

2006

EAST • PROVIDENCE • HISTORICAL • SOCIETY



John Hunt House

Gazette

Vol. XVIII No. 4

January 2006

President's Letter

Nancy Moore, President

Happy New Year to you all!

I write this on a cold but very clear day on which I am going to get in a walk on the bike path to look at the Pomham Rocks Lighthouse again. The "nuts and bolts" talk by Keith Lescarbeau at the December meeting only whetted my appetite for getting on to the island itself. I hope you have enjoyed the 'Light' at night with its holiday trimmings. And I hope you also enjoyed our annual Holiday Party. It was memorable. Billie Arden, Peter Allen, and Cheryl and Jeff Faria deserve credit for organizing such a wonderful evening.

We, perhaps, can talk about being healthy, wealthy and wise this year. Members who have been through illness appear to have turned the corner.

We have received numerous artifacts this past month which should make the archive/library section, and us, wiser. This December brought gifts to the society for the preservation and curation of those archives. Our grateful thanks go to John Agren (who also has donated many articles to the Gazette) and the former Stark-Parker Veterans Post, Rumford, which not only passed on its archives for safe keeping but made a financial contribution to the curating process.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the historical society and we are sustained by the faithfulness of our members and their dedication to our mission.

As you remember, we voted to suspend the January and February Members Meetings. The weather in recent years has iced and snowed us out so we decided to act prudently. This newsletter is our "winter" edition and you will not hear from the Board again until the March newsletter. But of course, you can contact us at any time.

As of now, we will reconvene with a supper meeting on March 27th, so we will expect you all to come out of hibernation, hungry and full of news to share.

Stay warm and well.

Preservation Committee

Dave Kelleher, Chairman

Work on the **1905 Amusement Park Office Building** (next to the Hunt House Museum) has been delayed until spring. The foundation has been repaired and frames for a wider door and two windows have been put in place. Nancy Moore, historical society president, is looking into getting some grant money to pay for the door and windows.

Because the weather turned against us, the **Lions Club** members will paint the building in the spring. **Dean Martineau**, contractor by trade and member of the East Providence Historic Properties Study Commission, will repair the roof and replace some of the siding also this coming spring. (Cont'd on Page 3)

The Gazette

Is published monthly by the

EAST●PROVIDENCE●HISTORICAL●SOCIETY
P. O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774
Tel: (401) 438-1750 Web Site: ephist.org

OFFICERS

Nancy Moore	President
Kris Rose	1 st Vice President
Edna Anness	2 nd Vice President
Cheryl Faria	Recording Secretary
Arline Butterworth	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	Museum
	Museum Curator
Doreen Bonney/Florence Adams	Newsletter
David Kelleher	Preservation
	Program
Florence Adams	Publicity
Reinhard Wohlgemuth	Webmaster

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Society has a "Return Service Requested" arrangement with the Post Office. *There is a CHARGE every time we retrieve an undeliverable mailing.....* Please advise the Society of all changes, temporary or permanent. Thank you for helping us save money.



The Society's *Memorial Fund* was established in 1993, in memory of past members, for "the betterment of the Society and with no specific purpose".

The *Memorial Fund* is a qualified endowment administered by the Executive Committee.

Members and friends wishing to contribute may make checks payable to the

East Providence Historical Society

And mail to the Society at

Box 4774,

East Providence, RI 02916-4774

The East ● Providence ● Historical ● Society is dedicated to preserving the heritage and enjoying the history of our City.

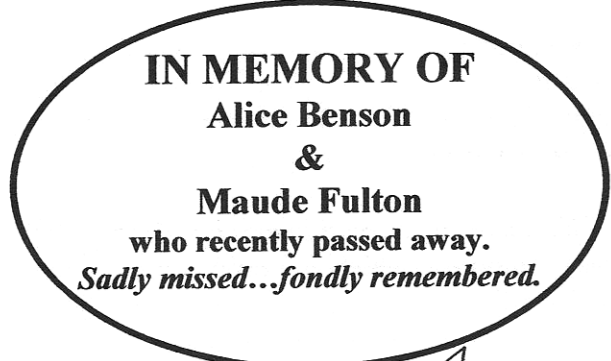
If you are not a member we invite you to join now.

Annual dues are \$15 individual, \$25 family, or a Life Membership for \$150.

Please make check payable to:

East Providence Historical Society
and mail with form below to:

**Mona Breault, 34 Josephine Avenue,
Rumford, RI 02916-3018**



IN MEMORY OF

Alice Benson

&

Maude Fulton

who recently passed away.

Sadly missed...fondly remembered.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

ephist.org

Membership Form New Renewal /Change

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Amount Enclosed:

\$25 Family

\$15 Individual

\$150 Life

Preservation Committee (Continued from Page 1)

The exterior of the **Pomham Rocks Lighthouse** is now completely restored to its former glory. The workmanship of **Keith Lescarbeau**, Abcore Restoration Company, Inc., is truly magnificent. His last job will be installing storm windows to help insure that the building is ready for the cold winter weather.

The task of the **Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse** is now to raise funds to pay for this excellent restoration. The group has raised just a little over half of the \$300,000. A line of credit was established to pay for the remaining cost and the sooner it is paid off the less interest will have to be paid. Any donations will be greatly appreciated. Send to: **Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, P.O. Box 15121, Riverside, RI 02915.**

Berry/Lykins Architects, LTD, has completed their evaluation of the **Brown/Williams Cottage**, Hunts Mills Road, Rumford, and will meet with the East Providence Planning Department to discuss their findings.

GIFTS TO THE MUSEUM

John Agren – A donation of \$1000.00 to the Historical Society.

Carolyn Ainsworth – AP Hoyt diploma – 1921 for John Williams, Jr.; “sippy” cup for the sick.

Jesse Albright – three photos: Miss Brown’s Boathouse, front and rear views, the John Hunt House.

Lowell and Edna Anness – Pine washstand, c.1830 (formerly on loan).

Meghan Lemay and Erin Mullen – Tape, DVD and pamphlet of “Historical Tour of East Providence” created as their senior Girl Scout project.

Anne Linde – Photos of the Hammarlund House, Newman Avenue, Rumford, Ten Mile River and Hunts Mills area in 1925, E.P. High School class

photo-1904, 1906 Rumford Cookbook pamphlet, graduation programs and invitations.

Florence Murray – Two carved oak director chairs, with leather seats, from the Board Room of the Rumford Baking Powder Co.

Stark-Parker Post #21, American Legion, Phillipsdale (Rumford), James Gifford, Treasurer – The Post flag and the American flag with stand from the Post. Records, member rosters, dues records, annual reports, citations, the framed original charter, brass bell used to open meetings, etc. The gift included a donation in the amount of \$2,350.00 to the Historical Society and a Life Membership for the Post which has now joined with Post #10 in Riverside.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Weiser – carton of papers re: Hascall/Berry Family of Riverside.

Thank You! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

The Hunt House Museum, Hunts Mills Road, Rumford, will be open on Sunday, February 12, 1 to 4 p.m. Admission \$3, \$1 East Providence residents. Free, society members.

Marker Committee

Kris Rose, Chairman

At the December Holiday Party, markers were awarded to two very prominent and important landmarks in East Providence: The **Pomham Rocks Lighthouse** (1870) which is being restored and the **Free Masons Hall** (1924), Taunton Avenue, which has been restored.

Don Doucette and **David Kelleher** accepted the marker for the lighthouse. **Peter Allen, Austin Butterworth, Norm Ouellette** and **Tom Stringfellow** accepted on behalf of the Masons.



Emergency at the Library Sunday, December 11th.

As we were opening the Hunt House Museum for visitors, there was a terrible crash over our heads in the second floor Flint Library Room. Reinforced steel shelving which we had installed in 1996 apparently gave way to the stress of time and weight and the vacant wall space in the photo was where the first case stood before it "torqued" into itself and fell to the floor. The second bookcase looked about ready to collapse so it was emptied onto the floor.

We are considering forming a "Library Fund" to which members of the Society and/or East Providence residents could contribute toward the building of a permanent set of wooden shelves sized for the various sizes of reference material which we have to store for ready reference. *This can be in the form of a donation of money, materials or labor.* The library is still available for reference but finding articles will not be easy.

Contact Nancy Moore, society president, 438-1750, if you have any ideas.

RECOGNITION DEPARTMENT

REINHARD WOLGEMUTH, webmaster, covers the cost of the society's domain name (ephist.org). The society pays the company that hosts the site.

The November Gazette published pictures of the six East Providence High School Honor Students who spruced up the Hunt House Museum for the October 11 opening. However, their names were omitted. They are: **ASHLEY BOULAIS, MARY COSTA, GABE GAZHAL, REBECCA LITCHFIELD, ERIN MULLEN, JILLIAN TENTE.** They are honorary members of the society and will receive the Gazette for one year.

EDNA ANNESS, VIRGINIA BERWICK, BARBARA FLYNN and **SOPHIE FREDRICK** served as Hunt House Museum docents on Sunday, January 8.

JOHN AGREN, society member and historian, made a generous monetary contribution to the society.

The former **STARK-PARKER VETERANS POST**, Rumford, donated their archives and made a generous monetary contribution to the society.

East • Providence • Historical • Society Historical Marker Program

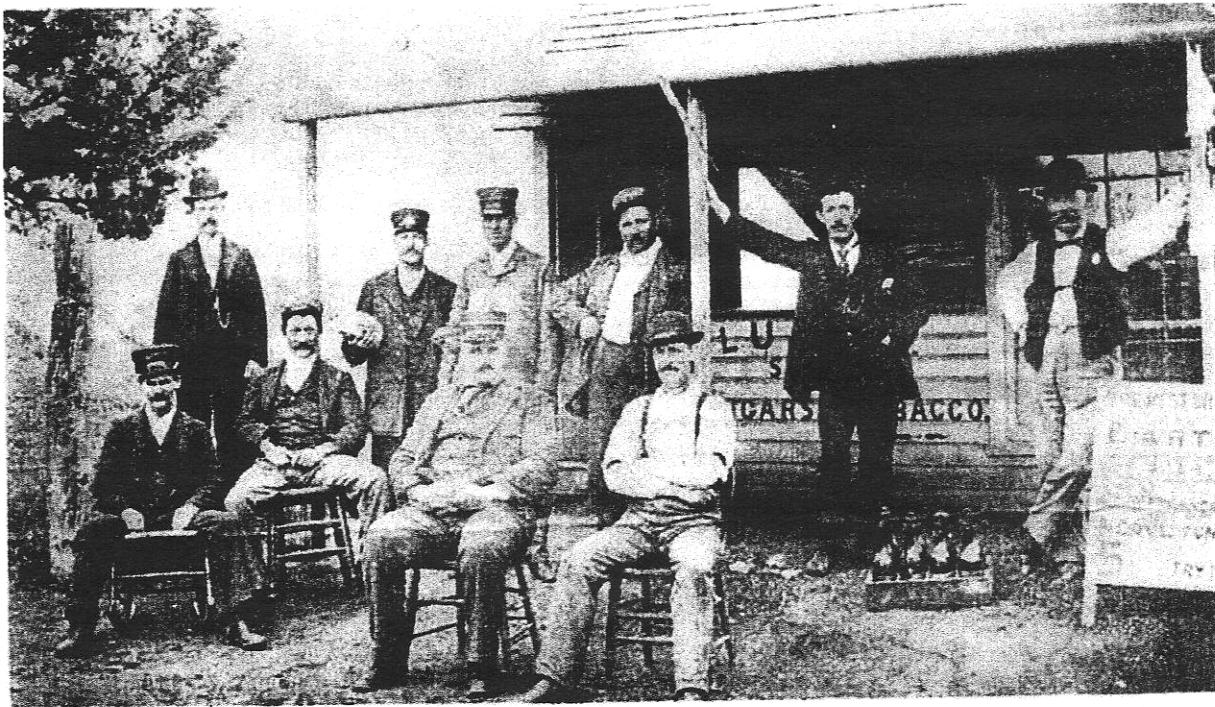
Your home may be eligible for a **Marker**. Any building in the City of East Providence which contributes to the historical development or architectural character of the City is eligible to be considered for a

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**

REMEMBER THAT WONDERFUL YEAR?...



LUNCH STAND ON KNOWLTON STREET IN 1892

The old car barn was across the street. Sid Stamp is at the extreme left. The three men by the poles are Amos Bell, Fred Sherman and Charlie Reed.

Holiday Tea, Hunt House Museum, Saturday, December 3rd



Pictured from L. to R. are Eleanor Read, Dorothy Marshall, Nancy Moore and Don and Nancy Doucette. The tri-cornered hat behind Nancy is worn by Andy Valerio who came as an eighteenth century gentleman.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

No Members Meeting

FEBRUARY

No Gazette or Members Meeting

MARCH

Wednesday, March 1, 7 p.m.
Board Meeting *Members Welcome*
Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

Monday, March 27, 6 p.m.
Pot Luck Supper
Newman Church, Rumford
Members Meeting 7 p.m.
Public Invited to Both