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Copies of the Green Light may be purchased for $1.00
at Bucci's Convenience Store, Poplar & Thames; Adinoff's Liquor & Gourmet Shop, Warner Street.

The Point Association
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; and
promoting public policies that strengthen all of Newport's
neighborhoods.

Executive Committee Officers
President, Richard Carrubba (847-5815)
First Vice President, Al Lowe (847-5853)
Second Vice President, Martha Marie Grogan (847-4443)
Recording Secretary, Carole Clark (849-5245)
Corresponding Secretary, Liza Baldwin (847-4101)
Treasurer, Hillar Sarepera (849-9906)
Meetings are generally scheduled for the first Monday of the month and are open to Association
members. Please call Rich for time, date, and location.

Greetings from the Editor
The new century begins for the Green Light
with an exciting mixture of familiar favorites and new arrivals. Faithful readers will be
pleased to see that the tradition continues in the persons of two highly valued G.L. veterans, Rowan Howard and Kay O'Brien, as well
as the appearance of such staple features as city updates, executive committee reports, information about coming events, news about Pointers—old and new, historic events revisited, and of course those wonderful draw-
ings by Eleanor Weaver and Dorothy Sanschagrin. Because we all welcome variety, now and then, I hope readers will also enjoy seeing several new feature columns and
by-lines. "Artists on Point" by Tony Gill, "Bay Sailor" by J.P. Mouligné, and "This Very Old House" by Ron Potvin are three noteworthy entries in this category. For a closer look at
our growing staff of Green Light volunteers, turn to the pictures and capsule bios on pages 10 and 11. We hope to hear from you in the
weeks and months ahead. Congratulations on our successes will be welcome, attention to our mistakes will be helpful, and suggestions for future issues will be essential.

Thank you.
THE PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Dear Neighbors,

The Point Association has been very busy over the past few months planning its activities for the remainder of this year and addressing several important issues that will affect our neighborhood: the Potter School, the Gateway Center, high voltage transmission lines, transportation and traffic control proposals, etc.

As we continue to gain a more comprehensive understanding of these issues, we’ll communicate our position on each of them to you through the Green Light, in person at the various Point Association functions or special meetings, and—when warranted—by e-mail and/or postal mailings (my e-mail address is RichardCarrubba@msn.com).

Although we are fully engaged in the issues that have significant potential to affect our neighborhood, at the same time we are seeking to improve our support to you so we can strengthen our membership and provide opportunities for you to participate in our activities—to the benefit of us all. In that regard, if you would like to become a member or you haven’t renewed your membership, please take the time to do so today.

One last thought: in the short time I’ve been a volunteer with the Point Association, I have met many wonderful people who give some of their time to help make our neighborhood and community a special place to live. If you have ever thought about volunteering, I would really like to hear from you. Regardless of your motivation—to feel needed, to share a skill, to get to know your neighbors, to do your civic duty, to keep busy, to receive recognition, to have an impact, to learn something new, to be challenged, to have fun, to assure progress, to feel good, to be part of a team, to test yourself, to stand up and be counted, or just because I’m asking you—the Point Association needs your help and participation. Please contact me (847-5815), and I’ll describe the areas where we need volunteers. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Spring 2001
Report from City Hall

Spring is just around the corner, that season when plants begin to grow after lying dormant all winter. Like the seasons, the city experiences changes also, but we must proceed cautiously and plan accordingly. With this in mind, I met recently with Point Association President Rich Carrubba, First Vice President Al Lowe, Beautification Co-Chair Coles Mallory, and City Liaison John Spohn to discuss the many state and city projects that are on the drawing board for Newport. We plan to meet bi-monthly, working together to achieve positive results for our city and, specifically, the Point. Here are some of the topics we are working on.

State. The Connell Highway improvements, the bridge ramp connection, the Farewell/America's Cup intersection, and the land swap (see below) are State of Rhode Island projects. Rich, Al, Coles, John, and I will be meeting with Ed Parker, Chief Planner for the Department of Transportation (DOT), for a briefing and to provide input on these projects. A follow-up meeting for all area residents will soon be announced.

State and City. The former navy housing on Ranger Road has been demolished, and the new Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) educational/government complex is under way. The state has land nearby, which the city would like to obtain in a land swap for property at the city yard on Halsey Street. The state needs a location near the bridge for a salt dome to service the bridge during the winter. There's a temporary container on the access road approaching the bridge, which will be moved to a permanent site at the city yard after details are completed.

City. The Potter School has been cleaned out and is vacant. Working with city officials and residents, the council will be preparing a request for proposals (RFP) for the future use of the building. I assure you the use of the building will have to be the right mix for the neighborhood. The Gateway Center facility will also be preparing an RFP. Many workshops, organized and led by former Mayor David Gordon, will aid the city in setting the direction for the future use of that property. One community forum was held in February and the city council recommended that these forums be held throughout the city to bring city government to the people. City Manager Mike Mallinoff and department directors were on hand to discuss budget, goals, objectives, and services.

As always, I am available to discuss issues affecting the First Ward and the city. To contact me, call 847-9122 or 847-5202 or send an e-mail to rickfirstward@aol.com.

Rick O'Neill, Representative, First Ward

Paint the Point June 16 – July 15

For six consecutive Saturday mornings from nine to noon, you are invited to participate in the second annual Point Association summer painting and drawing program. Regardless of what you may think your talents are, here's an opportunity to find out why so many turn-of-the-century painters favored the Point as an inspiration for their art.

Beginners and young adults (12 and up) are especially welcome. You can choose any medium: oil, watercolor, colored pencils, pastels, whatever. Each session will be devoted to one particular setting on the Point. Reflecting increased operational costs, this year's tuition for six sessions is $150, junior artists, $75.

After the last session, an art exhibition and sale will be held at St. John's Guild Hall. Each artist will donate 25 percent of all sales to the Point Association and pocket the difference. Following last year's tremendous success, be sure to confirm your place early to avoid disappointment.

For more information concerning registration, scholarship availability, help in selecting materials, questions, reassurance that you can do it, call Tony Gill at 847-2189.

Tony Gill studied at the Royal Academy of Art and is a fulltime painter and partner in the Bodi Galleries on Franklin Street in Newport.
Report on the City

This midwinter season would appear to be cold and quiet, following the very visible rebuilding of Second Street and activities related to Star of the Sea and the Elm Street Pier, but appearances can be deceiving. In fact, the Point Association continues to work on your behalf by monitoring a number of developing issues affecting our neighborhood and the city at large. Recently, several PA representatives attended a city council workshop to re-examine a number of long-standing back-burner projects in a new context.

Coddington Highway. Plans are to reconfigure Two-Mile Corner to connect the highway directly to East Main Road through an expanded, light-controlled intersection.

North End Project. The CCRI campus is ready to go up on the former navy housing site. Some adjacent land is targeted for retail uses and a social services office, if the Hope VI grant to rebuild the public housing complex south of Maple Avenue is awarded. The Gate 4 entrance may be reconstructed.


Reconfiguration of the Pell Bridge Access Ramps and Reconnection of Connell Highway.

Fundamentally, this means that driving North along Farewell Street would lead you past Viking Bus headquarters to the Rotary. This was part of the PA's Traffic Calming Committee request to reduce cut-through traffic on Washington and Third Streets, several years ago. The new ramp scheme effectively abandons the idea of an interstate-sized connection to West Main Road through the North End. The city is looking for these changes to open up the parcel where the highway ends abruptly, for commercial development, which implies elimination of the overpass. These are all in similar stages of planning, but the existence of an integrated master plan is not clear. Councilor O'Neill has offered to arrange a meeting with RIDOT, at the PA's request, to begin some engagement in this planning process. Stay tuned.

Right Turn. Creating a free-right-turn lane at the intersection of Farewell and America's Cup for inbound traffic, also a proposal of the Traffic Calming Committee, would relieve long summer back-ups, waiting to bear left on Farewell across heavy outbound traffic.

Potter School. The city pledged to sell the vacant property and put the proceeds toward reduction of Thompson-related debt. Though they have a good record of putting obsolete schools to productive use, the PA has made clear to the council and city management the strength of our interest and willingness to participate in finding a use agreeable to both the user and the neighborhood. I'll miss voting there.

Gateway Center. This project has been covered in the "other" paper. PA members on the committee are keeping a dialogue going to ensure that this profound change has positive results for the neighborhood—like getting high-capacity electric wires on Third Street put underground along the railroad tracks. See Al Lowe's report for details (page 6).

Finally, I have arranged for the city manager and other heads of departments to be the featured guests at our Spring Membership Meeting, 7:00 p.m., April 5, at St. John's Guild Hall. Please attend if you can. It doesn't seem we'll have a hard time finding things to ask about. See you there.

John Spohn
**Report: Underground Wires**

I would like to encourage all Point Association members to send me your names, addresses, and phone numbers if you want to help in the effort to get wires put underground around here. You can e-mail me or just drop the information in my mailbox (Al Lowe, 67 Bridge St.; <alowebridge@netscape.net>). An Underground Wires committee is being formed. Although no one will be overburdened with work as part of this committee, we could sure use everybody’s help—particularly when it’s time to circulate a petition to the neighborhood.

*The following was sent to City Officials and Community Leaders:*

**Why Subtransmission Wires In The Point Should Be Put Underground**

**Location.** Third Street is the only street in Newport with wires of this voltage (23,000 volts) running this close to dwellings—often within 5-10 feet of homes.

**Potential Fire Hazard.** Last summer when a cruise ship dragged its anchor across the power line to Jamestown (a continuation of the 23,000 volt wires), sparks from the wires at Third and Bridge Streets shot 20 feet into the air. With many NRF houses in the vicinity and many others with wood shingle roofs, this might have started a fire, had it not been raining heavily at the time.

**Code.** Wires are reportedly not up to current code in Rhode Island or most other states.

**Possible Health Hazards.** Electro-magnetic field (EMF)-caused cancers are possible, particularly this close to dwellings.

**Vulnerability.** Downed wires are dangerous to people and expensive to repair.

**Appearance.** These wires are detrimental to tourism (after all who wants to take home a picture which looks like it was taken inside a radio?) and dissuade cultural tourists whom Newport seeks to attract.

**Heritage.** With its large collection of 18th and 19th century homes, this neighborhood is virtually unique in the U.S.

**The City’s Pledge.** Newport has already approved Resolution 98-124 to limit new overhead wiring and make every effort to remove utility poles and install underground wiring and cables.

**The Opportunity**

- Plans were drawn up in 1991 by Newport Electric to place these very wires underground.
- Other neighborhoods have already put wires underground or are in the process of doing so: Bellevue Ave., Thames St., Washington Square.
- These wires do not service the neighborhood but run through it to other areas: the West Howard Sub downtown and Jamestown.
- A route is available—the train tracks owned by RIDOT
- The Gateway Project offers a magnificent opportunity and a reasonable way of financing the project.
- Discussions with neighborhoods show that residents of this area are totally in support of this project.

*Second Street, February 2001. Would this view be more scenic (and safer) without the overhead wires?*

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*Al Lowe*
Report: Waterfront Watch

During these short, cold days of winter, there has been little to see on the harbor but hardy fishermen and frostbitten sailors. Behind the scenes, however, a lot has been going on. The city's Waterfront Commission (WC), which provides citizen supervision of waterfront development by both the city and private interests, has a full plate of pending projects. The Point is represented on the WC by two neighbors: Tom Bandoni, vice-chair, and Jim Stanek, re-appointed to a second three-year term. Over the winter, members of the Point Association's Executive Committee have had the opportunity to learn about waterfront matters affecting The Point and to advocate the association's concerns to the commission.

Harbormaster. Tim Mills is enthusiastic about his new responsibilities and putting his love of the harbor to work. We'll say more about his important role in the waterfront in the next issue.

Dinghy Docks. A city-wide plan for new, public boat landings at convenient locations around the harbor will include the Elm Street Pier, aided by five 8 x 16 foot floats, donated by Point resident Bart Dunbar. The WC responded to the PA's concerns about the planned location of the floats by the outer end of the pier and has relocated them midway out the north side. The floats, intended for temporary tie up and loading of small craft, are scheduled for spring installation (including new pilings) and winter removal.

American Shipyard. A significant, visual change in the harborscape is about to be constructed at American Shipyard. At an October meeting, shipyard officials listened to PA Executive Committee members' comments and requests, and they presented the shipyard's need for more dock space to expand the service marina for customers whose needs can be served while afloat. The marina is not meant for passive, seasonal dockage. Much of the new clientele will be private yachts over 100 ft and commercial vessels 200 ft or more. Plans were distributed, showing that the expansion extends about 30 percent of the distance between the shipyard and Goat Island, leaving maneuvering room in the basin and channel.

As part of the marina expansion, the shipyard will build a 350-ft public pier on its north boundary, immediately south of the Goat Island Bridge, with a roofed shelter at its outer end for harbor views. The pier itself will be high enough to see over the decks of most of the vessels in the marina. Along the pier's north side will be a floating 40-ft long harbor ferry landing with a wheelchair-accessible ramp, and a dinghy dock and ramp will lie along the inner third of the pier. The WC has expressed unanimous support for the plan. CRMC approval is expected soon, with construction to be completed this summer.

Other Projects. The WC is monitoring the completion of the new marine terminal at Perrotti Park, and a ramp and beach for launching car-top boats is planned for King Park. Future WC projects include development of the State Fishing Pier on Long Wharf and drafting a new harbor management plan.

David Pedrick
Historic Architecture Conference Visits The Point

From April 25 to 29, Newport will be the site of the 2001 Annual Conference of the Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF). Founded in 1981, VAF is devoted to the study of the historic architecture and landscapes of North America. This year’s conference, “Newport and the Narragansett Basin: The Architecture and Landscapes of the Colonial and Early National Periods,” is hosted by Roger Williams University’s School of Architecture, Art, and Historic Preservation. There are 28 co-sponsors from Rhode Island and Massachusetts organizations, including the City of Newport, the Newport Historical Society, the Newport Restoration Foundation, the Preservation Society of Newport County, and Salve Regina University.

The tours will include one day in Newport, Thursday, April 26, with over 40 sites open for visitation, and a second day for tours within the surrounding Narragansett Bay area. In preparation for this event, VAF members visited each site for inspection and study in the fall. Each property will appear in the conference guidebook, including historical and architectural information, its uses and occupants, and its place in the history of the area. All those who have agreed to open their homes for this event will receive a copy of the tour guidebook and invitations to attend the public forum and the scholarly presentations. For more information on this event visit the conference’s Web site at www.VAF2001.org.

Star of the Sea Progress

Calling all sidewalk superintendents and members of the knothole gang: there is observable progress in the construction of Harbor Point, Star of the Sea’s planned elderly living community, located on Battery Street between Washington and Second. In conversation with Church Community Housing’s Stephen Ostiguy, The Green Light has learned the following:

**Funding.** Formal financial documents for the project are now officially recorded, and fund-raising efforts to secure additional resources are underway.

**Rice House.** The interior has been gutted and re-framed, and the rough plumbing and wiring are nearly complete.

**St. Francis House.** Progress here is keeping pace with Rice House.

**Auchincloss House,** also gutted, is in the process of being re-framed.

**Chapel.** Sections of the stained glass windows have been removed for repair. Also, the large basement community meeting hall has been gutted, and reconstruction has begun.

**Water.** Outdoor sewer run-off connections and water-supply pipes are being installed.

**Exteriors.** Placement of scaffolding has begun, in preparation for the installation of new roofing, siding, and windows.

At present, the construction schedule, with its November completion date, appears to be realistic. As the process continues, a Spring Open House—including tours—is planned for the neighborhood.

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**History and Archives Committee**

The History and Archives Committee collects, preserves, maintains, circulates, and displays materials related to the history of the Point Association and the Point neighborhood. These materials include print articles, photographs, maps, drawings, tape recordings, and all other relevant documents. The committee meets regularly to work on the archives and also to plan events. If you are interested in joining in this activity, call Acting Chair Kay O’Brien, 847-7311.

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S.V.
The Inquiring Photographer
by Sarah Gill

The Wohnhaases are shown in front of their new home at 50 Second Street. Mike, originally from Pennsylvania, and Rachel, originally from London, have just come from New Jersey. They will be with us on the Point for two years, while he teaches at SWAS.

The MacLeishes pose with Fiona in front of their NRF house at 31 Walnut. Bruce, the new Rough Point curator, and Patty, a desk-top publisher, are enjoying getting acquainted with their new neighborhood, a big change from their last address in upstate New York.

Pointers in the News
by Liz Mathinos

Alexander (Sandy) Nesbitt, fascinated his Newport Art Museum audience on January 27 with a wonderful lecture and slides on his anthropological study of the people who live in the City of the Dead in Cairo, Egypt.

The recent outstanding exhibit at the Art Museum of “Born Newporters: Documentary Portraits by Kathryn Whitney Lucey” featured many artists who lived on the Point. Sandy Nesbitt, with his brother Rupert, started Project 1, the America’s Cup banners. Rupert also worked as an illustrator for archeological digs, while his brother photographed artifacts and Egyptian life. John “Fud” Benson, skilled master stonecutter of the John Stevens Shop, has carved National monuments. Others with ties to the Point are Rudy Borgueta who grew up on Poplar Street; Maria Salas, who used to work at the Torpedo Station; David Leys, who had a store on Long Wharf; George Oakley, who ran his harbor tours from Goat Island; Sam Barker, whose ancestors owned the Southwick House at Walnut and Washington; and Eileen O’Reilly, daughter of J.T. O’Connell, who lived in the Aubois house on Washington Street for a time.

Anita Raphael was featured in a Daily News article on her storytelling at the White Horse Tavern during the Christmas in Newport festival.

In a droll article by Mr. R. Delaney in Newport This Week, the Point’s esteemed Pierre Merle of Battery Street was identified as a Newporter whose stature, achievements, and love of our town marks him as deserving of the New Year’s Honours List.

John “Fud” Benson attended the recent dedication of FDR’s statue at the impressive FDR Memorial in Washington, D.C. Fud, a gifted stonecutter, did the stone carving on this memorial.

John Spohn was recently appointed to the Newport Charter Review Commission, which will review the city charter and recommend changes in the organization of city government.

Kids’ Clean-up Day
April 21

A special welcome is extended to all children at this year’s Spring Clean Up in the Parks, scheduled for Saturday morning April 21, from nine to noon. For every bag of litter a child turns in, he or she will be rewarded with a chance to pluck a prize from the Adventure Club surprise grab bag. Come join in the fun and help keep your neighborhood clean!

Spring 2001
Betty Cares, Web Site
Betty and husband Jeff came to Newport from Washington four years ago courtesy of the Navy. Since settling in on the Point, Betty has taught writing courses at Salve Regina. The Carese now own Alidade Consulting, a defense analysis firm, and are restoring their c. 1730 home on Willow Street.

Christa M. Dahl, Archives
Having moved to the Point with husband Erik in 1999, for his three-year naval stint in Newport, Christa has embarked on a master's degree program in library and information studies at the University of Rhode Island. As for special interests, Christa is fresh out of time, just now: "too much homework."

Sarah Gill, Photography
Sarah was a fashion designer in New York before heading off to Singapore with husband Tony in their 41 foot sailboat. Seven years later, the Gills returned to the U.S. and settled on the Point. Eight-year-old son Ollie and the Michael Moulton House B&B keep Sarah busy these days.

Loretta Goldrick, Advertising
Loretta wrote for the Boston Globe and raised a family in Hingham, Mass., before moving to Newport in the eighties. The Goldricks owned and operated a bookstore in Newport for 14 years before opening a B&B in their home, the Elliott Boss House. Loretta loves antiques, travel, historic Point houses and studying French at Salve Regina.

Tom Goldrick, Business Manager
Tom spent 17 years as a university administrator in upstate New York and as chief financial officer at Boston area colleges before coming to the Point. In addition to serving as the Elliott Boss House's host and gourmet chef, Tom consults with small businesses in Rhode Island and Massachusetts and is a part-time student and enjoys model trains.

Mary Rowan Belknap Howard, Production
Born on the Point, Rowan "came home" with husband John in 1977, having reared three children, while moving on demand. Rowan's primary interests are preserving Newport's good health as a wonder-fully mixed community and maintaining the Point's special character.

Patty MacLeish, Layout
The MacLeishes moved from Cooperstown, N.Y., last year, when Bruce joined the Newport Restoration Foundation. Patty edits journals on such topics as wooden canoes and early American industries. The MacLeishes, who have two sons, Kenneth, 21, and Padraic, 18, are happy to be on the Point as they begin their empty-nest years.

Marcia Mallory, Circulation
Marcia has lived in Newport twice—first during the seventies, while husband Coles was city manager, and now on the Point since their 1996 retirement. Formerly an elementary and special education teacher, Marcia volunteers her time and talent to Newport's public schools. Now that their Washington Street home's make-over is complete, the Mallorys are enjoying their five granddaughters.

Christine Montanaro, Exec. Comm. Liaison
A practicing school psychologist for 22 years, Christine moved to the Point from Little Compton in 1986. She also has a small private practice. A past president of the Point Association (1992 to 1996), Christine is presently an enthusiastic founding board member of the Art League of Rhode Island.

Suzy Sturmak, Production
After rearing three children in Darien, Conn., Suzy now lives "beside the Point" on Appleby Street. Having worked in health care, publishing, and executive relocation, she arranges international yacht charters and volunteers with the Newport Music Festival, the Potter League, the Showhouse Guild, and the UN's netaid.org.
Erik Dahl, “That Was Then”
Erik, who also answers to Commander Erik J. Dahl, is an intelligence officer assigned to the Naval War College as an instructor of joint military operations. In Newport since 1999, he and wife Christa are enjoying getting acquainted in their Point neighborhood, an opportunity not always available in previous assignments.

Lois Dickison, “Favorite Recipes”
Lois—originally from Lowell, Mass.—lived, worked, and raised a family in several states, including North Carolina and Tennessee, before coming to the Point in 1977. Formerly employed in real estate and active as a Point Association officer, she enjoys gardening, walking, and the Point’s unique community spirit.

Tony Gill, “Artists On Point”
Following studies at the Royal Academy, Tony left his native London for the Big Apple to add his creative juices to the world of advertising. After seven years in Singapore, Tony and wife Sara returned to the U.S. with son Ollie, retired their 41-foot sailboat, and moved to the Point. His new venture, Bodie Galleries, recently opened on Franklin Street.

Patti Lowe, Association Events & “Save the Date”
Patti, a native Rhode Islander, is a retired graphic artist, part-time decorative painter, part-time real estate agent, and full-time mom to Alden, age 12. Married at Trinity Church twenty years ago, she and husband Al finally moved to Newport in 1997.

Liz Mathinos, “Pointers in the News”
Born on the Point, Liz attended RISD before marrying and raising two sons and a daughter. Since returning to Newport in 1984, she has worked as a Program Assistant at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center and been active in Friends of the Waterfront and the Republican City Committee. Retirement plans include museum art classes.

J.P. Mouligné, “Bay Sailor”
French born J.P. came to the U.S. in 1982 and the Point in 1993 with wife Kate. J.P. recently retired from RP Assoc. to pursue a full-time career as a professional sailor. He has sailed across the Atlantic five times and recently won class 2 of the single-handed round-the-world race known as the “Around Alone.”

Kay O’Brien, “Walking on the Point”
As a Californian married to a native Newporter, Kay raised a family and taught elementary school in Middletown before moving to the Point twenty years ago. For eighteen of these years she has been active as a community volunteer and contributor to the Green Light.

Toni Peters, “Seeds, Weeds, and Blooms”
Toni traveled the world over for 28 years—first a Navy junior, and then a Navy wife—before settling down on the Point in 1979 with husband Pete and their sons. A professional landscaper, Toni sits on the boards of Christmas in Newport, Benefactors of the Arts, and the Newport Garden Club, whose newsletter she produces.

Ron Potvin, “This Very Old House”
Ron, a former Pointer, has been the Newport Historical Society’s Curator of Special Collections and Editor of Newport History since 1993 and Web master since 1999. Having researched the history of the Point’s Quakers, he writes and lectures on these and other topics. Ron, wife Ashley, and baby Matthew live in Tiverton.
Good Works

On a cold February afternoon, I went to meet Marie Adelaide de Bethune at 108 Washington Street, a 1906 house overlooking Narragansett Bay, which has been her home and studio since 1953. When I asked to take Ade’s picture as part of my interview, she obligingly sat on her own coffin.

Born in 1914 in Schaerbeek, Brussels, to a distinguished Belgian family that can trace its roots back to 1545, Ade remembers the hardships of occupied Belgium during World War I. She also recalls watching Charles Lindberg as he triumphantly paraded past their home in 1927.

Following the Great War’s devastation of Europe, the family—like so many others—emigrated to New York to start a new life with only a few personal belongings. While her mother made lace curtains for the ladies of Fifth Avenue, Ade taught French and studied art at The National Academy of Design and Cooper Union. It was during this period, known as The Great Depression, that she formed her vocation, which was to bring joy to her and to people around the world through her images and words that express the “good news”—The Gospel.

Ade was to change the face of religious art, which had been rooted in pre-Renaissance Biblical imagery in America. In 1933 she discovered a unique newspaper called *The Catholic Worker*, published by Dorothy Day, and immediately offered to supply black and white artwork, starting a lifelong friendship with Day and her work. During this time, she met the visionary Peter Maurin, who was to have a profound effect on the young artist and helped shape a philosophy that would remain throughout her life. The following text from Maurin was the inspiration for what was to follow.

The world would be better off if people tried to become better instead of trying to become better off.

Fame found Ade. By the time she was twenty five, she was recognized as a leading force in religious art. To learn the art of wood carving, she first came to Newport to study with John Howard Benson, a master calligrapher and carver at the John Stevens Shop, founded in 1705, on Upper Thames Street. So began a long and rewarding relationship with the Newport community, starting with the establishment of what must be one of the first artistic communes, called Lion College, “Lion” being her childhood nickname.

Lion College thrived for some years, attracting a number of apprentices and inspired by prominent thinkers, writers, theologians, and artists of the time, including Maurice Lavanoux, Eric Gill, Ananda K. Coomaraswamy, and John La Farge. Eventually, Ade became a third partner in the John Stevens Shop with Graham Carey and Benson, producing works of art for The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, many churches around the world, and countless publications.

Ade continued her good works, both in art and within the community. She was a founding member of the Point Association and the Church-Community Housing Corporation of Newport. Today, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Newport, she continues to play an active role in the City’s urban renewal plan. She designed the first solar houses in Newport and Portsmouth.

“Christ with Little Children,” a favorite of John Howard Benson and Fisher Benson.
Jane Walsh remembers Ade’s parents on Washington Street, where Ade’s mother, Marthe Terlinden de Bethune (known simply as Bonne Maman), would cook up superb classic French fare for her many guests. She could also be seen, at age 83, driving an oversized Checker car around the Point at breakneck speed.

From her Washington Street home, Ade established a small mail order business, Saint Leo’s liturgical art shop, selling her images around the world. As if this weren’t enough, she is also the Art Director of the Terra Sancta Guild®, a leading supplier of Christian insignia, which she started with I. A. Serot. Thirty-five years later, the Guild continues to be a leader in the field.

Today, at 86, Ade is as tireless as ever, continuing her good works in art and the community. Her latest endeavor is Star of the Sea’s Harbor Point, a mixed income residential community, combining a senior center and support group with a residence for older adults. Work is now progressing on the historic buildings. From her humble start in America, arriving in Brooklyn by cargo boat in 1928, to her far reaching influence throughout the Catholic world, Ade’s profound understanding of Liturgical mystery, inspired by her faith, is a celebration of the divine presence in everyday life. Ade Bethune believes that love of work produces true works of art. Ade Bethune is right.

I left Ade still sitting on the plain coffin she made with her own hands sixty years ago. It is colorfully painted with images of her earthly dwellings and inscriptions in Latin. Even in her passing, Ade will be a work of art.

Author’s note: Biographical information is based on Proud Donkey of Schaerbeek by Judith Stoughton. Examples of Ade Bethune’s work are also taken from this book, except the cover illustration, “Workers in the Vineyard,” which was provided by the artist.
Many of the homes on the Point have fascinating stories to tell, but one of the most interesting tales belongs to a house on Third Street that isn’t one of the oldest in town and wasn’t home to anyone especially famous. In fact, it no longer exists today—and that’s part of the story.

Nearly one hundred years ago the two-story house at 27 Third Street was described in an article in The Providence Sunday Journal as “a curious combination of stable, carriage house, living apartments and dog and cat quarters.” It was the home of Joseph Behan and his family, but it was perhaps best known to Newporters as the Newport Animal Refuge. Here Joe Behan cared for the dogs and cats left behind each year by departing summer residents.

Mr. Behan also ran a livery stable in his home, and that early carriage business has survived today as one of Newport’s best-known taxicab companies. Although the house doesn’t exist anymore—having been destroyed in what became known as the Great Christmas Explosion—its impact on Newport and the Point is still felt in the memories of a few long-time residents, and in the Cozy Cab Company, which began its history as Joe Behan’s livery stable.

Joe Behan’s daughter-in-law, Gwen Behan, lives on Third Street today, a few blocks down from where number 27 used to stand. She will be 91 this May, and as a born-on-the-Pointer she is one of the longest living Point residents. Her memories of her father-in-law are just a few of the stories she shared in an oral history recorded with Rowan Howard and Marjorie Magruder a few years ago. This article and another to follow in a later issue of the Green Light are based on that conversation, plus later interviews and newspaper records from the time.

Michael Joseph Behan was known as Joe. Having come to America from Ireland, originally as a chauffeur for the well-to-do, he established his own cab business with two horse-driven carriages. But his love of animals extended well beyond horses, and it soon served to address what had been a growing problem in Newport around the turn of the century: the large number of cats and dogs left behind each year by departing wealthy summer residents. According to The Providence Sunday Journal, “the humane problem involved in the annual flight of Newporters to town is distressingly serious.” In response, a group of prominent Newport women formed the Newport Animal Refuge in 1902, with Joe Behan as its superintendent and the Behan family home as its headquarters.

Mr. Behan lived with his wife and children—including young George, who would later marry Gwen Pike—in several rooms behind the office. “Of course, the mingled odors of the stable and refuge are not exactly of the perfume order,” wrote the Journal. “But yet women from luxurious ‘South Newport’ visit the institution every week or two to call upon their charges and see that they are not lacking in comforts.”

In fact, the animals occasionally achieved a rather high level of comfort—such as one day when, as the Journal reported, Miss C. Ogden Jones gave a musical tea at her villa on Ruggles Avenue for the benefit of the Refuge. In attendance was Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, remembered today as the author of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic,” who read to the guests.

But also present were “all of the inmates of the refuge whose health and strength would permit,” reported the Journal. “They came in large and well-
ventilated wicker baskets, in the charge of Superintendent Joseph Behan. In making the acquaintance of their friends and benefactresses, they spent a delightful and memorable half-holiday amid the surroundings of high life, which, when expressed in the form of dainty morsels, they had no difficulty in fully understanding and thoroughly appreciating."

Although permanent homes were often found for many of the strays, some had to be put to sleep. The *Journal* reported that "well animals and animals that can easily be cured are kept a week, and if they appear to be of any value they are advertised. Then, if no one comes for them, they are usually relieved of their miserable and uncherished lives."

In addition to homeless strays, family pets were also boarded with Joe on a temporary basis by Newporters who were on vacation or who planned to reclaim their dogs and cats upon return to town, the following summer. The price for boarding a cat was 75 cents a week, while a dog cost a dollar. Most of the expenses of the Refuge, however, were met by subscriptions from the women who organized it and from public donations.

"I couldn't live without them," Mr. Behan said to the *Journal* about his charges. "They're almost as much a part of my life as my children."

The *Journal* reporter evidently hoped that more public support would be forthcoming, for the article stated that "the cramped quarters and the poor facilities of this combination of stable, dog and cat home and dwelling house form a ridiculous contrast to the great houses which wealthy Newporters conduct for the benefit of themselves and the city."

Although the Newport Animal Refuge has not survived, Joe Behan's livery stable has lived on a century later, in a more modern form. After maintaining his cab company through the transition from horses to automobiles, Joe eventually moved away from the Point and sold the business that had become known as Cozy Cab. Paul Miller, the present owner, explains that his father combined several different cab companies into one but kept the name Cozy Cab because of its popularity in the city.

Joe Behan's curious combination of home, livery stable, and animal refuge may be gone, but today when we call a cab, we may also be calling on memories of a fascinating story about Newport and the Point.
Choosing Historic Colors

Many people have noticed the striking color combination on the entryway of the newly restored Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House on Broadway. The raised portions of the pediment and pilasters are painted in a soft cream, while the flat surfaces and door are a light green. Inside are glossy and vibrant shades of Prussian blue and yellow ochre. These color combinations counter popular beliefs that colonial homes were drab and monochromatic. Instead, they often were painted in a palette of bright and cheerful colors.

But before you run out and buy ten gallons of fuchsia, you need to do some homework, to find out what colors are right for your historic house. One method is paint analysis, which involves removing samples of paint to study the colors of the various layers. It is sort of like paint archaeology. John Vaughan, of Architectural Conservation Services, the firm that studied the interior colors of the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House for the Newport Historical Society, says, “Paint analysis is a process of discovery. From simple visual examination to sophisticated laboratory testing, the analyst looks for evidence and clues to help establish the history of colors and design schemes of decorative finishes applied to a structure.” Since this sort of analysis requires specialized equipment, as well as extensive knowledge about the nature and chemical composition of early paints, it is not a practical approach for homeowners to undertake themselves.

An alternative is to consult Paints for Old Houses, produced by the Providence Preservation Society and available at the Newport Historical Society Library. This book contains samples of colors found on historic houses in the Providence area, using period artwork depicting the City and paint analysis as sources. The book is broken down by period: Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, etc., and even provides advice on how to use these colors appropriately on exteriors and interiors.

Remember, your historic home is important. Always consult a painting professional before undertaking a job on your own.
Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About Moorings

Newport harbor today has a total of 904 registered moorings, of which 179 are in the Point area. This might sound like a lot, but with a population that swells to over 80,000 in the summer, that is one mooring for every 88 people! Because the harbor is nearly at full capacity, the only way to get a mooring is to wait until somebody relinquishes a spot. Lead times today are estimated at five to eight years off the Point and over fifteen years in the rest of the harbor.

To get a mooring, you first have to fill out a mooring application form, available from Debbie Stoker (846-1398) at the Recreation Department on Spring Street. This will get you on the City Hall list, where you will be posted with about 200 other patient applicants. Registration fees for Newport residents vary from $54 for a 150 pound mooring to $270 for a 750 pounder. You will be required to pay a year in advance at registration.

When your name finally emerges from the list, you will be assigned a spot by the Newport harbormaster. Next, you will have to purchase a tackle and have it professionally installed. Old Port Marine is one of the few certified contractors in Newport that can sell, install, and service your mooring. According to Mike Muessel from Old Port, the new “pyramid” type mooring is the best one, and it is slowly replacing the traditional “mushroom” type. Mooring weights range from 150 pounds for boats up to nineteen feet to 750 pounds, capable of holding a sixty-five footer.

In theory, only you and your immediate family have the right to use your mooring. However, it is my experience that the harbormaster does not mind if a friend’s boat is staying on your mooring for short periods of time, as long as you let him know. Also, note that mooring space is not transferable, which means that you cannot sell your mooring or pass it over to a friend.

If you have a mooring off the Point, you are one of the lucky few. Use it as much as you can, because it is a privilege that your neighbor might have to wait fifteen years to enjoy.

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THE

NINA LYNETTE HOME

The Nina Lynette Home, founded in 1905, is a private non-profit boarding home for elders. Room, Board and Housekeeping are provided in this stately Victorian home in Newport’s historic “Point” neighborhood.

For information about rates and availability please call:
848-7603 or 846-9276
Forcing Flowering Branches

From the age of thirteen until I married, I lived in Virginia, well known for its beautiful spring weather and flowing shrubs and trees. Because Rhode Island, unlike Virginia, has wonderful falls, but almost no spring, the first shrub I planted after moving here was the early blooming witch hazel, *Hamamelsis japonica arnoldii*, developed by Arnold Arboretum. And so, on this cold February morning, right outside my kitchen door sits that witch hazel—now a tree—with swollen buds that are almost ready to bloom. While I'm waiting for the blossoms to arrive on this plant and on all the other plants in my garden, most of which will bloom much later, it's time for a few flowers inside. Forcing flowering branches is a good late winter activity, since outdoor plants have had enough of the cold weather they need and are ready.

There are many shrubs and trees that can be used for forcing, and the procedure is very simple. Cut branches on a sunny day, when the temperature is above freezing. Use sharp pruners (winter is the best time to clean and sharpen your secateurs) and think about taking this opportunity to shape your shrub or tree as you cut. Cut flush with a major branch. Once you have your pruned loot inside, re-cut the branches on a slant and scrape the ends about one inch above the cuts to aid water intake. Then place them in water. Change the water when it becomes cloudy and mist the branches occasionally. (You are trying to duplicate a normal spring: cloudy, rainy, some sunshine.) When the buds begin to swell, arrange the branches in decorative containers and place them in a well-lit room, but not in direct sunlight. They will blossom in two to three weeks, probably sooner. Hooray!

Some suggestions for forcing: dogwood, honeysuckle, flowering fruit trees (apple, cherry, crabapple, and plum), Japanese maple, magnolia, flowering quince, pussy willow, forsythia, and witch hazel.

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**Favorite Recipes**

by Lois Dickison

**Pesto-Cheese Torte**

Some time ago I made this for "Point" functions and was asked for the recipe. So here it is!

**Cheese Mixture:**
- 16oz. Cream cheese
- 16oz. Mascarpone
- 16oz. Unsalted butter

**Pesto:**
- 2 cups fresh basil leaves
- 1/2 cup parsley
- 1 cup olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic (or to taste)
- 2/3 cup pine nuts

First cream all cheese mixture ingredients together and set aside in a separate bowl. Next, place all pesto ingredients in a food processor and mix to form a thick paste. Soak a piece of cheesecloth in olive oil and line a 4 cup mold with it. Place a sprig of basil in the bottom. Layer cheese and pesto, beginning and ending with cheese. Chill overnight and unmold. Serve with crackers.
A Winter Walk

Snow created a winter wonderland at times but couldn’t completely mask major construction jobs in our neighborhood. Three, four, five cranes, bucket trucks, bulldozers, backhoes, and dump trucks have kept busy at both ends of Washington Street. Repairs and restoration of the State Pier is underway—big time. Across the street at Eastern Resorts, a mountain of gravel compacts underlying soil. What will be constructed when the gravel is removed? Scenes are ever changing along Long Wharf at the Marriott and across the street at Perotti Park. Work on the marine terminal promises completion in time for summer travelers. Now Anna, the Providence ferry, looks lonesome with few riders. American Shipyard has been quiet with most work indoors, but watch for changes in the spring. At the far end of the causeway, the familiar Bolender houseboat has fallen victim—first to a winter storm and then to a wrecking crew.

With ice and snow to contend with, walkers have found the new Second Street pavement a delight. Alas, ProGas has already made a cut. Winds still feel cold and the water looks colder across the empty bay from Storer Park. At Battery Park a lone wreath hangs on a memorial bench, while across Washington Street the gutted remains of the former Corpus Christi Retreat House stand waiting. Keep watching as this neighborhood landmark is transformed into housing for the elderly. The longer daylight hours we await can be checked by the northern progress of our spectacular sunsets. Keep the thought that the sap is rising and so will your energy, as it’s time for sidewalk sweeping and yard clean-up. See you outdoors.
Save the Date

Pot Luck Supper
Sunday, March 18

New Members
Cocktail Party
Sunday, March 25

Spring Membership Meeting
Thursday, April 5

Spring Clean Up in the Park
Saturday, April 21

May Day Celebration
Sunday, May 6

Paint the Point
June 16 – July 18

The Annual
Pot Luck Supper
Sunday, March 18, 6 p.m.
St. John’s Guild Hall
(Use Willow Street entrance)

Coffee, Tea, and Milk will be provided. You may bring your own wine, beer, cider, etc. **Everything should be well wrapped and arrive piping hot.** Containers and servers should be labeled.

**To assure variety and quantity, please bring the following, according to your last initial:**
- A-I, Main Dish Casserole for 10
- J-N, Vegetable(s) for 12
- O-S, Green Salad for 12
- T-Z, Dessert for 12

Call Donna Maytum (849-4395) and leave a message to let her know what dish you are bringing and the number in your group.

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