

BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

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CALCA-

either to participate in serving, or to make Christmas breads. Contact Dede Elster at 847-0563.

# Vol XXXI No.6

# OFFICERS

Brenda Gordon President

Dick Peters lst. V. President

Donal O'Brien 2nd. V. President

Joan Wood Treasurer

Sarah Gilson Rec. Secretary

Virginia Woods Cor. Secretary

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#### Picture credits:

cover: The Holly Tea with Robert and Dede Elster was taken by the Daily News photographer.

- Ferry boat: old Picture as the NEWPORT, courtesy of Bill Warren. Now, as Dimillo's Floating Restaurant, courtesy of Ruth Covell, Portland, Maine.
- House with lighted windows is Jane Walsh's of Second & Poplar taken by Edward Sherman.
- The Hunter House in wrappings --Courtesy of Herb Rommel

Extra copies of the <u>Green Light</u> may be purchased at <u>Martins Liquors</u> 48 Third Street for \$1.00.



The President's Message

This is the first time I've written for <u>The Green Light</u> as president of the Point Association and I would like to say at once that it is both an honor and a great pleasure to take up my new duties. I'd also like to thank all of you for your confidence and support.

These are the best of times and the worst of times for the Point. Property values have rocketed, taxes have escalated, and many of us are amazed to find ourselves custodians of such valuable pieces of real estate.

At the same time, the pride we have taken in our homes and our neighborhood has been responsible for making the Point such a desirable place to live. And so it has become a very real responsibility to keep our neighborhood beautiful, to protect its historic character, and to deal effectively with the problems of traffic congestion and encroaching development.

These are complex issues which our association has been working hard to address. We will continue to do so. To that end, please feel free to call me with your concerns and questions. My telephone number is 847-5746, and I'll do my very best to help in any way I can.

As a new president, it is exciting to look forward to the next two years. But it is also incumbent upon me to look back, and give credit where credit's due. On behalf of the board, I'd like to thank Dave Robbins for the great job he did as president for the past two years. Dave worked hard for the association, and put in many long hours for the benefit of the Point. There's a great deal to do, and Dave gave unstintingly of his time and effort. He most certainly deserves our deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks for a job well done.

Brenda Gordon

#### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to our newest members:

William and Nell Armstrong Elizabeth Cochran Patricia Dennett Elizabeth Parish Eames Cdr. and Mrs. Nils-Ove Jansson Fernando and Leslie Moreno Patsy Robertson Richard S. Spooner

Our thanks to all who have paid their dues for 1986-87. We look forward to hearing from the rest of you soon.

Our apologies to Mrs. Edith O'Kneel (and any others) who was (were) inadvertently left off the new member list last year.

May we also remind you to send us any change of address. A <u>Green Light</u> returned to us costs us 39¢, plus another 39¢ to forward it to you. That's a big percentage of an individual's dues. Help!

> Rowan Howard Membership Chairman

# CALENDAR

Sunday, <u>December 28</u> - Holly Tea St. Paul's Methodist Church, 3-5:30 p.m. <u>December 26, 27, 28</u> - Christmas-in-Newport Candlelight House Tours. <u>February, 1987</u> - Pot Luck supper and Quarterly meeting combined. St. Paul's Church. Thursday, <u>April 16, 1987</u> - Spring Quarterly Meeting - Newport Yacht Club - 7:30 p.m.

\* LAUNDRY \*

\* CLEANING \*

17 NARRAGANSETT AVE. JAMESTOWN, R.I. 423-1142

# BILL DEL NERO CLEANERS AND LAUNDRY INC.

11 FAREWELL STREET NEWPORT, R.I. 847-6800 \* TAILORING \* \* SUEDES & LEATHERS \*



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WANTED: Information relative to the ship AUDLEY CLARKE and its voyage from Newport to San Francisco 15 February, 1849 to 1 September, 1849 with over 70 goldseeking members of the Newport and California Company and the ship's crew. A newspaper, the Gold-hunters Express was published each Saturday on board; music was composed for the sailing, "Sail on, thou gallant bark"; many Newporters received letters from California; the members who returned to Newport had occasional reunions. Perhaps a picture of the ship is available. If you have any scrapbooks of the period or any information relating to this voyage or details of the lives of these people I would appreciate hearing of it.

Many of these men were native Newporters and lived on the Point in your houses! I plan to write and publish a brief history of this expedition. Any material received will be acknowledged and returned. Copies are preferred.

> Richard M. Dunlap 452 Mitchell Lane Middletown, RI 02840 Tel: 847-7951

# APPOINTMENTS BY THE BOARD

Suzanne Reynolds, Program Chairman

Pamela Kelley, Chairman Legal Committee

Donal O'Brien, Liason between Point Association & Newport City Council

Charles Duncan, Publicity Chairman

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#### PARKING SURVEY

In September a team of volunteers distributed almost 800 questionaires to houses on the Point. Another team of volunteers counted the number of resident cars and parking spaces, both onand off-street, west of America's Cup Avenue. Their results were checked against the city's computer records of registered motor vehicles. The purpose of this work was first, to find out if Pointers want some form of sticker parking, and second, to assess the impact on the Point of the parking problems that would be caused by the proposed Rose Island Marina.

According to the city's computer, 1,050 vehicles were registered to owners west of America's Cup Avenue as of December 31, 1985. Adding another 15 per cent for vehicles registered out of state (Navy families, two-house families, commuters, etc.) brings the total to more than 1,200 cars. The number of parking spaces counted by the canvassers was 973.

The questionaire covered the entire Point, including the area east of America's Cup. 143 families responded. 83 per cent said their street had a parking problem. 71 per cent favored a form of sticker parking tailored for the Point. The survey pinpointed three areas where the parking shortage was desperate: Farewell, Thames, and the area around the Rhumb Line restaurant. Speeding was at the top of the checklist of problems (45 per cent), particularly on Farewell, Thames, and Third. Some respondents noted that the new stop signs helped to slow the traffic. Illegal parking was next (31 per cent). Overnight parking of trucks was cited by 16 per cent and boat trailers by 10 per cent, particularly on the side streets off the north and south ends of Washington and on Washington between Van Zandt and Sycamore. Residents on Bridge, Marsh, and Willow objected to dead cars and trucks left at the curb for weeks or months. (The remedy is to call the police and ask them to chalk the car. After five days they will tow it away-- if you remind them. Cars that have been towed away virtually never reappear.)

The next step is for the Parking Committee to draft a proposal for a new parking ordinance for the Point. It will be submitted first to the board, then to the membership at large for a vote. The target is to have a program in place by the start of the 1987 tourist season.

Bill Boggs



## THE PROJECTS AND PLANS SURVEY

You may remember that, sometime this past summer, there was included in <u>The</u> <u>Green Light</u>, a tear-out sheet for you to use to tell the Executive Board just what types of projects and plans you wish the Association to undertake. Of the nearly 400 members to whom each issue of <u>The</u> <u>Green Light</u> is sent, only five (5) responses were received.

One respondent suggests that we revive the band concerts which were once held in the City parks; another hopes that the Association will extend the gaslights throughout the Point; and a third wants more brick sidewalks, expert tree pruning for "our neglected big trees", and more police radar patrols. In another realm, one person suggests that the Association note and publicize the voting records of the Council members on issues that bear on our neighborhood life.

Finally, this suggestion was in the form of a question: is there any way we thnt we can "assure the perpetuity. . . of the unique beauty and quaint, historic charm of the Point?" There certainly is; and we must be ever vigilant in that effort.

David Robbins

#### THE HOLLY TREE

Along with the Christmas tree the evergreen holly is widely associated in Northern Europe and America with the holiday season. It is universally associated with cold and snow and seems to carry the festive spirit of the season. The demand for holly decorations at Christmas time is so great that it has seriously curtailed natural growth, and it is now produced commercially to satisfy the demands of the Christmas trade.

Aside from the seasonal demand, the American holly (Ilex Opaca) is a very interesting tree to the botanist and the forester. Although it is associated with cold and snow, it has a range along the Atlantic seaboard from Florida to the vicinity of Quincy, Massachusetts, and probably reaches its maximum development around Virginia. According to historians no less a personage than George Washington was very interested in hollies and planted many young holly trees, some of which still grow at Mt. Vernon.

One of the interesting points about the American holly is that we have a male and a female tree, and the flowers of the female tree must be pollinated before a fertile berry will develop. Of course, it is the bright red berry and the striking green leaves that are the great symbol of the holiday season. From the standpoint of the logger, the holly was never an important timber tree because of its small size and relatively small numbers. However, the wood is very desirable for speciality work such as piano keys, knife handles, etc., because it takes such a beautiful stain.

On the Point there are a number of handsome holly trees on Washington Street, Second and Third Streets, and many of the side "tree" streets. If anyone wants to see a fine grove of hollies, one may be seen on Wilbur's Woods on Swamp Road in Little Compton. A striking holly grove, the property of the Massachusetts Aububon Society may be visited near Falmouth on the Cape. This is a veritable arboretum of holly varieties surrounding a natural kettlehole pond and is an extraordinarily beautiful spot particularly in snowy weather. The holly tree has suffered from the action of people who tear off the branches for decorative purposes, but now the tree has been protected by law and with some enforcement it is to be hoped that this handsome little tree will grace our woods and towns for years to come.

Donal O'Brien



Holly tree at 19 Chestnut Street





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# A WINTER'S TALE

On December 16, 1916, shortly after 8 a.m., after the first appreciable snow had fallen in Newport, a city team of horses driven by Allan D. Weaver, was delivering the first load of snow from Thames Street to the City Wharf, when a terrible accident occurred.

The horses, Peanuts and Nancy, two of the best in the City Department, having had no hard work the past few days were feeling good. The wharf was covered with fresh snow and when the horses were backing up to dump the snow into the harbor they "put a little vim into their backing and struck a slant which carried cart, horses and driver overboard, all in a confused mess."

If it wasn't for the fact that several men were nearby all would have been lostbut thanks to the assistance of some Greek fishermen and city workers, the only casualty was Peanuts. Edward Toomey, of the city roller gang, supported Nancy's head in a superhuman effort for nearly 20 minutes. The horses toppled over on Mr. Weaver who did not have a chance to jump from his seat. It was a miracle that he was saved.

The heavy wagon pulled the horses down and Peanuts' struggles caused him to kick one of his feet into the wheel where it became wedged and held him under the water. After much trouble Nancy was cut free from her harness and towed round to Gravelly Point against a strong wind where the instant she felt her feet touch bottom she plunged and ran up on the shore.

Mr. Weaver was taken by force to the wharf office. His one thought was the welfare of Peanuts and he wanted to stay and see him saved. Mr. J.K. Sullivan was called upon for his wrecking lighter to help raise the wagon and the unfortunate animal He informed Street Commissioner Sullivan that there would be no charge to the city for his services. J.K. Sullivan had been instrumental in the purchase of the team when he was the commissioner. They had been purchased from the present Commissioner Sullivan. The two Sullivans were not the only ones interested in the pair of horses since they were much loved by their driver and the employees of the department who contended they were all but human. They were large horses, great workers, but gentle as kittens.

Since Mr. Weaver was so wrapped up in the horses it was decided not to inform him of Peanuts' demise. He had received a severe cut in his head, injured his right shoulder and side and was suffering from the shock of his immersion in the icy waters. Several days later it was reported that he was steadily improving and although quite lame and bruised was walking about his rooms and expected to be out and about in a few days.

Nancy was receiving careful attention at the department's stables lest she get pneumonia from her dunking but apparently recovered and was none the worse for her sudden drop into the cold waters.

Florence Archambault



# KOOKABURRA

Four part round



Have you heard the name "Kookaburra" over the radio and TV lately? It's the name of an Australian boat in the America Cup's competition. It is an Australian bird which has an eerie laugh. It is also known for its snake-killing abilities. This is an old song about the bird -- a four-part round.



## STELLA MARIS

Stella Maris stands on a portion of the land which was given in 1715 to the Society of Friends by the widow of Nicholas Easton. All of the Point, as you well know, goes back to this 18th century land division.

Edward Mayer, born in Vienna, Austria, crossed the ocean in the early 1800's to New York City, where he soon became a successful businessman. It seems probable that he was associated with the two great mercantile houses: Robinson & Franklin, Minturn & Champlin. A little geneology here is inescapable, because William T. Robinson of the above firm, married to Sarah Franklin, was Quaker Tom's son, (Thomas Robinson, 64 Washington St.) and his daughter, Esther Robinson, married Jonas Minturn. There were four beautiful Minturn daughters; Agatha married Edward Mayer, and Fanny married Shepherd Tom Hazard ("Recollections of Olden Times"). These close family relationships put Edward into Newport and onto Washington St.

For his wife, Edward built Stella Maris. According to the Newport Mercury of 1860 "He purchased the Blue Rock lot on the Point, and the two lots opposite. He then purchased the rights of the Quakers in Fort Greene, and with much pride and considerable expense, put the Fort and the adjoining lots in complete order.\* He then commenced the erection of a fine house on the lot opposite the Blue Rocks, but after it was closed in, work was stopped temporarily because of financial difficulties. Now about twenty carpenters are at work there with the intention of finishing it. The house is built of free stone from Portland, Conn. and covers an area of 3463 feet. On the first floor there are four rooms, there will be eight on the second floor, and in the attic three rooms. The inside will be finished with black walnut and in a superior style. Mr. George Burroughs is the builder. On the grounds adjoining is a fine greenhouse.'

\* For more about Fort Greene see "Now & Then on the Point".

On the two lots across the street a garden was laid out, with winding paths edged with flowering borders. At the shoreline was a pier which plays a sorrowful part in this history, for, one summer night Agatha Minturn Mayer, melancholy and depressed, felt the spirits calling her. She walked through the garden to the end of the pier, where she threw herself into the water. Was she influenced by her spiritualist brother-in-law, Thomas Hazard? He and his wife, Fanny Minturn, lived in the summer at Vaucluse on the Seaconnet River. Vaucluse was an unusually beautiful house, with a Greek revival columned pediment, supported on each side by a smaller version. One of these wings was built to house the spirits who were ever close to Thomas Hazard. In the Redwood Library at the Redwood Street entrance you can see Durr Freedley's painting of Vaucluse, eerie in feeling but accurate in detail.

An interesting connection now appears, because the second son of Agatha and Edward became the librarian of the Newport Historical Society. Lloyd Mayer, named for his mother's brother, Lloyd Minturn, was born in 1850 and as a youth sailed before the mast, rounding Cape Horn. I remember him well, as he and his family lived in my house, 62 Washington, before the Smiths came up in 1924 to occupy the house all summer. He had a lateen-rigged sailboat, exact copy of a whaleboat, called "The Cachelot", and we often saw him on the long summer evenings sailing out on the Bay. Lloyd Mayer lived in Sarah Plumb's house at the end of his life.

Two of the Mayer sons, Lloyd and John retained the property until they sold it in 1893. John Roebling, a friend of Edward Mayer occupied the house for two summers, rent-free. John Roebling, builder of the Brooklyn Bridge, whose wife was the former Emily Warren, was still suffering from a bad attack of the bends brought on when he was exploring deep in the East River where the bridge supports were to be set.

After this came various owners and summer-renters, difficult to pinpoint. In 1905 Frederick Cunningham, from Longwood, Mass., bought it, and the Cunninghams came down each summer for ten years. They built the tennis courts, and Mrs. Bolhouse remembers them. Once more we cannot tie down the succeeding summer rentals.



Stella Maris, formerly known as the Mayer Cottage

Now the Storers come into the picture. Dr. Horatio Storer, a most reknowned physician (gynecology) moved to 58 Washington St. with his daughter Agnes. The Doctor had the intention to found a hospital for women's diseases in the Hunter House, next door, but he cut his hand during an operation, with serious infection resulting. Surgery was no longer possible. Nevertheless he continued as a practitioner, concentrating on women's diseases. What distressed him the most was that there was no help for his patients when they returned home after a stay in the hospital. He could cure them, and get them on their feet only to have it all lost when they had to cope with their housekeeping, marketing, etc. Miss Agnes was fully aware of her father's feelings and when he died at 94 in 1922 she was determined to fulfill her father's dream.

In the mid-1920's she bought the old Mayer estate and established a convalescent home under the Catholic Diocese of R.I. It was staffed by the Sisters of the Holy Spirit. Meeting a very real need the organization flourished, but in 1966 Stella Maris was found not to conform with state regulations for convalescent homes (Life Safety Code) and the operation was closed down. It continued however to be used in a variety of ways. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny took up residence while they were establishing themselves and their school. A number of elderly women had room and board, much to their comfort and peace of mind. Occasionally other roomers came for short periods.

Built as a luxurious summer residence, this handsome 126-year-old building has served many purposes. Not the least of these is marked on the face of the building by a bronze tablet:

> To the Glory of God and in Memory.of Dr. Horatio Robinson Storer by his daughter Agnes Caroline Storer

> > Esther Fisher Benson





This picture will serve as a reminder to put candles in your windows any time now!



#### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONAIRE

#### WHAT HOUSE IS THIS?

How many of these 18th-century houses can you identify? Old Pointers know them well but perhaps newcomers will enjoy getting acquainted.

1. What house was built by two brothers as two separate residences under one gambrel roof? What was their name and what descendant of theirs was a well-known early 20thcentury writer?

2. In what house is Gilbert Stuart's first commissioned painting, done when he was still in his teens? Who commissioned it and what was the subject?

3. a) What three houses were built and/or occupied by relatives of a famous Newport cabinetmaker, and are still standing in their original locations?

b) Who was the famous cabinetmaker?

c) Which of these houses still has its workshop?

4. What house was built by a stone-mason who came from England in 1705 and became a renowned stone-cutter whose business was carried on by his descendants for over two centuries?

5. What house, described architecturally as a gambrel-roof half-house, has an unus-ual doorway?

6. What house was moved to the Point in 1976 from Houston Avenue in the Fifth Ward?

7. What house was opened as a coffee house by an enterprising Tory widow? What was her name and what was the name of the coffee house?

8. What house was built by a prominent colonial government official and what was his name?

9. What house is often referred to as "The House of the Unfortunate Hannah Robinson"?

10. What house was the birthplace of an illustrous naval officer whose brother also had a distinguished naval career?



1. <u>The Cozzens House</u> at 57-59 Farwell Street. C. 1765. This house was built by the Cozzens brothers, one of whom was a wigmaker, the other a hatmaker. James Gould Cozzens, the writer, was their descendant. The house is a fine example of the 18th-century double house.

2. <u>The Hunter House</u> at 54 Washington Street - 1746. The painting, entitled "Hunting Dogs", was commissioned by Dr. William Hunter and it portrays his two spaniels.

3. a) <u>The John Townsend House</u> at 70 Bridge Street - Before 1758. John Townsend bought this house C. 1790.

The Thomas Townsend House at 14 Third Street - 1767. Thomas Townsend built this house and the date is carved on a beam in the attic.

The Christopher Townsend House at 78 Bridge Street - 1725. Christopher Townsend, a ship's cabinetmaker, built this house.

b) The famous cabinetmaker was JobTownsend. John and Thomas were his sons.c) The Christopher Townsend house.

4. <u>The John Stevens House</u> at 30 Thames Street - 1709. This house is opposite the John Stevens Shop where the stonecutting business was carried on and was taken over in 1927 from the last Stevens by John Howard Benson whose son, John, carries it on today.

5. <u>The Captain Phillips House</u> at 42 Elm Street - Before 1758. This house is characterized by the segmental pediment over its doorway, one of the few remaining in Rhode Island and the only one on the Point. The house was bought by Samuel Phillips, mariner, in 1806, hence its name.

6. <u>The Pilot House</u> (as it is now called) at 53 Farewell Street - C. 1730. In November of 1976 this lovely little house sailed bravely up the Bay on a barge from the pier at King's Park and around Goat Island to the landing at Storer Park, and from there overland to its new home where it nestled in very comfortably at the head of Poplar Street looking straight down to the Bay.

7. The Thomas Walker House at 6 Cross Street - C. 1713. In 1773 Abigail Stoneman, a Tory widow, rented this house and opened "The Merchants' Coffee House at the Sign of the King's Arms". It was evidently very successful for she soon announced "a good dancing room is now opened with music and lights, which any civil and polite person may use on the payment of a quarter of a dollar for each gentleman".

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8. The Sheffield-Huntington House at 43 Elm Street - C. 1719. This house was built by Nathaniel Sheffield, Colonial Treasurer of Rhode Island, who deeded one-half of it to his son, James. David Huntington, merchant, bought it in 1787. It originally stood on three lots of land but was turned end-to-the-street during the 19th century to make way for other houses.

9. <u>The Peter Simon House</u> at 25 Bridge Street - C. 1727. This house was built by Captain Peter Simon. His ne'er-do-well son, a dancing master also named Peter, brought Hannah Robinson there as his bride. The daughter of a wealthy Saunderstown family, she was disowned upon her marriage. Young Peter soon deserted her, leaving her starving and very ill. When friends intervened, her father brought her home to Saunderstown where she died a day or two later.

10. <u>The Knowles-Perry House</u> at 31 Walnut Street - Before 1758. This house was the birthplace of Matthew Calbraith Perry (1794-1858) who opened up Japan to world trade. His older brother, Oliver Hazard Perry (1785-1819) played an important part in the Battle of Lake Erie.

Christopher Raymond Perry, a seafaring man and his wife, Rebecca Hazard Perry, moved from Matunuck to Newport in November of 1793 with their three children and settled in this house. Their fourth child, Matthew, was born the following year and was christened at Trinity Church.

The earliest deed of record on this house is that of Henry Knowles to Thomas Rodman in 1761. Nathaniel Hazard, the father of Rebecca Perry, may have owned it in 1800, for we find a record in that year of his transferring ownership to Christopher Perry, plus \$1100 "so that his children will have a good home and receive an education".

N.B. In cases where the date of the house is given as "Before 1758", it means that the house was already there in that year when Ezra Stiles made a map of all existing buildings. It is the only clue other than setting the date by the type of construction used when no early records can be found.







## POINTERS-IN-THE-NEWS

Once a month Newport This Week highlights a "Newporter of the Month". In September, it was a Pointer - Gladys Bolhouse. Mrs. Bolhouse is curator of the Newport Historical Society and has been designated official historian of the City of Newport. She is also consulted by The Green Light staff for every issue of our bulletin. She is a Born-on-the-Pointer, and grew up on Poplar Street. She describes those growing up years in the Newport This Week article; "At a time when life was fashioned in a neighborhood pattern...You played in the streets - hide-and-seek and games like that - because no one in the world had a car at that period. You played with the children from your neighborhood, went to school in your neighborhood, came home for lunch and went back to school."

We, too, honor Gladys Bolhouse!

#### 

Norma Manuel Foltz, daughter of the Elton Manuels of Bayside Avenue, was recently honored by the House Organ of Chesapeake, a lumber company on Maryland's Eastern Shore, where she has been a secretary for 20 years. The article that describes her many and varied positions wherever her Navy husband was stationed, cites her as "durable and efficient as any secretary Chesapeake employs.

## 

Hunter House, on Washington Street, was recently pictured in the Newport Daily News when it was completely shrouded in plastic, during a termite extermination program. A big red bow would have made it look like a gala Christmas present!

The Association is looking for lots of member participation. At our October Annual Meeting it was voted to hold four General Meetings a year.





#### BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS

Books make lasting Christmas gifts. Here are two that would be pleasing to anyone who loves Newport.

1. <u>The Architecture of Richard Morris</u> <u>Hunt</u>. Susan Stein, Editor. U. of Chicago Press, 1986.

This book is a compilation of nine treatises by nine distinguished art historians, museum curators, and professors of art, each of whom writes about a different facet of Hunt's life and work. The first piece is background, the story of his life; the others follow with his education in France (Hunt was the first American to be admitted to the Ecole Des Beaux Arts), the application of his French experience throughout his career, his many commissions including the final one, the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

To one who is accustomed to thinking of Richard Morris Hunt in connection with his Newport buildings, it was a revelation to learn what a tremendous influence he had on American architecture and on sculpture, particularly civic monuments. Nor was this influence confined to America. In addition to many other international honors, he was awarded the gold medal of the Institute of British Architects.

It was a revelation also to learn of the very deep regard that Hunt enjoyed from his fellow architects. He was elected president of the American Institute of Architects in 1887, and re-elected in 1889. One commentator wrote that he was "perhaps the most beloved by the greatest number of his own profession."

This book contains many handsome illustrations, many of which are Mr. Hunt's original drawings which had been saved by his two sons and miraculously preserved in packing crates for over 50 years.

Seldom is a book valuable to scholars and, at the same time, readable and interesting to the average person. <u>The Arch-</u> <u>itecture of Richard Morris Hunt</u> is one of these rare finds. 2. <u>Tales of the New England Coast</u> by Frank Oppel, Compiler

The title of this book is misleading. A reader might expect to find a series of stories. Instead the author deals with one section of New England after another, working in local stories, characters, bizarre customs and incidents. Many of the pieces are reprints of old magazine articles.

Of interest to Newporters, especially, is an article from Scribner's. Here, in words and pictures is 19th century Newport; changing times are everywhere apparent as when the author cites how very expensive it is to vacation in Newport, but, he adds "this is balanced by the very low rents!"

Another chapter is concerned with Goat Island when the Torpedo Station had recently been built. Here too, many changes are evident from the text and pictures, even to those familiar with the Torpedo Station as it was during World Wars I and II.

The remainder of the book deals with other parts of New England Cape Cod, Vermont, and Maine. The author has unearthed many new stories about each and brings a fresh viewpoint to his subject. Altogether, it is thoroughly entertaining.

Virginia Covell

# NEWPORT KITCHEN DESIGN CABINETS HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY: CABINETS HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY: Pinard Cottages, The Inn on the Harbor, Perry Mill/Newport Bay Club, The Admiral Benbow Inn, The Sanford-Covell House, The "Chalet". LET US DESIGN AKITCHEN FOR YOU!

# PERRY B. DAWLEY, SR.

In the October article about fairs, Virginia Covell mentioned that one Perry Dawley was written about in The New York Times as being the oldest member of any military orgainzation in the United States and that he resided on Whitehall Street in Newport. Two questions arosewho was Perry Dawley and where was Whitehall Street?

A search of the Newport City Directories for 1893 and 1894 reveal that a Perry Dawley, Sr., a carpenter, did indeed reside on Whitehall Street. Further investigation shows that he died on May 12, 1894. His obituary does list him as the oldest member of any artillery company in the country. When he was no longer able to carry the flag he was appointed hospital steward, a position he held until his death.

Gladys Bolhouse of the Historical Society tells us that he was the grandfather of Fannie Cushman, her father being Perry B. Dawley, Jr. Additional research shows that until 1917 Whitehall Street was the small stretch of Gibbs Avenue running from Broadway to Bliss Road.

Florence Archambault

OOPS!

#### SORRY!

Our proof readers slipped twice in the October issue of <u>The Green Light</u>. The views of a hurricane on page 8 were of <u>CAROL</u>, not, Donna, as listed. A reader who was nine years old in 1954 caught that error!

By now <u>everyone</u> knows that Fremantle, Australia is spelled with <u>one</u>, not two "e's".

Our apologies!

The Editor



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Graphic Art & Design of logos, brochures promotional material. Dorothy Sanschagrin, 4 Battery Street, 846-6714.

FOR SALE: 1 Simmons crib, white, spool sides; mattress & bedding included: very good condition. \$ 125.00 Call 1-273-0586 (Providence) Will deliver to Newport.

Members may place a Classifed item for \$1.00 each.



Colonial Travel, Inc. 204 Thames Street Newport, Rhode Island 401-849-6433 A few weeks ago, <u>The Providence Journal</u> carried a feature article about the ferry, NEWPORT. It explained a little of its history -- such as its carrying passengers between Newport and Jamestown -- and said it was now being used as a restaurant in Portland, Maine. A reader from Portland looked it up for us and provided a post card, which we present here together with a picture of it in Newport waters.





the Waters Edge Flowers\_ 264 BELLEVUE AVENUE THE BELLEVUE PLAZA NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02840 TELEPHONE 847-1111 Joseph P. T. Vors





#### COOK'S CORNER

Christmas, for our group of young friends, always began with the making of cookies. We decided on the types and then each would make three or four kinds. We'd meet and have a cookie exchange with the recipes included. We probably ate as many as we stored for the holidays. Now the cookies are exchanged by family members, each making certain favorites. I make the gingerbread boys and the sugar stars, bells and trees, another makes the pressed and bar cookies and the third makes the drop cookies. The gingerbread boys and girls are my favorites.

#### Gingerbread Boys and Girls

1	teaspoon salt	l cup shortening
14	teaspoon nutmeg	l <del>i</del> cups sugar
$\frac{1}{2}$	teaspoon cloves	l egg, slightly beaten
3	teaspoons cinnamon	l cup molasses
1	teaspoon ginger	1/3 cup hot water
5	cups flour	1 1/8 teaspoon baking
		soda

1. Sift all spices and 1 cup flour.

2. Cream shortening and sugar.

3. Stir in egg and molasses. (do not beat)

- 4. Dissolve soda in hot water and stir in.
- 5. Stir in flour/spice mixture.\*

6. Add remainder of flour. About 5 cups is just right.

7. Chill overnight or three or four days. 8. Break off small amounts and roll thin, then cut out.

9. Place on cookie sheet.

Bake in 350° oven for 8-10 minutes. Yield- 75-100 cookies. Store in covered tin in freezer.

\*Note: At step 6, press finger against dough. It should not be sticky. If sticky, add just a little more flour.



Does anyone remember Mrs. Wells? She lived at the Swinburne School and taught the food classes. Sometimes I helped her, especially at Christmas. This was her favorite bread.

# Jule Kage - Christmas Bread

Mix together 1 cup lukewarm milk  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar -  $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt - $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon powdered cardamon Crumble into this mixture 1 cake compressed yeast Stir until dissolved Add 1 egg, beaten 2 tablespoons soft shortening Mix in, first with spoon, then with hand  $3\frac{1}{4}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cups flour  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup chopped orange peel  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup chopped lemon peel  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup raisins  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup currants Knead and let rise until double in bulk. Punch down, let rise again and punch down. Shape into a round loaf in greased 9" layer pan or into a long loaf on a greased cookie sheet. Cover with a towel and let rise until double. Glaze with a slightly beaten egg just before baking for a brown crust.

Bake at 350° for 30-40 minutes.

The following recipe is good for either a Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve supper.

#### Deviled Crab in Shells

tick butter
large onion, minced
stalks celery, chopped fine
l<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> pounds crabmeat, shredded
cup fresh bread crumbs sauted in butter
tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
dash cayenne pepper
salt & pepper to taste
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon dry mustard
Mayonnaise as needed

1. Fry onion and celery slowly in butter until glossy. Remove from heat. 2. Mix together the Worcestershire, cayenne, salt, pepper and mustard. Add to onion and celery. 3. Place above in bowl and add enough mayonnaise to hold mixture together. 4. Fold in crab meat. 5. When ready to bake, place in shells or individual baking dishes. 6. Cover with buttered crumbs, sprinkle with paprika and place in oven. Bake at 400° for 15 minutes or until bubbly. Garnish with lemon wedge and small sprig of parsley. Serves 6-8.

Best Ever Chocolate Sauce

- 1 12 ounce can evaporated milk
- 4 squares baking chocolate (dark)
- l cup chocolate chips
- 2 tablespoons butter
- $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt
- 1 cup sugar

1. Melt chocolate in evaporated milk in top of double boiler; stirring constantly. 2. Add sugar, butter, and salt. Stir constantly until sugar is dissolved. 3. Continue cooking, stirring occasionally for 15 minutes or until sauce is thick, 4. Store in a wide mouth straightsided jar. 5. Serve hot or warm. Reheat in double boiler. If too thick, add a little hot water.

Yield: Two 1 cup peanut butter jars plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup in small jar.



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