

The GREEN

LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

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THE APRIL QUARTERLY MEETING

The April Quarterly Meeting of the Point Association will be held on April 27th at the Guild Hall on Poplar Street at 8:00 P.M. Mrs. Mary Wharton, the Executive Secretary of Oldport and Operation Clapboard, will give the Oldport Association taped slide show, with slides of the early Operation Clapboard restorations, demonstrating how to develop and set up a dissolve slide show.

Please be sure to come, as we shall hear the latest news of Storer Park.

JANUARY QUARTERLY MEETING

The January Quarterly Meeting on January 27, 1972, at the Guild Hall, was a pot luck supper in charge of Dede Elster. About 150 members and friends came, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The menu was beef stew, salad, and pie, all served on the long tables at the sides of the hall. All diets must have been forgotten as everyone took advantage of the great variety, and talked continuously while eating. There was a brief business meeting, mostly about Storer Park, brief because even though our President used his tone of command, he could hardly be heard over the friendly conversations. Mrs. Elster seems to put on a delicious supper with little effort, and we all thank her. Any cooking utensils that were not collected that night, she will bring to the April meeting.

THE ANNUAL PLANT SALE

(Which used to be the Apple Blossom
and Coffee Hour)

Our annual plant sale will be held on Saturday, May 20th, at 101 Washington St. You all know whose house that is. It will be from 10 to 12. Now is the time to plant your seeds, and separate your big clumps of perennials, like day lilies, iris, chrysanthemums, etc. Anything is welcome.

AUGUST STREET FAIR

Plans are beginning for another Street Fair this summer on Saturday, August 26th, on Willow Street. Anyone interested in taking a space may call 847-5863 or 847-0584. The cost will be \$10 for enough room for two card tables.

There will be a grandmother's table under the direction of Mrs. Mary Sargent. Beginning on Wednesday, April 12th, we shall have weekly meetings at 2:30 at Mrs. Sargent's house, 77 Third Street, and welcome suggestions for popular things to make. You do not have to sew a fine seam; if interested, just call her at 847-5736, and come. Get caught up on the Point news while you work.

Isabel Eccles will be general chairman, bringing her many talents and experience to help us all, to our great delight.

ECOLOGY FAIR

The Island Ecology will sponsor an ecology fair on April 29th in Touro Park from 10 to 4. Several groups will give displays of their projects. The Point Association has several exhibits, some of which have articles for sale. Mrs. Sargent and Mrs. Nesbitt: edible weeds, and how to prepare them.

Mrs. Eccles: how to make what-nots from glass bottles and jars.

Ade de Bethune: jewelry with ecological signs.

Pat Hegnauer: ecology bread, which everyone enjoys.

Susan Watts is in charge of the Point Association table, and hopes to have several more interesting things to show.

STORER PARK

As of April first the Storer Park situation seems to be close to a favorable decision. In the last few months the following progress has been made.

The Point Association, the Preservation Society, and the Newport Restoration Foundation have agreed on a general plan for the design, acquisition and development of the land west of Washington Street between the Goat Island causeway and the Hunter House. The Newport Restoration Foundation very generously has agreed to contribute fifty percent of the total cost with the Point Association contributing forty percent and the Preservation Society ten percent.

The Redevelopment Agency has approved the proposal. We hope to sign a purchase contract within the next few weeks. Upon completion of the work we hope to give the Park to the city as a recreation spot for all the people.

The City Council has been briefed on the proposal and the tentative design and is expected to consider the matter formally at the regular meeting on April 12th. Since there are many legal and economic factors to be considered, it is not practicable to predict when and how final decision will be made.

A competent landscape architect has consulted with the Executive Board of the Point Association and is preparing a proposal to undertake the final detailed design and supervision of the project.

We all are agreed that the park will be simple, functional, and designed for easy maintenance.

Sufficient funds are immediately available to pay for the purchase and a plan for fund raising to provide the remainder of the Point Association's share of the costs is being prepared and active solicitation will start as soon as the project is approved.

Since we cannot accurately estimate the final cost until plans are completed and bids obtained, we do not know precisely how much money we must raise. Several substantial contributions have been promised, but since our share is expected to be in the neighborhood of twenty-five thousand dollars, we will need the enthusiastic work of all our members.

We are fortunate in having \$7,500.00 in a special savings account to start this major project.

Several important points must be emphasized.

First, Storer Park will be a natural boundary between the commercial district to the south and the residential district to the north. As such it will not only improve the whole Point section but will add to the attractiveness of the developments on Goat Island.

Second, Storer Park will be a continuing challenge to all people of the Point. We not only must work to create and improve it but over the years we must work to keep it clean and free from disorder and vandalism so that all the people, young and old, black and white, rich and poor may together enjoy human decencies and the full beauty of Newport and the Narragansett Bay.

Third, Thus when completed this park will stand as an example of constructive community cooperation, not only to other parts of Newport and Aquidneck Island but to the whole State.

The Lewellens, who lived in the Pineapple House while in Newport, now have an 18th century house in New Hampshire, but that is a beginning. Jane wrote:

"Not happy to settle for an eighteenth century house, Bob and I really spread our wings, and went to France last May and bought a fifteenth century fort called a commandery, a few miles south of Poitiere, formerly the residence of the Knights Templars, and lately of a farmer's family, and 20 cages of rabbits which inhabited the chapel. There are eight buildings on the place and we are taking the gothic bakery and wash house and making a peasant type modernized house of it as Bob says he doesn't wish to spend his winters in New Hampshire.

I am itching to find out how the Gardner Museum grows those boxes of 30 foot nasturtiums, as I want to hang them from the top of the main building on the outside, like Rapunzell's hair."

(Can any of our experts help Jane?)

LOG OF THE CATBOAT FALCON

Newport, R. I., to Edgartown, Mass., and return
July 13-17, 1885

This is the delightful log of the cruise of the Catboat Falcon in the familiar waters of Newport, Cuttyhunk, Hadley's Harbor, Wood's Hole, Vineyard, Edgartown, and return via Menemsha, Lobsterville, and Gay Head. It was made available through the courtesy of Mr. E. W. Smith, Jr., of Darien, Connecticut, nephew of W. W. Smith, Master and Owner of the Falcon.

W. W. Smith, Master
J. B. LaFarge
C. G. LaFarge

July 13.

The celebrated fast-sailing R. I. Pirate Cruiser "Falcon" left Newport, R. I., July 13, 1885, at 12 Noon after having spent several hours in taking aboard provisions and ammunition. With a light breeze S., passed Brenton's Reef buoy at 1 P.M. Laid the course for Cuttyhunk, setting the jib. The cook then went below and compounded a deadly mixture which heated in a frying pan produced a variety of what he alleged to be cakes found to be a very serviceable article, if any use could be found for them as they were strong and durable. Wind increased and when off Westport at 4:15 was blowing a good breeze S. Passed whistling buoy off Hen & Chickens at 5:15, wind falling, and at 5:30 almost calm. Fell flat calm so rowed till about 1 mile from Cuttyhunk at 6:20 when wind came in light S.E. Stowed the jib. Made Cuttyhunk Harbor at 7:30, cooked supper and turned in.

July 14.

Cloudy: wind S.S.E. blowing strong. All hands turned out at 6:30. W.W.S. went ashore in the tender to get milk and eggs. Then we cooked breakfast after which W. went ashore again to get a few articles needed aboard. While he was gone, a large catboat with two antique shell backs aboard her came into the harbor under two reefs. The Captain asked us the way into Cuttyhunk Pond which we told him and they ran the boat in all right and anchored there. Commenced to rain. After William came aboard we got all ready to get under way with one reef in, and then waited for the Cuttyhunk Steamer to arrive so as to send a telegram. Bill boarded her in the skiff which the heartless and unfeeling ruffians on board of the steamer likened even unto an oyster shell. Much disheartened by this unjust criticism, we got under way for Hadley's Harbor, which place we found last year to be very productive of mosquitoes. We had given up going to Menemsha Bay today on account of the weather. Time of leaving Cuttyhunk 12:18 P.M. It rained at intervals and blew hard with thunder and lightning part of the time. About dark it fell flat calm and then a large battalion of murderous mosquitoes boarded us, and proceeded to get in their pretty work with great rapidity and effect.

We stood their attacks until a breeze began to blow from about N. E., and then we went into the cabin and shut it up tight, lit the lamp and killed without mercy all the mosquitoes we could find in the place, sparing none on account of age or sex. We then opened the cabin and put out the light and as there was a good breeze were not much further troubled. At 9 P.M. the sky was clear and we all turned in.

July 15.

All hands turned out at 7 A.M. Wind N.W., blowing a good strong breeze. Clear. Got breakfast, which finished at 9. Then after taking aboard some milk, got under way with one reef. One of the men on the Forbes Steamer Launch "Albacore" said that they would show us the way through Wood's Hole, as they were going through at 10. We waited for them in the outer harbor, standing off and on until they appeared, when we got in their wake and followed them. The tide was with us and running like a mill-race. Just as we reached the black can buoy, which was almost entirely under water, the Steamer Martha's Vineyard passed us bound the other way. The "Albacore" had gone so far ahead of us as to be of but little service as a guide, but we got through all right, clearing Wood's Hole at 10:40 and making the course for Vineyard Haven. Saw the "Nourmahal" bound for the westward. She had passed Cuttyhunk bound east the day before. Tried trolling for bluefish, but didn't get any. Made the wharf at Vineyard Haven at 11:50 and went ashore. Sent a telegram and bought some butter, canned apricots and tomatoes, cake and bananas. Interviewed Captain Harding and W.W.S. made a call on one of his Andover friends. Supposed by the rest of the crew to have a pretty sister, as W.S. refused all offers to accompany him to the house and stayed there a good while. He denies the insinuation but it is considered a doubtful question. Left Vineyard Haven at 1 P.M. for Edgartown. Off East Chop shook off the reef. Made Edgartown Harbor at 3. Ran up to the wharf, and proceeded at once to cook dinner. The potatoes had been boiled while under way, with the stove and saucepan both lashed down to keep them from fetching away, as it was pretty rough. Little Willie went ashore and purchased a high bluefish, which was cut into pieces and fried in meal and pork fat. This, with the potatoes mashed with milk and butter and then browned, and a sort of mongrel tomato soup made enough of a meal to render the entire crew nearly lifeless. Dinner was finished at 5 P.M. Then we all loafed about the wharf and heard the fishermen growling about the repeal of the law prohibiting seining. There was a fleet of 28 Massachusetts seiners, who are expected to destroy the blue-fishing after a time. One of the Cotamy boats came in with 34 large bluefish caught on the beach. She had on board one of the men we saw fishing there last year and who was the most expert thrower there at the time. The "Falcon" was much admired and many comments were made upon her. One old Plum wanted to buy her in the fall and was willing to go as high as \$100 for her. In the evening W.W.S. and C.G.LaF. went ashore and walked about the town. A sign of "Ice Cream" proved an irresistable attraction to William who decoyed C.G.LaFarge in with him. Two delightful young ladies were there with a native "beau" causing ice cream to disappear with startling rapidity, and these fair products of the Vineyard were so overcome with the combined attractions of the two nautical tramps as to giggle with unremitting and hysterical ardor until the departure of the said NT's. This excitement passed and some blackberries secured on the way back, they returned to the boat and turned in.

(To be Continued.)

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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.



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



Mr. & Mrs. Robert Covell
133 Washington St.
Newport, R.I. 02840