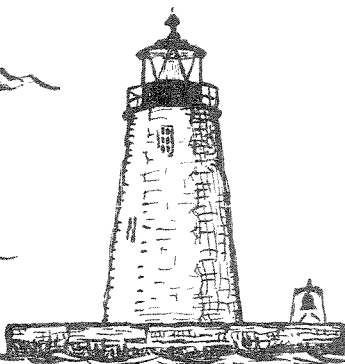


The GREEN

LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

VOL. XIII

JULY 1968

No. 3

JULY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The July General Membership meeting of the Point Association will be a picnic held on Mrs. Benson's lawn at 62 Washington Street on July 25th at six (6) o'clock. Mrs. Benson was so impressed by the way her yard was all cleaned up after the picnic last year that she is glad to have us again. This year we are not planning any special entertainment. Bring your own sandwiches AND dessert, and the Point Association will furnish coffee for all. Don't forget something to sit on. We'll hope for good weather, but last year we ended in a dripping fog, which didn't dampen our spirits.

APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Point Association of Newport held a general membership meeting on Thursday, April 25, 1968, at 8 P.M., at St. John's Guild Hall. Mrs. John Howard Benson, the Acting President, presided. The Secretary's report was read and approved as corrected; Mr. Watson, the Treasurer, reported a balance as of April 25th of \$5,145.40.

Mrs. Bates reported a paid membership of 502. The annual plant sale will be held the middle of May.

Mr. Fullerton gave his Beautification Committee report; see a detailed account later.

Mrs. Benson said the house next to the John Stevens Shop has been bought by Oldport, the Preservation Society, and interested individuals, and will be torn down and given to Cross Street Park as additional land.

Mrs. Benson reported on the present situation of Storer Park and the City Council. It was explained that a buffer zone was needed to separate the commercial zone from the residential. The Point Association position is to keep the entire area for a park, except for the portion claimed by the Preservation Society for a colonial garden on their southern border. The cost of the land is \$25,000. It is owned by the

Redevelopment Agency, and a 90 day postponement was granted by the City Council. Captain Newell recommended that the Point Association consider the possibility of buying the land for a park, except for the strip wanted by the Preservation Society. This was seconded by Mrs. Nemptzow.

The business meeting was adjourned.

Mrs. Delphine Washburn was the guest speaker, and, dressed in a very fetching green Indian dress, gave some impressions of her Flying Trip to the Orient and Europe, and her strong desire to ride elephants and camels. She also told a few things about writing her book, *The Newport Woman*, which most of us have enjoyed.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. James and her committee.

THE DOG PROBLEM

Dr. David Nemptzow for years has been concerned about the difficulties of enforcing the dog ordinance. As he was willing to investigate further, he was at once made chairman of the dog control committee. He has no report to make yet, having been unable to meet with Mr. Mallory, Mr. Fenton, and Mr. Sanfilippo. Meanwhile if you have any trouble, please contact the Newport Dog Catcher, Mr. James

Sanfilippo, 37 Elm Street, telephone: 847-6316.

THE PLANT SALE

The annual plant sale was held on the grounds of the Eccles' house on Washington Street; they generously gave us permission to use it, even though they were in Portugal. Mrs. Sargent, temporarily in their house, did all sorts of things to help, and made the whole thing possible. Two girl scouts, Patricia Mathinos and Delia Farrell, from Mrs. Mathinos' troop had charge of the money, and were most efficient. Wonder of wonders it was a beautiful day, warm and sunny, after we had to postpone it to the 25th so that the plants would have a chance to get bigger. Our old faithfuls came, bringing all sorts of seedlings and cuttings they had raised themselves, and as always Joe Sullivan had a marvellous collection from his friends. People started coming even before ten, and stayed gossiping and drinking coffee -- everyone was caught up on the neighborhood news. We cleared \$45.50, which pays for the geraniums in the Battery Park boxes.

THE CLEAN-UP COMMITTEE

Eight young people reported to Mrs. James one Saturday in May, to make a start at cleaning up the Point. They started at Bridge Street, and worked up to Walnut, and then bravely decided to tackle the worst mess of all, along the railroad tracks north of Poplar Street. People had dumped everything for years, and it was unbelievably filthy. They filled one city truck full of rubbish, and decided to stick to the streets after that. The second time fifteen reported for work, but there was no city truck, so they asked permission to use people's barrels, and collected some more of the mess. During the summer they will have clean-up days.

THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Fullerton, the Chairman of the Beautification Committee, has finished a big program of planting 52 trees and shrubs on the Point, and has replaced several of the trees cut down by the various house movings. He planted mostly oaks and ash on the sidewalks, and some holly and rhododendrons in private yards, hoping that vandals will spare them. At the Cross Street Park the chains have been hung between the posts, and painted, so it really is a park at last. The hawthorne tree will be replaced, and the John Stevens Shop is ready to put in the bench.

However, we have had an unfortunate amount of vandalism. In Battery Park some of the geranium boxes were tipped over, and the trees planted there have had branches torn off, and one was uprooted, so that almost none of the small ones are left. The trees planted this year on the streets have been swung on and bent, the bark has been peeled with a knife, and the lower branches ripped. Since these trees were planted by the Point Association, we do wish that the Point children would respect them. We all enjoy the shade of the bigger trees planted several years ago. The Point Association voted \$300 to prune several overgrown specimens, especially where they have interfered with the wires, and also to clean up the grass and weeds at their base. Mr. Fullerton has finally managed to find some boys willing to do the work, and they are starting after the holiday.

HEAR YE ! HEAR YE !

It's happening this summer at

T H E A L L E Y C A T

Liz Lyell's & Nancy Reynold's exciting new

BOUTIQUE !

44 Thames Street
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THE JUNIOR POINT ASSOCIATION

About 35 of the Young Adults on the Point met on Sunday night, June 23, 1968, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Curtiss James to elect officers for the Junior Point Association. The industrious and hard-working teen-agers elected were:

President - Kathy James
1st Vice President - Steve Sanfilippo
2nd Vice President - Steve Waluk
Corresponding Secretary - Sue Marvelle
Recording Secretary - Julie Ribera
Treasurer - Angie Estrella
The Nominating Committee - Mary Arnold, Robert Bennett, Charlie Fitzpatrick

Wednesday, June 26th, the Junior Point Association met at the home of Mr. William Fullerton to review the by-laws of the Point Association. They are having another meeting soon to decide on their own by-laws, and discuss their problems. They hope to have an outdoor dance in July. Some of the officers went over to Goat Island, and were given a twelve foot ladder for the Elm Street pier, which has no ladder left, and to get on the pier again after diving in, you have to go back to the shore. Club members go to the pier every afternoon to protect it. The Club's first project is to raise some money for their treasury. The next project is to raise enough to get a professional diving board for the Elm Street Pier.

POINT DANCE

Are you tired of sitting at home day after day, facing the same routine? Do your daily activities bore you? Well, if this is the case, why don't you make it a date to attend the Point Dance, which is being sponsored by the newly formed Junior Point Association?

The date is Friday, August 23, 1968, from 9 to 12.

The place is St. John's Guild Hall on Poplar Street.

Music will be provided by the 17 piece Newport Youth Band, who are planning a U.S.O. Tour in the near future. If you enjoy the Big Band Sound, this will be an enjoyable evening for you.

The dance will be the first money raising project for the young adults on the Point, and a rewarding experience for both the young, and the young at heart.

If you cannot attend, but wish to send a donation to support both the dance and the new organization, please send it to:

The Junior Point Association of Newport
c/o Miss Susan Marvelle
6 La Salle Place, Newport, R. I. 02840

All donations will be greatly appreciated!

THE UNFORTUNATE HANNAH ROBINSON

Hannah Robinson was the daughter of Roland Robinson, one of the most famous of the Narragansett planters, rich, famous and domineering. His house is still standing over in Narragansett. Hannah was his youngest daughter, and according to legend, a girl of amazing beauty of appearance, and liveliness of character.

Peter Simon, Jr., the son of the shipmaster, Peter Simon, who owned the house at 25 Bridge Street, was a teacher at Madame Osborn's school in Newport, to which Hannah was sent. The young people fell in love, but knew the proud old planter would never give his consent to their marriage. After a while the mother discovered what was going on, and though she did not approve of it, she unwisely made possible the lovers' meetings. Before long the indignant father discovered the music teacher lurking in the gloom under his daughter's window. From that time he kept close watch upon her, but her infatuation continued; in fact she was encouraged in it by the romantic sympathy of friends and neighbors. At last her father incautiously consented that Hannah should go to a ball given by her aunt at Cocumcuset at Smith's Castle, which is still standing. On the way, she transferred herself from the family carriage to one containing her lover, in spite of her sister's tears, and the appeals of Prince, her faithful negro man-servant. The eloping lovers drove away to Providence and were married. It was to his father's house that young Peter Simon supposedly brought his bride.

Her father sought in vain to find the names of those who had helped her escape, in order that he might take vengeance, and forbade his family ever to communicate with her. Her husband, when he found that his wife was cut off from her father's wealth, soon deserted her. Meanwhile, her oldest sister died of consumption, and her mother had a complete breakdown caused by grief. Her father wrote to her, stating that he would take her back if she would tell who had enabled her to elope. But she refused, and her father said, "Then let the foolish thing die where she is." But this was easier for a man of Roland Robinson's temper to say, than for one of his good heart to do. Finally, learning the alarming condition of her health, he rose suddenly from the dinner table, mounted his horse, and rode to see his daughter. He demanded to know if she would give up the names of those who had assisted her. On her refusal, he rode away, but unable to live without news of his daughter, he made a journey from Narragansett to see her for several weeks. He did not see her.

At last her old neighbors who had been in the plot insisted that she should tell their names. Her father entered her room, and was horrified to behold her condition. At once riding home, he sent a fast sailing sloop, with a hand litter on which to bear her home. It was a lovely day in June, and four negroes with her father and Prince riding by her side, slowly bore the dying girl to her father's home. Various pathetic incidents are told of her journey. At last she was in her own room with her weeping mother beside her. As she lay dying, she took a withered spray of life-everlasting from her bosom and said, referring to her faithless husband, "He told me we must call it not life-everlasting, but love-everlasting. Lay it with me in my grave, mother, that I may take it with me to the land where life is everlasting, and love never dies." The story says that under her window a whip-poor-will sang, the harbinger of death in the Narragansett country, and the next day she died. They buried her near her home, and placed at her head a stone that still stands, marking her resting place.

Ned and Janet Brownell

It may interest you to know that the Peter Simon house was the first one on the Point to be restored, when it was bought by John Perkins Brown in 1949, and was gradually brought back to its original beauty. The Robert Foleys own it now.

Unfortunate Hannah Robinson July 1968
by Ned + Janet Brownell
owners

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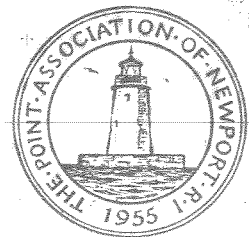
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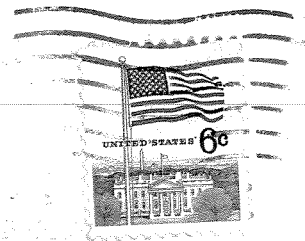
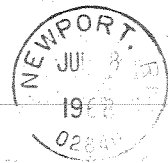
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Let's all work the year around to keep the Point clean and beautiful. Try
to teach children to respect the trees, and to pick up paper, not throw it down.



THE GREEN LIGHT
THE POINT ASSOCIATION
Editor: 22 Bridge Street
NEWPORT, R. I. 02840



Mr & Mrs John Lyons
70 Third St
Newport R I

July 1968

