



Jamestown Historical Society

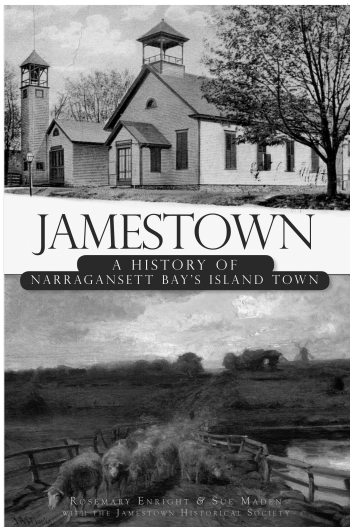
HERITAGE

Fall 2010

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

Sharing Jamestown History: A Book and A Sign

Jamestown: A History of Narragansett Bay's Island Town by Rosemary Enright and Sue Maden, with the support of the Jamestown Historical Society, was published by the History Press in July.



A new history of Jamestown

This 192-page paperback has over 80 photographs and paintings, most of them from the JHS collection, and is the first new complete history of Jamestown since Walter L. Watson's *History* in 1949. A great deal has happened in the last 60 years, and about a quarter of the book is devoted to that period.

New information also affected the chronicling of colonial Jamestown. The society purchased a recently discovered original of the Conanicut Island 1657 prepurchase contract in 2005. Detailed study of the agreement uncovered previously unknown details about the purchase of the island and resulted in updates to the story.

And, of course, attitudes have changed, leading to new interpretations of known material.

Rosemary and Sue will discuss the book and their collaboration in writing it at a joint JHS-Friends of the Library program at the Jamestown Philomenian Library on December 9 at 7:00 PM. Autographed

copies will be available then and at the Craft Fair at the Melrose School on Saturday, December 4.

The book is on sale at stores in the village and around the area and at major bookstores at the cover price of \$21.99. If you are a Jamestown Historical Society member and buy your copy through the society, the price is only \$20 (plus \$3 shipping and handling if you want us to mail a copy to you.)

Windmill Hill Historic District Signs

The Windmill Hill Historic District was added to the National Register of Historic Places with the support and assistance of the JHS in 1978. The 772-acre district includes most of the land from the John Eldred Parkway on the north and east to the Great Creek on the south and the bay on the west.

Three sites within the Windmill Hill Historic District are independently identified as historic sites on the National Register: the Quaker meetinghouse, the windmill, and the site of the old Hazard farmhouse that was gutted by fire in 2007.

This year the JHS asked the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to erect two signs on North Main Road alerting everyone who travels through the center of the island to the historic significance of the area. The RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission supported the request, and RIDOT installed the signs in early August.



Honor Roll of Volunteers for 2010

Each year we acknowledge the people who have contributed time and energy to the society's 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 124 individuals listed below have served in several different capacities. The society thanks them all for their hard work and dedication.

Dick Allphin	Rosemary Enright	Sue Maden	Jim Rugh	Joan Vessella
Joyce Allphin	Tricia Evangelista	Kathy Maloney	Mary Pat Ryan	Sue Vincent
Paul Andrews	Caroline Frank	Pede Manchester	Ginny Saunders	Skip Walls
Suzi Andrews	Patty Frye	Myrna Maxfield	Sally Schott	Chris Walsh
Rita Antine	Charlene Gamble	Larry McDonald	Debbie Slattery	George Warner
Stacey Antine	Judy Garlick	Jeff McDonough	John Slattery	Linda Warner
Carolyn Armington	Laura Gorham	Kim McDonough	William W. Smith	Dennis Webster
Judy Bell	Janet Grant	Jane Miner	Deb Swistak	Katy Wolfe
Jane Bentley	John Grant	Don Minto	Adams Taylor	Rich Wolfe
Lisa Bew	Eleanor Gravdahl	Heather Minto	Betty Ann Taylor	Harry Wright
Ann Biddle	Erica Gregg	Donna Montgomery	Gayen Thompson	James Wright
Tinny Biddle	Pam Haas	Heidi Keller Moon	Shirley Utterback	Ann Zartler
Judith Boone	Brookie Harding	William Mullins	ViVi Valentine	Greg Zeek
Fran Boyer	Mary Heath	Bill Munger	Pat Venable	Deede Zeek
George Boyer	Dick Hines	John Murphy		
Joan Briggs	John Horton	Ken Newman		
Aaron Brunelle	Bill Hutchinson	Alice Noble		
Paul Brunelle	Rose Karentz	Gloria O'Laughlin		
Bill Burgin	Varoujan Karentz	Rachel O'Neill		
Jim Buttrick	Bill Knapp	Karan Osenton		
Geoff Campbell	Judy Knight	Teresa Paiva-Weed		
Patti Cassidy	Carol Lake	Roland Parent		
Donna Chellis	Anne Lane	Susi Pendlebury		
Holly Collins	John Leyon	Linnea Petersen		
Isabel Coyle	Teddy Leyon	Paul Petersen		
Ann Crompton	Marcie Lindsay	Marion Pierce		
Fuzz Crompton	Dorrie Linn	Sue Potter		
Greg DiGasper	Anne Livingston	Betty Purdum		
Donna Drago	Bruce Livingston	Connie Rainone		
Joe Drago	Joe Logan	Sav Rebecchi		
Connie Payne Enright	Nancy Logan	Deb Ruggiero		
John Enright	Fran Lopes	Dianne Rugh		



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 or call 423-2674.

Beavertail Light Station is one of three nominees from Rhode Island that may benefit from the Hampton Inn 2011 SAVE-A-LANDMARK program. The historic site receiving the most votes by the end of November will receive a donation for preservation work from Hampton Hotels.

Help preserve this historic Jamestown landmark. Go to www.hamptonlandmarks.com Click on the "VOTE" sign at the bottom left and cast your vote for the Beavertail Lighthouse.



From the President

by Linnea Petersen

At our annual meeting on August 12, JHS members elected me president. I was very fortunate to have been elected with a strong Executive Committee and board. Dianne Rugh, who has been active on the Collections Committee for several years, was elected Vice-President; Rosemary Enright moved to the Secretary spot; and Tricia Evangelista is staying on as Treasurer.

Two new directors - Mary Heath and Larry McDonald - were elected to an already strong and active board. They join returning directors Dick Allphin, Greg DiGasper, Caroline Frank, Erica Gregg, John Horton, Sue Maden, Sally Schott, Deborah Swistak, Dennis Webster, and James Wright.

As new people arrived, we said good-bye and thank you to Harry Wright and William Mullins. Both are pursuing new adventures, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

Although I have been actively involved with the Jamestown Historical Society for many years, I did not have an overall working knowledge of each of our committees and the important work they do for our organization. I have learned a lot these past few months and am impressed with the talent, energy, dedication, and thoughtfulness the officers and directors bring to our organization.

We had a very successful summer highlighted by a museum exhibit on agriculture in Jamestown, our biannual Windmill Day, the Annual Meeting, and the House Tour weekend. The committee chairs cover the details of these events in their columns.

The end-of-the-summer Volunteers party, planned and hosted by Ken Newman, included a special tribute to Rosemary Enright and Harry Wright. Rosemary and Harry did terrific jobs as President and Vice-President from 2005 to 2010. They certainly demonstrated the true meaning of volunteerism at its best, and the JHS was fortunate to be the recipient of their efforts.

Over 100 volunteers work at society sites each year, sharing Jamestown's history with guests who visit them. This year's volunteers are listed on the opposite page. We need a person to serve as our Volunteer Coordinator. The primary responsibility of this position would be to schedule docents for the

windmill, museum, house tour, and other programs. This important job won't take a lot of your time but does require a person who is organized and detail oriented. If you think this is something you might be interested in doing or if you have any questions, please call me at 423-1820 or email me at linneac@cox.net. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sue and Rosemary's new book, *Jamestown: A History of Narragansett Bay's Island Town*, has been selling like hot cakes (perhaps in this publication I should say jonnycakes!) If you have not purchased your copy yet or you are looking for a unique and special gift, you can pick up an autographed copy at the CIAA Craft Fair on December 4 or at Rosemary and Sue's talk at the library on December 9. All the profits from the book benefit the society.

The Jamestown Historical Society would like to commend Rosemary and Sue for the excellent job they did writing this book and thank them for taking on this project that has benefited the JHS so much.

In the spring, the society received a grant from National Heritage Preservation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services to engage two conservators – one for the collection and one for the buildings – to evaluate how well we are caring for our historic artifacts. The Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) report was received in September.

The assessors, architect Martha L. Werenfels and collections conservator Alexandra Allardt, both complimented the society on current status. Ms Werenfels said of the windmill, meetinghouse, and museum: "Each of the buildings is in excellent condition." Ms Allardt praised our accomplishments as "highly commendable examples of preservation stewardship."

The reports contain suggestions for improving that stewardship and these will serve as a blueprint for identifying and prioritizing both our short term and long range preservation plans and goals. The board will be working on this over the next several months, and we will keep you up to date on our progress.

A lot has been accomplished since our last newsletter and you will read about it in the individual columns. A lot is left to do. Life is good!

Programs

by Rosemary Enright

The Programs committee coordinates the activities of the society, but is not directly responsible for most of them. Windmill Day and the members-only House Tour Preview party came off beautifully under the direction of Linnea Petersen, the Windmill committee chair, and Erica Gregg and James Wright, the Development committee co-chairs. They tell you about these events in their columns.

House Tour and Annual Meeting

Mary Heath, the incoming Programs committee chair, organized the house tour, which was held on Saturday, September 18 – a beautiful, sunny day, perfect for traveling around the island. Sue Maden oversaw the staffing, ensuring that volunteer docents were available at each house.

For the first time in recent years, the houses selected were located in different parts of the island as well as reflecting vastly different eras of our history. The 1920s summer bungalow *Gull's Nest* on Beavertail was very different in time and place from the restored 1680s Cottrell farm off Hamilton Avenue or the wonderfully preserved Victorian *Rossmere* in Conanicut Park at the North End.

Over 150 house tour guests enjoyed not just the houses on the tour but the jaunt down almost the whole length of the island. Many commented that their normal routes did not take them to other parts of the island and that they enjoyed the outing tremendously.

We thank Tinny and Ann Biddle, ViVi Valentine and Bill Hutchinson, and Donna Montgomery for inviting us into their homes.

At the JHS annual meeting on August 12, Don Minto from Watson Farm talked about "Conanicut Island's Agrarian Heritage." In keeping with our farm life theme for this year, he discussed the history of land use on the island.

Plans for 2011

This year we are once again trying to coordinate our programs and our exhibits around a single theme – Jamestown and movie and stage productions. As Sue Maden reports in her Collections committee column, we are reaching out to many organizations on the

island to sponsor or co-sponsor programs around the idea of *Jamestown and the Silver Screen*.

The society will sponsor a Battery Day in May – which since it involves a re-enactment is certainly in keeping with our stage and screen theme. If you are a current or potential colonial or Revolutionary War re-enactor, we are interested in including you in that event.

Education

by Sally Schott

Jamestown students have been experiencing Jamestown history in many ways over the last six months.

Last June, more than 250 students from 1st through 6th grades visited the museum for a sneak preview of the *Farm Life in Jamestown* exhibit. Students were able to see each of the tools used to make wool cloth – from the carding combs and the spinning wheel to the centerpiece of the exhibit, the enormous barn loom dating back to the early 18th century. They enjoyed studying the maps of the original farms and of the farms that we enjoy today. Many were particularly fascinated by the sheep to people ratio over the years!

These mini field trips have indeed become an annual tradition for the school.

The JHS display case at the Lawn Avenue School has a new exhibit this fall, thanks to the dedicated Collections committee team. This fall's exhibit shows transportation and military signs. The display case in "the 5th grade hallway" just outside the library is the perfect location for the society to provide snapshots of our island's history.



Students from the Melrose Avenue School watch as Rosemary Enright, the exhibit curator, explains and demonstrates the barn loom in the museum.

Buildings & Grounds

by Greg DiGasper

The Building and Grounds committee works with other committees to maintain all JHS properties and keep them in good repair.

Museum and Vault

No major repairs were needed at the museum or vault this summer. The maintenance performed on the cooling system in the museum, which wasn't working properly last summer, corrected the problem and the system worked well throughout the summer.

Windmill

Repairs to the blades and sails were completed before the season began.

As part of the CAP Architectural Assessment of the JHS properties, Martha L. Werenfels, a nationally-recognized expert in the field of historic preservation – she's worked on preservation projects at the Rhode Island State House and The Newport Casino among others – identified several repairs and maintenance issues at the windmill.

Some of the CAP recommendations are already being implemented. Mike Minto of Conanicut Stoneworks is almost through repairing the stone wall surrounding the windmill property. Andy Shrake, our long-time consultant on the windmill, has applied a boric acid treatment to control wood boring pests, especially the powderpost beetles that have attacked the mill before. The treatment will be repeated as needed.

The Windmill committee along with the B&G committee is reviewing all the CAP architectural recommendations and developing a plan of action to implement the suggested repairs.

Meetinghouse

A few minor repairs were completed at the meetinghouse prior to opening last spring. William Smith of Liberty Carvings fixed several of the benches as well as shingling the roof of the out building in the back of the meetinghouse. William also constructed a louvred panel to replace the attic window. The louvred panel will allow air to circulate through the attic space and therefore reduce the humidity and dampness in the overall building. This small repair should help

significantly slow the deterioration of the building's wooden structure.

Ms Werenfels' CAP report also identified other deterioration risks and the B&G committee is working with the meetinghouse committee to evaluate, schedule, and implement her suggested corrective actions.

Conanicut Battery

Out at the Conanicut Battery Historic Park, Fallen Maple Trail received a lot of use this spring and summer. The trail was constructed by two Boy Scouts from Troop 1 Jamestown last winter and has proven to be a nice diversion from the older more worn trails.

Conanicut Battery

by Larry McDonald for Dennis Webster

Last year, a new method for preserving the 1776 earthworks in the town's Conanicut Battery Historic Park was instituted. With funding from a RI Senate grant, a local grass was planted on the earthworks and a plan was put in place to burn the grass down after two years. Burning was deemed better than cutting since it allows the grass to root more deeply and holds the soil in place better.

In the meantime, though, undergrowth threatened to take over the trenches around the battlements. On October 20, nine Providence College students, under the direction of JHS board member Larry McDonald, spent the day clearing the brush from the battery escarpment, ditch, and counterscarp.

This was hard work. Care was needed not to damage the new grass planted last year. Despite protective measures, some of the workers suffered the aftereffects of scratches from the briars and contact with poison ivy.

During a break, the students toured the trail where the World War I and II bunkers are located and observed the view of the West Passage from atop one of the bunkers.

Control of the brush is an ongoing maintenance project at the battery. The JHS greatly appreciates the assistance of the PC students.

The controlled burn, designed to control the growth of woody brush and to allow for the growth of native grasses, has been rescheduled for after Battery Day 2011.

Jamestown Windmill

by Linnea Petersen

We had a great season at the mill. The mill being open through Columbus Day weekend combined with a great turnout on Windmill Day brought us close to a thousand visitors! They came from at least 29 states and five foreign countries.

Andy Shrake, our millwright, installed the new vanes in early June. Conanicut Marine's Bill Munger had volunteered the use of his boat lifting equipment to help with the installation, and for almost five hours, Andy and his assistant Jessie Lambert worked with the Conanicut Marine lift operator to hoist the vanes and guide the stocks through the windshaft. June is one of the busiest times of year for the Mungers, and we are especially grateful for Bill's help.

It is certainly great to see the "Old Jamestown Mill" back looking like "her old self" once again.

Pede Manchester called in late July to say he noticed the south door's paint was faded and offered to paint it with "Jamestown Red" paint he had left over, which he did prior to Windmill Day. Thanks, Pede, it definitely looks much better!

Windmill Day was the highlight of our summer. We haven't had a Windmill Day in several years, which made this an extra special event.

It was a gorgeous day (which really helps) filled with enthusiastic volunteers and



A special visitor. On October 10, a bride toured the mill with her new husband and signed her married name for the first time in our guest book.

visitors. We enjoyed delicious jonnycakes made for us by Dick Donnelly. Mike Minto of Conanicut Stoneworks, who is currently repairing the wall around the windmill field, demonstrated the art of stonewall repair. Millwright Jessie Lambert directed JHS members and friends as they raised the sails on the vanes and turned the bonnet to catch the breeze.

Setting up a mill is not an easy task. We were fortunate to have Jessie in charge of the operation to ensure the safety of both the workers and the onlookers. He told me that the collective applause and gasps from the crowd as the vanes began to spin the first time were his greatest inspiration for conducting this exercise several times.

Four separate times during the day, the bonnet was turned and the vanes were set in motion. Visitors, allowed to tour the mill throughout the day, were barred from the third floor while the sails turned the windshaft and brakewheel inside the bonnet.

Sav Rebeci recorded the day's activities for the *Jamestown Record*. The video of the windmill tour includes a unique view of the brakewheel in motion, (taken from the second floor). We have provided links to all three of his videos on our web site jamestownhistoricalsociety.org.



Andy Shrake guiding vane into place on June 3



Turning the Bonnet



Raising the First Sail



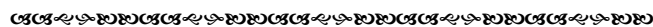
Getting Ready for the Second Sail

Windmill Day, August 7, 2010

Work continues on a plan for interpretive signage both outside and inside the mill. The exterior signs will explain the history and operation of the mill for those who can't or don't wish to tour the building or who visit when the mill is not open. The interior signage will guide visitors through the mill and improve their understanding of the working parts and general

operation. We are also planning to replace the Plexiglas enclosure around the millstone and install simple railings to steer visitors away from hazards inherent in an aged workplace.

To everyone who volunteered to be docents during the summer or to help on Windmill Day our heartfelt thanks! Your efforts are really appreciated.



Quaker Meetinghouse

by Harry Wright

The meetinghouse was one of the historical society's buildings inspected by Martha L. Werenfels, AIA, under the CAP grant awarded JHS last spring. Ms Werenfels was impressed with the generally good condition of the building, but she identified a number of specific potential problems that the society should keep under observation.

The most important and urgent problem that she identified resulted from the inevitable difficulty of maintaining an historic wooden building on an inherently damp site. She suggested that we be particularly concerned about dampness under the building, a circumstance that can lead to soft flooring and that can invite serious insect damage. Her

suggested possible recommendations included a French drain surrounding the building, more support under the main floor, and even raising the building somewhat to permit airflow under it.

It was an extremely valuable report and gave us a great deal to think about. We are working with Building and Grounds to define and cost solutions.

Otherwise, the meetinghouse had its usual share of visitors; and, of course, it was host from April until late October to the regular meetings of Friends worship, open to all, at 10:30 on Sunday mornings.

We continue to be extremely grateful to the Friends Meeting for its help and support in the maintenance and activities at the meetinghouse.

This fall responsibility for the meetinghouse and for coordination with the Conanicut Friends Meeting passed to Larry McDonald, the new Meetinghouse committee chair. The society is fortunate to have him in this position.

Collections Committee

by Sue Maden

The Collections committee, which meets monthly, consists of Sue Maden, Rosemary Enright, Joe Logan, Dianne Rugh, and Linda Warner. The committee sadly misses the wisdom and experience of Harry Wright who retired from the committee after five years.

CAP Evaluation of Collection Care

Over the past five years, the committee – in accordance with the Long Range Plan – has accomplished much in updating the storage, care, and cataloging of the JHS collection. Last year we decided it was time to have an outside assessment of the progress made.

A grant from the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) at National Heritage Preservation was applied for and received. Alexandra Allardt of ArtCare Resources, who examined the collections, and Martha L. Werenfels, AIA, who evaluated JHS buildings, submitted their final reports in September. The committee is in the process of evaluating and prioritizing the recommendations in these reports.

CAP Recommendations

The committee was already aware of the need for several of the suggested improvements. In some cases, budgetary considerations have inhibited their implementation. For example, a museum quality vacuum cleaner with HEPA filter and variable speed control, which is recommended to control the dust and insect debris that can build up in storage areas, costs approximately \$2,500. We are seeking grants to help us purchase this equipment and know that the recommendations in the CAP reports will increase the likelihood of success.

Funding for less expensive items, such as cards to measure textile fading (\$155 for 10) and UV filtering sleeves for the fluorescent lights in the vault (\$35 each), will be included in the 2011 budget. Tax-deductible donations to purchase these items would be greatly appreciated.

Exhibits: Museum, School, Library

The *Farm Life in Jamestown: A Look at Our Farms, Past and Present* exhibit in the museum was open for 70 days this summer and was seen by over 640 visitors.

With the exception of two paintings borrowed from Dick Hutchinson and Debbie Lichtenstein, everything on display was from the collection and reflected the generosity of past donors. A description brochure about the display enhanced the experience. The exhibit and the brochure were partially funded by a legislative grant sponsored by Deb Ruggiero.

We are most grateful to everyone who helped put the exhibit together and to the volunteers who cheerfully staffed the museum on the days it was open to the public.

The fall exhibit at Lawn Avenue School is on transportation and military signs. In January, a new exhibit on *Jamestown and the Silver Screen*, a preview of next summer's museum exhibit, will be mounted.

The display case in the library allows JHS to have year-round exhibits. The summer exhibit, *Wish You Were Here*, featured a variety of Jamestown souvenirs. The fall exhibit showed hats and headware from the collection. Currently we are displaying smaller items of the hundreds that were donated since November 2009, along with a list of all new donations.

Oral History Project: Growing Up in Jamestown

If you were born before 1945 and grew up in Jamestown, the Jamestown Historical Society wants to hear your story. JHS volunteers – currently, Joyce Allphin, Fran Boyer, Geoff Campbell, Carol Lake, Sue Maden, Diana Luth, and Carol Nelson-Lee. – are interviewing members of the pre-Baby Boomer generation to record Jamestown's history as seen through the eyes and personal experiences of Jamestown residents who saw it happen. Digital recorders for the project were donated by Shelley and Geoff Campbell and by John Enright.

Oral histories are important in understanding Jamestown's past. Newspapers usually don't report the background or personal relationships that are important to understanding how events develop. Public documents present only the facts. Memories and reminiscences provide a perspective that can be achieved no other way.

Please call Sue Maden at 423-2167 or email her at sdmaden@aol.com to volunteer to be interviewed as part of our effort to chronicle Jamestown's history.

Jamestown and the Silver Screen

Last month, the society got in touch with several local organizations, including the Teen Center, the Jamestown Arts Center, the Jamestown Philomenian Library, and the Jamestown schools, with the idea of developing a multi-month cross-organization set of programs related to film on Jamestown.

At least four motion pictures have major scenes filmed on Jamestown. Other films were produced by Jamestown residents. Several people who work in the film industry live on the island.

We want to show some of the movies, perhaps followed by discussions. The Teen Center is trying to put together a program to teach our young people how to make and edit short videos for a Jamestown festival. The 2011 summer museum exhibit will be about the history of stage productions and films on Jamestown. We encourage Jamestowners who have old family films of Jamestown to put the images to DVD. If enough are volunteered, we will organize a film festival to complement the teen's festival.

While the *Jamestown and the Silver Screen* production crew (as we are calling the steering committee) is in the early stages of planning, it is likely that some very interesting and varied programs will evolve.

Cataloging

The effort to catalog the backlog of items in the collection and to catalog newly donated items continues twice weekly in the vault in the Town Hall. You are welcome to stop by any Tuesday or Thursday mornings between 9 AM and noon. You can arrange a visit at other times by calling Sue Maden at 423-2167.

Sometimes, as they review items in the collection, volunteers find things that we would not accept under our current collection policy. We deaccession these items and, as directed by our deaccession policy, try to find appropriate homes. Recently, we contracted with the International Yacht Restoration School in Newport to trade some Sir Thomas Lipton items for four glass negatives of the interior of Clingstone in 1904. We also donated a flag to the Submarine Force Museum in Groton, CT.

Recent catalogers are Rosemary Enright, Carol Lake, Sue Maden, Myrna Maxfield, Alice Noble, Dianne Rugh, Ginny Saunders, and Joan Vessella. Other volunteers in the vault are Judith Boone, Patti Cassidy, and Dorrie Linn. We also enjoyed 20 hours of enthusiastic and competent community service by Rachel O'Neill, a student at the Pennfield School.



Our thanks to Ron Parfitt and Andrew Rushton of the Jamestown Parks and Recreation Department who placed two memorial stones from the JHS collection in the garden next to the museum.

Access to Catalog Records

For the past five years, the public has been able to access the society's collections catalog on-line at the JHS website, jamestownhistoricalsociety.org. However, as the number of records has increased – there are now more than 20,000 – access time has also increased and is now unacceptably slow. As a result, we are planning to implement a new interface to the data.

PastPerfect-Online™ is an extension of our current cataloging system that is designed to deliver the data across the Internet. Access will still be through a link on our website. Users shouldn't notice much difference although they may find the search engine more user-friendly and they will definitely get their answers more quickly.

Computers and Display Units

During the coming year, we will be continuing our catalog data entry and will face a whole new technology requirement – the need to display the film and stage material that will be part of the summer exhibit. If you or your company is retiring computers or flat screen display hardware, please think of donating them to the JHS.

Donations and Acquisitions: May 2009 through November 2010

Anonymous: pad of notepaper with "David Swain for Town Council" printed on it.

Elizabeth Behler: two postcards.

Bill Burgin: plans of the museum renovation.

Jim Buttrick: "Antiques and Fine Arts" issue of summer/autumn 2009 with two color images of paintings of Jamestown scenes; Garden Log March 1947 to Dec. 1951, kept by his Grandfather Magruder (loaned for copying).

Paul Bouchard: a framed map of Jamestown farms as recalled about 1933 by Helen Tefft and Thomas A. H. Tefft.

Ken Caswell: T-shirt from the Jamestown Fire Department Reunion in May 2010.

John Doty: two copies of Jamestown Shores 1948 poster (added to Education Materials).

Rosemary Enright: model of Beavertail Lighthouse; Dutch Island Lighthouse mug; memorial stone for John Price Wetherill 1906.

Janice Fletcher: framed photo of Rogers High School band, 1943. Her father (Paul Whitehead) is in the picture.

Judy Garlick: *The Islander* of June 7, 1940 (loaned for copying).

Barbara Frese Gagnon: photos of Jamestown Bridge under construction (most by Herb Foster); poster from first Jamestown Bridge; one photo of *Governor Carr*.

Jamestown Philomenian Library: *A Child's Book of Numbers* (1931) by John C. Stone, stamped "School Department Jamestown, R.I." Handwritten "Alcina Lopes Jamestown Carr School 2nd grade Miss Murray."

Sue Maden: Clingstone and Bay View Hotel mugs by Connie Armbrust.

Joe Logan: photos of windmill and Fools' Rules Regatta.

Nancy Logan: montage of photos from 2010 Windmill Day.

Ellen Noble: Program of movies at Jamestown movie theatre in August of 1950 (date uncertain).

Susan White Pieroth: photos of East Ferry; montage of 1894 photos of Jamestown Club, 1894; single photo of Jamestown Club.

Victor Richardson: a large ledger of the Jamestown & Newport Ferry Company from 1942-1947; photocopies of drawings from the *Transactions: The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers*, vol. 14 (1906) to illustrate a paper on "A Fire-proof Ferry-boat" by F.L. DuBosque; painting of *Hammonton* boiler room by donor; sheets of outboard elevation of the *Beavertail*, 1931; aerial map of Gould Island and most of Conanicut, 1942, at 10,000 feet with sheets of supporting material and one sheet with a small, clearer version; newspaper sketch of US fleet anchorage, 1942; ad for Jamestown Bridge, 1940; photo showing the damage at East Ferry after 1954 hurricane; 1997 letter to Capt Ryder about 1954 hurricane.

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Thrift Shop: A plate, millennium edition, celebrating 110 years of the Bay Voyage.

Bob Saunders: Genealogical information about Tobias Saunders.

Marie Spedalle: a painting of West Passage by John Cook, Dutch Island light keeper from 1915-1927; he retired in 1927 and died in 1930. The donor is a grandniece of Martha Cook, wife of John.

Vinny Vessella: one EMS jacket.

Linda Warner/Dorrie Linn: T-shirt drawn by Alex Carlisle for the 1996 BLMA competition; T-shirt drawn by Brittany Shippee, who won the 2010 BLMA competition;

Linda Warner: five photos of house being moved in 1948; one photo of Ferdinand Armbrust in 1912. (Loaned for copying.)

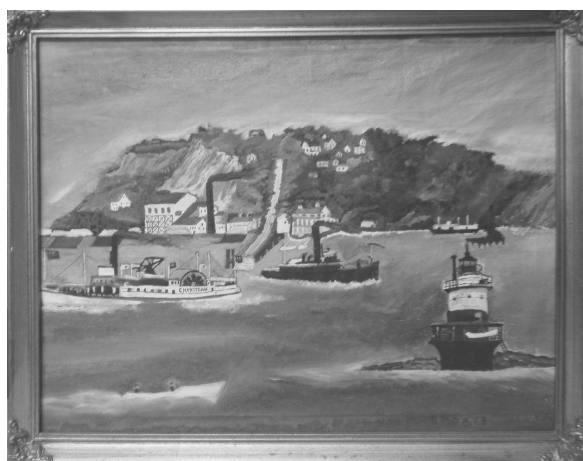
Wright family: Bathing suit, probably from 1883, worn by Anna Wharton; copies of two photos of her in the suit; six issues of *The Islander* (1939-1940); original plans by Charles E. Bevins for a Joseph Wharton house that was never built.

Harry Wright: two books from the Jamestown Vision (Charette), 2007-2008 (added to Education Materials).

Acquisition by trade

International Yacht Restoration School: four glass negative slides of the first floor of Clingstone in 1904 traded for items about Sir Thomas Lipton.

Naval War College Museum: copy of a photo of a Admirals' Tea Party, in exchange for copies of JHS photos of four Admirals' Tea Parties of other years.



West Passage by John Cook

Treasurer's Report

by Tricia Evangelista

From a financial perspective, 2010 has been another successful year for the Jamestown Historical Society. Both annual membership dues and life memberships exceeded budget.

Annual membership dues provide much needed income to fund both ongoing operations and replenish the society's investments, which were utilized for various capital projects undertaken this year. Life memberships, which are transferred to the society's general endowment at the Rhode Island Foundation, will provide additional annual income in perpetuity to support operations.

The budget for normal operating expenses this year was \$27,700. Normal operating expenses include collection acquisition and maintenance, programming, exhibits, publications, and property maintenance. Two thousand dollars in state grants contributed to operating income.

During the past year, major one-time expenditures were incurred for new signage at the windmill, meetinghouse, and museum; new windmill vanes; repairs to the stone walls surrounding the windmill and the meetinghouse; and the CAP assessment. The CAP assessment and a portion of the meetinghouse repairs were paid for with grants. The other activities were funded from current income and investments.

The Finance committee is currently reviewing anticipated capital expenditures for the next one to three years to ensure that funds are available when needed and to plan for investment of excess funds. At October 31, 2010, the balances held in investment accounts under the control of the society prior to adjustments to allocate current year expenditures to the various society properties are:

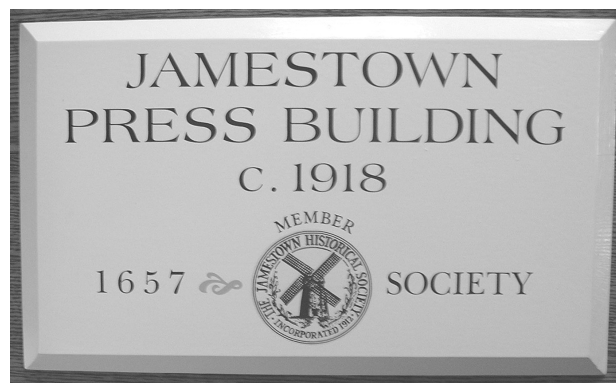
General investments	\$34,825
Meetinghouse investments	\$ 3,368
Windmill investments	\$59,435
Battery investments	\$12,245

As of the date of this newsletter, the society has not yet received the annual income from the three endowment funds held at the Rhode Island Foundation. Those funds are typically received in December.

Development and Membership

by Erica Gregg and James Wright

The Membership Committee is pleased to report that our program to standardize the Membership Year has been a big success. We've received over 125 renewals and four new 1657 Society memberships.



Sample 1657 Society House Plaque

In addition to updating the membership database, we've received a number of comments from members that this standardized membership year makes it easier to remember when it's renewal time. We expect that the renewal process for next year will run even more smoothly now that people are acclimated to the July 1st Membership Year cycle.

Our members-only House Tour Preview Party was also a great success. The event was held at *The Red House* at 5 Alden Road, home of Suzi and Paul Andrews. JHS members were delighted to tour this iconic Shoreby Hill home and to see its magnificent restoration and expansion. The more than 85 people who attended the event enjoyed the warm weather, delightful harbor views from the front porch, and the opportunity to see the meticulous renovations and changes to the interior of the house that were so thoughtfully executed in keeping with its historic ambience.

The event raised nearly \$3,000, and brought the renewal of a dozen lapsed members. Many thanks to Suzi and Paul for graciously opening their home and hosting this wonderful evening.

As always, if you know anyone who might enjoy a JHS membership, please have them contact James Wright at 423-0066 or james@bridgetechnicalsolutions.com or Erica Gregg at 595-3235 or ericagregg@cox.net.

**Officers and Directors
2010 – 2011**

President	Linnea Petersen
Vice President	Dianne Rugh
Secretary	Rosemary Enright
Treasurer	Tricia Evangelista

Directors to 2011	Caroline Frank
	Sue Maden
	Dennis Webster
	James Wright

Directors to 2012	Greg DiGasper
	Erica Gregg
	Mary Heath
	Deb Swistak

Directors to 2013	Dick Allphin
	John Horton
	Larry McDonald
	Sally Schott

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

**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 _____

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