

BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Apr. 1 87





The GREEN LIGHT

APRIL 1987

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OFFICERS

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Point Fair

President's Message

Pointers-in-the-News

Twenty-five Years Ago

U.S.S. CONSTELLATION We Went to Fremantle

Sea Marks of the World

People You Should Know

Beautification

Cook's Corner

Paper Recycling

Thursday, April 23 - Quarterly Meeting. Please note change of date. 7:30 p.m. Newport Yacht Club. Saturday, May 9 - Point Clean-up. 10 a.m. Storer Park. Saturday, May 16 - Plant Sale. 9 a.m. 101 Washington Street. Tuesday, May 19 - Quilt-viewing Party From 3-5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 7 - Secret Garden Tour. Thursday, June 25 - Point Picnic, 6 p.m. 62 Washington Street Saturday, August 22 - Point Fair. Storer

Park

COVER: The old CONSTELLATION, survivor of our first navy from <u>Views of Newport</u> published by A. Hartley G. Ward in 1931.

GREEN LIGHT STAFF

Virginia Covell, Editor Florence Archambault Esther Fisher Benson Catherine Hammett Katherine O'Brien Sarah Plumb Dorothy Sanschagrin

Curtis Magee, Advertising

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

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There's a hint of spring in the air and on a sunny day, it's hard to ignore the urge to dig in the garden or take the cover off the boat. Soon enough the Point will come to life outdoors again, and it will be time to complain about the weeding and the mowing.

This year Charlie Duncan is planning the Point Cleanup, with the help of the Boy Scouts and the neighborhood children. May **9th** is the date for this project, and sign-up sheets will be available at Duncan Signs, 65 West Broadway, and at Third Street Liquors for anyone who would like to help. A picnic is planned following the Cleanup at Storer Park.

The quilt is coming along and promises to be particularly beautiful this year, thanks to a lovely design by Mrs. Isabel Eccles and a great deal of hard work by the quilters. We know it will be the star of the Fair this summer.

Following up on February's general meeting, the traffic committee has been reactivated with Adé Bethune as chairperson. The traffic committee will be primarily concerned with the proposed new Circulator Road. Your thoughts and comments may be addressed to Adé, and any new developments will be discussed at the upcoming general meeting, April 23 at the Newport Yacht Club.

With the Plant Sale scheduled for May 16 at 101 Washington Street, and plans for beautification and cleanup in the works, spring is shaping up beautifully.

Happy Easter!

Brenda Gordon



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our newest members -

Jon D. Bayer, M.D. R. L. Bestoso, Jr. Susan Bowen George Buell Mr. & Mrs. Stephen M.H. Connett Joseph J. Dabek Mrs. James Haddow Frances Stuart Hester Mrs. Florence Hetherington Tina McKinley J. C. Myers Heather Pinkerton Joy & Ian Scott Mrs. Daniel Shea Mary A. Shepard Charlotte Taber Rik & Ann Van Hemmen

Thanks to our new members, old members, and re-joiners, the paid memberships of the Point Association, as of March 13th, stand at 331. This number translates into 447 people who are interested in the past, present, and future of this very special area. A cheering thought as we struggle towards Spring!

Mary Rowan Howard

POINT PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 16th - 9 a.m. in the garage driveway on Pine Street of 101 Washington Street, home of Virginia Wood.

Plants will be for sale including some choice ones from the garden of Bruce Howe. If you have plants to donate, you may bring them to Mrs. Wood's, Friday the 15th. If you would like to have them called for, phone Rosalys Hall at 846-7566.

Refreshments will be served.

POINTERS-IN-THE NEWS

Congratulations to DR. AND MRS. GARY CUMMINS of Walnut Street who were the happy recipients of the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation's first vacation get-away prize of \$10,000. The Cummins say they have not yet decided how to use their prize money, but promise us an account of what happens!

An article on Elderhostel in a recent issue of <u>Newport</u>, <u>This Week</u> quotes <u>MARGARET BALLARD</u> of Poplar Street who is an enthusiastic Elderhosteler. She has taken courses - described as "learning vacations for retired persons" - in East and West Coast colleges, and in England, Scotland, Wales, and Bermuda. She strongly recommends Elderhostel to all retirees, and emphasises that the courses are open to everyone - minorities, nondegree persons as well as those with degrees.

The Newport Historical Society's Fall 1986 Bulletin carries an article on the development of the Torpedo Station, featuring <u>CHARLES T. MINKLER</u>, a Point resident in the late 1800's and the early 1900's. Mr. Minkler is termed a "genius as a designer of explosives". His expertise helped develop advancing programs of naval explosives such as torpedoes and sea mines, from World War I through World War II.

Kit Hammett

The <u>Green Light</u> wecomes copies of features stories about Pointers.

Send to The Editor, Box 491, Newport, R.I. 02840

WELCOME YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS

Welcome your new neighbors with information about the Point Association by presenting them with a free copy of the <u>Green Light</u>. They may be obtained by calling Virginia Covell, Editor at 846-1479.

THE POINT FAIR

Once there was an elephant Who tried to use the telephant. No! No! I mean an elephone Who tried to use the telephone.

And speaking of elephants, the Point Fair is adding a White Elephant table to the vast array of booths that will be in Storer Park on Saturday, August 22nd.

We hope that all Point residents will donate as generously as possible. Will you go through your attics, basements, garages and closets to give us those things that you have been holding onto lo these many years but never used? Below are some suggestions for items which might get you started.

In addition to the usual bric-a-brac, china and such, we can use fabric remnants, throw pillows, casserole dishes, baskets, knitting, crocheting and embroidery accessories, wool, costume jewelry, prints, pictures, frames, kitchen gadgets, garden tools, books, including paperbacks (with covers intact), magazines (National Geographic, Gourmet, Antiques, Architectural Digest, Yankee, etc.), lamps, doll clothes but. PLEASE, NO HUMAN CLOTHES.

Please bring white elephant donations to Virginia Wood's house at 101 Washington Street (corner of Washington and Pine). Phone first to make sure someone is there to receive the articles. 849-1918. If no answer, you can leave message on the answering machine.

DATE: Saturday, August 22, 1987

PLACE: STORER PARK

TIME: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

It would be nice if the POINT FAIR was known as the place to come for wonderful bargains.

For further information regarding the fair, call George Gordon at 847-5746. There will be lots more news about the fair as the time gets closer.

Much progress has been made on this year's quilt, titled "Gulls". Our quilting group embraces a number of congenial ladies who have quilted together before -Dorothea Slocum, Toni Peters, Anna Dunfey, Ruth Barton, Dede Elster, Claire Wiklund, Angela Vars, Serafina DeAscentis, and Mary Rommel. They have been joined by the capable Janna Pederson and two talented War College wives, Michiko Toyama from Japan and Rose Spearman from the Philippines, all of whom are living on the Point. Quilting sessions have been lively and productive!

Janet Kasparson has agreed to take charge of ticket sales again and has also offered to host the quilt tea. So "Gulls" will be first exhibited at her home on Tuesday, May 19, from 3-5:30 p.m. All are invited.

Rowan Howard



A piece of this year's quilt in process of being pieced!

THANK YOU !!!!

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION to Joan Wood for her work with the Point Association. Not only was she an efficient treasurer, but she also headed the traffic committee that was so hard-working and successful.

We never get used to saying good-bye to our Navy families; they are a real leaven to our community.

To Joan and her family, farewell and "thank you".

* * * * * * * * *

And welcome and thanks to John Howard as he takes over the duties of treasurer until the end of Joan's term. * * * * * * * * *

The Pot Luck Supper was a huge success! The food was delicious and served as a good foundation for our meeting afterwards.

Many thanks to Donna Maytum and her hardworking helpers for a wonderful evening.





The Walnut Market, which has been slowed down by construction problems, will hold a gala opening on April 7th. Watch for details in the <u>Daily News</u>.



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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

This picture shows the founder of the GREEN LIGHT, Edith Ballinger Price, cutting her birthday cake. With her are Mrs. Gordon Bates and William Harrington, who was then the president of the Point Association. The occasion was a quarterly meeting where Miss Price was honored with a ninetiered cake topped by a green lantern. She was about to leave Newport to make her home in Virginia Beach where she still lives. Since this picture was taken in 1962 on her 65th birthday, April, 1987 will bring her 90th! She is hale and hearty and writes to us frequently. We wish her many happy returns. We still miss her and think of her as a Newporter.



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TRIVIA

Do you know the most quoted words in the nation's history? You've undoubtedly quoted them yourself - thousands of times!

Answer: The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of USA and to the Republic for which it stands. This pledge, published in the <u>Youth's Companion</u> in 1892, was written by Francis Bellamy for the observance of the 400th anniversary of Columbus's discovery of America.

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RECENT GRANT OF INTEREST TO THE POINT

Governor DiPrete announced last week that Newport will receive a \$20,000 grant through the Coastal Community Assistance Program. Of this sum, \$12,000 will be used to restore the Rose Island Lighthouse and convert the area to a museum and a park.

The remaining \$8,000 will be used to study bridges and piers, specifically: Van Zandt Pier, Stone Pier, Goat Island Causeway, and Green Bridge. The project will take two years and the grant will cover the first phase.

The Green Light welcomes articles, suggestions, and Letters to the Editor. Manuscripts should be typed double space and sent to: The Editor

The Green Light The Point Association P.O. Box 491 Newport, R.I. 02840



SEA MARKS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Now that public-spirited citizens are restoring our local light house on Rose Island, it might be interesting to look back at the ancestors of all light houses - the Colossus of Rhodes and the Pharos of Alexandria - which were among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

The Colossus is supposed to have been built by a pupil of Lysippus who was one of the great sculptors of ancient Greece. Legend says that it was a bronze statue of Apollo built around 300 B.C. It was supposed to have been 100 feet high standing outside the entrance to Rhodes harbor, so a ship could pass between the legs. There is no historical evidence to prove that the Colossus was lighted, so we can only say that it was a sea mark. It was knocked down by an earthquake in the year 224 B.C.

There is little doubt, however, that the Pharos of Alexandria was a bona fide light house and served as such for many vears. It is believed that the Pharos was built in the reign of Pharaoh Ptolemy II. In recent years Spanish scholars and architects have done much research on the Pharos and their findings are considered to be quite accurate. It would seem that the Pharos was about 350 feet tall and was built in three sections - the low section was a pyramid of 220 feet, the middle section was a pyramidal octagon of 100 feet, with the upper section a cylinder of 30 feet topped with a lantern. The Pharos is thought to have lasted as long as 1500 years on an island at the mouth of the harbor of Alexandria. It probably was destroyed by the armies of the Ottoman Turks who invaded Egypt.

Donal O'Brien





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U.S.S. CONSTELLATION

Older residents of the Point will remember the <u>Constellation</u> which for many years was stationed at the Naval Training Station. It is safe to say that this area has never been quite the same since this ship was taken away to Baltimore.

Although this ship has never received the publicity given to "Old Ironsides", she had a glorious history in her own right, and it goes right back to the beginning of the United States in 1789. When this infant Republic came into being, it naturally had a host of problems to face - economic, political, foreign policy, etc. Prominent among these were the piratical activities of the Barbary Coast pirates who preved upon our very active merchant marine. These corsairs from Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli were an arrogant crowd of brigands who could only be bribed not to attack U.S. merchant vessels. Needless to sav. the pirates would not attack British vessels for the Royal Navy would have destroyed the thieves immediately, but the U.S. had no Navy so our ships were fair game.

In 1794 public opinion caused Congress to pass legislation for the construction of six frigates, four of which were to be rated as 44-gun ships and two to be 36-gun ships. This was the beginning of the U.S. Navy. These ships were named: United States, Constitution, Constellation, President, Chesapeake, and Congress. The names, it is said, were personally chosen by George Washington. The captains were chosen by seniority and ranked number one was Post Captain John Barry, a native of Wexford, Ireland, who commanded the United States. The sixth captain, in order of rank, was Thomas Truxtun, who was commander of Constellation and who supervised her construction.

The man who was placed in charge of the design of the new frigate was Joshua Humphreys of Philadelphia who engaged two very talented assistants named Josiah Fox, an Englishman, and William Doughty, an American. An interesting fact was that Humphreys and Fox were supposedly members of the Quaker persuasion and came under heavy criticism from their fellow members because they were designing warships.

Constellation, United States, and Constitution were the first of the six frigates and were generally considered to be lucky ships. <u>Constellation</u> was built in Baltimore under the close supervision of Capt. Truxtun and was launched in 1797. All of these ships designed by Humphreys, Fox, and Doughty were fine ships - the best frigates in the world and very heavily armed. They were defintely superior in speed and construction to British frigates - we all know the name "Old Ironsides" - the live oak used in construction was resistant to cannon balls. As a matter of fact, Constellation was such a fast sailor that she was called the "Baltimore race horse". A testimony to the efficiency of the new U.S. frigates came from no less an authority than Admiral Nelson, R.N., who in 1803 commented, "I see trouble for Britain in those big frigates from across the sea."

Like most new vessels the American frigates including <u>Constellation</u> had some problems - the large size and deep draft caused difficulties in some harbors. As an example, <u>Constellation</u> struck a mud bank in the Delaware and capsized resulting in extensive damage. All of these ships were victims of hogging* and general strain because of the heavy weight of guns, etc. Nevertheless, they were great fighting machines as history tells us.

In the closing years of the 18th century, the United States had difficulties with the British and French as well as the Barbary Coast pirates. In fact, we fought an undeclared war with Republican France at this time in which <u>Constellation</u> won her battle honors. In <u>1799 Constellation</u> engaged and captured the French frigate <u>L'Insurgente</u> and a year later engaged and nearly sank the French frigate La Vengeance.

Much of the credit for the success of <u>Constellation</u> must be given to her commander, Capt. Thomas Truxtun. He was an outstanding sea officer and organized and led a very efficient and happy ship. He also made recommendations and plans that were of tremendous value to the infant U.S. Navy.

> * to arch upward in the middle (said of a ship's keel)



During the War of 1812 <u>Constellation</u> was tightly blockaded in Norfolk, Virginia. At that time she was under the command of Capt. Charles Stewart who beat off numerous attacks by the Royal Navy. Capt. Stewart was later given the command of <u>Constitution</u> where he made a great combat record. Capt. Stewart was the grandfather of Charles Stewart Parnell, the Irish statesman who battled so hard for Irish Home Rule in the latter part of the 19th century.

After the War of 1812 <u>Constellation</u> had routine peace time service. In 1853 she was completely rebuilt and rerigged as a new type of vessel - a corvette. In fact, the new ship was really a second <u>Constellation</u> and left little or nothing of the old frigate. Of course, the coming of steam propulsion made the sailing ship completely obsolete and <u>Constellation</u> saw no more combat.

She served as a school ship for many years at Annapolis and Newport. During the Second World War at Newport she was commanded by a well-known Newporter, Congressional Medal of Honor winner, Lt. Cdr. John Davis. After the war it was obvious that extensive renovations were in order and <u>Constellation</u> was taken back to Baltimore. There she was largely restored to the original design and remains as a public memorial close by the area where she was originally built.

Donal O'Brien

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE MUSEUM EXHIBIT

As we were preparing to present the article on the CONSTELLATON in this issue, we read of an exhibit featuring her sister ship the CONSTITUTION or OLD IRONSIDES as she is familiarly known.

The exhibit includes drawings and paintings of the ship by the noted navy artist John C. Roach. These were executed by Cmdr. Roach in 1974 for the bicentennial and they provide a panoramic view of the building and the workings of the ship as well as life on board during the early 19th century.

Included in the exhibit also are items related to the ship's association with Newport and Narragansett Bay. The CONSTITUTION was located in Newport when the U.S. Naval Academy was here during the Civil War; several Newporters have served as her commander.

The exhibit will continue through May 31. Visitors are welcome, and there are facilities for the handicapped. Just ask for a visitor's pass at the Gate No. 1 entrance. Hours are 10a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. The museum is closed on holidays. The editor has asked us to tell you something of our trip to Fremantle.

Fremantle, about the same size as Newport, is an old historic city, and is down the river from a big city - here the resemblance ends. Fremantle is clean. Fremantle has a large, well-developed port; there are hundreds of fishing vessels. There were five cruise ships in port. Perth is a beautiful city and the river is so clean you can swim in it.

The Australians we met were friendly, hospitable, fun-loving, and good sports. Two couples invited us home for dinner. The Australians celebrated in an all-night town party after the last race. That night when the young waiter came to take our order he congratulated us on our victory, and he was sincere. But make no mistake, as the title of the editorial in the newspaper said "It Hurts". Parry, the leader of the defending syndicate, has vowed to return. Bond, who won the cup in 1983, has sold out lock, stock and barrel to the Japanese for ten million dollars.

As you know, the races were over in five days, four races and one lay-day called by the U.S. because of impending light winds. The defender was not ahead at any

mark, and crossed ahead of Stars and Stripes only on the first leg of the third race. We think the winning of the cup by the Australians was good for the America's Cup and good for Australia. There had to be twice as many elimination races as were required in Newport. They were run superbly with no glitches. There is more interest than ever in the cup, and the next competition in San Diego (predictions are always risky!) will see more participation, more innovations, and more public interest than ever before. In Australia, the city, state, and national governments put 50 million dollars in improvements and it shows. The rehabilitation of Fremantle was tastefully done and tightly controlled so it had none of the horrors Newport has suffered. The cup put Australia on the map. The loss of the cup cannot take away the publicity, the improvements and the luster.

Some trivia. We arrived in Fremantle after the Rhode Island state ad appeared. It must have been pretty bad; there were letters to the editor from Americans (not any Australians) about its poor taste.



Mary & Herb Rommel in Fremantle

Australia had 9.8% inflation last quarter and banks pay 14.5% interest on six month certificates of deposit (money market funds more, of course). Interestingly, the longer the term the less the interest rate, contrary to our usual higher rate. There is a gold rush with many new companies and feverish speculation in penny gold stocks.

The Australian dollar is worth twothirds of the American dollar making prices lower for us. The hotel charges 10% each way but you can get even exchange at the banks - about three Australian dollars for two U.S. ones. There are no dollar bills but they use two-dollar bills and a Susan B. Anthony type dollar of brass which prevents confusion. There are also 20, 10, 5, and 1-cent coins but since there is no sales tax the pennies are rarely used.

There is no tipping except by Americans. When the taxi bill is \$4.80, the driver reaches for the 20¢. It just isn't possible for Americans to hold out their hand for the change, but our Australian friends do not tip. The workers are paid a living wage, and there are liberal paid holidays for permanent employees.

The Australians are patriotic. Despite heavy immigration from Yugoslavia, England, and Canada after the war, there are no hyphenated Australians. We did not fully understand the transportation system, but you can ride for two hours from the time on your ticket. We rode the train from Fremantle to Perth, the bus to the waterfront, and a ferry to the other side for \$1.10. There is a discount for card-carrying domestic pensioners. It is not limited to certain hours as in Rhode Island.

There is a government consumer price watch and we observed no profiteering or gouging. Food prices were on the low side - even in Australian dollars.

The weather was touted to be uncomfortably hot, but we found it pleasant with only one too-hot day. We went swimming in the Indian Ocean which was almost comfortably warm. There are miles of beaches; no, we did not get to the nude beach.

Just as we have road signs saying deer crossing, we saw a few miles (pardonkilometers!) out of town a road sign with the silhouette of a kangaroo. Australians drive on the opposite (to us) side of the road and the trains run on the left hand tracks. It can be dangerous crossing a road since we have a tendency to look the wrong way.

This is really getting to trivia. As you have probably gathered, it was a wonderful trip.

Herb and Mary Rommel



POINT CLEAN-UP

The Point Clean-up scheduled for May 9th was the brainchild of Jack Martin who originated it. This year Charlie Duncan has agreed to take it over and we thank him for that. It is scheduled for 10 a.m. at Storer Park. He will be assisted by the Boy Scouts and any neighborhood children who would like to help. After the clean-up there will be a picnic at Storer Park. Come one! Come all! and help with the Spring cleaning of the Point.



BBBBBBB CLASSIFIED BBBBBB

<u>ATTENTION</u> - Vietnam (Vietnam-era) veterans - for information about joinin the Rhode Island Chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America, call David Robbins at 847-2575.

WANTED TO BUY: Accumulations of old pos cards. No lot too small. Call Florence Archambault at 846-9024.



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A REMINDER FROM OUR BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

It's almost planting time again. Was it ever so welcome as now, after our Arctic winter? Soon we will be working at the parks, filling the planters and encouraging green things.

Last year, thanks to your efforts, our Point never looked so beautiful. As a reminder for this year we show you some of the bright spots which we photographed.

One good place to get plants is at our Plant Sale; Saturday morning, May 16th at 101 Washington Street.

One good place to get ideas is at the Secret Garden Tour, Saturday morning, June 7th. (Watch the newspaper for details.)

Please plan to come to both events!



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ON PORCHES AND ENTRYWAYS









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PAPER RECYCLING

Point residents continue to get credit for paper collection from Toni Ciani, Newport's Recycling Coordinator. She urges us to keep up the good work. Not every Point home participates. Why not? It is a service to the City of Newport and an opportunity to reuse natural resources. On the Point, bundles of paper and cardboard should be put on the curb (NOT with regular trash) on

the 2nd and 4th Thursday by 7:30 AM.

On America's Cup Avenue and the streets <u>east</u>, the collection days are

the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

An article in the <u>Daily News</u> on March 7th prompted some questions from <u>Green Light</u> readers, so we asked Mrs. Ciani to give us answers, which she willingly did. Here they are:

Q. What is the meaning of "slick or glossy" paper? Is it wanted? If so, how should it be bundled?

A. "Slick or glossy" paper is the smooth shiny paper used in magazines and in some ads enclosed in newspapers. Yes, it can be recycled and the present receiving company is willing to take it. It is suggested that <u>quantities be builded</u> separately from newspapers, but a <u>small</u> percentage may be included in newspaper bundles.

Q. What about WET bundles?

A. <u>Soaking wet</u> bundles are difficult to recycle. If there is a probability of all-night rain (no snow from now on, we hope!) keep bundles inside until morning, and put at the curb by 7:30 AM. Even if top and sides get wet, the paper will be relatively dry inside the bundle. Mrs. Ciani says DO NOT PUT BUNDLES IN PLASTIC BAGS. Truck drivers must empty plastic bags and this takes time as well as creating a disposal problem.



Q. What about paper collections on major holidays?

A. There is usually NO COLLECTION on holidays such as Thanksgiving, Fourth of July, Christmas. The regular trash collection schedules dictate the paper collections, so when there is no trash collection, as advertised in the <u>Daily</u> <u>News</u>, there will not be paper collections. Keep bundles for the next regular paper pick-up day.

Q. What if my bundles are not picked up on the designated day?

A. They should be picked up by 1 PM. If they are not, call Safeway at 847-0472 and they will try to send for them. If by chance, they are not picked up, please take inside for the next regular pick-up.

Q. What about aluminum cans, glass jars, etc.?

A. Newport is not able to handle aluminum cans or glass yet. A new state facility for this is in preparation and it is hoped it will be in operation by December. Watch for announcement on radio and in the newspapers.

BUT-for aluminum cans, the Maher Center on Aquidneck Avenue in Middletown will pay 25¢ a pound for aluminum cans but they must be taken to the center. A good neighborhood kids' project!

Virginia Wood of Washington Street reports that a man collects cans from the trash barrels at Battery and Storer Parks. Why not bag your cans - and pick up some on the streets - and drop them by the park receptacles? This man is doing a double service - to the Point and to the city because he is reducing the amount of city trash collections. CHEERS to him, whoever he is!

FREE INFORMATION on recycling programs may be obtained by calling Ocean State Cleanup and Recycling (OSCAR) at 1-800-C L E A N R I. Ask for RECYCLEPEDIA and their newsletter.

Kit Hammett







Spring is here! In Delaware and New York the shad are running and fresh shad or shad roe are eaten breakfast, lunch or dinner.

In New England smelts are fried and eaten bones and all.

In Maine and Vermont people turn out to pick the heads of fiddle head ferns.

In Massachusetts and Rhode Island we watch the rhubarb and asparagus push up and await the strawberries.

Strawberries bring memories of the yearly strawberry festivals that had tables lined up with sponge cakes and biscuits (take your choice), ice cream, bowls of luscious crushed berries, and whipped cream. There were games, and handicraft items were offered for sale. I wonder why we don't have a strawberry festival?? As we ate them we shared a pleasure that linked us to some of the earliest Americans. In 1636 Roger Williams described the New England berry as bigger than any in Europe. "The R.I. berries are the wonder of all the fruits growing naturally in these parts."

Strawberry Chiffon Pie

Bake a 9" pie shell.

Blend in a saucepan and cook to a full boil, stirring constantly,

2/3 cup sugar

- 1 envelope Knox gelatin
- 1 cup strawberries, crushed

Place pan in cold water, cool until mixture mounds slightly when dropped from a spoon.

Meanwhile, make a meringue by beating 3 egg whites

 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon cream of tartar 1/3 cup sugar

Fold meringue into strawberry mixture.

Whip $\frac{1}{2}$ cup heavy cream and gently fold into strawberry/meringue mixture. Pile into cooled pie shell. Chill several hours. Serve cold, garnished with whole strawberries and cream if desired.

Glazed Strawberry Topping

- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 pkg. frozen strawberries, thawed
- 3 pints, fresh strawberries, hulled
- and halved

1. Combine cornstarch and sugar in medium saucepan. Stir in thawed strawberries with their liquid until well blended. Bring to a boil; simmer 1 minute. Strain through a sieve into a medium-sized bowl; discard seeds. Spread half the glaze over a cake or pie.

2. Arrange strawberry halves cut side down in rows. Brush gently with remaining glaze.

This recipe is good using raspberries too.

Some of you are lucky and have an asparagus bed - the rest of us have to go to market. Allow $\frac{1}{2}$ pound (6 to 8 stalks) per person. Store, unwashed, in a tightly closed plastic bag in refrigerator for 2 or 3 days if you need to. Wash just before cooking.



Asparagus with Hollandaise

- 2 pounds fresh asparagus
- 3 egg yolks
- 2 teaspoons water
- 1 teaspoon white vinegar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter (melted)
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice

To prepare asparagus, snap off each stalk where it breaks easily. Wash stalks and pare off any rough places.

In a large skillet over high heat, in 1 inch boiling water, heat stalks until water returns to a boil. Reduce heat and cook 5 to 10 minutes or until just tender. Drain and keep warm.

<u>Hollandaise:</u> In top of double boiler with wire whisk beat egg yolks, water, vinegar and salt over hot, not boiling water. Slowly beat in melted butter until sauce thickens. Stir in lemon juice. Place asparagus on plates or platter and pour sauce over it. Add sliced hard cooked eggs for a main dish.

Short cut, less expensive, and delicious: use Knorr-Swiss Hollandaise Sauce Mix.

FOOD TRIVIA:

F.W. Ruekheim introduced Cracker Jack sugared popcorn. "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" immortalizes the product in song in 1908. Toy surprise added in 1912.

Note: Do you have any of the old prizes? They are very collectible!

Sarah Plumb

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