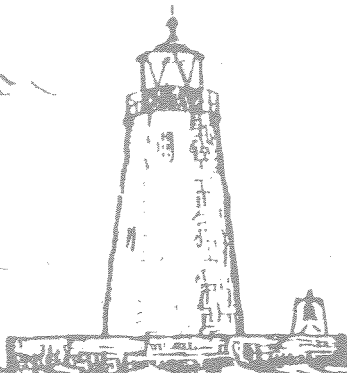


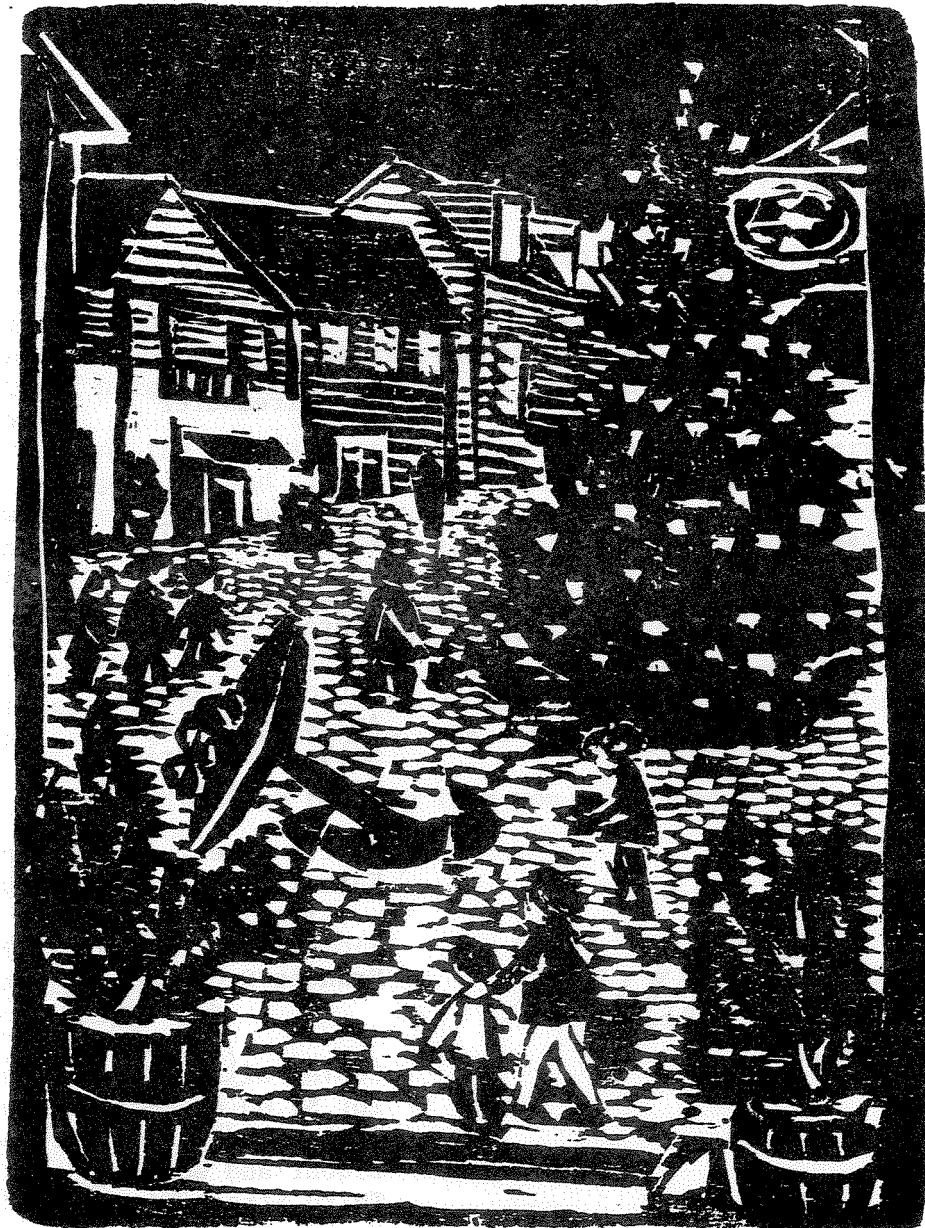
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# The GREEN LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION  
OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

DECEMBER 1990



Christmas in Newport

# *The* GREEN LIGHT



Vol. XXXV - No. 6

DECEMBER 1990

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Mary Lynn Rooke 1st V. President
Brenda Gordon 2nd V. President
Donna Flynn Rec. Secretary
Lois Dickison Corr. Secretary
John Howard Treasurer

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Copies of the **Green Light** may be purchased for \$1.00 at Bucci's Convenience Store, Poplar and Thames Streets; Aidinoff's Liquor and Gourmet Shop, Warner Street; Third Street Liquors and the Walnut Street Market.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Thank you for your generous words of welcome, congratulations, and support.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with your new Point Association president, I'm Joseph P.T. Vars, an old face and an old family.--- a comfortable shoe! This is my third term as president, the two other terms were in the mid-seventies; then I spoke of Neighborhood Watch, cleaning our sidewalks and gutters and, above all, considering our senior members and giving them the attention they've earned. This time around my aims are the same.

I look forward to your thoughts and suggestions for a better organization. Thanks to our former president and to those retiring from service to the Point Association for duties well performed.

It is important in this time of financial requests from other organizations, that we have a clear understanding of how your board should honor these requests. The question is this:

"What organizations asking for donations or contributions should we consider, and to what dollar limit?"

Please send a note or post card with your suggestions and thoughts to P.O. Box 491, Newport or give your response to a listed board member.

Two carry-over issues have been resolved since accepting my new office. Rose Island is now state owned and our members in the Cross, Bridge and Thames Streets area will have a most important and much needed "STOP SIGN". Thanks to the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. James Wright and their neighbors in that area...a tribute to group cooperation and support.

We know the city is not cleaning sidewalks and gutters any longer --so weed pulling and sidewalk sweeping is up to us. If we start now, and whenever it can be done through the winter, it'll be easier in the spring and summer seasons when sprucing up is so important to our visitors.

The Neighborhood Watch program was founded here on the Point and spread throughout the city---Remember? Try it again! Keep bushes cut low and trimmed short to discourage intruders; a yard light or porch light helps deter crime and above all keep doors, windows and cars locked! Don't invite trouble. Be a Neighborhood Watcher!

I look forward to hearing from you, and hope you'll all help out when called upon.



## ANNUAL MEETING

A well-attended annual meeting of the Point Association was held on October 18, with "Pete" Peters presiding. The minutes of the 1989 annual meeting were approved. John Howard, treasurer, presented the yearly financial report and a proposed budget for the coming year. Both were accepted.

Mary Lynn Rooke, 1st vice-president, chaired reports of committees, describing the job of each committee, and introducing the chairpersons who gave reports of the committees' activities, and introduced members who were present. It was a fine report of the varied programs and responsibilities of the Association, and of the many people who carry out those accomplishments.

Mary Rommel, beautification chairperson, announced the winners of the Point Garden contest, presenting certificates and beautiful colored photographs of each garden taken by Herb Rommel to their owners. (The winners were listed in the October **Green Light**.)

The Nominating committee presented a slate of proposed officers, who were elected. New officers are Joseph Vars, president, Brenda Gordon, 2nd vice-president; and Lois Dickison, corresponding secretary. Incumbent officers are Mary Lynn Rooke, 1st vice-president, Donna Flynn, recording secretary, and John Howard, treasurer.

Also elected were members of the nominating committee: David Aguiar, Sarah Gilson, and Herbert Rommel. The Board has selected Brenda Gordon and Roberta Majewski to serve on this committee. The president appointed Sarah Gilson as chairperson.

**Many thanks to outgoing officers and committees members for their service to the Association.**

## CAROLING?

Caroling on the Point? As we go to press, it is still a question, but hopefully there will be a group. Special notice will be sent to the membership if this happy custom is organized.

## A LETTER

Dear "Pete",

The responsibilities that are undertaken when one assumes the position of president of the Point Association are so numerous that it is nearly impossible to comprehend the many facets of that office.

Speaking for our large membership entails decisions wrenched from lengthy board meetings, a social that enables the promotion of the organization through personal contact, and the exchange of a broad view of thoughts.

The expenses of the treasury with debts and credits are a major concern to the entire Association and must be considered from every aspect. The efficiency and the dedication to which these jobs are carried out is what makes a great president. Your exemplary efforts in carrying out these tasks is no small matter.

As the new president, I, the board and the membership salute you for your work on our behalf. **Thanks.**

Joseph P.T. Vars  
President, The Point  
Association of Newport

November 14, 1990

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Heath Cooper  
Fred Curtis and Beth Ward  
Mrs. James French  
Arnold M. Frucht, M.D.  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Merrill  
Mary Jane Rodman  
Edward and Elizabeth Sherman  
Thomas C. Sturtevant  
Patric Spillane

The response to our membership letter has been extremely positive. Over 70% of the members have paid their dues. Please send your check today if you haven't renewed your 1990-1991 membership. Mail to The Point Association, P.O. Box 491, Newport, R.I. 02840.

**Just a reminder** - if you are interested in volunteering for any committee, please let us know by marking the appropriate committee on your membership renewal form.

Thank you.

Roberta Majewski  
Membership Chair

## THE HOLLY TEA

Sunday, December 16 - 3:00-5:30 p.m.  
at St. Paul's Methodist Church,  
Marlborough Street

This is a Christmas in Newport event, sponsored by the Point Association. It is especially for Pointers and friends from far and near. Take time out to relax and enjoy a cup of tea in an 18th century atmosphere.

Sandwiches, cookies, and small cakes are needed. Hosts and hostesses in Colonial costumes are welcome to help serve. Call Dede Elster at 847-0563 if you can help, or will bring some "tea-food" for the refreshment table. Donations \$1.50 per person.



Joseph P.T. Vars, President  
The Point Association

## HOLIDAY DOORWAY DECORATION CONTEST

Once again, there will be a city-wide doorway contest. For several years, Point homes have won places in this contest, especially two first place winners. Those who wish to participate must sign up. Watch the newspapers for details. The judging will be December 27th.

Questions? Call 849-2299

## CHRISTMAS ON THE POINT AND ON WASHINGTON SQUARE

- \*Dec. 1 Opening of Christmas in Newport-  
Washington Square-5 p.m.
- \*Dec. 3, Video presentation of Christmas  
4,5,6 in Newport-Colony House-10 a.m  
Free admission.
- Dec. 4 Light Up A Light-tree dedication-  
Long Wharf Mall-Hospice Care of  
Rhode Island-7 p.m.
- \*Dec. 6 Christmas Tree Hessian-a reading-  
Colony House-6:30 p.m.-  
Free admission.
- \*Dec. 8 Santa Claus Special-Old Colony  
and Newport Railway-America's Cup  
Avenue-10:30 a.m.-Admission \$6.00
- \*Dec.11 Giant Gingerbread House Tour-  
Marriott Hotel-2 to 5 p.m.-Admis-  
sion-item of nonperishable food
- \*Dec.15 Santa Claus Special-See Dec. 8
- \*Dec.16 Holly Tea-18th century setting-  
St. Paul's Methodist Church,  
Marlborough St.-Sponsored by the  
Point Association-Donation \$1.50
- \*Dec.18 Christmas Open House and Opening  
of Newport Navy Art Show-Naval  
War College Museum-4 to 6 p.m.-  
Free admission.
- \*Dec.23 Re-enactment of Col. Freebody's  
Turtle Frolic of December 1752-  
Sheraton-Islander Inn of Goat  
Island-18th century cuisine-  
English Country Dancing-5:30 p.m.  
Dinner \$25.00-reservations  
required-849-2600.
- Dec.24 Christmas Eve Carol and Candle  
Lighting Service-St. Paul's  
Methodist-Marlborough St-7 p.m.
- \*Dec.24 Midnight Mass-St. John's Church-  
Washington St-10:30 p.m.-Music  
by male sextet-11 p.m. service.
- Dec.26, Candlelight Tours of 18th and  
27,28,29 19th century houses-ON THE  
POINT-28th & 29th -3:30-6:30 p.m.  
Admission-\$3.00 per house.
- Dec.27 Judging of Citywide Doorway  
Contest

\*Christmas in Newport event.

For further details on Point activities  
see this issue of the **Green Light**.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE OF 90'S?

A recent EPA study concluded that a correlation exists between exposure to electromagnetic fields and the incidence of cancer. Because of this, power companies in Pennsylvania and New Jersey plan to place power lines underground.

Two years ago the Newport Electric Company installed taller poles on Third Street, adding 23,000 volts to provide power to the resort hotels and Jamestown. The Company received permission from the city for the extra installation, but were not required by law to be specific about their plans.

Since one-third of the homes in the area are within five feet of the high voltage lines, residents worry about possible adverse health effects on their families.

Concerned Point residents filled the Council Chambers at City Hall on October 25 for an informational meeting called by Councilman Jack Crowley to hear the electric company's position on the safety of this installation.

On display was a map of Aquidneck Island which showed the major concentration of power coursing through the Point before going underground for the hotel. Mr. Robert Powderly, president of Newport Electric Company, introduced the company's consultant, Antonio Sastre PHD, who spoke for almost an hour, leaving much of his audience confused and angry.

When asked if he would want to live near the lines he said he would not. The company cited cost as an insurmountable problem and denied that there was sufficient scientific evidence to prove that lines could be hazardous. The general audience consensus was that we really didn't want "the fox to defend the chicken coop."

On November 15 there was a second meeting with the full Council. Mr. Crowley read resolutions concerning future regulations. This time the company brought their lawyer who objected to the wording of the resolutions. Nothing can be done until the Council's legal staff and the company lawyer have conferred.

The meeting was continued until November 29.

Anne Reynolds

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

As we have reported, the Board of the Point Association wants to recognize volunteers who work behind the scenes to make the Association a successful organization. In October, such a report was inadvertently omitted, and we are including it in this issue, as we recognize a few of the many people who help in a multitude of ways.

**Phil Burnett** for taking responsibility for keeping Storer Park litter-free during the Day on the Point Fair.

**Beth Graham** who helps with mailings to members - a time-consuming task.

**Kay O'Brien** who added to the beauty of Battery Park by her plantings.

**Herb Rommel** who documents our events through his photography - especially the lovely color photos of the gardens in the Point Garden contest.

**Ned Sherman** who gave his services to video-tape the meeting concerning the electromagnetic fields radiating from electric lines. The tape is available from Ned by calling 847-3229.

**Toni Peters** - a special thank-you for her hospitality to Board members in meetings the past two years.

A sincere thank-you to all members who give continuing support to our Association activities.

If you do not already help in some way, but would be willing to do so, please get in touch with me.

Mary Lynn Rooke  
1st vice-president  
846-6849



## UPDATES

### ROSE ISLAND

CMTS, owners of the 14 1/2 acres of Rose Island, have agreed to sell the land to the state for \$1.1 million. The island will become part of the Bay Island Park System, a plan to provide open space on Narragansett Bay.

"I think that's just terrific. I think it's just Hallelujah," sang Charlotte Johnson. And a great Amen from the rest of us who have watched and worked, waited and hoped for seven years to stay the seemingly inexorable threat of development. (A 200-slip marina and 125 condominiums was the dream of the owners until the economy and environmental considerations interfered.)

Charlotte and Curt Bunting's faith kept people working. Curt is president of the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation. There were hearings and meetings, and on one blustery day in 1985 the island was wrapped in miles of sheets, sewn together by volunteers in the basement of the Presbyterian Church.

Meanwhile there began an effort to repair the lighthouse which stood on the city's 1.5 acres. Some people contributed money for shingles and windows. (The Point Association gave a window.) Others donated skilled labor. Ron Ackman's boat ferried workers there every Wednesday.

There was fun, too. New Year's Day picnics became a tradition for the brave and there were lobster feasts in summer.

Now all the island will belong to all of the people once more. The light and the keeper's house are almost ready. No funds are available for park development. Maybe that's good. Rose Island will still be there unchanged. Hallelujah!

Anne Reynolds

### VIRGINIA

Our editor, Virginia Covell, is still on "sick leave". It takes the whole staff to fill her place! Virginia, after several months in and out of hospitals and nursing homes, is now in a nursing home in East Providence. Greetings to her will reach her best through her daughter, Catherine Orloff, 64 Crescent St., Providence, R.I. 02907.

### CAPS FOR KIDS

About 50 people have made caps or mittens for the Newport Needleworks' project. Some caps and mittens have already gone to the Martin Luther King Center and some will soon go to Lucy's Hearth. We have no idea how many Pointers responded to the notice in October's **Green Light**, but we hope lots of caps or mittens have been finished, or are in the process. Winter winds are so cold!

The project will continue all winter, so gather up your needles and yarn, and join the fun!

### FEED-A-FRIEND

The basket at the annual meeting was filled, and there was a big canned ham too large for the basket! Roberta Majewski delivered the food to the Martin Luther King Center the next day.

Pointers had another chance to contribute when Salve Regina students knocked on doors one weekend.

A tough winter is predicted. Share, as you can, through churches and other organizations.

### NEED A LAST MINUTE GIFT?

Favorite Recipes from Here and There on the Point, a Point Association cookbook is on sale at The Walnut Street Market and the Almy House in Portsmouth at a special Christmas price of \$3.00.

 **Book Bay**

Brick Marketplace, Newport, R.I. 02840  
(401) 846-3033



## A CIRCLE COMPLETED- A NEW CHAPTER

We would like to thank all those residents of the Point who attended the book publication party for **Conquistador's Lady**. The story of where your donation went and to whom is one of those chapters in life when one feels a circle is drawn, completed; certainly a new chapter begins.

Recently, we took \$800 as your gift to the people of Guatemala. Arriving there in the capitol city, we were contacted by a social agency, FAFIDESS, which is funded by the five Guatemalan Rotary Clubs in that country.

Reynold Walter, executive director of FAFIDESS, immediately organized a trip by jeep up the steep sides of those volcanic mountains Agua and Fuego. Earlier, we had expressed our wish that our donation be given to Indian people near the town of Ciudad Vieja where our Conquistador's Lady had lived as wife of the Governor General of Guatemala, Pedro Alvarado. It was Agua that flooded, destroying her castle, taking her life.

Reynold told us that, not being certain of our arrival date, he had not told the Indians about our gift. He said that this early morning visit would be a complete surprise. He told us about the recently formed women's cooperative groups in three different villages. Reynold said that the women of these groups would decide among themselves what to do with the money.

Guatemalan Indian women are, for the most part, illiterate and, until recently, their husbands and fathers have ruled their lives. Now, with the help and counseling of FAFIDESS and other agencies, these women are learning about cooperative markets for their woven goods; they are forming small banks and using these monies to better their communities and their own living conditions.

Our jeep climbed the slopes of El Volcan Agua, that volcanic mountain topped by a great lake which can, in raging season, overflow. The villages here are without electricity and telephone; the dwellings are adobe and bamboo, with dirt floors. The raw poverty of the village we visited was brightened by the handwoven skirts and shawls worn by the women and girls. Weaving is everywhere; the Indian

woman can and does set up her hand loom by the roadside, in the rain forest or the farm field, in her patio or house. When she has enough goods to sell, she will bundle it all up, set the bundle on her head and carry it, walking all the way and sometimes barefooted, down the mountain, to the nearest city market.

These village women were surprised by our visit. Their dark eyes evidenced their disbelief when Reynold told them we had brought money. "What do we give in return?" they asked. Nothing, they were told, and that they had a week only to decide to what use to put the gift. The needs were many; a sewing machine, medicine, school supplies. We, to ease the general suspicion and make friends, suggested a grand fiesta. There was much laughter then, and the women promised to meet soon and decide what to do with our gift. We visited still another village, high up on El Volcan Fuego. Again the women gathered, staring in disbelief. We might have been, and indeed felt like, a visitor from another planet.

Later, at the end of that week, we returned to the villages. The women had decided to put the money into their personal accounts in a bank. These women's banks are just three years old. Reynold told us that husbands and fathers were not pleased, in the beginning, by this women's banking. Now, if a woman can be cajoled or forced to give her money to her husband, then she is immediately out of the group. For the first time in generations of subservience the Guatemalan Indian woman is realizing her own power.

At the first village, after our gift had been formally presented to the president of the women's group, we were given a feast of bean soup and stew, rice, and hot tortillas. All the cooking is done outside, on a wood fire. Water is carried from the wells and the corn is ground in the patios. We were served at a rough table, just ourselves and Reynold. When we invited the women to join us they shook their heads. It is an age-old rule that women eat, squatting on their haunches, after the men are finished. We had the same experience when we were doing research in the Cuna Indian islands of Panama and a dining table and two chairs were flown in especially for us!



Receiving the money, each woman signed a receipt. Few could write their names; most of them signed with a thumbprint. Those who could write used the pen almost reverently; they smiled proudly at me. Those who made their print hid their faces behind their shawls.

Visiting the next village to present our gift, we were given a beautiful woven shawl and blouse. We were made "sisters" of these women, and all of us posed for a group photograph.



It was a memorable experience. We were so impressed by the courage and persistence of these women that we made them a promise. Next year, on our return there, we expected every woman in the three groups to be able to write their names. We were going to give a gift of rural education to these villages. Reynold Walter promised to help us in this endeavor. And, as we said goodbye, each woman promised she would attend the classes. Next year their shawls will not be used to hide their faces; the folded shawls will crown their heads as they do when worn in ceremonies, or carrying goods to market. Next year, when one of these women reads that a blouse which took her six months to weave, a blouse that she sold for 75 cents, sells for \$100 or more in the US or Europe - then she will understand the power inherent in her creative ability.

We are certain that there are people here, on the Point, who know the value of reading and writing. Later this year, we hope to form a group of those interested in providing a literacy program for approximately 80 women who battle daily against ancient taboos, whose very lives depend now, not on withdrawal from the world but on a desire to co-exist, to comprehend.

Anita McAndrews

## CANDLELIGHT HOUSE TOURS

If you'd like to be a part of these tours which take place the week after Christmas, Dede Elster would be happy to have you serve as a hostess in one of the houses. She'll provide you with a costume, if necessary. Contact her at 847-0563

*Complimentary coffee  
with purchase of any  
bakery item.*

*Redeemable at:*



22 Washington Square  
Newport, Rhode Island  
Phone: 847-0194

**PDQ Printing and Copying Inc.**  
176 Broadway  
Newport, RI 02840  
401 849-3820

## NEWPORT DOCUMENTS COME HOME

There is something both mystical and exciting about handling and reading old documents...particularly documents which date from the 18th century, pertaining to Newport. Not only is the lettering and the penmanship wonderful but as Ruth Kiker, a collector, says, "It's one way to get inside the heads of your ancestors."

Ruth's collection started when she came across a collection of Newport paper for sale by a Massachusetts dealer who had purchased them from a party in New Hampshire. The story is that they were left behind in the attic of a home after three or four auctions had been held because no one wanted them! We can only guess at how they got there.

The top document on the pile caught her eye. Dated September 10, 1750, it read as follows: "Pay to Mr. Benjamin Wyatt 50 pounds it being to pay the same sum to Mr. David Sweet for boating of forty cord of stones for the Colony House and charge the same to said Colony House." It was addressed to Thomas Richardson, Esquire and signed by Peter Bourne and Benjamin Wyatt. The fact that David Sweet was one of her ancestors prompted Ruth to purchase some of the documents and bring them home to Newport.

Her collection consists of receipts for rum and molasses and money for attending councils of war, orders for payments, mortgages, deeds, etc...all of which bear many of the names associated with early Newport.

One document could well be the original deed for Bannister's Wharf. Another puts John Bannister on the committee to run a lottery for the paving of Pelham Street. There are several deeds for lots in the 1st and 2nd divisions of Easton's Point (now known simply as the Point).

One dated 17 September in the 20th year of the reign of our sovereign George, the Second King, is a deed of gift to Stephan Wanton, shipwright, from Samuel Clarke of Jamestown of Lots #94 and #95 of the first division of Easton's Point bounded west on dock, north on street or bridge, south on a cove in consideration of love, good will, and natural affection.

Another mortgage signed by William Coddington to Kendal Nichols dated Oct. 5, 1731 grants him "all the land Northerly upon a bridge leading to the Point Easterly upon the cove of salt water 100 feet."

The language used in these papers is embellished with the most wonderful stilted and old English tones. Money was payable in English pounds and shillings as well as the "current payable money of New England" but which was usually specified.

A directive to pay Benjamin Chace in "old tenor for pines for ye Fort Wharf" dated January 9, 1754 is signed by William Mumford. This led Ruth and I to speculate on whether or not "ye Fort Wharf" had anything to do with Fort Greene on the Point.

The collection also includes a paper dated June 17, 1778 from the Council of War signed by W. Greene, governor, in which William Coddington is ordered to be paid 4 pounds 16 shillings out of the general Treasury.

One of the documents is a large one printed by Solomon Southwick on which appear the signatures of the crew of the sloop **Retrieve** signed up by John Brown, master.

The privilege of holding these papers was a bit heady for someone who considers herself a historian of sorts and has a deep interest in Newport history...but what is appalling is the realization that the composition of today's paper used in our everyday documents presents a fragility that is alarming to historians.

Libraries now copy newspapers and books for the future on microfilm but who can say how long before the microfilm deteriorates?

Our descendents, two to three hundred years from now, will have been cheated of the pleasure and awe of handling documents from these days and that tangible link with the past will have been lost.

Florence Archambault

# This Indenture, Made the *Twenty Ninth* Day of *July*

In the *Seventeenth* Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, King of Great-Britain, &c. Anno; Domini 1746  
between - *Nathanell Sweeting* of the County of *Purbeck* in the Colony of Rhode-Island, &c. *Mortgagee* of the one Part, and *Jonathan Nichols, Thomas Richardson, Daniel Updike, Gideon Watson, Gideon Cornell, Edward Scott, James Arnold and George Brown, Esqrs;* Trustees for the said Colony (appointed by an Act of the General Assembly of said Colony, made at *South Kingstown* on the Second Tuesday of February in the *Seventeenth* Year of His said Majesty's Reign, Anno; Domini 1743, whereby the said Trustees were authorized to Emit upon Loan, Forty Thousand Pounds in Bills of Publick Credit of the New Tenor, for the Space of Ten Years, as said Act expresseth) on the other Part; WITNESSETH, That the said *Nathanell Sweeting*, for and in Consideration of the Sum of *Two hundred and Ten Shillings* in Bills of Publick Credit of said Colony, and equivalent to Silver Stated at Six Shillings and Nine Pence per Ounce, or Gold to its proportionate Value, to him in Hand paid at the Enfealing and Delivery hereof by the aforementioned Trustees, the Receipt whereof the said *Nathanell Sweeting* doth hereby acknowledge; hath granted, bargained, conveyed and confirmed, and by these Presents doth grant, bargain, convey and confirm unto the said Trustees, to and for the Use of said Colony, *Two certain Lots of*

*Land with a Dwelling House thereon situated lying and being in the Town of Newport One of them being in Number the One Hundred and fifty first Lot the other Lot is the One hundred and Twenty first Lot in the second Division of the Land called Eastons Point being bounded and containing as followeth*  
*North on Land of Ebenezer Rumrell One Hundred feet East on a street One Hundred feet South on Land of Stephen Tripp One Hundred feet West on Land of James Parsons One Hundred feet*

Together with all and singular the Improvements, Privileges and Appurtenances thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining TO HAVE AND TO HOLD all the above bargained Premises unto the above named Trustees, and such others as shall be appointed in their stead, to the sole Use and behoof of the Colony aforesaid for ever. And the said *Nathanell Sweeting* for himself, his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, doth covenant and agree to and with the said Trustees and their Successors in said Office, that he the said *Nathanell Sweeting* at the Time of this Grant and Sale, and until the Enfealing and Executing hereof, is the true and lawful Owner of the Premises, and stands rightly seized thereof to his own proper Use, as of a good, perfect and absolute Estate of Inheritance in Fee-Simple, exonerated and discharged from all other Grants, Mortgages, and other Incumbrances whatever. And for himself, his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, doth further covenant and agree, to warrant and defend for ever, unto the above named Trustees and those succeeding them in said Trust, all the above bargained Premises against the lawful Claim, Challenge and Demand of all and every Person whatsoever. PROVIDED always and nevertheless, upon Condition that if the said *Nathanell Sweeting*

his Heirs, Executors or Administrators, shall and do well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, to the above named Trustees or their Successors, or to such Persons as by said General Assembly shall be appointed to represent them or to manage said Trust, the aforesaid Sum of *Two hundred and Ten Shillings* in said Bills of Publick Credit of the New Tenor, or in Silver Money at the Rate of Six Shillings and Nine Pence per Ounce, or in Gold at the Rate of Five Pounds per Ounce, as is expressed in said Act and in said Bills, at or before the *First* Day of *August* in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and *Forty four* together also with the Interest thereof, annually (in one of the aforesaid Species) at *Four per Cent.* for which Interest Bonds are given, and also for the Principal, to be paid at Ten annual Payments, according to said Act, and the Discharging of which Bond or any of them, shall discharge so much of this Mortgage as said Bond is Security for; Then and in such Case this present Indenture shall be construed and deemed to be so far discharged as the aforesaid Bonds for Interest and Principal shall be paid, and upon the Payment of the whole Interest and Principal as aforesaid, shall be rendered absolutely null, void and of no Effect, but upon Failure shall remain in full Force. IN WITNESS whereof the aforementioned Granter hath hereunto set his Hand and affixed his Seal, the Day, Month and Year above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered  
in the Presence of

*John Davis*  
*Benjamin Nichols*

*Nathanell Sweeting*

*Newport* *Newport July 30 1746*

*Personally Appeared Nathanell Sweeting*  
*and acknowledged the same to be his act*  
*and Seal*  
*Before me Peter Easton Just of Peace*

*Recorded In of Coll<sup>d</sup> Mortgages*  
*Book of Newport 2:7 Page 95.*  
*The 19th August 1746.*

*J. W. Boddington Ind. Town Clerk*

## DOES HISTORY REPEAT ITSELF?-NOT EXACTLY

Some 40 years ago a rather dilapidated whale boat\* was towed to the Poplar Street shore, and hauled up about halfway to Washington Street. The next day a couple with a small baby drove up, parking their car beside the boat, which they examined not too carefully. Soon they knocked on our front door, asking if they might use the telephone and heat the baby's bottle. With little prompting they told us of their plans.

Disgusted and discouraged with conditions after World War II, feeling that great cities did not provide a satisfactory life, they had decided to purchase a suitable boat and sail around the world in search of a more perfect type of existence. They were idealistic, positive and talkative.

The whale boat needed much repair. A cabin with bunks and a cooking area was to be built forward, and the cockpit made more comfortable. The engine had to be taken down and refitted for hard usage. The planking all over the boat had to be repaired, sanded and painted. The couple worked each day, comfortably, with groups of friends who came to help. Someone provided sleeping quarters during those two months of work.

It didn't seem to us as if they knew anything about the sea, or tides or charts or storms or running a boat. Their ignorance was frightening. In no sense did the boat achieve seaworthiness. Yet the young couple were filled with confidence, seeing no difficulties ahead. We didn't even try to point out the realities of life on the ocean waves.

Finally she was ready to go. They rolled her down to the water and tied her to the pier. Then she was loaded down with gear and supplies, heaps and heaps of it, filling most of the cockpit. Next day off she went out of the channel. Of course we were filled with apprehension. We searched the newspapers every day in hopes of some word as to her progress. Not until late in August did we hear that she had finally reached New Bedford, bringing the voyage to an end.

It does seem, however, that there is a special guardian angel that looks out for innocents who try to sail the seas.

Otherwise why would the FLYING NEUTRINOS have landed softly and safely in the sand at the far end of First Beach?

\*Whale boat, a double ender, originally for rowing, but having a useful little motor aft. Perhaps gopher is the best definition of this boat, which scurried around doing errands when the fleet was in harbor.

Esther Fisher Benson

Editor's note: For those of you who have not been following the FLYING NEUTRINOS in recent weeks - six adults and four children who left New Bedford on a barge-made-into-houseboat-with-paddlewheels became stranded on First Beach enroute to Mexico. After much pushing and pulling, they were towed by a lobster boat to the end of Long Wharf for repairs. Forced to leave there by the DEM on Saturday, the 17th of November, last reports placed the boat at Point Judith.

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## HIDDEN HOUSES

Have you ever wondered about little Point houses? There are many of them, standing close together, mostly with a simple gable roof and nicely placed windows... "story-and-a-half" they are called. They make up a large part of our Point housing. No one pays much attention to them, although they are useful and basic. Perhaps our Point colonials are of greater interest with their historic connections, like the Matthew Perry House at Second and Walnut Streets or the great Hunter House on Washington Street.

Many people enjoy sitting in the breeze at Battery Park or looking at the view from car windows. Often seen walking about are three oldish women in pursuit of exercise. Recently, as the season changed, Washington Street got too windy, so the three walkers moved away from the waterfront to Second, Third and the tree-named streets. To their surprise they began to perceive a phenomenon --- little houses standing in the center of a city block. Narrow paths led from the street to front door, or a parking space was tightly squeezed in, opening up the way.

Once you start looking you begin to find them, built well into the interior of the block, not on the street line. They are hard to pin-point. Walking all the way around is the only way to be sure. Actually there is one house that does not seem to have an entrance at all. The three walkers entitled it "The Little Lost House". Many have gardens and a particular neatness as if to make evident their self-containment.



When and why did this notion first occur? To cut off a chunk of your back yard and sell it for a house lot? The Point is a narrow stretch of land to carry so many houses. Was it due to the fact that practically everyone had to walk wherever they were going? The center of town was at Long Wharf and Thames, not far away. Or was it the nearness of the New England Steamship Company, Newport's largest employer for almost 100 years, making a short walk to and from work desirable?

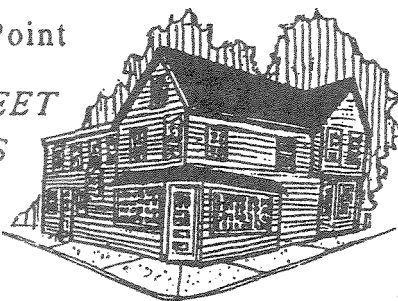
The three walkers found 12 hidden houses.

Esther Fisher Benson

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## POINTERS-IN-THE-NEWS

Alexander and Ilse Nesbit are the featured Pointers of the month. In recognition of the 25th anniversary of their Third and Elm Press, they have arranged an exhibit in Redwood Library, displaying a beautiful array of books, announcements, invitations, Christmas cards, and notepaper. Some are made from woodcuts; some are handlettered, some handset. They were printed on very old printing presses. The exhibit is described in a November issue of **Newport This Week**, and the article includes a photograph of Ilse and Alex in their shop.

Both are active members of the Point Association, and have contributed many posters and announcements for Association events. This issue's cover, for instance! Congratulations to the Nesbits.

-----

Sarah Plumb of Pine Street was pictured in a **Providence Journal** article describing the activities of the Ida Lewis Doll Club, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Sarah is the founder of the club, and is currently serving her second term as its president. Her collection of dolls was featured in the February 1989 issue of **The Green Light**.

-----

A full report of the meeting of Point residents and others concerned about electromagnetic hazards was given in the November 1 issue of **Newport This Week**. It included a photograph of several of the more than 50 persons who attended. Prominent in the picture were Rosalys Hall, Anne Reynolds, Beth Graham and Herb Rommel.

The cover picture of that issue of **Newport This Week** was of the large transformer at the corner of Third and Poplar Streets.

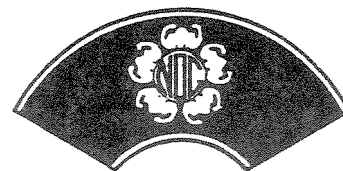
Kit Hammett

## BORN ON THE POINT?

Several years ago, certificates were given to persons who were born on the Point (actually, who returned to the Point after arriving at the hospital!). A request has been made that this custom be revived. The Board would like to have comments from members. What do you think? Do you know of people who have not been recognized, or who have been born since the early certificates were given? Let the Board know by sending a card to Box 491, Newport Post Office, or by calling Mary Lynn Rooke at 846-6849.

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## TIME-LY THOUGHTS

The last Sunday in October, Daylight Saving, and this gift of an extra hour excites me. Nobody - and who is it who did this anyway, I'd like to thank him/her - could please me more. Why? Why should one hour feel like I've hit the jackpot?

I've an hour to catch up to me. You see, time is elastic and I'm way ahead of myself. That's me, down the road, past Thanksgiving turkey and Christmas stockings; I'm one minute before midnight, New Year's Eve.

Now this extra hour. It can be stretched.

Time is elastic, fluid, a bowl of jello. The way I stretch it is: an extra hour this morning means an extra hour this afternoon. And an extra hour in the afternoon means that much more time in the evening. Confusing? Yes. Time always is, to me anyway. I try to keep it; but it slips away.

Let's look it up. Time, I mean.

Webster's: **Time is a nonspatial continuum in which events occur in apparently irreversible succession from the past through the present to the future.**

More: You can die before your time.  
Or live behind the times.

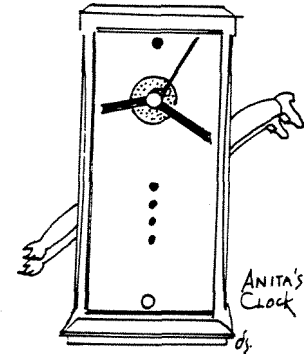
You can do something in no time at all.

You can record time, even lose time.

On the drawing boards now is a time machine which, theoretically, will move us from present time to past time, to future time.

The whole thing is a brilliant human conundrum. Oh yes, it is! Do you know how many **times** there are? There's standard, civil, zone, and even slow time.

There's mean time, solar time, and mean solar time.



Yes, and sidereal time, apparent time, local time, plus Greenwich, and Greenwich mean time.

Don't forget Eastern time, Central time, Mountain time. And Pacific time, Atlantic time, Alaska time. Yukon time, daylight saving time, fast time, and, lastly, summertime, wintertime...

I forgot - there's this Sunday's New York Times. Now where is the time for that Times?

Help. I forgot to set the clock. Fall back! I will, out of New Year's anyway, back into Thanksgiving. It is high time, too, to wish everyone a Merry Christmas!

Anita McAndrews

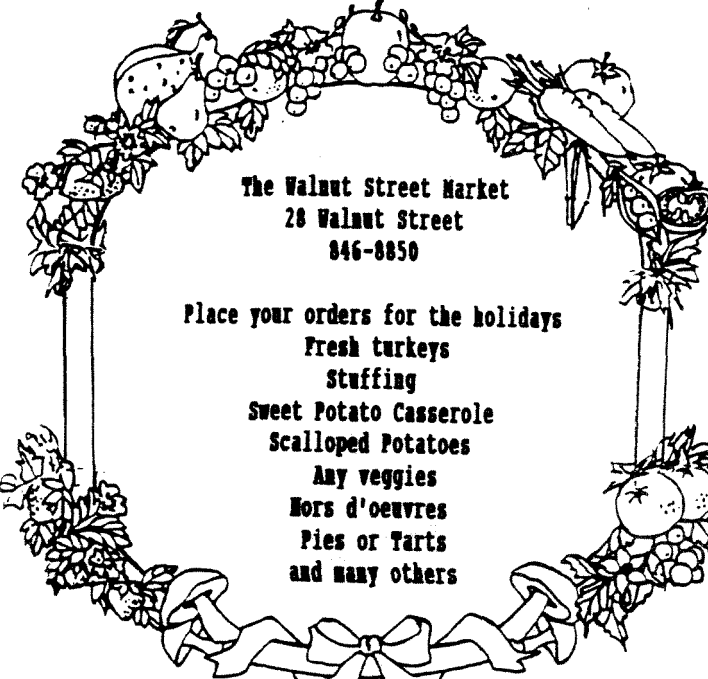
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## ADVENT MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

During the season of Advent, the four Sundays before Christmas, a series of Ave Maria anthems and Ave Verum Corpus anthems will be sung. The music is in several styles and periods of composition, ranging from Edward Elgar to the earlier music of John Dunstable.

The music for Christmas Eve will be by Marc-Antoine Charpentier. As always, the public is cordially invited to attend services at St. John's Church, the Point's own church.

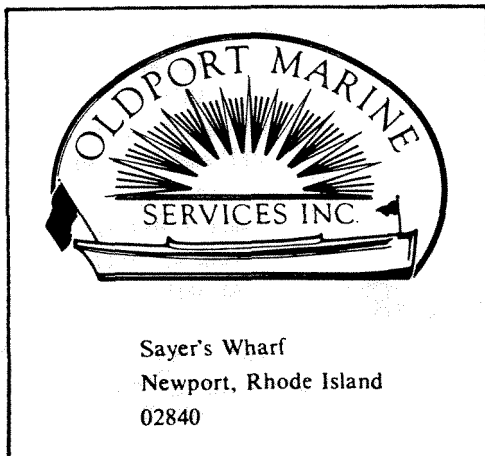
Dec. 2-- **MISSA PENITENTIALIS**--Plainsong  
11 a.m. **Offertory**--Ave Maria--Edgar Elgar  
**Communion**--Ave Verum Corpus--Elgar

Dec. 9-- **MISSA PENITENTIALIS**--Plainsong  
11 a.m. **Offertory**--Ave Maria--Josef Rheinberger  
**Communion**--Ave Verum Corpus--Franz Listz

Dec. 16-- **MISSA PENITENTIALIS**--Plainsong  
11 a.m. **Offertory**--Ave Maria--Jacob Arcadelt  
**Communion**--Ave Verum Corpus--Wolfgang Mozart

Dec. 23-- **MISSA PENITENTIALIS**--Plainsong  
11 a.m. **Offertory**--Ave Maria--Cesar Franck  
**Communion**--Sancta Maria--John Dunstable

Dec. 24-- **MESSE DE MINUIT POUR NOEL**--  
11 p.m. Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
Prelude, Offertory and Communion music from: "The Song of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ"--Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
(With orchestra).



## BEAUTIFICATION

Daffodils, tulips, and crocuses have been planted at the Liberty Tree and at the Arnold Memorial at Thames and Cross Streets. Thank you to Newport Clean and Green for donating some of the bulbs, the Point Association paid for the rest.

The Benefactors of the Arts have planted daffodils in the plot at Bridge and Washington Streets, and at the water-end of Marsh Street. We will be pretty, come spring!

Our beautiful new copper beech is doing well.

The contractor has planted grass seed on the bare corner of Storer Park -- BUT I'm afraid the pigeons have eaten it all!

I hope the Point will be well-decorated for the holidays with electric candles in windows, more clear bulbs outside, and greens on doorways.

Mary Rommel  
Chairperson

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

As the weather shuts us in more, here's some information you might like to keep in mind. You might need a ride for shopping or to a doctor's appointment. Call NEW VISIONS at 847-7821 and ask for transportation. You must give two days' advance notice.

There is a 24-hour Emergency Response Service -LIFELINE-administered by Newport Hospital. For more information, call the hospital at 846-6400 and leave your number. You will be contacted and are under no obligation.

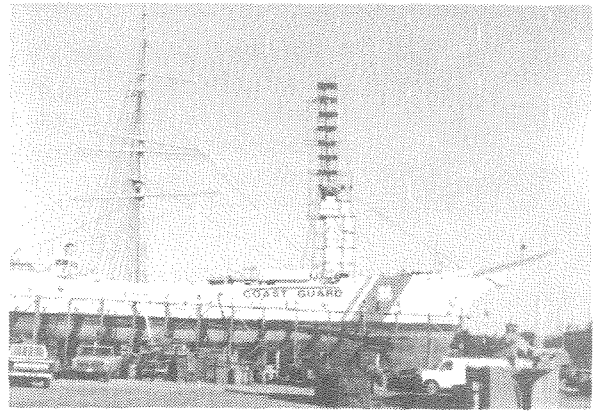
If you are thinking of a volunteer job, call Claire Curtis at Child and Family Services at 849-2300. Under their Friendly Visitor Service you perhaps could give an hour a week helping some one shop, playing a game with another, or just visiting. It's a rewarding two-way street.

Emily Seeley

## PRESSURE POINTS

1. There's always the end of Washington Street which attracts our attention. The Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) is losing its raw image and now is hiding behind landscaping and painted shingles and clapboards. The intersection at the Causeway will have to be opened one more time to do a final tie-in, and there will be work on the Causeway itself. This entails building a manhole structure at the beginning of the Causeway to connect it with the underwater pipe. Also a barge and divers will be working on a diffuser at the end of the underwater pipe to divert the water from a large pipe into smaller ones. Sidewalk superintendents can still be on duty!

2. The Connell Highway sewer plant construction should be finished in January. The new drinking-water plant on Bliss Mine Road will also be completed in January with the old building demolished in February and March. We all look forward to better quality drinking water as this deadline is reached. As Roy Anderson gave me this information, I told him it sounded as if he could have a vacation coming up, but he assured me that seeing if everything works as planned is the real test, and, of course, there are many more projects ahead as the 21st century looms.



3. The future of the shipyard still seems somewhat in doubt as we read the business has been sold. It gets a little confusing with ownership of the land, etc., but topside there's lots to see with the Coast Guard's **Eagle** under repair. It's mind-boggling to see the staging erected to take down the complicated rigging for mast refurbishing. Then we can watch it going back together again...but which of us would know how the lines should go?

4. We must congratulate **Newport This Week** for keeping us updated with in-depth coverage of Newport's concerns and problems --- one example, Paul Lindh's article of November 1 on the harborline around the DEM's commercial dock into the public waters of Newport Harbor, known as the South Pier at the end of Long Wharf. Another --- Edie Rose's article on the workshop on the radiation threat of electromagnetic fields from electric lines.

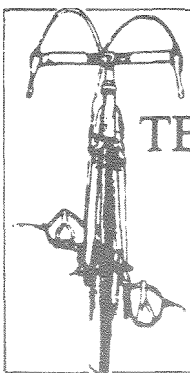
Kay O'Brien

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## COOK'S CORNER

A bus trip in October with the "Recycled Teenagers" of the Martin Luther King Center to the Eadaville Railroad in Carver, Mass. coincided with the harvesting of the cranberries for which the Cape is so well known.

It was a revelation to see the modern methods of gathering the berries...a far cry from the harvesting of yesteryears.

Tradition has it that cranberries were served at the first Thanksgiving dinner. Long before the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth the Indians harvested the wild cranberries for food and medicine.

Cranberries, in addition to Concord grapes and blueberries, are the only three fruits native to North America. They were a staple in the diets of Indians in both the Northeast and Northwestern parts of the United States.

This time of year it is a delight to be able to buy fresh cranberries in the markets. I always buy a couple of extra bags and put them in the freezer just as they come from the store.

Here are several recipes utilizing these berries other than the wonderful cranberry sauce recipe you find printed on each bag.

## SUPERSIZED CRANBERRY-ALMOND MUFFINS

MAKES 6 LARGE MUFFINS

1 3/4 c. unsifted all-purpose flour  
1/2 c. unsifted whole wheat flour  
3/4 c. sugar  
1 TBS. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. baking soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg  
1 c. cranberries, each cut in half  
1/2 c. sliced natural almonds  
1/3 c. butter or margarine  
1 c. milk  
1 large egg

1. Heat oven to 375. Grease six 6-ounce custard cups; place on rimmed baking sheet or jelly-roll pan for easier handling.
2. In large bowl, combine flours, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and nutmeg. Add cranberries and almonds; toss to mix well. Set aside.
3. In 1-qt. saucepan (or microwavable bowl in microwave oven), melt butter over low heat. Remove from heat. Stir in milk to cool the melted butter. Beat in egg. Stir into flour mixture until just moistened; batter will be lumpy. Divide batter among greased cups. (Cups will be full.)



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4. Bake 30-35 min. or until cake tester inserted in center comes out clean. Remove muffins from cups and serve warm.  
**Note:** To make 12 regular size muffins, heat oven to 400. Grease 12 2-1/2" muffin-pan cups. Prepare batter and fill cups as directed above. Bake muffins 20 min. or until cake tester inserted into center comes out clean. Remove muffins from cups and serve warm.

Here is a recipe you can use when you don't have fresh berries. This is one of the most requested recipes in the **Boston Globe's** Confidential Chat section.

#### CRANBERRY BARS

- 1 c. quick-cooking oatmeal
- 3/4 c. brown sugar
- 1/2 c. sifted flour
- 1/2 c. coconut
- 1/3 c. margarine, or butter
- 1/2 c. chopped walnuts
- 1 regular-size can whole-berry cranberry sauce
- 1 TBS. lemon juice

Mix oatmeal, sugar, flour and coconut. Cut in the margarine until crumbly. Place half this mixture in a 9-in. square pan; pat down gently.

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be active on the following committees: Activities/Program \_\_\_\_\_

Beautification \_\_\_\_\_ "The Green Light" \_\_\_\_\_

Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Plant Sale \_\_\_\_\_

Point Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Potluck Supper \_\_\_\_\_

Publicity \_\_\_\_\_ Raffle \_\_\_\_\_

Other interests \_\_\_\_\_

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And mail to:  
 The Point Association  
 P. O. Box 491 Newport, RI 02840

Mix nuts, cranberry sauce and lemon juice. Spread over mixture in pan. Cover with remaining crumb mixture. Bake at 350 about 35 min. When cool, cut into 16 bars.

These bars are nice served with whipped cream or ice cream.

Florence Archambault

#### SANDWICH

##### MENU

- Roast Beef
- BBQ Beef
- Teriyaki Beef
- Chourico
- Chourico and Pepper Grinder
- Tuna Salad
- Ham
- Club Sandwiches
- Turkey
- Comed Beef
- Reubens
- Seafood Pocket

##### SOUPS

- Clam Chowder
- French Onion Soup
- Portuguese Soup
- Seafood Bisque
- Chili

##### QUICHE

- Seafood
- Spinach and Mushroom

##### SALAD PLATTERS

- Tuna Salad
- Chef's Salad
- Seafood Salad



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- CHEF'S CHOICE ... 5.50
- LASAGNA ..... 6.50
- SPAGHETTI &  
 MEATBALLS..... 5.50
- MAINE LOBSTER ..... 11.50
- TURKEY DINNER ..... 6.50
- MEATLOAF DINNER ..... 5.75
- BBQ RIBS ..... 8.50

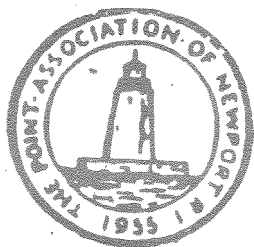
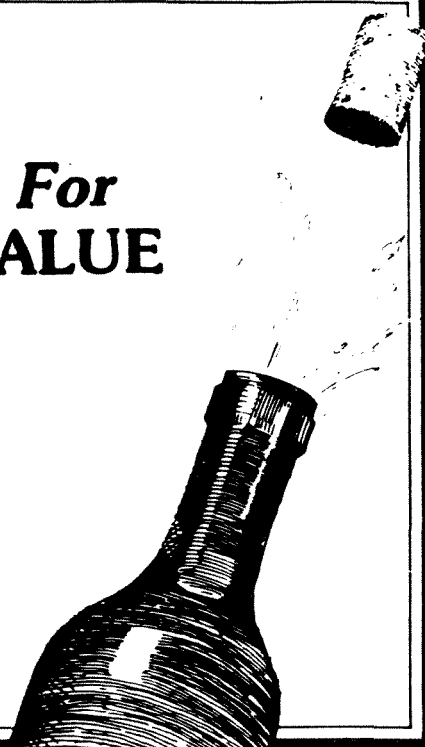
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