



Gazette

Vol. XVII No. 7

April 2005

HAM AND BEAN SUPPER/ BROWN BAG AUCTION

Members Meeting
Monday, April 25, 6 pm
Newman Church, Rumford

The society has scheduled another supper. This time, **Ham and Bean**. This time we don't expect to be canceled due to snow and sub-freezing temperatures. But wait a minute.....it IS New England.

Dan Moore, society member, will serve as *Chef Du Jour*. Homemade brown bread will delight the palate. The Telephone Committee will call the membership for reservations and simply sensational desserts. Guests and the public -at -large are invited.

ALSO.....**Brown Bag Auction**: an unostentatious or overly ostentatious item in a brown bag of any size (the better to outwit the buyer).

Admission \$8, members; \$10, non-members to be paid at the door. Reservations to be made no later than Saturday, April 23.

A business meeting will follow.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Gladys Panzarella, Nominating Committee Chairman, Helen Smith, Florence Quigley, Virginia Berwick, Florence Adams are working on the slate of candidates to be presented at the May 23 members meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

Any member in good standing is invited to call the society, 438-1750 or Gladys, 434-5116, to get in the running.

MEMORIES OF RIVERSIDE

Transcribed by EP Historical Society member Jeffrey Howe from the verbal memories of his 92-year-old father, Gordon Howe.

I was born in 1913 near the Narragansett Fire station #2 section of Riverside, becoming a third generation Riversider. We actually lived at many different addresses in the neighborhood until my father and mother could afford to build a cottage in 1921 at 56 Halleck Avenue, one block off Bullocks Point Avenue immediately behind the Riverside Trolley Car Barn. The reason for staying in the area was that my father William was one of many Riverside men who manned the trolley cars out of this barn that was opened in the mid 1890's. It was a large brick building located on the corner of Bullocks Point Avenue and Knowlton Street, and more recently was the former location of the concrete water tower in the 60's, now the site of the new library being constructed in 2005. My grammar education was at the East Street School, now an apartment. One of my earliest memories was the men furiously ringing the school bell in the tower until it fell out of it's mounting celebrating the end of WWI. At the time, we were living directly across East Street above Chretians Hardware Store.

Although there were automobiles traveling Bullocks Point Avenue, most area residents took the trolley cars to school and work in upper East Providence and the city. During the winter it was the United Electric Railway cars that kept the avenue open during snow storms. I remember as a young boy going out with my father on his run to Bristol. Many Riverside men worked the water then also, clamming, oystering and general fishing. The bay was alive with oyster beds and was a large employer. My father worked on the oyster boats before he was a motorman.

(Continued on Page 3)

The Gazette

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

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Nancy Moore	<i>1st Vice President</i>
Edna Anness	<i>2nd Vice President</i>
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Arline Butterworth	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
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	<i>Program</i>
Florence Adams	<i>Publicity</i>
Reinhard Wohlgemuth	<i>Webmaster</i>

RECOGNITION DEPARTMENT

Joan Hanlon served as a Hunt House Museum docent March 13 along with three other members listed in the March Gazette. On Sunday, April 10, Reinhard Wohlgemuth, Arline Butterworth, Virginia Berwick and Edna Anness volunteered as docents.

The following members baked for the March 28 members meeting using Rumford Baking Powder and/or recipes from the original Rumford Baking Powder cook books: Kathy Wohlgemuth, Helen Smith, Pat Henry, Mona Breault, Virginia Berwick, Florence Adams.

The HUNT HOUSE MUSEUM, HUNTS MILLS ROAD, RUMFORD, will be open on Sunday, May 8, 1 to 4 pm. Admission \$3, \$1 East Providence residents, Free for society members. The 5th and 6th grade classes of St. Margaret's School, Bishop Avenue, Rumford, will be visiting.

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**

**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**

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.

Membership Form New Renewal /Change

Name(s) _____

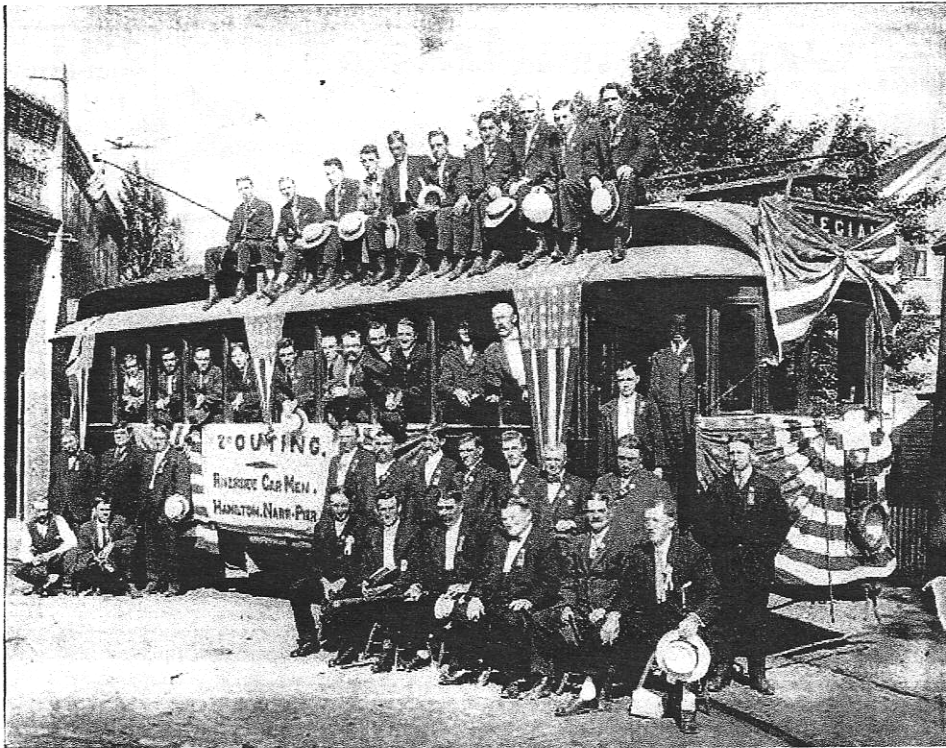
Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Amount Enclosed:

\$25 Family \$15 Individual \$150 Life



My grandfather William Howe is the tall dark haired gent sitting on the roof of the trolley 5th from the left. My father, from whose memory this is written, is still residing in Riverside.

MEMORIES OF RIVERSIDE (Continued From Page 1)

He worked for the United Electric Railway from about 1911 or 12 until he retired in 1947 driving busses. The street cars ran until about 1931 as I recall. There was a heavy snow storm that winter and after clearing the tracks they were abandoned. The street car company had to compete with Consolidated Railway also that made stops in the square and offered more direct and quicker runs to Watchamoket Station. Strange as it seems, when I was a young teenager in the 20's I would walk from my home on Halleck all the way up to Watchamoket on Sundays to visit my grandfather. Even though I could ride the street cars, I enjoyed the exercise.

Like most area boys I worked at the park summers and remember walking the elephants down to the bay for a dip when they came to town; usually I set pins in the old bowling alley. A large part of my youth summers were also spent playing baseball for teams from the Congregational Church, Demolay, Corona's, and R.I. Lace Works Company team. We played all over the state. When the depression hit I had to go to work before graduating and walked across the trestle over to R.I. Lace Works in West Barrington where I worked for 60 years (1929 until 1990) as a lace designer. My grandson and family now live directly across the street from the location of the old car barn, a 5th generation Riversider.

The Gazette welcomes "Members Memories" and articles of historical interest.

**Mail to the society: P.O. Box 4774,
East Providence, RI 02916.**

A HUMOROUS INCIDENT

by Frances Miller

Somewhere about the 1960's, I was shopping in the old Six Corner's stores. If I remember right, there was a Barbara's candy store, a cleansers, a hardware store, a dress shop (forgot the name) and I think a store that dealt with leather goods.

Anyway, I parked my black Ford and went into the candy store and bought a box of chocolates. I wanted to go into the dress store, so I put the box of chocolates on the front seat of my car (we didn't lock them in those days) and went along. When I was through, I went to my car and the box of chocolates wasn't there! Then I noticed the car in back of me was a black car similar to mine and there was my box of chocolates. I hurriedly grabbed it out and, with a red face, scurried home. Fortunately, nobody noticed, but I never forgot that incident.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

Saturday, April 16, 10 A.M. – 12 Noon
Double-Decker Bus Tour of Historic East Providence
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission Charges

Sunday, March 13, 1 – 4 P.M.
Hunt House Museum Open
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission Charges

Monday, April 25, 6 P.M.
Members Meeting – Public Invited
Ham and Bean Supper/Brown Bag Auction
Newman Church, Rumford
\$8, Members; \$10, Non-Members
Reservation Deadline, Saturday, April 23

MAY

Wednesday, May 4, 7 P.M.
Board Meeting Members Welcome
Hunt House Museum
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford

Sunday, May 8, 1-4 P.M.
Hunt House Museum Open
Hunts Mills Road, Rumford
Admission Charges

Monday, May 23, 7 P.M.
Members Meeting - Public Invited
Newman Church, Rumford
Program: Part 2-East Providence Postcards