



John Hunt House

Gazette

Vol. XVI No. 3

November 2003

COOKING - 1790-1850

**November Members Meeting
Monday, November 24, 7 pm
Newman Church, Rumford**

Ever think of today's fast paced society and wonder what life was like when the John Hunt House, c.1790, was built? Well, **Barbara Kuck** (pronounced 'cook') director of the **Culinary Museum, Johnson and Wales University**, will present a program on cooking, 1790/1850. Let's see how "romantic" it was after we hear the details. This was back when "from scratch" was not a mix or frozen entrée. Let's see if you still long for the "good old days."

Refreshments and business meeting will follow.

President's Letter

Kris Rose, President

Dear Members,

Fall is in full swing and the holidays will be here before we know it. Keep in mind that our December meeting will be a *Holiday Party*, dinner, and entertainment provided by Tony the Dancing Cop! Thanks to **Billie Arden** for organizing this event. We hope to see many of you on December 8 at Newman Church.

Ray Anderson, Grounds Committee has met with **Steve Connors** to work out a way for the R.I. Community Gardens and the Master Gardeners to work together with the Historical Society. See Ray's report on page 5.

(continued on Page 4)

HOLIDAY PARTY

The society will hold a **Holiday Party** on Monday, December 8, 6:15 pm, Newman Church, Rumford. Emery Caterers will offer a choice of individual chicken or beef steak pie, family style salad and vegetables, dessert and beverages. **'Tony, the Dancing Cop'** will provide the entertainment. The cost is \$14, members, \$16, non-members. **Reservation deadline is Monday, December 1.** Call the society, 438-1750 or 437-1530 to confirm your menu choice.

In lieu of a gift exchange, the society will accept the following items to be donated to **Travelers Aid**: hats, gloves, underwear, socks.



"Tony, the Dancing Cop" will entertain with his traffic-directing performance at the Holiday Party, Monday, December 8.



The Gazette

Is published monthly by the

EAST ● PROVIDENCE ● HISTORICAL ● SOCIETY
 P. O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774
 Tel: (401) 438-1750 Web Site: ephist.org

OFFICERS

Kris Rose	<i>President</i>
Nancy Moore	<i>1st Vice President</i>
Edna Anness	<i>2nd Vice President</i>
Jeanne Davis	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
Arline Butterworth	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
Peter Allen	<i>Treasurer</i>
David Kelleher	<i>Immediate Past President</i>

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Bob Tewksbury	<i>Buildings</i>
Ray Anderson	<i>Grounds</i>
Kris Rose	<i>Markers</i>
Mona Breault	<i>Membership</i>
Virginia Berwick	<i>Museum</i>
	<i>Museum Curator</i>
Doreen Bonney/Florence Adams	<i>Newsletter</i>
David Kelleher	<i>Preservation</i>
Ray Anderson	<i>Program</i>
Florence Adams	<i>Publicity</i>
Reinhard Wohlgermuth	<i>Webmaster</i>

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 \$15 individual, \$25 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**

Membership Form

New

Renewal /Change

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Amount Enclosed:

\$25 Family

\$15 Individual

\$150 Life

*Warm Welcome to our
 New Members:*

**NANCY ISABEL
 THOMAS WEGNER**

Gifts to the Museum

Clint Sellew - "History of Bullocks Point" by Ken Roberts

**NEEDED TO BORROW FOR THE MUSEUM
 IN DECEMBER:**

Standing dress forms and coat hangers with soft stuffing over the shoulder area. The Museum will display our doll collection and antique clothing for Christmas. It will be entitled *"Getting Ready for the Holidays"*. Call Ginny Berwick, 434-0998, Edna Anness, 434-3347, or leave a message at the John Hunt House, 438-1750.



IN MEMORY OF

**Len Erickson,
 Past President of the Society,
 who passed away in October.**

Sadly missed... fondly remembered.

"WE THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW".....is the caption used in the *'Old Time Almanack'* by Eastside Marketplace (last page of the store's advertising weekly) to inform readers of historical and other bits of information. In the Sunday, October 12 edition, **Toby Rossner**, feature writer, wrote about the *'Ring of the Green', Rumford Chemical Works and the John Hunt House.*

We thought you'd like to know.....

Charles Bullock Veteran of the Civil War

By Clinton Sellew

After reading the last newsletter I realized that there was still another veteran of the Civil War, **Charles Bullock**, who lived until 1940 on Taunton Avenue and I remember him riding in an open car in the Memorial Day parades in the city. He was one of the best known G.A.R. men in the State, for he took part in any commemorative ceremony put on statewide. Between 1937 and 1939 he was the only G.A.R. veteran in the Providence parades. He was a member of the Bucklin Post in East Providence.

Preservation Committee

David Kelleher, Chairman

The grounds around the Weaver House, Grove Avenue, have now been cleared of all bushes. **Herb Rogers**, East Providence Planning Department, is in charge of the project. Here are the items that he foresees to be corrected.

- (1) The exterior of the house will be painted. The lead paint is very thick but is scaling and can be removed by scraping rather than by sand blasting. The clap boards are in good shape.
- (2) New gutters (Yankee type) are needed.
- (3) The front steps will be removed and restored, historically, including new wooden columns.
- (4) A new roof is needed.
- (5) The west side porch will, hopefully, be repaired. It is very large and includes many wooden columns and railings.
- (6) The heating system is in excellent shape except for the boiler which needs to be replaced.
- (7) All the windows will be replaced with 'Pella Windows' which are historically correct.
- (8) A number of inside walls, installed by the city years ago, will be removed. The woodwork will be refinished, fireplaces restored and the staircase repaired.

Herb Rogers is open to all suggestions. He is happy that the house will be restored and said that it is well built. The city has approved \$175,000 for the restoration. Hopefully, there will be enough money to do all that has to be done.

FISH LADDER MEETING

Report by Ray Anderson

Ray Anderson and **Ed Serowik** represented the historical society at a meeting to plan and design a **fish ladder** at Hunts Mills. Those attending included representatives from the Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission, Rhode Island Heritage Commission, City of East Providence and others.

Remnants of the former **Grist Mill** were prioritized as to structural integrity: what is functional will be saved. It appears that the ladder will not exceed the height of the existing walls. There is no need to pave an area in front of the planned fish ladder. Existing nearby rock outcroppings will be spared. (They have dates and initials carved in them.) An attempt will be made to "cap" the concrete ladder with natural area stone.

Existing fish have been stocked in the upper **Ten Mile River**. After a swim down stream into the bay and beyond, they are expected to return in 2005 - 2006. As a DEM member said, "The clock is ticking."

Agreement was reached that necessary signs and display should point out what occupied the area in the past as well as the current fish and fish ladder process. Historic footprints of Native Americans, former mills (cotton) and possible site of an archaeological dig are being researched.



Tea Cup Collection

Gladys Panzarella, resident '*Mad Hatter*', wishes to thank the following for their donation to the society's tea cup collection: **Edna Anness, Mona Breault, Gloria Cady, Beth DeCosta**. Donation of tea cups, tea pots, sugar and creamers is an on-going request of members and friends and will be appreciated.



Society member **Luella Holmes (Clifton) Mountain**, 92 years 'young' whose letter to Virginia Berwick was printed in the September and October Gazettes, sent the following "nice quote to fill space in.....the Gazette":

"The person who has lived the most is not the one with the most years but the one with the richest experiences".
jean jacques Rousseau



THE EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
extends an invitation to attend the...

Holiday High Tea

John Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road
(off Pleasant Street)
Rumford

Sunday, December 14, 2003
3 to 5 pm *Donation \$5.00*

R.S.V.P. 438-1750 by December 5

President's Letter

(Continued from page 1)

Membership: We have 2 new members who will be introduced at our next meeting. We will be introducing new members at our monthly meetings so everyone feels welcome.

Dave Kelleher, Preservation Committee, reports that the *Substance Abuse Council* will move into the Weaver House, Grove Avenue, when the restoration is completed. See Dave's report on page 3.

The lease for the **Williams/Brown House** (next to the John Hunt House) was up on October 31, 2003. It has been proposed that the house be rented and the income used for projects in the master plan for the Hunts Mills area. We will keep you informed.

Looking forward to seeing you at the November meeting!

Kris Rose, President

John Hunt House
MUSEUM

Open to the Public

Sunday

December 14, 1 - 4 pm

Hunts Mills Road
Rumford

Admission
\$3.00

E.P. Residents **\$1.00**

Society Members *Free*



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

GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Ray Anderson , Chairman

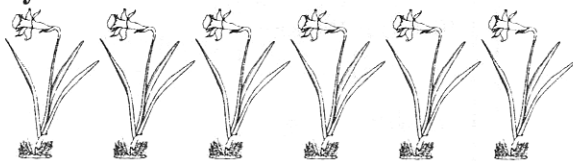
Progress continues on **Phase III** of the John Hunt House grounds project. Hopefully, 90% of all the stone work, grading and seeding will be done before winter sets in. **Joe Crook**, Parks and Recreation Director, reports that the city will paint and re-roof the 'Meter House'. Joe and his crew have done a quality job. Please check it out!

Plans are underway to build a **memorial summer house (gazebo)** at the site of the former 'Tea House' near the small parking lot. Details forthcoming as they unfold.

A Daffodil Legacy

Daffodils are yellow or white flowered bulbs that come up every spring with little effort. (Fertilize?) The East Providence Historical Society is planning to give the city and its residents 1,000 daffodils to be planted at Hunts Mills as you approach the John Hunt House Museum. They should multiply each year. This is our way of saying thank you to taxpayers and city workers who have labored to improve the grounds surrounding the museum. This is a daffodil legacy that will continue to say "thank you" each spring.

The **Girl Scouts of St. Margarets Church** and society members plan to plant the daffodils on Saturday, November 15 at 9 a.m. Supervisory personnel are needed. Bring a spade or call Ray Anderson, 438-2464, for details. **Join the legacy!**



East ● Providence ● Historical ● Society 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. Request information by sending your name, address and phone number to the

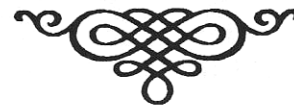
Marker Program

East Providence Historical Society

P.O. Box 4774

East Providence, RI 02916-4774

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NOVEMBER

Monday November, 24, 7 pm
Members Meeting *Public Invited*
Newman Church, Rumford
Program: Cooking 1790 - 1850
Barbara Kuck,
Johnson and Wales Culinary Museum

DECEMBER

Wednesday, December 3, 7 pm
Board Meeting *Members Welcome*
John Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

Monday, December 8, 6:15 pm
Holiday Party *Public Invited*
Newman Church, Rumford
Catered Dinner - Entertainment
\$14 members - \$16 non-members
Reservation Deadline:
Monday, December 1

Sunday, December 14, 1 - 3 pm
Holiday Open House
John Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

Sunday, December 14, 3 - 5 pm
Holiday High Tea
John Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission: \$5 per person

JANUARY

Wednesday, January 7, 7 pm
Board Meeting *Members Welcome*
John Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford



East • Providence • Historical • Society
P.O. Box 4774
East Providence, RI 02916

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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.

