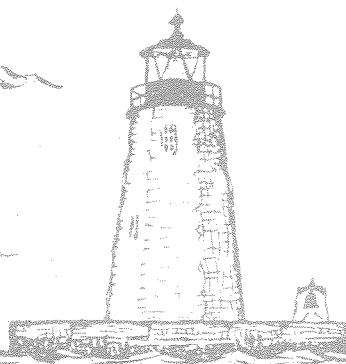


The GREEN LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

FOR YOUR DUES AND DONATIONS
ARTICLES AND QUOTATIONS —

ANYTHING UNDER THE SUN
THE POINT ASSOCIATION, P. O. BOX 491

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again the Point Association of Newport is to be congratulated, for the success of the Fair was "SUPER" thanks to Captain Herbert F. Rommel, ret. the Chairman. Thanks to all the Committees! Without your untiring efforts the Fair would never be a success (Who cares about a little rain - only laid the dust on the street).

Already plans are being made for the "Day on the Point" for 1980. The Chairmen for next year will be Captain Arthur Newell and Bill Fullerton. We have hopes of adding an Antique Show with the Fair. It is in our hopes also that the same Committees will be with us for 1980.

As many of you know, 1980 will be our 25th Anniversary. Special events will be planned.

The saying goes, the first twenty-five years are the hardest - We shall be needing several new Chairpersons and I hope when you are called upon as always, you will say, "I'll be glad to help" - as always.

Don't forget the General Meeting, at the Guild Hall,
18th of October, 1979

7:30

In addition to reports, there will be an Election of Officers.

Our guest speaker will be

DIRK BACH - AMERICAN CULTURE 1980 - A VISUAL VIEWPOINT

Dirk Bach was educated at Colgate University, the University of Denver, BFA. Masters-Painting. University of Michigan-Masters in History of Far Eastern Art. PhD-Chinese and Japanese Painting.

He teaches at Rhode Island School of Design. His lectures in Newport have been very well received, so please tell your friends and come out for this will certainly be a talk worth hearing.

WILLIAM H. FULLERTON
President, Point Association

MEMBERSHIP

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEMBERS TO PAY THEIR ANNUAL DUES

At the August Board Meeting it was decided that individual dues, for October 1979-1980, will be \$3.00; family dues remain \$5.00.

Please bring your dues to the October meeting or send it to P.O. Box 491.



RENEWAL NOTICE THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND

Individual Membership
Family **\$5.00** Active: **\$3.00**
Sustaining **\$10.00** Patron: **\$25.00**

Send Dues to: P.O. Box 491
Newport, R.I. 02840

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

I am seeking a few volunteers to serve on the Membership Committee. If you're interested in helping the Association grow and meeting new neighbors, please see me at the October meeting or call 849-4395.

If dues are not paid by Dec. 15, 1979 you will not receive the January issue of The Green Light and your name will be dropped from our mailing list.

DONNA MAYTUM

Beloved, generous Carrie Ericson told me in shocked tones, I had dropped five members of a family who were Born-on-the-Pointers and with the Association from the first and certainly paid up. I hastily added the names she gave to me - they had not paid; they did not pay; we have never heard from them. I am asked to ask the M.C. why she thinks they haven't paid - well, why do they suppose? I think she is a very busy lady - and it isn't something to be hurt or embarrassed about anyway. I used to receive The Green Light with Essie Bates' red stamp LAST NOTICE and realize, dear me, that's right -

(footnote by the editor)

POINT STREET FAIR

The Fair was a financial and social success. It was a happy day. People were smiling.

I continue to be impressed with the dedicated work by so many volunteers. When I mention what some have done, remember with me the army of members who manned the entrances, baked the cakes, sewed the quilt squares, made and gave things for The Sewing Basket, etc. We can be proud of the vitality and momentum of our Association.

Once again Isabel Eccles designed a beautiful quilt - this one was "Autumn on the Point" (a leaf motif). Angela Vars supervised its production and the people doing the stitching. Jan Gordon again took charge of the sales. The quilt was won by John Conley of California, who was visiting his mother in Middletown. The pillow was won by Kay Ewart, a Point resident.

In the Guild Hall, Alberta Kazanjian this year assembled many more Food Tables. They all sold out early. The Point Bake Table was very profitable, with Mrs. Peterson doing the telephoning and Heidi Bach running sales, with young Erica Bach to help her so enthusiastically. Martins provided cold drinks and Buttons hot dogs (No ice cream from Clarke Cook House this year; their machine broke down at the Elms' Fair). Again, Diane McNamara did a great job on Publicity; Annette Chramiec produced an eye-catching Poster; the Simmons took charge of White Elephants. Mrs. Robert Covell had lined up gatekeepers for the three gates, and after the accident Ann Canole Toomey stepped in and supervised.

Rosalys Hall and Mary Rommel were co-chairmen of a group of ladies who sewed for months to produce charming and varied items for the Sewing Basket. Dan Butterworth gave a superb marionette performance, but his second show was rained out. As usual, your president, Bill Fullerton, worked hard and was available for counsel, and, when necessary, sympathy.

Let us not forget the people who initially make the Fair possible: the residents of Willow Street who graciously let us use their street, and the Church of St John the Evangelist, which lets us use the driveway and the Guild Hall. The City Council gave us a permit (without charge) to close the street and hold the Fair. Mr. Garcia of the Public Works Department saw to cleaning the street and provided snow fence barriers.

We should mention the proprietors of the booths; they provide one-fourth of our income. For most of them, their enterprise is a hobby. They work hard setting up, and then sitting in the sun, and for the first time at a Point Fair, this year sitting in the rain. They provide an interesting show; some do well and some do not.

For each of you, there is a special memory of the Fair. For me, this year it is the picture of the children in that corner run by Theo and Charles Duncan. Children's Activities did a land office business, with the two working all day in a sea of smiling faces. While not intended to be a major fund raiser, the Children's Activities was quite profitable. There were fine prizes donated by many merchants. These merchants did not expect anything but the satisfaction when they gave, yet it is only right we should here mention and thank them, Armchair Sailor, Arnold Art Store, Base Camp, Chase and Chase, Cloud Nine, Glass Workbench, Harold's Camera Center, Kitchen Pot Pourri,

Leather Feat, Lily Pulitzer, Lindy's Omelet Shop, The Linen Shop, Max Oberharts, Mi amar Chocolatier, Music Box, Newberry's, Newport Bicycle, Newport Diving Center, Newport nautical House, Newport Plant and Garden Shop, Newport's Upper Crust, Potter & Co. Roller Skate Shop, Bellevue Ave, Ryans Sporting Goods, Water's Edge Florist, Wiseman's Art Store.

Capt. Newell again offered his house as Command Post. Dennis McNamara was a busy Treasurer of the Fair.

We netted over \$3800 (down slightly from last year due to three hours less admissions and quilt sales).

Now some exciting news. Next year, Captain Art Newell will be Chairman of the Fair and Bill Fullerton Co-Chairman. There will be fresh ideas, some new directions - but I shall let Art give you the details.

My thanks to everyone who helped make the Street Fair a success.

Herb Rommel, Chairman

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee met to select a slate to present to the membership to fill the offices of First Vice President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary and to nominate next year's Nominating Committee.

First Vice President

Herbert F. Rommel

Treasurer

Dennis McNamara

Recording Secretary

Heidi Bach

Nominating Committee 1980

Dirk Bach, Curtis Magee, Joseph P.T. Vars

The recommendations of the Committee are not sacrosanct, and a candidate named from the floor may of course be presented. We cannot contact all the membership while collating a slate, therefore, we urge you to think of a friend or a neighbor who might be an effective officer and a willing worker to promote the policies and well-being of your Association. When the call comes during the the October meeting, propose his/her name for the consideration of the membership. Give it some thought.

Thomas J. Foley - Real Point Hummer - Visits

August of this year brought Thomas J. Foley back for a good visit with his brother Michael and sister-in-law Anna at their home on Memorial Drive. He spent much time revisiting the Point, which was for so long his home. As a boy, Thomas worked for the Katzmans, and touring the area he congratulated them on the honor done them in the naming of the Place. The parents, Thomas J. and Mary A. Foley, lived at 52 Second Street, at the corner of Walnut, with sons Thomas, Martin, Michael, James and daughter Catherine. Thomas J. Foley, Sr. was the chauffeur for Guy and Louisa P. Norman, and our recent visitor has said he will send The Green Light something about the wonderful old cars, as well as his own memories of homemade root beer and other such joys once available in Battery Park.

While here, he saw the Memorial of World War II, with his brother Jim's name on it. James Foley was killed in Germany - on the Remagen Bridge. Thomas, in the Military Police himself, went through Scotland, England, France, Belgium, Germany and Holland, finding Jim's grave and placing the cross on it two days before leaving from Le Havre for Home

Teddy Bozyan went to school with Thomas and over tea and cookies they had a good time speaking of the old days and old acquaintances. "I have many memories and Newport grabs my Heart - because of the many friends and happy life we all had here." Various copies of The Green Light went with him and Thomas Foley sent back the blessing - May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again .. may God hold you in the palm of His Hand."

From WATERFRONT PLANNER, publ. by Committee for a Planned Waterfront

"Last fall a 22-member team of University of Rhode Island graduate students in Community Planning began a study to provide a fresh perspective for the development of the Newport waterfront. ...members of Newport's Planning Board indicated a strong interest... Specific areas addressed included:

- +Traffic circulation: vehicles, pedestrians, mass transit and parking.
- +Tourism: visitor service centers, orientation programs and overnight accommodations.
- +Waterfront activities: commercial fishing and recreational boating.
- +Residential development: certain areas along the southern part of the waterfront.

"In order that their study be useful in generating a waterfront master plan, the team recommended the creation of a task force... Membership of the task force would include public officials, property owners, merchants, designers, and others. The Committee for a Planned Waterfront supports the formation of a task force and use of the study as a valuable resource in the development of a master plan for our waterfront.

"The CPW has commissioned a study which will focus on the impact of the proposed hotel on Long Wharf on the economic structure of the waterfront area. \$1,000 has been appropriated for the study which will focus on the following aspects: +employment patterns+salary ranges+parking+mass transit.

"In addition, the study will focus on possible alternate land use for the site." (End of quote)

We have the decisions of Nantucket. What was better for who? The decision was in favor of the people of Nantucket. The small businesses are flourishing' because all the business is theirs. The young people are finding jobs and will probably be able in peace and dignity to retire to a place of their own.

California, many years ago, set up a kind of border to keep out various despoilers of what they regarded as their good life. San Francisco is a BIG city. And again from Committee for a Planned Waterfront News - "San Francisco recently down-zoned the entire city. The entire waterfront is limited to 40 feet in height."

Miss Nora Shea, who died on July 14th of this year, was a most faithful and beloved member of the Point Association. She attended every function and gave her support to all Point projects. Her family had settled in Newport when she was a child, as her father was employed on the Fall River Line boats. We are indebted to her for the pictures accompanying the following article (over-page); they were found among the things she had cherished. (They were holiday greeting cards from the late William King Covell)

A WALK DOWN WASHINGTON STREET DURING THE 1920'S

Robert R. Covell

It is almost impossible to describe the sights on lower Washington Street to one who never knew it in the steamboat era. It was a series of scenes of bustling activity from "The Lantern" (a boarding house south of the Hunter House) down to Long Wharf.

At Briggs Wharf, off Marsh Street, there would be tied up the freight boats. During the winter months, the great, beautiful hulk of the Commonwealth was a permanent fixture. On the south side of Briggs Wharf was the Block Island on which was a floating diningroom; here one would see the personnel of the New England Steamship Company, especially the bachelors, coming and going at meal times.

Just opposite the present Broadway Hardware Company was the next wharf. Known as Middle Wharf, it presented spectacles to delight a young boy. A huge pair of shears, or derrick, with tremendous pulleys, stood ready on the south side to do whatever work was needed on the boats. In the early years, the derrick was wooden, but in 1906 it collapsed and burned along with the fire on the Plymouth which was tied up at that wharf. The wooden derrick was then replaced by a steel one which remained there for many years of boat work. At the bottom of the derrick was a brick house with an independent steam boiler and engine to operate the drums. The sight of all this heavy machinery in operation was eye-filling to say the least.

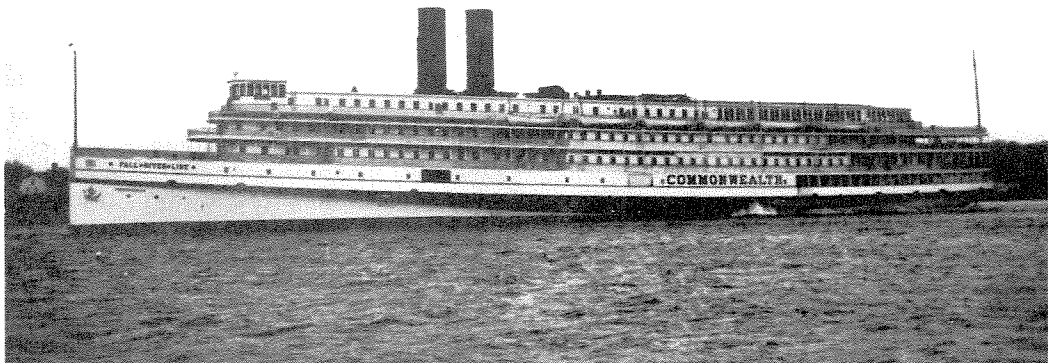
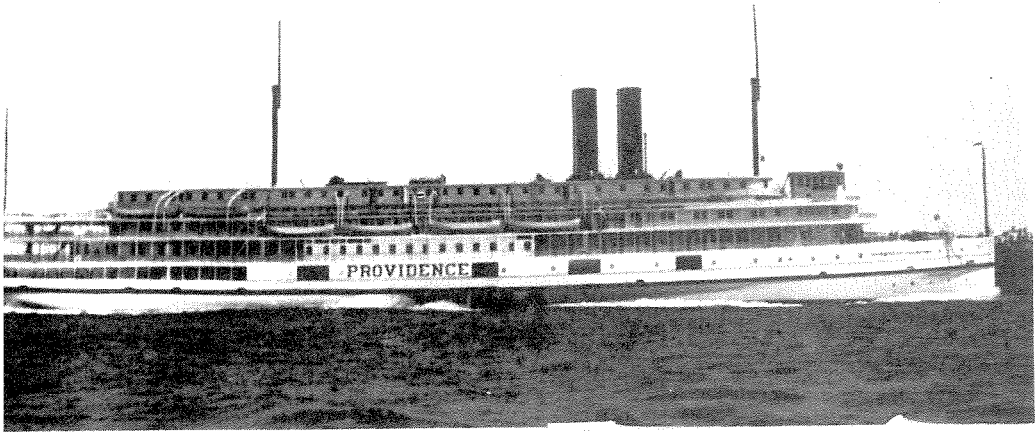
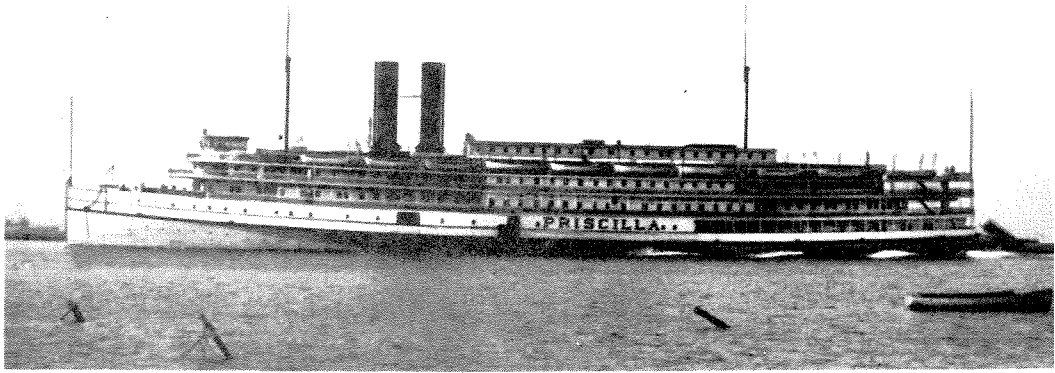
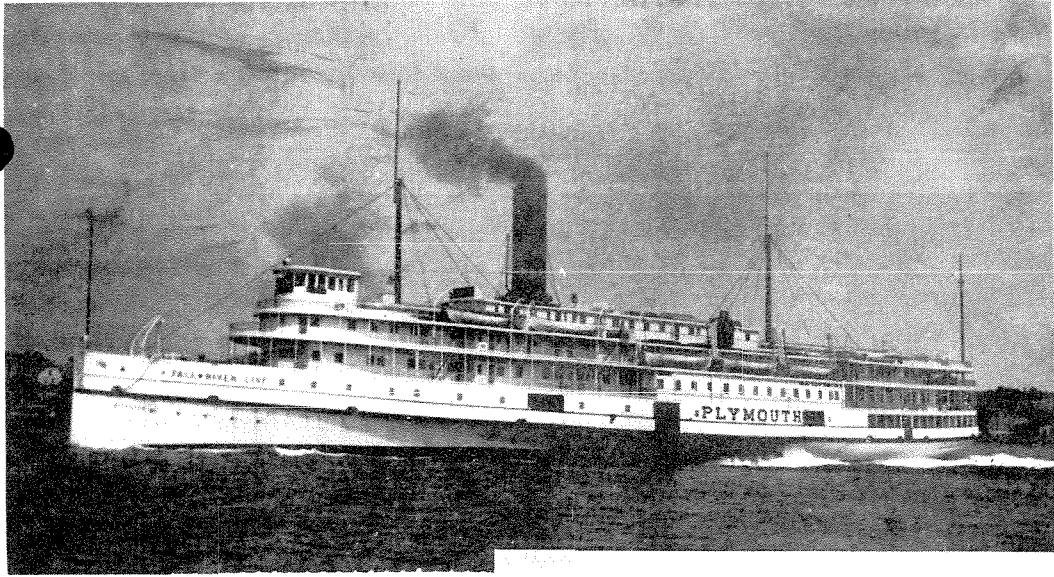
Long Wharf, of course, was the main center of boat activity. The outer end was always left open for one of the Fall River Liners to land. The pattern was constantly changing, particularly in summer when all the boats were in operation. There two large vessels -- the Priscilla and the Commonwealth -- and two smaller ones -- the Providence and the Plymouth. Two were used in the New York to Fall River run, while the others ran from New Bedford to and from New York, tying in with the Martha's Vineyard - Nantucket Line.

Whenever a Fall River Liner was preparing for its New York run, Long Wharf became especially lively. The late boat train would arrive carrying passengers from Boston and Fall River (the train tracks leading to the docking area can still be seen). The Newport passengers hurried up the gangplank, often accompanied by friends and well-wishers. If there happened to be a bride and groom making the trip, a whole wedding party might be in evidence, adding bright dots of confetti to the scene. Surrounding all, there was often a complement of "watchers" -- Pointers and other Newporters who took a stroll "to see the New York boat depart."

Important as were the passengers, they always had to wait for the loading of the Newport cargo, barrels of freshly caught fish and lobster packed in ice. These were bound for New York's Pier 14 and thence to the Fulton Fish Market.

As late-comers ran to beat the signal to remove the gangplank, the whistle blew, lines were cast off, bells from the pilot house clanged out their message to the engine room, and the huge, white "floating palace" moved into the Bay.

For those whose memories stretch back only to 1937 when the Fall River Line came to an end, we can only tell you, with sad nostalgia, what beautiful sights you might have seen on a walk down Washington Street in the '20's.



INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS

by Joseph P.T. Vars

Our Rotary International Exchange students always create interest. This is followed soon by admiration and the promoting of a warm neighborliness, with much conversation back and forth. The students have brought new visitors to our home and, as in the past three years we've had "daughters," dates. Perhaps you noticed the Swedish flag flying from our house. We flew it when our "daughter" Siv arrived from Sweden, and again when her mother came to visit us after Siv's school year and their 30-day bus trip around the United States.

Our first "daughter" was Anna, from Stromen, Norway, a suburb of Oslo. An athletic girl with a bright, friendly smile, she had typical Scandinavian looks and a warm personality. We're immediately called "Mom and Dad," having clarified this point at the airport. Angela is extremely patient in explaining the dishwasher, and the washing machine; gentle with explanations when English is difficult, and comforting when letters are few and far between because of distance, or slight pangs of homesickness set in. Our beginning conversations set down house rules, including "dates," hours to be home and the value of having the "House Key."

Our newest "daughter" arrived on August 25th this year. She is Sonia, aged 16, and is from Santa Cruz, Bolivia, in South America. This time we are trying to learn Spanish! As with the other girls, Sonia is anxious to join us with the household chores, cleaning, etc. She is a Senior at Rogers and, again like the others, extremely personable. Her "Three-quarters" English is improving each day.

Other international visitors to our home have been: Hiroshi from Japan, who was studying at New York University - he came up for a weekend through our membership in the Newport Council for International Visitors - and Toshio, from Tokyo, also a student at the same University. They're great guys and I'm sure they enjoyed our brand of American life and took our good will to carry back to Japan. Professor Ang, from the University of Singapore, in the Republic of Singapore, was completely enthralled with Newport; he was on a grant, studying living in high density areas, and he loved Angela's spaghetti and meatballs! Mr. Das from India was a teacher in his home country and was captivated by the historic homes on the Point. "M.C.," as he was affectionately known, cabled Angela birthday greetings and even remembered mine (even though I've reached the time for forgetting it).

Our student daughters are the guests who remain with us longest. From the time of their arrival in mid-August, they stay to just after Thanksgiving. They go on to two other families during their school year, before returning to their homes.

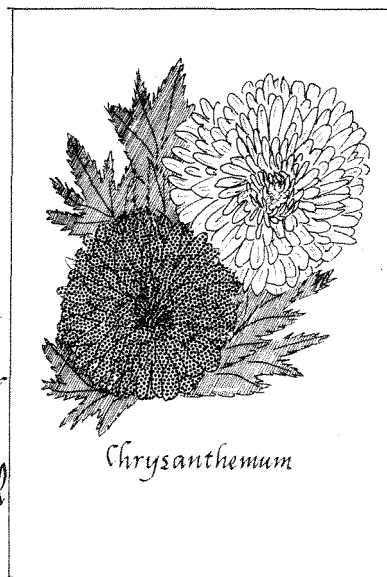
We want to make much of them while they are here. SO if you see a petite dark-haired girl with a bright smile, say, "Buenos dias, Senorita Sonia."

(The editor does not know how Angela and Joseph are able to do so much, but she asked for this piece - and it was promptly written.)

Plants of the Point

Chrysanthemum. ~ *Compositae* *Morifolium*. ~ Daisy Family

This much and deservedly loved plant, which comes in a generous number of colors and innumerable tones, is not recommended where a low growing plant is desired, unless, before the plant attains a height of six inches, the center is pinched off. If the chrysanthemum is not cut back, be prepared to stake each and ever one. Do not throw the tops away! Make them a careful hole where you want another, and by Fall you will have better plants than the old.



Chrysanthemum

Chrysanthemums are most adaptable to pot growing. Take some of the tops you removed and place five or six stems in a pot containing three parts garden soil to one part peat moss, then keep damp for two weeks. Such pots may be moved about your garden, putting color or accent where you like. They may be brought into the house later in the Fall for bright flowers on and on.

Chrysanthemums may be the most widely grown flower, because of the multitude of colors and ease of maintenance. They will grow in any soil, in full sun or semi-shade. Plants, as we commoners call them, appreciate a top dressing of V-X-V during the summer. They may benefit from being sprayed or dusted with a complete pesticide although I myself find that if you start out with good healthy plants it is rarely necessary. Chrysanthemums kept too wet develop a grey mold.

It is very rare to have to mulch chrysanthemums for the winter. Occasionally they die out. As a rule it is the older plant and you will find come Spring, there, a few inches from the old plant, new growth is popping through.

Transplant your chrysanthemums early and do not wait until they get too tall! This will ensure a good root base before you start pinching out the tops. Dig all around and lift gently the little greening mop; pull carefully apart, selecting the youngest and strongest growths to plant.

Do not remove the tops after the middle of July, otherwise the frost will take the flowers before they have a chance to mature.

ANSWERS TO

QUESTIONS SENT IN FROM POINT GARDENS

(Here the question was, how to use some neighbor's rose to start one of her own - or what nursery had one)

T.D. - If you have time to wait while it gets its start, cuttings from the Dr. Van Fleet work fine. In September, take two or three stems; be sure you break it off a large limb so as to have a wooded foot. Cut to no longer than 5". Remove all leaves and insert 2" in the earth.

Take a Jelly Jar or Mayonnaise Jar and place over the cutting. Make sure that no air gets in around the edges. Do not remove Jar until May. You will find, very early in the spring, tiny leaves will appear. The Jar acts as its own little greenhouse. Use 5-10-5 fertilizer. How ever much it is a joy to grow them this way, remember it will take 3 years before you will have blooms. Most Nursery places will have the Dr. Van Fleet rose.

W.R. - Geraniums must be cut back severely, even though it pains one. By doing this it ensures new growth coming out at the base. Flower buds will only ferm on new growth. If you hold over geraniums during the winter, make sure you cut them back in February. Also they like to be slightly rootbound.

I take all our geraniums in the fall, pull them up, place in a basket and keep them in our basement. If doing this, do not remove the leaves and blooms; wait until spring. Usually in January I sprinkle water over the basket, and in February I cut them back and pot them in garden soil. Do not use a rich humus, as this only produces leaves and no buds. Liquid fertilizer, Rapid Grow, Hytrus is excellent.

This may sound crazy - but I take a small paintbrush and brush the stems with Rapid Grow every two days. In no time new growth bursts out up and down the stems. Take a look at our window boxes of geraniums. These plantings are several years old.

R.H. - Posey, cut your geraniums back. In fact, I'll do it for you come spring.

Bill Fullerton

(R.H. What a rash statemant! I now have some hundreds of witnesses)

New question - really, Bill, several people have asked.

How did Joe Sullivan produce that lovely soil over the winter he gave away so freely come spring? This was no partly digested mulch but grand stuff, ready to use.

ANYONE REMEMBER SWITCHEL?

The jugs for Switchel hung in every Newport barn, ready for such hot times as bringing in the hay. The Rhode Island recipe - or one of them - was: Mix 4 Tablespoons of Molasses, 4 Tablespoons of Lemon Juice and 4 Ounces of Light Rum. Pour over crushed ice. Add cool well water and a twist of lemon peel.

RHH

DID YOU KNOW? by Fannie Cushman

Did you know that the first English house in Newport, built 1639-40, stood on Farewell Street where now green lawn stretches to the Friends' Meeting House?

Did you know that it was burned by the Indians in 1641, soon after it was built?

Did you know that the name of Farewell Street until after the Revolution was Bridge Street and that a bridge crossed the river that came down River Lane?

Did you know that 26 pirates were hung on Gravelly Point?

Did you know that Levin Street was once named Mushroom Lane?

Did you know that people living in that part of Newport that is now Middletown were referred to in the early documents as "those that lived in the woods"?

Did you know that at the time of the Revolution the West Main Road was called "the King's Highway"?

Did you know that in the early churches the pews were sold outright with deeds and that in Trinity Church when a member of the family died the floor was taken up and the body buried beneath the pew?

Did you know that when George Washington died a funeral was held for him in Newport, with a ceremony at Trinity Church? A coffin was carried in with crossed swords placed upon it. After the funeral ceremony a long procession carried the coffin to the old cemetery. A grave was dug and the coffin buried and a gun salute fired over it.

Did you know that all the money was "hard money". People had their silver coins melted and made into porringers and pitchers and spoons ("Coin Silver"), and used them on their tables, and when they needed money had them made into coins again by the proper authorities. Much less danger of theft, and besides you could have your money and use it too!

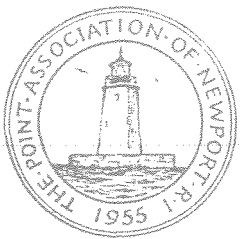
Did you know that the winter of 1780 was so severe in Newport that the Bay froze over solid and there were regular roads tracked in the ice to Providence and Narragansett?

Did you know that where Thames Street is now was once a Marsh which had to be filled in before it could be built upon?

Did you know that the town schoolhouse once stood in the middle of Washington Square, about where Perry's monument is now?

Membership: Donna Maytum
Cookbook Sales: Eileen Peterson
"Day on the Point" Chairman:
Herbert Rommel
Committee for Guest Speakers:
Emilia Cresswell, Alberta Kazanjian,
and Arthur Newell
Chairman-Nominating Committee:
Robert Elster

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THE GREEN LIGHT
THE POINT ASSOCIATION
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