Looking west from Willow Street at Washington, c. 1880
Photo courtesy of Newport Restoration Foundation
The Point Association is a group of neighbors working together to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood by getting to know each other • preserving our historic heritage • maintaining the Point's residential character • beautifying our parks, streets and piers • promoting public policies that strengthen all of Newport's neighborhoods.

OFFICERS
Suzanne Varisco, President (841-5220)
Mike Cullen, 1st Vice President (848-2945)
Nancy Espersen, 2nd Vice President (846-2907)
Loretta Goldrick, Corr. Sec’y (849-9425)
Betty Cares, Recording Sec’y (847-2752)
Hillar Sarepera, Treasurer (848-9906)

COMMITTEES
**Beautification**
Glenn & Ellen Secrest (848-2285)  
**Green Light**
Betty Cares (847-2752)  
**History & Archives**
Nancy Espersen (846-2907)  
**Membership**
Beth Cullen (848-2945)  
**Nominating**
Brian Babcock (846-7976)  
**Past Presidents**
Coles Mallory (849-5659)  
**Special Events**
Bob Peck (846-2002)  
**Neighborhood Watch**
Martha Marie Grogan (847-4994)  

Board meetings are generally scheduled for the first Monday of the month and are open to Association members. If you have a concern you would like the board to address, please call Suzanne for time, date and location of the meeting.
From the President

Dear friends, near and far,

With the last of the Thanksgiving leftovers finally consumed, and the holiday trimmings sitting in boxes in the corner waiting to be hung, Pointers everywhere are looking forward to another joyous season. This year, we are also preparing to cross an important threshold into the twenty-first century. Before we take this prodigious step, however, it seems meet and right to look backward for a few moments, to consider where we’ve been, and to express our gratitude for what has come our way.

As Pointers, we are thankful every day for those prudent early settlers, who built their homes along the harbor’s edge. Never splendid, yet both spacious and snug, these colonial and federal structures, as well as their more modern Victorian neighbors, fill us with awe and pride, as we move among them and live within their walls.

As Pointers, we are also thankful for those hardy latter-day visionaries, who resurrected these same houses from a fallen state. We are thankful for their beaded clapboards, mitred gables, and shingled roofs, while we luxuriate in their central heating, dependable plumbing, and baseboard outlets.

And as Pointers, we are thankful for our neighbors, who offer encouragement as we labor, provide a helping hand as we falter, and extend congratulations when we succeed. We are thankful for secret gardens, plant sales, potluck suppers, May baskets, cookie exchanges, and hayrides. We are thankful for special events that inform and entertain, like candidates’ night and evenings of restoration stories. And we are thankful for the carolers at our door, reminding us each year that miracles do happen.

So, as we open the boxes, and once again prepare to deck the halls, let us all remember to say thank you to one another for the kindnesses we receive each day, both seen and unseen. Let us forgive the mistakes and celebrate the effort of those who do their best, but occasionally fail. And let us move together in a spirit of shared hope and joy toward a New Year and a new century.

With love and gratitude,

[Signature]

Page 3 The Green Light ~ Winter 1999-2000
Annual Meeting

On October 14, the membership met at St. John’s Guild Hall for the Annual Meeting of the Point Association. Newly born Point residents, Victoria Boatwright, Margaret Lynn Lewis Dunbar, and Natalie Mallinoff were given official “Born on the Point” certificates.

After putting it to a vote, the full membership approved a proposal to raise membership dues by a small amount.

The Nominating Committee presented the slate of new board officers, which was approved by the membership. After the approval, the crowd welcomed First Vice President Michael Cullen, Secretary Betty Cares, and Treasurer Hillar Sarepera as new Board members.

President Suzanne Varisco honored Kay O’Brien with a special gift for her 18 years with the Green Light. Kay has tirelessly served this publication and it will be impossible to replace her. On behalf of the Association, Suzanne presented Kay with a silver pin of our green lighthouse. Also in Kay’s honor, a Spring flower garden will be planted in a Point park.

Guest Speaker and Point resident, J.P. Mouline spoke about his courageous single handed sail around the world. Last year he won the “Around Alone” race in which he spent over 180 days alone at sea. J.P. spoke about his adventures and showed a video compiled from footage he shot at sea. The boat he used for this journey has been moored right off the Point. J.P. offered to take anyone who wanted to come along to go sailing with him on the weekend. Anne Bidstrup took him up on his offer and had a wonderful time! How lucky we are to have such a friendly celebrity living here!

Profiles of the newly elected officers

Betty Cares, Secretary – New board member Betty Cares has been the acting secretary since May. After renting a house on Third Street for two years, she and her husband Jeff fell in love with the Point. They purchased 31 Willow Street in June and are in the midst of a major restoration project there. Betty teaches Business Communications at Salve Regina University.

Michael Cullen, First Vice President – Board member Mike Cullen has been first vice president since May 1998. Mike has actively worked on Point noise and nuisance issues and helps his wife Beth maintain the Association's membership files. A client representative with IBM, Mike works with federal customers around New England. He also volunteers as a board member of the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation. Mike and Beth live at 19 Bayside Avenue.

Hillar Sarepera, Treasurer – Captain Sarepera, USN (Ret), and his wife, Mary, are long-time home owners on the Point. Hillar first experienced Newport in 1961 while attending Navy Officer Candidate School. While serving in Newport, Hillar became actively involved with Operation Clapboard on the Point and purchased the house on Willow and Washington in the mid-sixties, hoping to have many assignments driving ships in and out of Newport. Then the U.S. Government stopped home-porting Navy ships here. So out of the 31 years Hillar served the Navy all over the world, he and Mary had only one chance to live in their home, in 1980, during a War College tour. They returned to live in Newport two years ago and have been busy restoring their house, operating a business, keeping up with their three children and eight grandchildren, and enjoying living and working in this great neighborhood.

Thanks Board Members...

The Board of the Point Association wishes to extend a vote of appreciation to two retiring members. Art Gudikunst has retired after serving as treasurer for two years. Alberto Coll, due to other commitments, cannot continue in his position as second vice-president. The Board accepts these resignations with regret.

We send warm wishes and thank you’s to these two board members for their outstanding service to the Point Association. We will miss them and hope they will stay involved in Point activities.
Nina Lynette Home Has a Vacancy

After years of one hundred percent occupancy and a waiting list, there is (or at least was at the time of this writing) an empty room at Nina Lynette Home, a non-profit boarding house for senior citizens at 87 Washington Street. An endowment pays over half the cost of operating the home so the rents are modest, and include three meals a day.

The home is available only to those who do not need nursing care.

If you would like to visit Nina Lynette, phone the director, Mrs. Julie Truver, at 847-2674. To apply for residency, call the Admissions Chairman, Mrs. Pauline Ward, at 846-9276.

- Herb Rommel

History and Archives Committee

The History and Archives Committee is planning a trip to the Whitehorne Museum some time after the holidays for committee members and anyone else who would be interested in seeing this extraordinary collection of Newport colonial furniture. Nancy Espersen (846-2907) will have the details.

* * * *

Congratulations to Rick O’Neill, our newly-elected First Ward Councilman. Rick promises to be our voice on the City Council. You can keep in touch with him by calling him at 847-5202.

Photo # 1 Do you know where this photo was taken?
Answer on page 20
Ship to Shore

Oliver Gill, seven years old, had never known what it’s like to live in a house. In July 1998, “Ollie” and his parents, Sarah and Tony, moved (relocated) from their home of seven years, the yacht La Chaumière, to 30 Second Street, on the Point.

It all began in September of 1992, when Tony and Sarah left Westport, Connecticut to go sailing. Oliver Carlyle Gill was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico on December 9, and was tucked aboard four days later upon leaving the hospital. Tony redesigned the forward cabin to be “baby proof” and “sea safe.” Most boats are actually designed to be “bump proof,” with most sharp edges and corners rounded off. With the gentle motion of the sea, it’s probable that little Ollie must have felt quite at home in his womb-like nursery. Sleeping on board is very much like sleeping in a giant waterbed. After Tony finished up some work in San Juan, they continued their adventure south through the islands of the Caribbean and then took a sharp right along the northern coast of South America, and on to the Panama Canal.

At this juncture Ollie was packed off on holiday with his grandparents while the Gills set off across the Pacific, a 3,200-mile trip. Ollie returned to continue the trip in the Marquesas and down to Fiji and Tonga. After spending time in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and a few other more remote islands, they all ended up in Singapore, where Dad went to work for an American advertising agency for two years.

In Singapore the boat was “parked” at what can only be described as a five-star “botel” - actually a marina, but nothing like those in the U.S. This one had two restaurants, bowling, tennis, a gym, three swimming pools, private cinema, bars, and more. Apart from the heat and humidity - 99 degrees and 99 percent - it was a great place for a child to grow up. It’s fortunate that Singapore also has an excellent international school and no crime. But don’t chew gum there, it’s illegal, and a habit the Gills are glad Oliver didn’t develop.

Back in Newport the Gills found, through friends from Singapore (the Tooheys, now residents and owners of 107 Washington Street), the perfect neighborhood in which to bring up their son and live the kind of life they dreamed of. Believe it or not you can have enough of sailing! Little did they realize just how good their luck had been in choosing to live on the Point. For the parents it’s the people, the architecture and the history. For Ollie, everything is a new adventure: stairs, trees, flowers, other children, learning to ride a bike and a skate board, birthday parties, Halloween, and a home.
that stays in one place and doesn’t bob up and down every time the wind picks up. Ollie, however, has not lost his love of the water, with daily trips down to the driftway to go swimming, shell collecting and lobstering, in his very own boat – a 10-foot Dyer dink. Being able to make friends that don’t disappear with the next tide is an important difference for all the Gills. In fact, the concept of a real neighborhood and all the benefits that go along with it is probably the single most important difference and benefit that separates the boating community from a land community.

When asked what he liked about living on land, and especially on the Point, Ollie replied: having a proper bathtub, all the delights of frozen foods, barbecues, tree swings, and playing with his new friends – the fact that he can walk around the block as opposed to getting in a dinghy and rowing around the dock. Yes, it’s a different adventure, but as Ollie says, we can always run away to sea. Not on your life!

— Sarah Gill

Ed. Note: The Gills are strong supporters of the Point Association, which they say has opened so many doors for them and made their transition from sea to shore so much easier. Last August Tony was the winner in his age group in the New York Central Park Triathlon. He is also a competitive sailor and marathoner, but is currently taking time to smell the roses. He still keeps in shape by swimming between the Causeway and the Newport Bridge, running 30 miles per week, and bicycling on Ocean Drive. Sarah involves herself with volunteer work and the care of her husband, son, and their 1756 house.

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Thank You, George Perry

We would like to take this opportunity to extend sincere thanks to George Perry for his conscientious work and tireless efforts during his term as First Ward Councilman. George’s determination to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Newport well preceded his term on the council. Citizens Against Noise and Nuisance in Newport (CANNN) and the Coalition of Neighborhood Grassroot Organizations (CONGO) were two groups that George helped originate. In addition, George has remained a vocal proponent of traffic calming and continues to be a faithful supporter of the preservation of the waterfront.

With just these few examples of his accomplishments, we are mindful of George’s longstanding passion for his community. We recognize that he will continue to work hard, in whatever capacity, to maintain Newport’s integrity and the quality of life of its residents. Thanks, George.

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Long Wharf Resorts

Exciting new plans are in the works for the waterfront along the southwest corner of the Point. Planning an expansion on their recently acquired waterfront property, Long Wharf Resorts (LWR) has generously offered to include a walkway along the water’s edge as part of the Friends of the Waterfront’s Harborwalk. This is a positive step forward and will be a model for future waterfront development.

A series of meetings has taken place between Friends of the Waterfront’s Dave Wixted and Vic Farmer, Neill Gray, Chair of the Waterfront Commission, Tree Warden Scott Wheeler, Keith Stokes, Executive Director of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce, and Bob Gentry, Vice President of Long Wharf Resorts. Also, Lieutenant Governor Fogarty had a tour of the area.

The proposed development would include a new façade on the Inn at Long Wharf (long an aesthetic eyesore), and a restaurant at the eastern end of a new building. A Harborwalkway around the front of the buildings would lead to a pocket park dedicated to Mary Ferrazzoli, Washington’s Landing and the Fall River Line, with an historical display similar to those in the Hill area. The walkway could then continue along the water’s edge into the fishermen’s pier area so that tourists and locals could view a working waterfront.

The proposed plans will provide a new vista as one approaches Long Wharf from Washington Street. The pocket park, for quiet contemplation of the harbor, or for a moment’s respite for walkers, will be a welcome addition.

Photo #2  Do you know where this photo was taken?
Answer on page 20

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members...

MONICA BAILEY
WILLIAM CARTIER
RUTH COVELL
WALT GREEN & WENDY USLAN
JEAN & BOB HOLIHAN
CHARLES JESTINGS
JENNIFER AND DARRYL PAQUETT
MARION COVELL SOUSA
JAY WILSON
Newport’s Society of Friends

On the 17th day of the eighth month, 1699, the Monthly Meeting Minutes of the Newport Society of Friends reported, “Friends have layed oute and appointed ye place where ye meeting house shall Stand and have brought Great Stones and other Stones and Layed ye Foundation.” In honor of the 300th anniversary of the Great Friends Meeting House, the Newport Historical Society held its 16th Annual Lecture Series, “Family, Faith and Testimony: The Society of Friends in Newport,” last summer. The series examined the impact Quakers made on Newport’s religious, social, and cultural landscape.

The first group of Friends arrived in Newport in 1657. Persecuted outcasts in almost every part of the Atlantic world, Quakers found in Newport a safe haven for their worship and a populace receptive to their beliefs. By the early 17th century, the Society of Friends dominated Newport politically and culturally, and constituted more than half of the town’s population. Their “plain style” of living influenced Newport’s decorative arts, especially furniture and architecture; their pacifist principles helped shape Rhode Island’s attitudes towards Native Americans and Great Britain; and their intertwined system of family, meeting and spirituality formed the basis for Quakers’ reaction to slavery, women’s rights and other social issues.

The series opened with a day of activities at the meeting house, organized by the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends. The public was invited to attend the morning worship session, and witnessed Friends who were moved to speak about equality, human rights, and the powerful spiritual impact they felt inside the 300-year-old building.

Later that week, one of the most noted authorities on Quaker history in the world, Professor J. William Frost of Swarthmore College, led off the slate of speakers with an overview of Quakerism in America. He explained that Quakers in the American colonies became distinct from those in England because of unique circumstances encountered in the New World, including slavery, westward migration, and the role of women in the meeting. Emma J. Lapsanky, of Haverford College, spoke of Quaker social reform efforts in her talk “To live in the world and to excite your efforts to mend it.” Wendell Garrett, editor of The Magazine Antiques, and a familiar figure on the PBS series “Antiques Roadshow,” examined the Quaker philosophy of simplicity as it applied to furniture, architecture and decorative arts. Rather than crudeness, Garrett explained, Quaker simplicity can best be described as “elegance.” Later in the series, Jan Hoffman, a member of the Mount Toby Friends Meeting in western Massachusetts, spoke about Quaker spirituality and the prominent role it plays in their daily lives.

Many familiar faces were visible at the next events. Jim Garman (a Point resident), Paul Russo, and Dan Lynch, of the Public Archaeology Lab, helped “Kids Dig History” on the grounds of the Great Friends Meeting House. Children helped excavate a real archaeological test trench and sifted the soil for artifacts. Jim Garman also participated in a panel discussion about the history of the Great Friends Meeting House, along with Ron Potvin and Dan Snydacker of the Newport Historical Society. The following weekend, about 60 people took part in a walking tour of the Point, including the interiors of two private residences.

The series concluded with a presentation of dramatic readings titled “Clearing our Holy Profession.” Utilizing Quaker testimonies and other manuscripts in the collection of the Newport Historical Society, Quaker beliefs and practices were revealed in their own words, providing a glimpse into the inner workings of the Society of Friends. Historical figures such as Molly Robinson, Thomas Brownell, Obadiah Williams and Count de Noialles were interpreted by actors Barbara Benson, Jenn Berger, John Hattendorf, Joseph Neil, Daniel Snydacker, Sarah Snydacker and Joan Youngken. The final words were those of Esther Fisher Benson, from an oral history project conducted by the Newport Historical Society in 1984. It was a fitting end to a series dedicated to her memory.

- Ron Potvin
Newport Harbor at the Turn of Two Centuries

One of my favorite things to do is watch the fishermen on the Goat Island Causeway. If the squid or mackerel are running, their poles jig up and down in an undulating wave that seems choreographed and peaceful while the sun sparkles off the water of Newport Harbor. I can watch for hours, mesmerized by the dancing rods and the occasional mackerel brought to bucket. It’s a solemn ritual devoid of the whoops and hollers of sport fishermen landing a striped bass or bluefish, because these anglers are fishing for their dinner table.

Though there was no causeway to fish from 100 years ago, these fishermen remind me that Newporters are still linked to the harbor and the sea in ways that we always have been. The look and the nature of the waterfront have changed dramatically since the beginning of this century, but the harbor remains a focal point of our economy and our lives. Only our attitudes toward it and our ways of using it to make a living and to complement our lives have changed. Since the founding of Newport in 1639, maritime commerce, fishing, and later, yachting and the Navy have driven Newport into the future and remain the town’s lifeblood.

Around 1900, the waterfront had a decidedly more industrial look to it. Downtown, the wharves jutting out into the harbor were rundown and covered with warehouses, ice shops, and the offices of various merchants who catered to the commercial interests that ran freight or people in and out of Newport. Interspersed were boatyards, lumber and coal yards. Today, hotels, timeshares, restaurants and retail shops line Thames Street and cover the wharves, catering to the tourists who come to glimpse the busy harbor scene and enjoy the social life.

At the turn of the last century, the Fall River Line was a dominant presence in the harbor. Enormous steamships that could sleep up to 1,200 people ferried the wealthy and poor alike from New York to Fall River, with a stop in Newport. From 1847 to 1937, the ships brought summer colonists from New York and immigrants on their way to Fall River’s factories. Locals would stroll down to the wharves to watch the steamers come in at night with their lights reflecting off the water, and listen to the sounds from the concert halls and restaurants within. The ships would depart at 9 o’clock, slowly exiting Long Wharf and heading between Goat Island and the Point, rounding the Green Light and turning toward the harbor mouth. Imagine one of the huge cruise ships that visit us each summer in that narrow channel! The Doubletree would be completely blotted out!
Now only small boats can move through that area. Gone are the small ferries that transported workers and naval persons from the city to Goat Island. Today we have small ferries transporting visitors from the island to shop downtown, or from downtown to Fort Adams, or Rose Island, or, forsaking the Newport Bridge, to Jamestown.

Earlier in this century the Navy was a stronger presence in the harbor than it is today. The activities at the torpedo station on Goat Island involved thousands of people and much action on the water. Battleships, cruisers and destroyers nesting four abreast at buoys right off Battery Park were a common sight. Today all are gone, except for Coast Guard patrol boats and a few decommissioned ships up the bay.

Lighthouses have also undergone great changes in the last 100 years. The Line Rock Lighthouse is no longer home to a keeper who rescues drowning people from the water as Ida Lewis did. The light is now automated, as are the other lighthouses in the area, and her home is now the Ida Lewis Yacht Club. The Rose Island Light, which used to have a keeper, has been recently brought back to life and is a great attraction for those wishing to “live” in a lighthouse temporarily.
One similarity between then and now is the commercial fishing presence. Though it was probably a bit stronger back then, commercial fishing has been a constant in Newport since the town was settled. In 1900, locals used to watch while wooden barrels filled with fish and ice rolled into the freight compartments of a Fall River Line steamer for the journey to New York. Today many old-timers go down to the docks of the Aquidneck Lobster Company to watch the day's catch hauled ashore, sorted, packed into plastic crates and rolled into the back of a truck, headed for the same markets in New York, or perhaps Boston. It is also possible to drift down to the State Pier at the end of Long Wharf and watch the fishermen there unloading their boats, as they have for many, many years.

At the turn of the century, pleasure boats were abundant in Newport though not in the numbers we see today. Moneyed men owned large and impressive yachts like Corsair and Aloha, which were frequent visitors. On a smaller scale, many locals had catboats and skiffs for both pleasure and work. The area in front of the Point had a few catboats moored off their owners' docks - not like the numbers of yachts, sail and power, which, today, stretch from the Causeway almost to Van Zandt pier. Much of the old downtown waterfront is now composed of modern marinas and smaller boatyards that service "mega-yachts" and the numerous other pleasure craft that have made Newport a summer hotspot for sailors.

Since 1900, there have been numerous changes to the waterfront and the boats that occupy Newport Harbor. Significant events like the departure of the Navy Fleet, the opening of the Newport Bridge, the loss of the America's Cup, and redevelopment in the late 60s and early 70s have forced Newporters in recent years to decide what to do with the waterfront. Hotels, condominiums, time-shares, restaurants and retail shops have sprung up to cater to Newport's new number-one industry, tourism. Yet at the same time, concerns have been raised and action has been taken to ensure that we preserve what we can of the reason tourists come to Newport: to see the great history that still lives in this City by the Sea. My fishermen along the Goat Island Causeway remind me that we are inextricably linked to the waters that surround us. The only thing that changes is our attitudes and our views toward using this natural asset to keep Newport moving forward as we barrel into another century and a new millenium.

- Brian Comfort
Candlelight Tours

Once again both residents and visitors scan the December calendar to check on Christmas in Newport special events. For many the most memorable are the three days following Christmas when different houses are opened each day for early evening candlelight tours.

If you choose to be a host or hostess your assignment will be at one house, but you are welcome to visit all the others. If you’d like to volunteer for this delightful duty, call Vance Gatchell at 848-7017.

No Fanfare

Maybe we should have baked a cake with 100 candles. Van Zandt Bridge was built in 1899. For many this is the gateway to the Point. Signs of age are its sloping sidewalks, sign of care are its newly painted iron railings. Adjacent Hunter Field looks great - tennis courts, soccer field, baseball diamond, playground equipment, and trees planted along the tracks. Joan Calcutt tells us that in the late thirties her father, Jim Marren, and Jim Steele were coaches for the football team of the Hunter Athletic Club here on the Point - best in the country!

Opening Night

The Newport Cultural Commission is proud to present Opening Night 2000, the City-by-the-Sea’s seventh annual New Year’s Eve arts celebration. The fun and festivities will commence at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, continue throughout surrounding venues, and conclude with a spectacular fireworks display over Newport Harbor at 9:15.

Opening Night 2000 is a non-alcoholic, family-oriented event. Performances, programs, exhibitions and receptions, including a host of children’s activities, are planned throughout Newport’s downtown cultural district. Free bussing between venues will be provided for button holders.

Admission to all of the citywide venues, associated discounts at area shops, museums, restaurants, and other special offers, are available with the purchase of the commemorative Opening Night 2000 Button, on sale for just $5. After Thanksgiving buttons will be on sale at the Gateway Information Center, The Museum of Newport History and a number of other locations. Admission for children six years old and younger is free. There will be parking available at many downtown municipal lots.
Adventure Club Says “Think Spring”

Last spring the Adventure Club celebrated May Day by putting together flower vases for our older Point neighbors and some special friends. The children decorated the cans, filled them with flowers, and delivered them. This event was a great success that the group hopes to continue.

On October 24th, the Adventure Club held its annual Halloween Parade. Children in costume gathered in Battery Park, played some games and posed for a picture. Then they lined up on Washington Street and marched together to St. John’s Guild Hall. There they bobbed for apples, or beat on pinatas, or took a hayride in a horse drawn wagon - up Washington Street and down Second. They were joined shortly by many more Point residents for a new Point affair, a ham and bean supper. This was the biggest and best Halloween event ever!

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Storer Park Expanded

Thanks to a cooperative effort among the City of Newport, adjacent businesses, neighbors, and the Point Association, Storer Park has been expanded.

By extending the park to the south, the free right turn from Washington Street onto the Goat Island Causeway has been eliminated. Grass, shrubs, and a flower garden will be planted in the spring. There will be two benefits from this park expansion. First, it will beautify the corner of Washington Street and the Goat Island Causeway. Second, by eliminating the free right turn, traffic will be encouraged to use America’s Cup Avenue when traveling to Goat Island.

The Doubletree Islander Hotel, Island Development Corporation, Eastern Resorts, several neighbors, and the Point Association provided a total of $4,000 to purchase materials. The City of Newport did the design and provided the labor and equipment for the construction. In 1973, Storer Park was developed as a joint effort between the Point Association and the City of Newport. This expansion continues our tradition of working cooperatively with the City and businesses to accomplish neighborhood projects.

– Coles Mallory

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Photo #5  Do you know where this photo was taken?  
Answer on Page 20

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The Green Light ~ Winter 1999-2000
Cook's Corner

With Christmas coming, thoughts turn to sweets. Marybeth Hunte of the Walnut Market and Savoir Faire shares these recipes with us. They are hard to resist!

Savoir Fare’s Pistachio Cranberry Biscotti

- ½ cup unsalted butter, softened
- ¾ cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon pure almond or pistachio extract
- 3 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons grated lemon zest
- ½ cup dried cranberries, chopped
- 1 cup chopped pistachios

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix butter with sugar until smooth. Add egg, one at a time, and beat well. Add vanilla and almond extracts. Sift flour with baking powder and salt. Stir into batter. Mix in zest, cranberries and pistachios. Divide dough in half. Shape each half into a log 3 to 4 inches wide (no more than ¾ inch high). Place on lightly floured baking sheet. Bake 20 minutes. Remove and cool for 5 minutes. Slice into ¼ inch slices and lay slices back down on cookie sheet. Bake 20 minutes more. Cool. Dust with powdered sugar and store in airtight container.

Savoir Fare’s Hand Rolled Truffles

- 10 ounces bittersweet Belgian chocolate
- 2 ounces unsweetened chocolate
- ¾ cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 tablespoons Grand Marnier (or Frangelico)
- ¼ cup good quality cocoa powder
- ½ cup finely chopped toasted hazelnuts (optional)

Place chocolates in double boiler over high heat, stirring constantly until chocolate is fully melted. In a separate pan melt butter with cream, stir and bring to simmer. Slowly blend hot cream mixture into hot melted chocolate until fully blended and smooth. Add Grand Marnier and stir until smooth again. Remove from heat. Refrigerate a couple of hours until mixture hardens. Using a melon baller or miniature ice cream sorbet scoop, scoop out chocolate and roll into balls with cocoa covered hands. Roll each truffle in cocoa powder, or chopped hazelnuts if using Frangelico.

Merry Christmas!

Walter Jenkins Whitley, CRS
CDR, USN (Ret.)
Point Property Owner
and Resident Since 1964

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Newport Shipyard

The shipyard has plans for its future expansion for review before the Waterfront Commission and the CRMC. Leasing the strip of land along the edge of the causeway approach from the city is being negotiated. Having foresight, the Waterfront Commission is working with the shipyard to include public access, again for a view of the working waterfront.

As part of this effort, the City Council recently supported the effort to deregulate the Federal Channel in this area, which requires an Act of Congress. Rep. Patrick Kennedy’s office is working on this.

This would be a major change to the harbor, allowing expansion for both the shipyard and Goat Island. We hope a public hearing will be held to receive comments from Point residents, who will be the most affected by such a change.

Special Spots

The hot dry summer of ‘99 wilted some people and plants but made winners of others. Congratulations to Point residents chosen by Newport In Bloom to receive awards.

Residential Area 1
First Place: Elizabeth Bishop - 81 Third St.
Second Place: Mercedes Deines – 53 Farewell St.
Container: Samantha Hines - 1 Gurney Court.

Large Business Awards
Third Place: Thomas Roos - Regatta Club - Goat Island.

Bed and Breakfast Awards
Third Place: Brian Babcock - Sarah Kendall House.

Thanks to all residents who tend our neighborhood throughout the seasons.

The Point Association Membership Form

Please make check payable to The Point Association.
A subscription to The Green Light is included with all memberships.

□ Individual: $10.00 □ Family: $15.00 □ Sustaining: $25.00 □ Patron: $40.00 □ Other: $ ______

Name: _________________________________ Phone: ____________
E-mail: ______________________________ Fax: ____________
Mailing address: ____________________________
Second address (if applicable): ____________________________

Committees & Activities

Please check the categories of interest to you.

□ Adventure Club □ History & Archives □ Traffic □ Waterfront □ Beautification

□ Membership □ Programs & Special Events □ Green Light □ Noise Abatement □ Plant Sale

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Winter Calendar

December 1, 10 a.m., History & Archives, at Nancy Quattrucci’s, 71 Washington Street (open to all)
December 4, 10-2, St John’s Christmas Bazaar, Guild Hall
December 6, 7 p.m. Point Association Board Meeting
December 11, 10-3, Newport Garden Club Christmas Boutique at St John’s Guild Hall
December 12, 4 p.m. Holiday Tea and Cookie Exchange at St. John’s Guild Hall
December 24, 10:30 p.m., Christmas Carols and Mass at St. John’s Church
January 3, 7 p.m., Point Association Board Meeting
January 12, 10 a.m., History & Archives, at Marjorie Magruder’s, 6 Bridge Street (open to all)
February 7, 7 p.m. Point Association Board Meeting
February 9, 10 a.m., History and Archives, at Kay O’Brien’s 12 Battery Street (open to all)
March 6, 7 p.m. Point Association Board Meeting
Pot Luck Supper in March — watch for the date!

Photo Answers
Photo #1 Bridge Street between Second and Third. Home of John Townsend
Photo #2 Looking South on Second Street at corner of Poplar. John Frye house on left
Photo #3 John Goddard House on Second Street between Battery and Pine
Photo #4 Looking back at Hunter House from Elm Street Pier
Photo #5 Looking South from Marsh Street along Washington to Long Wharf
Photo #6 The Fairchild Stable at corner of Second and Pine Streets