



John Hunt House

Gazette

VOL. XII No.8

MAY 2001

May is Museum Month 2001

“May is Museum Month” was launched at the Rhode Island Mall on April 28.

Along with many other Rhode Island museums **The East Providence Historical Society** was there. Thanks to volunteers, **Dave Kelleher, Lowell Anness** and **Bob Tewksbury**, who set up and took down the EPHS booth and **Ginny Berwick, Mona Breault, Marilyn Brewer, Gladys Panzarella** and **Edna Anness** who tended the booth in two hour shifts.

Sponsored by the **Heritage Harbor Museum**, the month long activities are called, “*Re-Discover Rhode Island’s Treasures During Museum Month*”

Our display gave special emphasis to the event on Saturday May 19: *The East Providence Land Conservation Trust Walk* and the **John Hunt House Museum Open House** and Dedication of the **Philip Walker Room**.



The ladies who manned the booth: (l-r) *Marilyn Brewer, Gladys Panzarella and Ginny Berwick*

62 Years !



Earl and Virginia Berwickfamiliar faces in the doorway of the John Hunt House . . . recently observed their 62nd anniversary. *See page 3*

The
John Hunt House Museum
OPEN HOUSE
 and dedication of the *Philip Walker Room*
Saturday, May 19, 10 AM - 2 PM
 &
Bridgham Farm Walking Tours
 by the
East Providence Land Conservation Trust
10 AM - 1PM

The Gazette

is published monthly by the

EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY

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Florence Adams	<i>Newsletter</i>
Les Haworth	<i>Preservation</i>
Ray Anderson/David Kelleher	<i>Program</i>
Florence Adams	<i>Publicity</i>

Around The House

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee "...shall be responsible for presenting a slate of candidates for elected office at the May members meeting for the ensuing year. *Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the May meeting only.*" (section IV, Standing Rules and Procedures)

The Nominating Committee, **Florence Adams**, *chairman*, **Billie Arden** and **Mona Breault**, has fulfilled its assignment and will report at the May 21st member's meeting. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting, Monday, June 25.

THANKS ...

To **Andy Valerio** for shovelling the front walk of the John Hunt House ...
every time it snowed this winter !

NEW MEMBERS

Warm Welcome to Our New Members:

Richard & Linda Cook

DUES DUE?

Dues are payable on the anniversary date of membership please check your address label. First 2 digits of the number at the top indicate the year .. 21= 2001, 22=2002, etc. the 3rd and 4th indicate the month. Ex: "2105 = May 2001. Please use coupon below to renew, if due.

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, \$15 family or a Life membership for \$150.

Please make check payable to:

East Providence Historical Society

and mail with form below to:

Mona Breault

34 Josephine Avenue

Rumford, RI 02916-3018

New Renewal/ Change

EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip (+4) _____ Phone _____

Amount Enclosed: \$15.00 Family \$10.00 Individual \$150.00 Life

From The Attic

Edna Anness, *Museum Curator*

The big day is finally coming . . . **June 3rd** . . the day on which we open the Hunt House from 2-5 PM and dedicate the **Philip Walker Room** between 2:30 and 3 PM The Walker House will be open from 12:30 until 3 PM on that day so we are allowing a half hour travel time for those visiting the Walker House to arrive at the Hunt House.. Visitors can see the Walker House and then come to "our" house and see the Walker bedroom. **Nicholas Brown**, Director of *Preserve Rhode Island*, has graciously agreed to permit visitors to walk through. Although the house is empty, many want to see the old interior anyway.

After the dedication of the Walker bedroom refreshments will be served. We will be asking the members to donate finger desserts or tiny sandwiches, whichever is easier. So many of our members have not visited the house for years, so we ask that you do visit on this special day and see the changes.

About thirty-five to forty descendants of Philip Walker are flying in from Florida and all across the country from as far as British Columbia. Many have never seen the Philip Walker House but all have done extensive research on their genealogy. We hope anybody in Rhode Island who thinks he is related to the Walker Family will come to this opening because there will be great exchange of family data I am sure. In the 1960s a *Philip Walker Association* was formed at the behest of Faith Shedd Potter who along with her husband Dexter were the last occupants of the Philip Walker House. It ceased to exist when Faith died in 1986. At that time the Walker House was willed to the **Heritage Trust** which is now known as **Preserve RI**.

Both the Shedd side of the family and the Potter side are direct descendants of Philip Walker. So there will be Shedds and Walkers at Hunt's Mills on June 3rd.

There will be three new pamphlets available: the History of the John Hunt House, The Ring of the Green and the Philip Walker House along with spanking new Hunt House programs.

PS As part of **May is Museum Month: Rediscover Rhode Island Treasures** there will be a game played during the Month of May. You can pick up the quiz sheet at any participating Museum or the Hunt House. There will be prizes given by Heritage Harbor at the end of the game.

62 Years Together



Earl and Virginia Berwick

Don't usually stray far from East Providence, but last month they celebrated their anniversary by taking a trip to Durham, North Carolina, to visit their granddaughter.

Earl first met Virginia Kent at Hope Church ... she was a "blind date" at a Christian Endeavor meeting (those were gentler times). Ginny, whose father owned the Kent Store, was just out of High School.

They were married April 15, 1939 and took residence in the house on Hoyt Avenue where they have remained ever since. Earl has been a self employed electrical contractor and occasional part-timer at "The Rumford". Earl's father worked at Rumford Chemical for 43 years.

Earl and Ginny are *charter members* of the East Providence Historical Society and have been active volunteers since it was founded in 1966. Ginny is presently *Museum Chairman* and Earl is *Buildings Chairman* and is responsible for much of the restoration work.

When asked how they managed to stay together for all that time, Earl replied

"We like each other"



The East Providence Historical Society and Friends of the East Providence Library will conduct their first annual *Garden Tour* on Saturday, June 9th from 12:00 - 4:00 PM (rain date, Sunday, June 10)

“Yards With a View” tour will present five yards on Narragansett Terrace with a view of Bullocks Cove, the Providence River or Narragansett Bay.

Tickets are \$7.00 and will be available in the parking lot of the Crescent Park Carousel the day of the tour.

For further information telephone:
Ray Anderson (401) 438-2464
Dave Kelleher (401) 433-2763

IMPORTANT MEMBERS MEETING

Monday, May 21, 6:00 PM
Newman Church, Rumford

Spaghetti Supper

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

This will be only time that nominations can be made from the floor

Program: “Experience Architecture”
Jim Barnes

Please make an effort to attend this important official meeting

MEET THE VOLUNTEERS

INSIDE



Arline Butterworth ...Hunt House Greeter, phone answerer, coffee server, artifact explainer, tour guide, ETC.

OUTSIDE



(l - r) Helen Littler, Martha Tourtellot, Ray Anderson and Marie Brand tidy up one of the *historic gardens*.

The Gazette ...

Welcomes
“Members Memories” and articles of historic interest.

mail to:
Ray Anderson,
32 Algonquin Road,
East Providence, RI 02916-3502

• **PRESERVATION AWARDS** •

The **East Providence Historic Properties Study Commission** will present the annual Preservation Awards to the owners of historic properties.

The awards will be presented at the May 15th City council Meeting, City Hall, at 7:30PM.

Awards will be presented to:

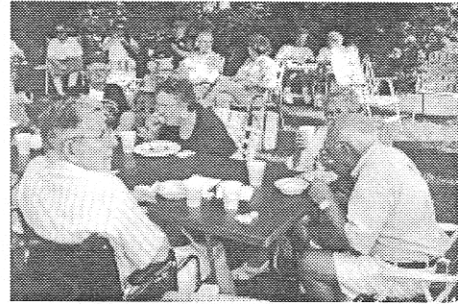
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Turgeon
324 Pleasant Street.

Mr. and Mrs John Emigh
3195 Pawtucket Avenue

Mr. Victor Lezaola
Lezaola Insurance
896 Broadway

Mark Your Calendar ...
Official Business:

Monday, June 28 5:30 PM
FAMILY PICNIC/ANNUAL MEETING
election of officers
&
Strawberry Shortcake
details in June Gazette



Election Procedure last year

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Historical Marker Program
Your home may be eligible for a Marker



Any building in the City of East Providence which contributes to the historical development or architectural character of the City is eligible to be considered for a **Historical Marker**

For information, send the coupon below to:

The Marker Program
East Providence Historical Society
PO Box 4774
East Providence R02916-4774

I am interested in receiving information about the **East Providence Marker Program**

Name _____

Address _____

SAVE OUR LIGHTS

The **East Providence Historic Properties Study Commission** will present its annual display, "Save Our Lights", in the main display case at East Providence City Hall. It will be on view from May 7 - 25.

The display includes models and pictures of Rhode Island lighthouses from the collection of Dave Kelleher.



Sabin Point Lighthouse



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MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS JUNE

Wednesday, May 2, 7:30 PM

Board Meeting (members welcome)
John Hunt House Museum,
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford.

May 7 - 25 East Providence City Hall
"Save Our Lights" display, Dave Kelleher
lighthouse collection

Tuesday, May 15 7:30 PM

East Providence City Council Meeting
Preservation Awards.

Saturday, May 19, 10 AM - 1 PM

Hourly walking tours of the Bridgham Farm area
John Hunt House Museum Open House
10 AM - 2 PM, Museum tours.

Monday, May 21, 6 PM

Newman Church, Rumford
Spaghetti Supper, Nominating Committee report
"Experience Architecture", Jim Barnes.

Sunday, June 3, 2 - 5 PM

Dedication of the *Phillip Walker Room* and Open House
John Hunt House Museum, Rumford

Wednesday, June 5, 7:30 PM

Board Meeting (members welcome)
John Hunt House Museum,
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford.

Monday, June 25 5:30 PM

Family Picnic/ Election of officers

CHANGE of ADDRESS

The Society has a "Return Service Requested" arrangement with the Post Office. You'll see the information block on this page .. There is a *charge every time we retrieve an undeliverable mailing*. Please advise the Society of all changes, whether temporary or permanent. Thank you for helping us save money