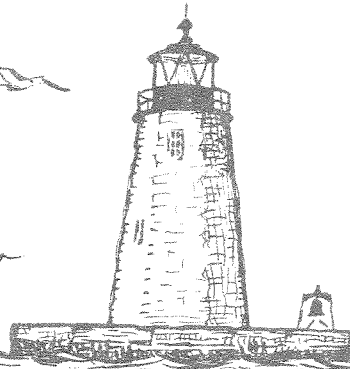


The GREEN

LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

VOL. 4

JULY 1960

No. 7

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AUGUST 4th

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, AT 8:00 P.M. ST. JOHN'S GUILD HALL, Poplar St.

AN AFTERNOON ON THE POINT is always a pleasant thing - but on July 9 it proved to be a delightful experience for more than 700 people within and outside of Newport.

As chairman, Mrs Henry E. Eccles had excellently organized the event, and the many who helped her in such varied ways made the whole affair an offering long to be praised and remembered.

Bright with sun, cool with a good southwest breeze, gay with flower-boxes, and commendably clean, the Point never looked more attractive than on that Saturday afternoon.

People who followed the route of the tour suggested by the map on the widely-distributed flyer, began their pleasant progress with the home of Mr & Mrs Wm.H.Fullerton. The "Faisneau" house, now at the corner of Bridge and Washington, was originally the 1770 Topham house, later part of the famed Faisneau boarding-house. Now moved to its present location, it is thoroughly charming within and without - and its tiny hidden garden is one of its outstanding features. Little nosegays were presented to the visitors, and eagerly sought. The Fullertons were assisted by Mrs. James Thearle and Mrs. William Leach, whose

pretty costumes lent an 18th century touch to the setting.

At the home of Mr & Mrs Harold P. Arnold on Poplar St, the "cosy Victorian kitchen" and the generous souvenir of gingerbread proved to be extremely popular. The visitors would hardly believe Mrs Arnold when she assured them that she really used the shining blacked stove and that she preferred to iron with the good old stove-heated irons which most moderns now use as decorated door-stops! Assisting Mrs Arnold were Mdes. John Lord and Frank Coggeshall, and Misses Ann Hagerty, Ann Bush and Virginia Arnold. Authentic costumes added to the charm of this genuine Point home.

At 42 Walnut St, Mr & Mrs R.S. Weiss were complimented on the recently completed decoration of the interior, which so well points up the character of the house. On exhibition and sale were Mrs. Earl Booth's unusual applehead dolls - each with a personality, and named after bygone Pointers. Helping, were Mrs. Booth, Mr & Mrs Harry A. Weiss, Misses Marjorie Ward and Helen Van Assche, and Richard Weiss.

The Pineapple House always attracts the admiring attention of the passer-by, and many were eager for the opportunity to see the quaint and authentic interior, and to learn from David Leathers Smith of the work he has done to restore it. Exposed beams, hand-rubbed floorboards, and many fascinating details, make this 1750 house one of the most delightful of dwellings. Mr & Mrs Smith were assisted by Msdmes K.V. Stein and Francis Carr, and Misses Marie Burke, Anna Groff, Louise delSanto and Cynthia White.

The George Gibbs House is older than 1750. Here again, careful and loving restoration by its owners, Mr & Mrs G.D. Weaver, jr, has redeemed an architecturally important house that might otherwise have been lost. The visitors admired the big fireplace (one of eight!) with its brick oven, the handsome panelling, the quiet dignity of this fine old house. The Weavers were helped by Mdmes David Nemptzow, William Hoy, Donald Koslow, Edward Hilliard, and Misses Lois Clarkson, Elaine and Janet Thornton, Catherine Pine and Kathleen Murphy. Here too, charming costumes fitted the hostesses to their setting.

The Robert Dunham house, once on Chestnut St, now at 3 Pine, is our most recently rescued house, and all who saw it were tremendously impressed by what has been done to it in a short time by its new owners, Mr & Mrs Howard Shivers. But only those who knew it as an unsavory ruin can fully appreciate its renaissance, or be sufficiently grateful to the Shivers. Hostesses here were Mdmes E.H. Brownell, Clifford Sherman, Morton Parker, and Susan and Bonnie Brownell.

Mrs. Arthur Tuckerman opened her attractive contemporary house on the harbor, where recent alterations have added an unusual winding stair to the terrace with its fine view of the bay. Helping here were Mesdames Arthur Manuel, John Scott, John Howard Benson, Jean Auboiss, and Mr. W. King Covell.

Visitors to the Pike house - the home of Mr & Mrs Harold E. Watson - were enchanted not only by the unfolding charm of the house itself, but by the fine antique furniture, the collection of clocks, and by the lovely little garden, invisible from the street. Assisting the Watsons were Msdmes Walter Curry, John Watson, Walter Sapp and Miss Nancy Hay.

EXHIBITIONS: At the home of Rear Admiral and Mrs H.E. Eccles, the public was privileged to see a most distinguished display of colonial Newport silver from the collection of Cornelius C. Moore, Esq. Such noted silversmiths as Casey, Vernon, Coddington, Brenton and many others were represented in this magnificent gathering. Our president, Edwin H. Brownell, himself a "Newport silversmith" was on hand to explain and describe. Others assisting were Mr & Mrs. H.A. Wood, Mrs C.M. Couch, Miss Linda Weakley and Mrs Lowell Emerson. Visitors here had also an opportunity of seeing the Eccles' gracious house and lovely garden.

At The St. Leo Shop, Miss Adé de Bêthune exhibited her interesting religious garden statuary and a wealth of beautiful products of her studio - icons, plaques, stained glass. Those who came to admire the artist's work, paused also to exclaim over the superb view of the bay.

Assisting at the gate were Msdmes Edgar Manuel, Francis Goldie and Reginald Bryer.

Everyone wished that the fine Maritime Exhibition in St. John's Guild Hall might be displayed longer than one afternoon. Ship-models, charts, maps, logs, rare scrimshaw, nostalgic relics of the Fall River Line, prints, paintings, combined to make a comprehensive and well-arranged collection filled with varied interest.

Wm. J. Fitzpatrick, jr. was the moving spirit of this enterprise, and it was a formidable undertaking to assemble, arrange and then dismantle, this large array of objects. He was assisted by Misses Catherine Covell, Hilarie Haylor, and ~~John E.~~ Benson.

Richard

The exhibitors included Mr & Mrs H.A. Wood, Miss Pauline Weaver, W. King Covell, Miss Edith Bozyan, Mrs Bern Anderson, Newport Historical Society Mrs J.H. Benson, Thomas T. Benson, Ralph Emerson, Ralph Arnold, Edwin H. Brownell, E.B. Price, Erich A. O'D Taylor, Charles Douglas, Robert Covell, Mrs William MacLeod, Albert Haas, and Francis Goldie. The Art Association and Preservation Society kindly loaned large glass cases to protect many of the exhibits.

A feature of the day for children of all ages was the series of puppet-shows on the stage of the Guild Hall, where Mrs Harold Johnson, Director of Public Recreation, entertained successive audiences. She was helped by Mrs. John L. Murphy.

TEA, on the St. John's Rectory lawn, was well patronized, and was under the direction of Mrs Robert R. Covell, assisted by Edmes Wm.F. Kitts John West, Ivy O'Neill, and Miss Marion Galvin. Young waitresses were the Misses Ruth Covell, Ruth Trojan, Pat Reeves, Agnes Donovan, Julie Eehan, Carol Beekman, Marie Abois, Adrienne Haylor and Winifred Irwin. The pretty costumes worn by the girls had been made for an Old-port Day long ago.

The 4-H POINTERS, a group of girls under the leadership of Mrs. John E.F. Smith, had already helped to make a number of the flower-boxes which brightened some of the houses. As skillful with the needle as with hammer and saw, each made the charming costume she wore - period dress which can be cleverly adapted to a modern use. These young ladies, who served as guides, messengers and general helpers, were the Misses Debbie Malone, Judith Gifford, Diane Grinnell, Judith Lynch, Joanne Occaso, Gertrude Duffey, Veronica Bento, Mary Nine, Pamela Barter, Josephine Leslie and Margaret Grinnell.

A swash-buckling Pirate was to be seen about the streets, publicizing the Secret Treasure Chest, which was opened at the Poplar ST. brow. This event, of which Miss Mary Perry

was the instigator, realized over \$250 and gave the winner, Miss D. Paquin of Middletown, a Philco transistor radio kindly donated by Walsh Bros., and a year's subscription to the Newport Players' Guild.

As we go to press, full financial reports are not in, but a grand total of \$1095 may be given, with a probable net profit of more than \$950. Certainly the pleasure given to hundreds of people, and the publicity for our Point, made the affair well worth while, and all the people who worked so hard should feel great satisfaction.

Side by side with the Afternoon on the Point ran the Junior Garden and Clean-up Contest, under the able chairmanship of Mrs G.D. Weaver, jr.

38 children have been engaged in 21 projects during the summer, and on July 16 their efforts were judged by Supt. of Schools Charles Whitcomb, Mrs Charles Shea, Pres. Newport Garden Club, and Miss Carole Servillo, Salve Regina student.

First Prize (2 weeks at camp) went to Louise O'Loughlin for her flower and vegetable garden. Helped by her younger brothers and sister, the entire yard was cared for.

Second Prize was won by Gertrude and Louise Duffy, who also raised both flowers and vegetables.

Third Prize was awarded to Charles Cabral for his flowers raised from seed.

Honorable mention went to Ronald Potter's garden and Stephen Sanfillippo's flower-box. The judges only wished there were more prizes, so admirable did they find the work of the children.

Other contestants were: Carol Cabral, Corinne Kelly, Arthur and Donna DeAscentis, Lucinda Evans, Stephen and Thomas Magnon, Richard Evans, Vonda Baesemann, Barbara Oakley, James Cranson, Lenora Soares, Jo Ellen Colacicco, John and Paul Shaffell, Richard Weiss, Gene and Raymond Dufault, Daniel O'Neill, Margaret and James Crowell Diana and Dennis Oliveira, Nancy

Sullivan, Carol Arruda, Kenneth For-sythe, Susan Brownell, Lisa Nemptzow, and Robert, Patricia, William and Daniel O'Loughlin.

All these children, and also the poster contestants (listed last month) were taken on a superlatively successful picnic on July 17. William C. Harrington was assisted by William F. Kitts, Michael Murphy and James Dowd, plus a large committee. The place was the K. of C. day camp, kindly loaned for the occasion, transportation was hay-ride style in big trucks; the amount of hot dogs consumed was fabulous, and we understand that the whole thing was a glorious success.

All these events add up to a busy, profitable and productive summer for the Association. The poster and garden contest turned the ideas of many youngsters toward constructive improvement. We found them noticing conditions which previously would have passed unobserved.

The Afternoon on the Point drew a throng of appreciative people to admire and comment and realize how pleasant and unusual is our part of town. We have heard a good many people speak of the improvement on the Point over the last few years. The difference is beginning to be noticeable.

Our own efforts are bearing fruit. And we cannot sufficiently thank the Public Works Department, who - after a gruelling week of picking up beer cans elsewhere - came at our plea and tidied up all the main approaches to the Point.

JULY BOARD MEETING: The Executive Committee met on July 14 at the home of E.H. Brownell, president.

The date of the General Membership Meeting was set for August 4, with the awarding of the Garden Contest prizes to be featured. Color slides may also be shown.

It was noted that a new trash can has been placed outside the Point Market, and a can (at the request of a member) at the corner of Washington and Chestnut Streets.

Mrs. Weaver's report is outlined in the preceding pages, and will be more fully given at the Quarterly Meeting.

Miss Price reported a circulation of 383 for the June GREEN LIGHT, a membership of 431, and a balance of \$56.77

Miss Perry's report on the Pirate Chest contained a suggestion that most of the proceeds be used to finance the GREEN LIGHT for the coming year, the sum raised corresponding very closely to the Bulletin's budget.

Mrs. Eccles' report of the Afternoon on the Point was read by Miss Price. Financial details will be given at the Quarterly Meeting.

Dr. Nemptzow spoke of the fact that a modified ordinance for the control of unlicensed and vicious dogs had been passed after four sessions of the Council. He wished to thank the Councilman for the First Ward, J. Harold McCormick, for his staunch support of the ordinance, which was presented by City Manager Bisson. Dr. Nemptzow also praised Geo. D. Weaver, jr., John Paduano, and the many others who spoke at the Council meetings. He hopes that Mr. McCormick will attend the Quarterly Meeting to explain the workings of the ordinance to the membership.

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