



Gazette

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July/August 2002

President's Letter

David Kelleher

Dear Members,

I hope that all of you are enjoying the summer months. Here are some updates for your information.

The *garden tour* was held on a beautiful day, June 8th. Thanks to **Ray Anderson** and **Rose Marie Sirenski** and their committee, the day went well. Over twenty volunteers were stationed at the 15 gardens. Each of the organizations raised \$450.00 (Historical Society, Friends of East Providence Public Library). The committee is discussing the possibility of another one next year, or skipping a year and studying how to increase the turnout.

The *annual picnic* was held on June 24th and it was another beautiful day. Over 100 members and guests attended. Thanks to **Kris Rose** and her committee, all went well.

The *officers* for the coming year were elected. All of this year's officers volunteered to serve for another year.

Some progress was made on the *meter house*. **Bob Tewksbury** and some students from the high school dismantled the chimney. More work will be done on the exterior of the meter house in September.

Earl Berwick reported that the *summer kitchen* will be ready for the *open house* in September.

A letter has been sent to **Paul Lemont**, city manager, requesting a loan of the *John Hunt gravestone* for the September *open house*.

The board is looking into some possible *fund-raisers* for next year: a *trolley tour* of historic sites, an *appraisal* of antiques, our *annual dance*, and a *ham & bean supper* or a *spaghetti supper*.

Pete Allen reported that our *finances are on target* this year.

There has been some progress in the development of a *master plan* for Hunt's Mills. I have had a meeting with **Professor Wil Green** from U.R.I. He was impressed with the site, and he will get back to me about the possibility of involving some of his students in the project.

Edna Anness reported that the *R. I. Notables Display* at the Convention Center has been *postponed* for the time being.

The *Ide Farm House* on Broadway is in danger of *being demolished*. Efforts to prevent this have not been successful as of this date.

Ray Anderson has some great programs set up for the coming year. The first one at the *Squantum Club* looks very interesting. See you all there.

Dave Kelleher

From the Attic

Edna Anness, Museum Curator

The completion of the *summer kitchen* is in sight and we will celebrate the event with an *Open House* on Sunday, September 29th, at the John Hunt House, of course. At that time the restoration of the house will be finished. This undertaking, started by the Historical Society in 1988, has been a labor of love performed by all those involved. We will attempt to list them ALL at the open house. It will be a **CELEBRATION!**

It will also be an opportunity to view the *RUMFORD COLLECTION*, greatly enlarged since the RUMFORD EXHIBITION in 1994. The Museum Committee will be meeting in August to finalize plans for September 29th. The name of the three month exhibition will be "**A CELEBRATION**": a celebration of the generosity of so many of our members and friends who have given their time, energy, and gifts of historic memorabilia towards this goal set in 1988. The John Hunt House really is a living house museum.

In response to last month's newsletter, asking for help in making the *summer kitchen curtains*, **Nancy Stevens, Nancy Moore and Kris Rose** have volunteered to stitch them up for us. The Museum Committee will decide what color. Most likely they will be tab styled curtains.

The "*RHODE ISLAND TREASURES*" exhibition at the Providence Convention Center scheduled for this fall has been *postponed* to May 1, 2003 because of a lack of funding. **Have a super summer!**

Warm Welcome to our
New Member:
Jeffrey Howe

