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Meetings are generally scheduled for the first Monday of the month and are open to Association members. Please call Beth for time, date, and location.

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Copies of The Green Light may be purchased for $1.00 at Bucci’s Convenience Store, Poplar at Thames Streets.

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.

Cover:
Photo by Tom Kennedy

This fall issue of the Green Light brings with it an assignment for Point Association members. Over the past few months, the Board has been hard at work drafting amendments to the By-laws to align them better with the current needs and realities of the community and also to bring them into compliance with legal requirements that have arisen in the years since their last revision. We publish them here for your review in preparation for their presentation and discussion at the upcoming October Annual Meeting.

Once again our thanks go out to the Board, Hilar Sarpera in particular, for their work on this and the many other issues central to the smooth functioning of the community. Thanks also to all those who year in, year out tend to the physical beauty of the neighborhood. We are all the richer for it.

Alice
“What Are We Here For, If Not to Help One Another?”  For me, these words epitomize the Point Association. For so many years, conscientious citizens have banded together, working for the good of the whole community.

Fittingly, this is the motto of the Sanford-Covell Villa Marina, a Newport architectural gem that sits waterside in the heart of our outstanding neighborhood, where we recently capped off our summer interlude with the Association’s annual cocktail party by toasting one another at sunset from its elegant piazza. Many thanks to Anne Cuvelier for once again sharing her extraordinary home with all of us.

With sailing, gardening, socializing, and strolling along our scenic streets all part of our collective mosaic of Point summer pastimes, we must acknowledge that living in one of America’s oldest neighborhoods, certainly has its benefits, and of course, the occasional hindrance. This summer, the Point was occupied, again! Not since 1778, has there been such discord on our streets! Jackhammers, backhoes, detours, ruts and potholes, parking prohibitions and more noise and more dirt that often took our peace away. Such inconveniences are the price we pay as stewards of our historic hamlet. Daily we face the conditions that come with age: dilapidated infrastructure, tilted sidewalks and curbs, decaying railroad crossings and bridge supports, abandoned buildings to our north, frayed canvas canopies to our south, flooding to the west, and traffic to the east. The PA board is working closely with city officials to keep informed as improvements are made and developments arise. You may also wish to voice your concerns directly with all City Council members with this special email address – NewportCityCouncil@thepointassociation.org

Balancing the weight of three centuries of community is a big responsibility. In this vein, we ask all our members to remain engaged. So many opportunities to help arise throughout the year. Led by our awesome executive committee, our association thrives through the work of so many volunteers. Our bi-annual park clean-ups, our plant sale, our social events and meetings, the production of this venerable publication, and the ongoing maintenance of our membership rolls can only happen with your continued generous support. Thank you all for your efforts!

There is never enough space on this page to thank all those who step up, though one very special group that recently reactivated the association’s History and Archive committee deserves a mention. A hearty “hats off” to Lisa Stuart and Lisa Brew for their interest and energy in bringing our archives back to life. Please contact this committee if you can share your time, talent, and treasures.

Another awakening is taking place in the neighborhood as the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist greet their newly appointed vicar, Rev. Nathan J. A. Humphrey, and Deacon Leroy “Buck” Close. Be sure to stop by the church to offer our new Pointers a warm welcome!

Rewards and responsibilities come with our cohesive neighborhood organization. Sharing those strengths is important to the city as a whole. Thanks to the leadership of the Alliance for a Livable Newport (ALN), the PA is participating in bi-monthly meetings aimed at forging ties and exchanging information with our sister civic groups, community partners, and leaders. ALN is a volunteer-led civic group, so please consider supporting them with a tax deductible donation. A link to ALN’s website may be found at www.thepointassociation.org. While there, be sure to update your profile, add any new contact information, and be sure that your membership dues are current. Thank you!

I look forward to seeing you all at the annual membership meeting in October, if not before, and I will close, as I opened, with the words that embrace the spirit of our special hamlet by the bay. Cordelia Riddle Sanford, whose husband, Milton, had the stately home built in 1869, has had her wish carried forward as this meaningful motto hangs in place to this very day on the wall of her beloved home... “What Are We Here For, If Not to Help One Another?”

Beth Cullen
MY 1956
NEWPORT TO BERMUDA RACE
by Dave Moore

A year ago last June I took some friends and folding chairs down to Ocean Drive and watched the start of the Bermuda Race. The many different colored spinnakers made a beautiful sight as the different classes got underway. Sailboat racing has always been my favorite sport and my dream was to race in the famous 635 mile Newport to Bermuda Race – affectionately called “The Thrash to the Onion Patch.” It is a rite of passage for any racing sailor. My chance came when the owner of a 45’ sloop called and asked me to fill out his crew, as I had raced with him before. The boat was a beautiful, white-hulled, wooden, cruising sailor called the White Lie - so named because the owner did not tell his wife how much he paid for it.

Saturday, June 16: I arrived at the boat early in the morning on race day and met the rest of the crew. I knew only the owner and the oldest crew member. There were many last minute preparations including watch assignments and duties aboard the boat. Little did I know this was to be the fastest and roughest race in the fifty year history of the cup.

By noon, 89 boats were headed out to the starting area. It was a hot, overcast day with very little wind. Crowds of people were watching us from the Castle Hill Inn and along the shores. I looked over at the boat I wanted to beat. It was Mustang owned by Roderick Stephens with Arthur Knapp at the helm. They were two of our country's best sailors. Mustang was identical to our boat, and had always beaten us in previous races. Rod Stephens, whom I had met several times, was my teenage idol. It was said that he climbed, without a harness, to the top of the 165 foot mast of the America's Cup defender Ranger to clear a line while she was heeled over during a race. His brother, Olin, designed this class boat twenty years earlier for the New York Yacht Club.

Our start was at 1:30 pm at the mouth of the harbor between the Castle Hill Light House and the destroyer escort U.S.S. Rhodes. It was a mediocre start into a WSW eight knot breeze. The day turned into a beautiful night with a bright half moon and boat running lights visible for miles.

Sunday, June 17: I was surprised at day light to see only two or three boats in the distance. The fleet seemed to have disappeared. The wind was light in the morning, but by 1:00 pm it had freshened to 15 knots and our boat was moving well through the relatively calm seas. That afternoon we saw a whale surface off our port side. Our navigator took many sea water temperatures to tell us when we had entered the Gulf Stream. The entrance was well known for its treacherous squalls and rough water. About 6:00 pm the water temperature reached 78 degrees and we knew we were in the stream. At first there was no change in wind or water, but by 10:00 pm the first squall hit. The fury of the wind heeled us further over and we pitched up and down in the turbulent seas. Rain pummeled down on us as we reduced sail. The owner became violently sick and retired to his bunk – actually for the rest of the race!

Although the wind gusts and rain were bad enough, it was the lightning bolts that flashed above our tall mast in the low hanging clouds that worried me the most. It was like standing on a golf course in a thunder storm and pointing a metal golf club toward the heavens. I felt any moment we were going to be hit and all of us, being wet, would make good conductors. At about midnight the second or third squall hit us with winds roaring in from the WSW at 25 knots and gusts up to 35.
Monday, June 18: The squalls continued all night and throughout the day. Early in the morning I looked down the hatch and saw our cook, wearing nothing but shorts, cooking scrambled eggs over the stove, with a lighted cigar in his mouth. Sea water was running down his bare back through the leaking mast partners. The boat was well heeled over and bouncing like a bronco. It was ludicrous as none of the crew felt well enough to eat breakfast. Sleep was impossible below as everything was wet, even our bunks, and staying in the cabin is also the easiest way to get sea sick. As a consequence, I spent most of my time on deck suffering the downpours and the blast of high winds.

Tuesday, June 19: By morning the squalls had disappeared, but the sky was overcast and the wind was still WSW at 25 to 30 knots. Some of us were able to eat a little breakfast. At mid-morning the wind made a sudden shift to the northeast, but it maintained the same intensity. I had counted twenty-three squalls that hit us the previous day – almost one an hour, and each one felt like it would be the end of us. Everything was wet. Our radio direction finder was soaked and would not work. According to the rules, that was the only electronic device we could use to find this small island in the wide Atlantic. Our sextant was also useless as the sky was overcast. The meanders of the Gulf Stream were certain to push us off course. We had to rely on “Dead Reckoning” - which meant to me that if we missed the island or crashed on its coral reefs - “I reckon we’re dead.”

We were sailing with no head sail and a reefed mainsail. Because I was the youngest, I volunteered to clear the jammedouthaul line at the end of the boom. I stood on the rail and reached out over the water to grab the boom in a “death grip.” Only my toes, hands, and a crewman holding my belt kept me from falling overboard from the fast moving boat.

That night we kept a sharp lookout for St. David’s Lighthouse located at the northeastern part of the island. It marks the finish line, and more important, the island itself. One of us, at last, saw a steady white light in the distance, so we celebrated. However, Bermuda is surrounded with sharp coral reefs that have sunk many vessels over the years.

As we got closer to the finish, we noticed the small running lights of a boat astern of us that was rapidly overtaking us. A quick shine of our flash light showed us it was Mustang. After 635 miles we were ahead of her and she was going to beat us in the last half mile. She was flying her headsail and we did not have time to raise ours. We were crushed and exhausted as she passed us, but at least we all survived.

Wednesday, June 20: At daylight we motored the boat down the ship channel to Hamilton Harbor and took a berth near the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. Our skipper was kind enough to pay for the night’s lodging ashore for our crew. I immediately took advantage of that for a long sleep as I had not slept for three days.

That evening I met a crew member from the 46 foot cutter Elda. He told me that about 11:30 in the morning they were just north of the island when they saw a white wall of water only twenty feet ahead. There was a sickening crash as they hit the reef and the whole starboard side of the boat was torn off. The cabin top burst open, and the dingy was smashed by the falling boom. In a minute the water was chest high in the cabin where their skipper was handing up life jackets. Waves washed away the rubber lift raft. In another minute the Elda was on the bottom with the eight members of the crew hanging onto the rigging and a small section of the stern still above water. Rollers were constantly passing over them, and sharks arrived because of a hurt and bleeding crewman. It was fortunate that the sharks were more interested in the bacon in the shattered icebox. A fisherman saw them from shore, but they were in the water for seven hours before an Air Force plane could drop life rafts to them.

I know there are many yachtsmen in the Point Section that have sailed in this race, and one of them is my oldest son who has made this trip twice. I have no regrets at not doing it again. Although it was the roughest and fastest race at the time, it has now been surpassed by the 1972 race when the tail of a hurricane lashed the huge fleet.
EMMA LAZARUS (1849-1887):
THE NEWPORT CONNECTION
by Tom Kennedy

Known for her oft cited sonnet affixed to the base of the Statue of Liberty, titled “The New Colossus,” which served to define the meaning of the statue as that of welcoming those “tempest tost” from foreign shores, Emma Lazarus and her Sephardic Jewish ancestors had a significant role to play in the development of religious and ethnic tolerance in American society. They also maintained a Newport connection.

Moses Seixas, Emma’s great-great uncle, was a prosperous Newport merchant, who in 1790 wrote a memorable letter of welcome to George Washington on behalf of the Touro synagogue: “Deprived as we have been of the invaluable rights of free Citizens, we now with a deep sense of gratitude to the Almighty disposer of all events behold a Government, which to bigotry gives no sanction, to persecution no assistance – but generously affording to all Liberty of conscience, and immunities of Citizenship…” (Schor, 5-6) Washington, in his famous response, echoing some of Moses’ resonant words, replied: “All possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship. It is now no more that toleration is spoken of, as if it was by the indulgence of one class of people, that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights. For happily the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assis-

The Lazarus family, of which Emma was the fourth of seven children, lived in an elegant brownstone near fashionable Union Square in New York City. Emma’s father, Moses, was a wealthy merchant in the sugar refining business. Emma’s parents were not strict religious observers and mixed regularly with elite moneyed social

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circles in Manhattan. Emma was educated at home and was especially gifted in learning foreign languages, including French, German and Italian. She began writing poetry and translating her favorite European poets as a young girl. Her father had her first collection of poems and translations (over 200 pages) published when Emma was just seventeen.

The Lazarus family spent summers in fashionable resorts in southern Connecticut, at the Jersey shore, in Niagara Falls, or at Saratoga. In 1867 Emma signed the visitors’ log at Touro Synagogue in Newport. The synagogue had been closed for many years, but was reopened in 1850 for Sabbath services for the summer community. A visitors’ log was placed in the entrance in expectation of tourists. (Schor, 16)

Some time before Emma’s signing of the log, in 1852, Longfellow had visited the closed synagogue and cemetery and subsequently wrote a poem about his visit, “The Jewish Cemetery at Newport,” whose verses recount the story of Jewish faith, persecution and exile, and end on a rather ominous note with the line: “And the dead nations never rise again.” (Mentor, 68) Emma, aware of Longfellow’s poem, reacted to his observations with: “In a Jewish Synagogue in Newport.” The poems are similar in structure and Emma also refers to the travails and exile of her ancestors. But Emma takes a more sympathetic view and ends her poem with the lines: “Nathless the sacred shrine is holy yet/ With its lone floors where reverent feet once trod/ Take off your shoes as by the burning bush,/ Before the mystery of death and God.” (Schor, 267)

Emma had two significant mentors as a young poet. Boldly she sent to the first, Ralph Waldo Emerson, a copy of her youthful poetry for comment and received a warm reply encouraging her to continue to write. Emma met Emerson shortly thereafter in New York when she was 18 and he 65. The old “sage of Concord” and the young poet maintained a literary and social connection until Emerson’s death. The other mentor was Thomas Wentworth Higginson of Newport. Higginson was a fervid supporter of abolitionist and women’s causes, and took young Emma under his wing, introducing her to the circle of writers, artists, architects and intellectuals of all stripes, who summered in Newport. He also encouraged Emma to join the Town and Country Club, founded by Julia Ward Howe and Higginson in 1871, which met regularly during the summer months. On page 1 of the New York Times of August 2, 1875, we are informed that “the Town and Country Club, established to fill a social need, has been doing well… The receptions are held once a week. The last was in the garden of Mrs. J.W. Bigelow, whose cottage being small would have been unable to hold the crowd. He has, however, a very large garden, and his little fête champêtre was a great success.” The Bigelow home, named “Bayside,” located at 94 Washington Street, was the scene of many of the club’s meetings.

In 1870 Emma’s father began building a large house on Bellevue Avenue “topped by a broad mansard roof and a pair of stubby chimneys. The house had a wraparound porch and a circular driveway. A carriage house stood in the back.” (Schor, 7) The house was named “The Beeches” and Emma was to spend many summers in Newport during the 1870’s. Although Emma was only 23 when she met Higginson in 1872, Higginson wrote to his sister: “She is rather an interesting person … She is a Jewess; they are very rich in fashionable society in New York, and also [she] has never seen an author until lately, though she has corresponded with Emerson.” (Schor, 40) “Higginson introduced Emma to Scribner’s editor R.W. Gilder and his artist wife, Helen deKay Gilder, who would become Emma’s closest friends and for years the focus of her social and intellectual life.” (Schor, 41)

Around 1880 Emma learned of the horrible pogroms in Russia and sensed also a growing anti-Semitism at home and abroad. Gradually her writing changed and she focused more on Jewish issues, including the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Apparently, she was thinking of the poor Jewish souls in Russia when she wrote her famous lines in “The New Colossus.”

TEXTS USED
THE THIRD & ELM PRESS REVISITED
by Ed Madden

In the Fall, 2001, issue of the Green Light, there appeared a feature article on the Third & Elm Press and its artistic co-creator and owner, Ilse Buchert Nesbitt. Ilse was born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, in 1932. Her father was a patent representative for the German chemical company I.G. Farben. In 1936, the family moved to Japan when her father was transferred to Farben’s Japanese affiliate. These were historic times with Adolph Hitler and his Nazi Party taking gradual control of the German nation and Japan flexing its muscles prior to the December 7, 1941 attack on the United States.

The family lived in the outskirts of Tokyo for several years after their arrival in 1936 but in 1944 moved into the mountainous countryside to escape the bombing of Tokyo. The Buchert family became innocent victims of both the German and Japanese war machines during this decade.

Ilse’s primary and secondary school education was in German language schools. She never did become fluent in Japanese. Living conditions became progressively more difficult during the war years from 1941-1946 with increasing scarcity of food and other essentials. Fortunately she and her family escaped direct involvement in the fighting.

In 1947, the family, along with the majority of Germans in Japan, was shipped back to Germany. The family returned to Frankfurt. The chemical firm her father had been previously employed in was fortunately still standing. Ilse’s mother was an artist and Ilse became increasingly drawn to the artistic milieu.

After high school, Ilse began studying art history and archeology at the university in Frankfurt. Later she switched to art at the academies in Berlin and Hamburg. She learned type setting, graphic design, and woodblock printing, which eventually became her favorite medium.

One of Ilse’s professors helped her master printing techniques and this morphed into more advanced woodblock and graphic arts specialties, leading to book design. He was responsible for putting her in touch with the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, RI. They were desperately looking for a staff teacher with expertise in these disciplines and they hired Ilse, sight unseen, on the recommendation of her professor. In the fall of 1960, Ilse travelled to Providence to start her new position. Her boss was Alexander Nesbitt, a native of New Jersey, who headed up the Graphic Design Department. Their collaboration and relationship flourished over the next five years. In 1969, they left RISD and embarked on their own combined career, resulting in a marriage, the subsequent arrival of two sons, and the birth of the Third & Elm Press.

A modest residence, the historic Gideon Spooner House, at 29 Elm Street, became their Newport abode in 1965, combining comfortable living accommodations and a burgeoning business empire. The ground
floor soon housed an 1830 Acorn hand press from which their first book, *The Fig Tree*, was born. This was followed by a series of limited edition works featuring monoprint woodcuts by Ilse.

The next acquisition, in 1972, was a large, formidable 1897 Golding plateau press which replaced their earlier clumsy Chandler & Price press. One of their more impressive productions from this press was a 32-page book, *Steigendes, Neigendes Leben*, embracing poems by twelve 19th and 20th century German poets, including Goethe. The German text written in an informal Gothic script was cut in wood on the same block with the illustrations by Ilse.

Sadly, Alexander died in 1995 but Ilse continued to soldier on alone with a thriving business. Since 1992, she has made her own paper – a work of art in itself, complementing her creative print works. A fascinating read is the pamphlet available in her shop that explains the intricate, painstaking process of her paper manufacturing. Her primary passion has become her woodblock prints. Also available at the Third & Elm Press are Christmas holiday and greeting cards, and limited editions of small handmade books.

The first floor of the shop holds the two presses, a bindery and work shop with displays of her artistic craft on the walls and tables throughout. A curved stairway with further wall displays leads to the second floor gallery chock-a-block full of delightful artistic treasures that are available to decorate your walls!

Finally, as if she doesn’t have more than enough on her plate, Ilse has been a longstanding member of the Newport Secret Garden Tour, held every spring in the Point section. A delightful backyard patio and flowering perennial garden with a variety of bushes and small trees welcomes visitors on the tour. Ilse, the perfect hostess, will be delighted to have you visit her to peruse her collection and perhaps add the perfect artistic treasure to your collection. Meet you at the Third & Elm Press.
VAN ZANDT AVENUE BRIDGE
by Beth Cullen

In our ongoing efforts to partner with city staff and remain informed about current developments and future infrastructure projects, members of your PA executive committee have met often throughout the spring and summer months, on scene, and in city department directors’ offices. We are monitoring flooding concerns, park and tree maintenance, crosswalks and traffic safety, guard rails, railroad crossings, paving and utility projects, to name a few.

We recently sat down with Newport Public Services Director, Bill Riccio, to talk about ways to keep Point residents apprised with respect to all projects ongoing and planned that impinge upon our neighborhood. The Director offered an unanticipated solution – the removal of the bridge entirely. Initially we were a bit shocked, and laughed the concept off...then we started thinking about it and realized, it may just be the answer!

For years, the Point Board has pondered the fate of the Van Zandt Bridge. The closed north sidewalk, and the failing railings and compromised support structure make this entrance to the Point both unsafe and unsightly. In the coming months, further research on options and process will be conducted. The Board would appreciate hearing your thoughts on this proposal.
POINT ASSOCIATION BY LAWS UPDATING
by Hillar Sarepera

It is being proposed that the 26 year old By Laws of the Point Association (PA) be updated to conform with the evolved current environment, requirements, procedures, and policies of leading, efficiently operating, and sustaining our exceedingly effective organization, and to meet new specific requirements of the IRS 501c3 Non Profit Regulations.

The main changes being proposed are to: (1) Establish a Board of Directors of eleven specified members, with a quorum of six required, instead of the current Executive Committee of variable size; (2) Establish six defined permanent Standing Committees; (3) Add Goat Island into our boundary; (4) Change all stated exact monetary amounts, which are quickly antiquated, to a formula based on the “Individual Membership Dues” category amount, established each year with approval of the Annual Budget; (5) Change Membership management to “good till canceled” from the current “annual membership drive”; (6) Add the specific language now required by the IRS in the By Laws of organizations wishing to be “Non Profit”.

A copy of the proposed updated Point Association By Laws is included for your review below. Great care was taken to maintain as much of the original language of the current By Laws as practicable, as well as its clarity and brevity. The copy printed below illustrates success, and is marked to be able to read both the current and new proposed By Laws together, with current By Laws language being the underlined words, and new language not underlined.

The current (and proposed) methodology for changes to the By Laws requires that they can be amended at any regular meeting of the PA by two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the previous meeting. It is planned to provide that notice at the 2013 Annual PA Meeting on 17 October 2013, allowing any time for discussion, and then vote to approve the amended By Laws at the Spring PA Membership Meeting. The proposed amended By Laws, as discussed above, are provided to you to facilitate this process.

(Please Note - For ease of comparison, underlined text is the wording of current By Laws, dated 4/23/1987, while proposed new, updated, wording is not underlined)

November 1, 2013

THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
ESTABLISHMENT, AND BYLAWS

ESTABLISHMENT:  It is affirmed by the current Board of Directors of The Point Association of Newport, Rhode Island that this organization was established and incorporated on November 11, 1955 by concerned citizens of the Point Neighborhood of Newport, to preserve its historic architectural heritage, to advance its beautification, to further the interests and well being of its residents, and to promote community spirit.

By Hillar Sarepera
By Laws Committee Chairman

By Elizabeth E. Cullen
President

PREAMBLE:  We, the members of The Point Association of Newport, Rhode Island, in order to improve the Point Section, maintain the historical and colonial treasures of the area and promote community spirit, do hereby establish this Constitution. The Point Association of Newport, Rhode Island shall be governed by the following Bylaws.
ARTICLE I - NAME: The name of this organization shall be "The Point Association of Newport, Rhode Island", hereinafter referred to as "PA".

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND AIMS: The aims of this charitable organization, quoted from the Charter, granted to the PA by the State of Rhode Island, shall be:

(1) The general protection, improvement and enrichment of the resources of the Point and its significant architectural heritage.
(2) The beautification of approaches, streets, properties, waterfront and other areas of the Point.
(3) The protection of the section against detrimental structures, obnoxious enterprises, and nuisances.
(4) The encouragement and promotion of active interest in all properties with special emphasis on the historical aspect of the Point.
(5) The representation of residents best interests, promotion of neighborly spirit, and promulgation of information to preserve protect and enhance the well being of those who reside on the Point.
(6) The PA is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, and the combating of community deterioration purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding sections of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE III - POLICIES, LOCATION, AND FISCAL YEAR:
(1) The PA shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian, and nonpartisan. It shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The name of the PA or the names of its Officers in their official capacities shall not be used in any connection with a commercial concern or with any partisan interest or for any purpose other than the regular work of the PA.
(2) The principal office of the PA shall be in Newport, Rhode Island.
(3) The fiscal year of the PA is from January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE IV - BOUNDARY: The term “Point” shall include the area bounded by Long Wharf harbor line to the south, then north on America’s Cup Ave., right on Marlboro St. to Farewell St., north on Farewell St. to Van Zandt Ave., west on Van Zandt Ave. to Third St., north on Third St. to Cypress St., west on Cypress St. to Washington St. harbor line, then south, around the shoreline of Goat Island, and south again, back to Long Wharf harbor line.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES:
Section 1: Any person interested in the objectives of the PA, and willing to uphold its policies and subscribe to its Bylaws may become a member, upon payment of dues.

Section 2: There shall be four (4) classes of Membership with dues as follows:

(1) Individual: As set by the PA Board of Directors in approving the PA Annual Budget (currently $10.00).
(2) Family: One and a half times "Individual Membership".
(3) Sustaining: Two and a half times "Individual Membership".
(4) Patron: Four times “Individual Membership”.

Section 3: Equal privileges shall be granted to all Members. These shall be the privileges of making motions, voting, holding office, and serving on committees.

Section 4: For convenience, upon joining, Membership will continue, as long as dues are paid, until canceled by the Member, with annual billing, due on the anniversary date of joining. Automatic renewal service is available upon request. Members are free to change their Membership Class at any time by notifying the PA, most easily on payment of the annual dues.

Section 5: To provide special recognition for the extraordinary generosity of those desiring to provide extra support for PA programs and projects by choosing to become “Patron” and “Sustaining” Members, their names will be printed annually in an issue of the quarterly PA publication The Green Light, unless the PA is requested by that Member not to.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND THEIR ELECTIONS AND DUTIES:
Section 1 - Board of Directors, Elections and Duties: (1). The PA Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the “BOD”, shall constitute the governing body of the PA. It shall be composed of eleven (11) Members who shall have full legal authority and responsibility for the administration of the PA and its resources. The BOD shall be composed of the six (6) Officers, who are elected by the Membership, and five (5) Directors, elected by the BOD from the membership, generally to be the Chairpersons of five (5) Standing Committees.
(2). The duties of the BOD shall be:
(a) to transact necessary business in the intervals between PA meetings and such other business as may be referred to it by the PA;
(b) to guide and approve the plans of work of the standing and special committees;
(c) to present a report at the regular meetings of the PA;
(d) to appoint an auditor or an auditing committee at least a month before the annual meeting of the PA, to audit the treasurer’s accounts;
(e) to have prepared and approve an annual budget for the next fiscal year, to submit to the PA membership at the PA annual meeting;
(f) to approve the payment of routine bills within the limits of the approved annual budget, or unanticipated, extra expenditures as may be required, with commensurate adjustments to stay within the overall limits of the budget, or in extraordinary circumstances, to approve expenditures exceeding the budget;
(g) to represent the best interests of the Point Section of Newport, on behalf of the membership of the PA.

Section 2 - Officers, Elections and Duties;
(1) The PA Officers: There shall be six (6) Officers of the PA, who shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer.
(a) The term of office for each Officer shall be two years. No person shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office, except under unusual circumstances when replacement cannot be found, and then for only one additional term, if approved unanimously by the BOD.
(b) Elections of Officers shall be by voice ballot and shall take place each year at the Annual Meeting of the PA in October. A separate ballot shall be taken for each office. If, however, there is but one nominee for any Office it shall be in order for the President to ask for a consensus vote of the PA, cast for all such nominees.
(c) The President, the Second Vice President, and the Corresponding Secretary shall be elected when the Annual Meeting is held in even numbered years. The First Vice President, the Treasurer and the Recording Secretary shall be elected when the Annual Meeting is in odd numbered years.
(d) Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the Annual Meeting of the PA at which they were elected.
(e) Any vacancies occurring by reason of the resignation, death or disqualification of an Officer may be filled until the next annual meeting at which that Office would normally be elected, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the BOD.

(2) The duties of Officers shall be:
(a) President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the PA and of the BOD, shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed in these by laws or assigned to him/her by the PA, or by the BOD. The President shall be the legal representative of the PA in the execution of all official external affairs and the associations of the PA, as prescribed by the PA BOD, unless that duty is delegated to another BOD member by the President, with approval by the BOD.
(b) First and Second Vice Presidents: The Vice Presidents shall act as aides to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that Officer in their designated order. They shall perform such other duties as assigned by the President, with a pre disposition to one attending to internal affairs and the other attending to external affairs of the PA, as practically prescribed by the President.
(c) Corresponding Secretary: The Corresponding Secretary shall handle all PA internal and external communications and correspondence, shall notify all members of meetings and other functions of the PA, and shall perform any similar duties that may be delegated by the BOD.
(d) Recording Secretary: The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of meetings of the PA and the BOD, shall distribute official minutes of previous meetings to all BOD Members for approval at the next such meeting, and shall perform other duties as may be BOD delegated.
(e) Treasurer:
   1. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys of the association; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; and shall pay out local funds only as authorized in advance by the BOD. The Treasurer shall present a statement of account, including a Balance Sheet, and a Cash Flow Statement showing status against the Annual Approved Budget, at every meeting of the PA and at all regular BOD meetings, and shall make a full written report for distribution to the Membership at the annual meeting of the PA. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for the formulation of a Proposed Budget for the forthcoming fiscal year, for approval by the BOD, at its regular meeting, prior to the annual meeting of the PA.
   2. Money Management: Only the Treasurer, the President and the Corresponding Secretary are authorized to sign PA checks, and only for expenditures prescribed in the PA approved Annual Budget, or authorized by an official consensus of the BOD, with the following limitations. Only one (1) signature on PA checks is required for expenditures prescribed in the approved PA Annual Budget, up to an amount equal to one hundred (100) times the annual “Individual Membership Dues”, and up to fifty (50) times the “Individual Membership Dues” for expenditures not prescribed in the PA approved Annual Budget, but approved by the BOD. For amounts above the foregoing levels, two (2) signatures are required to make a PA check valid.

Section 3 - Policies and Responsibilities:
(1) Compensation: No member of the BOD, or Officer, shall receive compensation for his/her services as a member of the PA leadership. However, a member may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of his/her duties, with prior approval.
(2) Conflict of Interest: No BOD member, or Officer, shall engage either directly or indirectly in business for com-
pensation with the PA in any manner without prior BOD approval.

(3) Responsibility: BOD members and Officers are expected to be involved in furthering the aims of the PA and to actively participate in the business of the PA.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS AND QUORUM:
Section 1 - PA Membership Meetings:
(1) There shall be at least two (2) meetings of the PA membership each year at a time and place to be designated by the BOD. One of the two (2) meetings shall be the annual meeting of the PA which shall be held in October of each year, unless otherwise dictated by the BOD for unusual circumstances. There shall be a minimum of thirty (30) days notice to the Membership of the meeting date of all regular PA Membership meetings.

(2) Special meetings of the PA shall be called by the BOD at its own discretion, or upon the written application of 10% of members of the PA living in Newport County, with thirty (30) days notice to the Membership, or such notice as circumstances may allow in special situations, to be no less than seven (7) days.

Section 2 - BOD Meetings: Regular Meetings of the BOD shall be held monthly at a time and place as consistently the same each month as practicable, as designated by the BOD. Special meetings of the BOD may be called by the President, or by a majority of the BOD as circumstances dictate. The BOD meetings may be attended by the membership. Members may submit items of particular concern for consideration to the President, in writing, at least ten (10) days before any scheduled BOD meeting.

Section 3 - Quorum: Six (6) members of the BOD shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the BOD. Ten (10) percent of the PA Membership, who live in Newport County, shall constitute a quorum at PA membership meetings. No vote shall be taken in the absence of a quorum. All PA actions shall be by majority vote of those present at a meeting of the BOD, or PA, unless otherwise provided herein.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES:
Section 1 - Standing Committees: There are six (6) Standing Committees, each to have a member of the BOD as Chairperson, except the Nominating Committee, as follows:
(1) Green Light Committee; with Editor as Chairman.
(2) Beautification Committee.
(3) Membership Committee.
(4) History and Archives Committee.
(5) Finance Committee.
(6) Nominating Committee;
(a) The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members. Two of the five members shall be selected by the BOD from its body; three other members shall be elected by the PA, from the Membership, at the PA Annual Meeting.

(b) The President shall appoint one of the PA elected members to serve as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee.
(c) The Nominating Committee shall select one nominee for each PA office to be filled and one nominee for each of the three elective positions on the Nominating Committee for the next year. The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall report its recommendations at the Annual Meeting of the PA each October. Following the report of the Nominating Committee, opportunity shall be given by the President for nominations from the floor. Consent of the nominee must be obtained in all instances.
(d) The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee is urged to attend BOD meetings throughout the year.

(7) Policies for Standing Committees:
(a) Terms of office for chairpersons and members of standing committees shall be for two (2) years, or until their successors have been appointed.
(b) When a vacancy occurs in a standing committee, the BOD shall appoint a replacement.

Section 2 - Special Committees: Special Committees may be created by the BOD for a specific purpose as may be required to promote the objectives and interests of the PA. Chairpersons and members of special committees shall be selected and appointed by the BOD. When its work is done and its final report is accepted or adopted, the special committee shall automatically go out of existence.

ARTICLE IX - DISSOLUTION: Upon the dissolution of the PA, should that occur, all assets of the PA shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

ARTICLE X - RULES OF ORDER AND AMENDMENTS:
(1) Rules of order: The meetings of the PA and the BOD shall be conducted under generally accepted rules of order as the BOD may prescribe. In the absence of specific direction by the BOD, the President shall conduct the meetings within such rules as he/she may determine, the only requirement being that he/she be consistent and fair.

(2) Amendments: These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the PA by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the previous meeting.
ANNUAL COCKTAIL PARTY

Thanks to Ann Cuvelier for hosting

Photos by Jane Hence & Beth Cullen
“IT’S IN THE MAIL”
by Suzanne Varisco

The loud knock on the door came at mid-morning on a September weekday, in 1995, as we were unpacking boxes in our new home. Outside, stood a tall fellow with a big smile. “Hi, I’m Tom, and I’ll be your mailman till 2013,” he said. “If you need anything, just let me know.” And so, for almost 18 years, he was and we did.

From 1983 to 2013, Thomas P. Lalli was a Newport mailman, and, for 28 of those 30 years, he walked the streets of the Point, endearing himself to all who knew him and received his help. “I carried in lots of groceries and changed more light bulbs than I can count,” he says with a laugh. And what a laugh.

On June 25, 2013, Tom went through pretty much the same routine he followed every day. With two exceptions. He walked his route attired in a Hawaiian shirt, instead of his usual uniform, something he had promised himself he would do, and he finished the day celebrating with friends at the Hillside Café – chosen as an especially fond retreat they had known as Cappy’s, back in the day, when Tom occasionally tended bar. (ed. note: Two days later, all Tom’s friends and many neighbors reconvened there for a REAL party, which had to be a surprise, because, as one friend put it, “Tom wanted no fanfare.”)

Recently, happily retired and on his way to spend a summer afternoon at the beach, he rode through the Point on his new Zuma motor scooter, a gift to himself in celebration of this milestone, and parked a while to chat about those 30 years – and much more.

The Lallis lived in a big Victorian house on Powell Avenue, and all the kids worked in the family’s small grocery store, on the corner, after school and on weekends. The Hope Street Market was open seven days a week, closing only from one to four on Sundays, when everyone trooped over to their grandparents’ house, a couple blocks away, for dinner with their many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

In those early years, young Tom was advised to stay out of the Point, a very different neighborhood from the one we know and enjoy today, but he sometimes rode his bike across town anyway, to spend time with his St. Joseph’s School classmate Brian Arnold, who says of those days, “We were a tough bunch, and Tom could definitely hold his own.”

All the Lallis were sports fans, and, until recently, Tom traveled regularly to Boston to watch his teams play: “Celtics, Red Sox, Patriots, Bruins, I love ’em all!” Now, though, like so many of us, Tom finds the drive tedious and tickets expensive. Plus, “I can actually see the games better at home on TV.” Sound familiar?

Although Mom wanted him to continue his education at nearby De La Salle Academy, Tom opted for Rogers High School, instead, where he played basketball. “Broke my mother’s heart,” he says with that laugh. “She thought at least one of her four boys would be a priest.”

Arnold, also a Rogers classmate, noted Tom’s comedic qualities, saying his childhood friend, “didn’t have a bad
bone in him.” On the other hand, he said, “I don’t think the world would have been ready for Father Tom!”

After college – St. Anselm’s and then R I C – Tom worked for Newport philanthropist James L. Maher’s United Van Line franchise. Soon, as his sister’s jump-rope rhyme went, “Then came love, then came marriage,” to a pretty Fifth Warder, Linda Sullivan, now an ambulatory care nurse at Newport Hospital. “I knew her five brothers for ages, before I discovered they had a little sister,” he says, with a grin. Eventually, he joined the Middletown Fire Department, and, during those years, two baby girls – Gina, then Maria – completed the young family.

One day, a friend stopped by, fortuitously, and invited Tom to join him for a test at the post office: “Just give it a try. See what happens.” Tom passed that test pretty handily, but he turned down the first job offer to work inside. “Let me know when you have something outdoors,” he remembers saying. So, sure enough, before long, he donned the blue uniform and shouldered his leather mail pouch.

Not surprising, to those who know him, that Tom would have opted for being out and about. Although his knees won’t let him play basketball anymore, he still skis, plays golf, and enjoys sailing with his friends.

“I’ve always liked to be outside and on the move,” he says. But what about the weather, one might ask. Summers are OK, in Tom’s estimation, and rainy days are the worst. “But, if anyone had told me when I was a kid that you could get paid for walking in the snow, I’d have said, ‘Sign me up!’”

Looking back, Tom says the best part of the job was helping people and watching families grow. “I’ve been to lots of weddings and christenings,” he says fondly. The neighborhood has changed, to be sure. Fewer kids, fewer Hummers, and more seasonal folks, but Tom thinks it’s still a great place: “Wonderful people!”

According to Arnold, one of those wonderful people is Tom, himself, a man with “great values,” who is “always giving back.”

What’s next for the neighborhood’s favorite ex-postman? On that one, we’ll just have to wait and see.

POSTSCRIPT:
Recently, several Walnut Street neighbors were exchanging their favorite “Tommy stories.”

Jane Hence remembers the day she forgot to put a stamp on an important letter – and realized it only after she had dropped it in the corner box. In fact, she wasn’t even sure she had included her return address on the envelope. “Don’t worry,” said Tom to the rescue. “I know your handwriting, and I’ll just put a stamp on it.” And let her pay him for that stamp? “No way!”

Mary Jane Rodman cites a different dilemma, when she was faced with the task of changing the license plates on her car. Undaunted, Tom had the job done in no time. “No, problem, M.J.,” he said, and was on his way. Another day, another friend helped. All part of the job, Tom Lalli style.

Isabel Griffith needed information. As she walked around her prospective new Point home, she spied the man in blue walking by. Could he tell her about the neighborhood, she asked – is it quiet, are the people friendly? “Wonderful people,” he assured her. “None better. You’ll love it here.” Turned out he was absolutely right.
A NEW VICAR FOR ST. JOHN’S

It was with eager anticipation that parishioners at St. John the Evangelist looked forward to the arrival of their new vicar, Fr. Nathan Humphrey, as he began his ministry with the assistance of part-time Deacon Buck Close. A graduate of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University, ordained in 2001, Fr. Humphrey has served two Episcopal schools and two parishes, among them, St. Paul’s on K Street in Washington, D.C.

Fr. Humphrey’s wife, Anne, a communications professional, also comes to the parish with a wealth of experience. After graduating from Bryn Mawr and doing graduate work at Johns Hopkins, she was first a senior editor at National Geographic and then Director of Communications at St. Columba’s Episcopal Church in Washington. While based in Newport, she will continue to freelance as a communications consultant to clients such as the Saint Thomas Choir School in New York City, where her brother was a chorister in the 1980s.

It should thus come as no surprise that Fr. Humphrey plans to make music one of his top priorities in his ministry. In a recent letter to his new parishioners, he stated: “It will be a top priority to identify resources that will make it possible to sustain an excellent music program, with the goal of recruiting and funding a Director of Music no later than early 2014. We cannot grow a thriving congregation in the Anglo-catholic tradition without such a program. This goal, along with a robust stewardship program, will, I believe, set us on the right track to growth and new life.” The entire Point community will surely be the richer for it.

The Humphreys are also the parents of two small children “whom they are looking forward to introducing to the Point and to Newport”.

THE HISTORY OF SAINT JOHN’S:
THE REV. DOCTOR WILLIAM SPENCER CHILD (1817-1892)
by Amy Garrison

The Rev. Dr. William S. Child was an Episcopal priest who lived on the Point from about 1864 through the 1880s. Although he was never rector of St. John the Evangelist, Dr. Child is connected with the church’s history. He attended the first service in the church’s newly built sanctuary on 13 February 1876, conducted the first wedding in the church, and sometimes assisted at services. Through him, a young relation by marriage named Charles Follen McKim lived for a while in the Dennis House and remodeled it. McKim was later famous for designing a number of important Newport buildings, including The Newport Casino.

Born in 1817, William Child took deacon’s orders in Virginia and then transferred to the Diocese of Rhode Island, where he served as assistant minister at Grace Church, Providence. He became the rector of Christ Church, Springfield, Massachusetts on September 29, 1851. His bishop wrote of him at that time, “His public ministrations have received such warm commendations as are rarely accorded to those of young clergymen.” Unfortunately, Dr. Child’s health broke down in Springfield, and he resigned. Although at Christ Church for only seven and a half years, he is well remembered there. A number of stained glass windows and other ornaments at that church are dedicated to him and his family.

After leaving Christ Church, Dr. Child was the rector of a church in Brooklyn, New York and then the rector of Zion Episcopal Church in Newport. (Built about 1835,
Zion Church was located on Washington Square. The congregation later sold the church building to Roman Catholics and some Zion members, after a time, built St. George's Church. The Roman Catholics used the church until they built St. Joseph’s on Broadway. The church building was then deconsecrated and converted into a theater, which it remains to this day: the Jane Pickens Theatre.

Dr. Child eventually resigned the rectorship of Zion Church, then founded and conducted a very successful school for boys, called “Saint John’s School,” which became known for its high standard of scholarship. The boys’ school was located on his property: he owned nearly all the block bounded by Washington & Second and Chestnut & Cherry streets. His residence, completed in December 1864, is now the Nina Lynette Home. Dr. Child commissioned his nephew Charles McKim to design the school, which was built in 1875 on the site of an earlier building. The school house, located at 11 Chestnut Street, is now a private home. He continued his work as a schoolmaster until his death. While rector of Zion Church in Newport and afterwards when he was conducting his prep school, Dr. Child sometimes conducted services and assisted at St. John the Evangelist.

Dr. Child moved to Jamestown in the late 1880’s, and he died there on December 9, 1892 at the age of 75. A Celtic cross in the Pine Street cemetery, Springfield, Massachusetts, marks the final resting-place of this distinguished pedagogue, priest, and supporter of St. John’s Church.
LIVING HISTORY
ON THE POINT
by Beth Cullen

On June 12th, we were treated to a special talk given by Alice Dickinson, Decorative Arts Fellow at the Preservation Society of Newport County. Alice had spent the better part of 2012 researching colonial artisan treasures, such as pewter porringers, serviceware, and Townsend and Goddard furniture, housed right here on the Point at the Hunter House.

Ms. Dickinson’s illustrated talk titled “Six Degrees of Separation: The Craftsman Community in Newport” drew a full house to St. John's Guild Hall. Friends and neighbors came from near and far to learn about how former Point residents lived, worked, and crafted both beautiful and functional pieces that are still admired all these centuries later.

The lecture was so interesting and engaging that even Percy the cat, a member of Pam and Brendan Kelley’s household, sat with us and listened attentively throughout!

We look forward to inviting Caryne Eskridge, the Preservation Society’s 2013 Decorative Arts Fellow, to visit with us this coming spring and continue where Alice left off, sharing the amazing eighteenth-century stories, art work and craft that live within the walls of our prominent Point seaside mansion, Hunter House.
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Past 4 Months Sales on the Point

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Source: RI Statewide MLS—as of August 23, 2013
This information is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed

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Photo by Jane Hence
THE POINT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please mail this form to: PO Box 491, Newport, RI 02840, with check made payable to: The Point Association
If you prefer, apply and pay online at: www.thepointassociation.org

___ Individual $10     ___ Family $15     ___ Subscriber $25*     ___ Patron $40*
*Subscriber & Patron levels support The Point Association's continued efforts to beautify and protect our special neighborhood.

Please check membership status:     _____ Renewal     _____ New Member

Name:_________________________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address:________________________________________________________________________________
Phone:________________________  Primary Email:____________________________________________________

POINT COMMITTEES & ACTIVITIES
Many hands make light work. Please check your volunteer interests.

___ Beautification     ___ Waterfront     ___ The Green Light     ___ Plant Sale     ___ Communications
___ Membership     ___ Event Planning     ___ History & Archives     ___ Public Services

Thank You!

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SAVE THE DATES  *invite a neighbor and participate*

Point Association Fall Annual Meeting - Thursday, October 17th, 7PM, Saint John’s Guild Hall
• Election of Officers,
• Committee Updates,
• Neighborhood News,
• Presentation….and Refreshments!

Fall Park and Driftway Clean-up -- Saturday, October 26th, 9AM, Meet at Battery Park

Watch for email announcements!  Bulb Planting?  Halloween Fun?  History Lecture?  Caroling?

PLEASE be sure to keep your phone and email information current by updating your membership profile at www.thepointassociation.org

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

Watch for “Point Happenings” emails and...visit: www.thepointassociation.org, to keep informed between issues of The Green Light

OR CURRENT RESIDENT