



John Hunt House

# Gazette

Vol. XIX No. 6

April 2007

## President's Letter

*Nancy Moore, President*

It was so good to see you at our March supper meeting. Thank you to all who contributed to the feasting. It was duly noted by several people that there were TWO macaroni and cheese dishes this time. Obviously, this is an important ingredient in our entree line-up. (Actually, this supper resembled the Saturday night bean suppers of my youth in Maine. A lovely memory.)

I don't know when we have received so many compliments on a meeting speaker. Al Martin, along with the Celtic horse, Maeve, held our attention fully as he talked about the progress of the Oakland Beach carousel. The housing for the carousel will look like a lighthouse from the water. A novel idea. Only half of the horses have been carved thus far so we won't be riding on it this summer. Each horse has been given a theme and is carved in the Philadelphia style which makes them more realistic looking than our Loof animals. There will be a Pony Express horse, two Indian ponies, a hunt pony with a rabbit behind its saddle and many more. All with names. And imagine our surprise to learn that our own Andy Valerio has joined their carving team. Perhaps it is something others would like to do?

By the time the Gazette hits your mailbox, Hunts Mills will have been featured as a tour destination on Saturday, April 14, for the 22nd Annual Rhode Island Statewide Historic Preservation Conference. We are proud to have been selected and glad that the Rumford exhibit is still in place. Our thanks to the docents for their help on this day.

## HISTORY OF SCITUATE RESERVOIR

Members Meeting

Monday, April 23 (4th Monday) 7 p.m.  
Newman Church, Rumford

Don Carpenter, member of the Rhode Island Postcard Club, will be the guest speaker at the April 23rd members meeting. His subject is the history of the Scituate Reservoir. Refreshments and business meeting will follow.

## TOUR OF HISTORIC EAST PROVIDENCE

The 4th Annual Tour of Historic East Providence will take place on Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. - 12 noon. The bus leaves from the Hunt House Museum, Hunts Mills Road, Rumford. The tour includes the 'Ring of the Green', Phillipsdale, Watchmocket and Riverside. Historical society members, \$12. Non-members, \$15. Profit benefits the East Providence Historical Society and the East Providence Chamber of Commerce. For reservations, call 438-1212, or the historical society, 438-1750.



*The Gazette*

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

**OFFICERS**

Nancy Moore	<i>President</i>
Kris Rose	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</i>
Edna Anness	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</i>
Cheryl Faria	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
Arline Butterworth	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
Peter Allen	<i>Treasurer</i>
Kris Rose	<i>Immediate Past President</i>

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Bob Tewksbury	<i>Buildings</i>
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>
	<i>Preservation</i>
	<i>Program</i>
Florence Adams	<i>Publicity</i>
Reinhard Wohlgenuth	<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.

**The Hunt House Museum,  
 Hunts Mills Road, Rumford, will be open on  
 Sunday, May 13, 1 - 4 p.m.  
 Admission \$3. \$1 East Providence residents.  
 Free, society members.**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Any eligible member wishing to seek office for the June 2007-'08 year should contact the society, 438-1750.

**NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR  
 WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE MAY  
 MEETING ONLY.**

Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting, June 25.

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, 23 Case Street,  
 Rumford, RI 02916**

**RECOGNITION  
 DEPARTMENT**

Don and Nancy Doucette, society members from Attleboro, MA, were guests on WBZ radio Boston in March talking about their visit to all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts.

Edna Anness and Joan Hanlon served as Hunt House Museum docents on Sunday March 11. Andrew Wocjicki, a student at East Providence High School who volunteers at the museum, was also there.



**Membership Form**     New     Renewal /Change

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Enclosed:**

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

## MERRY-GO-ROUND

*By Joe MacDougald*

The good part was when we got ice cream at Sullivan's gas station at the corner of Pawtucket and Ferris Avenues, across from the Newman Avenue Church while waiting for the streetcar. The bad part wasn't far away at Hunt's Mills.

It was 1926 and the fashionable dress for spoiled little boys was the Lord Fauntleroy suit and not by choice, the writer wore one that day. No effort spared, the whole caboodle, wide white collar, dark velvet short pants, velvet jacket, bright buttons down the front, but thankfully no wide brim hat, just a Dutch cut. Then, Mom and Dad, brothers Ed and Bill, caught the electric car at the corner of the cemetery to go to the merry-go-round at the end of the line.

That suit, I was reminded, had been lovingly hand made by my mother from her honeymoon trousseau because, being her fist born, she wanted her little offspring, Joseph, to look elegant. Well la-de-da! Nobody asked Joseph.

Guess what? This six year old boy might have developed an anti sissy attitude all by himself but kids like Steve Weeden, Googie, Kela Pierce, Dave Aiken and others promoted it and we didn't like girls either. When we got to the merry-go-round with "In The Good Old Summertime" playing and all those people standing around gawking, no way would I display myself rigged like that. Not in that sissy garb. It didn't matter that my tickets for rides would be given to my brothers.

When we got home and could get off alone, sobs would come for missing the merry-go-round rides we loved. The hurt we caused our parents, we didn't realize until a long time after but it was much too late to apologize.

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*The East Providence Historical Society welcomes articles of historic interest or "Members Memories". Send your articles to: East Providence Historical Society, P.O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774.*

## 'ICE CREAM SOCIAL' - MONDAY, APRIL 23rd MEMBERS MEETING

Are you an ice cream lover? Well, since both **Mona Breault** and **Pat Henry**, monthly meeting refreshment overseers, will be away in April, those of us who like to keep things simple, thought that making our own sundaes that evening might be great fun. So, we wish both these ladies a wonderful trip with thanks from us all for the time and talents they so generously give to this group.




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## RHODE ISLAND CLAM BAKE

A benefit for the ongoing Pomham Rocks Lighthouse restoration will take place on Saturday, June 23, at Francis Farm, Rehoboth. Chowder and clam cakes will be served at 11:30 a.m. followed by a clam bake at 3:00. Sports activities, games and entertainment will be part of the afternoon festivities. For further information and tickets, call Dave Kelleher, 433-2763 or email him at [lighthouse36@cox.net](mailto:lighthouse36@cox.net).





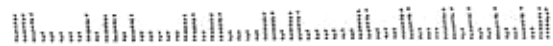
*John Hunt House*

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL

**Monday, April 23 (4th Monday) 7 p.m.**  
**Members Meeting *Public Invited***  
**Newman Church, Rumford**  
**Program: *History of Scituate Reservoir***

### MAY

**Wednesday, May 2, 7 p.m.**  
**Board Meeting *Members Welcome***  
**Hunt House Museum**  
**Hunts Mills Road, Rumford**

**Sunday, May 13, 1 - 4 p.m.**  
***Hunt House Museum Open***  
**Hunts Mills Road, Rumford**

**Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. - 12 noon**  
***Bus Tour of Historic East Providence***  
**Sponsors: Historical Society/Chamber of Commerce**

**Monday, May 21 (3rd Monday) 7 p.m.**  
**Members Meeting *Public Invited***  
**Newman Church, Rumford**  
**Program: *To Be Announced***