



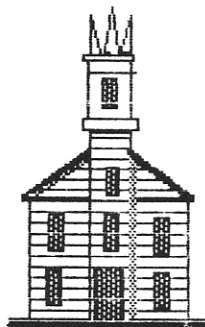
OLDE NEWS

EAST ■ PROVIDENCE ■ HISTORICAL ■ SOCIETY
■ NEWSLETTER ■

THE FUTURE OF OUR HISTORY

Greetings to all East Providence Historical Society members. I hope this month's newsletter finds everyone in good health and spirits. Winter is not leaving without a fight this year, so please be careful when confronting the elements. Attempting to shovel heavy snow can cause severe health problems. It would be wise in these cases to have some neighborhood youths

MEETING

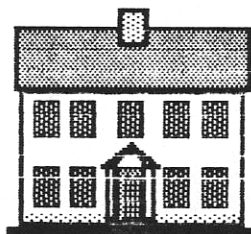


THE NEXT MEETING
OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
will be held March 22, 1993
from 7:15 pm
at Newman Congregational
Church.

shovel for you. When it comes to your health, it is better to be safe than sorry. Speaking of today's youth, (you were probably wondering when I was going to get to the historically related diatribe for this month), this is a segment that should concern us. No, I am not talking about drugs, crime, or anything like that. I am talking about history.

In my opinion our historical society has two major goals. The first is to save and preserve historical knowledge and sites and artifacts. The second goal is to share the information and the items with who ever is interested in them. In both these undertakings the EPHS has been a success. From the restoration of the Hunt House to the varied collection of the museum, to the vigilant stands we have taken to save historic properties we have done an excellent job.

I wonder if there should be a third goal. That goal is the preservation of the East Providence His-



OLDE NEWS

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OFFICERS

President Scott Booth
First Vice-President Nancy Moore
Second Vice-President "Bud" Plummer
Secretary Kris Rose
Corresponding Secretary Lura Sellow
Treasurer Rose Marie Sirenski

*The
East Providence
Historical Society meets every
month on the fourth Monday
except for holidays and the
months of July and August.*

*Meetings are free to all and
all are welcome.*

torical Society. I do not mean that there is anything wrong currently as we have a very strong group of people. What worries me is our future, years down the road. Ten, twenty, or thirty years from now will today's youth be interested in history as we are now. This question leads to much speculation. Maybe these fears are unfounded. Maybe not. Should we make it a goal to help children understand the importance of historical preservation. How would we go about doing this? In some ways we already are. Edna's slide shows are often for children's groups. Other ideas include arranging with the School Dept. to have field trips to see the Hunt House. How about going into the classrooms with video and/or slide shows. How about educational booklets or coloring books, (depending on the age level), published by us. How about organizing contests for children, through art classes, awarding prizes for the best drawings of old houses. I'm sure

City Hall would be open to many of these ideas. We could try to involve the East Providence Post, the Evening Times, and even East Providence Cable Company in projects aimed to get children interested in the history that is all around them.

Do you have any ideas on this topic? Let us know what you think.

I can think of nothing more sad than if all the hard work done by the East Providence Historical Society becomes, years from now, just a footnote in history.

Michael Charves

**NEXT
BOARD
MEETING**

**APRIL 14
HUNT HOUSE**

MUSEUM

The "Olde Businesses of East Providence" display in the museum has been taken down and put back into file boxes and on shelves. It was enjoyed by many who invited the Hunt House and they were surprised to find out how many dairies there were in East Providence.

The next display will be about the police, fire and district nurses of East Providence and we will welcome anything relating to them, either as a gift or a loan.

We plan to have another Donors Appreciation Tea on May 2, 1993.

On Monday the 8th, a group met with Kevin Plunkett to share ideas and information about the Rumford Chemical Works. Kevin is writing a book about RCW and we plan to have a display of Rumford Chemical Works articles in May 1994 to coincide with the publishing of his book. We are all excited about the project and hope people will give or

loan articles for the display and give us any information they have.

The museum will be moving out of the rooms now occupied to another space while those rooms are being restored.

Donations since our last newsletter: Lew Allen: a large saw and a magazine section of the Prov. Journal about the 1938 Hurricane. Alice Benson: two demits from Roger Williams Grange.

Our travelling slide, (not side), show by Edna Anness went to the Girl Scout House in Riverside in February and will be going to the Rumford Grange on March 17th.

We thank Edna for the many hours she puts in at the Hunt House, at home, on the phone, and the trips to Copy Print, besides her babysitting for her grandchildren.

**Virginia Berwick
Museum Comm. Chair**

PRESERVATION

Perhaps some members remember that the Historical Society was invited by the Planning Board to help develop educational historical signs for the bike path in East Providence. (Don Brothers, Armando Ladeira, and Lura Sellew had volunteered to join Nancy Moore on a committee to explore this project.) In January, the society was contacted by the societies of Barrington, Warren, and Bristol with the idea of making signs along the bike path uniform. And, in February, federal monies in the form of a Transportation Enhancement Grant Program became available for projects such as these. Nancy Moore and Don Brothers met with representatives from the four communities and mapped out a grant proposal. In brief, the sites in East Providence are:

Fort Kill / Panorama of Providence and the harbor

Kettle Point / Watchemoket Cove

Squantum Woods

Ponham Rocks / lighthouse
Riverside Square
Bullocks Cove / Carousel

After much research into cost and type of design, the group decided upon signs similar to the new signs at Salty Brine State Beach. At today's incredible prices, the cost per sign is \$10,000.00. Yes, that's correct. With sixteen miles of bike path and sixteen sites, the grant translates into a request for \$160,000.00! We intend to lower the cost somewhat by doing all research and design within the societies. Fortunately, if the grant is given, the entire cost of the project will be covered, with no cost to any community, other than gifts private individuals or groups might care to give. There is great competition for this federal money and all projects are important to some group. Let's hope this proposal is in the winning column.

Nancy Moore

PROGRAMS

The Winner's Choice Raffle Committee still needs a few more prizes for the raffle being held after the Pasta Dinner on March 27. Anyone donating raffle prizes can either bring them to the March 22nd meeting or can call Billie Arden at 438-4904 or Louise Healy at 438-1389 after 6pm for pick up.

Those of us who attended the February 22nd Pot Luck Supper meeting enjoyed a variety of delicious main meal dishes, salads, and desserts. We also enjoyed a lot of surprises and laughs during the "Brown Bag Auction". Sixty dollars was raised for the general fund that night. A big thank you to all the cooks, bakers and bidders.

Louise Healy

**Have you bought your
PASTA DINNER
tickets yet?**

NEW MEMBERS!!!

It is with great excitement that we announce some new additions to the East Providence Historical Society family. Taylor Booth made her debut Tuesday night, March 9th. She weighed in at 8 lbs 1oz. Proud parents Scott and Deb Booth plan to get her working on society matters as soon as possible. Edna and Lowel also are to be congratulated on their new grandson.

Join the Historical
Society today! Send this
coupon (with money) to
E.P.H.S.
P.O.Box 4774
East Providence, RI
02916

NAME (S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Single (\$10) Family (\$15)

EVENTS

The **Statewide Historic Preservation Conference** will take place on **April 3** on a Saturday. The location is Bristol, Rhode Island. The conference is jointly sponsored by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, the Rhode Island Alliance of Historic District Commissions, the League of Rhode Island Historical Societies, the Roger Williams University Historic Preservation Center, and the Town of Bristol. The Conference will offer a full day of talks, panel discussions, and workshops designed to be of interest to owners of historic properties, historic district commissioners, and officers, boards, members and staff of preservation and historical societies. In order to ensure that sufficient seating is available, all conference participants are required to register in advance. Conference brochures are available by mail. To receive a brochure,

please send your name, address, daytime phone number, and the name of the historical society to which you belong to the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 150 Benefit Street, Providence, RI 02903 or call 277-2678.

Environmental Plant Services and Consulting

If you are interested in advice or seminars concerning planting and gardening please call 334-0106 or write to PO Box 7434, Cumberland, RI 02864

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED FOR**

**PASTA
DINNER**

**CALL
BILL SIMPSON
438-0623**

REMEMBER THE PASTA DINNER

It's coming on March 27th
At Newman Church at 6:00

Tickets will be available at the Feb.22
Pot Luck Supper Meeting

Adults....\$6.00
Children....\$3.00

Deadline is March 12

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