



Jamestown Historical Society

HERITAGE

Spring 2011

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

Battery Day 2011



Photos by Geoff Campbell and John Horton

Read about Battery Day on page 8.

From the President

by Linnea Petersen

This winter we have received three grants that we are using in at the museum, windmill, and Conanicut Battery.

Deborah Ruggeiro, Jamestown's state Representative, secured a \$1,000 legislative grant that will be used to support the summer museum exhibit *Jamestown on Screen and Stage* and to add an IT component of the exhibit.

Teresa Paiva Weed, Jamestown's state Senator, also secured a \$1,000 grant that we are using to burn off the growth in the trenches of the earthworks at the Conanicut Battery.

The Rhode Island Council for the Humanities (RICH) granted us \$1,700, which will be used for informational signage at the windmill.

Look in the individual committee reports for more about how we will use these grants.

We're very grateful to these benefactors for their assistance in helping us fund these projects.

Battery Day

On May 14, 2011, we held our biennial Conanicut Battery Day. It was a wonderful event, filled with patriotism and pride for those in attendance. We sang with the Jamestown Community Band and witnessed the raising of Old Glory by Jamestown's Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion and of the French and the British flags by representatives of those countries. Paul Brunelle, as our host Major Blodget, and Larry McDonald, who organized and described the military activity, each did a marvelous job. Mary Heath's organizational skills made everything run smoothly.

The events of the day are described in detail on page 8, but the photographs on page 1 capture the spirit.

The event, which was completely free to those who attended, was a thought provoking experience that made one realize freedom isn't free and how blessed we are because of the sacrifices of others.

Jamestown and the Silver Screen

We are very pleased by the response from several Island organizations that have joined us in a year-long

program series – entitled *Jamestown and the Silver Screen* – which was initiated and spearheaded by our Collections Committee.

The steering committee, led by Collections Committee Chair Sue Maden, met monthly through the winter planning and coordinating 14 events related to Jamestown and Jamestown's involvement in movies. In addition to the Jamestown Historical Society, sponsors include the Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association, Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation, Conanicut Yacht Club, Friends of the Library, Jamestown Arts Center, the Jamestown chapters of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Jamestown Community Theatre, Jamestown Philomenian Library, Jamestown Teen Center, Jamestown Yacht Club, and the Quononoquott Garden Club.

Collaboration with other groups on the Island was one of the goals we set for ourselves in the Long-Range Plan six years ago. The success of the endeavor is wonderful, and we are grateful for the creative contributions of all the organizations involved.

Historical Society Annual Meeting

On Thursday, August 11, 2011, the renowned set designer, Eugene Lee, the resident designer at Trinity Rep, will be our guest speaker. Mr. Lee has won numerous awards for his work including Tony awards for set designs of *Candide*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Wicked*, and Emmy for production design of NBC's *Saturday Night Live*.

Save the date, this should be a very interesting evening.

Summer Activities

Page 3 has a complete list of all our upcoming activities. I hope I'll see you at them and that you will visit the museum, windmill, Friends Meetinghouse, and Conanicut Battery this summer. These are the properties that are entrusted to our care and that exist because of your continued support, enthusiasm, and commitment to the Jamestown Historical Society.

Thank you all for contributing to another wonderful year for the JHS..

Summer 2010 Program Schedule

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

Saturday, June 18

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 10.

Saturday, June 18

Quaker Meetinghouse Open House 1 to 4 PM

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

Saturday, June 18

Museum Docent Orientation 1 to 4 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 19

Jamestown Museum Opens for Summer 1 to 4 PM

Grand opening for the summer exhibit, *Jamestown on Stage and Screen*. Museum hours: 1 to 4 PM, Wednesdays to Sundays through Labor Day and Saturday and Sunday through October 10.

Thursday, August 11

Annual Meeting Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM

Election of officers and directors for 2011-2012. Eugene Lee, Resident Designer at Trinity Rep and three-time Tony award winner, will speak.

Friday, September 16

Members Only House Tour Preview Party 6 - 8 PM

Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres at an historic house. Watch the *Jamestown Press* for details. Tickets: \$40. Includes ticket to Saturday's house tour.

Saturday, September 17

House Tour 10 AM - 2 PM

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

Wednesday, September 21

***Jamestown and the Silver Screen* Event Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM**

Film: *Nature's Fury: New England's Killer Hurricane*, sponsored by the Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association.

Saturday, September 24

Smithsonian Magazine's Museum Day 11 AM - 4 PM

The museum, the meetinghouse, and the windmill will be open longer hours to support RI Historic Sites Coalition participation in National Museum Day. Get your ticket online and visit many RI museums for free.

Sunday, October 10

Jamestown Museum and Windmill Close

Last day this summer to visit the Jamestown museum or drop by the Jamestown windmill. Group visits can be arranged any time by calling 423-0284 or emailing your request to info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org.

Friday, October 14

***Jamestown and the Silver Screen* Event Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM**

Film and Program: *Wind*, followed by discussion of America's Cup boat designs. Sponsored by the Conanicut Yacht Club, Jamestown Yacht Club, and Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation.

Monday, October 17

***Jamestown and the Silver Screen* Event Jamestown Philomenian Library, 2 PM**

Dinner at the Movies: A display of table settings inspired by famous movies. Sponsored by Quononoquott Garden Club

Friday, November 4

***Jamestown and the Silver Screen* Event Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM**

Program: *Clips and Quips*. Clips from Jamestown movies and stories from those who were there. Sponsored by the Jamestown Historical Society

Friday, November 11

***Jamestown and the Silver Screen* Event Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM**

Film: *Crash Dive*. Submarine movie filmed in Jamestown waters. Sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Development and Membership

by Erica Gregg and James Wright

Last year, the Membership Committee established a standardized "Membership Year" which goes from July 1 through June 30 of every year. We worked hard to get everyone in sync with this new membership year and were delighted by the response to our Membership Renewal letter. A tremendous number of members renewed, a large number of lapsed members re-joined, and even some new members joined through referrals. Perhaps best of all, we had positive feedback from members who said that this standardized approach will make it easier for them to remember when to renew their memberships.

We're excited this year to be entering our second year of the plan, and hope that we'll see the results of last year's efforts in a much more streamlined process for renewals. The Society's properties are open and full of activity in the summer, so we're looking forward to using our annual renewal letter as a way of reminding our members to get out and enjoy the museum, the windmill, and the many other offerings of the Society. Look for membership renewal letters to arrive sometime in June.

The JHS has really flourished in the last several years. During this time, the society has taken on a number of new projects and have consequently seen our operating budget expand dramatically. As a result of such efforts as the vault at the Town Offices, the improvements to the museum, and increased outreach to the schools--just to name a few things--the JHS has furthered its stewardship of island history through preservation, education and more interaction. We're proud of what we do and your membership dues are a large part of what enables us to do this work. Thank you for your continued support.

Look for the renewal letters in June. If you have any questions please feel free to contact James Wright (james@bridgetechnicalsolutions.com or 423-0066) or Erica Gregg (ericagregg@cox.net or 595-3235).

If you are looking for more ways to help the JHS, please consider gifting a membership or prompting a friend to join the JHS. Sharing the heritage of this beautiful island with a friend or loved one makes a terrific gift! View our web site for more details: www.jamestownhistoricalsociety.org.

Treasurer's Report

by Tricia Evangelista

The Jamestown Historical Society ended 2010 with expenditures exceeding income by approximately \$9,000 (excluding unrealized gains and losses on investment activity) due primarily to expenditures of approximately \$31,000 to repair the windmill and the stone walls. These expenditures were paid from funds accumulated from unspent income from the windmill endowment established in 1987.

Annual dues and member donations during 2010 provided significant support of society operations.

2011 Operating Budget

The JHS board approved a 2011 deficit operating budget that anticipates net expenditures in excess of revenues of approximately \$22,000 due primarily to maintenance and repairs at the museum, windmill, and meetinghouse and the new signage for the windmill discussed on page 6. As in 2010, assets accumulated in the windmill investment accounts will be used for the windmill expenditures. Other costs will be funded primarily from current year operating activity and accumulated general investments.

Endowment

Patron and 1676 Society memberships received in 2010 were transferred to the General endowment at the Rhode Island Foundation at the start of 2011. Life memberships in the endowment generate operating income approximately equivalent to the annual membership fee. On December 31, 2010, the balances in the JHS investment and endowment accounts were:

General investments	\$62,780
Meetinghouse investments	\$ 3,337
Windmill investments	\$32,065
Battery investments	\$14,233
General endowment	\$271,532
Battery endowment	\$32,000
Mary Miner Archives endowment	\$8,690
Windmill endowment	\$8,917

In addition to the endowment accounts listed in above, which are under the control of the JHS, endowment funds held by third parties provide annual income for the maintenance of the windmill and meetinghouse.

Buildings & Grounds

by Greg DiGasper

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

Museum

No major repairs were needed at the museum this winter. A small crack in the cast iron stair railing near the sidewalk, most likely caused by snow removal equipment sometime this winter, has been repaired and poses no threat to safety. Quotes have been received for installing an "all-building" dehumidifier and a cast iron rail at the rear entrance. Building and Grounds and Collections committees are looking into other alternatives and will determine the best course of action over the summer.

Windmill

The Conservation Assessment Program's architectural assessment of the JHS properties last year identified a laundry list of minor repairs, safety upgrades, and preventative maintenance concerns at the mill. The Building and Grounds and the Windmill committees are reviewing these issues and will create a plan of action to address them all.

The committee has already made plans to implement the recommendation to raise the ground grade around the mill foundation and install a drainage pipe. The work will take place after the tourist season. Archie Clark has graciously offered to donate his time to complete this project.

Other CAP's recommendations the committees are working on are:

- Replacing the plexi-glass around the millstone with a replica of the original wooden vat.
- Installing railings around the floor openings.
- Installing exterior signage to make the mill experience available to people with disabilities.

Meetinghouse

A few minor repairs were completed at the meetinghouse prior to opening last spring.

We are still exploring methods for reducing the humidity levels in the building. One method is to install a vapor barrier over the dirt sub-floor to block moisture from wicking up into the floor boards. A more extreme method is for the building to be lifted and a foundation or cement slab to be poured. This method could potentially reduce or halt the settling of the foundation and structure which would reduce stress on the building's joinery and material.

Conanicut Battery

by Larry McDonald & Dennis Webster

The JHS oversees and maintains the historic features within the Town of Jamestown's Conanicut Battery Historic Park at the end of Battery Lane on the Beavertail peninsula. This May we celebrated the 1776 Conanicut Battery, which is a National Historic Site, with our biennial Battery Day.

The Battery Committee worked closely with the Program Committee to create this highly successful event. See page 1 for pictures of the activities and page 8 for a description of the program.

Battery Maintenance

The preservation of the earthwork battlements at the Conanicut Battery benefits all the people of Rhode Island. Because of its state-wide significance, the JHS has solicited and received a series of grants from the Rhode Island Senate, sponsored by Senator Theresa Paiva Weed, for a major maintenance project.

The contours of the battery are extremely sensitive to erosion. Two years ago, the committee had the battery seeded with native grasses that develop deep roots and grow slowly. Since then the committee has been working with Joel Carlson of Northeast Fire and Forest Management to develop a plan to control the vegetation by burning it back. Burning, rather than mowing or weeding, is recommended to maintain the integrity of the configuration of this unique historic asset.

All plans, permits, licenses, and signatures are now in place. We had hoped to complete the burn this spring, before Battery Day. The weather did not cooperate. The early rains kept the land too wet, and the vegetation greened early and quickly.

The burn is now planned for the fall.

Windmill Hill

by

Caroline Frank & Linnea Petersen

Did you know that if the 3500-pound millstones on the old Jamestown windmill were too close together during grinding, they could burn the corn, spew sparks, and potentially set fire to the mill? The miller had to “keep his nose to the grindstone” to catch the first scent of fire and avert disaster!

The Windmill Committee has been keeping its “nose to the grindstone” this past winter. The CAP conservation assessment the JHS received in June of last year praised the society for its stewardship of the mill saying “The iconic nature of this building type and the siting of the building make it a very significant landmark at the center of Jamestown Island.”

Signage and Accessibility

The assessor did, however, have some important suggestions. One high priority recommendation said:

“Because it is such a unique and diminutive building, the Windmill cannot be made accessible without significantly impacting its historic character. Alternative means for providing the experience of

visiting the interior of the Windmill should be considered. Access to the site and accessible parking spaces should be provided so that the exterior of the building can be viewed and appreciated by all visitors. Display panels on the site could describe and depict the visitor’s experience to the interior of the building and the story of the milling operations so that handicap visitors can gain as full an understanding of the building as possible without going inside.”

We have long had a goal of constructing informational signs on the windmill grounds that would describe and depict a visitor’s experience inside the mill. Not only would these explain the building to those with physical disabilities that prevent them from entering the building, but since people stop to look at the windmill year round – even when the building is closed – the signs would give off-season visitors a deeper understanding of the building they were looking at.

The CAP recommendation increased our sense of urgency. We decided to post two low-level, cantilevered outdoor signs, made to National Park Service standards, near the mill so that everyone, at all times of year, can learn about and appreciate this historical structure. One of the signs will explain the building’s history and the other will depict the internal workings of its mechanism.

This spring, Caroline Frank, Windmill Committee chair, successfully proposed the project to the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities (RICH), and the society was awarded a \$1,700 grant toward creating the signs. Rosemary Enright researched and wrote the text for the signs, and Jim Rugh agreed to do the layout – both as “in kind” contributions to this project.

The signs should be completed and installed by midsummer.

This project will dramatically improve public accessibility to the “inside story” of this impressive windmill, visible for miles around and visited by people from all over the region and country.

Early Visitors

In April, we had the pleasure of opening the windmill and the Friends Meetinghouse for about fifty 5th graders from the Lawn Avenue School who were studying the history of Jamestown. They were delightful, asking a lot of great questions and taking notes in their journals about our buildings and their histories.



Rosemary Enright explains the grooves on the millstone in front of the 1787 windmill to the 5th grade students.

Thanks to Rosemary Enright and Linnea Petersen for being at the Mill and Harry Wright for being at the meetinghouse which made their visit possible.

Summer Schedule

Opening day at the mill is June 18th. The mill will be open on Saturday and Sundays afternoons from 1 PM to 4 PM through Columbus Day weekend. We will open two hours earlier – at 11 AM – on National Museum Day, September 24th.

The Friends Meetinghouse on Weeden Lane will hold its annual open house on Saturday, June 18th. The meetinghouse will also be open for National Museum Day. The Religious Society of Friends holds services at 10:30 AM on Sundays through October.

Both sites are open by appointment throughout the year.

Volunteering

Whenever the windmill is open, a JHS member is there to welcome visitors and give them information about the mill. As always, we need docents who will make this possible. If you would like to volunteer to “windmill sit,” call or email Tricia Frary at 423-1395 or tfrary@cox.net. Tricia is our new volunteer coordinator and is signing up people for both the museum and the windmill.

All those interested in volunteering at the windmill site this summer are invited to an orientation at 11 AM June 18th. Linnea Petersen will take volunteers through the mill and give each a booklet that explains the history and working of the mill. Email the society at info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org or call Linnea at 423-1820 if you have questions.

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 Avenue School, the exhibit in the display case outside the library this spring was a preview of the summer exhibit at the museum and showed posters and memorabilia of movies filmed in Jamestown.

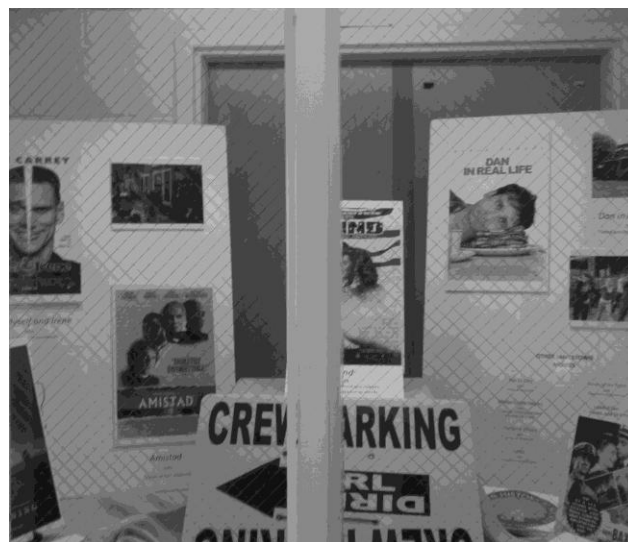
Again this year, the Jamestown Museum will open its doors a little early to allow school groups to get a sneak preview of this summer’s major exhibit. The 5th grade students are contributing to the exhibit. As part of their study of Jamestown history, the students have made videos telling something about that history. Their videos will be shown as part of the exhibit on Jamestown’s relationship with the stage and movies.

In April, Lawn Avenue School 5th grade teachers arranged a tour of Jamestown’s historic sights for the entire 5th grade. On the tour, they visited the Jamestown windmill and the Quaker meetinghouse.

Because both buildings are small, the students divided into groups and took turns visiting each site. At the windmill, Rosemary Enright and Linnea Petersen 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.

At the Quaker meetinghouse Harry Wright explained the history of Quakerism on Jamestown. To increase their understanding of the faith, he had each group of kids sit in total meditative silence of one minute – something some found hard to do.

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.



Spring Exhibit at the Lawn Avenue School

Programs

by Mary Heath

One of the society's major programs of 2011 – Battery Day – has already occurred.

On Saturday, May 14, reenactors from around the state joined the Jamestown Cub Scout Group 1, American Legion Arnold Zweir Post 22, Memorial Post 9447 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Jamestown Community Band to celebrate the 1776 earthworks in Conanicut Battery Historic Park. “Major Blogett” – the traditional host for Battery Day, played by Paul Brunelle – commanded the activities.

The band played to welcome visitors, and a cannon salute by the Artillery Company of Newport marked the beginning of the ceremonies. Reverend Kathryn Palen from Central Baptist Church offered the invocation. While British and American reenactors conducted a skirmish around the earthworks to demonstrate how battles were fought at the time, Larry McDonald, in the uniform of the Varum Continentals, explained the tactics being demonstrated.

British, French, and American flags – honoring the three nations that had manned the fort at different times between 1776 and 1783 were raised, while the Jamestown Community Band played each country's national anthem. After each flag was raised, Rhode Island's 14th Heavy Artillery, the Black regiment that was formed during the Civil War, joined the Newport Artillery in firing the salutes.

Rosemary Enright gave a short history of the Battery, and the ceremonies concluded with the singing of “America the Beautiful.”

After the official ceremonies the men in both British and American uniforms talked to the scouts about what they had seen, showed them how soldier in the 18th century lived and what they ate, and drilled them around the battery grounds.

The scoutmaster reported that the boys had a wonderful time.

Battery Day on May 14 was enjoyed by everybody who came. Both the Battery committee, which was responsible for the program and the participants, and the Programs committee, which handled the publicity and logistics, are thrilled by its success.

Upcoming Events

The complete schedule of 2011 summer programs is on page 3. The new museum exhibit will open with a reception on June 19. The highlight of the annual meeting on August 11 will be a talk by Eugene Lee of Trinity Rep.

The other major event of the year is the House Tour Weekend. On Friday, September 16, the society will be hosting a members-only cocktail party at a house of historic interest on the island. The next day is the annual house tour, which is open to everyone. Tickets to the preview party are \$40 and include tickets to the house tour, which are \$20 if purchased separately. Mark the dates on your calendars and watch for details in the *Jamestown Press*.

We also send out reminders about all our events via email about a week before the event. If you haven't been receiving email reminders, please send your address to info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org to get on our mailing list.

Windmill Day 2012

Next year, 2012, is the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Jamestown Historical Society. The JHS was incorporated primarily to save the Jamestown windmill, and next summer's Windmill Day will be a celebration of the windmill and of the society's history.

We've already started planning for this momentous celebration. We need people to help. If you are willing to commit time and energy to this event, please call or email Rosemary Enright (423-2674 or renright@jamestownri.com).



British reenactors drilling youngsters at Battery Day

Collections Committee

by Sue Maden

The Collections Committee, which meets monthly, consists of Sue Maden, Rosemary Enright, Joe Logan, Alice Noble, Dianne Rugh, and Linda Warner. Alice joined the committee this spring and we are delighted to have her.

At each meeting the committee considers donations; those accepted from December 2010 through May 2011 are listed on page 11. Other activities are described below.

PastPerfect Online

The JHS website at jamestownhistoricalsociety.org now offers a streamlined way to search for material in the JHS collection. From the JHS Home Page, clicking on “On-line Catalog” – the far right tab in the menu bar at the top of the page – leads to the collection catalog.

On the next page, selecting “Read” opens an overview of the collection. “Search and view” accesses the search menus. There are several search mechanisms.

Many users find “Random Images” the most fun. However, only a small percentage of the archival papers have been photographed.

“Keyword Search” locates any record containing the word or words entered. You can search on a keyword, but decide to look only at records that have images attached. For example, “Conanicut Park” is found in 215 records, only 55 of which have images. Most of the images are digital copies of photographs in the collection. For records with photographs, clicking on the photo will enlarge the image.

There is an email feature that allows researchers to send the results of their searches to others.

CAP Evaluation and Collection Care

The outside assessment made possible by a National Preservation grant resulted in a number of recommendations. Progress is being tracked by an internal document that includes priorities of actions to be taken, dates when they ideally will be accomplished, resources that are needed to accomplish them, and, when appropriate, person or group responsible.

The actions address supplies, equipment, and storage issues. Of high priority is an inventory of the collection. Great progress has been made with

photographs, textiles, and archival material. High on the priority list are the preparation of a disaster plan and of a collections management policy

This Summer at the Museum

The JHS opens its *Jamestown on Stage and Screen* exhibit on June 19. The exhibit is part of the ongoing multi-organization *Jamestown and the Silver Screen* project. The museum will be open from 1 to 4 PM every Wednesday through Sunday until Labor Day and on weekends through Columbus Day.

Display panels with posters of movies made in Jamestown or by Jamestown residents give facts about the movies and tell the story of the Jamestown connection. Stage productions and the history of the Palace (later the Jamestown) Theatre, built in 1922, are the subjects of other panels.

Thanks to help from a Legislative grant sponsored by Representative Deb Ruggiero, several computers will be available to show examples of local movies and videos. Frank Meyer has put together a clip of 12 segments from a variety of sources that show events on Jamestown over the years. The 5th graders in the Lawn Avenue School made short videos as part of their spring history assignment. Teens also filmed videos during a spring workshop offered by the Teen Center. All of these, as well as samples of productions put on by the Jamestown Community Theatre, will be available on the computers.

An exhibit devoted to the Jamestown ferries is being set up in the back room of the museum to replace the earlier exhibit that was disassembled when the museum was renovated. The area is no longer being used as a workspace and will be open to visitors.

Whenever the museum is open, a JHS member is there to welcome visitors. If you would like to volunteer to be one of our greeters, call or email Sue Maden at 423-2167 (sdmaden@aol.com) or Tricia Frary at 423-1395 (tfrary@cox.net). Tricia, our new volunteer coordinator, is signing up people for both the museum and the windmill.

School and Library Exhibits

The Lawn Avenue school exhibit during the first half of 2011 was on Movies Made in Jamestown. A new exhibit will be prepared for the fall.

The display in the exhibit case in the Jamestown Library has been changed approximately every three months. Early this winter, donations received in 2010 were on display. Since then we have exhibited account books, diaries, ledgers, logs, and registers kept by individuals and business on the island. Currently, different kinds of certificates are on display. The exhibit tells the story of Jamestown through certificates of births, marriages, indemnification, naturalization, awards, wars (Civil War, World War I, and World War II), incorporation, memberships, inspections, and graduations. The earliest is from 1744 and the latest is from 1986.

Oral History Project: Growing Up in Jamestown

To date 14 people have been interviewed: Helen Anderson, Ellen Brownell, Dee Hellewell, Fran Lopes, Ed Morinho, Manny Neronha, Linnea Petersen, Mary Ragland, Donald Richardson, Roxanne Head Smith, Joe Tiexiera, Linda Warner, Jimmy West, and Lois King Winn.

Jamestown and the Silver Screen

A variety of programs have been sponsored by several different non-profit organizations. The first was in February and the last will be in November. A complete listing can be found on the society's web site: jamestownhistoricalsociety.org. Future events are included in the Summer 2011 Program Schedule on page 3.

Cataloging

Devoted volunteer catalogers are Rosemary Enright, Delia Klingbeil, Amanda Krivacs, Carol Lake,

Sue Maden, Myrna Maxfield, Alice Noble, Dianne Rugh, Ginny Saunders, and Joan Vessella. Other volunteers in the vault are Patti Cassidy, who has been transcribing manuscript minutes and documents in the collection; Judith Boone, who is inventorying and photocopying the ephemera collection; Dorrie Linn, who recently completed a complete inventory of the textile collection, adding details to the records of the objects, and at the same time examining the items for deterioration and refolding them; and Judy Knight who also works with textiles.

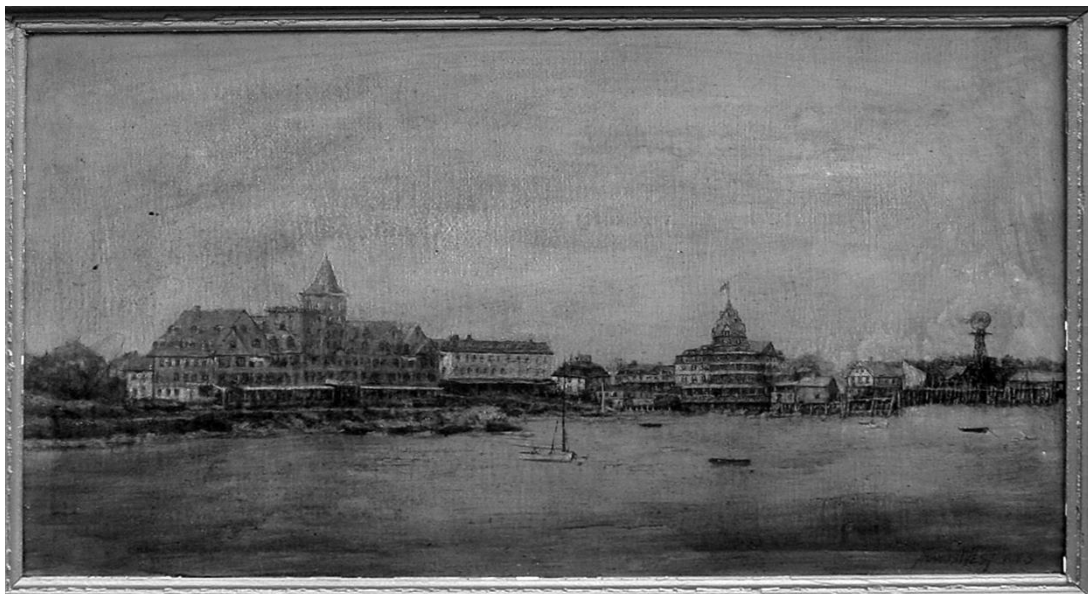
“From the Vault”

The JHS is now on television. On April 15, the first 15-minute installment in an occasional series called “From the Vault” with Sue Maden and Rosemary Enright aired on Newport County's local PEG (Public, Educational, and Governmental) Access television channel, NCTV-18 (Cox 18). Check the channel's website at nctv18.blogspot.com for scheduled repeats.

The first show, filmed by JHS volunteer Patti Cassidy, concentrated on the society's founding 99 years ago. A future show will feature the clothing and other textiles in the collection, explained by the society's textile expert Dorrie Lynn.

Tours of this summer's museum exhibit and of the windmill are also planned.

Visit the JHS website or “friend” the Jamestown Historical Society on Facebook to be notified about the shows.



Painting of East Ferry by Francis X West, purchased by the Jamestown Historical Society

Donations and Acquisitions: November 2010 through May 2011

Anonymous: poster for Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association.

Anna Bernath: printer.

Marie Betty: *promised for the future*, a painting of the *Hammonton* ferryboat by Carolyn Sullivan.

Alcina Blair: metal badge with "NTF Beavertail MAA" which was the Naval Training Facility, Master at Arms. It belonged to George Blair who was at Beavertail from March 1947 to June 1950.

Allison and Peter Branigan: A granite mantle with 1787 etched on the back from 48 Ocean Avenue.

Shelley Campbell: button from 1957 Tercentenary observation.

Patti Cassidy: DVD of *From the Vault*, episode 1.

John Doty: piece of railing from old Jamestown Bridge; photo of John Doty at foot of bridge, 2/18/2011; photo of 1st grade class at Carr School, 4/7/1948, with all students identified; photo of Nancy and John Doty at 1957 St. Patrick's Day Kiddies Revue & Roaring Twenties, with program on reverse; copy of newspaper photo of re opening of Jamestown Theatre, 7/7/1966; copy of 1894 newspaper with hotel ads.

Jessie Dutra: postcard with image of windmill with sails from 2010 Windmill Day, signed by her.

Rosemary Enright: digital voice recorder.

Janice Fletcher: photos of Paul Whitehead (her father) and Tom Sheehan with airplane; three aerial photos taken from plane of East Ferry, Beavertail, and Jamestown ferry docked in Newport, probably from, early 1950s.

Carla Francis: a photo of her grandfather, Albert Commette, who was involved with the Jamestown movie theatre in the 1920s and again in the 1930s.

JHS purchase: painting of East Ferry by Francis X. West.

Delia Klingbeil: computer mouse.

Landworks Collaboration: presentation, Fort Getty Town Park Public Workshop, May 19, 2011.

Selina F. Little: A biography, with six images, of Charles Fletcher (1840-1907), a summer resident at Conanicut Park.

Sue Maden: "The Hessian Drummer Boy of Newport" (2010) by Walter Schroder; hardcopy of Year in Review 1950-2010 (softcopy is on computer in vault); General Assembly of Rhode Island certificate to Charles E. King, 1869, for service during Civil War; a 1932 voters list; a

draft copy of town charter from 1946 with notations, probably by John L. Smith.

Barbara Magruder: 1874 diary kept by William Lincoln Bates while in the Providence Reform School. And two photographs of Bates about 1931 and gravestone.

Frank Meyer: Three copies of a DVD with Jamestown scenes – both stills and movies. There are 12 clips that together last one hour and ten minutes. To be used in summer exhibit.

John Murphy: records from Friends of Fort Wetherill and from World Prodigy oil spill.

Ken Newman: hot pad given out by Deb Ruggiero, state representative, during 2010 campaign

Linnea Petersen: a JHS life member card from 1987.

Paul Petersen: a certificate of registration for 1951-1952 for the Boy Scouts of America.

Aidan Petrie: two computers, each with a keyboards and a mouse.

Rhode Island Department of Transportation: CD and hardcopies of Jamestown Bridge 1938 contract documents; photographs of the Jamestown Verrazzano Bridge construction – 10 from December 1987 and 8 from January 1988.

Rhode Island Film & TV Council: baseball cap with file office logo.

Sallie Richard: sign from "Wynswepe 1885," Audley Clarke's home on Beavertail.

St Mathew's Thrift Shop: key chain holder with image of ferryboat.

Anna Templeton-Cotill: an article about the Movable Chapel from *The Quiver*, (no date).

Town Clerk's office: a photo by Victor Richardson of the old Town Hall at night.

Linda Warner: Program for ceremonial installation of Charles V. Burns as Postmaster, September 20, 2005. includes a list of names, titles and dates appointed for former postmasters from 1847 to 2005; article from *New England Monthly* (no date), "The House Hunter" for a house in Jamestown; Fire Department Memorial Museum program, 11/20/1958 (a duplicate); Bicentennial Pageant program, 7/16/1976, a duplicate; Cajacet house tour tickets; envelope for Pitcher's (drugstore) photo development; ash tray showing East Ferry, in color; ticket for Opera House in Newport (no date, Harry Horgan manager); copy of proclamation for Henry Armbrust Day by Town Council, 8/14/1990.

Mary Wright: Movie poster for movie "Rose Marie," starring Nelson Eddy.

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 Linnea Petersen Deb Swistak
Directors to 2013	Dick Allphin John Horton Larry McDonald Sally Schott

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MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

_____ **Student - \$15**

_____ **Individual - \$25**

_____ **Family - \$40**

_____ **Patron - \$500 (individual life)**

_____ **1657 Society - \$1,000**
(household life + house plaque)

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TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

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

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