

EAST • PROVIDENCE • HISTORICAL • SOCIETY



G A Z E T T E



John Hunt House

Vol. X No. 2

October 1998

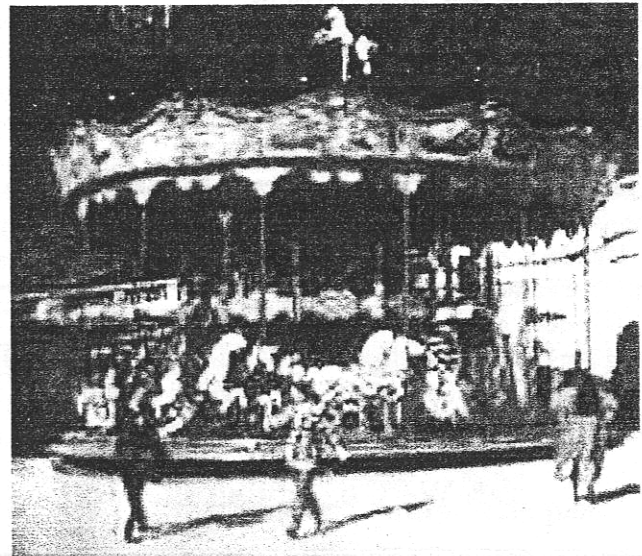


From the Attic

Edna Anness, Museum Curator

Meet **Raymond Johnson**. Thanks to Mr. Johnson the Museum has an hour by hour, day by day record of the demolition of the old **Kent Heights water tower** and the erection of the new tower. Fortunately for us Raymond lives across the street from the tower site. Every day, starting with the discussion of the demolition to the actual event, he saved all news articles concerning the demolition and then recorded photographically every step in the dismantling of the tower. This record is contained in a scrapbook of photographs which you see Mr. Johnson holding in the photo above.

His gift to the Museum includes a copy of the book along with the photo negatives and copies of all news articles between July 1996 and October 1997. This effort shows dedication and sincere interest in preserving the historic event for study in years to come. His efforts will be long appreciated. You may see his scrapbook and articles by visiting the Flint Room in the Hunt House Museum during visiting hours.



October Members' Meeting

"HISTORY OF AMUSEMENT PARKS"

October 26, 1998 7:30 PM

Riverside Congregational Church

Corner of Oak Ave. and Bullock's Point Ave.

Speaker: Prof. Don Wilmeth

Professor Wilmeth received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois and is a **Professor of Theatre and English at Brown University**, where he chaired the department for thirteen years. In case some of you wonder, amusement parks are theatre. He is currently **Dean of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre** and has written many articles and edited numerous journals on the American theatre. He teaches courses on the origin and forms of popular entertainment, which includes a unit on environmental forms, including American amusement and theme parks.

Former employees of Crescent Park are welcome to attend and reminisce.

Board Briefs

September marked the beginning of the 10th year of the society's newsletter, GAZETTE. We've had three editors: **George Field, George Adams**, and currently, **Doreen Bonney**.

The mailing committee has seen few changes: **Helen Smith**, whose dining room table is the work and coffee klatch site, **Fran Gross, Billie Arden, Florence Adams**, and the newest member, **Mona Breault**.

Our thanks to **Virginia Ripley** and **Evelyn Stetson** for their years of folding, sealing, stamping, etc.



The Telephone Committee was in need of some members and the following responded to the call: **Peggy Carter, Jean Henderson, Trudy Lema, Gloria Peterson, Martha Vaillaincourt, and Linda Young**. They along with **Florence Adams** will get the message to you regarding personal or society matters.

We appreciate the hours of service provided by **Virginia Ripley, Louise Healy, Lois Driscoll** and **Marian Craven**.



We'll be calling.

The GAZETTE

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EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY
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 (401) 438-1750

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The
GAZETTE
 is printed at



3 Crescent View Avenue, Riverside

New Members

Warm Welcome to Our New Members

Gregory Bass
Kimberly Bass
Joyce Bucci
Christine Lilley
Jo Marchi
Harold and Dorothy Maciel
Edward and Elaine Serowik
Ethel Smith



ACCESSIONS - GIFTS

Helen Nelson - Placemats made by Alice Waddington.

Ellen Hill, Rumford Jr. Womens' Club - Club scrapbooks

Marilyn Brewer - Photos of Crescent Park and Hunt's Mills; two 1920's bathing suits; souvenir programs and invitations from E.P. High School 1913 and A.P. Hoyt 1913.

Mona Breault - Ivoroid nail file and button hook.

John Demerchant - Two news clippings and a map of the Sunderland Plat.

Dave Kelleher - Several old deeds of East Providence properties.

Clint Sellow - Four maps; Barrington's 200th Anniversary booklet; framed resolution on the death of Harold Flint; book on Swansea history; book "Cemeteries Visited"; scrapbook.

Les Haworth - Book "American Garden in the 18th Century".

Edwin Quigley - Large framed picture of the 1946 graduating class of Central Jr. High

Irving Chaffee Plough - Gold headed can presented to Erwin Chaffee, E. P. High School principal, by three classes at the turn of the century.

George Page - Framed Crescent Park pennant; framed carousel poster; two fruit pitters; corn seeder; earthenware jug; brass scale; copper kettle; claim box and sign from the Narragansett Race Track; apple picker; large framed picture of the Riverside Hotel.

John Agren - Two scrapbooks about the E.P. High School hockey teams in the 70's.

Helen Smith - Small picture of the Riverside Hotel.



Thank you.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

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, individual or \$15, family.

Please make check payable to

East Providence Historical Society

Mail with coupon below to:

Mona Breault

34 Josephine Avenue

Rumford, RI 02916

New Renewal

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name(s) _____

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MEMORIAL FUND



The Society's Memorial Fund was established in 1993 in memory of past members for "the betterment of the Society and with no specific purpose."

The Memorial Fund is a qualified endowment administered by the executive committee.

Members and friends wishing to contribute may make checks payable to the

East Providence Historical Society
and mail to the Society at:

Box 4774

East Providence, RI 02916

In memory of...

*A donation was made to the
Society's Memorial Fund*

in memory of

Clare Sullivan

who recently passed away.

Sadly Missed... Fondly Remembered

GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Ray Anderson, Chairman

The society has received from Searle and Searle Landscape Architects specific site improvement construction drawings and specifications for the front and side areas of the John Hunt House. **Lala Searle's** pending bill will be \$1100 with another \$1100 due when the rear building drawings are needed: at least a year away, by East Providence Parks Department estimates. A \$120 fee in the original estimate has been eliminated because the Parks Department will provide the labor and cost estimates. Under the cost estimate plans, the City will provide \$500 worth of loam and the society will purchase necessary plants, gravel, fieldstone and stone dust at an estimated cost of \$1500 to \$2000. This will complete the front and right side landscape plans as agreed in Phase 1 of the Parks Department plan.

Greg Gammell, Parks Department Superintendent, said that landscaping and re-seeding is slated to start next week. I will supervise material purchases and take slides of the project's progress.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Wednesday, October 14 - Lecture "Remembering Riverside"
by **Robert Hall**
Weaver Library, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 19 - Lecture and Slides, "The Ring of the Green"
by **Edna Anness**
Rumford Junior Women's Club Meeting
Myron Francis School, 7:30 p.m.

October Tuesdays and Thursdays - **JohnHunt House tours with East Providence 5th Graders**

Thursday, November 5 - Lecture and Slides, "The Growth of East Providence as Measured by It's Churches"
by **Edna Anness**
Weaver Library, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 5 - **East Providence Historic Properties Study Commission**
John Hunt House, 7:00 p.m.
Open to the Public



VISIT



The "Crescent Park Exhibition"

At the John Hunt House, Hunts Mills Rd., Rumford



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Events Calendar

OCTOBER

Monday, October 26, 7:30 p.m.
MEMBERS MEETING

Riverside Congregational Church
Corner Oak and Bullocks Point Aves.

Program: "HISTORY OF AMUSEMENT PARKS"
Lecture/Slides

Don Wilmeth, Ph.D., Brown University

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 4, 7:30 p.m.
BOARD MEETING

John Hunt House, Hunts Mills Rd.
Members Welcome



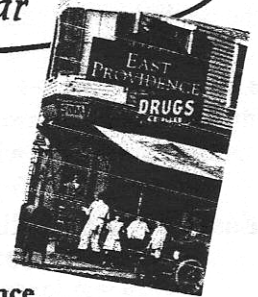
Monday, November 23, 7:30 p.m.
- MEMBERS MEETING

East Providence Senior Center
Pawtucket Ave - opposite Country Day Campus

Program: Crescent Park Slide Presentation
Edward Serowik, Park Historian

Start Your Christmas Shopping
Early This Year

The Book
"Images of America:
East Providence"
is a wonderful and inexpensive
way to remember friends or
relatives with roots in East Providence...



...and

The beautiful
colored poster of
George Boyden's
Crescent Park
would look great in
any room of the house.



Both items are easy to mail, and are available to
purchase during visiting hours at the Hunt House.