



Jamestown Historical Society

HERITAGE

Spring 2010

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

New Signs for Jamestown Historical Society Sites

During this summer season, new signs on North Road at the windmill and the Quaker meetinghouse, as well as on Narragansett Avenue in front of the museum, will be erected to prominently identify the buildings as Jamestown Historical Society sites. The three signs, designed by Diane Harrison under the guidance of JHS board member Caroline Frank, are identical in format and will "brand" the sites as JHS properties.

We hope that by identifying the sites with these identical formats, we will encourage both Jamestown residents and visitors to become more aware of the sites themselves and to recognize their historic importance to the island.

Each sign is white, with a cape blue border and the society's logo centered at the top. The windmill and meetinghouse signs are 36 inches by 27 inches. The museum sign is slightly smaller – 30 inches by 21 inches – both because the area where the sign will be placed is smaller and because traffic on Narragansett Avenue is slower than traffic on North Road.

The current Friends' meetinghouse sign, with hours for meeting, will be moved around the corner to

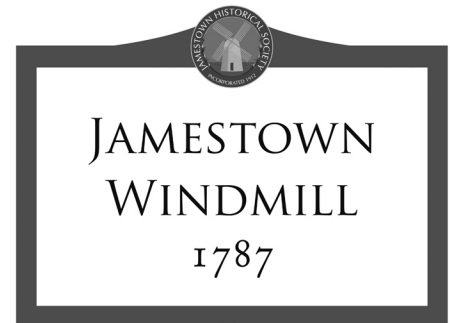
Weeden Lane. Visiting times for the windmill and the museum will be attached below the identifying signs.

Bill Walsh at Uxbridge Carvers in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, is currently carving the signs. He will also be responsible for their installation.

Over the past three years, the JHS has encountered several situations in which its existing logo could not be reproduced. Attempts to digitize the almost 100-year-old logo resulted in a muddled recreation, especially when a large version of the logo was required. Different simplifications took place to achieve the desired effect.

For the identifying signs, a color version of the logo has been designed. The new version retains all the identifying elements of the existing logo: the windmill, the wreath of corn stalks, the society's name and incorporation date. A stone wall has been added. The logo in the header on this page is a black and white version of the color logo.

The next step in signage upgrade at the windmill will be an outdoor sign that explains the history and operation of the mill. Caroline Frank has already begun work on that project.



New signs for Jamestown Historical Society sites.

From the President

by Rosemary Enright

The JHS committees do most of the work of the society, and – as you will read in the rest of the newsletter – they have accomplished a lot this winter. The board meets every other month to facilitate cooperation among the committees. The Executive Committee – consisting of vice-president Harry Wright, secretary John Horton, treasurer Tricia Evangelista, and me – meets on the alternate months and as necessary to track committee work and plan for the future. Much of the coordination is done by email.

Signage has been a major effort this year. In addition to the signs described on page 1, we have been in discussion with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation about putting "Entering Windmill Hill Historic District" signs on North Main Road.

The Windmill Hill Historic District includes most of the land from the Great Creek north to the John Eldred Parkway and from the West Passage to East Shore Road. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. Almost all the land within the historic district is now protected from development.

We have suggested placing signs just north of the Great Creek and just south of the parkway. The placement of any sign near the creek and marsh is of particular concern because we do not want it to disturb or obstruct the view.

Outreach and Cooperation

One of our goals in the past few years has been to work more closely with other organizations and with the Jamestown business community. As part of this effort, the society and the Conanicut Grange are planning mutual and complementary summer events that focus on farming in Jamestown.

We are very happy about our support from the Jamestown business community. The *Jamestown Press* publishes a monthly Jamestown Historical Society column that keeps our members up-to-date on activities. Bill Munger of Conanicut Marine has offered the use of his equipment to put the repaired vanes back on the windmill; this should happen early on May 25. Just this week, Victor Bell of EPI gave us two computers to be used by the Collections Committee for maintaining our database and Zeek

agreed to let us leave the windmill key at his store again this summer.

We thank them and all our friends in the community and encourage you to patronize our supporters.

A New History of Jamestown

Over a year ago, an editor from the History Press approached Sue Maden, the society's Collections Committee chair, to write a book about Jamestown. The concept for the book was amorphous. Maybe a collection of essays from the *Jamestown Press*, such as Sue had collected earlier in *Jamestown Affairs*. Maybe a series of interviews or excerpts from the historical society's collection of oral histories. Maybe a chronological history of the town's development.

Sue and I bounced the project back and forth – agreeing that it should be done but not quite willing to take it on. Finally, we wrote an outline. The outline combined all three concepts. The organization leaned toward the chronological while the content depended greatly on Sue's existing essays, the research behind them, and the material in the society's collection.

We signed a contract in December 2009 to provide 80 pictures by April 1 and to write 40,000 words by May 1. This spring, we've ignored almost all other commitments to the society in order to meet those deadlines.

We've been told that the book – *Jamestown: A History of Narragansett Bay's Island Town* by Rosemary Enright and Sue Maden, with the Jamestown Historical Society – can be expected out in early July. We'll let you know more through the *Jamestown Press* as that day approaches.

Last Column

This is my last "From the President" column. I have been president of the Jamestown Historical Society for five years. At the August 12 Annual Meeting, you will select my successor. I've enjoyed my tenure, and I've agreed to stay on the board for a couple of years in whatever capacity seems appropriate. I want to be in on the 100th Anniversary Party for the society in 2012.

Summer 2010 Program Schedule

Saturday, June 19

**Jamestown Windmill Begins Summer Hours
1 to 4 PM**

The windmill opens for the summer. Training day for the docents. Windmill will be open from 1 to 4 PM, Saturdays and Sundays through October 11.

Saturday, June 19

**Quaker Meetinghouse Open House
1 to 4 PM**

Guided tours of the Quaker meetinghouse. The meetinghouse is also open by appointment throughout the year and for Quaker (Religious Society of Friends) services at 10:30 AM on Sundays through October.

Saturday, July 19

**Museum Docent Orientation
12 to 2 PM**

Become a docent and enjoy a private tour of the new exhibit with explanation and commentary by Sue Maden, the Collection Committee chair.

Sunday, June 20

**Jamestown Museum Opens for Summer
1 to 4 PM**

Grand opening for the summer exhibit, *Farm Life in Jamestown: A Look at Our Farms, Past and Present*. Museum hours: 1 to 4 PM, Wednesdays to Sundays through September 5 and Saturday and Sunday through October 10.

Sunday, August 7

**Windmill Day
Old Jamestown Windmill, 10 AM - 2 PM**

Join the Jamestown Historical Society and the Conanicut Grange Farm Viability Committee at the windmill and for a bus tour of the farms. See the sails being put up and, if the wind permits, the vanes turning. Stone wall building demonstration planned.

Thursday, August 12

**Annual Meeting
Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM**

Election of officers and directors for 2010-2011. A guest speaker will talk about the history and future of Jamestown farms.

Friday, September 17

**Members Only House Tour Preview Party
The Red House, 5 Alden Road**

Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres at one of the first houses built on Shoreby Hill in 1898. Tickets: \$40. Includes ticket to Saturday's house tour.

Saturday, September 18

**House Tour
10 AM - 2 PM**

Visit historic farmhouses on Jamestown. Learn their history and the history of our farming community. Tickets \$20.

Saturday, September 25

**Smithsonian Magazine's Museum Day
11 AM - 4 PM**

Both the museum and the windmill will be open longer hours to support Rhode Island's Historic Sites Coalition participation in National Museum Day. Get your ticket online and visit many RI museums for free.

Sunday, October 10

Jamestown Museum Closes

Last day to visit the Jamestown museum and see the *Farm Life* exhibit.

Sunday, October 10

Jamestown Windmill Closes

Last day to drop by the Jamestown windmill this summer. Group visits can be arranged any time by calling 423-0284 or emailing your request to jhs@jamestownri.com.



Go to jamestownhistoricalsociety.org for a complete list of JHS and other Jamestown events of historic interest.

Buildings & Grounds

by Greg DiGasper

Buildings and Grounds is responsible for keeping all the JHS properties in good repair.

Windmill

As reported by the Windmill Committee, one of the blades, or vanes, on the windmill had some dry rot. Millwright Andy Shrake removed all the sail blades for off-site repair. Some of you may have noticed their absence during the winter. The mill looked rather bare without them.

After examining the four blades more closely in his shop, Andy decided that they should all be rebuilt. The blades will be reinstalled before the end of May - and may already be in place as you read this.

The stone wall surrounding the mill has also deteriorated over the years and will be repaired during the next few months. The final repairs will be made during a stone wall building demonstration on Windmill Day in August.

Quaker Meetinghouse

We are looking into repairing some of the stone wall surrounding the meetinghouse. The Meetinghouse Committee was able to secure a small grant to cover expenses incurred for minor repairs last fall. A new louvered covering for the attic window, for example, will ventilate that area.



The new Fallen Maple Trail leads north from the Conanicut Battery parking lot.

Museum

Along with minor repairs to the front and rear doors of the museum, we experienced unexpectedly high electric bills this past winter. I've been working with an HVAC professional to identify and solve a possible issue with the heating system.

Battery

As reported below, there is a new trail at Conanicut Battery Historic Park. The new trail is phase one of a planned trail that will eventually run along the outer border of the entire Battery. The trail expansion plans include a secluded camping area that will be open to Jamestown Scouting groups.

Conanicut Battery

by Dennis Webster

Jamestown Boy Scouts Dylan Walsh and Nathaniel Hopkins completed a new trail at Conanicut Battery in early May, earning the rank of Eagle Scout in the process. The new trail runs from the north side of the parking lot through the red maple woods that lie west of the main trail and enters the open field just north of the Revolutionary War earthwork.

The Fallen Maple Trail is narrower and has a rougher surface than most of the other trails in the park and was not designed to the handicapped accessibility standards of some of those other trails. It has one short hill and a viewpoint that looks north over Dutch Harbor toward the Jamestown Bridge.

The Conanicut Battery trails get used a great deal, and this new trail gives visitors one more option for walking a loop through the park. Anyone who enjoys walking a narrow path through the woods should enjoy this new trail.

Erosion is the main threat to the Conanicut Battery earthworks. Last year, the society planted a local grass that grows slowly, sets deep roots in the soil, and does not need to be mowed. To control the grass, the society plans to burn it down every other spring.

The cost of a spring burn is about \$3,300. Senator Teresa Paiva Weed sponsored a \$1,000 legislative grant to the Friends of the Conanicut Battery to help pay for it. The 2009 grant will be used to pay for the initial planning phase for the burn.

Development and Membership

by Erica Gregg and James Wright

This year, the JHS is establishing a new, standardized "Membership Year" that will begin on July 1 and run through June 30 of next year. By creating a consistent membership renewal date for all members, we hope to streamline our administrative processes, make a more focused annual push for new and returning members, and make it easier for members to remember their renewal date.

July 1 is a natural choice for the start of the society's membership year because it fits nicely with when our properties are in full activity and the island is bustling with summer visitors. We have also found that June and July are already the months when the bulk of our members' renewals are due.

The process to "convert" to a standardized membership year should be simple. In June, we'll send out a reminder letter that our new Membership Year is about to begin. If your previous membership is due to lapse around that time, you can simply renew and we'll get you synced up with our July 1 date. If you've already sent in a membership payment in 2010, we'll credit it through this Membership Year and you won't have to worry about renewing until July 1, 2011.

In the past few years, we've been building on our "Members Only" programs, including the House Tour Preview Party. We hope that you enjoy and continue to support these events!

But we also know that one of the biggest benefits of a JHS membership is the knowledge that you are supporting an organization that is important to you and to the community. Membership dues contribute



The "Red House" on Alden Road, overlooking Shoreby Hill green, will be the site of the members only House Tour Preview Party on September 17.

greatly to our normal operating budget. Your membership support helps us to continue our stewardship of JHS properties, our care of a wonderful and growing collection, and expansion of programs for the public.

If you know of anyone who might enjoy a JHS membership, please have them contact the Membership Committee at the contact information below.

Look for your membership renewal letter in June and if you have any questions, please contact James Wright (james@bridgetechnicalsolutions.com or 423-0066) or Erica Gregg (ericagregg@cox.net or 595-3235).

We look forward to seeing you at JHS events this year.

Programs

by Rosemary Enright

Our 2010 winter event, a talk about the Battle of Rhode Island by Larry McDonald, was a great success. Sixty people attended the January 20 presentation, which was co-sponsored with the Friends of the Jamestown Philomenian Library.

Larry, dressed in the uniform of Line Major for the Varnum Continentals, showed slides of the 1978 reenactment of the battle while he explained the strategy employed and the misunderstandings and miscommunications between the Continental and French troops involved on the American side. The Battle of Rhode Island, the largest battle fought in New England during the Revolutionary War, ended inconclusively with the British forces still in control of Narragansett Bay.

Summer Programs

This year our major events are Windmill Day on August 7 and the annual house tour weekend on September 17 and 18. The complete schedule of 2010 summer programs is on page 2. Details for the summer events are being addressed now, and Windmill Day activities are described in the Windmill Committee report.

The society plans to sponsor a Battery Day and a Windmill Day on alternate years. We've already begun planning for Battery Day next May. If you are a current or potential colonial / Revolutionary War reenactor, we are interested in including you in that event.

Education

by Sally Schott

The Jamestown Historical Society is continuing its efforts to reach out to Jamestown kids to share knowledge and resources about the unique history of our small island.

At the Lawn School, the exhibit in the display case outside the library this spring showcased the history of farms and farming in Jamestown. We are grateful to the school's administration for allowing JHS to use this exhibit space to bring a bit of Jamestown history into the school for the kids to see every day. The farm exhibit was our third at this location; a new subject will be featured in the fall.

The Jamestown Museum will open its doors a little early to allow school groups to get a sneak preview of this summer's major exhibit on farming.

The 2nd grade is currently studying farming, so this exhibit will be a wonderful supplement to their curriculum.

In April, Lawn Avenue School teacher Christine Bernardo arranged a tour of Jamestown's historic sights for the entire 5th grade. On the tour, they visited the Jamestown windmill. Rosemary Enright explained how the mill worked and took groups of enthusiastic students up into the bonnet to see the mechanisms that translate wind power into drive power for the 3500-pound grindstone.

Not all the students could be in the mill at the same time, so Mrs. Bernardo walked with some of the kids over to the Quaker meetinghouse and explained the history of Quakerism on Jamestown.

We are very gratified that the Jamestown Schools have taken such a strong interest in what we do, and that we have been able to forge a strong relationship to continue to bring Jamestown history to light for our students.



Fifth graders clambered through the mill and took notes about how a nineteenth century miller worked.

Jamestown Windmill

by Linnea Petersen

The Jamestown windmill is scheduled to be open this year from 1 to 4 PM on weekends from Saturday, June 19, through Sunday, October 10. We will also open two hours early – at 11 A.M. – on September 25 as part of the Rhode Island Historic Sites Coalition's participation in Museum Day, sponsored by Smithsonian Magazine.

Many visitors came by last year during the halcyon days of fall. We hope the same will happen this year.

The windmill can only be open to the public if a volunteer is there to welcome visitors and answer questions. If you want to volunteer, please call Deb Swistak at 423-0492 or email debswistak@cox.net.

Windmill Day

August 7 is Windmill Day this summer. We are very excited to once again put up the sails and set "The Old Jamestown Mill" in motion. Jesse Lambert, who has worked extensively with our millwright Andy Shrake, will be on hand to assist us in this effort. It is so wonderful that there are people developing the expertise to preserve old mills and that they are willing to work with us to ensure that our important Jamestown icon will remain for future generations.

Dick Donnelly, master jonnycake chef, has agreed to come, once again, to delight us with his wonderful jonnycakes – made with Rhode Island's Kenyon Corn Meal – his recipes, and his stories.

Conanicut Stone Works will rebuild a piece of our stone wall as a demonstration of this very interesting craft so integral to early New England farms. Jamestowners have a continuing interest in stone walls as evidenced by the many walls that are being constructed and rebuilt in our community right now. Come and see how they are built.

Repairs

Last fall, we noted dry rot in one of the blades, or vanes, of the mill and the vanes were removed for repair. Parts of the stone wall are also being rebuilt. See the Buildings & Grounds report for details.

At the annual Jamestown Shoreline cleanup in April, Bill Munger from Conanicut Marine Service volunteered his crane to help us reinstall the vanes.



During the winter, the vanes were removed from the windmill for repair.

Only in Jamestown! Thanks, once again, to Conanicut Marine Service, for your generosity.

The repairs at the windmill this year have been very expensive – \$18,500 for the vanes and \$10,500 for the wall. The accumulated income from a windmill trust fund set up in 1987 by Nan Thompson and Margaret Evans will pay for most of the repairs, and we are continually grateful to them. Further donations would also be greatly appreciated.

Signage

As reported on page 1, the new road sign at the mill will be going up soon. This is just the first step toward improving informational signage both inside and outside of the building. For our next step, we are planning to erect an explanatory description of the mill that visitors may read either before or after touring the building or when the mill is not open. The third phase will include improved signage inside the mill.

Early Visitors

Despite the vanes being removed, we have had several groups of early visitors. In addition to the fifth graders from the Lawn Avenue School, guests of the Jamestown Rotary toured the mill in late April. On May 16, photographers of the Rhode Island Photo Safari, who include JHSer Patti Cassidy, captured the inner workings of the mill with their digital cameras.

Collections Committee

by Sue Maden

The Collections Committee, which meets monthly, consists of Sue Maden, Rosemary Enright, Joe Logan, Dianne Rugh, Linda Warner, and Harry Wright.

Summer Museum Exhibit

The summer exhibit at the museum, *Farm Life in Jamestown: A Look at Our Farms, Past and Present*, will open on June 20. A large barn loom will be the center of the exhibit, surrounded by other household objects and farming implements.

Historic maps, showing the decline of farmland from about 90 percent of the island in 1850 to about 12 percent in 2004, have been digitized for display and study. The exhibit brings together information about those who lived and worked on the farms from the colonial era to the present. The Conanicut Grange Jamestown Farm Viability Committee will have a panel in the exhibit presenting the present and future of the farms.

This year, in addition to the displays themselves, the society has obtained a grant through our state Representative Deb Ruggiero to print a booklet that will contain detailed information that will both give visitors greater insight into the historical information exhibited and provide a permanent record.

Museum Volunteers

Debbie Swistak has taken on the task of scheduling volunteers this year and has started calling those of you who have volunteered in recent years.

The museum will be open Wednesdays through Sundays from 1 to 4 PM until Labor Day weekend and for the same hours on weekends from then until mid-October. Someone has to be in the museum whenever it is open, and we are very grateful to everyone who volunteers. Debbie is also scheduling volunteers for the windmill.

Formal orientations will be scheduled for both sites. If you cannot be at that orientation, then come to the museum before your scheduled time and whoever is on duty can orient you. You will be sent detailed instructions by e-mail, if we have your email address, or by snail mail.

Temporary Displays

Two exhibits were displayed in the society's case at the Jamestown Philomenian Library this winter and spring. (The case is on the south wall of the inside lobby under the pass through to the children's area.)

Additions to the collection received between October 2008 and November 2009 were exhibited from December 2009 to March 2010. Only the smaller objects could be displayed, but a list of all donations accompanied the display. From March to May, the subject was Jamestown Businesses and Merchants. The objects on exhibit ranged from a record book kept by Abbott Chandler, who ran a boat livery at East Ferry in the early 20th century, to a not very politically correct ashtray from the Narragansett Café.

"Wish you were here," souvenirs from Jamestown, will be on display throughout the summer.

In January, an exhibit about farming in Jamestown – a "teaser" for the summer exhibit – was mounted in a display area at the entrance to the library in the Lawn Avenue School.

Cataloging

Volunteers are essential in the effort to catalog both the backlog of older records and to keep up with new acquisitions. Volunteers who are inputting records in the PastPerfect cataloging software are Rosemary Enright, Holly Collins, Sue Maden, Nancy and Joe Logan, Myrna Maxfield, Alice Noble, Dianne Rugh, Ginny Saunders, and Joan Vessella.

Others who are helping in other capacities are Judith Boone (photocopying and filing items prior to cataloging), Patti Cassidy (transcribing records), and Judy Knight (sewing identification labels into textiles). Susi Pendlebury helped to reorganize items for sale in the museum. We look forward to accepting the offer of Dorrie Linn to assist with the textile collection.

Some of the catalogers will spend considerable time in cataloging materials donated by local organizations. Alice Noble has just finished the Jamestown Garden Club records, and Dianne Rugh is working on the Lions Club. Ginny Saunders catalogs obituaries and by mid-May had completed 2,857 records.

Over 20,600 records have been created using PastPerfect software. Twice a year these are uploaded to the JHS website, jamestownhistoricalsociety.org.

In March, Dianne Rugh and Sue Maden attended an all day workshop on PastPerfect. The program was hosted by the Little Compton Historical Society and was funded by the Newport County Fund of the Rhode Island Foundation. It was helpful to learn more about the software and to meet with other Rhode Islanders with mutual interests and concerns.

Care of the Collections

When the Collections Committee reviews potential donations, storage and care of the items – in addition to relevance to the history of Jamestown – must be considered. To keep up to date on these matters, committee members attend relevant programs.

Recently Joe Logan and Sue Maden attended a lecture sponsored by the International Tennis Hall of Fame and Museum. Jim Reilly from Image Permanence Institute spoke on “Sustainable Operations.” He has done extensive research on environmental monitoring and control. Although JHS does monitor the temperature and humidity in the vault, where many materials are stored, we learned about up-to-date techniques and met with representatives of many organizations facing some of the same problems we do.

Evaluation of Collection Care

JHS recently received a grant for assessments of our conservation of both our buildings and our collections from the national Heritage Preservation Conservation Assessment Program (CAP). Alexandra Allardt of ArtCare Resources, who will examine the collections, and Martha Werenfels, AIA, who will evaluate the buildings, are scheduled to begin their assessment in early June.

Their written reports, due by November, will help us to improve our collection care and will support our applications for funds to address specific problems.

Ongoing Projects

A history of the buildings on Narragansett Avenue is being compiled with the hope of publishing a self-guided tour.

A few years ago, a library display featured moved buildings, particularly the Movable Chapel of the Transfiguration. Since then, the list of moved buildings has grown. Now there are over 100.

When the 325th anniversary of the incorporation of Jamestown was celebrated in 2003, the Souvenir Program included a six-page time line – compiled by Jane S. Miner – of significant events in the history of the town. Additional events and their dates have been added, with special emphasis on events in the last 60 years. Dick Allphin, Ginny Saunders, and Sue Maden culled much of the material from the “Year in Review” columns in the *Newport Daily News*, *Standard Times*, and *Jamestown Press*. The final document, when edited, will be made available on the JHS website.

Members of the committee are also involved with a variety of other projects:

- Answering reference questions about the collection or about Jamestown
- Working with members of other organizations
- Fulfilling requests for photographs for both personal and commercial purposes

Publications Available at the Jamestown Museum

Several recent publications will be available at the museum this summer. Late last fall JHS volunteers Rosemary Enright and Sue Maden completed a monograph, *Keepers of the Dutch Island Light*. A special Jamestown issue of *Newport History* from Spring 2009 has articles on “The Dr. Bates Sanitarium in Jamestown, 1900-1944” by the same authors and “Charles Lovatt Bevins, Jamestown’s English Architect” by James C. Buttrick.

Jamestown: A History of Narragansett Bay’s Island Town by Rosemary Enright and Sue Maden, with the Jamestown Historical Society, is expected from the History Press in early July.

The Collections Committee also selects duplicate copies of older publications for sale. Don’t miss the one on Jamestown’s 250th celebration in 1928. Four copies will be for sale when the Museum opens.

Interns

Since 2006, the Collections Committee has been fortunate to have four summer interns. One of them, Laurel Richardson from California, spent two summers with us. She graduated this May from The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester. Laurel was accepted into the Ph.D. program in colonial American history at University of California Davis. We wish her much success.

Because the summer tends to be hectic, we are now exploring with local colleges an internship experience over a semester.

Donations and Acquisitions: November 2009 through April 2010

- Joyce and Dick Allphin: Painting of the *Governor Carr* dated 1969 by John Doty Sr.
- Hilarie and Vincent Aubeis: Letters, photographs, newspaper clippings, and documents relating to Thomas E. Hunt, Jamestown pharmacist.
- Elizabeth Behler: Sixteen postcards of Jamestown from the ~1940s.
- Harry T. Burn: Copy of watercolor painting by Grant Reynard of the estate dispersal auction held by the heirs of Agnes (Heywood) Cottrell in August 1946 at Fox Hill Farm; CD with color and black & white scans of the auction watercolor and 12 other images of items his family bought at the auction.
- John Doty: copy of a program of the St. Mark minstrel show held March 16-17, 1957 and copies of three images (two of large group on stage and one of John and Nancy Doty); a picture of Godena's garage sited where Cumberland' Farms is now; two maps of Shoreby Hill area.
- Rosemary Enright: "The Lighthouses of Rhode Island," by Jeremy D'Entremont, 2006.
- Don Gillis: Large paintings of the Carr and Clarke schools done for the school reunion in July 2009.
- Fran Gorman: A pencil sketch of the Quaker meetinghouse by Fran Gorman.
- Janice Fletcher: Copies of the *Jamestown Gazette* for June 17, 1937; photo of an airplane with Paul Whitehead and Mel (Tom) Sheehan from late 1940s or early 1950s.
- Jamestown Arts Center: Two buttons and a prospectus about the center.
- Joe Logan: DVD with images of town barn open house 10/24/2009; 2009 town election materials.
- Sue Maden: Postcard of the painting by Alexander Foley ~1999 in the Shelley Tyre Memorial Alcove in the children's section of the Jamestown Philomenian library; postcard of Dutch Island Ligh restoration, photo by P.R. Hornby, 2008; 1870 map of Jamestown; 1888 US Geological survey map of Jamestown; 1918 Seaside Camp brochure; aerial photos from 1981; elevations for residence of W.L. Archer, post 1932, no architect named; development plan by Easton from 1925 for Pardon Tucker estate; 1954 voter lists; Ferry Summer Schedule, 1936; real 1909 photo card (originally received from John E. Caswell) of members of the Gladding family and the house of John E. Gladding (Caswell's grandfather) at 750 North Main Road; "Guardians of the Lights. Stories of U.S. Lighthouse Keepers" by Elinor De Wire, 1995; "America's Lighthouses" by Francis Ross Holland, Jr., 1972; "Picture Postcard Views of Rhode Island Lighthouses and Beacons" by Mildred Santille Longo, 1990; "Kindly Lights" by Sarah C. Gleason, 1991; "Official Gazetteer of Rhode Island," 1932.
- John Murphy: 2009 town election materials.
- Linnea Peterson: Two photos, 1958, Industrial National Bank under construction and completed (now Bank of America).
- Marion Pierce: Items related to Newport Bridge – envelope for 10 commuter tokens, two letters and a tag for the motorcade for the opening of the bridge in 1969; newspaper article about Dwyer appointed chairman of RITBA, 1959.
- Barbara Pritchard: Items from the building of the Newport Bridge, such as news releases, photographs, booklets.
- Quononoquott Garden Club: A variety of materials related to the club's history from its founding in 1949 to the present.
- Dianne and Jim Rugh: 2009 election materials and 2009 report to the Town Council from the Jamestown Tree Preservation and Protection Committee.
- Town of Jamestown: A set of Jamestown 1921 Sanborn maps, both full size and a folder with reduced sizes; ribbon from dedication of new town barn, 2009.
- Patti Vandal: Narragansett Café ashtray; blotter from Lang's Narragansett Avenue store; Newport Water Corp. water bill from 1940 for Joseph Martin of Marine Avenue; tax bills from 1939 and 1940 for Joseph Martin and wife; photo of Jamestown Rotary, with members named, from late 1940s or early 1950s.
- Linda Warner: Feb. 23, 1951 newspaper photograph of Home Economics class; wooden school desk from the Carr school.
- Nancy Wood: Letter written in 1995 from Peg Crawford to a friend who was to visit Jamestown; includes a handmade map.



**Godena's garage stood where Cumberland' Farms is now.
Photo was donated by John Doty.**

Treasurer's Report

by Tricia Evangelista

The Jamestown Historical Society ended 2009 with net operating income of approximately \$18,000, excluding Capital Campaign pledges and unrealized gains and losses on investment activity. The repairs to the windmill sails originally included in the 2009 operating budget were not made until 2010.

2010 Operating Budget

At its most recent meeting, the Jamestown Historical Society board approved the 2010 operating budget. The 2010 budget anticipates net expenditures in excess of revenues of approximately \$43,000 due primarily to the previously mentioned expenditures for repairs to the windmill sails, repairs to the stone wall surrounding the windmill and meetinghouse, and new signage at the windmill and museum.

The assets accumulated in the windmill investment accounts – created by investing unspent income from the windmill endowment established in 1987 – will be used for the windmill expenditures. Expenditures related to the meetinghouse and museum will be funded primarily from current year operating activity and accumulated general investments.

Endowment

The final Capital Campaign pledges and life memberships – both at the Patron and the 1657 Society level – received during 2009 were transferred to the Rhode Island Foundation at the start of 2010. Life memberships in the endowment generate operating income approximately equivalent to the annual membership fee. On December 31, 2009, the balances in the Jamestown Historical Society endowment accounts were:

	Investments
General endowment	\$ 241,158
Windmill endowment	\$ 8,279
Mary Miner endowment	\$ 8,070
Battery endowment*	\$ 32,000
*Held in CD at BankNewport	

An annual distribution of four percent from the RIF endowments contributes to the operating budget.

Quaker Meetinghouse

by Harry Wright

The Quaker Meetinghouse has had an active winter and hopes to have an even more active summer season.

In January, we received a \$1500 grant from the Doris Duke Fund of the Newport Restoration Foundation to enable us to complete some repairs. Bill Westall repaired broken and rotten piece of the floor, and William Smith of Liberty Carving on Jamestown repaired the benches, resingled the outhouse roof, and put a permanent louver in the attic window to provide better ventilation.

Other problems caused by the high water table on Windmill Hill still threaten the historic building. This summer, funded by a national Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) grant, Martha Werenfels, AIA, an architectural preservationist, will inspect the building and help us decide the best way to preserve it over the long run.

We'll have our annual open house on June 19 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. In addition to the open house, we enjoy opening the building to visitors by appointment – the first group this year, five Uruguayan Rotarians, came by on May 6.

The Society of Friends meets at the meetinghouse every Sunday at 10:30 A.M. The Conanicut Friends Meeting welcomes visitors to its unprogrammed worship.



New louvered window in meetinghouse.

**Officers and Directors
2009 – 2010**

President	Rosemary Enright
Vice President	Harry Wright
Secretary	John Horton
Treasurer	Tricia Evangelista
Directors to 2010	Dick Allphin William Mullins Sally Schott
Directors to 2011	Caroline Frank Sue Maden Dennis Webster James Wright
Directors to 2012	Greg DiGasper Erica Gregg Linnea Petersen Deb Swistak

**Renew Your Membership
For July 2010 - June 2011 year
NOW**

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

_____ **Student - \$15**
_____ **Individual - \$25**
_____ **Family - \$40**
_____ **Patron - \$500 (individual life)**
_____ **1657 Society - \$1,000**
 (household life + house plaque)

DONATION

Voluntary Donation \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

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

**Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Jamestown, RI
Permit #26**