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Cover Photograph by Edward Snerman III
I am taking this opportunity to personally thank Helen Holland for her unselfish sacrifice of time and energy to the Green Light as editor. Without question, Helen was the engine that drove the Green Light; her drive and guidance produced an excellent Association newsletter as well as a historical tabloid of the Point.

Personally the best thanks I can give to Helen is to say she was a mentor to me. By example, she showed me how to accomplish objectives with dignity, class, and knowledge.

Mark Fernandez, Publisher

The other members of the staff join Mark in paying tribute to Helen. We all enjoyed working with her.

Virginia Covell

Kit Hammett

Kay O'Brien
I have been on the job for only 3 months, now, but this seems like a good time for a short report. So far, the work has been much fun. Throughout these last months, I have been continually surprised by the amount of time that I have spent on the telephone. That seems to be one of the major aspects of this job.

I talk to other Board members about matters that may arise between Board meetings; I talk to members, trying to find volunteers for various (and numerous) positions which need to be filled; and I also speak with City officials and others concerning matters of importance to the Association. I have not, however, spent as much time as I had expected on the receiving end of members' telephone calls.

Conducting the Executive Board meetings, of course, is also a major task. That job is not as hard as it might have been, because I was a member of the Board for seven years. From 1975 until 1980, I was the Point Association's liaison with the City Council; and then until 1982 I was the editor of the Green Light. So, I had a good idea of how the Board works.

While I have your ear, let me say just a word about the Board. I think it is doing a fine job. While handling the "daily" business, it also is energetically monitoring some important issues. Be sure to read the "Pressure Points" column for more news. Finally, I am beginning to find that the various activities of the Point Association are more enjoyable for me. I think that is because I am in a position now to see just how much hard work by so many persons is required to conduct our calendar of events. How bright that calendar will be if each member, at least once this year, becomes a volunteer.

Speaking of our calendar of events, I have good news. Jack Martins of Martins Liquors has heartily agreed to allow the Association to install a notice board in the store. This idea came from the Executive Board. We will keep you posted.

David Robbins
NOTES FROM THE JANUARY BOARD MEETING

The following chairmen were appointed (actually in Dec.):

Angela Vars - Pot Luck Supper
Vicki Robbins - Publicity
Sally Mackay - Zoning Board Watch
Quilt - Rowan Howard

The Beautification Chairman reported that all 137 Point trees had been fed and identified. The new publicity chairman was complimented on a super job for the Christmas play and Holly Tea.

The President has instituted a suggestion box at general meetings. So far, $1.00 and three suggestions have been collected. A notion was made and carried, H. Rommel abstaining, that the Executive Board establish as a policy the hearty support of the current zoning laws, specifically concerning guest houses. The date of Aug. 17 was set for the Fair.

It was noted that attendance at the Christmas play was good, but that more involvement by Point people was needed. It was reported that work has started on the quilt - another beautiful Isabel Eccles design.

Rowan Howard

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Our thanks to Elizabeth DeBlois and Heidi Halpin for help in the production of this issue.

CORRECTIONS FROM OUR LAST ISSUE:

On page 11, Edith Ballinger Price was incorrectly identified as "Edith Benson" and King Covell as "James Hayes".

CALENDAR
Feb. 3rd Pot Luck Supper
Apr. 18th General Meeting
"CHRISTMAS-IN-NEWPORT" ON THE POINT

This year Pointers outdid themselves in presenting a truly beautiful and seasonal appearance to accompany Christmas activities. Our thanks to all who put candles in their windows and who decorated their doors and porches with wreaths and Christmas greens. St. John's Church had a beautiful creche, and their altar was banked high with poinsettias; their chiming bells before mid-night Mass rang in the Holy Season over land and water.

Christmas Play

Our play this year was Nine Times Christmas, directed by Linda Vars and presented December 15th and 16th at St. Paul's Methodist Church. The audience carolled before each performance under the direction of Arthur Newell. Both old and young responded enthusiastically. The true "Christmas Spirit" prevailed. Our thanks to all who wrote, acted, directed, adapted, decorated, or helped in any way to make this an enjoyable occasion.
Candle Light House Tours on the Point

Florence Archambault

On the day after Christmas the Sanford-Covell House and the John Tripp House on Washington Street were open for viewing as part of the Christmas-in-Newport celebration. It was truly a Victorian Christmas inside the Sanford-Covell House at #72 where a mammoth tree filled the height and breadth of the back of the entrance hall. Under it stood a rocking hourse which had just completed a journey from California via plane and bus that very day! Through the window one could see a much smaller tree perched at the end of the pier jutting out into Newport Harbor.

A point of interest was the restored stenciling and chandeliers in the first floor sitting room. Until cleaned the gleaming Aladdin lamps and cherubs on the chandeliers were believed to be black. A doll house replica of the house was decorated for the holidays complete with tree and dining room table set for a party.

Our next stop at #88 was the John Tripp House. Although a carpet-bagger (it was moved here from Providence in 1965) this gambrel-roofed colonial with its bee-hive oven appears to have always sat upon this lot. Built c. 1725 the building combines the best of two worlds with its new exterior and authentic interior. Of particular interest was the restored masonry of its corner fireplace.

The following day two more houses were open for inspection. On a day when the temperature had dipped to 29 degrees the three flaming fireplaces of the Kelley's home at 20 Willow Street were very welcome. It is difficult to believe that this marvelous house evolved from the derelict colonial moved to this lot from Gould Street.

Once again new and old have merged to make for comfortable living. The original staircase now provides entry to a third floor apartment. A new stairway allows access to the two bedrooms and library on the second floor. Braving the cold and wind again we made our way to the Chadwick House at 56 Poplar Street. Originally a one-story shop (the second floor was added around 1890) this house is attached to 54 Poplar Street which was owned by John Chadwick in 1770.

An authentic colonial (complete with knotholes in the interior walls), this home is occupied by Brian Arnold, the fifth generation of his family to do so. The converted black White-Warner stove in the kitchen offered a warm welcome.

At each house we were greeted by colonial-garbed Dames and uniform-clad Artillerymen and served delicious refreshments. What a nice way to combat those post-Christmas blues!
With Christmas festivities for 1984 drawing to a close, it was most appropriate to have the last day of "Christmas-in-Newport", December 30th, ending with the Holly Tea. Many thanks are due to the committee, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Elster, and composed of Eleanor Weaver, David Robbins, Laura Holt, William Fullerton, Mary Jo Ogurek, Mary Rommel, Meg Graham, Britt Ostrowski, and Rosalys Hall.

The seating was arranged with many small tables where one could sit with friends to have a cup of tea, coffee, or punch, and have a chat. Each small table was covered with a fine linen damask cloth on which was placed a lighted candle with a wreath of holly surrounding it.

The long center table was enticing as it beckoned one to partake of the delicious sandwiches, Christmas breads, cakes and candies. The pourers, in Colonial attire, looked very charming in the glow from the candle light. Mr. Fullerton added to the enjoyment by playing various piano selections.

The pretty wall pictures, the gleam of silver and crystal in the soft light, and the delicious food, all made for a charming farewell to "Christmas-in-Newport" until next year.
Past issues of the Green Light have contained articles about the three public schools that Pointers attended. Cloyne House was a private school for boys patterned on the British system; it was located on the water front on the northside of training Station Road, just across the arm of the Bay which separates the mainland from Coaster's Harbor Island. The main building was the Hunter-Dunn estate which has now been torn down. A small street, Cloyne Court, is now the only reminder. One Point resident remembers seeing the boys walking en masse down Third Street on their way to St. John's Church. She was only a child, but she still recalls their costume: long trousers, shirts with Eton collars, waistcoats, and high hats. Very like a scene from Dickens! Unlike the grim, forbidding English schools we often read of, Cloyne House seems to have been a happy place. A former student, J. Scott Mac Nutt, wrote an article about it for the Historical Society Bulletin and entitled it "Happy School By the Sea". He speaks of the CONSTELLATION anchored in the harbor at the time; the boys could hear its ship's bell time sounding as well as the calls and whistles of the Naval trainees on the ship.

The name "Cloyne" was taken from the Bishopric of the Rev. George Berkeley, the famous visitor to Newport in 1729 - 1732. The school was founded in 1895, under Episcopalian auspices, by Dr. Oliver Whipple Huntington and Leslie Green (one time owner of the Pineapple House at Second and Walnut Streets). Its purpose was to prepare boys for college, and enrollment was limited to fifty. At Redwood Library there is a file of the Clononian, a magazine put out bi-monthly by the students; in a copy dated December, 1897, one boy writes: "We go to Newport to study French with Mme. Goelet, and then to Townsend Industrial School where Mr. McCready teaches us mechanical drawing, wood carving, and boat-building. The boys have built three boats (Kayaks) which they paddle about the harbor." The boys were particularly fond of the water, and with their home-built kayaks and sailboats they visited the many war vessels which came into our Bay because of the Naval installations here. They also delighted in the

(continued on page 9)
"Happy' seems a proper epithet for Cloyne, the time, the place, and the people -- boys and teachers -- may well be described by that word. The country was prosperous and untroubled, with no forebodings of a worldwide war. Newport and the Bay offered unspoiled beautiful and historically significant features. Life at Cloyne would no doubt have been approved by the genial Bishop of Cloyne, astonished as he would have been to see his prospective redskin converts replaced, two hundred years later, by the sons of the elite of the New World".

Virginia Covell

* * * * * * *

America's Cup competition. They spoke of Sir Thomas Lipton's many challengers named SHAMROCK as well as the defenders COLUMBIA and RELIANCE as they came down the Bay from the Herreshoff shipyard.

The Fall season of 1897 must have been somewhat like ours of 1984 because our informer, in the Clononian, said it was so mild that they played baseball instead of football. They went over to Newport's baseball grounds to play with Rogers High School and "Mr. Diman's School." He refers to St. George's which was in its early stages then; the Portsmouth Priory was still far in the future. St. George's was also the scene of a Halloween party to which the Cloyne House boys were invited. "We started off at 7:15 by coach and arrived just before 8 o'clock". Quite a dignified way to begin Halloween capers, but the writer goes on to tell us about the games and refreshments, which sounded gay and imaginative. The Cloyne House School closed its doors in 1917 when the property was appropriated by the U.S. Government just as we were entering World War I. J. Scott MacNutt concludes his article:
It's winter time, and time for hearty suppers like this one found in a 1902 cookbook.

**Saturday Night Supper**

- New England Clam Chowder
- Green Salad
- Brown Bread
- Baked Beans
- Valentine Cake

Here are some recipes, modernized a little:

**Clam Chowder**

- 2 doz. quahogs
- 1/2 lb. lean salt pork
- 1 cup chopped onions
- 3 cups diced potatoes
- 2 btles clam juice
- 2 cups light cream
- 2 cups milk
- 2 T. butter
- pepper to taste


**Brown Bread**

- 4 tbsp. melted butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 eggs lightly beaten
- 3 1/2 cups buttermilk
- 1 1/2 cups molasses
- 4 cups wholewheat flour
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teasp. salt
- 2 teasp. baking powder
- 2 teasp. baking soda

Mix first 5 ingredients in large bowl. Sift dry ingredient and stir into mixture. Grease four 1 pound coffee cans carefully, and dust with flour. Fill cans 2/3 full. Cover with foil, leaving room for bread to rise. Fasten with rubber bands. Place in canning kettle or double roaster with rack. Steam 3 hours. Unmold on cooking rack.

**Baked Beans**

You can bake for 7-8 hours, but today most people use canned beans. (they have had long cooking). Place beans in a bean pot, and season as you wish. (Look up recipe in any cook book) and bake for 1-2 hours. Friends beans are the ones we use (because it's a family name, and we must be loyal!), but B and M or any others are good, too.

**Valentine Cake**

(Quick and easy -- good for teen-agers or beginning cooks). Use your favorite layer cake recipe OR use your favorite layer cake mix for 2 layer cake.

Grease and flour one round 8" layer cake pan. Grease and flour one square 8" layer cake pan. Bake, cook, and cut round layer in half. Place the halves along two sides of the square layer, and seal with frosting.

Frost with pink frosting -- Get romantic and creative with candles, flowers, hearts, messages to decorate your Valentine Cake.

Sarah Plumb
1. The Washington Street Pier

Who gets the right to use the Washington Street pier has been the subject of some controversy in recent months. The pier is built on a right-of-way owned by the City, Newport Oil and the Inn Group. The Inn Group has asked the right to use the east side of the pier for floats, in return for maintaining the pier itself for public use.

Now the fishermen's group which is interested in acquiring the south end of Newport Shipyard, is also asking for the right to use the west side of the Washington Street pier. The Point Association has written to Mayor Kirby, asking him not to give up the City's rights of way to any private party. If it sounds confusing, it is!

2. Rose Island

A council workshop meeting on the pro's and con's of having Rose Island designated a historic zone, drew several Point Association Board members' interest. The crowded meeting heard presentations by Charlotte Johnson, head of the Citizens to Protect Rose Island group; Walter Nebeeker of the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission; and David Snydacker, Executive Director of the Newport Historical Society. Charlotte's presentation included a slide show illustrating the historic significance -- since pre-revolutionary times -- of Rose Island. Both Nebeeker and Snydacker emphasized the value to Newport and the entire nation of the full spectrum of American history represented by the remains of fortifications and buildings on Rose Island from the revolutionary era through World War II. Indeed, Mr. Snydacker referred to Rose Island as an important historical "document", as relevant to our national heritage as Bunker Hill.

If plans for dredging were to proceed, to make way for a proposed 850-slip marina, and the dredged material deposited on the island, the mountain of sludge created would bury the most precious of these historic remains, Charlotte Johnson said.

3. Coastal Resource Management Council

Also exercising the minds of Pointers at this time, is the question of re-organizing the Coastal Resources Management Council, a body which all seem to agree needs some changing to make it of more value as a regulatory instrument. While some Newporters would like the CRMC to be disbanded altogether, and its duties passed over to the DEM, others would like to see the Teitz bill passed in the legislature -- that is, having the Governor's six appointments to the CRMC restricted to people from a list submitted by several environmental organizations approved by the legislature. Reforms under the Teitz bill would also include limiting the terms of members and instituting some form of geographical balance as a selection base.

Middle-of-the-roaders would like to see the CRMC retained but reformed in less drastic fashion. The Board follows this matter with lively interest, as the results will affect Pointers whichever way it goes.

Brenda Gordon

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At the January 7th Executive Board meeting, a resolution was passed to "establish as a policy, the hearty support of the current zoning laws specifically concerning guest houses and the bed and breakfast rentals." It would be well, then, if we all knew what the zoning ordinances demand.

There seems, however, to be no such official category as "guest house". We do have, though, three other designations: "customary home enterprise", "letting of rooms", and "transient guest facility". Each of these uses carries with it certain rights and obligations.

"Customary home enterprise" is a title that covers more ground than just the renting of rooms. Basically, it is a category designed to accommodate various activities that are small, business in nature, which traditionally have been part of the home atmosphere, and which do not impede the residential nature of a neighborhood. Under this heading, the renting of one or two rooms in a residential area such as the Point is allowed as a matter of right. Renting three, four, or five rooms, however, is quite another matter.

In Schedule A of the zoning ordinances, one will find that "the letting of three or more rooms to no more than ten persons and the furnishing of meals to those ten persons" requires a Special Exception from the Zoning Board. That means that one must make application to the Zoning Board to be allowed to operate such an enterprise; that approval is called a Special Exception.

You may have noticed that the ordinance does not actually include the words "five rooms". It was explained to me at City Hall, that it is assumed that a room will be rented to no more than two persons. Thus, the "letting of rooms" is limited to ten persons, or five rooms.

The "transient guest facility" is, simply, an operation or use which has more than five rooms for rent. In the R-10 zoning district, in which all of the Point lies, such a use is not permitted at all. A hopeful operator can not even apply for special dispensation; renting more than five rooms is just not allowed here on the Point.

One of the potential problems of operating a guest house is that it can take valuable parking spaces that otherwise might be used by the residents/neighbors of the guest house. For that reason, the zoning ordinances have included certain provisions; that adequate off-street parking be provided for the additional cars that can be expected at such a facility.

"It is the intent of (the Zoning Ordinances) to ensure that off-street parking . . . spaces are provided to accommodate the motor vehicles of all persons normally using . . . (a guest house) . . . at any one time." Thus, each guest house should (and most of the "guest house" categories are required to) have one off-street parking space for each room available for rent; and these spaces are to be on the same property as the house.

So, there are the rules. If you have any questions, comments, complaints, or contributions pick up the telephone. At 846-9600 you will reach the City Hall; just ask for the Planning/Zoning Department. Though I profess to be no expert, my number is 847-2575.

David Robbins
History begins today! A good example is the building on Farewell Street that was Mumford School, and now has new life as Mumford Residence. We have presented stories of the building's past history as a school, where many Point youngsters were students before 1981. Now the schoolhouse has been beautifully renovated into a residence for retired folks, with a very new look, and a new future.

As one walks through the front door, he is greeted with a long carpeted hallway, with the doors of the first floor apartments and an office, a mail room, and an elevator to the other two floors. What is now the first floor was the basement, and the second and third floors were the classroom floors.

The Paul Pelletiers live on the third floor, with windows looking west, over roof tops to the harbor and the bridge to Jamestown. Mr. Pelletier is the head of the Tenants' Association. He talked with me about the residence, the activities, and the satisfactions of the tenants with their new homes. A tour with him showed me a community room, a lounge with television, a laundry room with washer and dryer, and for non-winter months, a deck over the entrance which gives much enjoyment to tenants in good weather: according to Mr. Pelletier, it is high enough to keep mosquitoes away!

There are 34 apartments in the building, in which 37 people live; only three couples are there, and of the 37, most are women, with 8 men in the total group. The Tenants' Committee is the governing body of the building. It meets monthly; it is the instigator of recreational and social events, and holds meetings of the tenants. It currently is developing by-laws to guide living in the residence. Bingo is a regular activity, and there is a monthly pot-luck supper for those who want to attend. Recently, a donor gave the ingredients for a turkey dinner which was cooked by two of the male members. For such affairs, the participants bring their own dishes and tableware, so there is no dishwashing chore. Some residents go regularly to the nearby Martin Luther King Center for the Senior Citizens' noonday meals. One tenant has Meals-on-Wheels.

Mr. Pelletier is most enthusiastic about the building, the residents, and the management. He says that almost all tenants are very happy with the life there. If it sounds good, don't expect to move in next month! There is a waiting list, and there are restrictions on income levels of persons who are accepted as residents. A part-time manager may be found in the office two days a week.

The restoration was accomplished by the Church Community Corporation, which maintains an active interest in the project.

Kit Hammett
DON'T MISS:

"A Journey Down Old U.S. 1" by Bruce Dale in December's National Geographic. In it are wonderful photographs, old and new, and if the lady waving from her front porch looks familiar, she is. It is Frances Wood, who taught French and Spanish at Rogers High School for forty years. Every summer she would desert Newport for her beloved birthplace in West Gouldsboro, Maine. It is here that she is pictured as she bids goodbye to the author on his journey south on Route 1.

* * * * *

DON'T FORGET:

Pot Luck Supper, February 3, 1985, St. Paul's, Marlboro St., 6 p.m.
Angela Vars, Chairman.

If you have not been contacted, call Angela at 847-4289.

* * * * *

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For some time now, the Point Association has conducted a program designed to recognize those who have been Born-on-the-Point. To acknowledge this status, we have given to those worthies a fine, hand-lettered certificate. If I am correct, most of the recipients have been older folks, born some years ago; we hope, of course, that others in this age group will continue to come forward to claim their certificates. We wish now, however, to issue a specific invitation to a younger group of Born-on-the-Pointers. To qualify, one need only to have born of parents who then resided on the Point; it is not required that the doctor was actually called to a house on Second Street.

We want to encourage our very young members to receive these certificates. If you have a child who was born on the Point recently, please give a call; or if you know of someone who fits the bill, let us know. The certificate will cost you nothing; and, besides, the Point Association wanted to recognize all of its Born-on-the-Pointers. 847-2575

David Robbins

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Dear Mrs. Covell,

The August issue of The Green Light has just arrived, and I thank you very much for sending it. It is a valuable addition to the Newport File in our Archives.

I think you did a wonderful job with the material you researched on the Auchincloss estate and the early years of the Cenacle. I was interested in the more recent details concerning the Carmelites, also.

You should all be proud of the Bulletin of the Point Association. You are doing a real service to both past and present by your capable reporting and research. The articles are well-written and alive. Keep up the good work! Count on our prayers.

Faithfully in Christ

(Signed) Eileen Surles
Religious of the Cenacle

* * * * *


Mrs. Dorothea Slocum,

Dear Cor. Secretary,

I always enjoy receiving "The Green Light." Following the president's suggestion in his message, may I mention that while recognition is always flattering, I think my new member status is worn out. One issue last year also listed me as a new member, but I can't recall the many previous years.

I was born on the Point which may account. . . . . . . . . At the risk of showing a bald head, my hat is off to the staff. May they continue their excellent work.

(Signed) Bowen Sweet

Apologies to Mr. Sweet from our gremlins who make all the errors!
The elaborate, lacy valentines of long ago are available again. So says Robin Morse who, with her husband, owns and operates Wiseman’s store on Bellevue Avenue. Robin, (a niece of the late Helena MacLeish) has an enviable collection of old valentines. One is pictured on our cover this month. Some of her nicest examples are mounted and will be displayed in the store window around the 14th to highlight their present stock of the new "old" types of valentines and valentine makings.

As we looked over the beautiful antique examples of valentine art, we could not help but be impressed by the sentiments. There were many like "BE MINE" and "FORGET-ME-NOT"; but there were many that only wished happiness to the loved one: "MAY YOUR LIFE BE FILLED WITH JOY" - "SMOOTH BE ALL THY WAYS AND FAIR THY DAYS" - "MAY SUNSHINE FALL UPON YOUR PATH".

Some are more light hearted. One, a picture of a huge goose, bears the couplet: "If you say no and turn me loose, you will be a great big goose". Hearts, lace, ribbons, roses, and cherubs spill out of these three-dimensional expressions of Victorian sentiment. They are a unique art form and a treasure to the collector.

* * * * *
AN OLD IRISH BLESSING

May the
Roads rise with you,
And the wind be
Always at your back
And may the Lord
Hold you
In the hollow
Of His hand.

A Happy St. Patrick's Day

* * * * *

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