



John Hunt House

VOL. XIV No. 2

Gazette

OCTOBER 2001

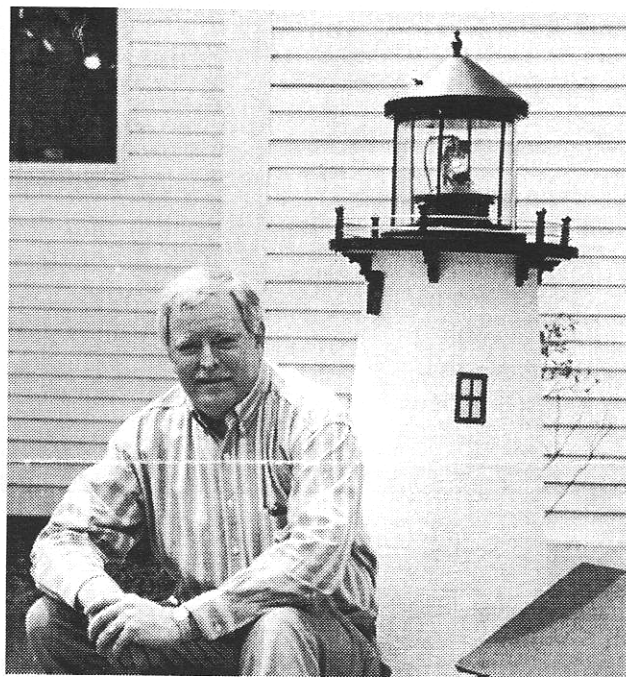
“Lighthouses ... and Why We Need to Save Them”

Timothy Harrison, *president*, American Lighthouse Foundation, guest speaker

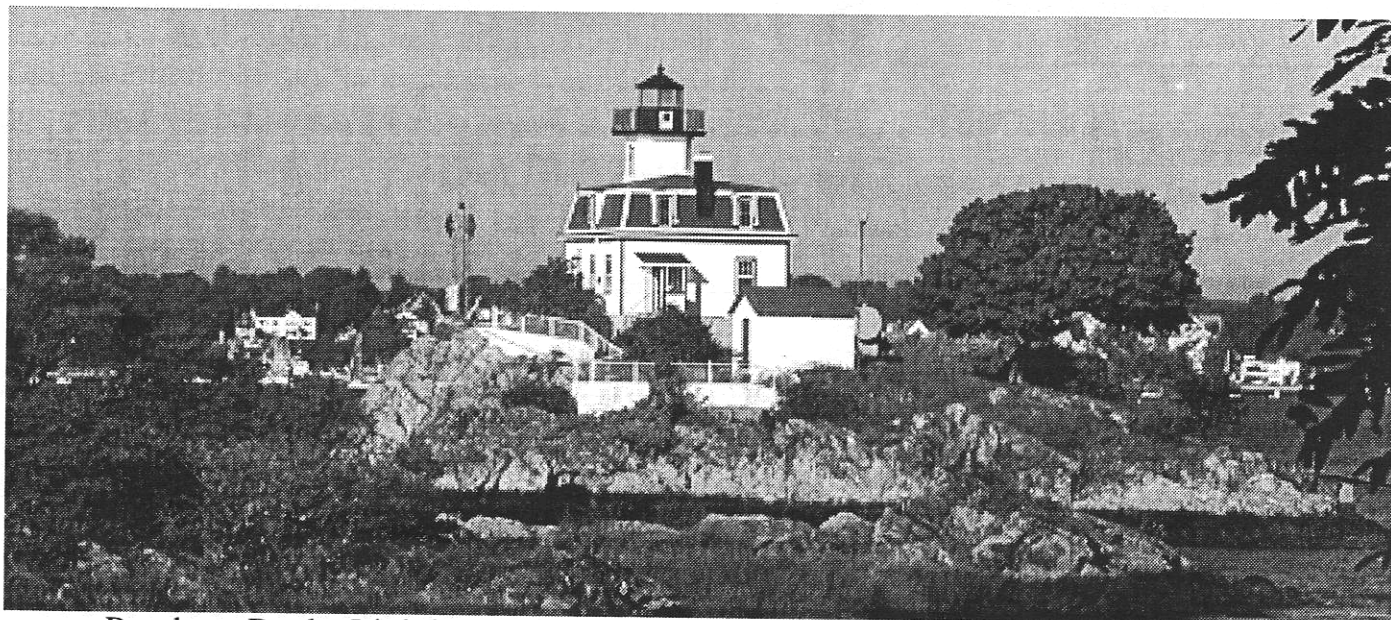
Saturday, October 27, 7:30 PM, Riverside Congregational Church

Tim Harrison is one of the foremost individuals in the country in the fight to save lighthouses and their history .. He is editor and publisher of *Lighthouse Digest Magazine*, a monthly publication with worldwide circulation. He is also cofounder of *Lighthouse Depot Catalog*, a lighthouse gift catalog that goes out to 8 million people. Harrison is president of the *American Lighthouse Foundation*, (ALF) a non profit group dedicated to saving lighthouses. The group is working to raise money to save and restore a number of lighthouses and has already been credited with saving many lighthouses around the country. The Foundation itself currently has 12 lighthouses that are licensed to the group from the United States Coast Guard. Harrison is the coauthor of several lighthouse books including *Endangered Lighthouses* and *Lost Lighthouses* which is the number one selling lighthouse book in the nation.

His presentations are interesting, fun and informative. He will talk about the successful projects of ALF, what the group is doing now, their plans, and



Timothy Harrison, Lighthouse Champion will touch on stories of heroism, ghosts and little known history facts,



Pomham Rocks Lighthouse as seen from East Bay Bike Path

Geoff Adams Photo

The Gazette

is published monthly by the

EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY

P.O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774

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The John Hunt House Museum is open

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 4 PM

or by appointment.

For appointment, Telephone (401) 438-1750
or E-mail: ephist@home.com

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 MEMBERS

Welcome to our recent new members:

James Boyd & Emily Harrison

Eva Lorenc-Hedge

Carole Pace

New

Renewal/ Change

EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

PRESIDENTS LETTER

David Kelleher

Dear Members,

It is hard to believe that it is already October, one of the most beautiful months of the year here in New England. I hope you all get a chance to get out and see the fall colors this season.

Stop by and see the progress of the work that has been done at the rear of the Hunt House, and enjoy the gardens on the sides of the house.

Work on the Meter House will be done either this fall or in the spring depending on the schedules of the teachers and students at East Providence High School.

Our first general meeting was well attended; about 85 members and guests were present. The presenter, John Erhardt, informed the group of many interesting facets about the Seekonk, Rehoboth, East Providence area.

Edna Anness, with the approval of the board, announced that The John Hunt House hours will be changed. From now on the hours will be 1 to 4 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Billie Arden presented a check for \$200.00 to the Society from the **East Providence Beautification Committee** to be used for improvements of the gardens at the John Hunt House.

One of my goals for the year is to continue to increase our membership. If you have friends or relatives who do not belong to the Society invite them to attend one of our members' meetings.

I wish to thank **Edna & Lowell Anness, Mona Breault, Jo Marchi, Gladys Panzarella** and **Ray Anderson** for volunteering at the September 29 and 30 Open House, and **Dave Fitton** for helping with the tours.

I am looking forward to the October meeting. Tim Harrison is well known among lighthouse enthusiasts. He will be presenting a very informative talk on lighthouse restoration, and may have some suggestions on how we might relight our own lighthouse; the Pomham Rocks Light Station. Hope you can attend and bring your friends and neighbors.

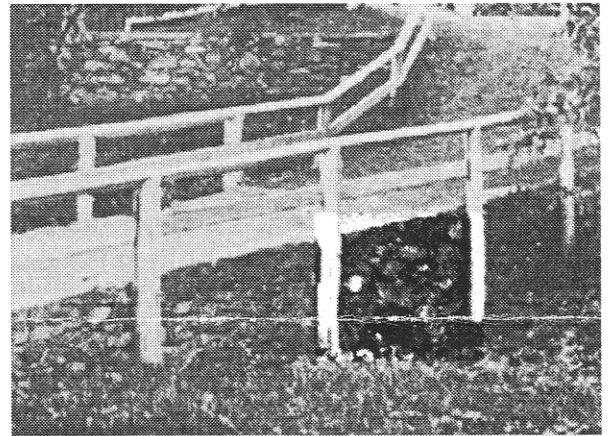
Enjoy the fall weather.

Sincerely,
Dave

Uncovered Bridge



The work crews that cleared out the area behind the Hunt House uncovered the foundation to the bridge that once led to the Hunts Mills Amusement Park.



The original bridge with the foundation shown. Today the bridge .. tomorrow the Dance Hall. (ed.)



The Gazette ...

Welcomes "Members Memories"
and articles of historic interest

mail to:

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

FROM THE ATTIC

Edna Anness, *Museum Curator*

“ . . . ‘cruise’ the *Crimson yearbooks*
or the *Rumford cookbooks* . . . ”

The John Hunt House Museum is now open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 - 4 PM We hope these hours will make it more convenient for students to use the library and reference collection after school hours. If there is not enough time after school, the curator is willing to stay until 5 PM if notified ahead of time. It is also wise, if one is coming to the Museum to do specific research, to make an appointment ahead of time so that the desired material can be made available if in storage. Sometimes extra time is needed to search the files for location of material.

What is here? It is not possible to list everything of course, but here is a partial list:

Papers from volunteer organizations such as the Rumford Junior Women's Club, Riverside Junior Women's Club, the Rumford Garden Club, the Alma Club of Riverside, the Anne Ide Fuller Library Auxiliary, Volunteer Hose Co. #4 Kent Heights.

Also there are the Britton Collection of East Providence High School papers, the Edward R. Martin Collection, The Harold and Leroy Flint Collection of local history, correspondence of the East Providence Water Dept., 1900 -1910, the Rumford Chemical Works Collection, Histories of East Providence PTAs. Part of the reference collection is the set of histories of Rehoboth by Richard Lebaron Bowen, Bliss, Allen Usher, and John Erhardt

The East Providence Post collection, some papers from the East Providence celebration of the Bicentennial, the minutes of the meetings of the Original East Providence Charter Commission, histories of just about every church in East Providence. And on and on. . . We cannot allow the material to leave the Museum, but we do have a Xerox machine: five cents a copy.

Or just come and browse. Some visitors have spent an hour or more just “cruising” the *Crimson yearbooks* or the *Rumford cookbooks*.

As winter approaches our hours are constant until Jan 1st. If the snowy weather is so bad that the schools are closed, then so are we.

GIFTS TO THE MUSEUM

Marilyn Brewer - Two child size flannel slips, silk crocheted night cap, cream bottle skimmer and artifacts from her grandfather Orlo Hobbs' egg business, Viall Dairy receipt and a 1920 Independence Day Program.

Marion Coop - Cooking utensil from Allen's Drugstore.

Norman Green - Photo of East Providence High School, Class of 1933 Reunion

Diana McLean - White petticoat

Paul Sincero - Program from the dedication of the Washington Bridge, 1930.

Frances Trafton - shoe button hook.

EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY Historical Marker Program

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historical development
or architectural character of the City is
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For information, send the coupon below to:

The Marker Program
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PO Box 4774
East Providence R02916-4774

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GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Ray Anderson, *Chairman*

Thanks to **Frances Miller** and **Virginia Ripley** for their donation of garden tools for use in the gardens.

We are very grateful to **Anna Britton** for her donation to the John Hunt House Cottage Garden in memory of her husband, **Bruce Britton**.

(Please see the notice on this page regarding memorial contributions to the Cottage Garden.)



In Memory of

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 02916-4774





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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

Saturday, October 27, 7:30 PM Members Meeting
 Riverside Congregational Church *Public Invited*
 Program: **“Lighthouses and Why We Need to Save Them”** ... Timothy Harrison, *president, American Lighthouse Foundation*

November

Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 PM
 Board Meeting *members welcome*
 John Hunt House, Hunt’s Mills Road, Rumford.

Monday, November 26, 7:30 PM Members Meeting
 Newman Church, Rumford. *Public Invited*
 Program: **Ella Sekatau, DHL**
“Lifestyles of the Narragansett People”

December

Wednesday, December 5, 7:00 PM
 Board Meeting *members welcome*
 John Hunt House, Hunt’s Mills Road, Rumford.

Monday, December 10, 6:00 PM
 Newman Church, Rumford.
Christmas Buffet and Program

January

Wednesday, January 2, 7:00 PM
 Board Meeting *members welcome*
 John Hunt House, Hunt’s Mills Road, Rumford.

Monday, January 28, 7:30 PM Members Meeting
 Newman Church, Rumford. *Public Invited*
 Program: **Everett Chapman**
“Take the Trolley to the Shore”

CHANGE of ADDRESS

The Society has a **“Return Service Requested”** arrangement with the Post Office. *There is a CHARGE every time we retrieve an undeliverable mailing* Please advise the Society of all changes, temporary or permanent. Thank you for helping us save money.