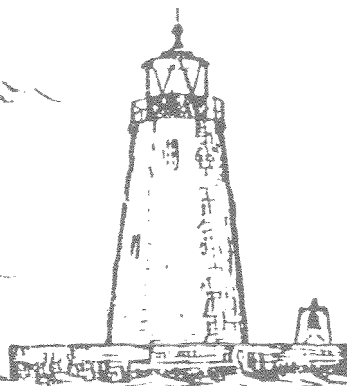


The
GREEN

F
LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION
OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

OCTOBER 1988



Home House Garden

The Point Association



The GREEN LIGHT

OCTOBER 1988

Vol. XXXIII - No. 5

FEATURES

President's Message	2
1988 Point Fair	3
Pressure Points	4
Hunter House Garden	5
Beautification Report	6
Pointers-in-the-News	7
88 Washington Street Lot	8
More '38 Hurricane Stories	9
Who?What?Where?When?Why	11
Eagle	12
Hidden Treasures	12
86 Washington Street	13
I Remember! I Remember!	14
Mrs. Cranston's Boarding House Revisited	15
Artist on the Point	16
Cook's Corner	18

CALENDAR

Friday, September 30 -- New and Old Members' Cocktail Party - Newport Yacht Club - 6-8 p.m. - Cash bar - Gourmet hors d'oeuvres.

Thursday, October 13 -- Annual General Meeting - St. Paul's Church - 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 18 -- Holly Tea - St. Paul's Church (Please note: this event is usually the Sunday after Christmas. This year it is the Sunday before Christmas.)

OFFICERS

Brenda Gordon
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Howard, Circulation
Florence Archambault, Typing

COVER: A print of the Hunter House's restored garden by Ilse Nesbitt. There is a limited edition of this print available for purchase. For information, call either the Third and Elm Press or the Preservation Society.

Photographs courtesy of Louise Sherman and Herb Rommel.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THANK YOU. IT'S BEEN GREAT!

Now the time has most certainly come to sum up and say, "Thank you."

My term as President of the association is about to expire and I want to express my thanks to the many, many people -- especially the members of the Executive Board -- who have helped me so much over the past two years. Running The Point Association is a time-consuming job -- but a job well worth the effort. I have not done it alone.

There are so many members who have given generously of their time and effort, and without whom the association could not function, that I can only attempt to thank them individually. I hope that I have not forgotten anyone, but if I have, I hope they will forgive me and know that I am grateful, nonetheless.

First Vice-President Pete Peters has been there whenever I needed him -- and has been a tremendous support as our "development watchdog" along with Donal O'Brien, Second Vice-President. And as you all know, Donal crafted the model of the "Cutty Sark" which he most generously donated as a raffle prize for this year's Fair.

Our Treasurer, John Howard, has kept the books and paid the bills with professional expertise; Roberta Majewski has taken the minutes of the meetings as our faithful Recording Secretary; and Jeanne Desrosiers has been a very able Corresponding Secretary.

The Committee Chairpersons have been nothing short of spectacular. Ade Bethune, as head of the Traffic Committee, has fought valiantly for two years against the Circulator Road, and as soon as she is up and about again with her hips all repaired, we expect her to continue to fight the good fight! Virginia Covell and her wonderful Editorial Board have provided the membership with The Green Light, issue after interesting issue -- no small task. Rowan Howard has kept track of the membership and collected the dues with great devotion; Ilse Nesbitt has provided us with beautiful posters and notices of all kinds, and her wonderful painting of Newport was a most attractive raffle prize at the Fair. Taff Roberts has set up our meetings, and Susanne Reynolds has worked both with Taff and with Rowan Howard providing support to the former and much assistance to the latter, as well as organizing the Telephone Committee.

You will all be aware of Mary Lynn Rooke's continuing presence as Chairperson of the Parking Committee. Mary Lynn has battled bravely with the red tape involved in implementing our sticker parking program, and will continue to do so.

Perhaps the most visible of all, however, will be the work that Mary Rommel is causing to take place on the Marsh Street islands. The planting being done there will be a lasting and significant contribution to the beauty of our neighborhood, and a benefit for the entire City of Newport. The Beautification Committee has kept the parks planted all summer long for our enjoyment, and the Clean-up Committee has been struggling to keep the parks free of litter.

I am eternally grateful to George Gordon for listening to me complain and for chairing the Fair, in that order. And to Spencer Valmy, for doing the raffle. We could not have had the Fair this year without them.

I cannot forget Rosalys Hall, who takes on the Plant Sale with such success; or Didi Elster, who is synonymous with the Holly Tea; or Donna Maytum who has organized the Pot Luck Supper so ably; or Ann Reynolds who sold books and attended Aquidneck Island Coalition meetings for us and assisted with anything and everything as it came along. And last, but far from least, I want to thank the Nominating Chairman, Peter Kent, whose committee has nominated a fine slate of officers for the coming year.

Thank you all, very much indeed. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your president.

Sincerely,

Brenda K. Gordon.



1988 FAIR REPORT

As promised, the rain held off this year. The sun and the people showed up as scheduled. With over 50 paid exhibitors, this year's "Day on The Point" Fair was the most successful in several years. From afghans to agates, from wooden toys to woolen sweaters, we had a nice mix of products on which to spend our money.

As usual, the success of the fair was due to a great deal of hard work by many people. I wish to add my personal thanks to them all. In no particular order, they are:

Melanie Aguiar	Brenda Gordon
Phil & Esther Burnett	Taff Roberts
Elizabeth Donald	Paul Boghossian
George Gordon III	Roberta Majewski
Jack & Donna Maytum	Aletta Cooper
Rowan & John Howard	Susie Bowen
Rose & Odell Favier	Ann Reynolds
Spencer & Jane Valmy	John Wilson
Mary Lynn Rooke	Marianne Barker
Susanne Reynolds	Bill Gurney
Patsy Robertson	

Raffle Prize Ilse Nesbitt
Donors: Donal O'Brien
 Sheraton-Islander Hotel

And all our exhibitors and friends who come back year after year to see us.

George M. Gordon

There are two new additions to Storer Park:

A horse-shoe pit -- Thanks to Curtis James and Mr. & Mrs. Scott Phillips.

A drinking fountain -- This was installed by the city, but given by Audrey Katzman Wald in memory of her mother, Mrs. Hymie Katzman, late of 69 Washington Street. A dedication is being planned.

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

RAFFLE WINNERS

Boat model -- Gerald Seigal
 Newport Painting -- Madeline Holt
 Sheraton Dinner -- Mary Ferrazzoli

PRESSURE POINTS

ROSE ISLAND

First, the good news! As part of a 50 million dollar bond issue proposed by Governor DiPrete, Rose Island would be a specific purchase for Open Space land!

CIRCULATOR ROAD

Public Hearings will be delayed until after the Election! The question is why?

CSO FACILITY

Construction, delayed since March, should begin this Fall.

STELLA MARIS

Once again, Stella Maris is in the news and on the market for \$ 1.3 million! Await further developments!

FOOD STORE IN OUR FUTURE!

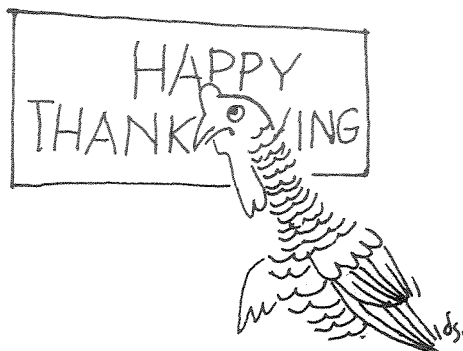
Martin's has been sold. Can we hope that a small market will finally open in our neighborhood?

Another possibility is a small food store to be located at the new mall (north of Penneys). Mr. Dabek of Capitol Growth has been approached by an interested party, and general discussions are underway. He could not divulge the name or size of the store because of negotiations.

How welcome both stores would be!

ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND SHOPPING

Ask for a paper bag when you do your grocery shopping! Be kind to the environment!



NEIGHBORHOOD NOISE

A meeting with Marriott representatives and Point residents is scheduled for the 28th of September to discuss the concerns generated by the noisy air conditioners.

AND MORE NOISE!

Jack Crowley, the police and City Council received numerous complaints this summer about the noise, rowdiness and parking problems caused by the "Open Houses" (rentals leased by absentee landlords). Too many "unrelated adults" partied loudly through every weekend to the dismay of their neighbors.

The recent workshop on neighborhood noise alerted us to this city-wide problem.

One solution, unofficially called "Noisebusters" would be a police patrol unit which would be deployed to nuisance areas to crack down on noise, litter, loitering and public drinking.

Presently, a \$200 filing fee and approval by the Zoning Board is all that is needed to rent more than two rooms to 3-10 people; this also provides revenue through a hotel tax. Newport is losing revenue because these abusers are "beating the system" and in one case, advertising cheap accommodations that were causing the excesses.

A stiff fine of \$200 (same as the filing fee) for violators with a warning as part of every summer lease is my idea! Before the fact, let the summer renters know that Newport means to keep the city pleasant and civilized.

Any creative proposal to solve this problem would be welcomed by Jack Crowley who will be working with the Council during the winter for a solution.

Liz Bermender

MEMBERSHIP

First, a warm welcome to our newest members:

John R. Ackerman
Raymond Bliss
Katherine S. Bohensky
Martha and Gerry Ginty
Mary E. Heinz
Jane Higgins
Bart and Beth Lloyd
Meira Max
Natalie Pfanstiehl
Alice Hoyle Thern

Our membership figures for fiscal year 1987-88 are as follows: Individual 239; Family 133; Sustaining 27; Patron 21. Three hundred fifty-five memberships are of Newport County. Thirty-six members have already paid their 1988-89 dues.

This year our goal is to enroll more members from among the residents of the Point. We have lots of new neighbors - let's make them new friends. Make use of that extra membership card enclosed with your dues notice!

We thank you in advance for your promptness in sending in your dues. See you at the Annual Meeting on October 13th.

Rowan Howard & Susanne Reynolds

The Waters Edge Flowers

264 BELLEVUE AVENUE
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NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02840

TELEPHONE 847-1111

HUNTER HOUSE GARDEN DEDICATED

On Wednesday, August 31st, the restored Hunter House garden was dedicated by members of the Preservation Society.

The restoration, by Myra DuVally and Hope Drury Goddard, was a memorial tribute to their mothers. The ceremony was conducted by John G. Winslow, president of the Preservation Society. The Rev. Henry G. Turnbull, rector of the neighboring St. John's Church, gave the benediction. Speakers included Mrs. Goddard and Tony Bessinger, grandson of Mrs. Elizabeth DuVally, both of whom spoke of their recollections of the women to whom the garden was dedicated.

The garden is located on the waterfront and it is planted with 18th century herbs and flowers, together with miniature boxwood.

As you can see by the print on our cover, the garden is lighted with post lamps, and it has a pergola and a decorative brick half-circle in front of the doorway. The garden benches were donated by friends.

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

BEAUTIFICATION REPORT

I am very excited to report that we will plant the strip of land between Marsh Street and the Connector Road with shrubs and trees to screen off the hotel and parking lot. The city will help us with the labor.

The Point looks more beautiful than ever in spite of the drought. The Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs has chosen the gardens of The Point to show its members. Aren't we special?!

Here are the results of the judging in our Point Garden Contest. I would like to thank the members of my committee for helping judge the gardens: Kay O'Brien and her daughter Margaret Scott, Esther Burnett, Bill Fullerton, and David Aguiar.

DRIVEWAYS: First-67 Bridge, Second-75 Second, Third-15 Marsh. Honorable Mention: 35 Washington, 57 Second, 13 Second, 47 Elm, 75 Second, and 39 Washington.

SIDE GARDENS: First-71 Third, Second- 22 Cherry, Third- 15 Cherry. Honorable Mention: 17 Elm.

WINDOW BOXES: First-10 Sunshine Ct., Second-10 Cherry, Third-21 Third. Honorable Mention: 47 Third.

ALONG FOUNDATION: First-75 Second, Second-9 Pine.

FRONT YARDS: First-33 Marsh, Second- 6 Second, Third-19 Second. Honorable Mention: 22 Elm, 13 Third, and 25 Marsh.

AROUND TREES: First- Second & Poplar, Second- 59 Second.

WALKWAYS: First- 13 Second, Second- 57 Poplar, Third- 70 Bridge.

COOPERATING NEIGHBORS: 86 and 88 Washington.

BACKYARDS: First- 74 Bridge, Second- 47 Washington, Third- 87 Washington. Honorable Mention: 101 Washington.

ALL AROUND THE HOUSE: First- 5 Bayside, Second- 58 Second.

PORCHES: First- 121 VanZandt Ave., Second-16 Third, Third- 70 Third. Honorable Mention: 15 Cherry.

STEPS: First- 8 Bridge, Second- 43 Poplar.

ALL SEASON: First- 12 Battery, Second- 19 Elm.

SMALLEST WINDOW BOX: 12 Third.

FENCE GARDENS: First- 70 Third, Second- 5 Sunshine Ct.

HOUSE FRONTS; the perfect picture: First-16 Second, Second- 90 Bridge, Third-22 Elm. Honorable Mention: 36 Poplar.
SPECIAL AWARDS - NEW GARDENS: Hunter House and 70 Third.

SPECIAL COMMERCIAL AWARDS: Rhumb Line, side garden. Third and Elm Press, window boxes. Kessler Marketing, 31 Bridge, driveway. Fire House, Marlborough Street. Shell Station, circle at Connell Highway, garden gateway to the Point. Marriott Hotel, entrance garden.

Mary Rommel
Chairperson



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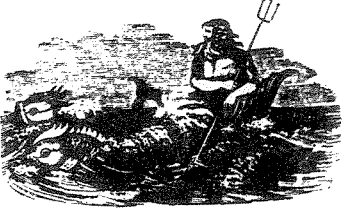
176 Broadway
Newport, RI 02840
401 849-3820

Anita McAndrews is a new-comer to The Point who lives in the house at Washington and Pine Streets which was the former home of the Eccles and of Virginia Wood. Mrs. McAndrews is a Newport native who has lived in Panama City, Panama for 35 years. She was featured in an August issue of Newport This Week. She is a journalist, artist and historian, and has been active in volunteer Panamanian projects related to preservation of history and to environmental problems. She continues her interest in her adopted Panamanian country, and plans to return annually to help local groups in their efforts to protect and restore historical buildings, to establish museums, and to prevent developers from take-over of waterfront property, rain forests, and other natural resources. She notices a similarity between Newport and Panama, where volunteer groups are organized for protection and preservation and for opposition to development.

Mrs. McAndrews is a new member of the Point Association, already active, as she lent a hand at the White Elephant table at the recent Fair.



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The August issue of the Newport Gazette of the Preservation Society of Newport County features the dedication of the Hunter House garden, including a photograph of guests at the festive affair. (See cover, and page 5).


In another photograph in that Gazette, our membership chairperson, Rowan Howard, is included as one of the new trustees elected at the Society's annual meeting.

"Clingstone", the house on the tiny island just off the east coast of Jamestown isn't on The Point, but Pointers Henry and Deedie Wood of Washington Street are the owners. The Providence Sunday Journal magazine of August 21st had a fine feature story with photographs of the Wood family in their summer home which occupies almost every bit of the island. It can be seen from Washington Street and from the many boats which pass by it.

Two Point gardens were recognized in the annual Newport in Bloom competition in August. Special ribbons in the residential category were awarded to Nathaniel Norris of Bridge Street and to James Marinan of 47 Third Street.

Kit Hammett

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The Lot Where 88 Washington Street

Now Stands

In the spring of 1939, J.H. Benson and I first began to think of finding a home of our own. We had been living, with our son Tom, in an apartment, fitted into the north side of 62 Washington Street. When my parents came for the summer, we moved to rooms upstairs, becoming, really, their guests during July and August. At this point, my father began to speak of retiring to live in Newport for his later years. John and I were expecting our second child so the pressure to find our own place was strong. While looking at houses, we heard that Miss Agnes Storer had bought the old Bigelow land. We saw at once that the slope of the lot would allow for an interesting modern house. Miss Storer agreed to sell the land, and by November it was ours at a price of \$1500. How often that fall I walked Tom up to see "the property".

My father became extremely ill, so all thoughts of building a house were temporarily shelved. My son John was born in October and I contacted phlebitis (not cured at that time by surgery). I went to Mrs. Morrissey's nursing home at 53 Washington Street where little John and I were wonderfully treated; Tom was sent to Philadelphia where my sister Deborah looked after him.

On November 28, we signed a contract for a sea-wall at "the property" and I spent the next two months as I lay still at Mrs. Morrissey's designing modern houses to fit our needs. John brought me interesting books by Neutra, VanderRohe, Gropius, and LeCorbusier.

In August 1940, my father died, greatly changing our situation, for I was left the house at 62 Washington Street. In June of 1941, Mrs. Henry Wheeler bought "the property" at cost plus \$400. I don't know when this full-sized lot (88x94) was divided, but at some time shortly thereafter, the southern half went to Powell Kazanjian. He kept it only a short

time as the hurricane of 1944 washed out to sea the sea-wall, which should have been much higher. The next owner Dave Feltham, was a recently-returned World War II veteran, who lived with his mother in the small gambrel-roofed cottage on the south lawn of the Hunter House. He was full of new ideas, and our next issue will tell you what he did.

Esther Fisher Benson



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Again apropos of the 1938 hurricane, we have this account of Natalie Pfanstiehl who tells of her efforts to get back into Newport during the storm. In an article in Newport This Week, Jan. 2, 1981, she tells about a group of friends with whom she was taking an entrance exam for the Rhode Island School of Design on Waterman Street in Providence:

"It was during the tests for color blindness that the sound of rain on the metal roof of the old Waterman Street building became more and more insistent.

We were glad to pile into the car and head towards home shortly after 2 p.m. We tried to go down by the river towards the bridge, but the river was rising over the banks, flooding half the street.

Chimneys were falling from the tall dilapidated buildings, with bricks plummeting to the street before us. Our driver decided to try to go up over the Hill section. He maneuvered the car between branches and wires stringing the streets like hastily-formed barricades.

Finally, we were on the road out of Providence. Everywhere telephone and light poles loomed at crazy angles, but they didn't seem to be falling, so we continued on our way. Chicken coops were blowing across fields like tumble weeds. Donald McHenry remembers one coop particularly because each time it landed upright, another 100 chickens would fly out.

Sitting in the middle of the back seat, I didn't see the pole begin to fall. Bob Erickson, a six and a half foot young giant, suddenly dove from the front seat towards our laps.

Then the pole struck the front windshield ramming an iron crossbar 10 inches through the broken glass. Surprisingly, no one was hurt.

We sat, still with shock. Then the other cars stopped and people jumped out and ran towards us, shouting, "Don't move. The power's still on." And we huddled together, looking out through the maze of wire that covered the car.

Then Donald McHenry said, "I think I can get the door open just enough to jump out." We admired Don's courage, but we didn't want him to risk his life. Don was determined and he slowly began to ease the door open, when a man ran up and yelled that it was okay -- the lines were dead. He grabbed the wires to prove it.

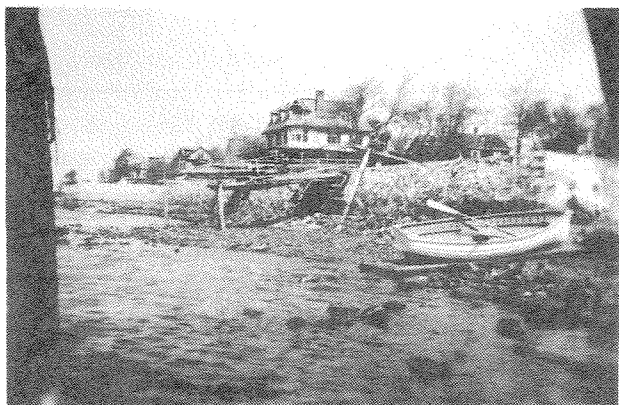
Filled with the Samaritan spirit other travelers took us on to Fall River where I was deposited at the Hotel Mellon where I shared a room with an older woman. She and the boys agreed that I was not to set a foot outside the door since Fall River at that time had, deservedly or not, a Sin City reputation with Newporters. All these years I believed that.

The boys went off together to experience all the adventure of the storm. They saw the Old Stone Bridge under 10 feet of water and one of them jumped in and rescued someone. That night they slept in emergency quarters at a school. I stayed in a stuffy hotel room with the reticent nurse listening to the wild rain and wind and wanting to be outside in it....."

Bowen Sweet, who lived on Second Street, watched the tall chimney of St. John's Church fall, and saw Miss Agnes Storer's boathouse relocated on Washington Street from the waterfront.



THE VANZANDT PIER



• WASHINGTON STREET

Odell Favier remembers walking home after work, across the Van Zandt Avenue railroad bridge with a fellow worker. They decided to walk to the waterfront, and as they reached Washington Street saw the Van Zandt pier completely washed away. As Odell hurried to his home on Second Street, he saw the St. John's nuns being evacuated in rowboats from their convent on Poplar Street.

In the early afternoon, Eleanor Peckham and her parents decided to ride around the Ocean Drive to watch the surf. They were headed west at Brenton's Point amidst wild waves and blowing spray and decided to turn around to get back the same way. However, when her father could not turn the car around in the wind, they were aware they had better hurry home. Their trip back to The Point was delayed with many detours around fallen trees and, as the peak of the wind and water arrived, they were glad to be safely indoors at 95 Second Street.

Bob Jackson, living on Cherry Street, was an engineer on the Torpedo Station ferry. That day they had to suspend trips early due to the storm. Fortunately the ferry was safely moored in its "crib" on the Newport side and suffered little damage. After the storm abated, Bob was off in his car across storm-swept Newport Beach to Easton's Point to check on his bride-to-be. After that, in his usual fashion, he set to giving a helping hand all around. His favorite story is seeing J.T. O'Connell on Long Wharf fishing fish hooks from the debris of his establishment and passing out the "good" ones to the small fry assembled for salvage operations.

Barbara Mathinos's husband, Ernest, had the well-known shipyard across from the post office. He got aboard J.T. O'Connell's boat to save it and landed in front of the post office. Needless to say it was not a pretty sight to see a shipyard at sea. Barbara ventured out after the peak to see the muddy and roiled water receding across Battery Park.

WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY?

In response to questions in the August Green Light, we have had helpful answers from Eileen O'Reilly who lived on Washington Street some years ago, and from Bowen Sweet of Centredale, R.I. who grew up on The Point. He also sent some questions. We hope for answers! Thanks to both these readers for their help.

Here are some answers:

Shipwright's Street was part of what is now Bridge Street. After Long Wharf was extended to Gravelly Point, forming The Cove, Shipwright (or Shipwright's) Street bordered The Cove. It was named for the ships' carpenters who lived and worked there when ships were tied to docks in the area. Later, a bridge was built from the end of Shipwright's Street to cross a small arm of the cove over Thames Street, the street then becoming Bridge Street.

First Street, along the harbor, became Water Street; after George Washington visited Newport, it was named Washington Street. Fourth Street was where the railroad tracks were laid, now beside America's Cup Avenue.

Walnut Street, now dead-end, was the street on which "High Bridge" crossed the railroad tracks. The Third Street trolley crossed on that bridge.

Coaster's Harbor Island's name goes back to the earliest days in Newport, when Nicholas Easton, John Clarke and others sailed from Portsmouth to look for a place to start another settlement on Aquidneck Island. They dropped anchor in a harbor between the mainland and an island. Their vessel was called a "coaster" - a boat that kept to the coast as distinct from one that sailed out across open ocean. The island then became Coaster's Harbor Island.

Robert Covell has called The Point home all of his 75 years, even when he lived in New York City in the 1930's. He claims to be the Pointer who has lived longest on The Point. Can anyone match that?

MORE QUESTIONS

Where was the "daisy" field?

What movie was filmed in the early 1900's somewhere near the present Naval Hospital grounds?

Does anyone remember a barrel factory near what is now Connell Highway? It reportedly burned in 1914

QUESTIONS ANYONE? OR INTERESTING
HISTORICAL FACTS?

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

Kit Hammett



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EAGLE

Most Newporters have seen the Coast Guard ship "Eagle" which is a frequent visitor to Narragansett Bay. The history of "Eagle" is relatively short but interesting.

"Eagle" was originally "Horst Wessel" a training ship of the German Navy. She was built at the Blohm and Voss shipyard in Hamburg in 1937. She is a three masted bark 295 feet in length with a displacement of 1700 tons with 22,000 square feet of sail. "Eagle" is equipped with auxiliary diesel power, and the main truck is 148 feet above the water line.

Prior to World War II the German Navy operated four such training ships all bark rigged. Two were lost at sea, and the "Horst Wessel" and her sister ship "Albert Schlageter" were offered to the United States as war prizes. The U.S. Coast Guard wanted "Horst Wessel", but no other U.S. agency wanted her sister ship which was transferred to Brazil.

At the end of the war, conditions in Germany were woefully disorganized. "Horst Wessel" was suffering from neglect, and there was a definite lack of essential items for refitting -- such as canvas, rigging lines, electrical equipment, etc. -- to say nothing of a qualified American crew.

The refitting of the "Horst Wessel" was conducted by the U.S. Navy, and it was carried out very well indeed considering conditions. With the help of a German crew and shipyard, the necessary equipment was secured through proper channels and otherwise. When everything was completed the "Horst Wessel" was turned over to the U.S. Coast Guard and renamed "Eagle" which is a traditional name for a Coast Guard vessel.

Her present mission is to act as training ship for the Coast Guard Academy at New London where she is a familiar sight to all.

Donal O'Brien

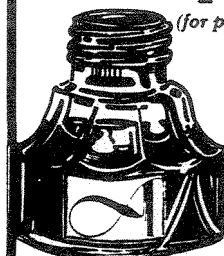
Right here in our neighborhood we have some beautiful and unusual collections. We would like to tell you about some of them in these pages; if our readers know of any they would like to alert us to, please do so and we will include them in future issues.

Elton Manuel, long-time resident of the Point, has a collection of foreign stamps and first-day covers that defies description. It includes several albums, all the pages of which are works of art. The countries he has specialized in are European, African, and those of the Pacific Islands. Autographs are interspersed with stamps, thus avoiding monotony. They include signatures of such disparate persons as Lord Mountbatten, King Hussein, Clementine Churchill, Admiral Chester Nimitz...

A page of stamps from a specific country pictures the flora and fauna of that area, some of the most spectacular geographical features, types of houses, transportation, special people, -- all in a stunning variety of color. It's no wonder that stamp enthusiasts say that a complete stamp display is like a trip to that country.

In looking at a page of stamps from "Lundy Island" I was puzzled, never having heard of such a place. Elton explained that it was a small island off the coast of England which had been bought by an individual; the new owner thought that since he owned the island, he could issue stamps, which he promptly did. The British government, with equal promptness, put a stop to it, but not before stamp collectors (including Elton) had bought some samples!

Virginia Covell



Dip into Arnolds!

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86 WASHINGTON STREET
(The first of two articles)

On Washington Street, just south of where Chestnut comes in, stands a large stucco house, number 86. It is now owned and lived in by Mrs. Jean Abois.

In the early days of this century it was owned (and probably built by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Norman. It is Victorian in style; the cross-gabled roof has rounded arched windows beneath the gables. It has a commodious glassed-in porch on the water side.

Mr. Norman died when he was comparatively young, during World War I. His wife, the former Louise Palfrey of Boston, was a summer colonist who preferred the Point to the Bellevue Avenue area. She continued to live in the Washington Street house until the 1930's. In addition to her own beautiful garden, she frequently bought up house lots and planted a garden in the empty spaces; she even moved a house to use the land in this way. When the hotel-boarding house known as the Faisneau was moved, she bought that lot, and soon a beautiful garden was flourishing in that spot. The Point certainly "bloomed" under her residency!

Edith Bozyan, whose family lived next door to the south, remembers Mrs. Norman as a friendly neighbor who exchanged pleasantries with her parents over the low fence that separated their two gardens. She tells us that Mrs. Norman had a sizeable household staff, most of whom lived in a building on Second Street. She went in bathing from her pier every day, and her butler preceded her down, always carrying a broom which he used to clear her path. Of course she was attired in the appropriate costume of the day -- a long, black bathing dress with long, black stockings!



On the floor just above the basement is a small rectangular extension to the house; this Mrs. Norman built to contain her coffin at the time she would be laid out. This was not thought to be very irregular in the days before the advent of the "funeral parlor". However Mrs. Norman died in Boston in 1935. The house passed into the hands of Newport residents who will continue the story of the house in our next issue.

Virginia Covell

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I REMEMBER! I REMEMBER!

Washington Street in 1947

After 23 years of moving in and out of other people's houses, to be in a home of our own was so exciting that I could not wait to start on my list of projects and at six a.m. on our first morning there I was out scrubbing the verdigris-covered front door knob and the balls of the iron railing of the stone steps hoping to make them shine like the brasses on the 18th-century houses along the street.

As I worked at this hopeless task I became aware of four or five old men in the park who seemed to be observing me. "Early Risers", I thought, and when retired Admiral and Mrs. Sadler, who lived in the deBethune house, came to welcome us to the neighborhood, I mentioned them "Those are POINT HUMMERS, an exclusive breed, born and raised here on the Point; worked on boats of one kind or another and they don't have much use for us newcomers," the Admiral told us.

After the first few days I stayed in bed until seven listening to the early morning sounds; the bells of the Naval vessels at anchor in the harbor, the squeak of Admiral Sadler's wheelbarrow as he pushed it to the Community gardens in the vacant lot on Third Street where in his plot he raised his native Alabama turnip greens and black eyed peas.

Then came two voices conversing as they passed down Pine Street; a strong deep one and a high raucous one, the conversation was repeated day after day, the rhythm and pitch never changing. When curiosity forced me to, I went to the window and saw a stocky old fellow with a parrot riding on his shoulder. "He's an old sea dog," someone told me. "They inspect the waterfront every morning and get a taste of salt air."

There were at least five little convenience stores on the Point back in the forties and fifties. They were very important to many residents of the Point living in rundown houses; few had cars to transport them down to Eddy's Market or the supermarket on Broadway. The stores carried staples, bread and milk, butter and eggs, the Daily News; one or two had freezers for meat and ice cream; and one sold lottery tickets, kept under the counter. And, of course, every store had a candy counter for the small customers who came each day with their pennies to gaze into the cases before deciding which to buy.

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REVISITED

What a difference a year makes. One evening recently I found Annette Chramiec sitting in her north living room (Mr. North's room) watching the beautiful red ball of sun dropping off the north end of Battery Park. The hectic, happy August days of last year's filming of "Mr. North" were dimmed but not forgotten. Her Washington Street home opposite the park was the scene of Mrs. Cranston's boarding house in the movie, a gathering place for Mr. North and his new-found Newport friends. Now that you've seen the movie, you'll recall the indoor scenes at Annette's which took weeks of planning and preparation, four days of actual filming, and in the theatre passed all too quickly before your eyes.

Annette's photo album attests to those exciting, exhausting days when her home was transformed, and Lauren Bacall became the proprietress. "Their" choice of wallpaper and curtains remain as do the green and white striped porch awnings of 1920 style with hooks every six inches to curse while fastening and unfastening with the seasons. With the added electrical equipment and the use of powerful truck generators driven from Hollywood, Annette was left with



107 WASHINGTON STREET BECOMES
MRS. CRANSTON'S BOARDING HOUSE

lingering on and off circuit problems. On the day she attended the Newport showing of "Mr. North" she finally had her electricity on to stay, so she had double cause to celebrate. She's just had a note from Washington Street neighbors, Judy and Larry Morgan, telling her they caught the film in Seattle, and in one brief glimpse of the harbor saw an aluminum mast or two which had crept into the 20's background.



ANNETTE CHRAMIEC IN A "SET"
ON HER PORCH

Annette loved the movie but still remembers some of the best acting was behind the cameras. In the theatre, while scanning the exterior of her house for details, she almost missed her role of rocking on the porch at sunset. She did miss some lines she'd had to listen to at least 50 times during takes and re-takes. It all went so fast that she's eagerly awaiting a video release so she can push the "stop" button and sit back to reminisce. The question most frequently asked of her is "Did she enjoy having the filming done in her home?" Her answer, "It was a mixed blessing, but I wouldn't and couldn't say 'no' to the persuasive producers and directors."

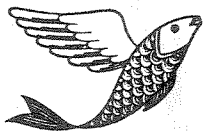
Kay O'Brien

In response to New York's changing environment, Marcia Strickland asked herself, "What am I doing here?" She was convinced that a change in her place of living was necessary. New York had been home for years; however, New England, and especially Newport, beckoned with its historic background and harbors and sea. In 1984 Marcia moved to Newport.

Marcia was brought up in Marlboro, Mass. attending the Northfield School for Girls where she met friends she holds dear today. During the war she enlisted in the Navy, and afterwards went to the New York School of Interior Design where she studied fabric design for interiors, and where she met her husband, William Lee Strickland.

She and William worked together as Interior Designers for years until his death in 1971. Without him, Marcia turned entirely to her work, designing fabrics and wallpaper in floral and traditional New England patterns influenced, of course, by her love for old New England.

She prepared her art for gravure and silkscreen printing. This is a special design procedure where one-quarter of the entire pattern is drawn and is repeated in drops so it is staggered and no vertical or horizontal repeats happen. Especially interesting are her dishtowel designs on heavy linen with historic American themes varying from Williamsburg to antique items. All these fabrics are hand screened.



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Now in Newport, Marcia works in tempera, a medium much like poster color, and recently has been working with acrylics using muted or pastel colors. She has painted portraits taken from the past with a "primitive" technique; decorative houses with elaborate borders, as in fabric design; and Noah's Ark, again "primitive", stylized and decorative. Recently she was commissioned to decorate a fireplace screen with a whaling ship theme.

Marcia lives on the Point in a Doris Duke house on the corner of Third and Poplar Streets. Now painted blue, the house has been sitting on this corner since 1755. Being a collector of antiques, the restored dwelling has been enhanced with her furnishings and fabrics. Marcia's work can be seen at Country Pleasures on Mill Street in Newport.

Dorothy Sanschagrin

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BOOK REVIEW

GREETINGS FROM JAMESTOWN, RHODE

ISLAND: Picture Post Card Views, 1900-1950, by Sue Maden: published by West Ferry Press, P.O. Box 154, Jamestown, R.I. 02835, 1988; 152 pages, \$16, plus \$2 shipping and handling charges.

Although Jamestown is not part of the Point, many of our residents have ties there. This 9 x 12 soft bound book makes Jamestown history come alive through the use of post cards. Spanning the first 50 years of the 20th century, it provides an overview of the changes which have occurred there during that time. The book also includes a checklist of 873 cards published to date.

Included is a short history of post card collecting, a map and legend of Jamestown. Topics covered range from early homes, street scenes and public buildings to naval history and lighthouses. A soft gray outline around each card lifts it off the page with a 3-dimensional effect.

The accompanying text utilizes actual messages found on some of the cards and quotes from newspaper accounts, books, and pamphlets, as well as a great deal of historical data.

Maden has been collecting cards of Jamestown for ten years and the book was five years in the making. She has done a super job. This book should interest anyone who has the slightest interest in Jamestown history or who has ever spent any time on the island.

Florence Archambault



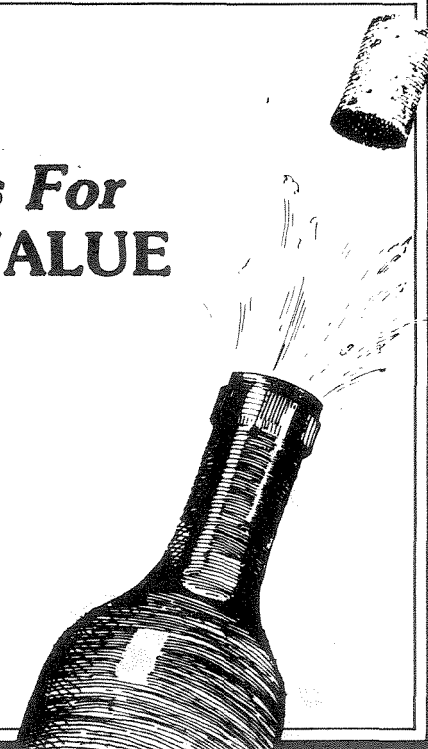
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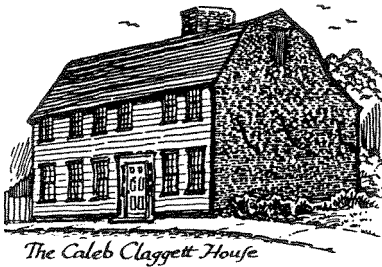
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COOK'S CORNER

We reprint three special bread recipes from our first cookbook -- now long out of print!

HOLIDAY PUMPKIN BREAD

1/3 cup shortening
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1/2 cup molasses (light or dark)
1 cup mashed pumpkin
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
1 cup chopped nuts

Cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs. Stir in molasses and pumpkin. Sift in remaining ingredients. Beat until well blended. Pour into a well-greased 9 x 5 x 3 loaf pan. Bake in a 350 degree oven one hour -- or until done in the center (a knife should come out clean). Cut into thin slices and serve spread with butter or cream cheese (whipped). Success usually attends the first time. Good luck!

Posy Hall



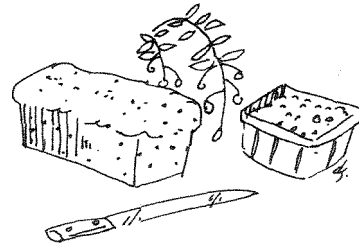
The second Point Association cookbook is still available in local bookstores for \$3.50.

CALEB CLAGGETT CRANBERRY BREAD

2 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon soda
1 tablespoon shortening
juice and rind of 1 orange
boiling water
1 egg (beaten)
1 cup raw cranberries (halved)
1 cup chopped nuts

Sift dry ingredients together. Combine orange juice, grated rind, shortening, and enough boiling water to make 3/4 cup. Add egg. Blend with dry ingredients. Mix only until flour is dampened. Add nuts and cranberries. Bake in greased loaf pan. Push batter up on sides of pan so loaf will be well rounded. Bake at 350 degrees for 60-70 minutes.

Esther Bates



THE GRINNEL HOUSE BLUEBERRY BREAD

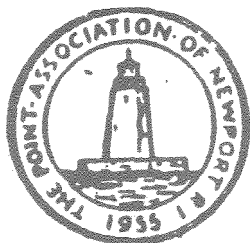
1 cup sugar
3 cups flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup milk
3 tablespoons cooking oil
1 egg, beaten
1 cup blueberries (can be fresh, frozen, or drained canned)

Sift dry ingredients into a mixing bowl and add nuts. Combine milk, oil and egg (does well in blender) and stir into dry ingredients until well mixed. Fold in blueberries and pour into an oiled loaf pan. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour. Excellent for Sunday brunches or tea snacks.

Isabel Ruocco

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