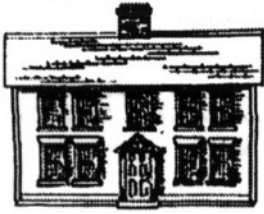


# THE EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



John Hunt House

# Gazette

Vol. XXIII No. 7

June 2011

## President's Letter

Nancy Moore, President



Hello Everyone,

I hope you all found the special May edition about the National Register of Historic Places

interesting and informative. Our great thanks to Reinhard Wohlgemuth, Gazette editor, for getting the article from Preservation magazine to fit into our small space. Last evening, a good number of EPHS members and Phillipsdale homeowners were on hand for the first workshop concerning the proposed Phillipsdale Mill Village District which would be listed on the above mentioned National Register. The research done by Cathy Cavanaugh, preservation consultant, was in depth and there were maps and photos (some provided by EPHS archives) from 1830 through the consultant's photos of buildings in their present day condition. It was a convincing and well documented presentation in favor of a NR nomination.

Rick Greenwood of the RI Historic Commission also offered information about historic

districts, making the distinction between a national district and a local district. The first places no restrictions on a homeowner and the latter requires a homeowner to check in with a local commission before making changes to the exterior of a building. There are tax credits available within a national district also. Mr. Greenwood also said that the state had reviewed and recommended the district for federal review and on July 13 the Department of the Interior would be considering the nomination. Any homeowners in the proposed district who oppose the nomination must send written, notarized letters to the state historic commission before that time as 50% of the homeowners in a proposed district must be in favor of the new designation. In this case, any homeowner not replying in opposition to is considered to be in favor of the district. All homeowners in the district had received prior information about the matter and many had brought their notification with them last evening. Thank you to all the EPHS members/homeowners in the district for supporting the nomination.

## Slate of Officers for 2011-2012

At the April meeting the membership voted unanimously to override the by-law concerning a two term limit for the President. All other officers agreed to remain.

President: Nancy Moore

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Kris Rose

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Edna Anness

Secretary: Cheryl Faria

Treasurer: Peter Allen

## Museum News

We have had three families of Walker Descendants visit the Walker bedroom upstairs in the Hunt House, where we have the only original furniture locally from the Walker House. Another family is coming on Sunday, June 12.



**The Gazette**

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Web Site: ephist.org

**OFFICERS**

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

**COMMITTEE  
CHAIRPERSONS**

Bob Tewksbury *Buildings*  
Jeffrey Faria *Grounds*  
Kris Rose *Markers*  
Mona Breault *Membership*  
Virginia Berwick –  
Karen Panzarella *Museum*  
Edna Anness *Acting Curator*  
Reinhard Wohlgemuth *Newsletter*  
Nancy Moore *Preservation*  
Maggie Dooley *Program*  
Maggie Dooley *Publicity*  
Reinhard Wohlgemuth *Webmaster*

**Calendar of Events**

**JUNE**

Monday, June 27, 6:00 p.m.  
General Meeting and Picnic  
*Public Invited*  
Newman Church Hall  
Newman Ave., Rumford

**JULY**

Sunday, July 10, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Hunt House Museum open  
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

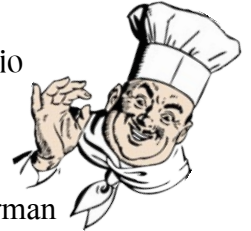
**AUGUST**

Sunday, August 14, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Hunt House Museum open  
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

**Tip of the Baker's  
Hat . . .**

. . . to the following members  
who baked for the May members'  
meeting:

- Anthony Valerio
- Mona Breault
- Nancy Moore
- Linda Agresti
- Eunice Tuckerman
- Dotty Thornley



. . . and to our punch makers:

- Edna Anness
- Maggie Dooley

**General Meeting and Picnic**

What better way to spend a summer night but  
with friends and family enjoying cool lemonade  
and a cookout of hamburgers and hot dogs,  
savory side dishes and salads. Dessert? Why,  
fresh strawberry shortcake, of course!



Members \$3; onmembers \$5; children under 6 free

Please call for reservations (by June 22) and questions: 401.438.1750

**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**



**Membership Form**

New

Renewal/Change

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

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

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

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

\$15 Individual

\$25 Family/Business

\$150 Life

## Fish Ladder Update

Patrick Hanner, senior planner with the City and overseer of work done at Hunts Mills, has provided us with an update of work as of mid-May. If you have visited Hunts Mills, you will notice that the large equipment is pretty much gone and the fish ladder has been backfilled. Much needs to be done as far as re-landscaping but the ladder is in place. We have included the updates for the other fish ladders for those of you who have been following their progress.

Dot Thornley was kind enough to provide us with some of her latest Hunt's Mills pictures from June 9 to add to this article..

### Hunts Dam

The fish ladder is approximately 80% complete with concrete form work/placement ongoing. We were slightly delayed (1 month) by the discovery that the dimensions of the historic intake

structure below ground surface were not as assumed and encroached on the footprint of the fish ladder. We worked closely with the RI and US Fish & Wildlife offices to adjust the dimensions of fish ladder to avoid the intake structure while maintaining the ladder's functionality. Work at Hunts should be substantially complete by June/July time frame.

### Turner Reservoir

Seepage issues identified during initial dewatering of the cofferdam area forced us to reconsider our approach and renegotiate with our contractor. A modification to Rocchio Corporation's contract will be issued very soon to allow them to install additional sheeting around the cofferdam and along the concrete spillway to maintain the integrity of the City-owned dam and ensure work can commence under dry conditions. Rocchio Corp will probably

remobilize in June and begin the sheeting install. The environmental permit for Turner permits the contractor to lower the Turner Reservoir starting July 1st. That is when I expect the contractor to complete the cofferdam system and begin construction of the fish ladder foundation. Construction at Turner will continue into the fall and should be substantially complete in the November/December time frame.

### Omega Pond Dam

This particular project is very complex - the proposed fish ladder for Omega passes under an active railroad and a 115 kV high voltage overhead wire. The foundation for the ladder passes through an existing 16-inch high pressure gas main and must be constructed in river sediments contaminated with arsenic and lead. The proposed staging area is a former Brownfield site. Access to the site required 7 legal agreements with several entities - RIDOT, RIDEM, Providence & Worcester RR, City of East Providence, Phillipsdale Landing - in addition to our cooperation agreements with RIDEM. Plans and Specifications are under Independent Technical Review (ITR) and Buildability, Constructability, Operability & Environmental (BCOE) Review this week and should be ready to advertise by the end of May/early June. Award is expected in July 2011; construction will begin in August and will likely be completed in the spring 2012.



DOT THORNLEY



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

*John Hunt House*

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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## Gardening Tips

By Jeff Faria, Master Gardener

Taller lawn grasses have deeper roots and can better handle droughts during the hot weather. Keep mower blades sharp and set wheels at the highest level, leaving 3" of grass after mowing. Allow the clippings to break down on the lawn and replenish the nutrients naturally.

Plant a row of beans, beets, lettuce, radish and spinach every 10 days to 2 weeks for a bounty all season long. Other crops to plant during mid-summer for the fall are, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots and cabbage. Blanching

and freezing will allow you to enjoy your own veggies all year long!

Reduce leaf diseases on roses and tomatoes by watering only in the morning and watering the soil and not the plant's leaves.

Fertilize your roses after blooming to increase a second bloom and increase the vigor of the plant.

Move household plants outdoors for the summer. To acclimate them to the stronger light, first start them in shade. Arrange them in spots that match their light when indoors. Wash leaves with a mild soap if they have become dusty over the winter. A

"hair cut" may also be in order, as well as repotting if necessary.

Attract hummingbirds with bee balm, columbine, lupine, penstemon and hanging fuchsias.

