



The East Providence Historical Society

Gazette

March 2023

Volume XXXV No. 4

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

March

Sunday, March 12
1:00 - 3:30 pm
Hunt House Museum
open
65 Hunt's Mills Road,
Rumford, RI
1:30 pm
Hikes at Hunts
Meet at the Gazebo
1:00 - 3:00 pm
Family Games

April

Sunday, April 16
1:00 - 3:30 pm
Hunt House Museum
open
65 Hunt's Mills Road,
Rumford, RI
Saturday, April 29
8:30 - 9:30 am
Audubon Bird Walk
Meet at Hunt House

CONTACT US AT:

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President's Letter

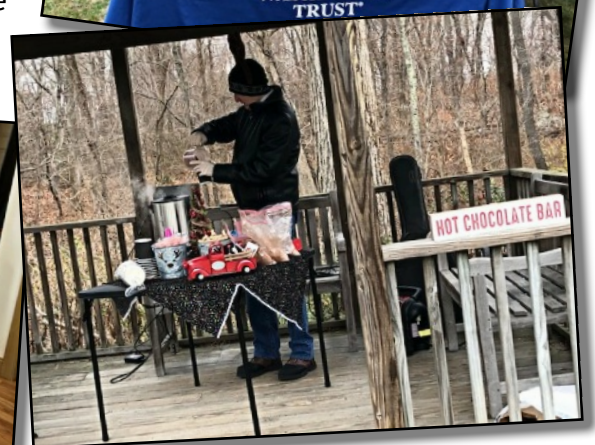
by Cheryl Faria and Jeff Faria, Co-Presidents

Welcome to the end of Winter. It certainly feels good to begin thinking about Spring! Here are some of the highlights of things that have been going on since our last Gazette was published.

John Hunt House Museum

The last Open House of the year was on Sunday, December 12. Many people came for guided tours of the museum, to take the monthly hike led by Ernie Germani and visit the research center in the Education Center. Teddy bears lined the hiking trail, and we had carolers on the front lawn. Scott Haggerty from Washington Trust sponsored the Open House and Rickard Smith of HomeSmart Professional Real Estate sponsored a most welcome 'Hot Chocolate Bar' in the Gazebo!

Our first Open House of the year will be on Sunday, March 12 from 1-3:30. In addition to guided tours of the museum and the 1:30 hike of the grounds, our researchers, Sandra Turgeon and Tom Warzeka, will again be using Ancestry, Family Search and Find a Grave in the Education Center to help our visitors with genealogical research.



Continued on page 4

The Gazette

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OFFICERS

Cheryl Faria/Jeff Faria

Co-Presidents

Deborah Ormerod *1st Vice President*

Eric Underhill *Recording Secretary*

Dorothy Thornley *Treasurer*

Pat Henry/Sandi Barber *Corresponding Secretary*

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Deborah Ormerod *Curator*

Open *Education*

Leslie Tente *Events*

Cheryl Faria *Finance*

Jeffrey Faria *Grounds*

Sandra Turgeon *Marker Program*

Miriam Kenney/Carole DiFabio *Membership*

Nancy Allen *Museum*

Reinhard Wohlgemuth/Eric Underhill *Newsletter*

Nancy Moore *Preservation*

Nancy Moore *Programs*

Nancy Moore *Publicity*

Kathryn McGovern *Volunteer Coordinator*

Deborah Ormerod *Website Manager*

MEMBERSHIP

CORNER

Welcome to Our New Members!

- Robert & Vicky Barnum
- Jo-Ann Craft
- Terrence Craft
- Rebecca Ivy
- Tom & Jennifer Mottur
- Christen Pic
- Mercedes Delacroix
- Bruce Keeler
- Maureen King



Sadly we lost our longtime member Lowell Anness

Lowell Anness 2/4/1925 - 1/4/2023

Long standing member and always a welcoming voice at any EPHS function which took us to Tockwotton where he and Edna, former curator emeritus, spent their last days by the water. Our thanks to both for their tremendous support of this group.



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 \$25 individual, \$35 family or business, or a Life Membership for \$250.

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: _____

\$25 Individual

\$35 Family/Business

\$250 Life

Dates to Remember

March 12 Open House

1:00-3:30 pm Museum open
 1:30 at the Gazebo Hikes at Hunt's
 1:00-3:00 pm Family Games

April 16 Open House

April Open House falls on Easter this year. Not only are you all busy with your families, so are our docents. **So Open House will be the 3rd Sunday, April 16.** Mark your calendars, please.

April 29 Audubon Bird Walk

8:30-9:30 am Meet at Hunt House



**Audubon Society
of Rhode Island**

Preservation News

Union Primary



architect David Sisson and his crew get closer to finishing the project.

Do you recognize this building which is getting a new lease on life as 8 apartments? We will do a feature on Union

Primary as

Green Jacket Shoal

The Historic District Commission has received money to place 2 signs at Bold Point which will detail the layout/history of the historic ships' graveyard which lies on the Shoal. The signs should definitely intrigue the concert-goers at Live Nation concerts and get City preservationists closer to the goal of applying for the Shoal's inclusion on the National Register. Our thanks to MA Chief Archeologist Dave Robinson for his extensive research for these signs and the nomination.

The HDC needs you!

There are openings on this commission which deals with all matters of preservation here in the City. 1 Wednesday meeting per month - for more information, contact Patrick Hanner at PHanner@eprovidenceri.gov *Must live in EP or have a business here*

RI Audubon Society continues to spotlight birding at Hunt's Mills: Reserve your "spot" now!

Join Lauren Parmelee, Audubon's senior director of education, for an early morning bird walk at the historic Hunt's Mills property in East Providence. Located along the Ten Mile River, this lovely park has big trees, gardens and a nature trail. We will look for resident and migrating songbirds, as well as water birds in the river. Bring binoculars and wear sturdy walking shoes. Extra binoculars will be available. Advance registration required. Walks are weather dependent.

Hunt's Mills, 65 Hunt's Mill Road, Rumford, RI; April 29, 2023; 8:30-9:30 am; Fee: \$5/member, \$7/non-member. Ages: 12 and up. (East Providence Historical Society members' fee is also \$5)

Advance registration required. Walks are weather dependent. This is a collaborative effort between Audubon Society of Rhode Island, East Providence Historical Society and the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.



Gardening Tips

By Jeff Faria, Master Gardener

- Late winter is a great time to plan your garden and line up seeds that you may want to start indoors. Always check the package of each individual variety to determine when to start them. I always recommend a sterile seed starting mix. Regular garden soil is too dense for many seedlings to do well.



- Now is a good time to start seeds, such as onions, shallots, leeks, and leafy greens, like lettuce, chard, and brassicas. These will be ready to transplant in late March to early April. You will want to harden them off for a week or so before transplanting by leaving them out during the day and bringing them in at night. Cover them at night if nighttime temperatures fall below 25 to 28 degrees.
- If you have left ornamental grasses for winter interest, shear them to about a few inches above the plant crown before new growth begins. You can cut up the stalks for mulch in walkways of your garden.
- When the ground is thawed, check your perennials to see if they have heaved up out of place. Gently push them back down into the soil. This is caused by the crazy weather temperature swings we have had this winter. Your goal should be to mulch these plants in late fall, including roses, to keep them frozen and not breaking dormancy when we get warm days until early spring. The temperature swings can kill many perennials, so be on the lookout.

Presidents' Letter

From page 1

Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Awards

On December 15, Pat Anthony, Paul Barnum, Cheryl Faria and Jeff Faria, attended a meeting at the headquarters of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in Whitinsville, MA. We were honored to receive three awards for our



volunteer efforts. We received two Certificates of Appreciation for 5 years of volunteer service - one for Nancy Moore and one for the EP Historical Society. And we received the coveted Partner of the Year Award.

State Preservation Grant

Last year we received a grant from the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission for some historical preservation projects. Under the leadership of Paul Barnum, Buildings Chair, we sent out Requests for Proposals (RFP's) and received bids from companies to perform the work. In January of this year, Ned and Richard from Levine Painting reglazed and painted windows in the John Hunt House Museum. This spring we will be soliciting bids from companies to paint the Education Center.



Strategic Plan

In 2018 we developed our first three-year Strategic Plan. Last fall we updated it for another three years. We identified five priority areas which are:

- 1.) Expand internal organizational capacity
- 2.) Maintain financial stability
- 3.) Continue partnering with other organizations
- 4.) Expand education programming
- 5.) Maximize use of technology

The Historian's Circle

Thank you to those who donated to our Annual Fund. With your Historian's Circle gift, you are helping the Historical Society meet our annual, strategic and endowment goals for the 2023 calendar year.

Hunt's Mills Park: \$1,000+

Cheryl and Jeff Faria
Laurie and Bill McWeeney
Barbara Rix

Dotty Thornley
James N. Viara
Lois Williams

Crescent Park: \$500-\$999

Jacqueline and Lee Ashcraft
Nancy and Dan Moore

Woods Heating Service

Vanity Fair Park: \$200-\$499

Nancy Allen
Earl Berwick
Richard R. Bushnell and
Paula Perkins
David Czerwonka
Carole DiFabio and
William Litchman

Margaret Dooley
Virginia Neves Gonsalves
Darryl Hardern
Elizabeth Ingraham
Pat Paulson McGrail
Jack and Kathy Richer
Mary and Steve Rosa

Boyden Heights Park: \$100-\$199

Gordon R. and
Wendy L. Wood-Hubbard
Barbara Barnes and
Beverly Pettine
James R. Boyd
Caroline D. Chick
Romeo DaSilva
William Francis

Friends of Katherine Kazarian
Pam and Paul Goulet
Frederick F. Harrop
Miriam Kenney
Kathryn McGovern
Tracey and Todd Moline
Michael and Norma Reynolds
Ed and Paula Serowick

Friends: \$25-\$99

American Ring Company
Helen Archibald
Sandra Barber
Peter G. and Sandra M. Barilla
James Boyd
Ivan and Malinda Colon
Jane Dennison
Rebecca Ellis
Gil Fletcher
Gilmore's Flower Shop

Michele H. Kazarian
Ruth McCarthy
Ryan McCauley
DeDe Moubayed
Deb Ormerod
Jayne Poland
Mark Saunders
Jack and Kathi Savage
Candy Seel
Betty Stoner

Thank You!!

If there are any errors or omissions in this list, please let Cheryl Faria know so we can correct it for the next issue of The Gazette.

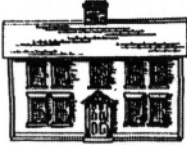
Call 401-419-8682 or email cherylafaria@verizon.net

EP Historical Society Endowment!

We are thrilled to report that thanks to generous donors to our Annual Fund, we reached our \$100,000 goal to establish an endowment at the Rhode Island Foundation. On December 13 Cheryl Faria, Jeff Faria, Dotty Thornley and Eric Underhill met with Bruce Keller from the Foundation to establish an Endowment for the East Providence Historical Society. Thank you so much to all of you who helped us achieve this goal!



Thanks to All
Who Helped Us
Reach our
Endowment
Goal!!!



John Hunt House


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

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Thank You to Our Sponsors!
Please support them

Thank you for supporting the East Providence Historical Society.





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