The GREEN LIGHT

BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION
OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

OCTOBER 1987
The GREEN LIGHT
Vol. XXXII. No. 5
OCTOBER 1987

FEATURES
President's Message 2
Pressure Points 3
Membership News 4
Pointers-in-the-News 5
A Gift 6
A Different Travel Experience 7
Hollywood Comes to the Point 9
Giovanni da Verrazano 13
Mabel Watson: Painter of the Past 15
Cook's Corner 17

CALENDAR
Friday, Sept. 25 - Membership Cocktail Party, Newport Yacht Club, 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 7 - Candidates' Night, St. Paul's Church, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 15 - Annual Meeting of Point Association, St. Paul's Church, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 27, Holly Tea. St. Paul's Methodist Church, 3-5:30 p.m.
December 26, 27, and 28, Christmas-in-Newport house tour on the Point, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

OFFICERS
Brenda Gordon
President
Richard Peters
1st V. President
Donal O'Brien
2nd V. President
John Howard
Treasurer
Sarah Gilson
Rec. Secretary
Spencer Valmy
Cor. Secretary

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

Curtis Magee, Advertising

COVER: Painting by Mabel Watson
See Page 15 for key to buildings and article.

Extra copies of The Green Light may be purchased at Third Street Liquors, 48 Third St. for $1.00.
Having been president of The Point Association for a year now, I've reached the halfway mark in my term of office. It has been an extremely busy year, as well as a productive one, and I have enjoyed working for the association.

There must be very few members who are not familiar with the issues that have concerned us over the past year, and will continue to do so: Rose Island; the Circulator Road; the C.S.O. facility on Washington Street; traffic; parking; and new developments on the horizon.

What the general membership may not be aware of is the conscientious, ongoing work on the part of the Executive Board and the many wonderful people who serve on committees. There is not one among them who has not worked hard for this association. They've given their time (sometimes a lot of time) and effort to keep The Point Association the strong and vital association it is. If I named them all, the list would fill the page, but I would like to thank each and every one.

Some will be leaving us, and I would like to mention them, particularly. Bob and Mary Jo Ogurek have moved to Mystic, and the Point will have lost two great contributors to the community. Dave and Vicky Robbins have set off for Arizona; Virginia Wood will be moving away; and Sarah Gilson will be retiring as Recording Secretary. Our thanks and appreciation go to all of them.

Among our accomplishments it seems to me we should also count the social events — the Holly Tea, the Potluck Supper, the Picnic and the Cocktail Party — for these efforts promote the neighborhood spirit upon which our association is founded.

Our ranks have swelled to well over 400 paid up memberships. The Beautification committee has kept a watchful eye on the parks and gardens, and new trees have been planted. The Plant Sale was the best one ever. And even the weather did not prevent this year's Fair from being a financial success. The Programs chairman helped each event to function more smoothly, and the Publicity chairman duly publicized our doings. Many thanks to the staff of The Green Light, also.

All in all, we're a healthy, viable organization doing what we set out to do: preserve the character of our neighborhood and promote community spirit.

I look forward to the year ahead.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How encouraging it is to read so many fine "Letters to the Editor" of the Daily News and Newport This Week written by Point people in recent weeks.

STICKER PARKING

To quote from one letter to the Daily News written by Bill Boggs in response to an erroneous article, "We did not ask the council to restrict parking on the Point to residents of the Point but to residents of the city. We proposed that the Point be included in the city's existing sticker parking program but asked that the hours of enforcement be expanded to suit the special needs of our neighborhood."

CIRCULATOR ROAD

The D.O.T. has responded to criticism generated at the City Hall Workshop. They have eliminated the Admiral Kalbfus Road exit and the Farewell Street exit. Plans are now for an on/off ramp north of the Bridge. Van Zandt Bridge will be rebuilt; there will be a ramp to the top of the Van Zandt Bridge with a left/right turn. The D.O.T. still wants to close off Elm Street—which is unacceptable to many Point residents. (Ade Bethune's letters on this subject are excellent.)

Noise levels are still a serious concern and an "unknown." The D.O.T. claims that there will be no significant increase in decibel levels. That remains to be seen!

As to Satellite Parking, the D.O.T. insists it is the city's responsibility to solve its parking problems!

More Public Hearings are scheduled. Please watch for dates and time and attend.

COMBINED SEWER OUTLET FACILITY

Metcalf and Eddy spoke at the September Board Meeting and presented technical information on the CSO. A study made by URI indicates that it will be no worse to put the overflow pipe under the causeway on the east side of Goat Island than to extend it to the west side. The State does not want it extended to the west side because it wants to keep the present water quality. The study indicates that there will be no odor and that nothing toxic will affect the Point waters.

A bond issue for 8.4 million dollars for the CSO Facility will be on the November ballot. According to Jack Crowley, if this CSO Facility mandated by the Federal Clean Waters Act is not approved, the city could be faced with fines of $10,000 a day.

INCINERATOR

The SWAMP Association is encouraging people to attend the September 30 meeting at Rogers High School at 7 p.m. The Solid Waste Management Corporation will be present to answer questions. It's imperative that as many people as possible attend to be informed and to express our views on this serious issue. An incinerator is not needed in a residential neighborhood only one mile away from the Point.

ROSE ISLAND

"Open Space" funds are still wished for as a solution to "buy the island back" and have a park and conservation area on Rose Island.

REMINDER

Please watch for dates of important meetings/hearings. Please attend. Please speak up and write letters. Please vote on November 3.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Thomas Jefferson

Liz Bermender
MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our newest members, as of Sept. 12, are:

Michael Corgan
Lesley and Dan Faria
Robert Gartzman
James and Gail Gunning
Robert and Marybeth Hunte
David B. Kane
Glennie Ormiston
Ralph and Mary Lynn Rooke

We are pleased to report the membership figures for 1986-7, as follows:

Individual 145; Family 216; Sustaining 39; Patron 14. There are 345 members who reside in Newport County. Fifty-six have already paid their 1987-88 dues.

AND - that brings us again to ANNUAL DUES TIME: However, since you will all be receiving (or have already received) a letter from the membership chairman, we will use only enough Green Light space to beg you to respond promptly.

Many thanks!

Rowan Howard

***************

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman, Tom Goldrick, will present the following slate of officers at the annual meeting:

Cor. Secretary: Jeanne Desrosiers
Rec. Secretary: Roberta Majewski
Nominating Committee:
Peter Kent, Chmn.
Janet Kasparson
Donna Maytum

GARDENS ON THE POINT CONTEST

This year's garden contest was the best ever! More categories - more entries!
Many thanks to all of those who took the time to enter their gardens and especially to the judges who gave of their time to help this contest to be such a success.

Winners will be announced in the next issue.

Mary Rommel
Beautification Chairman

Colonial Travel, Inc.
204 Thames Street
Newport, Rhode Island
401-849-6433

AVENUE ASSOCIATES
Real Estate Sales & Services
Commercial & Residential Sales
Rental, Sales & Appraisals
208 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, R.I.
849-8806
Jennifer Wise, co-owner of Ten Speed Spokes, a bike shop on Elm Street, was the subject of a feature article in The Providence Journal recently. The shop is newly established at 18 Elm Street; Jennifer lives in the same building, so that makes her a double Pointer.

Her interests in cycling go beyond her busy days at the business to the Newport Volvo Club, of which she is president. The club is designed to encourage bicycle racing rather than touring. Members are currently preparing to welcome over 400 cyclists for the Newport Bicycle Classic on October 4th. Jennifer says an ambition is to cycle across the Newport Bridge (not presently allowed), and she is working to get regulations changed so that any cyclist may cross the bay on the bridge.

George Gordon, candidate for the Newport City Council in the at-large race earned a place on the ballot for the November 3rd city election as a result of the primary election held on September 15th.
A GIFT

One of the pleasures of walking on the Point is peeking over hedges and fences into lovely gardens. We are known for the "Secret Garden Tour", sponsored by the Benefactors For the Arts along with the "Newport in Bloom" contest, and so many colorful spots showing pride and care.

We shall soon be enjoying a gift to our neighborhood. Some of you have been watching its progress -- over the hedge at the Hunter House. Myra Duvally, nearby on Washington Street and an organizer of the annual 'Secret Garden Tour", has always been aware that there was no garden to enjoy at our Point treasure -- the Hunter House. Her idea of planting a small garden was shared with Mrs. Robert H. I. Goddard of Bridge Street and hence the Preservation Society. The Society quickly endorsed the idea, and the professional plans of P.T. and Susan Plimpton of Kingston have turned this into a beautiful extensive garden.

Last fall the laying of bricks was started, and there has been much progress to watch during these summer months. The curators of Mt. Vernon and Monticello provided help, and much research led to this authentic colonial garden, including a complete herb garden and two kidney-shaped cutting gardens. The lower section of the lot -- called the meeting field -- has had utilities installed and will be available for gatherings. Visitors to the Hunter House will have the added enjoyment of touring the garden.

It is planned that the garden will be completed and the dedication held in the spring. Miss Duvally and Mrs. Goddard have given this most generous gift as a living memorial to their mothers

Elizabeth Lieber Horgan Duvally
Hope Curtis Drury

who were devoted to preserving 18th century Newport. We look forward to this highlight of the 1988 "Secret Garden Tour" and are most grateful and enthusiastic about this gift to the Point.

Kay O'Brien
A DIFFERENT TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

My first experience with the British Studies/Tour of New England College, Henniker, N.H., at its campus in Arundel, Sussex, England, was in August, 1981. This August was my third visit; August, 1986, my second. The pull is a rare combination of factors, made up of places and people.

The school is the former hunting lodge of the Dukes of Norfolk. The campus is really a park as England's "stately homes" invariably are. Still, that isn't enough to draw back participants for return visits. The following brief summary of this year's highlights explains:

8/4 - Met at Heathrow (out of Boston); to college by chartered bus through the Sussex chalk Downs; settling in; evening reception to meet faculty and staff; college pub opens at its usual 6:00 p.m. hour; dinner.

8/5 - Tour of Arundel Castle "by kind permission of His Grace, the Duke of Norfolk." Private cream tea in the staff dining room (it all starts with a scone, topped with butter, whipped cream and strawberry jam).

8/6 - Day trip to Salisbury Cathedral, Bath with tour of the Roman baths, Stonehenge. The Pump Room at Bath, with a background string group providing mood music, is to recall Jane Austen.

8/7 - A.M. Private tour of Petworth House, with lecture on paintings (many of them on view last year in the National Gallery, Washington, D.C.) by their Administrator. Midday - Garden party lunch at home of Professor and Mrs. Peter Martin, Bury village, to meet local residents. P.M. Recital by Laughton Trio.

8/8 - Day trip to London, with 2-hour tour of the city in Harrod's coach, accompanied by tea and biscuits enroute.

8/9 - Minibus to Arundel for churchgoers and others; 17th Annual Bathtub Boat Race on River Arun (literally). Hilarious! Evening performance by Ceilidh Scottish Dancers, followed by instructions for those brave and agile enough to participate.

8/10 - Chichester; Roman palace at Fishbourne.

8/11 - Private tour of Chartwell, home of Sir Winston Churchill. His paintings abound. My favorite was a "Bottlescape." Evening performance by Sompting Village Morris Dancers; instruction offered and accepted.

8/12 - Windsor Castle; Runnymede and Kennedy Memorial enroute.

8/13 - "A Man For All Seasons," Chichester Festival Theatre.

8/14 - Brighton for guided tour of Royal Pavilion; shopping in The Lanes. I skipped the shopping to explore a small museum devoted mainly to the Art Deco period. Delighted to see the work of the Gorham Silver Co., Providence, R.I. on display.

8/16 - Private tour of Goodwood House by kind permission of His Grace, the Duke of Richmond. Evening lecture by Professor Ted Walker, faculty member and contributor to The New Yorker.

8/17 - Private tour of Hever Castle, Kent. home of Anne Boleyn.

All of this is the work of Jill Robertson-Macdonald, coordinator of the program, assisted by Rob Harris. The above gives you some places. Jill and Rob are the people who make the British Studies/Tour the unique experience it is. Their graciousness, concern, patience, could not possibly be duplicated by commercial tours. And this attitude includes every member of the staff, from the busboy to the chef, from gardeners and maintenance crew, to housekeepers. As an example: off on a day's tour one morning I noticed the white slip of a student glaringly visible below her navy blue dress. At that moment Russ, grounds and maintenance staffer, came hurrying along the corridor. I asked him for a piece of string, pointing to the reason why. Without a word he turned on his heel and was back in minutes with a length of white string to tie around Hetty's waist.
Jill's scheduling of events is noteworthy. To see the young Henry VIII in "A Man For All Seasons", passionately determined to marry Anne Boleyn, regardless of what a divorce would cost the British throne, is to see history come alive. To follow this with a visit to Hever Castle, there to see the original of Holbein's famous portrait of Henry at the height of his power, in the place he wooed Anne for three years, to remember that he murdered her, is a juxtaposition of searing intensity.

Nor am I alone in my enthusiasm for New England College's British Studies/Tour. It was a pleasant surprise to see two friends from last year, like myself, on a third visit. One, a travel agent, saves this program for herself. It is truly a bargain, and not only in the financial sense. The total cost is $1495, all inclusive, payable in three installments. The plane ticket (Boston, round-trip) is good for three months. About half the thirty-some students took advantage of it. I went over to Ireland for another two weeks to visit family and friends.

Another attractive feature is the presence of young people. Our group ranged from 20-year olds to two in their 80's. They came from Florida to Massachusetts, from Iowa to Maryland, and points in between. As a veteran Elderhosteler, both here and abroad, I have no intention of abandoning that global travel opportunity. But when the time comes again, as it surely will, that I want to be pampered and coddled, it's off to Tortington Park, Arundel, Sussex, again.

Margaret Ballard
HOLLYWOOD COMES TO THE POINT

How would YOU react if a stranger rang your doorbell and asked to rent your parlor for the filming of a movie? Could you guess what it would entail? Would your first thought be "NO WAY" -- but would you end up by agreeing?

We asked these questions -- and more -- of Annette Chramiec whose large house at the corner of Washington and Battery Streets was the setting for some scenes of the movie "Mr. North" in August. She answered, "Yes, she finally agreed," and "No, she had NO idea what it would entail." Though she was still working to get her home back into some kind of normal condition, she thought she would probably do it again. She said that the one word that described it all was "OVERWHELMING" and that it made her think of all the preparations, problems and excitement of planning a wedding, having the actual ceremony over in a short time, and then the aftermath of let-down and cleanup.

The scenes that were taken were of Mrs. Cranston's Boarding House. In the Theophilus North novel, that place was on Spring Street, but the directors wanted a large house, representative of a 1920 home, with a porch and a view of the harbor. Like many houses in Newport, Annette's -- built in the 1890's -- has a Victorian look, and was as perfect for these scenes as were the mansions for "The Great Gatsby" several years ago. Incidentally, Annette was an extra in a party scene then. That part was small, but this time her part was large. In describing what happened in those hectic days, Annette was amazed that she and her home had survived. Her oasis was the second floor (off limits to the invasion) where she hid, or napped occasionally. Looking back she is still filled with excitement and enthusiasm.

Annette was first approached by Sandy Nathanson, a set designer, who asked to see her parlor. Then groups of directors, producers and technicians arrived to look over the place. When the preliminaries were settled (for far more than the parlor), people began to arrive in increasing numbers. Once Annette went to get refreshments for four,
107 WASHINGTON STREET BECOMES MRS. CRANSTON'S BOARDING HOUSE

and found the iced tea had to serve twenty.

The property crew, known as "grips" appeared in colorful outfits, and began extensive transformations. One large room was deemed perfect — but as two rooms, so a partial wall was built. Wallpaper from the 1920's was delivered and installed. When the angle of shooting was decided, the papering stopped, even though all the walls were not finished. Beautiful green and white awnings were installed on the porch, and shutters were placed on upstairs windows. Just one corner of a room was used for a bedroom scene, complete with iron bedstead. Black cotton cloth "tents" were erected outside the rooms for night scenes, to screen out street and traffic lights. Some of Annette's furniture was used; other pieces were brought in to complete sets.

Actual filming took place over four days, when there were hordes of people in and out. On the first day there 200 on hand. That's OVERWHELMING! Annette was "on duty" constantly as staff turned to her for all sorts of help: pressing curtains, addressing envelopes for Theophilus North, finding geraniums in bloom to add to her porch planters or providing antique flower clippers. Willing neighbors lent a hand. Cameras, lights, and furniture were moved in and out and here and there. Actors, actresses, extras, directors, technicians, set designers, and make-up staff moved in and out, too, always turning to Annette for help. Stars in these boarding house scenes were Lauren Bacall as Amelia Cranston, Anthony Edwards as Mr. North, and Harry Dean Stanton as Henry Simmons.

The rehearsals and filming went on and on, and Annette can repeat the dialogue with ease. One scene was taken on the porch at sunset, with Annette joining some of the staff, rocking back and forth in the high-backed rocker, a shawl covering her shoulders, and her modern bright blue Reebocks discreetly covered.

Props included 1920-era automobiles in the driveway, at Battery Park, and on Washington Street, which was occasionally closed to traffic as "Quiet, please" and "Action" rang out. Police controlled traffic by means of walkie-talkies connected with the director, Danny Houston.

Onlookers viewed the activities from the sidewalks, under the trees on the lawn, and from slow moving cars. It was fascinating to inspect the huge white van parked on Battery Street which had been driven from Hollywood. All kinds of interesting equipment, tools, and materials emerged from the van. The cab section which contained the power generators was detached, and parked on the opposite side of the street near the convent. Huge black cables snaked across Battery Street from the pulsing, purring generators and into all parts of the house to supply power for lights, etc. — even for the ever-present coffee pot on the porch which was resplendent with wooden rockers and a swing-hammock. A cherry-picker crane arrived one day to hold lights high above the windows at sunset.

(Continued on next page)
Of course, all of this equipment could be seen at other filming locations in Newport, but for Pointers, it was great fun to walk the neighborhood to try to catch a glimpse of a star, or just to enjoy the production activities. The weather was perfect for each day of the filming. It did prove difficult, however, to block out the sound of jazz coming on the wind from the concert at Fort Adams during the filming of the death scene of the German maid in the improvised bedroom.

Lunch each day for actors and the various crews was provided by a local delicatessen. The first day at Battery Park proved too public and too sunny, so on subsequent days, lunch was served in Annette's shady side yard.

Annette's home was the center of activity, but the neighbors on all sides were involved, too. Virginia Wood's house at the corner of Washington and Pine Streets was headquarters for Miss Bacall, other members of the cast, the wardrobe mistress, hairdressers, and make-up staff. Patsy Robertson's next door home on Battery Street -- formerly the home of Edith Ballinger Price -- provided rest room facilities.

Virginia Wood's reaction to her home's involvement in the filming were mixed: busy, interesting and also exciting. Her house was the working place for getting the cast and extras ready for filming -- costuming, make-up, and hairdressing. She had expected just the principal actors and actresses, but discovered there were twenty or more people in and out at all times.

The days began at 6:30 a.m. and continued until 6:30 p.m. High directors' chairs, racks for clothes, and reflector lights were on all three floors. At one time, an extra's hair was being cut as he sat in a high chair on the lawn. Annette's house is reached by a gateway in the fence, through which people passed constantly. Virginia's expression was "there were people trooping in and out all day." But she confessed it was interesting to extend hospitality to the main members of the cast, Mr. North, Amelia Cranston, and Henry, as well as to author Cleveland Amory who was in some scenes. And it was certainly exciting!

All in all, the filming of that short part of "Mr. North" certainly brought Hollywood to the Point during those few exciting days in August.

Kay O'Brien
Kit Hammett

(Our thanks to Annette Chramiec and Virginia Wood for their assistance.)
LAUREN BACALL TALKING WITH THE DIRECTOR, DANNY HOUSTON (BACK TO THE CAMERA) AND TWO UNIDENTIFIED WORKERS

VINTAGE CARS IN THE DRIVEWAY
With all the local discussion about the naming of the new bridge, it might be appropriate to take a quick look at the career of Giovanni da Verrazano who certainly had a great deal to do with the early discovery and exploration of Narragansett Bay. Whether he or Corte Real was the first must be debated by scholars, but Verrazano’s voyages have clear documentary evidence to go by.

In the Chianti country of Tuscany some miles south of Florence, Italy, Verrazano was born of Florentine parents in 1485. The Castello Verrazano is still there. He was from a noble family and was very well educated especially in mathematics. In 1506-07 he moved to Dieppe, France, where he seriously took up the maritime profession in which he did well and soon came into favor of the king of France, Francis I, who was a patron of the arts and sciences as well as a war lord and glamour boy. Verrazano had very high social standing in addition to being a real professional seaman.

In 1523 at the age of 38, Verrazano was given command of a ship of the Royal French Navy, "La Dauphine", and also a merchant ship, "La Normandie". Together they sailed from Dieppe to Madeira en route to the west in search of a route to the Far East. This voyage was largely financed by the Florentine bankers of Lyon and Rouen. Verrazano has been loosely called a pirate because he took prizes en route to Madeira. It must be noted that France and Spain were perennially at war and Verrazano was in command of a French warship, so he was only doing his duty to his King, so this charge of piracy seems far fetched. "La Normandie" took the prize ship back to Dieppe and "La Dauphine" took her departure from Las Desertas and sailed west on the trade winds on Lat. 34° N. Verrazano sailed north along the coast keeping well out to sea and thereby missing Chesapeake and Delaware Bays. He arrived at what is now New York Bay on April 17, 1524 and anchored in the Narrows where the present Verrazano Bridge is located. He spent a short time there and then sailed eastward about 176 miles. At the end of the eastward run "We discovered an island in the form of a triangle distant from the mainland 10 leagues about the bigness of the island of Rhodes." This was Block Island and was named "Luisa" after the French Queen Mother. It is interesting to note that in 1637 Roger Williams wrote a letter headed "At Aquidnetick now called by us Rod-Island" and in 1644 the colonial assembly declared "Aquethneck shall henceforth called the Ile of Rhods or Rhod-Island." Later the entire colony was called Rhode Island, and it would seem reasonable to ascribe it originally to Verrazano.

From "Luisa" (Block Island) Verrazano sailed into Narragansett Bay. As he came in, he noted what we call the Dumplings and named them "Petra Viva" after the wife of one of his Italian financial backers. He anchored in what is now Newport Harbor where he spent some 15 days.

During this period Verrazano explored inland for some 30 miles and made close contact with the natives especially the Wampanoags of Aquidneck Island. He spoke highly of the character and customs of these people and in general was greatly impressed with the desirability of the region. He noted "fertile soil and woods of oak and walnut." He put Newport accurately at Lat. 41°41' N which would seem to indicate his competence as a navigator.

From Narragansett Bay "La Dauphine" sailed Down East through Vineyard Sound, Nantucket Sound, Pollock Rip, across Massachusetts Bay and made the Maine coast around Casco Bay. Verrazano noted that the natives here were very unpleasant people. He continued easterly along the Maine coast to Newfoundland where he sailed for France and arrived in Dieppe on July 8, 1524.
On a second voyage to the New World in 1527, Verrazano went to Brazil for a cargo of logwood, a very valuable source of dyes. In 1528 he again sailed for the West Indies and the Isthmus of Darien in search of a passage to the Far East. His ships anchored off the island of Guadeloupe, and Verrazano and his boat crew went ashore. Unfortunately the natives were savage cannibal Caribs and as Giovanni da Verrazano waded ashore, he was seized and murdered on the spot. So ended the career of a brave and illustrious Italian seaman.

Donal O'Brien
Mabel Watson has been described as a Primitive painter. However, she thinks of herself as a hobbyist who paints what she enjoys. She is self-taught; having picked up her paint brushes after being told she could no longer continue an active social life — much to the delight of local art lovers who covet her canvasses of square riggers under sail, regattas with spinakers swollen with wind, portraits of loved ones in accurate costume, but especially of Newport and its nostalgic past. These canvasses are perfectly detailed, full of light and atmosphere-luminating color.

A brother-in-law who had painted historic buildings influenced Mabel to paint and record Newport with its pre-revolutionary architecture. Sometimes perspective is turned slightly to show more of a structure than a camera could see. Sometimes it takes hours -- perhaps half a day -- to work out a finely detailed area, wearing out paint brush after paint brush. Signal flags flying from a square rigger spell out her initials — MHW — Mabel H. Watson, a maritime signature.

As a girl, Mabel and her sisters drew and painted, inspired by their mother who was an accomplished artist. Even so, no one thought to encourage Mabel to study art. This was something that began as a time filler. Newporters would disagree for they clamor for these canvasses that are bright reminders of the past.

Mabel works from photographs and pictures from books. Many ship paintings come from a book in the family library and portraits usually from photographs. Often so much time has passed, as with children's portraits, that the subject no longer looks like the image and Mabel feels that the portrait should be painted once more. A card table in a corner of the dining room holds palettes and brushes and tubes of pigment ready for work.

Mabel Watson was a charter member of The Point Association and the Preservation Society and worked for numerous charities. She is not interested in putting a price on her paintings although she could ask a high price. Mabel has suggested that artists on the Point form an association, an act that might initiate a group to exhibit and work together.

If, as you read this, you have any thoughts about the formation of such a group, please call me at 846-6714.

Dorothy Sanschagrin

KEY TO COVER:

THOMAS TEW BENSON

The Point and the city of Newport lost one of its most stellar citizens on August 14 with the death of Tom Benson. Son of Esther Fisher Benson, a member of The Green Light staff, Tom was the guiding force behind the establishment of the Museum of Yachting located at Fort Adams.

In the 1960's he played a large part in the restoration and preservation of many of Newport's colonial houses. Always enthusiastic and energetic in whatever undertaking he was currently embroiled, Tom inspired others to follow suit. It could be said that in his many friendships he overlapped all of Thornton Wilder's "nine cities" and created some of his own.

He will be sorely missed and The Point Association and The Green Light extend their sympathy to Fisher Benson; Tom's wife, Anne; his sons, Ollie and Sam and the rest of the Benson family.

Lincoln and Washington have their monuments, but all over Newport — in the restored colonial houses and the Museum of Yachting — but, most of all, in the hearts of all those who knew him and came in contact with him, Tom Benson lives.

Florence Archambault

THE POINT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Don't forget the Annual Meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 15th at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Methodist Church on Marlborough Street.

Come and make your views known. See you there!!!
I cringe every time I hear cooks say they only use their microwave oven to heat water and leftovers and for defrosting frozen foods. I firmly believe that this invention is one of the greatest to come down the pike in a long time -- both in time saved and in nutritional value.

The following recipes are for an entire meal for four mainly prepared in the microwave oven.

**CORN-CLAM CHOWDER**

1 can creamed corn
2 6½ oz. cans minced clams
1 can evaporated milk
2 coarsely chopped onions
Fresh dill
Salt & pepper

Saute the onions on High (100%) in a little margarine or butter until soft. Add creamed corn and milk, pepper and dill. Heat 2 minutes on High (100%). Add clams with juice and heat until hot. Salt to taste.

**CHICKEN AND VEGETABLES**

2 lbs. skinned and boned chicken, cut into 1 in. pieces (breasts, thighs or both)
3 cups of any "end of the garden" veggies (squash, corn, onions, eggplant, peppers, tomatoes, etc.)
½ cup fresh basil, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
Fresh ground pepper

Cut vegetables into uniform pieces. Combine all ingredients in large covered microwave dish. Heat 5 minutes on High (100%). Stir. Heat 15 minutes on Medium (50%). Stir and test for doneness. As oven powers vary and because of the variety of the vegetables, it is difficult to give an exact cooking time for this dish. Keep checking at 5 minute intervals until done. Salt to taste before serving.

Serve chicken mixture over rice. Rice may be reheated before serving. Add a green salad and crusty bread with sherbert or ice cream for dessert.

**MICROWAVE RICE**

1 cup REGULAR rice
2 cups hot tap water
2 TBS margarine or butter

Combine water, rice, and margarine or butter in a 2 quart microwave dish. Cover. Heat for 5 minutes on High (100%). Stir, heat 15 minutes on Medium (50%). Set aside.

This recipe takes the same amount of time as a conventional recipe. The advantages are that you need not worry about scorching the bottom and it does result in a fluffier rice. While the rice is cooking you can prepare the ingredients for the next recipe.
SOME MICROWAVE HINTS

Never add salt while cooking as it toughens the food.

For easy peeling of garlic, microwave cloves on High (100%) for 15-30 seconds. Skin will slip right off.

Soften avocados by microwaving on Medium (50%) for 2 minutes; turn over and heat on Medium (50%) 1 more minute.

Soften ice cream for easier scooping by microwaving in its container on Medium (50%) about 30 seconds.

Oysters and clams may be opened in the microwave oven. Cover 6 with plastic wrap and heat on High (100%) for 45 seconds or until the shells open. Chill before serving.

Make your own flavored rice with the above rice recipe. Substitute chicken or beef broth for the liquid. Add either chopped mushrooms, chopped fresh tomatoes or green peppers and herbs of your choice.

These are just some of the ways you can make your microwave oven work for you. Try them. MICROWAVES ARE FOR COOKING!

Florence Archambault
Guest Cook

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name_________________________Tel_____________________
Address________________________

I wish to be active on the following committees: Activities/Programs__________
Beautification________"The Green Light"__________
Membership_____Plant Sale________
Point Fair____Potluck Supper______
Publicity_____Raffle__________

Other interests________________________

DUES:
Individual $5.00 Family $8.00
Sustaining $15.00 Patron $25.00

Please make checks payable to: THE POINT ASSOCIATION
And mail to: The Point Association
P.O. Box 491, Newport, RI 02840

MESSAGE FROM THE POTTER ANIMAL SHELTER

There is a need for volunteers for their ANIMAL THERAPY PROGRAM. This involves taking some dogs and/or kittens to a nursing home affording the residents a chance to enjoy them for a short visit. It is scheduled for weekday mornings, Tuesdays through Fridays. If you think you would like to do this type of volunteer work, call the Shelter (846-8276) and speak with Becky.
Luncheon — Dinner — Cocktails — Sunday Brunch

Famous Soup and Salad Bar

140 Thames Street
(across from Brick Market Place)

"Every town has its favorite restaurant"

Fresh Native Fish - Steamers - Chowder
Wide Selection of Sandwiches & Burgers
Quiche - Nachos - Stuffed Potato Skins - Sumptuous Daily Specials
Award-winning Irish Coffee

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 11:00 a.m. - 1 a.m. - Reasonable Prices
COZY FIREPLACE - Reservations 849-6334 or 849-8291