



John Hunt House

Gazette

Vol. XXI No. 2

October 2008

VIALL/FARNUM HOUSE TOUR

MEMBERS MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21 (3RD TUESDAY)

NEWSFLASH!!!! Once again, our monthly meeting date is turned on it's ear. This month we meet on **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21st**. This meeting is another field trip. This time to Riverside and the Viall/Farnum house at 787 Willett Avenue. The tour begins at 6:30 p.m. The members meeting will begin at 7:30 at the VFW Post #10 across the street. You may visit with friends at the Post anytime after 7pm.

Homeowners, Susan Farnum Nichols and David Nichols (Susan was raised in the house) will present a program about the restoration. Members are invited back to the house after the members meeting if they wish to revisit the space.

The oldest portion of the Viall House was built c.1725 on property which John Viall purchased from Thomas Willett in 1689. This is of post and beam construction and additions were made in 1825, 1875, 1910, and 1953. The Viall family owned the house for 175 years. The Farnum family bought it in 1939. Recently, Susan and David moved back to her childhood home and began an extensive restoration of the house, uncovering and solving a few mysteries. Please take advantage of this opportunity to explore one of East Providence's early colonial homes. Sturdy shoes are a good idea if you plan to visit the cellar.

Any members needing to be dropped off at the Viall House may use the driveway next to the front door but **MUST** then park in the VFW Post #10 lot across the street.

FOOTSTEPS AROUND TURNER RESERVOIR

sponsored by:

**The Ten Mile River Watershed Council,
East Providence Conservation Commission,
East Providence/Seekonk Rotary
And East Providence Historical Society**

Join us on Monday, October 13, 2008 for a guided walk around the Turner Reservoir Trail Loop. The tour will begin on Pleasant Street and pass by the location of the soon to be built fish ladders. We will see Bridgham Farm hay fields and hear about the Ten Mile River Blueway. Once on Newman Avenue, we will hear about Central Village.

Our walk will continue by bus to the second segment of the trail from Arcade Avenue to the high school. The walk ends at Hunts Mills with the Hunt House Museum open for tours, the Pump House open for viewing, and a free kayak demonstration. Refreshments will be provided by the East Providence/Seekonk Rotary Club. To help us in planning, call or e-mail KTGgroup@aol.com or Keith , 401-474-3813.



The Gazette

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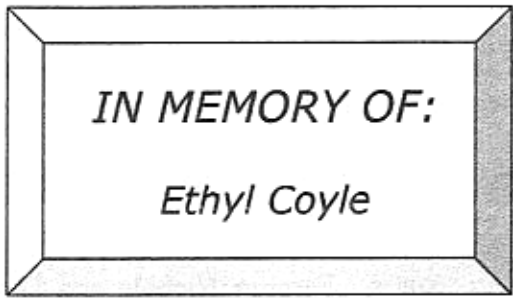
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| | |
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The Hunt House Museum, Hunts Mills Road, Rumford, will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, October 11, 12 and 13. Admission Free
Heritage Gardens Project, Sunday, October 12, 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, October 14 and 29, 4 to 7 p.m.



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**

THANK YOU'S IN ORDER FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE SEPTEMBER 29 EVENTS:

TO: Wendy Edwards and Jerry Mishak and friends for opening their stunning renovation of Rumford Firehouse #3. And thank you to **Edna Anness, George Kent and George Page** (retired firemen who served there) for wonderful stories about life there.

TO: Our friends at the Rumford Center, especially project manager **John McMahon** who proudly showed off the finished apartments (7-15 are rented as of this month) and commercial areas.

TO: Edna Anness and the Board for helping with the details of **Ginny Berwick's** 42 years of involvement with the East Providence Historical society.

Membership Form New Renewal /Change

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Amount Enclosed:

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Weekend, October 11, 12, 13

'Footsteps In History'

Hunt House Museum open 1 - 4 p.m. each day.

Details in the September Gazette

Tuesday, October 21 (3rd TUESDAY)

Farnum House, Riverside. 6:30 p.m. (visit)

Members Meeting 7:30 p.m.

VFW Post 10, Riverside.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 5, 7 p.m.

Board Meeting *Members Welcome*

Hunt House Museum

Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

Monday November 24 (4th Monday) 7 p.m.

Members Meeting *Guests Welcome*

Newman Church, Newman Ave, Rumford

PROGRAM: Film "*New England Portrait: The Rumford Baking Powder Co.: Past, Present and Future*". Details in November Gazette.

Dear Members of the East Providence Historical Society,

On Monday, September 29th, I was honored for my 42 years of service to the East Providence Historical Society. Edna Anness pinned a corsage on me telling me... and I was shocked at the news. Kris Rose announced it to the members of the society and guests gathered for a pot luck dinner.

I thanked members and some of my family, of course Earl. (What would I do without him!)

*Special thanks to Edna Anness, Kris Rose and Nancy Moore. In loving friendship,
Ginny. (Virginia Berwick)*

P.S: Naming the "Keeping Room" for me is extra.

∞P.S: A joke with our families (Berwick and Anness): If you don't know where your mother is, she's probably at the Hunt House."

GIFTS TO THE MUSEUM

Jesse Allbright: Glossy photo of Masonic Temple; booklet- "Commemoration of 250th Anniversary of Founding of Newman Church, 1893"; three photos: Hunt's Mills dancehall, office of the water works, carousel; record of the Rhode Island excursion to Gettysburg Oct. 11-16, 1886; souvenir edition of "The Trigger-1918"

Lowell Anness: Two sets of antique fireplace utensils.

Lisa Hunt: DVD on the Hunt family,

Diane Ide: "Memoirs of George Ide, 1815"

Patsy Sanford: Wooden Rumford shipping box; books on Calaphos; manual of dyeing; three Rumford cookbooks; black leather-bound sales book; 8-oz. can baking powder; 1-lb. baking powder can; booklet of "90 Rumford Recipes"

Irwin Zonis: Nine registered patents pertaining to Rumford Baking Powder Co.; four photos of interior of Rumford manufacturing process, "History of Baking Powder, the Story of Rumford"; copy of "American Chemical History"; correspondence from Brown Univ., Wellesley College and the NY chapter of the American Chemical Society; three testimonials about the founders and Count Rumford presented upon the closing of the Rumford Chemical Works, 1976 and several news articles.

Thank you for your generosity

MUSEUM CURATOR

Edna Anness

Anne Souza, a senior at East Providence High School has started her twenty hour Senior Project by volunteering at the Museum doing accessioning.



East • Providence • Historical • Society
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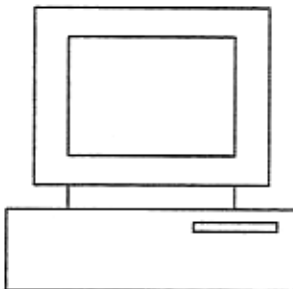
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Historical Marker Program

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**

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