



The East Providence Historical Society

Gazette

June 2023

Volume XXXV No. 7

June

Sunday, June 11

1:00 - 3:30 pm

Hunt House Museum
open

EPHS Art Exhibit

1:30 pm

Hikes at Hunts

Meet at the Gazebo

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Family Games

65 Hunt's Mills Road,
Rumford, RI

Monday, June 12

6:30 pm

The 90th Anniversary of
the CCC & Its Work in RI

By Marty Podskoch

Weaver Library

41 Grove Ave,

East Providence, RI

02914

July

Sunday, July 9

1:00 - 3:30 pm

Hunt House Museum
open

CONTACT US AT:

East Providence
Historical Society

P.O. Box 4774

East Providence, RI

02916-4774

Tel. (401) 473-0677

Email: info@ephist.org

Web Site: ephist.org

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

President's Letter

by Cheryl Faria and Jeff Faria, Co-Presidents

Welcome to the start of Summer!

Thank you to our Long-Time Volunteers

We want to pay tribute to four wonderful volunteers who have given of themselves tirelessly for over a decade each. They have each decided that now is the time to pass the torch to new volunteers and we thank them for their efforts.

Reinhard Wohlgemuth has been the print/layout editor of the Gazette for the past 14 years. He has done a fabulous job of making the Gazette easy and pleasing to read with timely articles and photos. As of June 1st, this role will be played by Eric Underhill. Thank you Reinhard and Eric!



Reinhard retired and is ready to hit the trail



Dotty, Pat, and Miriam (left to right) are ready for a change also

played by Maggie Dooley. Thank you Dotty and Maggie!

Pat Henry has been our Corresponding Secretary for over 10 years. She collects the mail, sends get-well, sympathy and/or other appropriate communications and attends all meetings and functions of the Society. Her role will now be handled by Sandi Barber. Thank you Pat and Sandi!

Miriam Kenney has been Membership Chair for over 10 years. She maintains and updates the membership lists, prints labels and handles mailing of the Gazette and sending out welcome packages to new members. This role will now be taken over by Carole DiFabio. Thank you Miriam and Carole!

Dotty Thornley has been our Treasurer for over 10 years. Among other things, she makes deposits, pays bills, keeps the financial books on a current basis and makes monthly reports to the Board of Directors. Her role will now be

The Gazette

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P.O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774
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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*

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Paul T. Barnum *Buildings*
 Deborah Ormerod *Curator*
 Open *Education*
 Cheryl Faria *Finance*
 Jeffrey Faria *Grounds*
 Sandra Turgeon *Marker Program*
 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*

The India Point Railroad Bridge is no more!



Through the efforts of Council President Rodericks and our Federal elected officials, the last half of the swing bridge connecting Providence to East Providence over the Seekonk River was barged away in April to the scrap metal heap on Allen's Avenue. The original bridge was a covered wooden bridge and this iron version was abandoned in 1974.

The postcard view on top shows the open swing bridge followed by the 2004 snapshot showing the remaining sections after the removal of the swing bridge. The current view was taken from the same location.



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

Presidents' Letter

From page 1

John Hunt House Museum

We had a wonderful Open House on Sunday, May 14th. It was a beautiful day and we had plants and seedlings to give away to Moms and others from the community. We had over 300 visitors to the property. We had tours of the museum guided by our wonderful team of docents. Our researchers Sandra Turgeon and Tom Warzeka, again used Ancestry, Family Search and Find a Grave in the Education/Research Center to help visitors with genealogical research. Ernie Germani led the monthly hike of the ground and Rickard Smith of HomeSmart Professional Real Estate sponsored a 'Coffee and Hot Chocolate Bar' with cookies in the Gazebo.



Many people came to see the artwork done by students in the East Providence High School Art Department. The theme of the display, by students of teacher Jade Sisti, is 'Historical Architectural Landscapes and the Wildlife that Surrounds Them.' These beautiful art pieces will again be featured in our June 11 Open House.

A "must see" showing by our EP art students with a wonderful community response in May for their work.

Slate of Candidates for June Election

- Co-Presidents: Cheryl Faria/ Jeff Faria
- 1st Vice President: Deborah Ormerod
- Corresponding Secretary: Sandi Barber
- Recording Secretary: Eric Underhill
- Treasurer: Margaret Dooley

Seedling Give-Away to the Community Gardeners

On Saturday, May 13, we gave out some of the 5,000+ seedlings that have been grown by URI and other gardeners all season in the Garden Center, below the Research and Education Center.

The 90th Anniversary of the CCC & Its Work in RI

By Marty Podskoch



On June 12 at 6:30pm, the East Providence Historical Society and the Weaver Library will co-host

author and historian Marty Podskoch who will give a Power Point presentation on the 90th Anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps and work in RI.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) began on March 31, 1933 under President Roosevelt's "New Deal" to relieve the poverty and unemployment of the Depression. CCC camps were set up in a few Rhode Island towns, state parks, and forests. Workers built trails, roads, campsites, and dams, stocked fish, built and maintained fire tower observer's cabins and telephone lines, fought fires, and planted millions of trees. The CCC disbanded in 1942 due to the need for men in WW II.

In Rhode Island seven CCC camps were established: Westerly/Burlingame in Charlestown, Greene/Mt. Vernon in Foster, Hope Valley/Arcadia in Richmond, Putnam/ Washington State Park in Glocester, Kent/Nooseneck in West Greenwich, Escoheag/Beach Pond in Exeter, and Woonsocket/Primrose in North Smithfield.



During the summer of 1935 the Woonsocket/Primrose camp enrollees lived in Army tents in in North Smithfield, RI. These enrollees are waiting in the chow line with their mess kits for supper.

Lorenzo Harry Frisiello & K Duxbury Collection

Marty Podskoch is presently gathering information on the CCC camps in VT and MA for a future book. Podskoch is keenly interested in meeting individuals who may have CCC stories and photos to contribute to his next book. Those that have information should contact him at 860-267-2442 or podskoch@comcast.net

Editor's note: As members may recall, the HS was a sponsor for the Veterans Memorial Expressway signs re-dedication project. These signs were restored at the bridges in 2021 and the wealth of information gathered by the project spawned this book which Susan Cady has published privately. Please note: there are NO copies for sale and the only books available for viewing are at the places listed in Susan's article. Please visit open houses to view the copy at Hunt House.



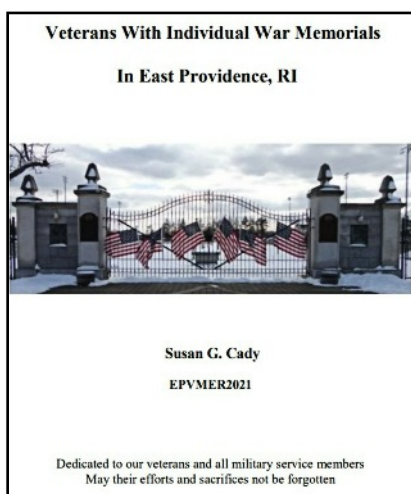
Learn More About EP Veterans Who Have War Memorials

contributed by Susan Cady

Have you ever stood before any war memorial, read the plaque, and wanted to know more about the life of the veteran honored?

Now available, a new book entitled “Veterans With Individual War Memorials in E. Providence, RI” provides more details. It was written by some of the veterans’ relatives and the EPVMER Committee to document these veterans’ lives so their military efforts are not forgotten.

Susan Cady compiled many facts from original documents, newspaper articles found in scrapbooks, expressway bridge nomination letters, web sites, and family military documents. This book provides a glimpse of the lives of veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice to our country. Also gives photos, the location, and details about the war monument’s dedication ceremony.



Available now as an in library, educational reference, this collection of biographies is available at the Weaver Memorial Library (in the vertical files currently housed on the shelves with the RI Collection), and at the Riverside Library (in the Reference Collection), or ask at either library’s service desk for help to locate this 120 page book. Also found in Adams Library at Rhode Island College (RI Collection in Special Collections) and at the EP Historical Society’s Education Center. Copies exist

in the libraries at East Providence High School, Martin Middle School, and in the Alumni Office at Saint Raphael Academy in Pawtucket, for their students to read as many of our high school students and junior high school graduates served in these wars.

Details about the 76 EP High School war heroes and the others named on the “4 Wars Memorial” in the EP City Hall Plaza are posted on the EP Military Service Honor Roll. This can be found

on paper at the EP Historical Society’s Education Center and on the EPVMER website, <https://sites.google.com/view/epvmer2021> Also view here the stand alone tributes and presentations about the 2021 re-dedication ceremony of the EPVME memorial bridges and the naming of the EP Veterans Memorial Expressway for veterans of all wars.

The EP Military Service Honor Roll also contains information about many of our EP veterans who returned home from a war alive and several names of those currently serving our country actively or in the reserves.

Thank you for remembering and honoring our war veterans and military members.

Thank you, veterans and military members, for your service.

Pomham Tours

The Pomham Rocks Lighthouse crew is ready to take you to the island! The 26 foot launch, Lady Pomham II, leaves Edgewood Yacht Club in Cranston for the 15 minute ride across the Bay. The Lighthouse has been fully restored with wonderful views from the Lantern Room. View the Fresnel lens which has been returned to its home after many years at the Custom House Museum in Newburyport.

*Tours are available for June 5-26 , 9:30-11:30 am

*Adults (18 up) \$50 / Children \$25/ Pomham members \$35

BOOKING ON LINE: Visit Pomham Lighthouse Boat Tours or <https://pomhamrockslighthouse.org>



The Enchanted Cottage



This little cottage doesn't have a "For Sale" sign on it but some of you may know where it is. Thanks to Jeff and Jack for their inspirational work!

An Invitation from the Sowam's Heritage Area Group

June 10th at 10 am
Rain Date - June 17th at 10am

A visit to Margaret's Cave where the Massasoit Ousamequin invited Roger Williams to shelter in the winter of 1636. The Cave is a 15 min walk on level ground from the parking area in North Warren. Keith Morton will lead the 90-minute tour.

The tour is limited to 15 people on a first-come basis. If interested email drweed@cox.net to register and get directions.

This is a FREE tour!



Strawberry Moon Thanksgiving

The presence of tribal peoples at Hunt's Mills goes back over 1000 years. Come and share in this celebration!

STRAWBERRY MOON THANKSGIVING

Please join us



The Major's Advisory Council on
Indigenous Affairs

Saturday, June 17th, 2023

12:00 to 5:00 PM

HUNT'S MILLS

Hunts Mill Road, Rumford, RI

POT LUCK

Please Bring a Dish to Share

BRING A LAWN CHAIR

**Strawberry Ceremony, Dancing,
Games, Food, Fun**

See you there!!!

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+

Angel Cabral	Dotty Thornley
Cheryl and Jeff Faria	James N. Viara
Laurie and Bill McWeeney	Lois Williams
Barbara Rix	

Crescent Park: \$500-\$999

Jacqueline and Lee Ashcraft	Woods Heating Service
Nancy and Dan Moore	

Vanity Fair Park: \$200-\$499

Nancy Allen	Margaret Dooley
Earl Berwick	Virginia Neves Gonsalves
Richard R. Bushnell and Paula Perkins	Darryl Hardern
David Czerwonka	Elizabeth Ingraham
Carole DiFabio and William Litchman	Pat Paulson McGrail
	Jack and Kathy Richer
	Mary and Steve Rosa

Boyden Heights Park: \$100-\$199

Gordon R. and Wendy L. Wood-Hubbard	Pam and Paul Goulet
Barbara Barnes and Beverly Pettine	Frederick F. Harrop
James R. Boyd	Miriam Kenney
Caroline D. Chick	Kathryn McGovern
Romeo DaSilva	Patricia McGrail
William Francis	Tracey and Todd Moline
Friends of Katherine Kazarian	Michael and Norma Reynolds
	Ed and Paula Serowick

Friends: \$25-\$99

American Ring Company	Ruth McCarthy
Helen Archibald	Ryan McCauley
Sandra Barber	DeDe Moubayed
Peter G. and Sandra M. Barilla	Deb Ormerod
James Boyd	Jayne Poland
Ivan and Malinda Colon	Mark Saunders
Jane Dennison	Jack and Kathi Savage
Rebecca Ellis	Candy Seel
Gil Fletcher	Betty Stoner
Gilmore's Flower Shop	Anthony Valerio
Michele H. Kazarian	Jean and Gary Zunda

Thank You!!

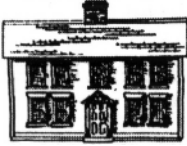
If there are any errors or omissions in this list, please let Cheryl Faria know so we can correct it for the next issue of The Gazette.

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

Gardening Tips

By Jeff Faria, Master Gardener

- Once spring flowering shrub blooms are spent, it usually is the best to prune them.
 - Allow tulips, iris, and other spring bulbs the time to allow their long leaves to energize the bulbs for next season. Do not cut them back or snap them out too early.
 - Add annuals to your perennial gardens to provide color all season long.
 - In your vegetable garden, you can thin carrots and many leafy greens to about 2 inches apart. These young seedlings are edible and delicious. Try them in different culinary dishes!
 - The male flowers of pumpkin and squash plants make great stuffed, fried blossoms! They are best to pick early in the morning and remove the stamen from the center of the flower! Search many recipes!!
 - The male flower emerges earlier than the female by a week or so. The female flower has a small bulb at the base which will become fertilized when a pollinator travels from the male to the female. Leave the females on for fruiting/pollination! Stuffed squash flowers are an early summer delight!
- I stuff them and fry/sauté them for about one to two minutes on each side, depending on the density of the stuffing mix!!



John Hunt House


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Please support them

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Society.



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