

John Hunt House

Gazette

Vol. XXIII No. 2

October 2010

President's letter

Nancy Moore, President



Hello Everyone:

Well, it has happened! The waters have been lowered, the safety fences are up and we've had our first

meeting with the RIDEM, Army Corps of Engineers and the construction crews. Thanks to Jeff Faria, Edna Anness, and Ginny Berwick for attending the meeting and asking pertinent questions. Everything is set for the building of the Denil fishways at Hunts Mills and Turner Dam. By the time you read this, the golden spades will have turned over the earth at Hunts Mills on October 5th and perhaps some of you curious folk will have come to see for yourselves. For the EPHS, this work means that we will be answering a lot more questions about the river and what's to come. We will be looking for docents who might like to specialize in this subject. As always, Edna has anticipated this interest and will be mounting an exhibit in the basement in the area where the grinding stone piece will sit. This stone will be taken from the ground where it

was once a step into the building which sat on the old foundation through which the fish ladder will run. Dottie Thornley has been documenting the work with her lens and her photos will be part of the exhibit.

We have received word that one of East Providence's oldest houses has gone up for sale. (Please see article and photo on back page) Susan Farnum Nichols and her husband David have done a meticulous restoration of her family home and will be moving north to NH to be with David's family. We wish them well and thank them

for their careful attention to a piece of this community's heritage. We were treated to a members' meeting there and it was a memorable evening. And we have received word also that Beechwood House in Wickford held a well attended open house several weeks ago and several possibilities for use of the building are now being considered. And the National Trust carried an article about the building also, very good press!

Please tell your friends and neighbors about the "Diner Program" this October 24th. Let's swap a few stories about EP diners and have a slice of pie. See you there -

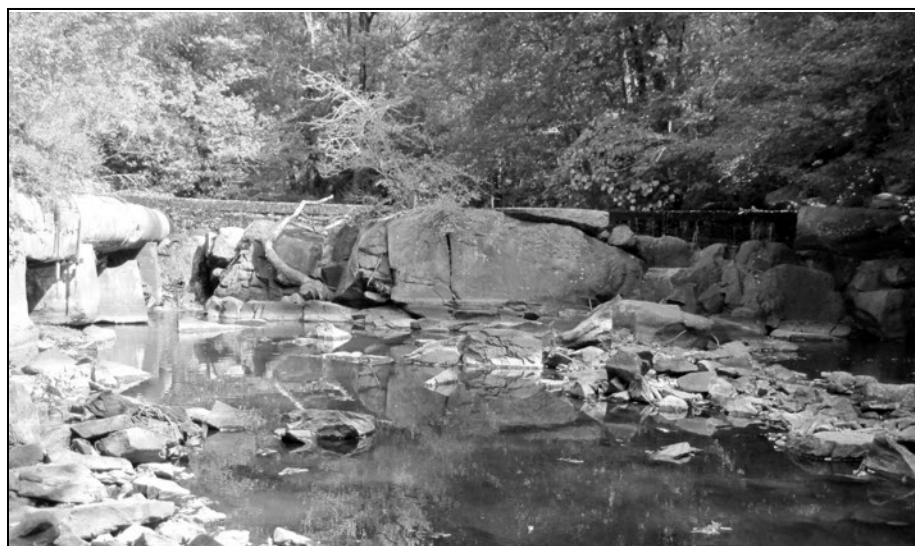


Photo by Dottie Thornley

'We don't see this too often. The river has been lowered for work on the fishways.

The Gazette

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Historical Society

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Calendar Of Events

OCTOBER

Monday, October 25, 7:00 p.m.
Members' Meeting – *Public Invited*
Newman Church, Rumford
Speaker: Richard Gutman,
Diners:
Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow
(See article on next page for more
information)

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting – *Members Welcome*
Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

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

Monday, November 29, 7:00 p.m.
Members' Meeting – *Public Invited*
Newman Church, Rumford
Speaker: Ranger John McNiff,
New Plans for Roger Williams
National Park

Meet Our New Members

- o Mary Burke
- o Sally Erskine
- o Suzanne Pezzulli

A warm welcome to you!

Museum News

Many thanks from the Museum
committee for the following
items:

Clive Bridgham: Postcard of W.H.
Bridgham Farm Milk, East
Providence, RI. Very amusing card.

Jaqueline Murphy: handwoven
10x10 wool rug and 3x4 mat to
match, made from clothes worn
by the family.

We have a memorial plaque in
the Hunt House Parlor
remembering all those wonderful
volunteers who restored the
Hunt House between 1989 and
2004. Sadly this year we have to
add Austin Butterworth and Earl
Berwick. The work that they did
still lives on to be admired. Do
notice it on your next visit. Jim
Rose for years has been doing
the etchings on each brass tab.

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

Gardening Tips

By Jeff Faria, Master Gardener

- Leave some starchy vegetables in the ground until after our frost. The starch will turn into sugar in such vegetables as carrots, turnip and parsnips. They will be a hit on your Thanksgiving table!
- Plant spring flowering bulbs this fall and cover with a small mesh chicken wire if squirrels or other rodents are a problem in your area.
- Move spring blooming perennials that you want to relocate early this month. As a rule, spring flowering perennials are moved by early fall and fall flowering plants are moved in spring.
- Lower your mower height to about 2" and continue to mow through the fall.
- Shred your leaves and add them to your compost pile. They will break down and become a great mulch, or when composted, good as a potting mix, added to garden soil or top dressed over your lawn next year.
- Continue to deadhead annuals and roses for continued color until frost. Mark dahlias and begonias before frost and dig them as soon as they get hit by the frost and their color fades. Gladiolus bulbs can be dug later, before the ground freezes.

Members' Meeting

Diners: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

Monday, October 25, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Newman Church, Rumford

Time to relive and relate your Diner experiences! The food, the culture, the history, the architecture, the preservation, the restoration, the stories...join us for an entertaining and educational evening with diner expert Richard J. S. Gutman, Director and Curator of the Culinary Arts Museum at Johnson and Wales University. Mr. Gutman will share the history of diners and his experiences in restoring diners. Already diner fans are asking, "Was the first diner really located in Providence? Are there any diners in East Providence? Are diners being built today? Who

decides to restore and preserve versus demolish and destroy? Diner food – first class meals or home-style cooking? Why do we find diners so fascinating?"

Mr. Gutman is the leading authority in the diner field and author of six books, including "The Best Five New England Diners" (one of your favorite diners?). Mr. Gutman has worked on more than 80 diner restorations throughout the world and has been a guest speaker on numerous radio and television programs, the Smithsonian and many other organizations.

So bring your stories, your diner souvenirs and questions to what promises to be a most engaging diner experience! Apple pie and coffee will be served.



Photo by Dottie Thornley

We just started to enjoy the local diner food when the Star Diner had to close again due to unfortunate family circumstances. Any takers?



John Hunt House

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1720 Farnum House For Sale



Are you a "This Old House" buff? Would you like to own your very own, REALLY old house? This may be the opportunity for you as the Farnum House is on the market for the first time in 70 years. And the greatest part about this sale is that the present owners have done all the restoration work for you. Susan and David Nichols wanted to make sure their family's home was ready for another 300 years before they sold and their attention to all the details has been excellent. It is now ready for your family to make it your special place.

This significant and charming 1720's home is located at 787 Willett Ave. and has a large corner lot. If you or someone you know would be interested in learning more about the property please visit this web address for the latest pictures <http://www.sue-erkinen.com/sale/142/index.html>