving on the Board, and residents joined him in applause to express their appreciation for all the time she has given to the Association. Margie, who has been on the Board since 2007, will continue to volunteer on the Landscape Committee.

Unit Floor Plans on Web Site

Did you know that out of the eighty units in our buildings there are seven basic floor plans? Though many units have been renovated and differ from the original floor plans, now you can view and print the basic floor plans from the original construction drawings on the *Property* page of our web site www.promenade-towers.org. You'll also find snapshots on the *Property* page. On the *Neighborhood* page there are more snapshots and many useful links for places to go and things to do, and on the *Residents* page you can read past newsletters. Explore our web site, and you'll find all this and more.

Residents Enjoy Fall Party

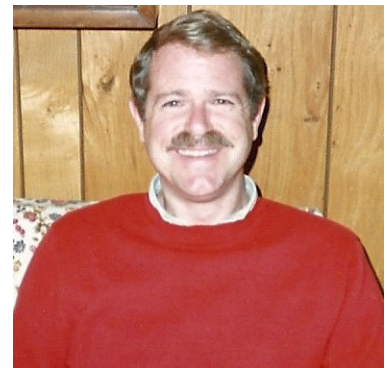
"This is a great party!" That's the comment that was heard many times at the gathering in the front lobby on September 16. The Social Committee members—Tom Leonhardt, Nan Dewing, Pauli Daniels and Sarah Burke—know how to throw a good party. The lobby was packed with residents who welcomed the fall season with food and wine. After a busy summer, residents enjoyed visiting with old friends and meeting new neighbors.

You won't want to miss the Holiday Party the committee is planning for December 7. Other events scheduled are a trip to the Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay on October 1 and a trip to Boston to visit the Freedom Trail on October 20.

Know Your Neighbors Contest

Who is this young man with the moustache? Call or email your guess to Judith Rastl (775-1190 or jrastl@earthlink.net).

The prize in last edition's contest went to Len Ney who won the drawing after guessing that the girl in the photo was Margie Thomsen. Others who guessed correctly were Tom Leonhardt, Gunnel Hansen, Pauli Daniels and John Widdows.



Quarterly Profile



Fred and Judy Hill - #111

Hearing Fred and Judy Hill's memories of growing up in Maine is like an adventure in time-travel. The places that are familiar to most of us now are the places they describe from their childhood. Judy remembers visiting her grandparents' home near the Eastern Promenade when she was a little girl. "I went to church services at St. Lawrence with my grandmother," said Judy, "and my grandfather would take me to his Victory Garden on Munjoy Hill." Fred said, "My dad was drafted during World War II. My mother was a nurse, and she went to work at the shipyard in South Portland where the Liberty Ships were built."

Judy and Fred met when they were students at the University of Maine at Orono. Judy graduated in 1960, but Fred's graduation was delayed by a four-year tour in the Marine Corps. After they were married, Judy taught school at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina where Fred was stationed and later in Maine while he finished college after his tour in the Marines.

After Fred graduated, he went to work for Shell Oil Company in Indianapolis. "We moved around a lot," he said. His career took them to Chicago, Minneapolis, Long Island and Houston, not far from Spring, Texas where they own a home.

Just as he does now in Portland, Fred found time to give back to the communities where they lived. He became certified as an emergency medical technician so he could volunteer with the fire departments and ambulance services. Here in Portland, Fred helps cut brush at Ft. Scammell on House Island as a volunteer with Friends of the Forts, a group that works on fort restoration. Even

though Fred and Judy live at Promenade Towers just during the summer months, they both volunteer their time for our Association. You may have seen Judy, a member of the Landscape Committee, pulling weeds around the plants and flowers on our grounds. Last year Fred worked with a group of volunteers painting all three of our stairwells, a project that saved the Association thousands of dollars.

Judy calls their condo "our camp in the clouds." They both appreciate our location and make a point to be here every summer in time for the 4th of July fireworks on the Prom. Fred says, "I try to get out and walk every morning, usually along the Promenade and Congress Street." Judy likes to walk along the trail by East End Beach. They both enjoy Portland's restaurants and say their favorite is Bar Lola right here in our neighborhood.

Fred and Judy have been to England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Germany and Holland. They have visited most of the National Parks in the United States and have traveled across Canada. One of Judy's favorite trips was on the Rocky Mountaineer, a train that took them from Vancouver to Jasper in Canada. One of Fred's favorites was a history tour with his son that included a visit to Normandy in France. He said, "During World War II my dad was in the army in Normandy."

When talking about the things he and Judy have done and all the places they have been, Fred said, "My goal is to look back some day and say I'm glad we did that."

Munjoy Hill in the News Again

Last year we told you about an article in the *Washington Post* that praised Munjoy Hill. This summer a travel story in *The New York Times* told readers places to go and things to do in Portland. One of the places the writer described was our neighborhood on the Hill—the Promenade and the shops, including Rosemont Market & Bakery, a spot that's popular with many Promenade Towers residents.

Hello to New Neighbors

Welcome to new residents: Peter & Sarah Burke; David Turner; Alana Kansaku-Sarmiento; Mark & Neila Rockwood; Nicole Nadeau; and Jacob Ferm