



Jamestown Historical Society

# HERITAGE

Fall 2012

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

## ***SOCIETY RECEIVES 2012 ANTOINETTE F. DOWNING VOLUNTEER AWARD FOR 100 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE***

Antoinette Forrester Downing (1904-2001) helped shape the historic preservation movement in Rhode Island and across the country. Her work in architectural history and preservation defined the national standard for such efforts.

Each year, the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission and Preserve Rhode Island honor Ms. Downing by awarding the Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer Award to a “volunteer preservationist who has made a contribution through a lifetime of effort or through a single significant project.” The 2012 award was given to the Jamestown Historical Society and to its generations of volunteers for 100 years of dedication to preserving the history of Jamestown.

The Rhody Awards were presented on October 18 at a reception at Rosecliff in Newport. The Rosecliff ceremony was lots of fun – especially for current and past presidents Linnea Petersen, Brookie Harding, and Rosemary Enright who got to wear red “Rhody Award Winner” ribbons and receive the congratulations of passing guests during the party before the presentation. The presentation was accompanied by a video of JHS events through the years including pictures of a 1926

fashion show of historical costumes, past president Maggie Potter climbing the vanes of the windmill after the 1968 renovation, Bill Burgin riding in a launch to Clingstone for the 2002 house tour, and the capital campaign party and auction at Horsehead in 2007.

As the emcee, Valerie Talmadge of Preserve Rhode Island commented while the pictures flashed on the screen, JHS volunteers know how to have fun while they do what needs to be done to safeguard Jamestown’s historic treasures.

This year, as in most recent years, over 140 people volunteered their time to help fulfill the Society’s mission to collect, preserve, and share Jamestown’s history. Some volunteers dedicated days or weeks to projects at the museum, the vault, the windmill, the meetinghouse, or the 1776 battery on Battery Lane. Many more “windmill sat” or guided people through the exhibits in the museum.



Photograph courtesy of Brittany Leigh Photography

**JHS president Linnea Petersen and secretary Rosemary Enright accepted the Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer Award on behalf of the Jamestown Historical Society. (Left to right, Ron Onorato, Linnea Petersen, Rosemary Enright, Patrice Hagan.)**

Whatever the contribution, the number who actively participated is impressive, and each volunteer past and present is honored with this award. Congratulations to the thousands of volunteers who over 100 years have dedicated time and energy to preserving the history of Jamestown.

## *HONOR ROLL OF VOLUNTEERS FOR 2012*

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 special events, as members of boards and

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

Many of the 149 individuals listed below have served in several different capacities. The Society thanks them all for their hard work and dedication.

Dick Allphin	Connie Payne Enright	Joe Logan	Maria Pimental
Joyce Allphin	John Enright	Fran Lopes	Paula Pollard
Nikki Andrews	Rosemary Enright	Diana Luth	Sue Potter
Suzi Andrews	Tricia Evangelista	Sue Maden	Betty Purdum
Rita Antine	Cheryl Fernstrom	Kathy Maloney	Sav Rebecchi
Stacey Antine	Paula Florentino	Pede Manchester	Dorothy Renault
Jeanne Archambault	Donna Fogarty	Peter Marcus	Evelyn Rhodes
Carolyn Armington	Caroline Frank	Myrna Maxfield	Deb Ruggiero
Fran Basso	Tricia Frary	John McCauley	Dianne Rugh
Judy Bell	Judy Garlick	Jack McCormack	Bob Saunders
Reece Bennett	Mary Giffin	Larry McDonald	Ginny Saunders
Jane Bentley	Dona Gibbs	Jeff McDonough	Sally Schott
Anna Bernath	Jake Gillis	Kim McDonough	Jane Sigal
Alcina Blair	Janet Grant	Bianca Melucci	Jean Marie Silvia
Judith Boone	John Grant	Frank Meyer	Michael Smith
Fran Boyer	Erica Gregg	Lois Migneault	William W. Smith
Joan Briggs	Cynthia Griffis	Martha Milot	Linda Sullivan
Linda Brodin	Pam Haas	Jane Miner	Deb Swistak
Paul Brunelle	Brookie Harding	Don Minto	Valerie Talmadge
Carol Buglio	Mary Heath	Heather Minto	Joe Tamburini
Harry Burn	Steve Heath	Betsy Moody	Adams Taylor
Alan Burse	John Horton	Clarke Moody	Betty Ann Taylor
Bill Burgin	Sandra Johnson	Heidi Keller Moon	Pat Venable
Jim Buttrick	Rose Karentz	John Murphy	Joan Vessella
Patti Cassidy	Varoujan Karentz	Chandler Neale	Chris Walsh
Donna Chellis	Delia Klingbeil	Martha Neale	Skip Walls
Matt Clarke	Bill Knapp	Ken Newman	George Warner
Susanne Clarke	Judy Knight	Alice Noble	Linda Warner
Mick Cochran	Jane Koster	Don O'Laughlin	Dennis Webster
Holly Collins	Carol Lake	Kathy O'Sullivan	Barbara Whitaker
Ann Crompton	Anne Lane	Teresa Paiva-Weed	Harry Wright
Fuzz Crompton	Mike Lanza	Roland Parent	James Wright
Paul Damon	Terry Lanza	Patti Pereira	Ann Zartler
Loren Deveau	Cynthia Leonard	Cindy Petersen	Greg Zeek
Conor Devlin	Marcia Lindsay	Linnea Petersen	Deede Zeek
Greg DiGasper	Dorrie Linn	Paul Petersen	
Milo DiGasper	Anne Livingston	Paul N. Petersen	
Jessie Dutra	Bruce Livingston	Marion Pierce	



Note: There is always a danger in assembling a list of this sort that someone who has worked hard for the organization is unintentionally omitted.

Please let us know, so that we can correct the omission. Call 423-2674 or send an email to [info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org).

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Linnea Petersen

Just before this newsletter went to press we received word from The Champlin Foundations that the JHS has been selected to receive a grant for \$27,205.00 for the installation of compact shelving in the vault. This moveable shelving will more than double the storage capacity of our climate controlled vault, from 271 linear feet to 651 linear feet. We are very excited about this grant and can hardly wait for construction to begin. You'll learn more about the whole project in our monthly column in *The Jamestown Press* and in the spring newsletter.

The grant announcement was the culmination of six busy, exciting, and productive months.

In June, the summer exhibit at the museum, *1912 and the JHS Centennial*, opened and the windmill began summer hours with new exterior signs. A packed audience at the library enjoyed Jim Buttrick's interesting and informative talk "Lost Buildings" about the architecture of Jamestown's demolished buildings.

July brought Windmill Day, refurbished signs at the Battery, and an "after Hours" gallery tour at the Newport Art Museum, sponsored in conjunction with the Jamestown Art Center, the Jamestown Philomenian Library, and the Friends of the JPL.

At our Annual Meeting in August, we said goodbye and thank you to Greg DiGasper, for six years as our very dependable chair of the Building and Grounds committee; Erica Gregg, co-chair of our Development committee, who worked diligently on our major fund-raising House Tour Preview Parties, appeal letters for dues and donations, and our 1657 memberships; and Caroline Frank, chair of the Windmill committee, who wrote the RICH grant for the windmill signs and contributed to their design. We also welcomed two new members to the Board: Betsy Moody and Heidi Keller Moon.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, we were treated to a wonderful talk and photo

presentation, by Archie Clarke, on the history of the Jamestown Ferries: 1837-1969. A link to a video of Archie's talk, courtesy of *The Jamestown Record*, can be found on our website, [jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://jamestownhistoricalsociety.org).

In September we held our very popular – and very successful – House Tour Weekend. A special thanks to our hosts: Betsy and Clarke Moody, Mike and Terry Lanza, and the Leonard family for generously opening their very special homes to us for the Preview Party and House Tour. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this endeavor.

The series of articles about Jamestown history by Rosemary Enright and Sue Maden are continuing in the *Jamestown Press*. As of early November, they were up to the Great Depression. More to come.

Ken Newman, ably assisted by Jane Sigal, hosted our Volunteer Appreciation Party at his lovely home at the West Ferry in October. Their gracious hospitality made us feel very welcome and set the stage for a great event. Over 88 of us came together that night to recognize and celebrate the volunteerism that is the very core of the success of our organization.

This volunteerism was, as reported on page 1, celebrated in October by the R.I. Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission and Preserve Rhode Island with the presentation at The Rhody Awards of the Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer

Service Award. The award is a tribute to "generations of devoted volunteers for ongoing stewardship, building preservation, interpretation, and outreach" over the past 100 years.

Our members carry on the legacy we were handed by our founders 100 years ago in a manner that, I believe, would meet with their approval. I applaud and appreciate all that each of you contribute to the JHS. May the same commitment and enthusiasm for preserving and sharing with others the heritage of Jamestown continue for the next 100 years.



**President Linnea Petersen thanking the volunteers at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party.**

## CONANICUT BATTERY

**by Larry McDonald**

The two major projects at Battery Park this year have been to stop the continued growth of unwanted vegetation on the parapets in the battery and to replace the three interpretive signs at the battery and at the fire control stations on Prospect Hill.

The planned burn to reduce the woody plant growth and the poison ivy failed, and hand cutting in June was followed by regular cutting in the interior of the battery. A second hand cutting of the parapets was done in the fall.

Throughout the summer, small work parties cleared growth around the weeping beech and bunkers on the hill. By selective cutting, some of the invasive plant growth has been reduced. This is an on-going process and cutting before the snow comes will reduce clearing in the spring.

Hurricane Sandy and the nor'easter that followed caused minor damage. Two large limbs, which will require a chain saw to remove, came down on the Prospect Hill Trail. The trails are now passable. The main trail leading to the battery and the Fallen Maple trail has been cleared of minor debris.

We are looking forward to Battery Day on 18 May 2013. Captain Tew's company, the 54<sup>th</sup> British Regiment of Foot, and the Newport Artillery have committed to our celebration.

Any person who is interested in helping to keep the trails open or with Battery Day, please contact Larry McDonald at 423-0047.



**Signs telling visitors about the 1776 battery in the town's Battery Park were replaced this summer.**

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## BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

**by Matt Clarke**

The Building and Grounds committee works with other committees to maintain all JHS properties and keep them in good repair. As the incoming chair of this committee, I want to thank outgoing chair Greg DiGasper for his help and guidance in my transition into this role as well as for his service over the past six years in leading this committee.

I am also amazed and thankful for the variety of others involved in overseeing the Society's properties. They truly do the bulk of the work and make this position so much easier.

There is very little to report, other than routine maintenance and yard work at the windmill, museum, and Friend's meetinghouse over the past season.

The humidity and dry rot problems at the Friend's Meetinghouse continue, although recent studies have led to a plan to combat them, as explained in the Meetinghouse report. Concern about humidity control and mold at the museum continues. The cause of an elusive odor remains unsolved, although a recent inspection has ruled out a serious mold problem. Recommendations for installing a vapor barrier in the crawl space and supplementing the HVAC with humidifiers are under consideration.

May every season be so peaceful.

## EDUCATION

**by Sally Schott**

Each semester, the JHS mounts a new exhibit in the display case near the Lawn Avenue School library. The current exhibit, *The Jamestown Post Office*, tells the history of postal service on Conanicut Island. It includes a recently acquired photograph of Edith Caswell Richardson, one of the first woman rural mail carriers in the country, who delivered Jamestown's mail by horse and buggy or sleigh. Photographs of the post offices and a Box and Key Register listing persons who rented post office boxes between 1903 through 1919 bring the postal service to life.

In June, the JHS awarded the Excellence in Social Studies Award to Jamestown eighth graders Caellum Kerr and Noah Simmons.

## PROGRAMS & DEVELOPMENT

**by Mary Heath, Betsy Moody, and James Wright**

The Program and Development committees worked closely together on the annual House Tour weekend.

The Members' Only Preview Party that began the weekend was a great success with about 118 attendees. Clarke and Betsy Moody hosted the party on Friday, September 14, at their recently renovated home at 9 Conanicus Avenue. The house was designed by Mantel Fielding of Philadelphia and built by F.A. Allan of Newport in 1901 as the Quononoquot Club. The weather was perfect and JHS Members enjoyed touring the beautiful first floor and the views from the inviting front porch.

We're pleased to report a number of new and renewed memberships at the door as well as some very kind donations. Our best source of new members is referrals and we encourage all members to invite friends to attend our JHS events and become members themselves.

Another 47 visitors joined in for the House Tour on Saturday, September 15. The two houses on the house tour were both built as summer cottages during Jamestown's resort era and both are now year-round residences.

The Jennie Lippitt Cottage – now called Stonewall Cottage – at 1026 East Shore Road was built in 1873 in Jamestown's first summer development, Conanicut Park. Mike and Terry Lanza, who bought the house in 2003, kept as much of the original building as possible while adapting it to modern living.

The Corbit Lovering cottage at 75 Ocean Avenue, original called End of Ocean Avenue, was built in 1911-12. The cottage was designed by J. D. Johnston, the Newport architect who also designed Clingstone. The house was winterized and modernized by Elwood and Barbara Leonard in 1966.

Our heartfelt thanks to Clarke and Betsy for so generously hosting the Preview Party and to the Lanzas and the Leonards for opening their homes for our house tour.

### ***"All About Jamestown"***

Over 90 people crowded the Jamestown Philomenian Library meeting room on Friday, June 22,

to hear the third talk in our "All About Jamestown" series, Jim Buttrick's "Lost Jamestown." During the talk, sponsored by the JHS and the Jamestown Philomenian Library, Buttrick showed over 50 slides of grand, and some not-so-grand, island buildings that survive now only in photographs and paintings.

Archie Clarke concluded the series with his presentation "Jamestown Steam Ferries: 1873-1969" at the August 9 annual meeting. At the conclusion of his talk, Clarke gave the Society a model of the *Jamestown IV*, built by Capt. Bill Pimentel, and digital copies of 49 ferry boat pictures from his extensive collection.

### ***William Trost Richards***

In a program organized by the Collections Committee, members of the Society had a private tour of Newport Art Museum's exhibit, *From Pennsylvania to Paradise: William Trost Richards, Harrison Morris and the Art Association of Newport*. Nancy Whipple Grinnell, curator of the exhibit, introduced the tour with a gallery talk about Richards and Morris, both of whom had Jamestown connections.

### ***Plans for 2013***

Both committees are already hard at work on events for 2013. With the Battery committee, we're planning the May 18 Battery Day. A Centennial Gala committee is planning an exciting June 1 party to end our centennial year. The Annual Meeting is August 8, and House Tour Weekend is September 13 and 14.

We send out email reminders about all our events about a week before the event. If you haven't been receiving them, please send your address to [info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org).



**JHS members Ginny Saunders and Paula Florentino  
enjoy the House Tour Preview Party**

## JAMESTOWN WINDMILL

by Linnea Petersen

Windmill Day, held on July 14th, was extra special this year as it was a tribute to the important work of our founders who, 100 years ago, formed the Society to preserve and protect our wonderful mill, which has become an iconic symbol of Jamestown. We wanted a fun-filled, family-oriented, free event to salute those who, in the last 100 years, have carried on the mission.

The event was very well attended with over 400 people stopping by, and we were able to keep the activities free, thanks in large part to a legislative grant sponsored by our state representative Deb Ruggiero.

Richard Donnelly, master jonnycake chef, was on hand with his great stories and delicious jonnycakes. Bruce Long donated his Del's Lemonade to quench our thirst and cool us with his delicious beverage.

Don and Heather Minto, with permission from Historic New England, opened the fields on the west side of North Road for parking. A sturdy wooden stile allowed people to cross over the Watson Farm's stone wall across from the mill. The stile, used during construction at the Newport Bridge Toll Plaza, was donated and installed by The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority and Mark Depasquale of Site Resources LLC in North Kingstown. Bill Burgin, our former president, helped arrange the donation. I am pleased to say Don Minto will use the stile at Watson Farm, and so its life continues in Jamestown.

The baby ducks and chicks from Windmist Farm and the goats from the Brodin family, along with the children's games were a great source of delight to the many children (and adults). Matt Bolles's "South



**Windmill Day. (clockwise from upper left) Installing the stile, mother and daughter taking a break, introducing the Brodin's goat, putting up the cloth on the sails, child with cup, serving Del's lemonade at the JHS table, the windmill in motion, Matt Bolles and the South County Rounders, playing Frisbee against the east wall.**

County Rounders" – with Matt on guitar and bass, Judy Bolles and Chris Heinzmann on fiddle, and Phil Smith on guitar and banjo – played for the festivities.

At our Jamestown Historical Society table, we passed out beautiful postcards and buttons commemorating our 100th anniversary, designed and donated by Jessie Dutra of Dutra Designs.

A special thanks to the Jamestown Garden Club for planting the beautiful "gardens" in the entrance stone pillars which we enjoyed all summer thanks to their continued care of them throughout the season. Andy Shrake, along with the "millers" once again kept us safe as they thrilled us with the glorious sight of the "Old Mill" in motion.

It was a magical day!

### ***Summer at the Mill***

We had a very successful season at the windmill with over 700 visitors from 33 states, as well as from Canada, Mexico, Palestine, and India. Some visitors wrote comment in the guest book. Cindy and Tom from Lincoln: "Thank you for this rare opportunity." Charlie and Jeanne from North Smithfield: "Just amazing -- so happy to see this place!" George from Jamestown wrote "Lived in Jamestown 35 years and this is my first visit!" George also left his phone number, and needless to say, he will be getting a call!

The docents, who are listed in the honor role on page 2, once again did a wonderful job. Their dependable, knowledgeable, and welcoming presence kept the mill open each weekend from June 16 through October 8. We thank them for making it possible to share this historical structure with others

Just before hurricane Sandy, Andy Shrake came down to Jamestown and lashed the sail vane. We seem to have suffered no damage from the hurricane or the nor'easter that followed.

### ***New "Furniture"***

On July 26, Andy Shrake and assistant millwright Jesse Lambert installed new "furniture" that Jesse had spent the spring working on.

The most important new addition is a wooden vat that encloses the mill stones. When meal is being ground, the vat keeps the meal from floating into the air and, helped by metal sweeps attached to the moving "runner," contains meal so it can be collected in the waiting meal bag.

Until the vat was installed, the "runner" was surrounded by a Plexiglas cover. Visitors had a clear view of the stone, but a less clear vision of how the mill actually looked and worked. With the vat in place, the stones are hidden, except for a small area on the top of the millstone and the "eye" into which the dried corn kernels are fed. The vat is built of slats, and two of these directly above the funnel leading to the meal bag have been removed to allow the stone to be seen.

In addition, Jesse fashioned a new hopper and shoe to feed the corn kernels into the eye of the runner. Safety rails were added around the drive shaft openings on the second and third floors.

## ***MEETINGHOUSE***

***by Harry Wright***

It's been a notable summer for the Quaker Meetinghouse, with respect both to visitors and to building preservation. There were many more visitors than usual this year, in part because of the spillover effect of the Society's centennial celebration at the Windmill in July and in part because of very good attendance at the Smithsonian's Museum Day in late September. The most striking event was a visit from a group of Friends in early July who were part of the very large Friends General Conference held at the University of Rhode Island. Over thirty Friends attended meeting in the Meetinghouse at the same time--the largest number of simultaneous visitors in years--with no ill effects on the floor.

Despite that success, we are naturally very concerned about the long-term safety and preservation of the building. Fortunately, a coincidence of suggestions has led us to a course of action for at least the near future. Quite independently of each other, representatives of both the Rhode Island Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission and the Jamestown Public Works Department recommended that simply spreading plastic on the ground in the crawl space under the floor might well solve most of our problems with moisture. The suggestion is both inexpensive and reversible, and so we intend to try it before we undertake anything more.

The Meetinghouse is now closed for regular Sunday meeting until May; but it is always open for visits by appointment.

## COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

by Dianne Rugh

This summer the Society was honored to receive awards from three funding agencies. The grants not only provided funds to conserve important items in the JHS collection and to produce outreach material but also recognized the vibrancy of the Society and the dedication of its many volunteers.

The Rhode Island Foundation Joseph O'Neill Ott Fund awarded JHS \$600 to conserve 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century town documents transferred from the town to JHS in 1979. The 67 documents include handwritten Apprenticeships & Indentures; Revolutionary War Papers; and Early Removals. The documents are significant because of their subject matter and also for the signatures by local leaders. The Revolutionary War papers detail the hardships during the period when the British occupied Jamestown for three years. The removals protected the town from having people becoming "chargeable" to it or because someone would not take a required oath.

A Rhode Island Council for the Humanities (RICH) mini grant for \$2000, allowed JHS to conserve and scan 207 additional 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century town documents. Among the documents are the rules for the use of Dutch Island, which was originally used as common property; lists of Jamestown freemen; papers relating to police and court cases; and details of building and repair of early Jamestown schools.

Rhode Island Foundation Newport County Fund Small Grants awarded JHS \$1070. Some of the funds will be used to conserve the Lyons Market sign which was displayed in the JHS sign exhibit at Philomenian Library's meeting room. The remaining funds financed a brochure, *A Self-guided Walking Tour of Narragansett Avenue in Historic Jamestown*, which was offered free to Museum visitors and is available at various locations in town. Work has begun on an *Around Town* brochure, a map and guide to JHS properties, to permanent JHS exhibits in the Recreation Center and Town Hall, and to other historical markers.

In mid-November, we received word that The Champlin Foundations will fund compact shelving for the vault. Planning for the vault improvements began immediately. Stay tuned for details.

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### Museum

Over 450 people visited the JHS museum in 2012. This summer's *1912 and the JHS Centennial* exhibit celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society. It presented a picture of life in Jamestown in 1912 when the JHS was founded and told the story of how the Society began and what it has achieved over the last 100 years.

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century items on display included contemporary apparel – from bathing costumes to formal wear – and a summer visitor's trunk with some of the things that cottagers who lived on the island from June to September would have brought with them. Many of the items were from the Society's collections. Others were on loan from *Period Pieces*, the private collection of Dorrie Linn and Cynthia Griffis.

In the Ferry Room in the rear of the museum, the

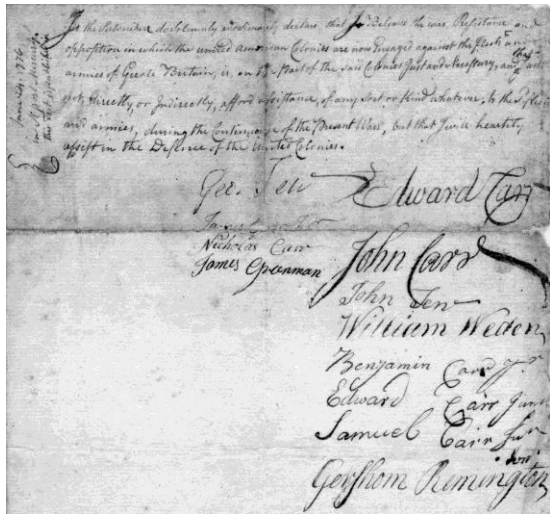
permanent exhibit featuring the Society's collection of Jamestown & Newport Ferry Company memorabilia and ferry models was expanded. The pennant flown on the maiden voyage of the Governor Carr in 1927 was hung over the doorway. Fire buckets from the *Mobican* and *Hammonton*, a model of the *Jamestown IV* by Capt. Bill Pemantel, and a brass clip engraved with a ferry boat and J&NF CO were added to the exhibit.

For the first time, the JHS online catalog was available from a terminal in the museum. The Society's library was relocated to the main room to provide better access for visitors.



**Late 19<sup>th</sup> century day dress and hat in summer exhibit.**





**Conserved document on display in the library.**

June 24, 1776

We the subscribers do solemnly and sincerely declare that we believe the war, resistance and opposition in which the United American Colonies are now engaged against the fleet and armies of Great Britain is, on the part of the said Colonies, just and necessary, and that we will not directly or indirectly afford assistance of any sort or kind whatever to the said fleet and armies during the continuance of the present war, but that we will heartily assist in the defense of the United Colonies.

### ***Library Exhibits***

Material from the Society's rich collection was shown in a series of exhibits in the display cases at the Jamestown Philomenian Library and the Lawn School.

The *Back to School: History of Education in Jamestown* exhibit in the library's display case featured school books, a teacher's grade book and ink well, and photographs of schools and graduating classes. In 1831 Jamestown reported two schools with a three month school year. Despite the addition of a new primary school, by 1890 the existing school facilities were inadequate. The Carr School was completed in 1897, and in 1923 the Clarke School opened. The Lawn Avenue and Melrose Avenue schools opened in 1955 and 1991, respectively.

The Newport Art Museum's exhibit, *From Pennsylvania to Paradise: William Trost Richards, Harrison Morris and the Art Association of Newport*, inspired the JHS library display *William Trost Richards (1833-1905), Harrison S. Morris (1856-1948), and Jamestown*. The exhibit included a collage of drawings of Richard's home, Graycliff, built in the Dumplings area in 1881-1882 and torn down in 1899 to make way for Fort Wetherill. Also in the JHS exhibit was the book, *Masterpieces of the Sea. William Trost Richards. A Brief Outline of His Life and Art* by Harrison S. Morris and photographs of some of Richard's works.

In conjunction with the two exhibits, the JHS, Jamestown Arts Center, Friends of the Library, and the Jamestown Philomenian Library sponsored a gallery talk by Nancy Whipple Grinnell, curator of the Newport Art Museum exhibit on the men.

Copies of some of the conserved 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century town documents are currently on display in the library. Conserving and scanning these early documents costs about \$10 each, in addition to the volunteer time needed to unfold, number, and catalog each one.

The Collections committee has initiated a special conservation campaign. If you wish to help conserve these documents, please use the form below to send us your donation. The Collections committee is very grateful to an anonymous donor who has given \$310 to be used for this purpose or for the purchase of items to add to the collection.

### ***Collection Management***

The Collections committee chaired by Dianne Rugh, with Sue Maden (archivist), Rosemary Enright, Joe Logan, Alice Noble, and Linda Warner, meets the first Tuesday of the month to consider donations according to the guidelines of the Society's Collection Policy and collection management standards. A dedicated group of volunteers works in the JHS vault every week, cataloging and scanning donations and inventorying the collection. The PastPerfect catalog contains about 24,500 records that can be accessed from the JHS web site.

### ***I WANT TO HELP PRESERVE HISTORIC JAMESTOWN DOCUMENTS***

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ to clean, mend, scan, and encapsulate \_\_\_\_\_ documents at \$10 each.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your tax-deductible donation to**

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

The JHS vault in Town Hall is open from 9 a.m. to noon every Tuesday and Thursday. Visitors are welcome to drop off donations, make reference inquiries, and see the collection.

In 2010 an outside assessment of JHS conducted by Heritage Preservation, Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) recommended an inventory of the collection. Inventories are very useful for checking the condition of items, locating misplaced items, and discovering items for cataloging. JHS ephemeral folders, flat files, and most of the boxed collections have been inventoried. Recently volunteers began an

inventory of the newspaper boxes, containing full size original papers. Volunteers are matching the contents of the boxes with inventories generated from the catalog, organizing the newspapers by catalog number and placing them in large acid free folders made by the volunteers. The project will provide both better protection for the newspapers and easier access.

### ***Donations and acquisitions***

Donors and their gifts are listed below. JHS is grateful for all the donations. The donations add to our knowledge of the history of Jamestown and will benefit researchers for years to come.

## **DONATIONS AND ACQUISITIONS: JUNE 2012 THROUGH NOVEMBER 2012**

**Andrea Adams:** JHS Cash Book, 1912-1923; Program: Concert Benefit of Jamestown Historical Society by the Pupils of Emma Beldan, Aug. 27, 1948; Ticket for Johnny Cake and Sausage Day, JHS, Aug. 26, 1961; Police Constable badge; Save the Bay button; *A Heritage Discovered: Blacks in Rhode Island* by Rowena Stewart; Newport and Vicinity Telephone Directories, Nov. 1973 and Nov. 1964 (Jamestown pages only); Letterhead for A.C. Knowles General Contractor Real Estate & Insurance Office on Ferry Wharf; *Jamestown Bridge Commission Annual Report*, Nov. 30, 1951; Constitution and By-Laws of The Forum 1952; Christmas card from the Wrights of Fox Hill, 1958; *George Washington and Rhode Island*, souvenir of the commemoration of Washington's bicentennial, 1932; St. Matthew's Parish letter Nov. 22, 1967 with 1968 asking budget; programs for local events; Jamestown ferry artifacts and brochures; newspaper clippings of town activities; Town of Jamestown reports and budgets; "The Bay Voyage on Conanicut Island," Lynette and Edgar Olsen.

**Anonymous:** \$310 for Collections Committee to use for conservation and/or purchase.

**Anonymous:** book *Lady of the Silver Skates. The Life and Times of Mary Mapes Dodge 1830-1905* by Catharine Morris Wright, 1979.

**Joanne Baker:** 2 ferry tickets, Aug. 22, 1962, used by James Baker when painting lines on state roads.

**Nancy Bennett:** scanner.

**Dorothy Richardson Blythe:** two photos to scan of her mother, Edith Caswell Richardson.

**Fran Boyer:** *Newport History* No. 230, Summer 1995; *Newport History* duplicate copies to be sold in the Museum; Reprint, *Newport Historical and Social* first published 1854 in *Harpers' Monthly*.

**Ken Boyle:** 3 milk bottle caps, Quononoquott Dairy.

**Carol Buglio:** \$10.00 to produce Jamestown Shores posters to sell in the Museum; 6 buttons which are duplicates and will be sold in the Museum.

**Harry T. Burn:** 100 Mrs. John T. Scheepers tulip bulbs.

**Ken Caswell:** scale drawing of steam pumper, *Tashtassuck* #1.

**Archie Clarke:** State flag flown on the last run of the *Jamestown IV*, 1969; fire buckets from the *Hammonton* and the *Mohican*; life preserver from the *Jamestown IV*; model of ferry boat *Jamestown IV* made by Captain Bill Pemantel; photos of ferry boats used in address at annual meeting.

**Conanicut Marine Services:** Christmas cards 1978-1980, 1991-2004, and 2011, some framed.

**John Doty:** photocopies of picture of 1939-1940 Holy Ghost basketball team and newspaper clipping about their league championship; photocopy of *Providence Journal*, Dec. 6, 1985 with photo of demolition of Bay View; copies of 8 photos of Bay View demolition taken by John Doty.

**Jessie Dutra:** JHS 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary postcards; JHS 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary buttons.

**Caleb William Gilbert:** North Kingstown High School letter, class of 1995.

**Alexis Blake Gilbert:** Satin remembrance "book."

**Linda and Tom Gillis:** USO scrapbook with clippings spanning March 12, 1942-May 10, 1945.

**Brookie Harding:** two photographs to scan for JHS collection – Halfway House and 45 Walcott Ave.

**Barbara Hermann:** information about St Louis residents who summered in Shoreby Hill.

**Ed Holland:** 2 magnets advertising H. V. Holland Heating and Air Conditioning.

**Integrated Management Solutions:** Laptop.

**Varoujan Karentz:** Beavertail: World War II 1942-1945. Spraycliff (Mickey) Site and 1946-1974 US Navy Communications Station; towboating on Narragansett Bay by Edward D. Spinney, 1992.

**Terry Lanza:** *Home and Lifestyle* magazine with article about Lippitt Cottage.

**Dorrie Linn:** Tercentenary plaque with images of Jamestown by Connie Andrews on oval wood.

**Erasmus, Helene, and Sherry Lischio:** photographs of artwork by A. Kitchin, Louise Cashman, Francis West, T.F. Wood, Patsie McCandless, and Paule Loring.

**Little Rhody Model A Club:** brochure of Model A Club April 29, 2012 tour of the Windmill and Jamestown; thank you note for tour of the Windmill; three photos of cars at the Windmill.

**Sue Maden:** Catalog from Newport Art Museum exhibit *From Pennsylvania to Paradise: William Trost Richards, Harrison Morris and The Art Association of Newport*; poster: Millenium Portrait; frames to display Jamestown Shores posters; Jamestown Rocket Hogs bracelet, 2012; Conanicut Park material; painting by Susan Earle Potter, signed on back "Lucretia Winship at her sampler, Susan Earle Potter Jamestown RI 1989;" six books: *Jamestown Centennial*; *Mary Remey Wasleigh: her life* by John R. Wadleigh; *The Color of Life* by Catharine Morris Wright; *Cautantowwit's House: An Indian Burial Ground on the Island of Conanicut in Narragansett Bay*, by William Scranton Simmons, 1970; *Saint Mark*, 1984; *Time and Tide: A Centennial History, Conanicut Yacht Club 1892-1992*, 1992.

**Ken Newman:** book *Greetings from the Ocean State: An Ordinary Bill Collection* by Will Wilson, 2012. Signed by the author "for the Jamestown Historical Society Island Livin'."

**Betsey Outerbridge:** photo of stone crusher on North Road.

**Chris Powell:** newspaper clippings on Jamestown water and zoning.

**Rhode Island Bridge and Turnpike Authority:** poster, Citizens Bank Pell Bridge Run.

**Evelyn Rhodes:** Conanicut Marine Services Christmas cards, 2006 and 2009.

**St. Matthew's Church:** J&NF CO clip with engraving of ferry which Archie Clarke believes is either the *Jamestown IV* or *Newport III*.

**St. Matthews Thrift Shop:** book, *SW1/4W: A Short History of Transportation on Narragansett Bay and its Environs* by Wilfred E. Warren; Jamestown Fire Dept. 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary key ring, 1897-1972.

**Dick Smith:** Jamestown Financial Reports for 1970 and 1898.

**Chris Walsh and Lois Migneault:** poster, Beavertail Light House: Rhode Island Parks Association Beavertail Renovation Project.

**Linda Warner:** 5 photographs to scan: family home at 13 Shady Lane, Henry Armbrust giving swimming lessons, Henry Armbrust and his brother Fred Armbrust in race car they made, Henry Armbrust next to his Piper Cub c1947, Henry Armbrust and Tom Sheehan in Aircoupe, July 18, 1948; *The Laying of the Cornerstone and the Conservation of St. Matthew's Church*, Sept. 8, 1968. "Jamestown Latchstrings Out," *Providence Journal*, Aug. 3, 1952; "Jamestown Quaker Meeting House to be Open for Summer Sunday," *Newport Daily News* June 28, 1951; Fifth Annual Jamestown Day 1973 sticker; cancelled check Newport National Bank made out to Ferdinand Armbrust, Special Post Office Cancellation, 1657 Tercentenary 1957 Jamestown John L. Smith Chairman; Two photographs of St. Matthew's Church choir; photograph of women in colonial dress at windmill; Letter Head, Jamestown Tercentenary; Brochure: Jamestown Fishing Derby July 1-Aug. 17, 1957 with map of Jamestown fishing locations; Program: 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrating Founding of Jamestown Pop Concert; Incorporation form and lawyer's letter concerning incorporation of Conanicut Airways.

**Curt Weeden:** book, *Dutch Island, a Novel*.

**Nancy Wood:** bridge tokens to be sold in Museum.

**Harry Wright:** book, *Masterpieces of the sea. William Trost Richards; a brief outline of his life and art* by Harrison S. Morris, 1912; 4 photos to scan: Mr. and Mrs. Harrison S. Morris, Harrison S. Morris, Greycliff taken from Horsehead.



The brothers Armbrust, Henry and Fred, in race car they made. Photo loaned for scanning by Linda Warner.

***OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS  
2012 – 2013***

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

Directors to 2013	Dick Allphin
	John Horton
	Larry McDonald
	Sally Schott
Directors to 2014	Judy Bell
	Matt Clarke
	Harry Wright
	James Wright
Directors to 2015	Mary Heath
	Betsy Moody
	Heidi Keller Moon

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

**JOIN/RENEW**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

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**

Membership year: July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

**Non Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
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