



John Hunt House

Gazette

Vol. XVIII No. 9

July/August 2006

President's Letter

Nancy Moore, President

It's midway into the summer and I hope that you are all enjoying whatever the weather throws at us. Those of us who docent on Thursdays at the Hunt House Museum this summer are continually amazed by the flow of water coming over the dam in what should be the beginning of low water season. It has been lovely to eat our lunch on the back deck which affords a great view of the river and is a very pleasant place to sit.

If you have not realized it, in addition to the museum being open the second Sunday of each month, it is also open Thursdays from 11 to 2 p.m. The Rumford Baking Powder Exhibit is featured. Please remind your friends of this if they haven't seen the display yet (or yourself?). Bring a picnic and enjoy the whole scene.

And speaking of picnics, we got a much needed reprieve from the rain and sneaked in our Annual Meeting on Monday, June 26. Everyone who attended enjoyed the food and chance to gather informally. The Panzarella family joined us for the dedication of a bench in Stephen Sr.'s memory. Thank you to them all. The bench is in the gazebo.

We elected the slate of candidates presented by the Nominating Committee and thanked the numerous volunteers, including Board members, with small tokens of appreciation. It has been an exciting, busy year. See you in September.

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY AWARD CEREMONY



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

| | |
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| Arline Butterworth | <i>Corresponding Secretary</i> |
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| Kris Rose | <i>Immediate Past President</i> |

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
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| Jeffrey Faria | <i>Grounds</i> |
| Kris Rose | <i>Markers</i> |
| Mona Breault | <i>Membership</i> |
| Virginia Berwick | <i>Museum</i> |
| Edna Anness | <i>Acting Curator</i> |
| Doreen Bonney/Florence Adams | <i>Newsletter</i> |
| David Kelleher | <i>Preservation</i> |
| | <i>Program</i> |
| Florence Adams | <i>Publicity</i> |
| Reinhard Wohlgemuth | <i>Webmaster</i> |

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.

Warm Welcome to our New Members:

Paul Darling
 Nick and Nancy DeShelter
 Jack and Phyliss Drury
 Keith Gonsalves
 Greg Taber
 Grant and Diane Topits

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Ahler's Design, Gail Ahlers
 Atlantic Flag & Banner, Leslie Howarth
 Clockwork Deli, Wayne Hawksley
 J-Kor Security Systems
 McCabe Press
 The Paint Shoppe
 Rose Furniture Company
 L. Sweet Lumber Company

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 with form below to:

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

RECOGNITION DEPARTMENT

Arturo Rodrigues, society member, responded to the call for a much needed typewriter for the museum

Elizabeth Donahue, granddaughter of Lowell and Edna Anness, and Elizabeth's friend, Emily McManus, are doing twenty hours of community service via the historical society. So far, they have cleaned and redesigned the "items for sale" case in the museum; replaced two Rumford Baking Powder cans from atop the entrance fence to the museum; completed the insertion of 2 late arriving ads into the National Historic Chemical Landmark Award Ceremony booklet and many other errands.

East Providence Post, Victor Paul Alvarez, Editor, for detailed coverage of the people, activities and history of East Providence.

Membership Form New Renewal /Change

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Amount Enclosed:

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| \$15 Individual | \$25 Family/Business | \$150 Life |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|

LETTERS RECEIVED AFTER THE JUNE 12 AWARD CEREMONY

Dear Edna Anness,

.....I had an uncle, Edward Lynch, who worked as a laborer at the Rumford Chemical Company in the 1930's and '40's. My mother commented that he was treated very well by the management. Somewhere, I have an old Rumford Baking Powder tin and, even more prized, a cookbook found in the attic.

I remember seeing the familiar old water tower from the road when riding through Rumford in the old days, and when I learned that the Chemical Landmark Award Ceremony for the Rumford plant was open to the public, I attended. I give *slide shows periodically to assisted living centers, yacht clubs and other groups. I thought it would be nice to include some images of the proceedings for future showings. There are often elderly folks in my audiences with long memories!

I have a book called "The Boatbuilders of Bristol" by Sam Carter, given to me in 1972. The boatbuilding family, of course, was Herreshoff. (I'm a charter member of the Herreshoff Marine Museum.) Carter stated that one of the prodigious generation in which Captain Nathanael Herreshoff came to prominence, included older brother James. and that it was he who "invented baking powder" for those who established the Rumford firm. And presumably, he never had to work afterward.

I wonder whether the East Providence Historical Society has ever looked into this. There may have been inaccuracies in Sam Carter's book. The late Bristol author, Jill DeWolf Pardee, advised readers at the Rogers Public Library, who wished to use Carter's book for reference, to consult her before doing so. (I heard this directly from her.)

Does anyone really know what James Herreshoff's contributions were, I wonder?

Sincerely, Paul A. Darling
padarling@interscribe.com

*The Bay and the Sound (Narr. Bay)
Touring Rhode Island: A Photographer's Quest
Rhode Island's Jonny Cake Tradition

Dear Edna,

Thank you so much for inviting us to the Rumford celebration. We had a great time learning about my great, great, grandfather and his legacy. The hospitality was wonderful.

Regards, Jack and Phyliss Drury
Mark Twain Camp
Saranac Lake, NY

Dear Edna and Virginia (Berwick),

Thank you so much for your gracious hospitality. The opportunity to be a small part of Rumford history was a thrill.

Visiting the Hunt House (Museum) and seeing all the Rumford displays and sharing the lovely luncheon was the high point of our trip to Rhode Island.

Hope the enclosed check will cover a membership in your historical society with some left over for whatever.

You can be assured that the Hunt House will definitely be a stop the next time we are in New England. It was so nice meeting you.

Sincerely, Diane and Grant Topits
Brunswick, OH

RECOGNITION DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER LIST FOR 2006

The East Providence Historical Society Board:

Nancy Moore, Kris Rose, Edna Anness, Cheryl Faria, Arline Butterworth, Peter Allen, Bob Tewksbury, Jeffrey Faria, Mona Breault, Virginia Berwick, Doreen Bonney, Florence Adams, David Kelleher, Reinhard Wohlgemuth.

OTHERS: John Agren, Sophie Allen, Lowell Anness, Billie Arden, Cecilia Beckett, Mary Lou Blecharczyk, Marie Brand, Donald Brothers, Donald Doucette, Helen Dorr, Dorothy Duane, Lois Driscoll, Sophie Fredrick, Barbara Flynn, Frances Gross, Louise Healy, Jean Henderson, Les Haworth, Pat Henry, Jo Marchi, Ruth McCarthy, Dan Moore, Gladys Panzarella, Karen Panzarella, Ruth Pierce, Jim Rose, Gloria Radway, Robert Radway, Rose Marie Sirenski, Helen Smith, Bob Soderlund, Nancy Stevens, Dolores Therrien, Eunice Tuckerman, Brian Turgeon, Kathy Wohlgemuth,, Virginia Williams.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

Thursday, July 27, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Hunt House Museum
(Rumford Baking Powder Exhibit)
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission \$3. \$1 E.P. Residents

Sunday, July 30, 8 p.m.
Re-lighting of the Pomham Rocks Lighthouse
Info: David Kelleher 433-2763

AUGUST

Thursday, August 3 & 10, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Hunt House Museum
(Rumford Baking Powder Exhibit)
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission \$3. \$1 E.P. Residents

Sunday, August 13, 1 - 4 p.m.
Hunt House Museum
(Rumford Baking Powder Exhibit)
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission \$3. \$1 E.P. Residents

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 12 - 4 p.m.
Cape Verdean Museum
1005 Waterman Avenue, East Providence

Thursdays through Sundays, Noon to 8 p.m.
Crescent Park Carousel
Bullocks Point Avenue, Riverside
Rides: \$.50, Thursday. \$.75 Friday - Sunday.

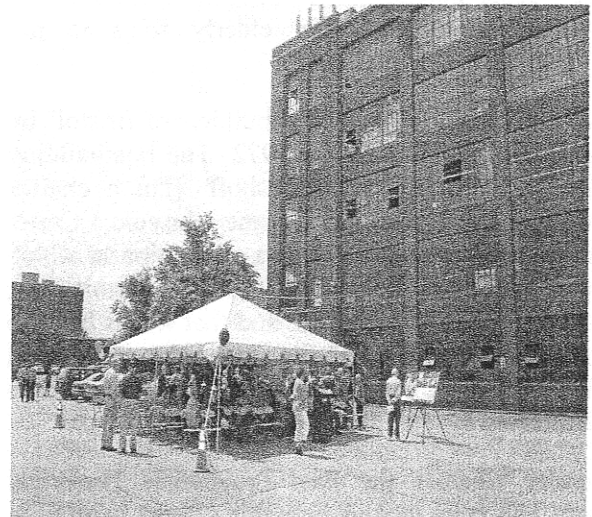
SEPTEMBER

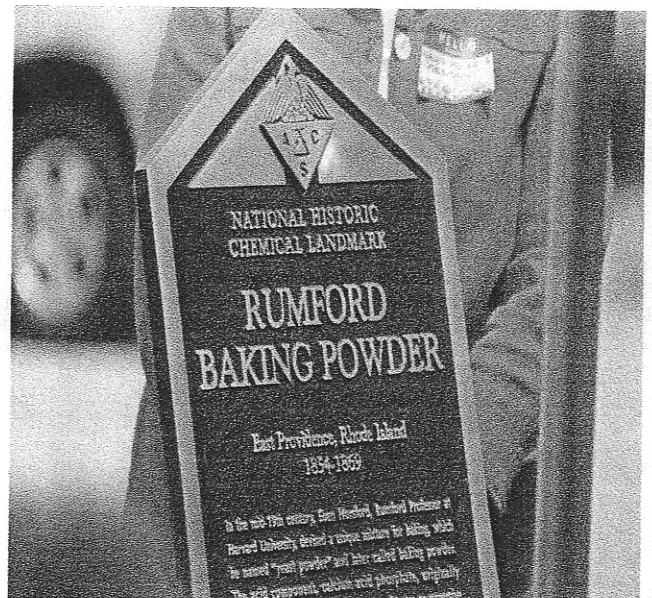
Wednesday, September 6, 7 p.m.
Board Meeting Members Welcome
Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

Sunday, September 10, 1 - 4 p.m.
Hunt House Museum Open
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission \$3. \$1 E.P. Residents

Monday, September 25, 7 p.m.
Members Meeting Public Invited
Newman Church, Rumford
Program: To Be Announced

MORE PHOTOS OF THE JUNE 12 AWARD CEREMONY







East • Providence • Historical • Society
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East Providence, RI 02916

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