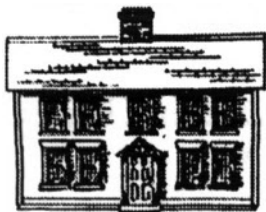


THE EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



John Hunt House

Gazette

Vol. XXIII No. 1

September 2010

President's Letter

Nancy Moore, President



Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to another fall season at Hunts Mills and the Historical Society. We hope this hot

summer was to your liking and your gardens did as well as mine did. The fine show of flowers and bountiful produce has been a far cry from the sodden gardens of last summer. The Hunt House Museum gardens fared well and without any disturbance from heavy machinery. There is still no sign of fish ladder construction,

The building committee has met and chosen the roofing contractor, Red Oak, to begin exploring the condition of the south side of the house. Depending on what is found, (anything from a rotted sill to punky clapboards is possible) the contractor will address those issues and finally get to the painting of that side. As our money holds out, he will then work around the building. Obviously, the Board is praying for just punky clapboards!

The board welcomed a new member this month in the Program spot which has been filled by yours truly for several years. Margaret Dooley is an avid preservationist and owns the Daggett House on Roger Williams Avenue. She has many good ideas for future programs and has the fall lineup all in place. Please check her article in this issue. Don't be shy about contributing ideas of your own. We're especially pleased to see that John McNiff will be with us in November. As you will remember, he canceled out due to the sudden death of his father on the day of our May meeting.

The October speaker, Richard Gutman, comes to us through a situation which Dave Kelleher and I worked on this late summer. It was brought to the attention of the historical society that there were two diners parked behind the Vocational School. By the time we arrived, only one was left. Dave and I went into action: Dave handling

all communication with the school department; I trolling the internet looking for the diner connections in Rhode Island.

We came up with two prominent men here in Rhode Island who are nationally known as diner experts. Daniel Zilka, who runs the American Diner Museum in Lincoln and has firsthand knowledge of our diner, and Richard Gutman, who oversees the Johnson and Wales Culinary Arts Museum. In the end, both diners have been scrapped. Mr. Gutman will be with us in October to talk about diners in general. We hope to get Daniel Zilka to speak about his museum and the New Hope Diner project later in the year. Alas.....The Star Diner on Newport Avenue is truly up for sale.

I look forward to working with you again this year and hope to see you at our opening meeting, September 27th.

Visit our web site at

EPHIST.ORG



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Nancy Moore *Preservation*
Maggie Dooley *Program*
Florence Adams *Publicity*
Reinhard Wohlgemuth *Webmaster*

Calendar Of Events

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 25,
11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Smithsonian Magazine History
Day

Monday, Sept. 27, 7:00 p.m.
Members' Meeting – *Public Invited*
Newman Church, Rumford
Program: What's So Special
About the Blackstone Valley?
Speaker: Chuck Arning, Park
Ranger
(See notes on next page)

OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 6, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting – *Members Welcome*
Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

Sunday/Monday, October 10 & 11
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Blackstone Heritage Corridor
Weekend

Monday, October 25, 7:00 p.m.
Members' Meeting – *Public Invited*
Newman Church, Rumford
Speaker: Richard Gutman,
Johnson & Wales Culinary Arts
Museum.



- o Susan Cady
- o Jeffrey Howe

A warm welcome to our new members.

**Telephone
Committee**

Florence Adams, Facilitator

The Telephone Committee has added Linda Agresti, Ginny Berwick and Dorothy Duane to assist Sophie Fredrick and Florence Adams. We'll be calling you.

**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: _____

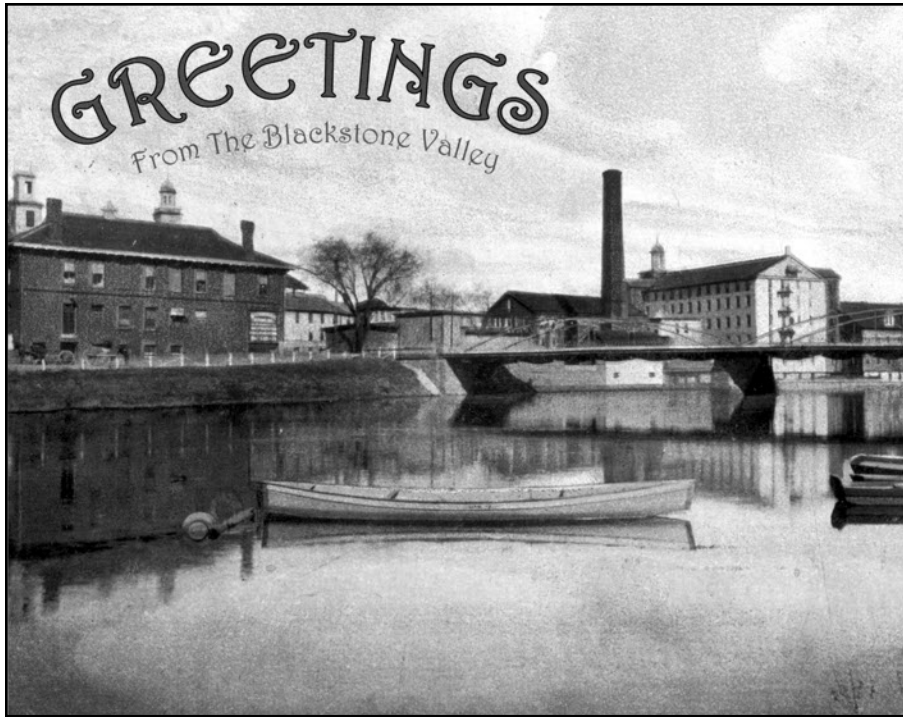
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

\$15 Individual

\$25 Family/Business

\$150 Life



Postcard view of the Blackstone River near Slater Mill.
Received from the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.

Gardening Tips

By Jeff Faria, Master Gardener

Fall is approaching and now is a great time to rejuvenate or re-seed your lawn. Weed seeds will be less likely to sprout, as they do in spring, and you will get a lush green lawn before the freeze of winter. In spring you will be "glad you did it last season".

Start seeds of lettuce, spinach and radishes for tasty fall gardening treats. They will survive light frosts. Cover the plants at night if it will be in the 20's. They should mature before any hard frosts.

Keep shrubs watered well in the dry heat of late summer. This has been a challenging summer with the record heat. Do not give up on any plants that may have gone dormant too early. Although they may look dead, keep them watered in dry weather and they should recover next spring.

Suspend any "green up" fertilizing. New growth will not be "hardened off" by the time we get frost. Natural amendments such as compost is about all you need for most plants now.

Deadhead roses for one more bloom before they shut down for the season. Hybrid tea roses use too much energy creating blooms too late into fall. Do not mulch roses yet. It will only encourage rodents to harbor there for the winter. Wait until the ground freezes to mulch them.

Members' Meeting

What's So Special About The
Blackstone Valley?

Monday, September 27, 7:00 p.m.
Newman Church, Rumford

A warm welcome to Lead Ranger, Chuck Arning, National Park Service who will join us for a media presentation and discussion of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor (BRVNH). This presentation is based on his writing and production of the recent film, "What's So Special About the Blackstone Valley?" Many of us will also recognize Ranger Arning from the award winning cable television series, "Along the Blackstone", which he wrote, hosted and produced.

The National Park Service, US Department of Interior (www.nps.gov) describes the BRVNH as, "Land and waterways, people and places... the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor is a diverse region with a unique history bound by a common history and strong connection between the people and the landscape."

Join us to hear more about the East Providence Historical Society's partnership with the National Park Service and why the villages of Rumford and Phillipsdale are included in the southernmost tip of the BRVNH. Ranger Arning will also bring the latest news of how and why the Blackstone Valley may become part of the National Park Service System.



John Hunt House

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Historic District Commission

Members: Edna Anness, David Kelleher, Nancy Moore

Cathy Kavanaugh, who has been hired by the city to do research and background for the application to ask that parts of Phillipsdale be named as an Historic District, has reached that point in her research where she needs input from former residents of the mill houses on Roger Williams Avenue and Ruth Avenue.

She would like anyone who lived in the area and can remember the names of some of the old families who lived on Roger Williams Avenue, Ruth Avenue, Bourne Avenue to Ruth Avenue, Nelson Street and Miriam Street to contact her, 273-4715. If you can remember the house locations it would be even better.

INPUT TO CATHY WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

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