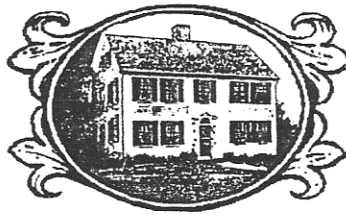


Jan - June  
Aug - Dec



John Hunt House

Vol. XI No. 5

January 2000

# Gazette

## POT LUCK SUPPER/BROWN BAG AUCTION/BUSINESS MEETING

Members Meeting  
Monday, January 24, 6:00 p.m.  
Newman Church, Rumford

Pot Luck Supper Night is one of the best attended affairs we have all year. And why not, considering the care and attention member chefs give to their creations. The telephone committee will call for main dishes, salads, desserts AND... "white elephant" items for the **Brown Bag Auction**. Just put a special something in a brown bag, any size, any disguise, and **Kris Rose**, auctioneer, will get top dollar, or cents, for it. Proceeds to go to the society's treasury. Business meeting to follow.

### From the Attic

by Edna Anness, Museum Curator

#### Memorable Local Residents of this Century

This month's article as predicted will be about those people in East Providence in the twentieth century who had an effect on our lives in one way or another, - not everyone's life, but at least names that will ring a bell in our memories. We cannot list everyone because we would need a volume instead of a newsletter, and it is hoped that no one will be offended if some names are left out. Space is limited.

Of course those people who affected everyone who grew up in "town" were our teachers, some of whom touched every child's life. We can think of **Mary Remington**, the itinerant music teacher - I can still see her doing a *hula* after her trip to *Hawaii*. And of course, the art teacher, **Miss Lewis**. How about **Miss Porter** at the high school and the indomitable **Amy Bowen**, principal in Rumford who *chased the gypsies from the Union School outhouse*. Then there was **Miss Pagny** in Kent Heights and **Rowena Bowen** and **Mary Dodge** in Riverside - institutions in themselves. How about the **Rowe sisters** in Rumford and **Emma Whitenacht** and **Agnes Hennessy** for whom schools were named. **Mr. Bates** who never missed a

reunion. Superintendents **Thompson, Oldham, Martin** and **Francis**, who molded our school system and are memorialized by school buildings names.

The next group who took care of most of us are the doctors such as **Dr. Bryan**, who died in the '50s, the **Stevens boys**, local boys and not related, **R. Thomas** and **Raymond E.**, the two **Drs. Platt** for whom one of our schools is named, **Drs. Fox, Nerone, Hanley** and **Joyce**. And **Drs. Hunt, Haskell** and **Moore**. (That's reaching far back).

The next group are those who filled our grocery baskets, before the super markets. How about the **Kronquist Brothers**, **Larry Oakland** and the **Singers**. And **Penniman's** and **Kents**.

The druggists who kept us going - **Coelho** and **Allen** and **Cox** and **Woods, Johnson** and **McGowan**.

Remember **Bessie Paul**, the librarian, and **Harriet Briggs** and **Caroline Hurdis** who steered us to the right book shelves, as well as **Anne Ide Fuller**. How about our famous judges, **G. Frederick Frost** and **Joseph Weisberger** and **Congressman Weygand**, who won an election for his honesty.

(continued on page 3)

## Board Briefs

We thank **Linda Young** for having served on the telephone committee last year. She leaves a vacancy we hope to fill soon. *Are you interested?*

**Les Haworth**, Preservation Committee Chairman, to meet with **Ray Anderson**, **Edna Anness**, **Dave Kelleher** and **Bob Tewksbury** on Thursday, January 13, 7:30 p.m. for a "brainstorming" session regarding the proposed reconstruction of the Grist Mill at Hunts Mills.

The *Gazette* welcomes "letters to the editor" and articles of historic interest, especially personal reminiscences. Deadline: first Friday of the month. Mail Attention **Doreen Bonney**, East Providence Historical Society, P.O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916

### The GAZETTE

is published monthly by the  
**EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY**  
 P.O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774  
 (401) 438-1750

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The  
**GAZETTE**  
 is printed at



3 Crescent View Avenue, Riverside



In memory of...

A donation was made to the Society's Memorial Fund

in memory of

**Philomena Bucci**

who recently passed away.

*Sadly Missed... Fondly Remembered*

## Grounds Committee

by *Ray Anderson, Chairman*

Donations to the *Memory Garden* have been recently received in memory of **Dennis Haworth** by **Les Haworth**, his son; **Lura Sellev** by the Home Garden Club of **Rumford**; **William J. MacDonald, MD** by **Estelle G. MacDonald**, his widow; **Charles E. Gross** by **Frances M. Gross**, his widow. *All contributions and memorials are greatly appreciated.*

Last month I wrote an article on **Crocker's Spa** and had a few positive comments. All of our City's history is not just dates and ownership. Our history includes the day-to-day happenings that change often dramatically over the course of years. "Crocker's Spa" was written as my remembrance of a time and place gone by. Right now I am interested in collecting your memories of *Six Corners*, the *six traffic lights*, *Barbara's Delicatessen*, *Six Corners Department Store*, *Liberty Furniture*, etc. etc. Tell me what you remember and I'll record it for history as we remember and lived it. Let's make the *Gazette* truly a members newsletter. Feel free to call me. Thanks. **Ray Anderson 438-2464.**

*Memorialize a Loved One  
 in the Hunt House  
 Cottage Rock Garden*

*Please make checks payable to  
 East Providence Historical Society  
 and mail to the society at*

*P. O. Box 4774  
 East Providence, RI 02916-4774  
 Attn: Ray Anderson*

*For additional information, call the  
 Society at (401) 438-1750*

*Your donations are greatly appreciated*

The Hunt House is closed during the months of January and February. We can be reached by leaving a message at 438-1750 or by calling Edna Anness, 434-3347 or Virginia Berwick, 434-0998.

## From the Attic by Edna Anness

(continued from page 1)

Remember **Burt Shurtleff**, a teacher, who won renown as an *author*? **John B. Carpenter** who sold *real estate*? Remember **Howie Bentley** and the **Army brothers** and the **Stringfellows** who won fame for *athletic ability*. Remember **Mrs. Conlon** and *dance classes*?

We like to avoid politics, but remember our early *mayors* **Marso** and **Lamb** and we cannot forget the **Earl Sandquist** episode. Then there were two *songwriters*, **Alfred Chaffee**, a lawyer, who won fame for his *Roger Williams song* and **Leroy Flint** who wrote "*Rhode Island*" in 1942 dedicated to the American Legion.

Then there are those who brought us *good times*: the **Looffs**, the **McCuskers**, the **Simmons** family and **George Boyden**. And there are the **Kents**, **Phillips**, **Vials**, **Bridghams**, **Blisses** and **Ellery Wilson** - people who served our City by *philanthropy* and *business interests*. And we cannot forget **Rose Larisa** and **Gail Durfee** who *saved the Carousel*. And **Faith Shedd Potter** who *saved the Walker House* for us.

I can hear voices now saying, "**BUT, BUT - you forgot????**" If you can think of more, send us a note and we will add on to the list in the near future.

### NEXT MONTH:

**The Growth of our School System Since 1900.**

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## Gifts to the Museum

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**George Chalko** - Architectural survey of his c. 1700 home, copies of rare photos of Hunts Mills.

**Edna Anness** - A ribbon from the Armington Congregational Society.

**Joe & Ruth McDougald** - Ads from Horsford and Rumford Company and Hunts Mills Dance Hall (correction of last month's listing).

**Gloria Meserve** (belated) - Collection of papers from the Alma Club.



**Applause! Applause!**

*Your generosity is greatly appreciated!*

## THE ORIGINAL "58"

If you believe that you are a descendant of the original settlers of **East Providence/Rehoboth/Seekonk** listed below, read on.

Allin, Ralph and John	Bliss, Thomas
Bowen, Richard	Browne, James
Bullock, Richard	Butterworth, Samuel
Carpenter, William	Cheesborough, William
Clarke, James	Clifton, Thomas
Cooke, John	Cooper, Thomas
Fuller, Robert	Gilman, Edward
Hitt, Thomas	Holbrook, John and Thomas
Homes, Obediah	Hunt, Peter and Ephraim
Howard	Kendricks, George
Ingram, Richard	Leonard
Laine, Job	
Martin, Abraham and Robert and Isaac	Matthews, John
Meggs, John	Miller, John
Morriss, Robert	Newman, Samuel
Palmer, Walter	Patteson, Edward
Payne, Stephen	Peck, Joseph
Peram, John	Pratt, Matthew
Reade, John	Roades, Zachary
Sabin, William	Seale, Edward
Sharpe, Robert	Shepherd, Ralph
Smith, Edward and Henry and William	Sutton, John
Titus, Robert	Torrey, Joseph
Walker, James	Widow Walker
Winchester, Alexander	Wright, Richard

The schoolmaster and pastor are unnamed.

On **February 20 - a Sunday** afternoon around **two p.m.**, join us at the **Hunt House** for coffee if you believe you are descended from the above named settlers. It is hoped that we could form a **sub-group of the Historical Society** to help us research our **genealogies** and add these to our embryonic collection already in the Flint Library at the Hunt House. People call all the time researching their families and we have so few genealogies that we are not of much help. Plus, you may find you have many more relatives than you ever realized.

You do not have to be a member of the Historical Society at this time. If the date or time are not convenient, call **Edna Anness** at 434-3347.



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

### JANUARY

Monday, January 24, 6:00 p.m.  
POT LUCK SUPPER/BROWN BAG AUCTION  
BUSINESS MEETING  
Newman Church, Rumford

Thursday, January 20, 7:30 p.m.  
*Building Committee Meeting*  
John Hunt House, Hunts Mills Rd., Rumford

### FEBRUARY

Wednesday, February 2, 7:30 p.m.  
Board Meeting (*members welcome*)  
John Hunt House, Hunts Mills Rd., Rumford

Sunday, February 20, 2:00 p.m.  
First meeting of descendants of  
The Original "58" Settlers  
John Hunt House, Hunts Mills Rd., Rumford

Monday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.  
Members Meeting  
Newman Church, Rumford  
(program to be announced)

The Christmas Party was held at Newman Church with about 35 people attending. No one had to cook, as the refreshments were bought at the **Handy Bake Shoppe** and were enjoyed by all.

**Alice Benson** played the piano and we all sang Christmas carols. **Paula and Ray Anderson, Betty and Bob Soderlund** looked over the gifts for the *Community Center* that were wrapped in quite different ways. Original, funny, etc.

**Pat Henry** won first prize for a chimney filled with cans, with Santa's boots sticking out. **Ginny Berwick** made a teepee out of a plastic bag and sticks with toilet paper underneath it.

**Gladys Panzarella** made "*Paul Bunyan's taffy*" - big cans wrapped like taffy in a basket. **Dave Kelleher** had cans wrapped to look like a carousel. One package was wrapped in newspaper, recycled, but I don't remember who brought that.

It was fun and all the canned food and paper goods will help someone less fortunate. We thank **Mona Breault** and **Pat Henry** for being the hostesses - *great job as usual.*