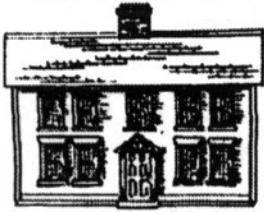


# THE EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



John Hunt House

# Gazette

Vol. XXII No. 9

July/August 2010

## President's letter

Nancy Moore, President



So - three times is the charm? Not for the East Providence Historical Society, it seems, as far as the annual picnic weather goes. On Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 p.m., the heavens opened and torrents poured down for the third straight year causing us to move to Memorial Hall (Newman Church) and drenching us as we reached it. About the only thing we have become proficient at in these three years, is booking the church for that Monday night (Annual Meeting) well ahead of time, leaving nothing to chance.

And so, fifty of us came in from the rain for fellowship, tasty food, laughs and good conversation. It is always a pleasure to sum up the year and give a round of applause and thanks to those members who have held the reins for another year. We have had lots of hands pitching in this year for which we have been very grateful. (Our grateful list is printed elsewhere in this issue.)

There are some items to bring to your attention this month.

- Don Doucette of the Pomhams Rocks Lighthouse group reports that the light will be getting some detailed exterior care this summer and should be looking quite striking by the fall.
- The EP Historic District Commission held its June meeting at the Weaver House in the front parlors and the interior is a handsome labor of love. We'll be working on getting a meeting there soon.
- In July, the EPHDC had a tour of the Caleb Williams cottage and a meeting at Hunt House.

Please take a walk to the back of the cottage to see some of the repairs to the siding and roof work.

- The fish ladders for Hunts Mills and the Turner Dam are still not a sure thing. New bids have been received by the Army Corps of Engineers but there is the possibility that the cost of both dams will be too high and the Corps will settle for doing the Omega Dam ladder only, which will move all work to Roger Williams Avenue. Obviously, we will deal with whatever situation comes our way.

We will meet again in September at Newman Church. Until then, enjoy your families, your friends, and your gardens. Take a trip to see some historic site in RI and come back and tell us all about it.

## A Special Note From One Of Our Long Distance Members

6/8/10

Just wanted the Gazette staff to know how much I enjoy receiving your publication. I often wish I were nearer in order to enjoy some of the activities of the Society. When visiting my daughter on Cape Cod, I have on occasion been able to visit the Hunt House Museum. I am active in my local historical society, primarily as costume curator since 1981. Keep up the good work!

Gratefully,  
Pat Paulson McGrail - East Providence High School 1944

(Pat now lives in Chicago)

**The Gazette**

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East Providence  
Historical Society

P.O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI  
02916-4774  
Tel. (401) 438-1750  
Web Site: ephist.org

**OFFICERS**

Nancy Moore	<i>President</i>
Kris Rose	<i>1st Vice President</i>
Edna Anness	<i>2nd Vice President</i>
Cheryl Faria	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
Pat Henry	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
Peter Allen	<i>Treasurer</i>
Kris Rose	<i>Immediate Past President</i>

**COMMITTEE  
CHAIRPERSONS**

Bob Tewksbury	<i>Buildings</i>
Jeffrey Faria	<i>Grounds</i>
Kris Rose	<i>Markers</i>
Mona Breault	<i>Membership</i>
Virginia Berwick	<i>Museum</i>
Edna Anness	<i>Acting Curator</i>
Florence Adams –	
Reinhard Wohlgemuth	<i>Newsletter</i>
Nancy Moore	<i>Preservation</i>
Nancy Moore	<i>Program</i>
Florence Adams	<i>Publicity</i>
Reinhard Wohlgemuth	<i>Webmaster</i>

**The East Providence  
Historical Society**

is dedicated to preserving the heritage  
and enjoying the history of our city.

**If you are not a member we invite  
you to join now.**

Annual dues are \$15 individual, \$25  
family or business, or a Life  
Membership for \$150.

Please make check payable to:

**East Providence Historical Society**

and mail membership form to

**Mona Breault, 23 Case Street,  
Rumford, RI 02916**

**Calendar Of Events**

**AUGUST**

Sunday, August 8, 1:00-4:00 p.m.  
Hunt House Museum Open  
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

**NO MEMBERS MEETINGS IN  
JULY OR AUGUST**

**Request From  
Susan Cady**

It is my desire to collect stories  
and write about local Pierce Field  
history. I am hoping to contact  
many groups of people hoping  
some will contact me with stories  
to share. I have aerial photos  
from four different years. I have  
an old map with the old shape of  
Jones Pond. I think I have  
enough visuals to create a  
display for the museum but I  
need reminiscences to go with  
the visuals. Some subjects  
would be: WPA workers who  
renovated Jones Pond in the  
1940s. St. Mary's orphanage.  
Activities or the quarry on  
Quarry Street. Quonset huts in  
Pierce Field in the 1940s. Oil  
terminal on Lyon Avenue. Life

on Lyons Farm before it became  
the Metacomet golf club.  
Students who attended Mauran  
Avenue school and the former  
school on the corner of Lyon  
Avenue and Juniper Street. Also  
any other schools which were  
demolished for Route 195.

Her name and address:  
Susan Cady  
PO Box 262  
Clover, Va 24534-0262.  
Email: s3cady@hotmail.com

**Memorial Fund**

The Society's Memorial Fund  
was established in 1993, in  
memory of past members, for  
"the betterment of the  
Society and with no specific  
purpose".

The Memorial Fund is a  
qualified endowment  
administered by the  
Executive Committee.  
Members and friends wishing  
to contribute may make  
checks payable to the East  
Providence Historical Society  
and mail to the Society at  
Box 4774  
East Providence, RI 02916-4774



**Membership Form**

New  
 Renewal/Change

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

\$15 Individual	\$25 Family/Business	\$150 Life
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 2009-2010 GRATEFUL LIST



EAST PROVIDENCE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD  
MEMBERS:  
(See the list inside the first  
page) You folks are AWESOME!

Museum intern:  
Karen Panzarella

Curation interns:  
Maggie Dooley and Deb Omerod

Membership intern:  
Miriam Kenney

BUILDING COMMITTEE:  
Bob Tewksbury, Chairman  
Jesse Albright, Earl Berwick, Jr., Les Haworth,  
Dot Thornley, Andy Valerio

GRANT WRITING:  
Edna Anness, Maggie Dooley, Nancy Moore

MUSEUM DOCENTS:  
Ginny Berwick/Karen Panzarella, Co-Chairmen  
Jesse Albright, Edna Anness, Ceil Beckett,  
Patty Hopkinson, Nancy Moore, Gladys  
Panzarella, Kris Rose, Eunice Tuckerman, Andy  
Valerio

MASTER GARDENERS:  
Cheryl Faria/Jeff Faria, Co-Chairmen  
Mona Breault, Pat Henry, Miriam Kenny, Mary  
McManus, Nancy Moore, Dot Thornley

ANNUAL PICNIC/CHRISTMAS PARTY/BAZAAR:  
Kris Rose, Chairman  
Florence Adams, Peter Allen, Jeff Faria, Pat  
Henry, Pattie Hopkinson, Dave Kelleher,  
Miriam Kenney, Nancy Moore, Dot Thornley,  
Brian Travers (and all of you who pitched in  
wherever help was needed)

SPRING CLEANING CREW:  
Pat Henry, Nancy Moore, Kris Rose, Dot  
Thornley

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY DAY:  
Edna Anness, Chairman  
Nancy Moore, Kris Rose, Bob Tewksbury, Dot  
Thornley

NEWSLETTER:  
Florence Adams, Editor  
Doreen Bonney, Reinhard Wohlgemuth

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE:  
Florence Adams, Facilitator  
Ginny Berwick, Sophie Fredrick

GAZETTE MAILING:  
Florence Adams, Facilitator  
Billie Arden, Mona Breault, Fran Gross, Joan  
Hanlon, Jo Marchi

BAKERS/HOSPITALITY:  
Mona Breault/Pat Henry, Co-Chairmen  
Florence Adams, Edna Anness, Miriam Kenney,  
Nancy Moore, Ruth Peirce, Kris Rose, Dot  
Thornley, Eunice Tuckerman, Kathy  
Wohlgemuth, Andy Valerio

SOCIETY MEMBER PROGRAM PRESENTERS:  
George Donovan, Dave Kelleher, Reinhard  
Wohlgemuth

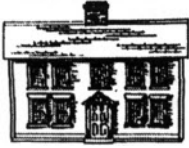
SPECIAL THANKS:  
Jim Rose for framing and Plexiglas work (sure is  
great to see the Hunt Family china behind a  
protective sheet).  
Dot Thornley for her spectacular photos.  
Jesse Albright for continuing to show up on Open  
House dates to see if we need help and to drop  
off an item he thought we might need.  
But we are most grateful for all of you, near and  
far; who still think preservation in East Providence  
has need of your support. Our membership stays  
loyal, constant and vital. Thank you, one and all.

And now for my plea to others of you who might like  
to help out: Our Telephone Committee is down to  
three members. That is a heavy load for even these  
veterans to handle. Here's what they do: In early  
December and mid June, calls are made to see how  
many will attend the Christmas Party and Annual  
Picnic. If you think you can fit that into your  
schedule, please call Nancy Moore, 438-4299 or  
speak to a Board member at the next meeting.

## Gifts To The Museum

Mrs. Richard Johnson - Rumford Fruit Cook Book and  
a small Rumford cookbook by Fanny Farmer.

(Would You Believe: The old original Rumford  
Factory building is the new home of the Festival  
Ballet. WOW!! Has it come up in the world. How  
fortunate that the building was saved.)

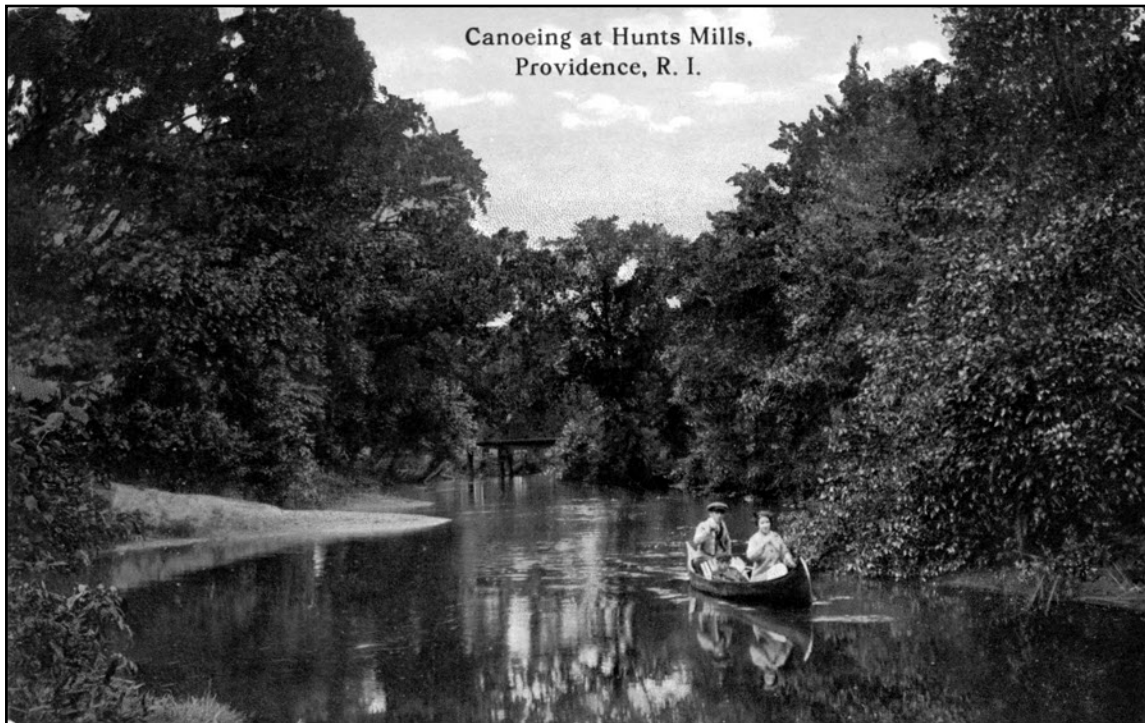


*John Hunt House*

East Providence Historical Society  
P.O. Box 4774  
East Providence, RI 02916

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**Providence, RI**  
**Permit #2712**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Postcard from the collection of Reinhard Wohlgenuth

With the above normal temperatures we have, most of us will appreciate the time we can spend in an air conditioned area. 100 years ago people would seek out the coolness of the river and woods at Hunt's Mills to cool off.