



John Hunt House

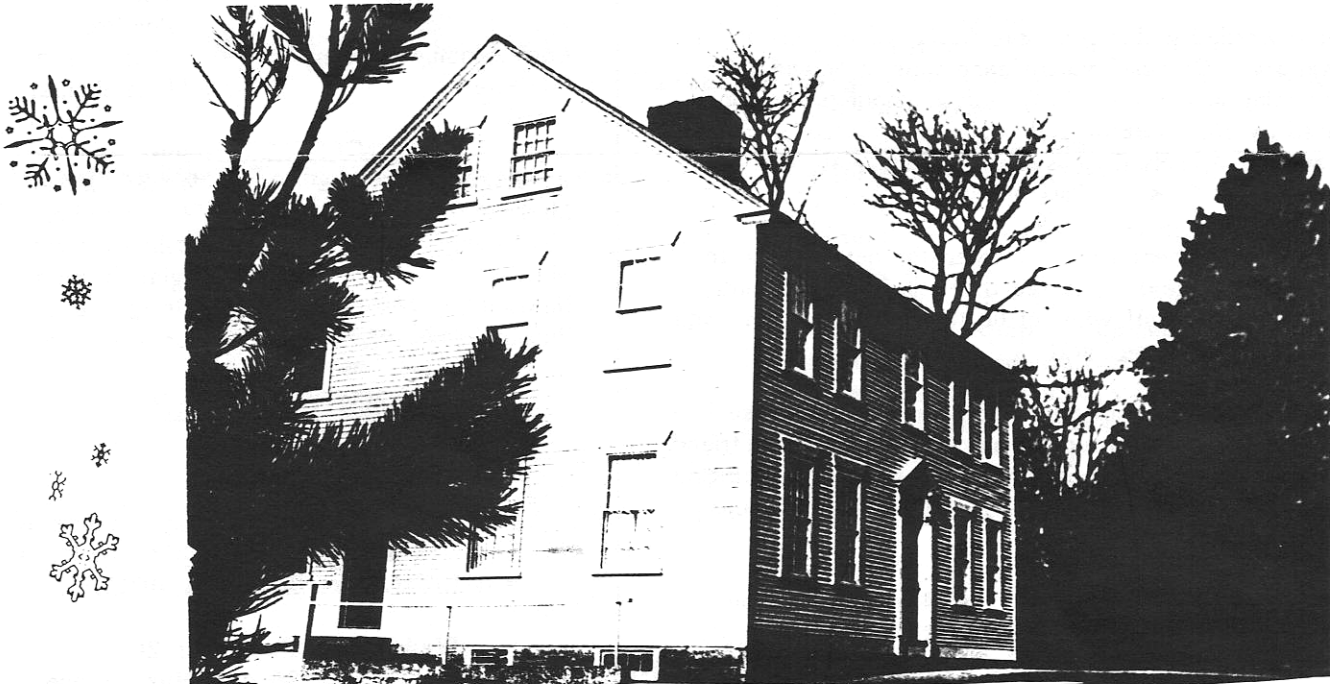
OLD NEWS

EAST • PROVIDENCE • HISTORICAL • SOCIETY • NEWSLETTER

VOL. VI NO. 5

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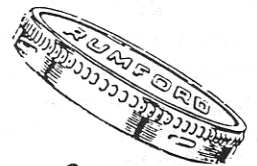
Come On Over To Our House . .



Christmas at the Hunt House

Sunday, December 5, from 10 a.m to 5 p.m.

Sales of • Crafts • Foods
• Wreaths & Greens • Plants



*A Special Sale of
Rumford Chemical Co.*

Souvenirs:

*Replicas of the Century Old
"Receipts" Cookbooks*

*and 1 pound Baking Powder Cans
.....Make Great Gifts!*

Holiday Cafe

From 11:00 to 3:00

*Serving Home Made Soups
Breads Beverages and Dessert*



President's Letter

Nancy Moore

Folks, this is getting too easy ! For three newsletters now, I've had to report on record attendance and generally smooth sailing overall. I know you're getting tired of all this great news, but **Ed Serowik** and **Jim Wilson** stole the show in November at the Riverside Congregational Church. We started with a set up of 50 chairs and finally stopped at 110, with many people standing in the back ! When asked how many had never attended a Historical Society meeting before. More than half raised their hand. Lots of potential new members there !

This smashing success can be directly attributed to the fine publicity work of **Florence and George Adams** and the printing of extra newsletters for distribution throughout Riverside. That work coupled with our city's great affection for the Carousel and Crescent Park, brought in the crowd.

The audience was rewarded with a priceless display of the history of the area by **Ed Serowik**, Carousel maintenance supervisor and a 40 year veteran of working at Crescent Park, with a 1 hour programmed slide show prepared by **Jim Wilson**, audiovisual coordinator at East Providence High School.. A lively discussion followed, with Ed answering questions about Crescent Park history.

Many thanks to Society members who welcomed the newcomers...to **Ruth Pierce** and **Louise Healy** who fed them all deliciously...and to the Riverside Congregational staff who set up the auditorium and made us feel most welcome. We'll come back!

We all look forward to the Pot-Luck Supper on January 24. Please feel free to introduce someone to our group. It's a good time to bring a friend. Please let the telephone committee know how many you will be bringing, as we may need to do a much larger set-up if the attendance keeps climbing.

EXTRA: The Board has voted to enter the Hunt House Restoration Crew in the competition for the 1994 State Historic Preservation Awards. The entries will be in the categories of Preservation and Stewardship. We are obviously very proud of our crew and think that the entire state should be proud also. The awards will be presented on April 9 at the RI Preservation Conference in Newport. Dust off those coveralls, crew!

UPDATE, ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE: **Don Brothers** reports that the time frame for reconstruction has been pushed up to 1997. Improvements include, as of now, a clearer marking of the Spring, gas lighting and new stone walls for Philipsdale along with signs indicating the historic district, a pedestrian walkway through the secondary arch of the railroad bridge, and new sidewalks and trees with very little widening or straightening of the roadway.

East Providence Public Library
and the
East Providence Historical Society
present
**RIVERSIDE, "the Coney Island of the East"
...its Historic Sites.**
Slide and lecture presentation
Tuesday, December 14 7:30 p.m.
Weaver Memorial Library
41 Grove Avenue, East Providence
telephone: 434-2453

OLDE NEWS

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Editor.....George Adams
EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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| Museum | Virginia Berwick |
| Newsletter | George Adams |
| Publicity | Florence Adams |

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 5
CHRISTMAS at the HUNT HOUSE

Wednesday, December 20
Christmas Party 7:30 p.m. Hunt House

JANUARY

Monday, January 12
Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. Hunt House

Wednesday, January 20
Potluck Supper
Newman Congregational Church

OLDE NEWS

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1062 Willett Ave., East Providence

MUSEUM UPDATE

Edna Anness

Museum Curator

When you visit the Hunt House and the Christmas program, look for the introductory **Rumford Company** display in the room behind the parlor.....and dont forget to go upstairs. The *west* bedroom will be furnished and decorated for Christmas and the *east* room will show you the restoration work in progress. You thereby have the before and after picture, side by side. Remember that the Hunt House was used for mill housing between 1873, when Rumford Co. bought the property ,until1928, when it was bought by the town. Usually the engineers, who looked after the water works, and their families occupied the Hunt House and the Caleb Williams House next door.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Madeline Vincent

Membership Chairman

We welcome the following new members to the Society:

David & Terry Drennan
Caroline Hurdis
Gwen Johnston
Rev. Jude McGeough
Elwood & Hope Steadman
Clare Sullivan
Robert & Jean Thomas
Martha Fiske
Dorothy Spencer
William & Marguerite White

Membership applications are available at all functions, in the newsletter and by request.

MUSEUM GIFTS

Virginia Berwick

MuseumChairman

The **Rumford Project** is progressing very nicely, thanks to **Edna Anness** and the Rumford Project Committee. The commemorative *RUMFORD BAKING POWDER* cans have arrived and will be for sale at "Christmas at the Hunt House", as well as a facsimile edition of the original cookbook and some other antique Rumford items which were donated by **Fales Pierce**.

MUSEUM GIFTS RECEIVED in NOVEMBER

Parsons Richmond - 14kt gold class ring from Riverside Grammar School, 1925

Barbara Adams - 1938 music recital program from Hetty Butler's Piano School

Clare Sullivan- large Chinese silk fan

George Rodericks (of Midlothian,VA)- 2 copies of BLUE Star frpm Central Junior High School, 1931 and 32. The 1932 cover is a picturs of Hunt's Mills

Marjorie Welt - 3 commemorative booklets from Haven Church

St. Martha's Church - 1981 Silver Anniversray program with Church history.

Virginia Berwick - bottle cap from Kent Farm Dairy

Anna Frances Apap - Program from the cornerstone laying of East Providence High School. 1950

Gladys Panzarella - child's blackboard easel

Claude and Donna Duckworth - a second display case from the old Handy Shop

Frances Bradley - commemorative book of American High School bands which includes East Providence High School.

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: \$10 per year, individual or \$15 per year, family.

Please make your check payable to **East Providence Historical Society**, and mail with coupon below to:

Madeline Vincent, membership
45 Priscilla Av.
Rumford, RI 02916

EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____ @ 10.00 individual, 15.00 family

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East Providence Historical Society
P.O. Box 4774
East Providence, RI 02916



From Our House to Your House

Best Wishes
for the

Joy
&

Good Cheer
of the Holiday Season

