



The East Providence Historical Society

Gazette

June 2013

Volume XXV No. 7

Dedicated to Preserving the Heritage and Enjoying the History of Our City

June

Monday, June 24
6:00 pm

Members' Meeting -
Public invited

Picnic/Elections
Hunts Mills Park

July

Sunday, July 14
1:00 - 3:30 pm

Hunt House Museum
open

Sat/Sun. July 13/14
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

URI Master Gardener's
Tour

Hunt House Garden
Hunt House is open

August

Sunday, August 11
1:00 - 3:30 pm

Hunt House Museum
open

CONTACT US AT:

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

President's letter

Maggie Dooley President

Hello Friends,

Did you notice something new about the June Gazette? It's in color! Just like the seasons, change at the Society is in the air. The gardens look terrific as our volunteers prepare the site for the July 2013 Master Gardener Tour. Stop by and take a stroll along the garden beds and visit the rumbling waterfall and rolling grounds.



This year we recorded a significant increase in visitation at the John Hunt House Museum as well as attendance at our general programs. Thank you for joining us at these very lively and informative presentations. I always learn something new, have interesting conversations with visitors, share wonderful memories, and enjoy a delightful treat. I want to remind you that the House Museum will be open in July and August, but there will be no general meeting and program. I can hardly wait for next season. I've seen the program schedule and it will be a mix of historical records and stories of the

familiar and the unfamiliar. I'm sure we'll have more exhibits at City Hall, too. We will continue to travel the Society along the Townie roads, and if you have a suggestion for a program or site, please give us a call or send an email.

A big thank you to our volunteers! They will be spending the summer months at the House cleaning and finalizing the reorganization of collections and exhibits in

time for our September re-opening. Work will continue on cataloguing collections into a computerized database and several accessioning meetings are scheduled. We will continue our planning sessions, too. Raising additional funds for the Society is a priority and we have several ideas for a special event next year. By the fall, we will have finished painting the exterior of the House; the gardens readied for winter.

I am deeply grateful for your continued support and participation in the Society. Your membership

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The Gazette

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East Providence
Historical Society

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Web Site: ephist.org

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- Margaret Dooley *President*
- Rose Marie Sirenski *1st Vice President*
- Deborah Ormerod *2nd Vice President*
- Cheryl Faria *Recording Secretary*
- Pat Henry *Corresponding Secretary*
- Dot Thornley *Treasurer*
- Nancy Moore *Immediate Past President*

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- Jeffrey Faria *Grounds*
- Kris Rose *Markers*
- Mona Breault *Membership*
- Virginia Berwick/Karen Panzarella *Museum*
- Deborah Ormerod *Acting Curator*
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- Nancy Moore *Preservation*
- Nancy Moore *Programs*
- Nancy Moore *Publicity*
- Reinhard Wohlgemuth *Webmaster*

President's Letter – from page #1
dues assist us in providing educational programs and maintaining the collections – and so much more. I encourage you to continue your membership and invite your friends and neighbors to attend our programs – and, of course, join our membership!

Please accept my invitation to our Annual Picnic on Monday, June 24, 6:00 pm - a beautiful historical landscape, delicious strawberry shortcake, and a fun time with family and friends!

Cheers,
Maggie



By now, you must know that I have “retired” from coordinating the mailing of the EPHS Gazette. I want you to know that a group of ladies including Billie Arden, Beth DeCosta, Frannie Gross, Joan Hanlon, and Jo Marchi always stepped up to fold, glue and label the Gazette to get it on its way to you. My thanks to each and every one of my helpers for a job well done.

Mona

A Herring Tale: Part III

Once upon a time there was a fish ladder which didn't seem to work. However, those patient folks among us like David Lovett stayed quietly enough at the ladder to see fish at the base of the ladder and in the lower portion of the resting pool. That would mean that it is actually true: “If you build it, they will

come.” Other counters saw fish in the ladder also, so we now know that there are intrepid herring which have found a way up the falls at Herring Rock. This news is most gratifying for all the folks who have worked very hard to make the Ten Mile a fishway once again.

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

East Providence Historical Society

P.O. Box 4774

East Providence, RI 02916-4774



Membership Form

New

Renewal/Change

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

\$15 Individual

\$25 Family/Business

\$150 Life

Master Gardener Tour

July 13 & 14

In July, the Hunt House Master Gardener site will be featured on the Master Gardener Tour, July 13 & 14. Master gardeners from the URI program will be on hand to welcome visitors and answer questions all weekend. The Ten Mile River group will also be on hand to answer questions about the Denil fish ladder. If you would like to be a docent, indoor or outdoors those days, please see Jeff Faria's article on the MG tour for additional information.

The Rumford Rifle Range

If you grew up in the Ferris Avenue area of Rumford you no doubt played/hung out at the Rumford Rifle Range behind the Rock ball field. There is a group of members who is interested in recreating the history of the place and will be looking for artifacts/memories if you would like to share them. Mike Reynolds, Jesse Albright, Ned Connors, Keith Gonsalves, and Anne Linde are leading this effort. The treasure trove of articles of course was held by our fondly remembered member John Agren (Anne's brother) and his wife Rachel. John was working on a presentation for EPHS the spring he died. We hope this group will have something to present to us come next spring – wouldn't a walking tour be fun?

Hunt House Museum Is Open This Summer . . .

The Society takes a break from regular meetings in the summer but we realize that many people like to take a summer Sunday afternoon to steep themselves in history and the natural beauty of Hunts Mills. This summer, EPHS highlights many of the stored Rumford artifacts from our vast collection and spotlights the new Sellew collection. And look for EPHS and the Rumford recipes featured in the magazine "Edible Rhody" which will be available in mid June. As always, treats made with Rumford Baking Powder will be served.

Museum hours are 1:00 – 3:30pm on these dates:

- July 14
- August 11
- September 8



Reinhard and Kathy Wohlgemuth took some photos around the Hunt House to tempt you to come and enjoy a walk and a look yourself.



Odd Fellows Hall

If you have visited City Hall recently, you may have noticed the eye-catching display about the City-owned Odd Fellows Hall. Thanks to the EP Historic District Commission and the Planning Department for an excellent presentation. This display will move to the Hunt House in time for our annual picnic and "2nd Sunday" open houses. When you view the exhibit, please take the time to weigh in with your comments about how IOOF Hall might be used.



We thank Ned Connors - chair of the Historic District Commission - for the photos that allow us to have a glimpse of this architectural marvel.

Historical Marker Program

Your home may be eligible for a marker. Any building in the City of East Providence which contributes to the historical development or architectural character of the City is eligible to be considered for a Historical Marker.

Request information by sending your name, address and phone number to the

Marker Program

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



Don't Miss the Annual Picnic And Elections

Reservations required
Dinner: Members \$3.00
Guests \$6.00

For Reservations 438-1750
Please bring your own
chairs

Rain Date – Same evening
at Newman Church Hall,
intersection of Pawtucket
and Newman Avenues

The Annual Meeting/Picnic is a longstanding tradition for the Society although new members have yet to enjoy the Hunts Mills setting that evening – can you believe the rain! A full picnic will be served at 6:00 pm with homemade Rumford recipe strawberry shortcake to follow. Members will be called for “sides” and biscuits. If you would like to help set up for the dinner, please call Kris Rose at 434-5581.

If you have been thinking of finding out what the EPHS is all about, this is an excellent informal way to get to know the group. Come and enjoy the charm of this local historic district and relax beside the Ten Mile. Will Jimmy Viara and Linda Agresti show up in another vintage fire truck?

Gardening Tips

By Jeff Faria, Master Gardener

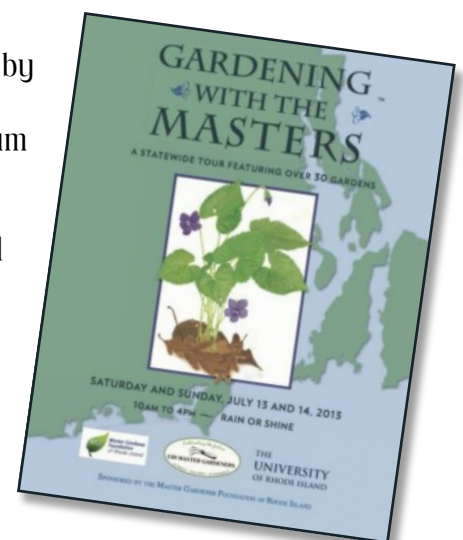
- Plan your vegetable garden for succession crops. After one early crop has been harvested, plant another crop. Don't let the garden lie idle during the growing season. Make the maximum use of the garden.
- Transplant in the cool of the evening or on a cloudy day.
- Kill poison ivy in the middle of June when it is in full leaf. Weed killers will do a good job. Walk around your property to observe new emerging seedlings, deposited from birds.
- Do not let seed head's form on rhubarb. Pick them off right away for they weaken the plant. Rhubarb should be picked only in the spring and never disturbed in the summer. Wait to divide your rhubarb plants until next spring. This should be done every 3 to 4 years.
- Watch for squash vine borers. If they get into the stems, you will notice a sawdust type excrement. You can remove the worm by slitting the stem lengthwise and killing the worm. Cover the slit immediately with moist soil and the plant should recover.
- Continue to fertilize your roses monthly and deadhead by cutting the spent flower just above a set of leaves. A new stem will grow from where there are three leaves and a new flower will come from where there are five leaves.

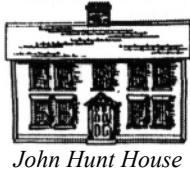
The URI Master Gardener Tour will be held July 13 and 14 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The booklet is your ticket for the tour gardens, and is available at the URI Master Gardener website urimga.org for \$20.00.

There are over 30 gardens maintained by URI Master Gardeners on the tour including the John Hunt House Museum grounds.

Jeff and Cheryl Faria will have a limited number of booklets available for purchase at the June picnic, for those who cannot order booklets online.

This tour is designed not only to showcase gardens, but to educate the public in sustainable gardening practices.





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

Non-Profit Organization
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Big
Thank
You!

The bakers for May meeting at the East Bay Manor were:

- Linda Agresti
- Mona Breault
- Maggie Dooley
- Dotty Thomley
- Kris Rose
- Andy Valero

Your work is appreciated and the tasty treats were enjoyed by all!



Besides our presence on the web, we are also on Facebook now. Search for the East Providence Historical Society.

