



Jamestown Historical Society

# HERITAGE

Fall 2008

*To collect, preserve, and share with others the heritage of Jamestown, Rhode Island.*

## Land Agreement on Permanent Display in Town Hall

The 1657 Conanicut Island Land Agreement, which the society purchased in 2005, is now on permanent exhibit in the Jamestown Town Hall. The document is kept in a special case in a niche in the west wall of the hallway between the Town Clerk's and the Finance offices. A series of explanatory panels surround the case.

On September 18, members of the JHS Board and the Jamestown Town Council joined other members of the community to dedicate the exhibit.

Harry Wright, vice president of the Jamestown Historical Society, explained the history and significance of the document to which all land titles in Jamestown are traced. Ken Newman, the chairman of the committee that designed and installed the exhibition, thanked the many people involved:

### The Signers

The one hundred and one men whose names appear on the 1657 Conanicut Land Agreement had widely different backgrounds and careers. Most lived in Newport, but others came from Portsmouth, Middletown, and the Wickford area. Some were involved in commerce and politics. Some were farmers. Others were craftsmen, such as tailors, carpenters, or blacksmiths. They had different religious beliefs. Typical of the times, almost a third were unable to write their own names . . .

### Sample from the explanatory material in the display

- the McDonough family for financing the viewing case designed to protect the document from environmental hazards;
- the Jamestown Rotary Club and the Jamestown Lions Club for their contributions for the display and literature about the document;
- Jack's Electric for installing the case;
- Emmy Lutes and Kendra Davis, seniors at North Kingstown High School, for helping the JHS team develop the explanatory panels;
- exhibit design consultant Adams Taylor of Newport for creating and installing the display.

Julio J. DiGiando, president of the Town Council, responded to the historical significance of the event, expressing pleasure at Jamestown's dedication to preservation.



**Town Manager Bruce Keiser, State Senator Theresa Paiva-Weed, and Council Member Barbara Szepatowski** chatted before the dedication.



**Ken Newman, chairman of the Land Agreement exhibit committee,** thanked donors.



**Harry Wright, vice president of the Jamestown Historical Society,** discussed the document.

Photos by Dick Allphin

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## ***Honor Roll of Volunteers for 2008***

Each year we try to acknowledge the people who have contributed time and energy to the society's many endeavors. Volunteers help the JHS in many different ways – as greeters at the windmill and the museum, as staff for events, as members of boards

and committees, and as specialists who contribute their expertise to accomplish a particular action.

Many of the people listed below have served in several different capacities. The society thanks you all for your hard work and dedication.

Dick Allphin	Deb Foppert	Joe Logan	Mary Raymond
Joyce Allphin	Caroline Frank	Nancy Logan	Peter Raymond
Stephanie Amerigan	Steve Frary	Fran Lopes	Sav Rebecchi
Suzi Andrews	Tricia Frary	Emmy Lutes	Dianne Rugh
Quentin Anthony	Ned Gambel	Diana Luth	Mary Pat Ryan
Rita Antine	Marcia Glassie	Meghann Maguire	Heidi Sakovits
Jeanne Archambault	Eleanor Gravdahl	Madison Maguire	Bill Salmons
Carolyn Armington	Paul Greene	John Madden	Ginny Saunders
Gale Bay	Erica Gregg	Mary Madden	Sally Schott
Judy Bell	Betty Gulley	Sue Maden	William W Smith
Nancy Bennett	Pam Haas	Kathy Maloney	Linda Sullivan
Jane Bentley	Brookie Harding	Pede Manchester	Adams Taylor
Jack Brittain	Janie Harris	Myrna Maxfield	Betty Ann Taylor
Fran Boyer	Mary Heath	Jay Mayers	Gayen Thompson
Joan Briggs	Steve Heath	Shawn Mayers	Joe Tiexiera
Aaron Brunelle	Dick Hines	Tim Mayers	Barbara Trout
Paul Brunelle	Madison Hodrick	Larry McDonald	Bob Trout
Pat Buckley	Joyce Hooley-Bartlett	Jeff McDonough	Shirley Utterback
Bill Burgin	John Horton	Maureen McGuirl	ViVi Valentine
Jim Buttrick	Ellen House	Jane Miner	Patti Vandal
Patti Cassidy	Betty Hubbard	Betsy Moody	Pat Venable
Donna Chellis	David Isenburg	Kaitlin Morton-Bentley	Richard Ventrone
Fred Clarke	Eliza Kallfelz	William Mullins	Nancy Ventrone
Isabel Coyle	Rose Karentz	John Murphy	Skip Walls
Ann Crompton	Varoujan Karentz	Mary Jane Murphy	Chris Walsh
Kendra Davis	Bob Kinder	Carol Nelson-Lee	Brooke Warner
Paris Deacon	Bob Kinzel	Ken Newman	Linda Warner
Greg DiGaspar	Bill Knapp	Gloria O'Laughlin	Janette Warner
John Drotos	Judy Knight	Roland Parent	Dennis Webster
Connie Payne Enright	Gloria Kurz	Linnea Petersen	Harry Wright
John Enright	Carol Lake	Paul Petersen	James Wright
Rosemary Enright	Anne Lane	Marion Pierce	Ann Zartler
Karen Estes	John Leyon	Sue Potter	Ann Zayniah
Tricia Evangelista	Teddy Leyon	Sophie Primiano	Isabella Zainyeh
Wendy Flickinger	Marcie Lindsay	Betty Purdum	Greg Zeek
Paula Florentino	Anne Livingston	Connie Rainone	Deede Zeek
	Bruce Livingston	Becky Raymond	



There is always at danger in assembling a list like this that someone who has worked hard for the organization is unintentionally omitted. Please let us

know, so that we can correct the omission. Send an email to [jhs@jamestownri.com](mailto:jhs@jamestownri.com) or call 423-2674.

## ***Volunteer Party 2008***

Each year, to thank our volunteers, the JHS invites all the volunteers and their spouses to a party. This year our host was Ken Newman, a Board member through 2008. Despite rainy weather, everyone enjoyed themselves.

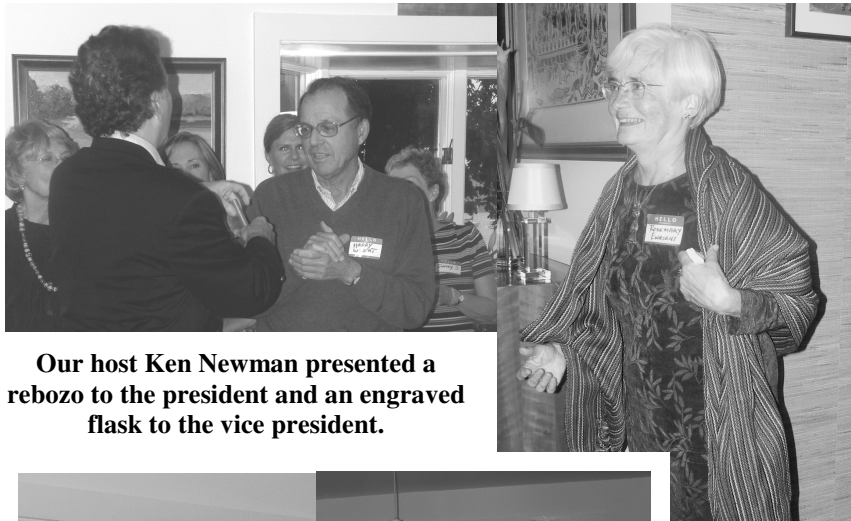
Become a volunteer and be at the party next fall.



**Old friends chatted and new friends met over drinks and appetizers.**



**Umbrella-covered visitors were greeted by Paul Brunelle in Revolutionary War uniform.**



**Our host Ken Newman presented a rebozo to the president and an engraved flask to the vice president.**



**A very good time was had by all.**



Photos by Aaron Brunelle

## ***From the President***

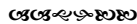
***by Rosemary Enright***

As the committee chairs report, this has been a very satisfying summer. With the major events of the Capital Campaign behind us, the Board was able to concentrate on the usual summer activities at the windmill, museum, and Conanicut Battery. The Town Hall became a fourth center of activity, both because of the vault and because of the installation of the Land Agreement exhibit.

We held our annual meeting on August 14. The Board elected at the meeting has changed very little from last year. All your officers have agreed to stay on for another one-year term. Two Directors with expiring terms are leaving the Board. Linnea Petersen has been on the Board for 25 years—18 of them as Treasurer. She is taking a well-deserved rest. Ken Newman has been working to increase our access to grants and will continue this work as a member of the Development Committee. We thank them both for their dedicated service.

We elected two new members. Caroline Frank is an historian with particular expertise in material culture, the artifacts of a civilization. James Wright is a partner in an IT recruiting firm. They promise to be very helpful as we work through the final actions specified in the plan we developed almost three years ago and formulate plans for the next phase of initiatives.

Two areas from the 2005/2006 plan that are receiving immediate attention are expansion of JHS presence at the Jamestown schools and increased encouragement to members of the community to donate to the society's collection. Our mission is to collect, preserve, and share. The Capital Campaign concentrated primarily on the "preserve" mission—although the improvements to the museum also increased our ability to share. Now we need to "collect" and to increase our outreach, especially to the younger members of the community.



## ***Windmill Committee***

***by William Mullins***

The Old Jamestown Windmill was open 25 days this summer, including three special tours. On a few weekends, rain turned the parking area into a marsh and we didn't open in order to protect the field.

Over 400 visitors signed our guest book—some adding comments like "Cool!" and "Beautifully done." The visitors came from four foreign countries and at least 21 states. Rhode Island and neighboring Massachusetts and Connecticut were well represented. Other tourists came from the west coast (California, Oregon), the midsection of the country (Michigan to Kentucky), and the south (from Florida to Texas).

We couldn't have the mill open without our "windmill sitters." We thank them all. And a special thank you to Linnea Petersen for organizing the schedule, and Greg Zeek for giving us safe and convenient storage for the materials the sitters need.

## ***Friends Meetinghouse***

***by Harry Wright***

The Quaker Meetinghouse has had an active 2008. The Friends held regular meetings for worship—open to all—on Sunday mornings from April until late October; and besides the occasional tours of individuals there were two tours in the spring of larger groups organized by the Jamestown Chamber of Commerce and by the Jamestown Rotary Club.

Meanwhile the Historical Society made necessary repairs to the roof and to other parts of the building that were beginning to rot—or that were in danger of rotting—from an excess of moisture. And during the summer a team of volunteers from the Society of Friends, led by Marcie Lindsay, generously repainted the badly weathered trim.

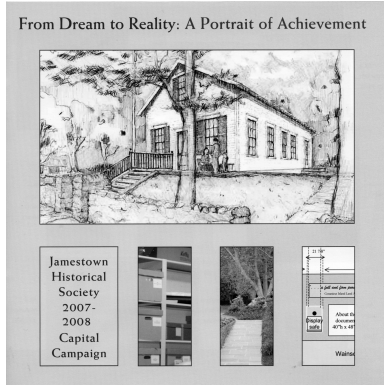
We will be looking to see whether these repairs are adequate to withstand the rigors of winter, and what other repairs we may have to make in 2009.



## Communication

**by John Horton**

The final report for the Capital Campaign was mailed out to all contributors in September. The 16-page booklet, designed by Carol Nelson-Lee, celebrates the successful 18-month effort with before and after pictures of the museum and colorful photos of campaign events. If you'd like a copy, you can pick one up at the Holiday Fair on December 6 or send an email to [jhs@jamestownri.com](mailto:jhs@jamestownri.com).



### Capital Campaign Report

You can keep up with JHS activities by reading our monthly column in the *Jamestown Press*—it usually appears on the first Thursday of the month—or visiting the JHS website at [jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://jamestownhistoricalsociety.org).

Did you know that you can now view over 4,000 old photos of Jamestown from the website? Go to Collections and click on “View JHS’s Collections Online.” From there you can search the different collections catalogs: photographs, objects, archives, or library. Low-resolution images of most of the photographs and many of the objects are available for viewing and download. High-quality copies suitable for framing or reproduction and/or high-resolution digital images may be purchased directly from the society. The price depends on whether the copy is for personal or commercial use. The policy and prices are posted on the website’s Collections page.

As part of our continuing improvement program the JHS has recently upgraded our website software to allow pages to be updated more easily. In addition we are creating an administrative site where operating documents, like Board meeting minutes and committee reports, can be stored for the use of the Board. An email function at the administrative site lets us send messages to all or a subset of members.

The Board is looking for a volunteer who would like to be in charge of the website. Anyone interested please contact John Horton at [ighorton1@verizon.net](mailto:ighorton1@verizon.net).

## Education

**by Sally Schott**

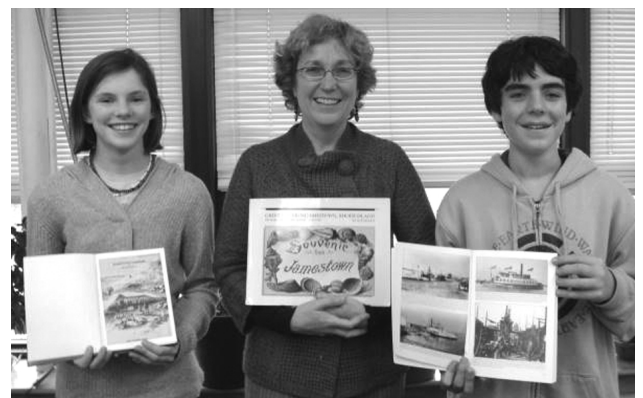
Lawn Avenue School 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been learning a lot about Jamestown history this fall, thanks to principal Kathleen Almanzor who has been teaching a weekly elective on the subject. Mrs. Almanzor met with Sue Maden, Harry Wright, and Rosemary Enright at the beginning of the term to coordinate with the society, and JHS resources are incorporated in the curriculum.

Highlights of the course include:

- A visit to the Jamestown Museum to view the *School Days* exhibit.
- A trip to Town Hall to see the Land Agreement.
- Classroom visits from two lifelong Jamestowners who talked about life on the island in years past.
- Airing of *Narragansett Avenue Then and Now*, the Nick Schaus/Barry Cook DVD about our main street.
- Class-wide reading of Bertram Lippincott’s 1980 book *Jamestown Sampler*.
- Development of a time-line of key events in Jamestown history.

The class is also discussing town government, the oil refinery, and the history of the ferry system. The course will be repeated in the spring.

Over the winter, with guidance from Lisa Casey, the school librarian, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will read Carol Newman Cronin’s book, *Oliver’s Surprise*, a work of historical fiction about the 1938 hurricane. The author will pay a follow-up visit in February.



**Isabel Crabtree, Principal Kathy Almanzor, and Sam DiGasper show some of the material about Jamestown that they have been studying this fall.**

## Programs

by Mary Heath

The summer events went as planned.

### **Museum Exhibit Opening**

The exhibit opening on June 29 was a low-key affair. The girl scouts from Jamestown Troop #612 greeted visitors on the new front deck and offered them cookies and lemonade as they left the building since food and drink were not allowed in the museum. Harry Wright, who curated the exhibit, served as host.

### **Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting on August 14 was very well attended. Over 120 people—both members and non-members—crowded into the meeting room in the library to hear Dr. Robert M. Thorson, Professor of Geology at the University of Connecticut and a sometime Jamestown resident, talk about *Stone Walls in Jamestown and throughout New England*. Dr. Thorson is

## Friends of Conanicut Battery

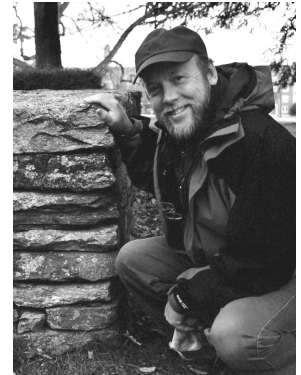
by Dennis Webster

Visitors to the Conanicut Battery Historic Park late this summer may have noticed that the Betsy Ross flag flying there was getting worn. On November 7, members of the FOCB proudly raised a new flag above the park. They also did a “walk through” to make sure the park is ready for the winter months.



Plans are underway for a Battery Day in the spring. The Friends are coordinating with the scouts and other local organizations on a date. Captain Tew's company has agreed to set up camp if their schedule allows. The Newport Artillery is also being invited. You can expect to see Paul Brunelle in his Revolutionary War uniform conducting the event.

the co-founder of the Stone Wall Initiative (SWI), an organization to promote the appreciation, investigation, and conservation of stone walls in New England. He's written three books on the subject.



**Dr. Robert M. Thorson**

Dr. Thorson devoted the first part of his talk to exploring with the audience his reasons for thinking that a stone found on the wall at the Friends Meetinghouse on Weeden Lane was a headstone, probably from a Revolutionary War grave. The area behind the meetinghouse is believed to have been a burial ground for British soldiers who used a building at that site as a hospital.

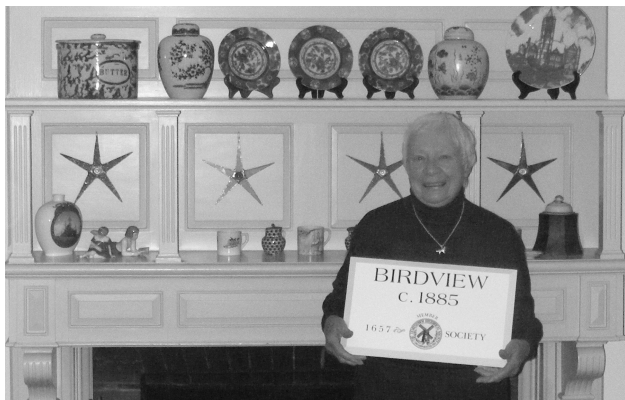
### **House Tour Weekend**

The most exciting event of the season was the House Tour. The Program and Development committees worked together to introduce a new element to our annual event—the members-only house tour preview.

Members of the society were invited to a party the night before the house tour at *Birdview* on Newport Avenue. *Birdview*, built in 1888, is a large, shingled house with a huge porch that looks north and east toward the Newport Bridge. The preview party was open to JHS members only—though we accepted new memberships at the door. It was the only chance to visit *Birdview*, since the house was not on the public tour the next day. The evening was a huge success—despite rather spotty fall weather—with more than 70 people donating \$40 each to enjoy the company, the view, and the historic house.

Saturday was equally successful, as more than 200 visitors toured two of Jamestown's turn-of-the-(last)-century summer homes.

*Riven Rock*, built in 1911, recently received national attention as the home where the major motion picture *Dan in Real Life* was filmed. It is a classic Jamestown summer home overlooking the West Passage. If you've seen the movie, you'd have recognized both the interior and the exterior of this homey summer cottage. The architect is unknown, but may well have been J.D. Johnston, the builder of *Clingstone*, which he had designed just a few years earlier.



**Eleanor Gravdahl, host of the House Tour preview party, proudly displays her 1657 Society plaque.**

The second house on the tour, *Onarock*, was built in 1896 and is definitely the work of J. D. Johnston. The house on the east side of Walcott Avenue rises above the street on a rocky point and has two large wings visually hinged at a half-round tower. Behind the house to the east the rock ledge on which the house sits drop precipitously down toward Racquet Road and the bay beyond. Work had just begun on refurbishing the house and the minimal furnishings allowed visitors to focus on the original structure.

#### ***Land Agreement and 1938 Hurricane***

Two other events helped make this a special summer—the dedication of the Land Agreement display in the Town Hall (see the front page) and a program, which the JHS sponsored with the Friends of the Library, on the 1938 hurricane. In honor of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the hurricane, Jane Bentley, a former JHS Program Committee chair, interviewed ten Jamestown residents who survived the storm. The taped interviews are available on DVD from the Friends of the Library.



**A visitor's view of *Onarock* from the east.**

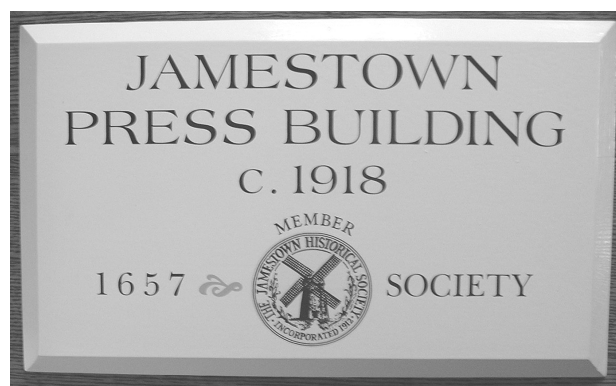
## ***Development and Membership***

***By Shawn Mayers***

The membership of JHS is growing and is more active than ever. This spring and summer, the Development Committee undertook a concentrated membership drive that used direct mail, advertising, events, and promotions to boost membership renewals as well as encourage new members to join.

Perhaps you spotted our “local history” ads featuring several of our neighbors in the *Jamestown Press*. (Thank you to Debbie Swistak, Linda Warner, Archie Clark, and Kathy Brownell for contributing your memories and your portraits to the campaign.) Or maybe you joined other members at our House Tour preview party on September 12. These efforts resulted in an active membership base that grew by nearly one third. Thirty percent of this growth was in the “new member” category.

Some new and old members joined the 1657 Society, a new membership level. 1657 Society members receive a beautifully handcrafted house plaque customized to personal specifications. We are thrilled with the design and workmanship of these plaques and have gotten rave reviews from members who now proudly display them on the exterior of their homes or office buildings.



**1657 Society Plaque**

This holiday season, perhaps someone you know would like to receive the gift of history! New members are still eligible to receive gifts at every level including our sterling silver windmill charm. See the ad on the back page for details. Stop by our table at the Holiday Fair at the Melrose Avenue School on December 6 to select the gift of history for your history buff.

## Collections Committee

### By Sue Maden

The Collections Committee— Sue Maden, Rosemary Enright, Joe Logan, Dianne Rugh, Linda Warner, and Harry Wright— meets monthly to discuss collection issues, including steps needed to preserve specific objects, whether proposed donations fit within our guidelines, plans for exhibits, and accession and deaccession policies.

### Cataloging

Volunteer catalogers work in the vault several days a week in our effort to reduce the cataloging backlog and record current donations as they are received. As of October 31, some 15,445 records have been entered in PastPerfect, the software program used by the society. About 2,300 of these were entered since the beginning of the summer.

This progress would not be possible without volunteer catalogers, who generally work on a specific collection. Most of the material being worked on right now relates to Jamestown organizations. Joyce Allphin just completed cataloging the Jamestown Women's Club records, which have been in our possession for several years. Stephanie Amerigian is working on the Jamestown Garden Club records, while Carolyn Armington enters the accounts of the Jamestown Bridge demolition, Betty Gulley catalogs the Jamestown Bridge memories, and Dianne Rugh works on the Jamestown Shores Association material.

Other catalogers have assumed responsibility for particular types of items: Carol Lake—oversized documents that must be stored in a flat file; Nancy and Joe Logan—books; Sue Maden--current acquisitions; and Ginny Saunders--obituaries (she's cataloged over 1,100 to date). Judy Knight manages

the textiles collection, and Rosemary Enright oversees photographs.

This past summer two students helped. Kaitlin Morton-Bentley, a library and history graduate student at URI, cataloged a number of special collections. Laurel Richardson, now a third year student at The College of the Holy Cross, returned for a second year as an intern. While a major part of her tasking was cataloging—she entered over 650 new records—she also organized a special collection, prepared an exhibit for the library display case, and attended Collection Committee meetings.

Catalog records are entered on three different computers in the vault and, with less frequency, at several home computers. Keeping all the computers in synch is a major effort, which is facilitated by PastPerfect's scatter/gather function. Joe Logan is responsible for synching the vault computers and for updating the catalog at [jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://jamestownhistoricalsociety.org). He also monitors temperature and humidity in the vault to ensure both remain within acceptable limits.


The more complete the catalog is the more useful it is to both the society and others. Would you be willing to commit 3 or 4 hours a week to the cataloging effort in the vault? The PastPerfect program is easy to use. An experienced cataloger is always there with you. Call Sue at 423-2167.

### Acquisitions

All recent acquisitions are listed on page 10. Most of these come unsolicited. The Collections Committee accepts those that comply with the collections policy.

Occasionally we will hear about an item and will ask for a donation. This happened recently when Dick Smith, who grew up here, donated a scrapbook of material from the 1957 Tercentenary. His father, John L. Smith, had been co-chairman of the event. When we called to thank him, Dick asked if we knew anything about a thesis on politics in Jamestown between 1920 and 1940 that Mary Ellen Bailey (later Weatherbee) had written when she was a student at Bates College in the 1950s.

We hadn't heard of it, but were intrigued. Sue Maden called Bob Bailey whose cousins contacted Don Weatherbee, Mary Ellen's widowed husband. Don donated this fascinating document of over 200 pages that includes reports of interviews with most of the important local political figures of the era.

P2008.018.002 ~ Image, Digital				11/05/2008
Collection		Category	8: Communication Artifact	
Other#		Subcategory	Documentary Artifact	
Accession#	P2008.018	Received date	09/08/2008	
Received as	Loan	Catalog date	10/30/2008	
Cataloged by	Enright, Rosemary			
Source	Harrison M. Wright			
Creditline	Harrison M. Wright Collection			
Home loc	CD			
Description	Used in Bevin's article for Newport History, 2009: "Some of Bevin's first commissions in Jamestown were among his largest. Braeclough, 1883, was built for Charles Wharton, a Quaker industrialist from Philadelphia. It is an informal composition of porches, dormers, gables, and shingles perched on a promontory looking out to sea. The property was condemned in 1905 for the creation of Fort Wetherill."			
Date		Status	Status date	
Year Range	1885 - 1900	Status by		
Print size	5" x 3.75"	Slide#	Orig/Copy	Copy
Film size		Frame#		

### Portion of a record in PastPerfect

Sometimes someone leaves off something at the Museum without contact information. Such was the case with “Liz from Middletown” who left items related to the Bay View Hotel.

### **Summer Exhibit**

The summer exhibit, *School Days! How Jamestown Taught Its Children*, opened on June 29 with a reception and—including the unscheduled addition of September weekend hours—was open 65 afternoons. More than 600 visitors signed the visitor log.

Harry Wright curated the show, with help from many people in the community. Phyllis Anderson, Jane Bentley, Dee Christman, Archie Clarke, Judy Garlick, and Patti Vandal gave us pictures and newspaper articles from their schooldays that were digitized both for the exhibit and the collection. Linda Warner donated a desk from the Carr School, and the Town of Jamestown lent busts of Lincoln and Washington that had decorated the Clarke School.

The exhibit included many class pictures, several without identification. Some of the visitors were able to identify their classmates and we’re happy to be able to add that information to our records.

We are grateful to the volunteer hosts and hostesses, including the eight members of Girl Scout Troop #612 who acted as Sunday greeters, and especially to Fran Boyer, who coordinated the volunteers and helped with the orientation sessions.


### **Library Displays**

The exhibit in the JHS display case in the library has been changed regularly to reflect the season. For July to August, the “Good Old Summertime” display pictured over 100 years of summer fun. September 21 was the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1938 Hurricane, and for the month the case held books, letters, and reports about the most devastating hurricane in Jamestown history.

For October and November, we joined with the library, CIAA, the American Legion, and the VFW to honor Jamestown veterans. A special addition to the exhibit was a flag that flew in Iraq, which was loaned to us by the American Legion. The next exhibit will feature new acquisitions.

## ***SCHOOL DAYS !!***

*How Jamestown Taught Its Children*



***Jamestown Historical Society Museum***  
Every Wednesday through Sunday  
1 to 4 p.m.  
June 29 - September 7, 2008

### **Exhibits around Jamestown**

Several items that belong to JHS are on loan to the town and other organizations so that more members of the community can enjoy them. Two half models of clipper ships and a windmill model decorate the library. Two signboards for the ferryboat *Conanicut* and one for the *Hammonton*, have been installed at the Recreation Center inner lobby. Joe Logan made a frame and plexiglass cover for the 1969 wooden ferry schedule sign in the Rec Center outer lobby. And, of course, as reported on page 1, we have recently completed the exhibit of the 1657 Land Agreement document in the Town Hall.

### **Other Activities**

In addition to responding to inquiries, we are strengthening our ties with local organizations with which we share common interests. Recently we supported the Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association (BLMA) in their drive to raise money to record the current condition of the base of the 1749 lighthouse. The remaining foundation is just south of the current lighthouse on the point.

The “Then & Now” column, which appears every Thursday in the *Newport Daily News*, has featured several Jamestown sites, documented with pictures from the JHS collection.

Computer technology is being used to expand our collections without the acquisition of the original objects. We have added digital images of material borrowed for exhibits. We have digitized pictures and articles about Clingstone lent to us by Henry Wood. Both Sue Maden and Harry Wright have allowed us to scan pictures from their extensive collections. Dick Allphin, Aaron Brunelle, and Jim Buttrick have contributed digital photos of events.

The vault has become the center for most collection activities. Additional furniture has been added, including shelving from Harry Wright and a wooden flat file from the BLMA. Visitors and researchers can make arrangements to visit the vault and use the material there by calling 423-0784 or emailing [jhs@jamestownri.com](mailto:jhs@jamestownri.com).



## ***Donations and Acquisitions: June through October 2008***

- Jane Bentley: copies of photos and papers related to Jamestown schools.
- Judy Callaghan: minutes and financial information, handwritten, 1872-1909, Jamestown & Newport Ferry Company.
- Victoria Clare: Puzzle model of "Jamestown" ferryboat (all the pieces come apart)
- Carol Newman Cronin: "Oliver's Surprise," a book she authored.
- Lenore and Clement DeLucia: postcards; photographs; books; greeting cards with photos of Jamestown; engraving of Fort Dumpling; 1978 commemorative button; Souvenir Program from Jamestown Bridge dedication, 1940; architectural drawing of "Drinking Fountain."
- John Doty: program from the July 9, 1950 Fourth Annual Parade and Field Day of the Arnold Zweir A.L. No. 22 Drum and Bugle Corps.
- Janice Fletcher: photos of Decoration Day 1947; two images of telephone operators from September 1964, and one from November 1, 1964 when Jamestown switched to dial phones.
- Friends of the Jamestown Philomenian Library: DVD of *Memories of the 1938 Hurricane*.
- Judy Garlick: copy of letter written by Anne Murray Buskett to her MacFarland relatives in Philadelphia after the 1938 Hurricane.
- Varoujan Karentz: papers, cds and photos relating to Conanicut Battery Committee; World War II Conanicut Island Underwater Mines and anti-submarine nets; sinking of German Submarine U-583 during WWII; Quonset Container Port; USS Cappela torpedoing at Weaver Cove off Conanicut Island in 1942; HECP (Fort Burnside); Spraycliff Radar facility at Beavertail and early USN radar development.
- Lions Club: records.
- Fran Lopes: rules for Teachers in 1872.
- Sue Maden: Marshall's 1992 map of Jamestown; three-volume history of Rhode Island by Field, 1902; "Newport History," Spring 2008 with article on Jamestown Bridge; Compilations of Jamestown news for 38 years between 1910 and 1998; tiles of Bay View Hotel, map of Conanicut Island and Town Hall; bridge score pad with design of old windmill on cover.
- Arthur Milot: Aug./Sept. 2008 issue of *World War II* with an article on the POW camp at Fort Getty
- John Murphy: records from the Friends of the Jamestown Community Center
- Newport Historical Society: *Picturesque Rhode Island*; map of Newport, c. 1920s; two 1930s brochures promoting Jamestown and Newport
- William Pemantel Jr.: book *Kudla and His Polar Bear* inscribed to him (May 1954) by Miriam and Donald MacMillian, illustrated by Cleveland Woodward, publisher Dodd Mead & Co., 1953.
- Chris Powell: framed photo Bay Voyage showing east side; two identical glossy photos showing Bay Voyage being moved; brochure and menu on Golden Jubilee in 1939.
- Nick Robertson: Jack Caswell's school slate.
- Jim Rugh: framed architectural rendering of the WPA project to refloat the *Governor Carr* in 1938; 2008 Arbor Day Proclamation; four brochures from Tree Committee.
- Grace Sisson: five issues of "Jamestown Gazette," 1937; Jamestown Tax Lists, 1890, 1892; Souvenir Program from Jamestown Bridge dedication, 1940.
- Dick Smith: scrapbook with clippings and professional photos about 1957 300th celebration; one page with photo relating to the opening of the Jamestown Bridge.
- St. Matthew's Church (Bob Horan and Maryann Williamson): plate by Catharine Morris Wright from 300<sup>th</sup> celebration in 1957.
- Marlene and Don Snyder: "Rhode Island Adventure Diving" (1998); "Rhode Island Adventure Diving II" (2003); laminated sheet with a map of diving spots and description of two books.
- Patti Vandal: programs for a PTA program for 1951-1952 and 1955 dedication of the Lawn Avenue School; Lyons Market sign.
- Fricky Vaughn: newspaper articles covering many years and subjects; JHS Charter, Constitution and Membership (no date); printed poem, "North of Eldred Avenue," by Marguerite Williamson (no date); 1968 The Evangelist from St. Matthews; 1956 flower show program; Bay View note card by June Webb; Newport Bridge brochure (no date); 2002 Conanicut Battery Day program; Jamestown telephone directories for 1982 and 1984.
- Linda Warner: brochure "Here are the Plans for NEW Jamestown Elementary – Junior High School" Issued prior to Financial Town Meeting Vote of January 31, 1953; a photo of Helen Tefft cleaning the DAR marker at Conanicut Battery; wooden desk from Carr School.
- Donald E. Weatherbee: 1954 Bates College thesis, "Social and Economic Influences on the Politics of Jamestown, Rhode Island, 1920-1940" by Mary Ellen Bailey.
- Georgia Wright: program for Lawn Avenue School 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation on June 20, 2008.
- Unknown: (Liz from Middletown): two pamphlets on the Bay View Hotel; card with the Bay View Hotel "which was once owned by Grandpa O'Connell."



## Treasurer Report

**by Tricia Evangelista**

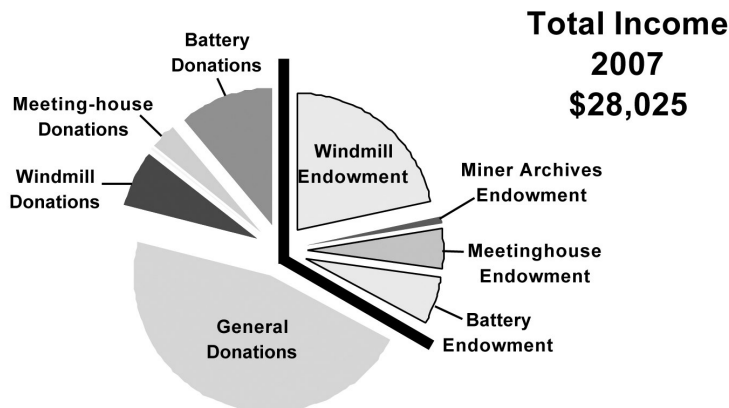
Because of the success of the 2007-2008 Capital Campaign, the Jamestown Historical Society now has a new permanent general endowment, the Jamestown Historical Society Endowment Fund, to support all activities of the society. The total amount of general endowment from the Capital Campaign is expected to be about \$232,000.

To date, we have transferred \$60,000 of the general endowment to the Rhode Island Foundation (RIF). The balance of endowment funds remains in an FDIC insured money market account pending determination of the final endowment balance—we still have a few bills outstanding—and stabilization of the financial markets. In the long run, we expect that the fund will provide the society with about \$10,000 a year, although in 2008 the income will be much lower.

The new general endowment is an addition to endowments that support specific JHS operations.

The Mary Miner Archives Fund, \$7,000 of which was donated as part of the Capital Campaign, supports the conservation and preservation of archival material—documents, photographs, and ephemera. The income last year was \$391.

Two funds—The Old Jamestown Windmill Endowment Fund established in 1987 and held by The Philadelphia Foundation and the Jamestown Historical Society Windmill Endowment Fund, established in 2006 at the RIF—support the maintenance and operation of the mill. These two funds together generate about \$6,000 per year.



\*Donations include dues, donations, sales, grants and income on investments not included in endowment.

**Sources of operating income for 2007**

Care for the Jamestown Friends Meetinghouse is partially funded by income from an endowment from The Friends Fiduciary Corporation. In 2007, the fund provided \$1,300 to support the maintenance and operation of the meetinghouse.

The Conanicut Battery maintains an endowment of \$32,000 in the form of a certificate of deposit. Income from the Battery Endowment—about \$1,600 last year—is restricted to support of the Battery.

Unexpended income received from the various endowment funds and other sources—such as sales—is held in temporary investments that are managed by the JHS Finance Committee.

Operations of the JHS are managed using an annual operating budget developed based on input from the various committee chairs and the executive committee. Actual income and spending are reviewed against the budget at each Board of Directors meeting.

The new permanent endowment, along with the previously existing funds, will provide needed support of our mission “to collect, preserve and share with others the heritage of Jamestown, Rhode Island.”

## Building & Grounds

**by Greg DiGasper**

A lot of our effort this summer continued to be at the Friends Meetinghouse. We have taken a cautious approach to controlling the rot that threatens the building—improving the drainage, increasing the ventilation, and correcting immediately hazardous conditions. The windows are being left open inside their shutters in hopes that the lower winter humidity and greater air circulation will help. Much more is desirable—even without a major restoration effort. We need to strengthen the benches, shore up the floor in places, stabilize the stove stack, and repair some or all of the windows.

A minor accident at the windmill led to repair of the stone wall along the south side of the field, which was completed in October.

We still haven't solved the problem of the powder post beetles at the mill, although periodic treatment seems to keep them under control.

## Officers and Directors 2008 – 2009

President Rosemary Enright  
Vice President Harry Wright  
Secretary John Horton  
Treasurer Tricia Evangelista

Directors to 2009 Greg DiGasper  
Deborah Foppert  
Mary Heath  
Shawn Mayers

Directors to 2010 Dick Allphin  
William Mullins  
Sally Schott

Directors to 2011 Caroline Frank  
Sue Maden  
Dennis Webster  
James Wright



## JHS: WE ARE HISTORY

**“Owning roller skates guaranteed you two skateboards and at least one friend.”**

*We made our skateboards from roller skates, so one pair gave you the wheels for two boards – enough fun for you and a friend. Wheeling around the island from dawn to dusk, every day brought a new adventure.*

*- Kathy Brownell, Island Photographer*

## Be a part of history: Join the Jamestown Historical Society

Your tax-deductible dues support JHS operations and public programs at the Windmill, the Jamestown Museum, the Quaker Meetinghouse and the Conanicut Battery.

Join now: The first 100 new members receive a sterling silver windmill charm.

name \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ student \$15 ☐ individual \$25 ☐ family \$40

☐ patron \$500 (individual lifetime membership & DVD: Narragansett Ave. Then & Now)

☐ 1657 Society \$1000 (household lifetime membership, custom house plaque & DVD)

Please mail with payment to JHS P.O. Box 156, Jamestown RI 02835  
or go to [www.jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.jamestownhistoricalsociety.org)

## JHS: PEOPLE, PLACES, PRESERVATION

Jamestown Historical Society  
P.O. Box 156  
Jamestown, RI 02835

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