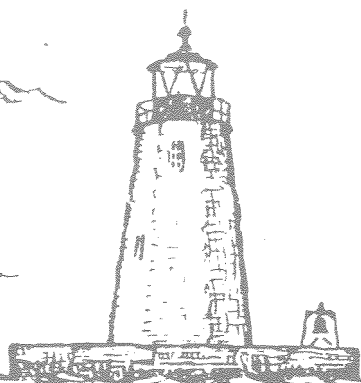


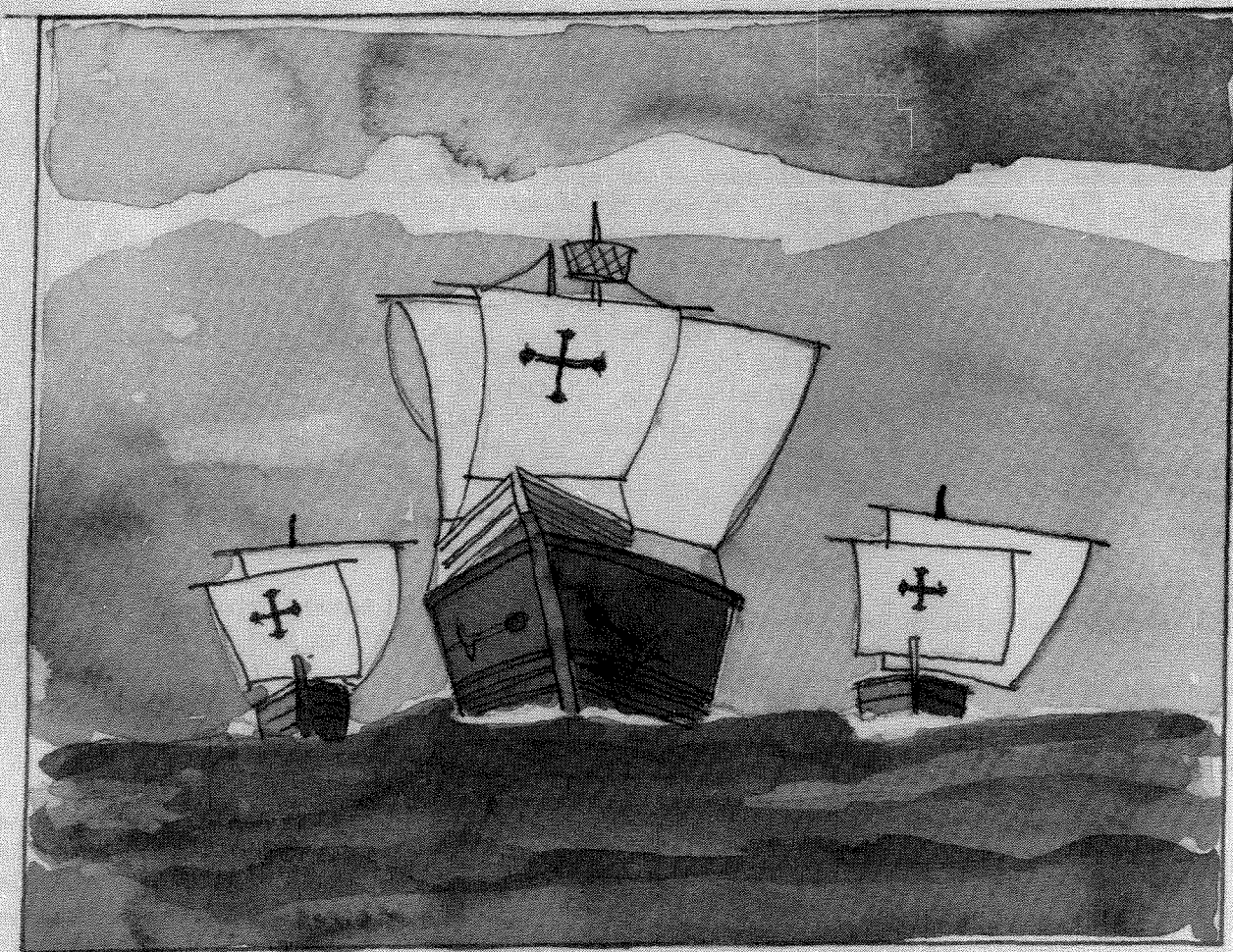
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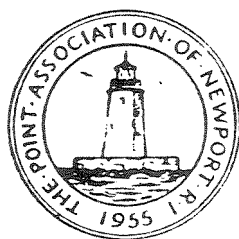
LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION
OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

OCTOBER 1992





The GREEN LIGHT

Vol. XXXVII - No. 5

OCTOBER 1992

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Cover and art work by Dorothy Sanschagrín

Photos courtesy of Herb Rommel and
Ogden Ross

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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;
Clipper Wine & Spirits, Third Street and
the Walnut Street Market.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

On Thursday, October 15th, the Point Association's Annual Meeting will be held at St. Paul's Church on Marlborough Street. I really expect to see everyone there. With this announcement it is hoped that you will "use" the **Green Light** for informational notices, recipes, and schedules of the activities held by your Point Association. Keep the publication accessible and refer to it for pertinent information.

My term as president of the Point Association is coming to a close with the annual meeting. As in my past terms, it has been a pleasure to serve, be visible, and available to our membership. My warm "thanks" to all those I've worked with, on boards, committees, as well as the city officials who have helped to solve Point problems.

Thanks, too, to our residents for keeping up their street cleaning duties and for making their gardening efforts available for our viewing pleasure...not to mention flag flying as well.

The heavy fogs we've had have given an ethereal look to the Point. Colonial houses stand at the waterways looking like picture post cards with boats bobbing in the mist in the background. Impatiens has flourished in this weather; the third wettest summer since weather forecasting began. Tubs, baskets, borders and boxes have embellished our streets all summer...even more beautiful now before this last hurrah!

A special warm welcome to our new members who gathered at our annual new/old member party on September 10th. Please participate in our activities, become vocal to the Board, become active and a volunteer and help to make this new Association year a success in every way. Seek out our Board members and offer suggestions and help. Our Association is only as strong as its membership! Above all, remember to get out and VOTE. Don't abuse your given right to vote; do it! The countries in Europe are fighting for the right you were born with.

See you at the annual meeting.

Joseph A. Vass



NEW MEMBERS' COCKTAIL PARTY

It has been said that in buying a house, there are three important things to consider - location, location, location. This recommendation also holds true for having a successful cocktail party. A lot of work went into making the New Members' Cocktail Party a success but holding the party at the Villa Marina on Washington Street added a great deal to that success.

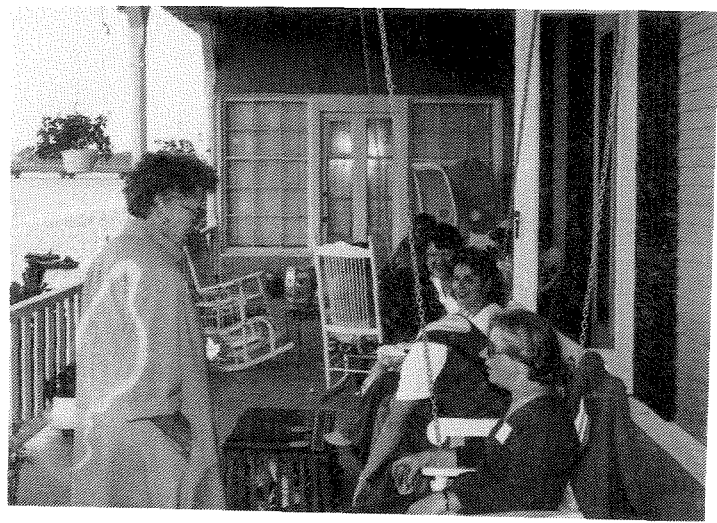
I want to thank the Cuveliers for their generosity and graciousness in offering the Point Association their beautiful home for the evening...and a special thanks

- to Aidinoff's for donating the wine.
- to the Telephone Committee for calling the membership.
- to all the members who brought the delicious hors d'oeuvres.
- to Jennifer Bogossian, Carol Cummins and Donna Maytum for womaning the reception and membership tables.
- to Christine Montanaro for her all-around assistance.
- to John Majewski and Phil Mosher for doing such a great job bartending.
- to Joe Vars for donating the beautiful flowers.

Roberta Majewski
Chair



And a special thanks to Roberta for chairing the event. The setting and the food were marvelous. There was a very diverse crowd in attendance. One of the gratifying aspects of the evening was the fact that, in addition to the old standbys, there were a great number of younger Point residents. Conversation, good food, and the wonderful weather all conspired to turn the evening into a qualified success. Florence Archambault



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new members:

Kimberly Bain
Reese Brown
Clipper Wine and Spirits
Deliah Elsen
Luann Gervasin
Beth Glenn
Mary and Robert Johnstone
Catherine Kane
Theresa Kelley
Rosalie McCole
Lucille and Rudolph Petrucci
Angie Pine
Dorrie Richardson
Claire Thibeault

October is the month to renew your membership. Send your renewal check to Membership, Box 491, Newport RI 02840. See the form on page 19 for the categories of membership. **PLEASE** send changes of address, and temporary or seasonal changes, to the above address. Your copy of **The Green Light** cannot be forwarded.

Roberta Majewski

OOPS! We goofed. We neglected to print the mailing address for Old Rhode Island magazine in their ad in the last issue. It's there now! We do hope you will take advantage of it, and also, patronize our other advertisers who help defray the cost of printing **The Green Light**. Tell them we sent you!

ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 15, 1992

ST. PAUL'S METHODIST CHURCH
MARLBORO STREET - 7:30 P.M.

Annual Reports Election of Officers

Speakers: Steven Weaver, Chief of Police
Michael McKenna, Community Affairs Officer
Neighborhood Watch & Related Subjects

NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee will present the following slate of officers at the annual meeting of the Point Association on October 15th.

President: Christine Montanaro
2nd. Vice-President: Roberta Majewski
Corr. Secretary: Lois Dickison
Rec. Secretary: Donna Moody (to fill an unexpired term for one year)
Nominating Committee: Charles Canham, Gail Gunning, Richard (Pete) Peters.
(Two additional members to be appointed from the Board.)

Continuing in office are:

1st Vice-President: David Aguiar
Treasurer: Philip Mosher

Rowan Howard, Chair Nominating Committee	
Lois Dickison	Roberta Majewski
Mary Lynn Rooke	Angela Vars

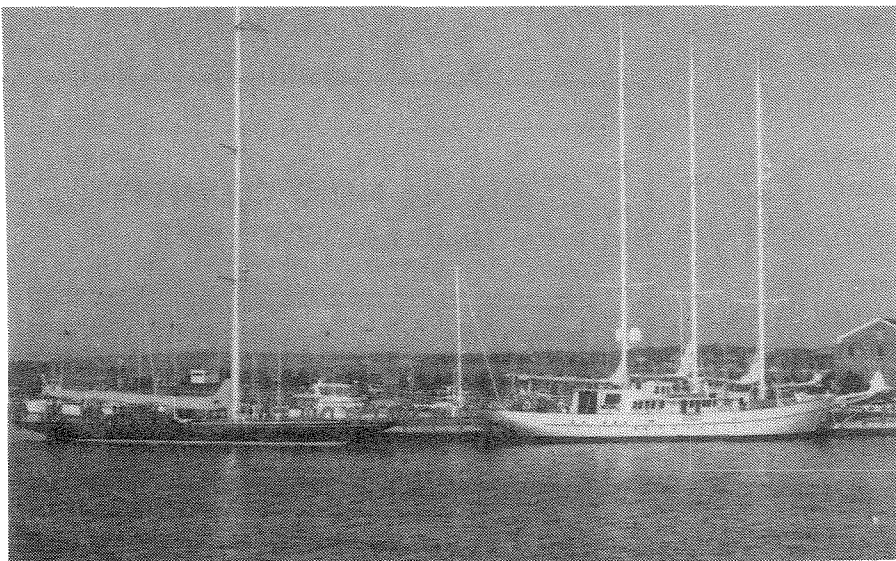


Someone's thinking Christmas! The brochures for Christmas in Newport have been printed. The calendar is bursting with activities, with the Point figuring prominently.

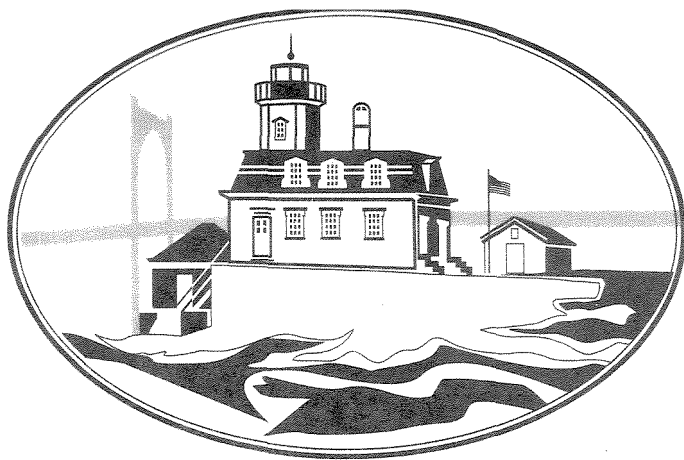
The Point Association is an organization of friendly people as you've discovered, and we want to extend that warmth in the holiday season with the Holly Tea on Sunday, December 27th. As in the past, it is to be held at St. Paul's Methodist Church on Marlborough Street from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

There are many ways to participate. Come and invite your family and friends or join the working teams. Volunteers are needed to bake goodies, set up tables, arrange food, make tea, and wash dishes in the kitchen. In addition, hostesses are needed to pour tea and welcome our guests. If you would like to help, call Dede Elster at 847-0563.

The Point also participates in the Candlelight Tours which are held the week following Christmas. Three or four 18th and 19th century private homes will be open for viewing from December 26th through December 28th from 4 to 7 p.m. If you would like to act as a hostess at one of these homes, you will be provided with a costume and are entitled to visit all the homes open on the tour. Call Vance Gatchell at 848-7017 if you wish to volunteer for this Christmas in Newport activity on the Point.



Farewell to the city of masts on the harbor and farewell to summer. This photo shows the Museum of Yachting's **Shamrock**, on the left, and what was reputed to be a schooner owned by Paul McCartney of Beatles' fame, on the right, tied up along side each other at Goat Island this summer.



ROSE ISLAND UPDATE

A telephone call to Charlotte Johnson, Executive Director of the Rose Island Foundation, asking for an update on the progress at Rose Island resulted in a wealth of new information.

As Charlotte said, "The Green Light is the first to know." The Foundation is preparing the lighthouse for a photo session on October 4th by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It will be featured in a new book from Preservation Press entitled *America Restored*, and will be the only lighthouse to be included in the publication. The writers and photographers will spend the night on the island.

The lighthouse has also passed its state fire test and permission has been granted to rent out the two bedrooms to persons who wish to spend the night there.

As we went to press for the last issue, the Foundation lost its lighthouse keepers but they have acquired two new ones. Melissa Joly and Eric Picard are now in residence there.

The clambake held on September 19th was a huge success with 100 people in attendance. "It was a traditional bake," Charlotte says, "with wonderful smokey food and the so many wonderful volunteers who took over the preparation. Next year, however, we are going to schedule it earlier in the summer, so that those attending can stay later and can see their food. We ate by candlelight and kerosene lamps, but it was fun!"

The Foundation is still in need of either tax deductible donations or loans of turn-of-the-century bedroom and dining room furniture, as well as period kitchen utensils. There is also a great need for old kerosene lanterns.

"Also," Charlotte said, "we still need weekend volunteers who can paint. Tell them to call me at 847-4242."

Florence Archambault

FREE PUBLICITY

In our last issue we noted Newport's welcome to a long list of cruise ships and the fun of being dazzled by their early morning appearances off Goat Island.

But recently, Newport was visited by some unexpected cruise vacationers --- passengers off-loaded from the Queen Elizabeth II and the Regent Sun.

When the QEII scraped bottom near Cuttyhunk, she was towed to Newport where her passengers were brought ashore at Goat Island and bussed to Providence by yellow school busses to proceed to New York City by train.

When the Regent Sun lost her electrical power off Goat Island, her passengers, also, had to return home by bus. Such mishaps put Newport in news flashes and headlines, but behind the scenes there must have been a mad scramble to right the chaos. Our hats go off to all who helped in any way.

PAST - PRESENT - FUTURE

This title could be used to cover many subject areas. These concerns must have helped forge the Point Association as it was formed back in 1956. This theme runs through each issue of *The Green Light*. Recently we reprinted, in serial form, the article "The Point 1925-40" by L.F. Gracey from the Spring 1985 Newport Historical Society Bulletin.

We hope that you all read the article by Doug Riggs of Farewell Street, "Newport Now", in the August 9th Sunday Journal Magazine.

Much of what he wrote we see and hear today. It is all food for thought, and maybe action, too, as we see our future in the offing.

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LAMPLIGHTER AT WORK

On a recent walk down Washington Street, we came upon a ladder, a lamp and a lamplighter, so we stopped and had a chat. It seems that our wonderful gas lights are showing signs of wear and weather, and whether the responsibility for their upkeep lies with the city or the gas company has been in question. Now, as money permits, the city has hired Brian Pellitier, design and restoration consultant, to restore them.

We had a chance to see Brian at work as he removed a gas mantle to be sand-blasted, repaired and repainted from the post in front of the Hunter House. Up the ladder he went again with a restored model looking like new. At that moment a gas company truck pulled up and the service man stepped out and, with a long metal pole, opened the cap on the sidewalk and turned the gas on again.

Returning on our walk, we saw Brian repainting the pole. He had suggestions on what we might write regarding lighting in the old days in a future **Green Light**. This fortified our belief that there's always something or somebody to see as we walk the waterfront.

Nancy Espersen and Kay O'Brien

ANNUAL DUES DUE

in OCTOBER

See renewal form inside
back cover and mail with
check to:

The Point Association
P.O. Box 491
Newport, RI 02840

OF NOTE

There have been lots of thought-provoking items in the local newspapers lately, and many of them surround us here on the Point. The State Department of Transportation is working on road plans. We all learned facets of the Newport Yacht Club's activities during discussions of a new lease with the city. We've been alerted to plans for the beautification of America's Cup Avenue and Long Wharf. Our former harbormaster outlined investments in the harbor area to enhance the city's image as a sailing capital of the world. The proposed hotel site at the foot of Washington Street is again offered for sale. The marine terminal and fishing docks are still under consideration. The Friends of the Waterfront keep fighting for our rights, and the city explores options to fight gambling.

We're grateful for the city ordinances and the police response to control excessive noise. As we go to vote, we note new state redistricting. You should have been notified of any changes in your polling place and senate and representative districts.

So summer has turned to fall. The sun is on its way south, but there's still much action here on the Point.

Kay O'Brien

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POINT PEOPLE

Christine Montanaro, who has been nominated to be the next president of the Point Association, has been a very active member of its Board and has served as chairman the past two years of The Day on the Point Fair. In spite of inclement weather both years, the fairs were remarkably successful. Christine says she can now predict weather - "It will always rain when I don't want it to!" Association members say that "survived" is the term for the great work of Christine and her good working teams; the Association is most appreciative.

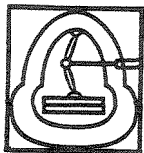
Christine is a psychotherapist. She earned a Master's degree in Science in Educational Psychology from the University of Wisconsin and she is a member of the National Association of School Psychologists. She serves as a school psychologist in the Newport County schools and has a private psychology practice in Newport, focusing on women in transition.

Christine and her husband, Phil Mosher, have lived on the Point for several years and recently moved into a 1740 house at 36 Thames Street. Phil is treasurer of The Point Association.

She is the vice-president of the Women's Resource Center in Newport and has played a major role in the recent capital fund campaign of that organization. She also serves on the Rose Island Foundation Board.

Her favorite pastime is traveling, and we hope she will find time for some in her busy personal and professional schedules. The Point Association is fortunate to have her interest in and concern for happenings on the Point.

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The Third & Elm Press
Alexander Nesbitt Ilse Buchert Nesbitt
29 Elm Street, Newport

Terrance Gavan of Bridge Street has recently published Exploring Newport, a small volume describing walking and driving tours of Newport's historic areas, as well as recommendations for lodgings, restaurants, and side trips.

The book contains simple, clear maps and anecdotes of people and places, and excellent photographs of historic homes and buildings. The tours cover every part of historic Newport, many starting at the Gateway Center. Walking is recommended as the best way to appreciate the city.

Two of the detailed tours cover the Point. The author has separated the area by America's Cup Avenue into Point West and Point East. Point West is the familiar area of Washington, Second, and Third Streets with the east-west streets between them. Point East gives unusual emphasis on the eastern extensions of such streets as Elm and Bridge, to Cross and Thames Streets, and to Farewell with its various cemeteries.

This is a book to have on hand for out-of-town visitors, but residents will find it very interesting and informative, too.

Pineapple Publications is listed as publisher. Other books of local interest by Gavan include The Barons of Newport and The Complete Guide to Newport. These books are available at local bookstores and gift shops.

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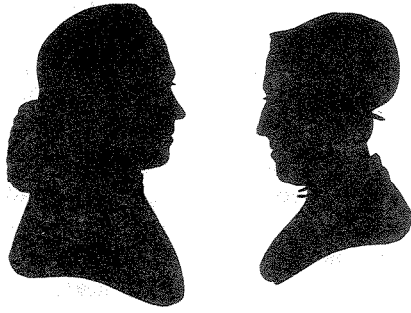
Nancy Raposa has done it again - made a new record in the World of Cycling! We remember her triumph in 1991 when she won the Women's Race Across America, cycling 3,000 miles from California to Georgia in just over ten days.

Her September conquest was just one day - 24 hours of constant cycling to win the women's world 24-hour cycling record. She covered 439.65 miles on a 17-mile track in Wharton State Forest in New Jersey. A day off from work! But what a day!

She was supported by a team from Ten Speed Spokes on Elm Street. Coach Pierce Gafden, manager Jennifer Wise, and therapist Susan Derkson monitored, provided liquid nutrition, encouraged and kept in touch by loud speaker, through rain and wind. Severe leg cramps in the early morning hours did not deter Nancy from achieving her goal.

Congratulations to Pointer Nancy Raposa!

Kit Hammett



Silhouettes of Thomas Robinson (1730-1817)
and his wife Sarah Richardson Robinson (1733-1817).

Many warm personal letters, extending into the 20th century, from grandmothers to their children, to their aunts, to their uncles, to friends, even to their great grandchildren, all showing deep affection.

When the collection is finally organized, so that it can be read and studied, I think we "Pointers" will feel very close to the Robinsons, who lived beside the Bay so many years ago.

Esther Fisher Benson

During the summer of 1992, the heirs of Thomas Robinson (Anna Wood Murray and Henry A. Wood) gave to the Newport Historical Society a large collection of papers that had been stored for many years in the old Robinson House at 64 Washington Street. Many "Pointers" have known this house and the family living there, but few people knew of this vast collection; in reality, a history of Thomas Robinson and his descendants, as well as an inside view of the 18th century in Newport.

Well aware of the length of time the research of these papers will take, the Society has begun to organize the project. At first it seemed like an impossible task, with so much diversity of subject matter, but every letter or piece of paper contains valuable information. The following list will give you an idea of what this collection includes:

Thomas Robinson's letter book, in which he wrote a copy of every letter he sent out.

Bills of many kinds, some elaborate.

Receipts, carefully written, dated and signed.

Wills, witnessed.

Business letters, reports on shipping, losses due to privateering or bad weather.

Short essays on philosophical or religious subjects, many of them Quaker-related.

Slavery - his reasons for turning against it.

Manumission form carried by a freed slave to protect him from being classified as a slave and retaken.

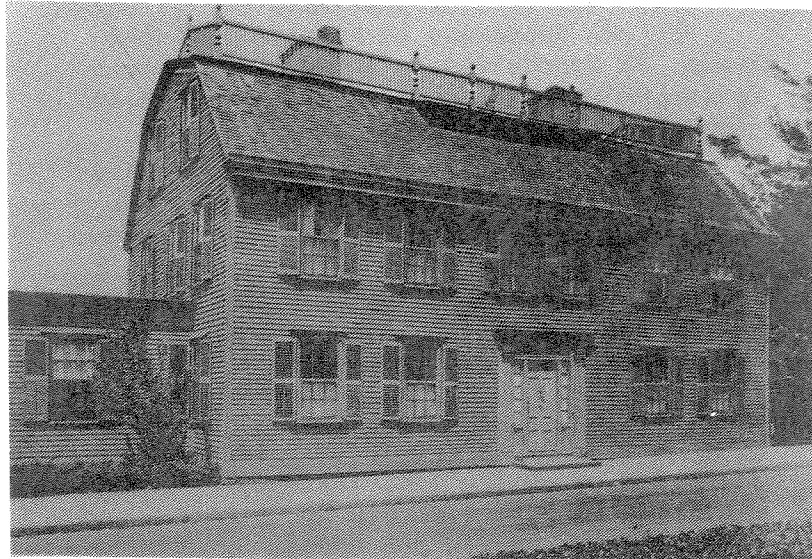
Small printed notices.

Hand-drawn greeting cards.

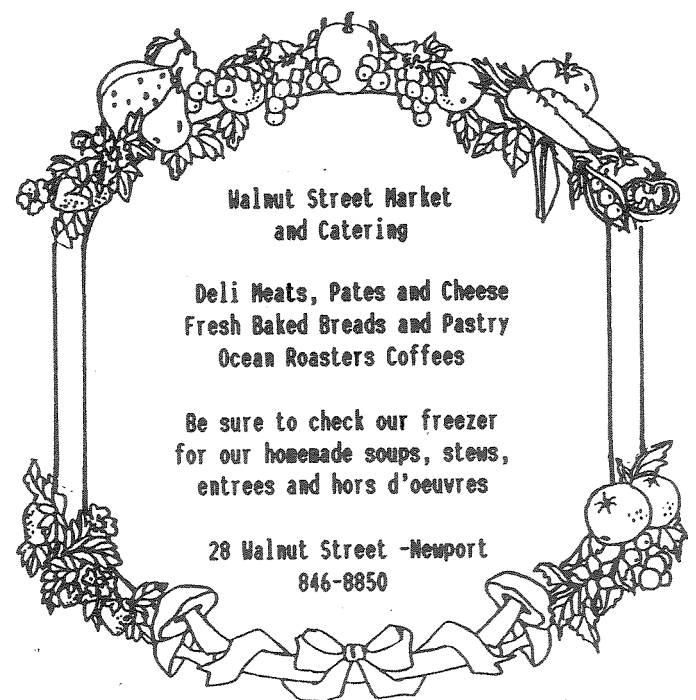
A de Noailles letter to the Robinson family - unique.

William Trost Richards letter to Mrs. Benjamin R. Smith.

Poetry, many examples.



This picture of the Robinson house was reproduced from a real photo post card published around the turn-of-the-century.



My daughter, Anita, and I felt we had stepped back 500 years in time when, this past August, we boarded the Columbus vessels visiting Newport Harbor. I was assigned as translator aboard the **Santa Maria**. Anita went aboard the **Pinta**.

The same materials as those used by ship carpenters in the 15th century were employed in the construction of these replicas of Christopher Columbus's two caravels, and the naos, his flagship, the **Santa Maria**. Begun in 1981, the total cost of the project was 14 million dollars for research; six million for construction and seven million for touring costs.

Rafael Mazarrasa is president of the Spain '92 Foundation. "The goal of the Spain-USA Quincentennial," he said, "is to commemorate the Encounter that occurred 500 years ago between the Old World and the New." It should be noted that three direct descendants of Columbus are involved in shipping, One, Diego Colon, is technical director for Spain's America's Cup entry.

The construction of the **Santa Maria** took place in Barcelona. The **Nina** was built by the Spanish Navy, and the **Pinta** by a Cartagena-based company. In a 1575 itinerary of navigation, instructions are explicit: "the keel should be of very straight oak...green oak should be used for the curving and binding inside the vessel. All standing rigging should be built with pine..." The rigging and caulking of the three ships is hemp. The sails are all of linen, the closest natural fiber to hemp canvas. Every nail was forged by hand, each one copied from a 16th century shipwreck.

The question most often asked of us was, "How long is the ship?" The overall length of the **Santa Maria** is 29.60 meters. The **Pinta** is 22.75, and the **Nina** is 21.48 meters long. By 20th century standards, these are not large ships.

My first thought: Where's the head? Second thought: The kitchen? And my third concern: Where do the 28 men on the **Santa Maria** sleep?

I learned that the head was decidedly not for women, but is somewhere. The kitchen is an iron cooking stove stowed on the halfdeck. There were grumbles from the crew about the food served - my sympathy lay with the cook. Today, the 28 men sleep in hammocks; Columbus's men did not. They slept where they stood, on deck, until they reached the "Indies". It

was there that the West Indians taught the Spaniards about hamacas (hammocks).

It is believed that the ship's boy had the **Santa Maria**'s tiller the night she ran aground on a reef in Espaniola's Arrow Bay. It was Christmas Eve, and all were asleep, including the Admiral. He had the one real bed, and one room high astern.

The great beam of the tiller was manned, we were told, by eight men. What the ship's boy was doing by himself one can only guess. The tiller is well aft, under the halfdeck, only a few inches of sky visible forward. For some reason that Christmas Eve, there was no lookout posted. This negligence is forgivable when one considers the extreme discomfort of that first voyage. Let us hope that that night, **La Noche Buena**, Christmas Eve, the crew smoked that plant, Tabac, introduced to them by the natives, and slung their soft handwoven hammocks. Visions of sugarplums, a tropic breeze astern...Who will blame that courageous crew for taking that one night off?

This 1992 voyage has had its drawbacks, the crews told us. The first leg of the sail, at least 40 men resigned their posts. It takes a special kind of sailor to stick out this unique voyage. Thousands of applications were received, just 62 men were accepted. They are Spanish Naval officers, and selected civilians, the latter all volunteers.

Newport gave the ships a splendid welcome. In fact, to quote Retired Vice Admiral Thomas Weschler, "It was Newport's interest in these ships that made their visit such a success, financially and otherwise...but, that's our town!"



Left to right; Anita McAndrews, Ogden Ross, Co-chairman, Columbus Ship's Reception Committee, and Anita Welch.

We wished, however, that Native Americans had participated here, as we were told they did in other US ports. After all, without native help, Columbus would not have been able to salvage enough of his wrecked *Santa Maria* to build the fortress *La Navidad* in Hispaniola.

The crews told us they liked Newport, especially the Newport girls. That language is universal...no need to translate. Too, many of the men spoke good English, and our Spanish was forgotten in that blitz of Latin charm. Conquistadors, all of them! We wish them well. And we hope, as is planned, that these legends-become-real will stay with us, as museum pieces perhaps - the highlights of an Encounter that would unite both old and new worlds.

Anita McAndrews

COLUMBUS...NOT FIRST

In this Quincentennial year of Columbus's discovery of America, it might be well to reflect on other explorers who traveled to the New World both before and after the Admiral set foot on San Salvador on October 12, 1492.

The first were, in all probability, the Vikings or Norsemen, although this theory has long been under dispute. The sagas of the Norsemen tell of long journeys to distant places whose descriptions fit our area. This has also fueled the controversy of whether or not the Old Stone Mill was built by them or was simply Governor Benedict Arnold's mill. But that's another story.

The new Jamestown Bridge will soon bear the name of Verrazzano. Giovanni da Verrazzano was a Florentine navigator who entered what is Narragansett Bay in April of 1524, only 32 years after Columbus made his landing. He gave a detailed account of his voyage to King Francis I of France, who had commissioned him to harass the ships which were bringing the spoils of the West Indies to Spanish ports.

After Verrazzano captured a treasure ship sent by Cortez to the Spanish king, Francis realized that any delay in joining in the exploration and conquest of this New World would be disastrous for France, so he asked Verrazzano to go out in search of lands which contained gold and precious stones, and which would provide a route to China.

The first spot where Verrazzano dropped anchor is believed to have been in the vicinity of Wilmington, North Carolina. He then sailed up to the mouth of the Hudson River where he engaged in barter and then sailed along the ocean side of the shores of Long Island. This brought him past what we know now as Block Island, and into the mouth of Narragansett Bay.

He was more intrigued by this area than any of the others and wrote a glowing account of the land and the people to King Francis. He described the harbors as excellent and was greatly impressed with the fertility of the soil in the land which surrounded the lower end of the Bay...indeed, it could have been our own Point area that so impressed him.

He found plains adapted to any type of cultivation, along with luxurious trees, some of which bore fruits and nuts, and great numbers of deer and other wild animals. He was especially impressed with the quantities of wild grapes that the natives had under crude cultivation.

He talks of the friendliness of the natives and how both the men and women were fine specimens. They were extremely good-tempered and generous. They not only supplied the ship with provisions but helped the crew move it to a safe anchorage. Newporters were friendly people even then!

After a two week stay, Verrazzano sailed back to Europe. He believed that he had found a route to China maintaining that North America was a group of islands. Giovanni da Verrazzano did not live long after his first voyage to America. On a voyage to the West Indies in 1528 he was murdered by the cannibalistic natives of Carib.

Nevertheless he was either the first or second man to come to what we now know as Rhode Island, and a great many people believe that this distinction is truly his. In addition, his important and detailed account of the lands he explored to Francis I of France supply the first definite information we have about the State.

Florence Archambault



Crossing America's Cup Avenue -- Should it be a Four-lane Highway?

A few years ago the RI Department of Transportation (DOT) proposed a plan called the "Circulator Road" that would have carved a highway through Newport and Middletown by widening two-lane sections and connecting them with four-lane sections (such as Memorial Boulevard) to form a continuous four-lane roadway, even cutting across a residential area such as the Point.

Many of our readers remember opposing the "Circulator Road" by petitions, letters and attendance at meetings. Given the DOT options of "Build," "No Build," or "Selected Intersection Improvements," the Point Association rejected the "Build" option but accepted the study of "selected improvements" at the following places in Newport:

1. Gate Four/Maple Avenue intersection
2. Memorial Boulevard at First
(Easton's) Beach
3. Memorial Boulevard, as it joins
Middletown at Purgatory Road and
Aquidneck Avenue.

In response to citizens' communications, the DOT also added a project to return four blocks of Thames Street (between Mill and the Post Office) to the old, more logical one-way southbound direction. This concept was also approved.

Those, and other Traffic and Safety Improvements were presented by the DOT at an Open Forum/Hearing on August 25, 1992. What was not expected was a new project to widen America's Cup Avenue right through the Point neighborhood. Is this the old "Circulator Road" coming back to haunt us?

Where it begins, off the Farewell Street traffic light, America's Cup would be widened from the existing two-lane avenue to a four-lane highway that crosses Poplar and Elm Streets -- and with an added "stacking lane" for cars whose drivers might take a notion to make a last minute turn east onto Bridge Street. Total, five lanes.

While the DOT designers do seriously aim for "smooth flow and safety", the widening of America's Cup to four lanes would cut the Point in half even more than it is today. And what about pedestrian safety?

America's Cup is a city avenue. Widening it to a four-lane highway would not help motorists to better observe the 25 MPH speed limit.

How would we cross four lanes on foot? Walking with a cane? With a toddler and a baby carriage? With a couple of leashed dogs, or three? With a fishing pole and a bucket? Pushing a cart with a row boat? Transportation is not limited to cars. Walking is also a form of transportation.

The section of the Point between Farewell and Bridge is a residential (not business) close-knit neighborhood of narrow streets and small historic houses. Our Point waterfront offers a good deal of attraction to folk who walk back and forth to go for a swim, to fish, to take a pleasant walk, or just to sit in a park and enjoy the sunset. We must be able to leave these values to our children and grandchildren.

Just how wide are four lanes (five lanes)? Imagine trying to walk from the Gateway/Marriott side of America's Cup over to the Fire Station/Cardines Field side. That open "no-man's land" is a four-lane crossing.

However, it is in a business section where space is legitimately needed for taxi cabs and bus parking. Pedestrian crossing is also somewhat protected by traffic signals. Still, the avenue is so wide that you hardly have time to make it across to the other side. Even when driving, people have pointed out, the left arrow signal is not on long enough for two cars to turn toward the Fire Station and Marlboro Street before the lights change again.

We must also keep in mind that on our Point residential blocks we would have to cross the railroad tracks in addition to the four lanes, plus two four-foot wide outer lanes. The strip of grass between the railroad right-of-way and the present avenue would be gone forever.

That strip of grass must be preserved for future needs, maybe a bicycle path or a pedestrian sidewalk. Are four automobile lanes really necessary at this time?

After studying the DOT proposal, the Point Association Board voted unanimously to oppose the plan and to urge action on the part of our Point members to contest it also.

Before the DOT can receive a permit to build any "improvements," it must first seek the citizens' comments and submit an "Environmental Impact Statement."

Although four lanes through the Point might not cause much further damage to the natural environment, they would indeed cause a severe impact on the social environment of our neighborhood.


Letters must be addressed to:

Robert A. Shawver
RI Department of Transportation
2 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903


Does the DOT want to hear from us soon? Yes, they do. "The participation and comments of interested citizens," states the DOT, "are an important part of the Public Hearing and will be carefully evaluated and considered. Please let us know your views."

Remember that an unsigned letter is worthless. When you write, sign the letter, include your clearly spelled name and address, and, if you can, try to make a copy of your letter. You want to stand up proudly for your opinion.

Ade Bethune



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A "A-LLO-EEN" GHOST STORY



Spanish-speaking people have difficulty pronouncing "H" and "W". In Panama, All Hallows Eve is shouted through the streets, "A-llo-een!"

Many Panamanian families translate Trick or Treat to mean hospitality. It is not unusual to see festive tables set in driveways or front doorways holding candy, fruit and cakes. Paper plates, cups and napkins are stacked, and candlelight flickers over all...a help-yourself party with the hostess absent.

Ghost stories? Panamanian children grow up on thrillers. There's one story that quiets every child in his or her bed. One of the spookiest tales is that of **La Tuli Vieja**.

Her name was Rosa. She was young and beautiful. She lived in a mountain village with her husband, a shoemaker, and her three small children.

Her husband was an older man. He was often away, selling his shoes. He made good money, they say, and Rosa should have been happy. She wasn't. Oh, she loved her children, yes. But she loved dancing more.

One night, in the village on the other side of the mountain, there was a grand fiesta. Rosa had a white lace dress she had never worn, and red slippers made for her by her husband. He was away, and she decided to ride across the mountain and attend the party.

She asked her mother to stay with the children. Reluctantly, her mother agreed, and Rosa rode off across the mountain. She danced all night, forgetting the time. It was dawn when she started for home.

She was in a hurry, and she pushed her horse so hard he stumbled. Rosa was thrown, trampled to death beneath the animal's hooves. Her body was broken, her beauty ruined. Careless Rosa! Her spirit is condemned to wander.

Her ghost haunts the villages. Weeping, wailing, Rosa seeks her lost children. A crying child? Rosa will steal it in lieu of her own.

"Be quiet! **La Tuli Vieja** is out tonight. Go to sleep, quick!"

Anita McAndrews

POST CARDS - POST CARDS!

This summer there has been a wonderful picture post card tour "On and Off the Avenue" at the Redwood Library. It was assembled to commemorate the re-dedication of Bellevue Avenue. This exhibit had been exciting in several ways --- a fascinating collection of old post cards amassed by Philip Connell, plus their enlargement by modern laser color copy machine. Mr. Connell also included in a flyer a history of the post card and an enlightening listing of the types of post cards, plus a list of local publishers of Newport post cards c. 1900-1950.

Some thinking has been sparked here on the Point, and now we raise the question, "Where are all the old post cards picturing the Point area?" They may be a record of things that aren't here anymore. Let's try to follow this trail from the past. Please search through your minds and houses to see if you have any post cards that we could borrow. Perhaps we could follow-up with enlargements and our own exhibiton. Please contact a member of **The Green Light** staff or call Nancy Espersen at 846-2907.

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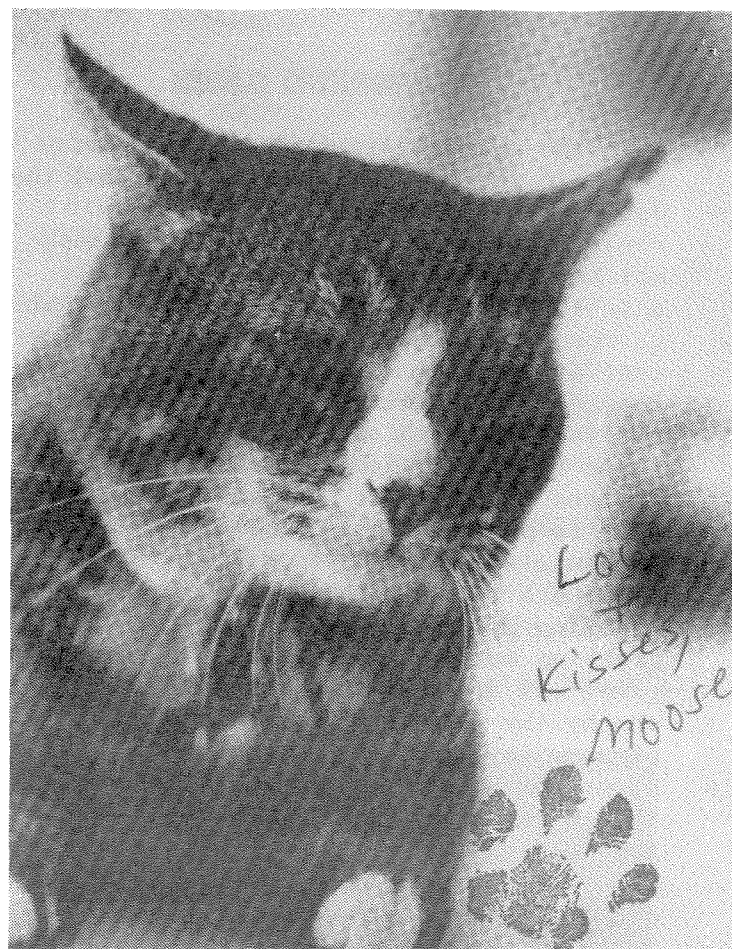
A WORD FROM MOOSE

Newport pet lovers follow with delight the articles by the Potter League's public relations cat MOOSE in the Newport Daily News. Moose is also a letter writer, as three residents of the Nina Lynette Home on Washington Street discovered recently. They had responded to a shelter request for "cat-mats" for the cages of the shelter's feline residents. Moose wrote to thank the knitters - Virginia Covell, Doris Currier, and Erma Sherin; and to say that he had tried them out and found them very comforting. The "cat-mats" are knitted or crocheted squares of acrylic yarn...any color or combination of colors.

We share a photo of Moose, with his paw-signature, as well as one of the three knitters.



Left to right: Erma Sherin, Virginia Covell, and Doris Currier.



WE SHIP PACKAGES

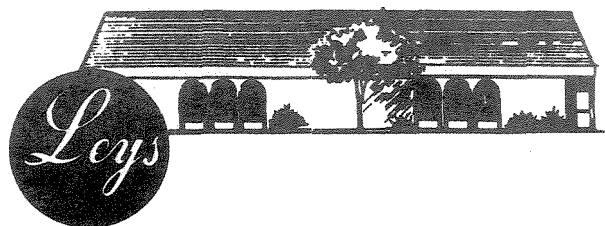
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THE GARDENING CORNER

The special light of autumn adds glory to the blooms in the garden and the deep green of the grass. This has certainly been a year of the impatiens, which you know I've referred to as astroturf. Statistics tell the story when we read that impatiens now corners 43 per cent of the annuals' market. Another rugged, happy garden plant that's also a survivor is vinca which has gone from three to 13 per cent. So there are choices of how much time and talent you want to put into your gardening. I prefer perennials.

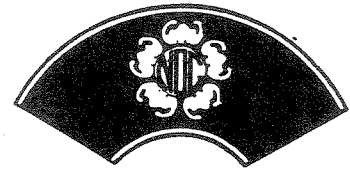
Back to our fall task at hand --- planting spring bulbs. The first chore is grubbing out roots; for a fight between a great oak and a small bulb will always be won by the oak root. Next spring's blossom is in the bulb when you buy it. Slice one vertically if you want to see that miracle of stem, leaf, and blossom in the embryonic stage. For long-lasting plantings, you'll need foot-deep soft composting soil enriched with bone meal and peat. Plant the bulbs as deeply as the suppliers say and they will last a few years and some for a very long time.

Bulbs grow well in sun or under deciduous trees where the bulbs' leaves can grow and develop the next year's flowers before the deep shade of summer. They are relatively cheap and easy to experiment with ...no heavy lifting. The catalogs are rich in photographs and instructions, so take a chance.

I love the peony-flowered and other double tulips but our spring rains and concurrent blows snap them off. I buy species tulips, sometimes described as "wild" in the catalogs. I especially like Tardaj, late as it is. It opens slowly and lasts a long time. The low-growing bulbs with small flowers like the daffodil Hawara hug the ground, out of the devastating wind. The scilla hispanica or bluebells make large blue clumps to calm the bright spring colors.

Most of my favorites are listed under "miscellaneous". There's probably a lesson in that. Our local nurseries have good supplies if you aren't happy with mail ordering.

Anne Reynolds



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BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS ON THE POINT

Once again, the streets on the Point were spectacular with blossoms on side walks and porches, in window boxes, in yards, and in planters. What a joy to saunter from street to street!

The annual recognition of floral displays that could be seen from the street took place in early September. Organized by our Beautification Committee chair, Mary Rommel, the judging was done by Mary Mendonca and Annette Jarvis, accredited judges from the Portsmouth Garden Club. They drove up and down streets on the Point, carrying out the difficult task of choosing from the abundance of lovely sidewalk bloomings.

The following were the winners and will be recognized at the Annual meeting on October 15th.

FRONT OF HOUSE: 73 Washington, 23 Bridge and 8 Farewell Streets.

BACK YARD: 74 Bridge Street.

SIDE YARD: 57 Second, 50 Second and 68 Third Streets.

PORCHES: 16 Third, 58 Third and 47 Third Street.

DOORSTEP: 40 Elm, 36 Elm and 33 Elm Street.

FENCE: 11 Chestnut Street.

POTS: 64 Washington Street

WINDOW BOXES: Third and Elm Press, the Willows.

UNUSUAL HANGING PLANT ARRANGEMENT: 47 Farewell Street

BUSINESSES: The Walnut Street Market, Stella Maris Inn, Marriott Hotel and the Rotary Shell Station.

VEGETABLE GARDEN: Nina Lynette House at 87 Washington Street.

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Joseph P. T. Vars



This fashionable lady guards the vegetable garden at the Nina Lynette Home.

In the city-wide NEWPORT IN BLOOM competition in August, these Point gardens received second-place certificates.

Carol Marinen, 47 Third Street
Dolores Meagher, 13 Chestnut Street
The Marriott Hotel.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Mary Rommel

COOK'S CORNER

Usually at this time of year we are concerned with the overabundance of produce from our gardens, but, if like mine, yours was not as productive this year due to the heavy summer rains, that has not become a problem except for the tomatoes that all ripened at the same time.

I did find a recipe last month in the Boston Globe that has become a hit with the family. I made it for my daughter's birthday dinner and doubled it for the Homecoming Day picnic at church, where it also was favorably received. Perhaps you still have some herbs left in your garden.

I have made it both with the chick peas and the cannellini and have substituted sliced scallions for the red onions. It is just as good either way.

CHICK PEA, TOMATO AND CUCUMBER SALAD

- 2 TBS. olive oil
- 2 TBS. fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 2 TBS. chopped fresh mint(or 1 tsp. dried)
- 2 TBS. chopped fresh oregano (or 1/4 tsp. dried)
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. freshly ground pepper
- 1 lb. tomatoes (2 or 3 medium) cut into 1/2 inch cubes
- 1 medium cucumber, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 can (19 ozs.) chick peas or cannellini (white kidney beans), drained and rinsed
- 1/2 cup diced (1/4-inch) red onion or scallions

In a small bowl, combine the olive oil, lemon juice, parsley, mint, oregano, salt and pepper. Whisk until blended. Add the tomatoes, cucumber, chick peas and onion; toss to blend. Serve at room temperature. Makes 5 servings.

Fall is upon us and today's weather forecast is for cooler temperatures. Time to use our ovens again. We have tried to get the pie recipes from the winners of the contest at the fair but have had no luck so far. Since an October issue of **The Green Light** would not be complete without an apple recipe here is one that also uses the cranberries that arrive in the market at this time.

CRANBERRY APPLE PIE

Double crust pastry recipe

Prepare:

- 2 1/2 cups chopped cranberries
- 1 1/2 cups peeled sliced apples

Combine these ingredients with

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 3 TBSP. quick cooking tapioca
- 3 TBSP. water

Fill unbaked pie shell with the fruit mixture. Cover it with a lattice top. Bake at 425 degrees for 1/2 hr. or more.

Another apple recipe that can be made in your crockpot or slow cooker requires no watching.

APPLES A LA GRECQUE

- 6 large apples, quartered, pared & cored
- 4 dried figs, minced
- 2 TBS. raisins
- 2 TBS. chopped walnuts
- 2 TBS. blanched slivered almonds
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup brandy (optional)
- 1/8 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 cup orange juice or water

1. Combine all ingredients in cooker.

2. Cook on low 3-4 hours.

Yield: 6-8 servings.

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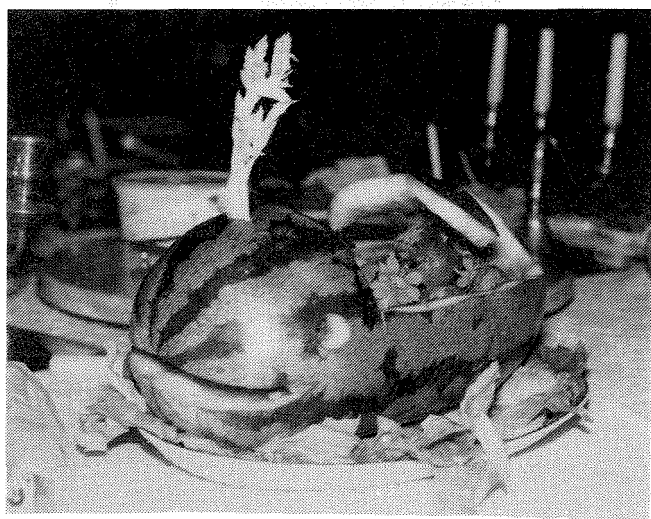
And now a quick microwave recipe for two, for those days when you just don't feel inspired at dinner time.

CREAMED CHICKEN FOR TWO

1 8 oz. pkg. frozen peas with cream sauce
 3/4 cup milk
 1 TBS. butter or margarine
 Curry powder to taste
 1 cup diced, cooked chicken (may use canned)
 1-2 cups hot cooked rice

Remove frozen peas and sauce from package. In a 2 quart casserole, combine peas with sauce, milk, butter or margarine. Cover and cook on HIGH for 5 minutes. Stir in curry powder. Fold in chicken. Cook on HIGH 1-2 minutes or until hot. Serve over rice. Makes 2 servings.

Florence Archambault



A WHALE OF A DISH! Mary Rommel's wonderful watermelon whale holding fruit at the New Members' Cocktail Party

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