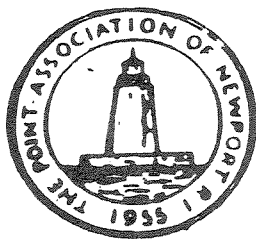


# LIGHT



A black and white photograph of a three-masted sailing ship, possibly a schooner, on the water. The ship is positioned in the foreground, angled towards the left. Its masts are tall, and the rigging is visible. A flag flies from the top of the mainmast. In the background, a large bridge with two prominent arches spans the water. The sky is overcast and hazy. The overall scene suggests a maritime setting, possibly a harbor or a coastal area.

# The GREEN LIGHT



Vol. XXXV - No. 5

OCTOBER 1990

## FEATURES

President's Letter	3
George Washington	4
The Fair	5
Rose Island Gala	6
Pressure Points	7
"Give Me My Scallop Shell of Quiet"	8
16 Battery Street	9
The Brick Market - Gateway to the Point	10
Children of the Last Keeper of the Green Light	12
I Remember! I Remember!	13
Conquistador's Lady	14
Front Row Seat	15
Pointers-in-the-News	16
Our Own Contest	17
Cook's Corner	18

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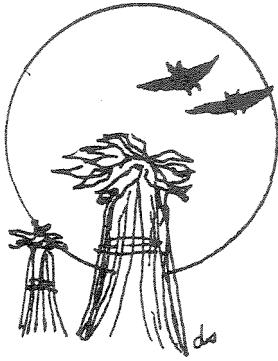
Cover photograph:

Sloop **Providence** off the  
Van Zandt Pier.  
Courtesy Providence Journal-Bulletin

Picture credits: Herb Rommel

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.

ANNUAL MEETING - THURSDAY - OCTOBER 18TH - ELECTION OF  
OFFICERS - 7:30 P.M. - ST. PAUL'S CHURCH - BRING A  
DONATION FOR FEED-A-FRIEND



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The time for our Annual Meeting is almost here and I would like to urge you all to plan to attend. We need your continued support. My two-year term will expire that night and I would like to thank all who gave unstintingly of their time to help our Association achieve its lofty goals. I particularly want to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Committee for their unselfish commitment of time and effort. Four departing Board members deserve special thanks from all of us. Ilse Nesbitt and Taff Roberts have given us many years of hard work and will be sorely missed. Melanie Aguiar has done a superb job running our major fund raiser - the Fair - for the past two years, and Lesley Faria has done a great job with the raffle. We have also missed Virginia Covell's happy efficient presence and wish her a speedy recovery. Her **Green Light** staff is doing a super job in her absence. To all of you - too many to name - my thanks for making everything happen during the past two years.

Through the night last Thursday (September 13) there were at least six break ins on the Point, and there were some patterns and lessons that are well worth discussing. All of the entries were made in houses with people home in bed, and were made through unlocked doors, or by cutting through screens. In several instances lawn furniture was used to get to the windows, or to climb over backyard fences. At least two owners said they had never locked their doors. Sadly, I'm afraid the day has passed when we can have that kind of trust. One person awakened to the sound and light of the intruder but decided not to call the police until long after so the intruder wouldn't hear a voice. This brings up a VERY IMPORTANT POINT! You do not need to speak when you dial 911. The instant you dial 911 the police dispatcher's computer screen prints out your name and address and it remains on their screen even if you hang up. The police respond immediately to the 911 call. Hopefully, this will be a one night rampage, but please lock up at night and make the first floor windows more secure.

*Pete Pater*





## GEORGE WASHINGTON WALKS ON THE POINT

On August 18th, the much-heralded visit of George Washington, portrayed by William Sommerfield, took place, starting off on Washington Street. The arrival was the first event of a program of reenactment of the visit of President Washington 200 years ago which marked the ratification of the Constitution by the State of Rhode Island.

The sloop **Providence** sailed into the northern part of Newport Harbor, and anchored just off the Van Zandt Pier. A longboat borrowed from the **USS Constitution**, and manned by sailors in costume, ferried the dignitaries to the pier. City officials, members of the Newport Artillery Company and of other colonial artillery groups, as well as representatives of local organizations - all in colonial costumes - welcomed the President and his official party to Newport.

To the sounds of fifes and drums, the assembled company walked down Washington Street over Long Wharf, en route to a ceremony at the Colony House, visits to Newport historical sites, and a round of social events.

Large groups at Battery Park and Martins' Park had excellent views of the arrival of the **Providence**. At Battery Park, the Newport Artillery Company fired a gun salute, which was answered by guns on the sloop. Washington Street was lined with spectators watching the ensemble walk by, delighting in an occasional handshake or the patting of a baby by Washington.

Pointer Doug Riggs wrote a fine article for the **Providence Journal** and the **Newport Daily News** had pictures of Washington reviewing troops and greeting bystanders.

This month's cover photo shows the **Providence** at anchor near the pier.

Kit Hammett

## NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee presents the following nominations for officers for a two-year term, 1990-1992:

President: Joseph Vars of Second Street

2nd Vice-president: Brenda Gordon of Washington Street

Corresponding Secretary: Lois Dickison of Thames Street

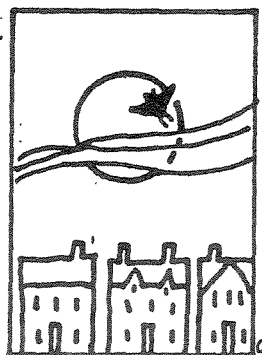
Officers continuing for the year 1990-1991 are:

1st Vice-president: Marylynn Rooke

Recording Secretary: Donna Flynn

Treasurer: John Howard

Lee Crane, Chairman  
Mary Rommel  
Taff Roberts  
Pam Stanek  
Jane Walsh



Nominating Committee

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

WELCOME to the following new members:

Robert Alogna  
Joan Bartram  
Joan Calcutt  
Audrey Cooke  
Colonial Chimney Sweeps  
Margaret Dugan  
Warren Evans  
Kathleen & Bill Geasey  
David and Barbara Hughes  
Chris and Phyllis May  
Annette and Hugh Raisky  
Mrs. Douglas Riggs  
Dorothy E. Sanschagrin  
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Stokes  
Cecelia Sullivan  
John Twomey



## OUR BIG DAY

Fair weather arrived on schedule for the annual Day on the Point Fair, but the ordered centerpiece didn't. There were some anxious moments - where was the tent? But it did arrive, was erected, and the Point Association activities were set up and underway.

Our Fair has become so popular that 51 booths and tables were taken by vendors eager to display their wares. Many viewers and buyers soon assembled and strolled through Storer Park, eager to see the exhibits ranging from handcrafts to antiques, from decorative arts to exotic foods.

Brenda and George Gordon put in a long day cooking and selling 50 pounds of hamburg and 20 pounds of hot dogs. Kathy Phillips chaired the bake table, and thanks the members and neighbors who brought goodies. Sales of raffle tickets and memberships in the Point Association were encouraged. Donna Maytum and her young assistants kept children happy with games and activities.

None of this could have happened, however, without the weeks of planning and organizing by Melanie and David Aguiar. They deserve our grateful thanks and appreciation. It's not an easy job they shouldered. They, and all the rest of us, extend thanks to those who helped in large and small ways. This is a big day for the Point Association, for the neighborhood, and for all our guests.

While most of us enjoyed an hour or so of strolling and buying, we must remember it's a long day for the workers. So next year when the call goes out for volunteers to give time, to bake, to set

up or clean up, step up and take your turn. It's fun to work with our neighbors and friends. Thanks to all again.

Kay O'Brien

## THE ANSWER

Here's the answer for all those who have been asking who were the lucky winners of the Day on the Point Fair raffle. The "Seaside Garden" quilt was won by Brenda Sullivan from Jamestown. Her daughter talked her into buying a ticket the day of the Fair. The lovely tablecloth and napkins from **Rue de France** will stay on the Point with Jane Walsh of Second Street. George Emerson will be able to dine in the Sheraton's Windward Room, and a winner from out of town will return to the Marriott's **Cafe del Mare**.

Lesley Faria, raffle chairperson, thanks all who generously bought raffle tickets, and the Point Association thanks her for all her hard work and enthusiasm.

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## ROSE ISLAND GALA

The weather held for the annual Clambake at Rose Island on Friday, September 14th, when 110 stalwarts, carrying slickers, were, as usual, hauled by Ron Ackman and assistant "Dragger Bill" from Fort Adams to the island on **Patriot**, a boat formerly used to take passengers to Prudence Island.

Members of the Rose Island Foundation enjoyed wine, cheese, and bunches of grapes with old friends and new acquaintances while the bake cooked. There were mussels cooked in wine with drawn butter for dipping, ears of corn cooked in their husks, salads and fine breads, as well as the sweetest of lobsters followed by the traditional watermelon of summer picnics.

At dusk the flag was illuminated in proper patriotic spirit by a diesel spotlight, but Old Glory showed that the wind was blowing from the east and it was not safe for the huge bonfire which had been made ready. Instead, there were spectacular fireworks for the BOC Challenge Around the World Race party being held at Fort Adams.

The first contingent to return to the mainland had a "once in a lifetime" experience of being in a boat with rockets bursting overhead and raining down over the water. There were double oohs and ahs as the smoke left delicate flower-like patterns in the sky.

A memorable evening...but a reminder that the Foundation must come forth with \$85,000 to match funds already given. Charlotte Johnson, president, asks, "Does anybody know anybody?"

Anne Reynolds

## NEW MEMBERS COCKTAIL PARTY

The favorite event for many Pointers was held this year at **Villa Marina** on Washington Street, the home of Anne and Richard Cuvelier.

It was a beautiful warm summer evening on the 13th of September as new members mingled with their neighbors while a gentle southwest breeze blew over the water.

Friends brought a great selection of hors d'oeuvres. Phil Tandy from Wickford played the piano for us. Mrs. Dianne Evans, a new member, sang and some Pointers danced.

Thanks to Roberta Majewski, Michael Carr, Nat Norris and Bill Serth...and, of course, our special appreciation to the Cuveliers who made it such a memorable evening. To all who came and brought food or friends, our thanks. And a welcome to our new neighbors.

Taff Roberts


## GREEN LIGHT STITCHERY KIT

Newport Needleworks is well known for stitchery kits of Newport landmarks, including the lighthouses at Castle Hill and on Rose Island. And now, urged on by **Green Light** staff, they offer a kit of "our" Green Light House. The kit includes blue Aida cloth, colored thread and a pattern for counted cross-stitch which shows a close-up of the lighthouse with a suggestion of the Newport Bridge in the background. Stitchers will enjoy!

Kit Hammett

# Newport

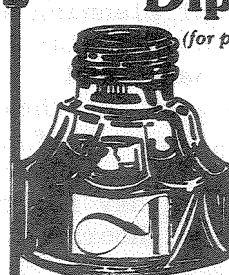
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## CITIZENS' ALERT

Although summer is over and it has been a relatively safe and quiet summer, please be alert to the threat of house-breaks. During the past two months, at least one house has been entered twice. The first time, a screen was cut; the second time, the front door was left unlocked and the house was entered while people were asleep. This is similar to the pattern of break-ins in the Kay/Ayrault Street area. Better safe than sorry! Lock windows and doors.

## COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW (CSO) FACILITY

\$500,000 in removal costs of the contaminated soil at the CSO site were saved. Less soil was contaminated and since it was deposited at a hazardous landfill site in Maine instead of South Carolina, transportation costs were less than anticipated.

City Manager Edwards said that the city intends to sue to recover the cost of the cleanup. The big question is who will be sued!

Work on the facade of the CSO continues. Whether the exterior is in keeping with the character of the historical neighborhood will be debated for a long time. Good landscaping will help.



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## ROSE ISLAND

Although the resolution that asks for a study for a zone change for the island has been delayed until the Citizens' Advisory Committee recommends its comprehensive plan in December, hope is still alive that the owners and the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) will come to an agreement on a price to keep the island an open space. The DEM has withdrawn its one million dollar offer, but negotiations are ongoing.

## WALK FOR THE WATERFRONT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

JOIN FRIENDS OF THE WATERFRONT FOR A WALK ALONG THE HISTORIC WHARFS.

MEET AT SOUTH PIER (WASHINGTON STREET AT LONG WHARF) AT 9:00 AM TO WALK WITH THE FRIENDS AND LEARN THE HISTORY OF EACH WHARF AND PIER ALONG THE NEWPORT WATERFRONT.

WATCH FOR THE YELLOW BALLOONS AT EACH WHARF AND LISTEN AND LEARN ABOUT OUR HISTORIC WHARVES AND PIERS.

## LONG WHARF/WASHINGTON STREET AREA

And while you are walking along the waterfront, perhaps you will come up with some good ideas on how to preserve and protect this vital area that gives character to our city.

The Planning and Zoning Boards have the perfect opportunity to encourage good design in two major future developments; the planned hotel next to the CSO Facility and the shipyard. If the hotel, shipyard, South Pier marine terminal and fisherman's wharf are done right, what an enhancement to the Gateway, the official entrance to Newport!

Liz Bermender



## "GIVE ME MY SCALLOP SHELL OF QUIET"

Driving across the Newport Bridge on a househunting trip, I remembered that Doris Duke had spearheaded a drive to restore the colonial houses of Newport. I decided that is the location where I wished to live during my year's tenure at the Naval War College. Ever tactful and helpful, the Visitor's Center directed me to the Point although they intimated that I might not find anything available. But sometimes fate smiles on the innocent itinerant.

Not only did I find a cozy house on the Point; I was living in the house formerly owned by Edith Ballinger Price, a well-known Newport artist. Welcoming me into the house, and for me what will always be a symbol of Newport hospitality, was the saying on the fireplace, "Give me my scallop shell of quiet." The symbol was to go far beyond the shell motif of the illustrious Goddard-Townsend fame, whose furniture propelled me from Hunter House to the Samuel Whitehorne Museum, to Providence and to Boston's Museum of Fine Arts.

What I had not expected was how living in an artist's house would open up an unanticipated aspect of the Point...the number and diversity of artists that cluster in the bucolic setting. My first stop was to the Third and Elm Press where I used Edith's woodcut of her house for the cover design on notepaper I ordered. Looking at the work for sale at the Press, I never guessed that this was just the first of a number of artists I would get to know. At Christmas, I ordered cards from Ward Printers that were scenes of colonial Newport that Edith had drawn years before. As always, when I mentioned that I live in Edith's house, I garnered a warm response and ususally more than one anecdote about her life in Newport.



Coming from Virginia and acquainted with Williamsburg, I expected my fellow residents to be the same, more well-placed than accomplished in the arts. But remaining true to its New England heritage (my own roots here go back to the early 17th century), the Point introduced me to a wide variety of working artists. Not the least of which were my most immediate neighbors...all of whom use, not just the beauty and magnificent light of Newport to influence their art, but all their experiences outside of Newport to enhance the artistic vision of the community.

All the artists on the Point for me are not restricted to canvasses. As a bungling gardener in Virginia, I have been enthralled by the simple lushness and variety of the gardens on the Point. Anne Reynolds' garden has remained a favorite of mine and of most of my guests. The use of space and color by many unnamed green thumbs only enhanced the visual delights that permeate the community.

The artistic experience I savored the most, and the one I shall long for most, is watching the sun setting over the Newport Bridge at Battery Park. Like the artists of the Point, the sunsets are diverse, subtle and complex, demanding a keen eye and thoughtful viewing. "Give me my scallop shell of quiet" imputes a discerning use of all one's senses which my new neighbors and friends in Newport foster so well.

Brenda Erickson

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## 16 BATTERY STREET


How many of you Pointers feel the way I do about our Point houses? To me each one has, over the years, developed a character, a history made up of layers; layers that have accumulated slowly, consisting of the people who have lived in each house and the house itself, becoming a foundation block of the Point and the city itself.

Surprises do occur when houses have undergone drastic change, revealing 18th century beginnings or 19th century accommodation. Such a house is 16 Battery Street, written of so warmly by Brenda Erickson in the current issue of the **Green Light**. Originally it was the kitchen and service wing of the Jenckes House, occupied now by Annette Chramiec at 107 Washington Street. Cut off at the back, the wing was moved to its present location where it looked plain and uninteresting. In 1933 the parents of Miss Marion Smith, new owners, renovated the house with an addition in the front and a side porch, greatly improving its appearance.

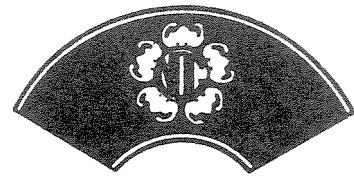
Edith Price bought the house in 1955, living there until 1962. In a letter she wrote Pierre Merle (the present owner) 20 years later, she states "The wing bears traces of its origin; the steep narrow staircase which was the back stairs of the servants' wing. The present living room was the kitchen, and if you will go over to the big house you will find the other half (or two thirds) of the ridiculous tiny bedroom with a marble fireplace, to allow for a very large bathroom."

Under Edith's care the house became a jewel, with a wondrous large painting by Edith's grandfather, W.T. Richards, above the mantel, and other paintings about the walls. "My living room," she writes, "was papered in a silvery sea green, and the wainscott left dark. In fact it broke my heart to leave the house."

Esther Fisher Benson



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## CHRISTMAS IS COMING

We're trying to get used to the idea that summer's over, and here we go talking about winter. A sign of the times is that the 1990 **Christmas in Newport** brochure is out. This is their 20th year! How time flies! So get out your calendars and mark some dates.

The Holly Tea sponsored by the Point Association is scheduled for Sunday, December 16th. As in the past, it is to be in the 18th century manner and will be held at St. Paul's Methodist Church on Marlborough Street from 3 to 5:30 p.m. There are many ways to participate. Come and invite your family and friends or join the working team who bake goodies, set up tables, arrange food and make tea in the kitchen. In addition, volunteers in costume are needed to pour tea and act as hostesses.

If you would like to help, contact Dede Elster at 847-0563. It's fun and neighborly and in the spirit of the season.

While you're talking to Dede, tell her you'd also like to be a part of the Candlelight House Tours held the week after Christmas. Three or four different 18th and 19th century private homes will be open from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. on December 26, 27, 28 and 29. Dede would be happy to have you serve as a hostess in one of the houses for one or more days. She'll provide you with a costume. Being a hostess also entitles you to visit all the homes open on the tour. So instead of just planning to tour the homes this year, come and pretend you are living in one or more.

## THE BRICK MARKET - GATEWAY TO THE POINT

Among our most vivid memories of Newport, circa 1940, was the forbidden (and thus mysterious) area of the Brick Market and Thames Street. Thames Street was, according to our parents, absolutely out of bounds. So, of course, we went there whenever we could to have a harmless lunch at Newberry's Five and Ten among irresistible stacks of bangles, Tangee lipsticks, and Pancake makeup. And, when whatever ball was over, dark seats in the smoke-dim upper balcony of the Blue Moon. We don't remember those midnight shows; we do remember the thrill of being where we shouldn't be.

So self-engrossed were we in those days, we had little knowledge of Newport's history. We did not know that the Brick Market marked the gateway to the Point, a place where we would live someday.

Now, it is interesting to read about Peter Harrison, sometimes called America's first professional architect. Harrison's first building in Newport (1748-50) was the Redwood Library. The Redwood's classical temple form was the first of its kind in the Colonies.

Harrison's last two works were the Touro Synagogue and the Brick Market (1762). The architect chose England's imposing Somerset House as a model for the Brick Market. The lower level was an open arcade expressing the building's purpose as a market. According to Mary Shepard, a Newport architectural historian and photographer, the Brick Market tells us that Newport was an important trading center with close ties to Europe.

The Brick Market served its intended purpose until 1793 when the city agreed to

permit Alexander Placide, a Frenchman, to convert it into a theater. In 1842, the Brick Market was designated as Newport's City Hall, and in 1900 when the city government was moved to the new City Hall on Broadway, the Brick Market deteriorated into a succession of shops and galleries, none of which have been successful. In 1930, John Nicholas Brown asked the architect, Norman Isham, to renovate the building for the Chamber of Commerce. Isham's work enhanced the edifice, but the Brick Market and the surrounding area still lacked deserved historical stature.

Now, at long last, it will come into its own. The new Brick Market Foundation will rehabilitate the building, turning it into a modern-day museum encompassing Newport's past and present. The Newport Historical Society under the direction of its executive director, Daniel Snyder, will mount the exhibits.

Many issues confront project architect Irving Haynes and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. Perhaps Harrison's open air arcades are not feasible today? Perhaps Isham's stairway is unwieldy? Suffice it to say that, as of this date, the Brick Market's future is assured.

And, with the renovation of the old building, surrounding areas will also benefit. Perhaps a cafe and bright umbrellas, a flower market, too, in the paved space beside the building. And, as Mary Shepard and others have suggested, it would be lovely to see all of Washington Square softly lighted with lighting in the park and spotlights delineating the Brick Market's graceful exterior.





## POSTSCRIPT/HELENA STURTEVANT PAINTINGS

Too, it is hoped that, among the multiple exhibits planned for the Brick Market Museum, the paintings by Helena Sturtevant will be returned to the upper level of the building where they hung when it was the Chamber of Commerce. The Sturtevant paintings are fine illustrations of numerous Newport buildings, streets and landscapes which no longer exist. Newport's Historic Hill Association, along with private contributors and the city's Cultural Commission, are restoring much of Sturtevant's work. The Helena Sturtevant Restoration Trust Fund, under the direction of art dealers Roger King and William Vareika, will inventory, restore and maintain at least 62 of the Sturtevant paintings, many of which are vital to Newport's history.

Newport as a Colonial Seaport, Newport's trades and artisans, Newport's Golden Age - these are just a few of the permanent exhibits which will be housed by a renovated Brick Market. From Aquidneck Island Indian canoes to printing presses and anti-aircraft guns - the threads of our history will be woven, century to century, clear at last to children, students, newcomers, and oldtimers.

The Brick Market, the old gateway to the Point, our secret gardens, Hunter House, and the graceful mansions on Washington Street - all will benefit from an introductory visit to a museum whose exhibits will encompass those yesterdays, the sum of which are our today.

Anita McAndrews

The Helena Sturtevant paintings referred to in Anita McAndrews' story on the Brick Market in this issue are a 64-piece collection of Newport historical scenes (many of which no longer exist) which are the property of the citizens of Newport.

Miss Sturtevant (who was born in 1871 and died in 1946) was a widely known painter of landscapes, portraits and murals and an etcher who exhibited throughout the world as well as at the Art Association (now Newport Art Museum) of which she was a founder.

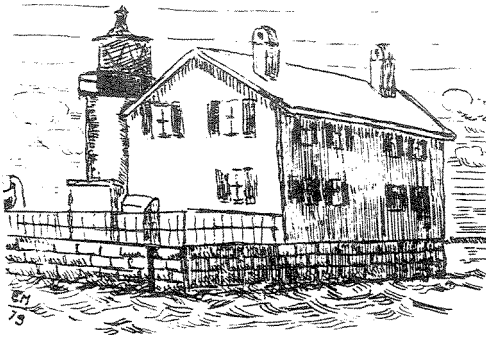
The paintings were purchased by a group of her friends and presented to the people of Newport on July 21, 1943, in recognition of Miss Sturtevant's absorbing interest in the history of Newport.

Following the formal transfer of the canvasses to the city, they were hung on the stairway and the upper assembly room of the Old Brick Market which then housed the Chamber of Commerce. When the Chamber moved from the Brick Market, they were then transferred to City Hall.

Since then they have hung in various offices and rooms there and several have been loaned to two of Newport's banks.

It is wonderful that there is a movement afoot to clean and restore the paintings but the question remains as to whether or not they will be hidden away in City Hall offices again when they should be displayed in a more prominent place where the rightful owners (the citizens of Newport) have access to them.

## CHILDREN OF THE LAST KEEPER OF THE GREEN LIGHT



Born and reared at the turn of the century in a granite building attached to the Goat Island Lighthouse were two of my late mother Marion Baxter Reardon's cousins. They were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schoeneman. He was the last keeper of the light, retiring in 1923.

My mother shared memories with our family about the good times out at the light with her cousins on Sunday afternoons, picking wildflowers on the island and enjoying lunch. Both Schoeneman children would carve out a name for themselves when they left the island.

Cousin Bertha (now deceased) was a graduate of the Boston University School of Music and an accomplished concert pianist. She would later travel the world with her husband, U.S. Navy Commander James Ogden Welsh. They both retired in their beloved Newport and are at rest in the old Island Cemetery family plot.

Bertha's brother, the late Charles, Jr., would go on to Washington, D.C. and claim the distinction of being a director in the Department of the U.S. Treasury during the 1940s under President Harry Truman.

Mrs. Schoeneman, my grandmother Baxter's cousin, was a Newporter and a gracious hostess. She was descended from the Carrs who were among Newport's early settlers.

A treasured invitation to come out to the light included all the Baxters; my grandfather, Lt. William T. Baxter, USN, one of the Navy's first divers and submariners; my grandmother, Elizabeth, and their three children, Jack, Bill (who sailed around the world in 1926 on the **Aloha**, a 125-foot famous Newport yacht owned by Arthur Curtiss James) and my mother Marion, who married Pointer John Burke Reardon.

They would set out via the old Government Landing, now the site of the Treadway Inn, aboard a ferry to the U.S. Torpedo Station, which was then established on Goat Island. Then they would travel on foot to the northern tip of the island. All of them would, at low tide, carefully navigate a causeway of rocks leading out to the lighthouse and cottage which was severely damaged in the mid-1920s and was razed.

According to U.S. Coast Guard records, Goat Island Lighthouse was built in 1823 and is a 35-foot octagonal tower. The cottage was erected in 1865 and was home to many keepers. It was built by a Scottish immigrant, Alexander McGregor, who also built Fort Adams and the Newport estate Swanhurst.

I was told that some of the granite and stone from my great uncle John J. Sullivan's Newport quarry was later used to reinforce the lighthouse's foundation in the early 1900s. It was always Uncle John's dream when he was Newport's Street Commissioner in 1929 to widen Long Wharf, which leads to the Point. He would be happy today with the results.

As I look out on the harbor now at the Green Light (changed from white to green in 1923) I think of the laughter and tears, and the thrill it must have been to hear cousin Charlie (in the 1920s) relate his experiences of the stormy nights on that rocky ledge at Goat Island.

I feel a small part of that famous landmark, knowing well that my ancestors guided many a seaman to and from beautiful Newport Harbor and the Point section.

Bill Reardon



Colonial Travel Inc.  
204 Thames Street  
Newport, R.I.

02840

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## I REMEMBER! I REMEMBER!

On Christmas Day in 1938, John and I were given three recorders, soprano, alto and tenor, made by Koch of Haverhill, Mass. They were beautiful instruments, both to look at and to play, as we soon found out. All that winter which we spent in Providence, due in part to the devastation of the hurricane, John practiced on the tenor pipe. In addition he learned to read music. My degree in music from college was a help to us and I had also played a tin whistle while roaming around the college campus, resulting in being titled "the noisiest girl in the senior class."

During the next six years or so we spent many an evening with our recorders. Finding music we could play was a challenge. Often when on a Boston trip John would stop at E.C. Schirmers to pick up new music. He'd bring in a fat package and I simply couldn't wait to try it out. Other recorder players joined; Audrey White, Sue and Francis Brady from the Priory School and Nancy Price (Carey), who became a permanent member of the group.

We were able to play trios and quartets. Soon we joined the carol singing on Christmas Eve, with John on the tenor and Nancy on the soprano. The mellow sound of the pipes strengthened the singing against the winter wind. It has to be admitted that we were not very good, but we had such fun.

About a year or so later, a real musician, Helen Bennett, former first violinist of the Buffalo Symphony, came to Newport. Helen took us in hand and gave us a wonderful musical education, as well as greatly improving our techniques.

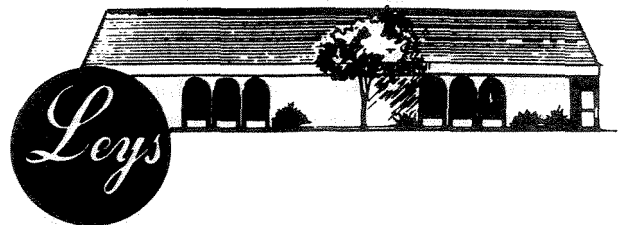
We met once a week without fail, even in the summers. Helen found more suitable music. I can remember a lot of Teleman, Mozart, Bach, and VanBrugh. Sometimes Helen did the soprano part on her violin, and it was glorious.

Then we purchased a great bass recorder from Koch, which I played, and John replaced our original instruments with three from the Dolmetch Company, which made things better than ever. Under Helen's severe direction we made lovely music.

Esther Fisher Benson



JOHN HOWARD BENSON



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# CONQUISTADOR'S LADY

a novel by

Anita McAndrews

Some people never cease to amaze me and Anita McAndrews is one of those. Last issue we reported that she was involved in the opening of a studio on Bull Street for her painting and now we report on the publication of her novel, **Conquistador's Lady**.

On a trip to Guatemala with her four youngest children while she was living in Panama, she discovered the carved stone in Santiago which marks the site of the castle of Dona Beatriz, wife of Don Pedro Alvarado, Spanish Conquistador and Governor General of Guatemala. What piqued her interest was the inscription that Dona Beatriz had been the first elected woman governor in the Americas and Anita determined to find out more about this woman.

She returned to Guatemala several times and even went to Spain to research the castle in Toledo where Dona Beatriz had grown up.

The book is the story of this remarkable woman who married the older Don Pedro (first married to her deceased older sister) and went with him to Guatemala. Upon his death she became the governor of the Spanish colony.

It is a romantic story, deeply researched with costumes and customs authentically presented. The climate and atmosphere of the times leaps out from the pages and the tumultuous romance of the two keeps one wondering what is going to happen next.

During an attempt of others to wrest the governorship away from Dona Beatriz, she and her women perished in her castle when it was overwhelmed by a deluge of mud and water during a flood.

The first person viewpoint allows us to experience right along with Dona Beatriz the disappointments and high points of her short life (she was merely 22 when she died) and her devastation at the death of her husband.

The writing is that of a journalist (which Anita is) --- short, curt, to the point sentences which move the story

along. This book is an entertaining historical romantic story of an extremely interesting life.

Following Dona Beatriz's demise, the governorship falls to Beatriz's brother, Paco (Francisco de la Cueva). His story and that of his wife, Leonor, Don Pedro's Indian daughter, could be the basis for another book.

**Conquistador's Lady** is available at Book Bay in the Brick Market Place.

Florence Archambault

## FEED-A-FRIEND

Responding to an urgent need, the Board of Directors of the Point Association voted at the August meeting to contribute \$200.00 to the Feed-A-Friend program.

This program is designed to meet emergency food needs of Newport County residents. It is sponsored by the Newport County Council of Community Services and operates out of the Martin Luther King Center.

Last year Feed-A-Friend distributed 26,000 meals which was a new high for the program. This year, numbers are already higher than for the same period last year.

Individuals are asked to donate non-perishable food items or cash to buy food. Suggestions for donations include:

Protein items such as peanut butter, dried or canned beans, canned tuna or meats.

Starches such as rice, instant or canned potatoes, macaroni, and cereals.

For babies: jars of baby food, baby cereal, canned evaporated milk.

General items such as canned juice, fruit, vegetables and soup.

Items may be dropped off at the Martin Luther King Center on West Broadway or brought to the Association's Annual Meeting where there will be a basket for donations. **LET'S FILL THE BASKET!**

Roberta Majewski

## FRONT ROW SEAT

As usual it's been a great summer for watching waterfront activities, but a favorite has been the preparations for the BOC Challenge round-the-world race which started here on Saturday, September 15th.

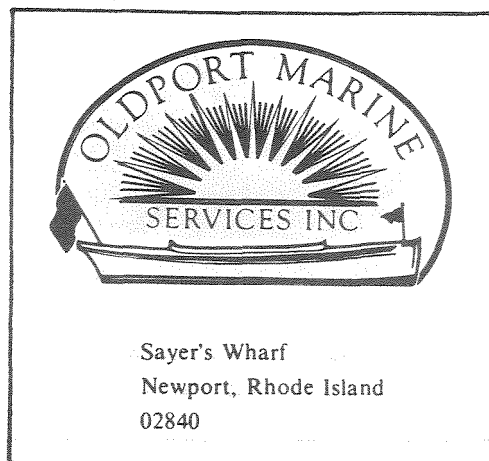
For several weeks the boats had been gathering at Goat Island, and the sea of masts thickened as they nestled together at "B" dock. What a colorful scene on daily walks, almost feeling part of the action. But when Saturday came, the skies darkened, the heavens opened, and not a breath of wind was stirring.

However, the hardy well-wishers braved the elements and crossed the causeway to watch the little tow boats circle to await their turn to guide the racers out to mid-channel. With so much activity on each boat one had to wonder how a single sailor could manage the high tech gear alone.

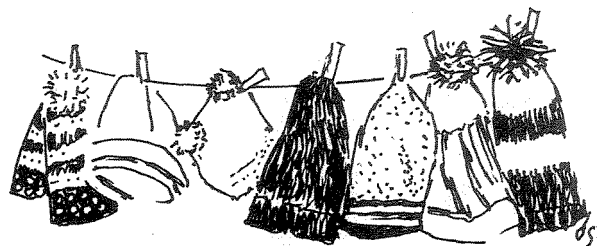
As the boats were set adrift in the East Passage, the skies cleared and the winds picked up. Helicopters landed and took off with photographers. The seawall was lined with spectators speaking many languages. One was even heard to ask "which way are they going" - not being familiar with the geography of the bay. The ten-minute gun and then the five-minute and at noon off they went, as they cleared the starting line west of Fort Adams. Everyone left behind had the greatest admiration for the solo sailors on their first leg to Capetown, then on to Sydney, and to Puntas del Este, and after 27,000 miles back into Newport next spring.

A century ago Joshua Slocum became the first person to sail a boat alone around the world, taking 38 months. Times have changed but alone is still alone. We'll be here to welcome them back.

Kay O'Brien



## CAPS FOR KIDS



Are you a knitter? Do you crochet?  
Do you wonder what to do with leftover yarn?

**MAKE A CAP FOR A KID!**

**MITTENS, TOO!**

Any size, any color(s), any style!

Newport Needleworks will give patterns and wool if you need them, and they will distribute the caps and mittens to local agencies for local children.

This national program has been successful country-wide, and Newport Needleworks is happy to participate in it.

Stop in at 39 Touro Street to see the clothes-line display of finished caps and mittens, or contact Pointer Corky Ackman at 49 Washington Street, 846-7791, if you have questions.

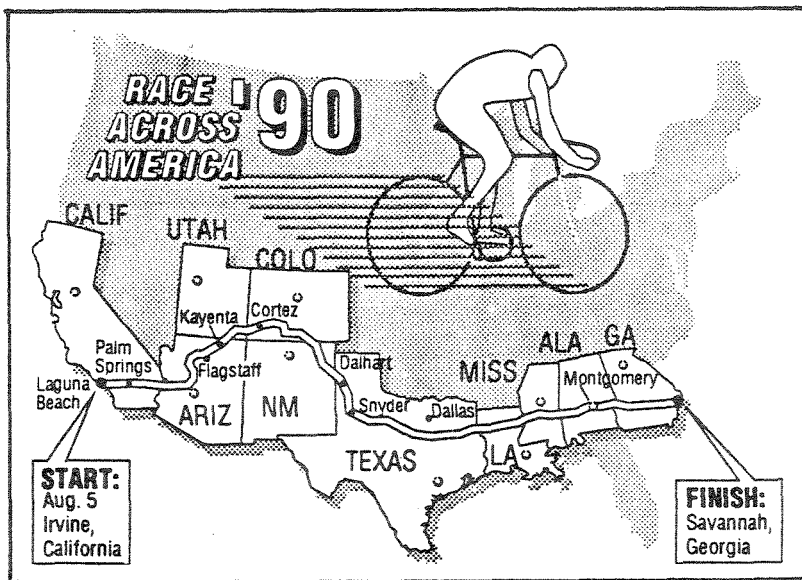
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## POINTERS-IN-THE-NEWS

Race Across America winner, Nancy Raposa of Upper Thames Street, was undoubtedly the Pointer-most-in-the-news in August - perhaps, the MOST ever! The story of her fantastic bicycle trip of 2922 miles from California to Georgia was carried daily in local papers, and often in community papers across the country. Local radio station WADK also broadcast daily bulletins of her trek.

Nancy was the winner in the Women's Division of the RAAM, becoming one of six women in the world to have accomplished this feat. For ten days, ten hours, and six minutes she pedaled over mountains, across deserts, through open country and small towns and cities. She slept four hours each night, and pedaled 20 hours a day.

This was Nancy's second race. In 1984 she finished her first "rookie" race in third place, which was a triumph for a first try. But nothing can surpass the triumph of this 1990 first place!

Nancy was supported by a team of nine members who traveled in a mobile van, from which they broadcast music, encouragement, and road instructions, and provided liquid food every 20 minutes. The team included Pierce Gafgen and Jennifer Weiss of Ten Speed Spokes on Elm Street. The support team is still soliciting donations to help defray the cost of the race. Nancy had planned to ride to the top of Mt. Washington on September 16th, but cancelled because of cold weather. However, Pierce Gafgen did make it!

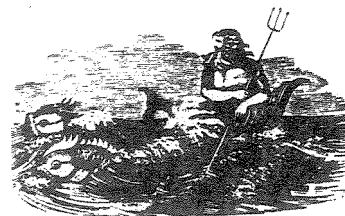
Green Light staffer Florence Archambault was featured in an Associated Press release about Occupied Japan collectibles. These are articles made in Occupied Japan between 1945 and 1952. She was pictured in color on the front page of the **Newport Daily News**. She is editor of a monthly newsletter for the nationwide Occupied Japan Collectors Club and has an extensive collection. She received mail from as far away as Australia.

Newport-in-Bloom is a city-wide competition held in August. This year, Pointers were winners in several categories. Carol Marinan's beautiful arrangements on her porch and sidewalk won two prizes - one of four in the best residence class, and the other for the best in all categories. All through September, the Marinan's home at 47 Third Street has been a sight that slowed traffic and delighted strollers. One judge declared the garden "Almost perfect". Carol was pictured with her hanging baskets in several local papers.

Two other Point residences were awarded prizes. One of the four winners of second prizes were Gail and Jim Gunning of 70 Third Street. One of the 11 Special Award winners was D.J. Meaghen of 13 Chestnut Street.

Congratulations to the winners, and appreciation to all Pointers whose "visible to the public" plantings were especially beautiful this year. (See the results of the Point Association's own "on-the-street" contest elsewhere in this issue.)

Kit Hammett



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# OUR OWN CONTEST

The Beautification Committee has again judged the beautiful gardens on the Point which had to be visible from the street. Chosen as the most beautiful was 73 Washington Street.

The list of winners in their classes were:

## Most beautiful:

73 Washington St.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Boghossian

## Entire front yard:

1. 70 Third St.

Mr. & Mrs. James Gunning

2. 70 Bridge St.

Mrs. Ernest Dane

3. 10 Cherry St.

Beverly Rose

## Hanging baskets and window boxes:

1. 47 Third St.

Mr. & Mrs. James Marinar

2. 18 Second St.

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice De Lavalette

## Front door step:

1. 40 Elm St.

Mrs. Michael Alison

2. 10 Sunshine Ct.

Mr. & Mrs. Terence Farrell

## Driveways and fence:

1. 13 Chestnut St.

Delores S. Meagher

2. 19 Elm St.

Guy Weston

## Around trees:

1. 53 Washington St.

Capt. & Mrs. Pete Peters

2. 35 Second St.

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Crane

3. 59 Second St.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Elster

## New gardens:

1. 86 Third St.

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Zammer

2. 3 Bridge St.

Jim Michael & Richard Nelson

3. 41 Third St.

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Craig

## Vegetable garden:

87 Washington St.

The Nina Lynette House

## Bread & Breakfast:

72 Washington St.

Covell House, Villa Marina

## Commercial:

1. Walnut Street Market

2. Rhumb Line Restaurant

3. The Third & Elm Press



73 WASHINGTON STREET

The judges were Nancy Pease, June Warren, Raymond Bliss, David and Melanie Aguiar, Carol Marinar, Lois Dickison, Marylynn Rooke, and Mary Rommel. Prizes will be awarded at the General Meeting in October, when lovely colored photos of the gardens will be displayed.

The Point is beautiful; keep planting. Next spring we will plant a copper beech in Storer Park and one street tree.

Mary Heins Rommel, Chairman  
Beautification Committee

-----

The Benefactors of the Arts **Secret Garden Tour** is seeking gardens which have not yet been included in the tour. They welcome suggestions from neighbors and friends.

The Committee also is looking for photographs, preferably slides, which can be used for publication. If you have any to donate, please call the Benefactors at 847-0514.



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## COOK'S CORNER

It's that time of year when the frost is on the pumpkin and what better way to start the Cook's Corner than with two pumpkin recipes.

### PUMPKIN BREAD

1 cup cooked, mashed pumpkin  
2/3 cup sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup shortening  
1 cup scalded milk  
1/2 yeast cake dissolved in 1/2 cup lukewarm water  
5 cups flour

Use fresh pumpkin, stewed or strained, or canned pumpkin. Combine pumpkin with sugar, salt, shortening, and milk. When mixture is lukewarm, add dissolved yeast and flour. Knead well, cover, and let rise overnight. In the morning, shape into one large loaf, and bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake 40 minutes longer. Makes 1 loaf.

Don't throw away those seeds that came out of the pumpkin. Here's a way to recycle them!

### TOASTED PUMPKIN OR SQUASH SEEDS

Separate the fiber from unwashed pumpkin or squash seeds. Add to two cupfuls of seeds:

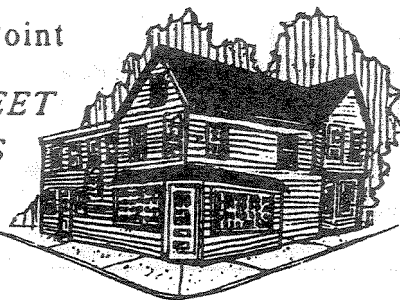
1 1/2 TBS. melted butter or oil  
1 1/4 tsp. salt.

Spread them in a shallow pan. Bake them in a slow oven 250 degrees until crisp and brown. Stir them from time to time.

Serving the Point

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## GREEN TOMATO SOUP

The cooler weather gives one a hankering for a bowl of nice hot soup. Here is a way to satisfy that longing and also use up all those green tomatoes that were picked before the frost got them.

1 cup chopped green tomatoes  
4 cups sliced green tomatoes  
1 cup sliced onion  
2 TBS. margarine  
1 10 3/4 oz. can chicken broth, strained  
plus 1 can water  
2 cups shredded fresh spinach

Set aside the 1 cup chopped tomatoes. In a medium skillet, briefly saute the sliced tomatoes and onion in margarine. Cover and cook at a low heat until tender.

Puree tomato-onion mixture in blender or food processor. Pour into casserole or soup pot.

Add chicken broth and water and heat through.

Five minutes before serving, add spinach and reserved chopped tomatoes.

Makes 7 one-cup servings.

Florence Archambault

### MEMBERSHIP ALERT

When are Point Association dues DUE?

NOW

Where can I pay them?

At the October 18 General Meeting

or mail to Point Association,  
P.O. Box 491, Newport, R.I. 02840  
(Renewal form on last page of **Green Light**)

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Robert Majewski  
Membership Chair



SEE YOU AT  
 the ANNUAL MEETING  
 Thursday, Oct. 18th  
 7:30 p.m.  
 St. Paul's Methodist Church  
 Election - Reports

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

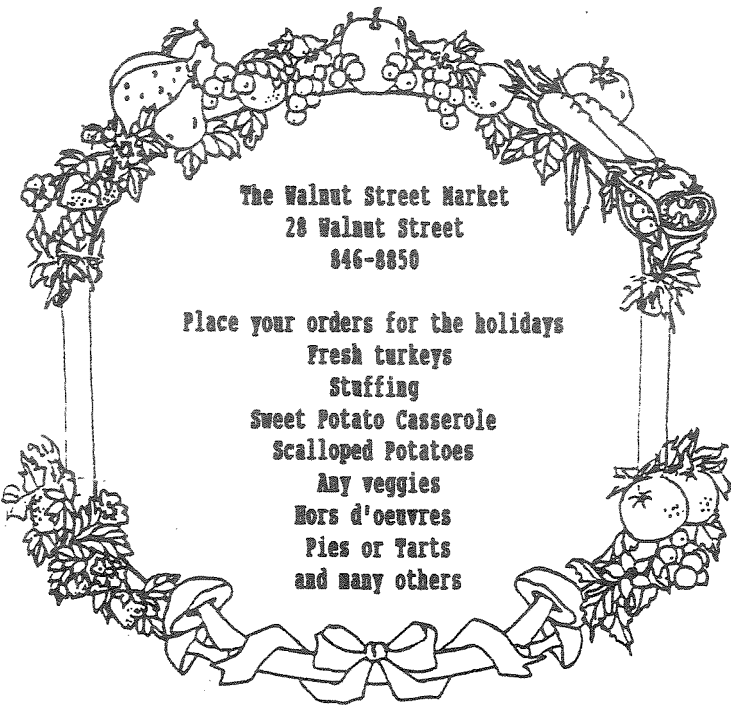
Name \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_  
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I wish to be active on the following  
 committees: Activities/Program \_\_\_\_\_  
 Beautification \_\_\_\_\_ "The Green Light" \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Plant Sale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Point Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Potluck Supper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Publicity \_\_\_\_\_ Raffle \_\_\_\_\_

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

DUES:  
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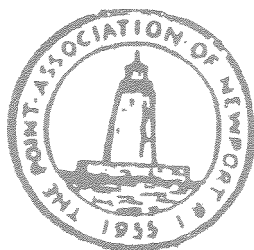
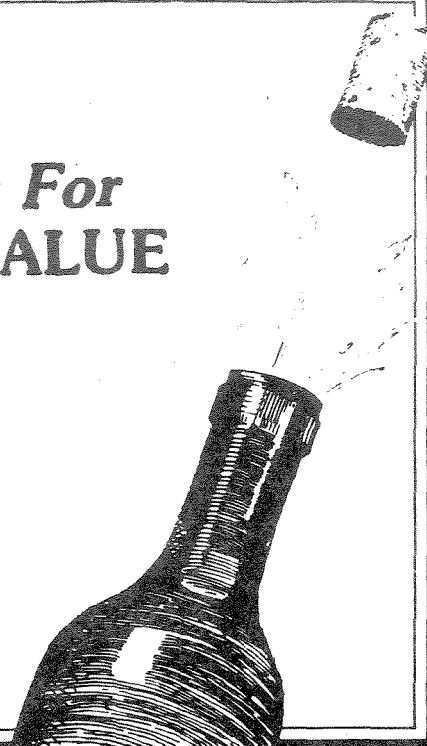
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