



*Jamestown Historical Society*

# *HERITAGE*

FALL 2015

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

## *FROM THE PRESIDENT*

Rosemary Enright

As you will be reading in the reports from your committee chairs, it's been a great summer. Over a thousand people stopped at the windmill. More than 650 people signed the visitors' book at the museum – including Senator Jack Reed who took time from his busy routine to visit the exhibit on Jamestown's military history and to stop by the vault.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers, including especially our board. Your officers – me, vice president Heidi Keller Moon, secretary Eric Archer, and treasurer Delia Klingbeil – and the rest of the board manage the activities of the society. Each member of the board takes responsibility for some part of these activities.

Terry Lanza is in charge of programs. She organizes our fund raisers – like the house tour – and arranges for speakers for our events.

Dianne Rugh chairs the Collections Committee, which catalogues and maintains the over 30,000 items that the society owns. Until recently, Collections was also responsible for exhibits and the museum, but this fall we split those off to a committee chaired by Suzi Andrews. Peter Converse assists both committees.

Delia Klingbeil, the Communications chair, is in charge of all the ways you hear from and about us – website, Facebook, stories in newspapers. Dan Wright takes care of our special interface with the schools. Delia sends out frequent emails about our activities; if you haven't been receiving them, please go on our website and sign up or send your email to [info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org).

Larry McDonald coordinates with the town and oversees the maintenance of the historic Conanicut Battery. Jane Bentley and Harry Wright are keepers of the windmill and meetinghouse, respectively. Matthew

Clarke with the help of Bob Flath at Buildings and Grounds coordinates with them and with Suzi to take care of the physical maintenance of the sites.

Judy Bell enlists volunteers to act as docents at the sites. This summer the museum and windmill were open for over 300 hours. A volunteer was there each hour, thanks to Judy's telephone calls and follow-up email reminders.

The society's finances are in the capable hands of two new board members: Jim Buttrick at the Finance Committee, which oversees our investments, and Bill Salmons at Development, which looks forward to what we will need in the future and how to get there. Polly Hutcheson tracks grant opportunities for the other committee chairs.

The names of 157 people who helped in 2015 are listed on the next page. (I hope I haven't missed anyone. If I have, please let me know.) Many of them volunteered in many different capacities. The society thanks them all for their hard work and dedication.



*Over 100 volunteers celebrated the end of summer at the Volunteers' Appreciation Party at Pat and Tim Tuff's Seaglass on October 16. Many thanks to the Tuffs.*

# *HONOR ROLL OF VOLUNTEERS FOR 2015*

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Chip Aherns  
Joy Aherns  
Alexandra Allardt  
Dick Allphin  
Joyce Allphin  
Craig Amerigan  
Stephanie Amerigan  
Suzi Andrews  
Rita Antine  
Jeanne Archambault  
Eric Archer  
Carolyn Armington  
Howard Balloch  
Liani Balloch  
Fran Basso  
Fred Basso  
Judy Bell  
Jane Bentley  
Anna Bernath  
Alcina Blair  
Matthew Bonner  
Judith Boone  
George Boyer  
Paul Brunelle  
Lisa Bryer  
Carol Buglio  
Bill Burgin  
Alan Burse  
Jim Buttrick  
Kevin Carty  
Donna Chellis  
Matthew Clarke  
Edwina Cloherty  
Mick Cochran  
Nicole Contino  
Peter Converse  
Ann Crompton  
Fuzz Crompton  
Judy Curtis  
David Dewhurst

Elizabeth Di Censo  
Paul Di Censo  
Pat DiPaola  
Connie Enright  
John Enright  
Rosemary Enright  
Tricia Evangelista  
Cheryl Fernstrom  
Aileen Flath  
Bob Flath  
Donna Fogarty  
Elizabeth Furtado  
Denise Gamon  
Frederick Geib  
Mary Giffin  
Nikki Andrews  
Gladding  
Michael Glier  
Fran Gorman  
Janet Grant  
John Grant  
Mike Gray  
Joan Hall  
Brookie Harding  
Steve Heath  
Deborah Homer  
Polly Hutcheson  
Justin Jobin  
Sandra Johnson  
Rose Karentz  
Varoujan Karentz  
Delia Klingbeil  
Ralph Klingbeil  
Bill Knapp  
Judy Knight  
Winston Knight  
Jane Koster  
Carol Lake  
Anne Lane  
Terry Lanza

Bill Leonard  
Marcia Lindsay  
Dorrie Linn  
Anne Livingston  
Bruce Livingston  
Joe Logan  
Fran Lopes  
Mary-Alice Lurgio  
Sandra MacQueen  
Sue Maden  
Kathy Maloney  
Maggie Marcus  
Peter Marcus  
Myrna Maxfield  
Larry McDonald  
Mary McDonald  
Jeff McDonough  
Lois Migneault  
Martha Milot  
Jane Miner  
Karen Montoya  
Heidi Keller Moon  
John Murphy  
Mary Jane Murphy  
Mickie Musselman  
Ken Newman  
Pat Newman  
Barbara Parent  
Roland Parent  
Linnea Petersen  
Paul Petersen  
Arlene Petit  
Allison Phillips  
Barbara Hamilton  
Porter  
Carroll Pruell  
Betty Purdum  
Connie Rainone  
John Recca  
Deb Ruggiero

Dianne Rugh  
Jim Rugh  
Bill Salmons  
Mary Lou Sandborn  
Ginny Saunders  
Walter Schroder  
Bob Sedgewick  
Linda Sedgewick  
Chris Smith  
Judy Smith  
William W Smith  
Cathy Squires  
Linda Sullivan  
Bob Sutton  
Deb Swistak  
Mark Swistak  
Betty Ann Taylor  
Gayen Thompson  
Cindy Trask  
Dick Trask  
Geoff Tuff  
Martha Tuff  
Pat Tuff  
Tim Tuff  
Geoff Turner  
Pat Ustick  
Nancy VanDevanter  
Joan Vessella  
Skip Walls  
Chris Walsh  
Linda Warner  
Pat Watrous  
Dennis Webster  
Dan Wright  
Harry Wright  
Josy Wright  
Ann Zartler  
Dedee Zeek  
Greg Zeek

*Thank you !*

## Sharing the JHS Collection

A doctoral candidate at Salve Regina University needed information on the Newport Pell Bridge. A descendant of the Remington family and George Armstrong wanted to learn more about her ancestors. Another researcher was looking for material about Jamestown during the Revolutionary War. They all found material they needed in the JHS online catalog.

The database of almost 30,000 records provides a window into the JHS holdings of photographs, objects, books, and documents. A search can answer questions and open unexpected avenues of exploration. Most of the photograph and object records and some of the records of archival material have attached scans that can be viewed online and requested from the society for more detailed analysis.

To explore the catalog and discover what is in the JHS collections, go to the society's website at [jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://jamestownhistoricalsociety.org). Select "Collections" at the top menu. Click on "SEARCH & VIEW our online catalog". Or go directly to the database at [jamestown.pastperfectonline.com/](http://jamestown.pastperfectonline.com/).

The search engine for the database is similar to most online search engines. For example, to learn about the POW school at Fort Getty, do a keyword search using "POW" as the keyword. Fourteen records are found; some are about other POW camps. To limit the search to Fort Getty, enter "POW and Getty" and find the eight records about that particular facility: four newspaper and magazine articles on the prisoner of war camps in Jamestown; two YouTube videos about the camp; a photograph of a graduation at the POW school and of the staff that taught there; and an aerial view of the army hospital later converted to the POW school.

Exhibits offer opportunities to share the JHS collection more intimately with the local community. This summer over 650 visitors from 25 states and 6 countries came to the museum to see the exhibit, *Defending Our Shores: Military Installations in Jamestown*. The exhibit, with changes and additions to explain the effect of the military installations on the people who made their homes in Jamestown, will be continued next summer.

On Saturday January 16, an exhibit that will include some of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century artwork in the

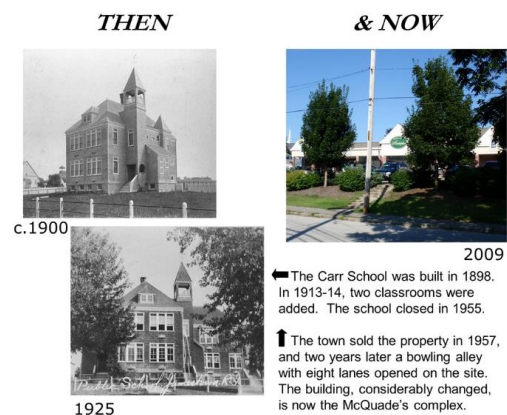


*Senator Jack Reed views the diorama of Fort Greble at the museum with exhibit curator Rosemary Enright.*

Jamestown Historical Society collection will open at the Jamestown Art Center. The show, *Nina Baugh: In Search of a Studio of Her Own*, will focus on the portraits in pastels and oil by Nina Baugh Gopcevic (1908-1981). Family members recently uncovered the portraits that the young Philadelphia/Jamestown artist created between the ages of 13 and 25. The exhibit will provide a rare glimpse into daily life on Conanicut Island in the 1920s and 1930s.

Exhibits in the JHS exhibition case in the lobby of the Jamestown Philomenian Library displayed Jamestown souvenirs, material from the Conanicut Yacht Club, Jamestown decals and bumper stickers, and, in November, matchbook covers and ashtrays.

The fall exhibit at the Lawn Avenue School is *Then and Now* about Jamestown schools, and currently



**Southwest Avenue & Clarke Street**

*Lawn Avenue School exhibit.*



at the Jamestown Police Station is an exhibit of Jean Bunkley's works. On display are four of her over 70 *Men of Jamestown* portraits in the JHS collection along with her self-portrait *The Green Hat*.

### ***Preserving the JHS Collection***

Sue Maden, JHS archivist, is a member of the Collections Committee along with Delia Klingbeil, Joe Logan, Linda Warner, and Dianne Rugh, who serves as chair. The committee meets the first Tuesday of the month to consider donations according to the guidelines of the JHS Collections Committee Collection Policy and to oversee the protection of the JHS collection.

A dedicated group of vault volunteers catalog, inventory, scan, photograph, and care for the collection. About every six months, the newly created records are uploaded to the JHS online catalog. The JHS vault, located in the lower level of Town Hall, is open Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 a.m. to noon, to accept donations and to answer reference questions.

As the volunteers catalog the collection, material in need of conservation is identified. Recently three paintings were sent to a conservator to be cleaned of the accumulations of surface grime and reframed. One painting was *Fort Dimpling*, which hung for many years in the lobby of the Bay Voyage. The others sent for conservation were *The Windmill* painted in 1917 by Rear Admiral Charles Henry Davis II, one of Jamestown's many Navy retirees, and *Sunset Jamestown Harbor*.

In the case of *Sunset Jamestown Harbor*, sending the painting to a professional conservator reaped benefits beyond cleaning and stabilizing the art work. The conservator was able to identify the artist from a previously illegible signature as Edward Mitchell Bannister, 1828-1901, who painted the work in 1895. Bannister was one of the first African-American artists to come to national prominence. Born in Canada, Bannister spent his later years in Providence, was a

founding member of the Providence Art Club, and is noted for his Rhode Island scenes.

When funds permit, important 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Jamestown town documents are sent away for conservation. The documents are repaired, scanned, and placed in archival polyester sleeves.

Recently JHS conserved a number of 1787 and 1788 documents concerning the building of Jamestown's windmill, including the call in February 1787 for a committee to consider erecting a windmill in Jamestown and in March 1787 the announcement of a meeting to appoint a committee to attend the Rhode Island General Assembly with a petition to set up a new windmill.

### ***Collecting for JHS***

The Collections Committee has a small budget to purchase artifacts that enrich the JHS collection. This year, the committee purchased two World War I-era tokens for the Post Exchange at Fort Greble that were available on eBay. The coins were displayed in the summer exhibit.

Donations continue to enrich the JHS collection. Barbara Magruder, great granddaughter of Dr. William Lincoln Bates, the founder of the Dr. Bates Sanitarium which provided nursing and medical care in Jamestown during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, made a significant gift of her ancestor's memorabilia. Included in her gift are Dr. Bates' personal notebook and address book; *Maplewood* memorabilia; family letters, photographs, and legal documents.

Deborah Swistak and Carol Anderson donated the sign that hung outside *Jamestown Designs* and a glass display case from their business that they had acquired from Lang's Store. The much needed display case is on the west wall of the Museum.

Two sets of plans to save Beavertail Light came from Varoujan Karentz along with aerial photographs of four ships that ran aground in the Bay.

A Prudence Island resident, Joe Bains, donated 52 postcards of Jamestown, filling gaps in Sue Maden's extensive postcard collection.

A former owner of Fowler's Rock sent the Fowler's Rock photograph album. The album from the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century contains both interior and exterior photographs of the house.

A complete list of donations received May 2015 through November 2015 follows.



*Coin used at the Post Exchange at Fort Greble, purchased by the society for the 2015 museum exhibit.*

# DONATIONS AND ACQUISITIONS

May 2015 through November 2015

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**Joy Ahrens:** scanned postcard of Mist; Copy of *Military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States ... in memoriam Edward Yorke McCawley Rear-Admiral U.S. Navy died at Jamestown R.I. September 14, 1894.*

**Dick Allphin:** 8 photographs of Jamestown Verrazzano Bridge groundbreaking.

**Carol Anderson and Deborah Swistak:** Maxwell Mays print (9 of 1200) of Jamestown waterfront about 1900; glass display case used in Jamestown Designs and before that in Lang's; letter from Mary Smith Carr giving history of Smith family's use of location of Jamestown Designs (1993-2015); street sign for Jamestown Designs by Mattson of North Kingstown; photographs from family album.

**Anonymous:** letter signed by members of the Conanicut Yacht Club requesting board not make changes to the club.

**Joe Bains:** 52 Jamestown postcards.

**Mrs. Nicholas Biddle Jr.:** ferry boat tickets, 1937.

**Kathy Brownell:** photographs of construction of Bay View Condos and Town Hall move.

**Emmeline Cabral:** scanned photographs of the Martin/Cabral/Souza family and Red Wing Hill Farm.

**Charlotte Chase:** documents of Loyal Franklin Willis: birth certificate, Continuous Discharge Book, Seaman Protection certificate, 2 Certificate of Service to Able Seaman.

**Anna Templeton-Cotill:** *Newport Social Index*, 1908.

**Dave Dewhurst:** scanned Fort Greble postcards with photographs by Wm. T. Dowd.

**Beth Di Censo:** rug for the Museum; commodore's flag and vice commodore's flag from the Conanicut Yacht Club; J.H. Breakell & Co. ferryboat pin.

**John Doty:** photograph, 1955-1960, of Nancy Doty Frade at Mackerel Cove Beach in front of concession stand that was formerly Weicker Garage on Green Lane.

**Carol Edwards:** Fowler's Rocks' photograph album from the early part of the 20th



Maxwell Mays print of Jamestown waterfront in 1900, number 9 of 1200 printed. Donated to the society by Deborah Swistak and Carol Anderson.

century that contains both interior and exterior identified photographs; sketch book containing photographs of New England harbors, including Jamestown.

**Rosemary Enright:** laptop computer; plans, Town of Jamestown Proposed Building Addition Plan for Jamestown Fire Department, 8 sheets

**Richard H. Hutchinson:** Jamestown rug hooked and designed by Ann Hackett Hutchinson June 1996.

**Elizabeth Greig Hyman:** photographs of Bicentennial 1976, Town Tricentennial 1978, and additional miscellaneous photographs.

**Jamestown Community Band:** pencil.

**Jamestown Tree Preservation and Protection Committee:** Proclamation of the Town Council No. 2015-06 Arbor Day, March 16, 2015.

**Varoujan Karentz:** 2 sets of plans to save Beavertail Lighthouse tower; Battery Banquet Blast Banquet poster; Poster, Beavertail 1942-1974; Aerial photographs of 4 ships that ran aground in the Bay; Report on Severn, Gulfoil and S.E. Graham; DVD, *A Rhode Island True Treasure: Beavertail Lighthouse and Museum*, a special presentation of GoodNEWS RI PEG-TV.

**Roger King:** two copies of catalog of *Edward M. Bannister 1828-1901 A Centennial Retrospective*.

**Bill Leonard:** hard drive for JHS laptop.

**Sue Maden:** copy of poster, Mine Explosion with Ft. Greble in background from photograph of Wm. T. Dowd; photographs; postcard announcing monthly meeting of the Jamestown Historical Society at Dr. Bates' April 18, 1914; magnet, Jamestown Seaside Family Cruise; Breakell Co. sheep pin; Key chain [www.viewamerica.com](http://www.viewamerica.com) with photo of Newport Bridge; matchbook Fort Wetherill.

**Barbara Magruder:** books, photographs, letters, documents, and miscellaneous items associated with Dr. William Lincoln Bates

**Henry and Janet Martin:** 4 posters, *The Jamestown Ferry Boats 1873-1969*.

**Mim Munro:** Russian stack dolls given to Jim Munro by crew of Russian fishing boat.

**John Murphy:** signboard from the ferryboat Beavertail; sets of plans by Tom Todd for the Community Center 2001 and by Andrew

Yates for Fort Getty pavilion and landscaping 2011; papers from service as trustee of Jamestown Philomenian Library; Rhode Island History journals; Newspaper clippings, 1990-1992.

**Cheryl Page:** *Island Rubbish* T-shirt.

**Donna Richardson Peckham:** Meredith and Clarke Christmas card with photograph of Beavertail Lighthouse; postcard of ferry boat at East Ferry.

**Lauren Biddle Plummer:** Christmas card from Syd and Kit Wright with photo of the dog, Archie. Fox Hill, 1962.

**Chris Powell:** Fools Rule 2015 T-shirt, art work by Amelia Wilson; stationery of Abbott Chandler Boats Built and Repaired, Jamestown; June Webb drawing of Narragansett Avenue.

**Dianne Rugh:** movie poster, *Irrational Man* with photograph of Joaquin Phoenix at Beavertail; book, *Edward Mitchell Bannister 1828-1901*, Kenkeleba House, New York, 1992.

**Jim Rugh:** poster, The Jamestown Farmers Market at the Famous Fort Getty Pavilion starting June 29, 2015. Drawing by Will Henry; films of German Prisoners of War School, Fort Getty and Fort Wetherill (Dec. 14, 1945) downloaded from YouTube.

**St. Matthew's Thrift Shop:** model, Beavertail Rhode Island #188 Harbour Lights, Younger & Associates, 1997.

**Julia Sanford:** stationery for the Chapel, 11 Harbor Street Jamestown Rhode Island 02835.

**Deborah and Walter Wadsworth:** Vergeboard and bracket from 17 Conanicus Ave. used in the 2013 and 2014 summer exhibits.

**Linda Warner:** pamphlet, *Welcome to Jamestown in Narragansett Bay*, Jamestown Harbor Management, 1992; wedding photograph of Ferdinand and Anna Johnson Armbrust.

**Pam Wood:** notebook, newspaper clippings, and genealogical information on the family of Captain Edward Barry.

**Harry Wright:** early JHS stationery; copy of magazine article, *Ghosts of Light and Sound* by Joanna R. Nicholls Kyle in Goodey's Magazine June 1898



## August Annual Meeting

In step with the museum's 2015 exhibit-*Defending Our Shores: Military Installations in Jamestown*, the August 13 meeting hosted at the Jamestown Philomenian Library featured special guest John W. Kennedy, retired Navy Commander and Director of Museum Education and Public Outreach at the Naval War College since 2008. Guest speaker Kennedy presented a slide show and oral history of "The Navy in Narragansett Bay."

Kennedy provided a timeline of the Navy's presence on the bay – from the British occupation of Newport Harbor through the founding of torpedo design and development on Goat Island in the mid-1800s to the present Naval War College and Naval Undersea Warfare Center establishments. Slides



John W. Kennedy

featured strategic maps of Narragansett Bay and images of ships such as *Duc de Bourgogne*, the flagship of the Comte de Rochambeau. He also highlighted 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century U.S Navy heroes John Paul Jones, Oliver Hazard Perry, and Oliver's younger brother Matthew Calbraith Perry.

Kennedy concluded his talk with a question and answer session. He invited guests to attend the museum's lunchtime Eight Bells Lecture Series.

## House Tour Preview Party

Bob and Linda Sedgwick of Princeton NJ and Jamestown graciously hosted the annual members-only House Tour Preview party on Friday, September 11. The enchanted late summer's evening party was held at the Tunstill Smith House, the Sedgwicks' 1889 Bevins-designed Shingle Style summer cottage at 144 Walcott Avenue.

The weather forecast called for rain, and clouds loomed all day. But at 5 o'clock as the bartenders began serving cocktails, the clouds dissipated and the sun appeared. It was clear skies from beginning to end. Many members and their guests socialized over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the terraced garden for most of the evening, while the sight of the home's



Preview party at the Sedgwicks

charmed exterior lured the curious indoors for a tour of the beautifully preserved and decorated interiors designed by the talented Linda Sedgwick.

It was a memorable evening that was topped off by a fading summer watercolor sunset that lit the tips of the garden treetops in a glow of pink. Admission to the party included a ticket to the house tour across the street the following day.

One hundred and twenty-five guests attended the Friday night affair. The event committee included Jane Bentley, who arranged for the venue through her friendship with the Sedgwicks; Ken Newman, who organized the staff of servers that included Jamestown's Moira Flath, Emma MacIntyre, and Sam Cowan; and members of the board, who helped with invitations, reservations, and publicity.

We thank the Sedgwick's again for their warm and generous hospitality.

## House Tour

The 30<sup>th</sup> annual house tour was celebrated with a tour of four historic homes in the Racquet Road/-Walcott Avenue area, south of the village. The late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century homes were designed and built as summer cottages. Today two of the four homes remain summer residences while two have had extensive renovation and restoration for year round living. Despite the degrees of modernization to each home, each maintains its original character and charm.

The houses known as the Bertha Coles House, Mist, Brushwood (aka Bleecker's Box), and Green Chimneys are classic examples of Jamestown summer cottages. Porches overlook the East Passage and serve





# WINDMILL

Jane Bentley

We had another busy and wonderful season at the windmill this year. We now have two external signs that explain the working of the mill to those cannot or do not want to climb the ladder-like stairs. Inside the mill, the new lights make it easier to see the details, and the detailed signage and a video showing the process of restoring the windmill in 2000 make it easier to understand the windmill's mechanisms.

Opening day was June 21. Several new docents came to be oriented in procedures. Over the summer, we had over 1,000 visitors from all over the country – from Florida to Portland, Oregon. We also had guests from as far away as South Korea and Mexico.

Toward the end of the season we finally solved the problem of how to display the sign that directs visits to park in the field next to mill rather than on the road. Bob Flath attached a bracket to the sign at the entry and drilled holes to hold the hooks on the parking sign.

Later this month, our millwright, Andy Shrake, will start the process of replacing the third floor beams that were found to be weakened by powderpost beetles. The Jamestown Historical Society received a \$5,000 grant from the 1772 Foundation, which Jim Buttrick promised to match from the newly established Buttrick endowment. By next summer, the



Sue Maden was interviewed at the windmill by *Coastal Living* magazine and e-zine about the history of Jamestown.

construction should be complete and both the second and third floors should be replanked.

A big “thank” you to the many docents that opened and manned the windmill from June through the Columbus Day weekend. Without them, the Jamestown Historical Society would not be the wonderful and unique organization that it is.

I look forward to seeing everyone next season.

## 1776 BATTERY

Larry McDonald

Battery Day on June 6 was an inspiring success. Cannons from the Newport Artillery bombed and Captain Tew's Company impressed those present with their 18<sup>th</sup> century military maneuvers. Fun was had by all. A special thanks goes to the Jamestown Band for its spirited renditions of patriot tunes.

Continual maintenance of the battery encompasses the goal of making the area public friendly. Improvements of the drainage on the boulder path was accomplished as an Eagle Scout project. Ongoing trimming and poison ivy reduction has improved the access to the battery.

If you are wondering what the marked off areas are, efforts are being made to plant native grasses that will bring the battery back to the 18th Century.

## MEETINGHOUSE

Harry Wright

The Meetinghouse had a quiet summer. There were occasional visitors by appointment. We were open for drop-in visitors on June 21, the day the windmill opened for the summer, and on Smithsonian Day in late September. About a dozen people stopped by each time.

The weather has been relatively dry and the building has held up well, except for continuing problems with the roof that will need attention soon.

Once again we're indebted to the members of the Conanicut Friends Meeting for their continuing attention to the care of the building and, above all, for providing this historic structure with life and religious purpose in their spring-to-fall Sunday meetings for worship.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Rosemary Enright

In 2014, the income to the society exceeded the expenses by \$483. The income to support the activities of the society comes from many sources.

Annual dues and donations directly to the society account for approximately one-third of our normal operating budget. Our dues year runs from July 1 to June 30. The society has 225 paid memberships; 124 are life memberships. If you have not renewed your membership for 2015-2016, please see the renewal information on page 8.

In 2015, sales and programs generated another 20 percent, an unusually high amount because sales of the dvd "We Took the Ferry" and continuing sales of *Legendary Locals* through our website were very good.

Three grants were received in response to specific proposals. The 1772 Foundation award \$5,000 for major maintenance at the windmill. Senator Theresa Paiva-Weed sponsored a \$1,000 Rhode Island Senate grant for Battery Day, and Representative Deb Ruggiero sponsored a \$1,000 General Assembly grant to fund the museum exhibit.

The society itself has three endowment funds under the control of the Rhode Island Foundation (RIF) – the Windmill Endowment; the Mary R. Miner Archives Fund; and a general endowment to support all the operations of the Society. Dues paid for life memberships are added annually to the general endowment so that they will generate the equivalent to the dues of an annual membership. Members are encouraged to consider contributing to these endowments in their estate planning. In 2015, \$12,000 was added to the general endowment.

Three other endowments have been established by benefactors for the use of the society: the Old Jamestown Windmill fund at the Philadelphia Foundation (PF), established in 1987 by Nan

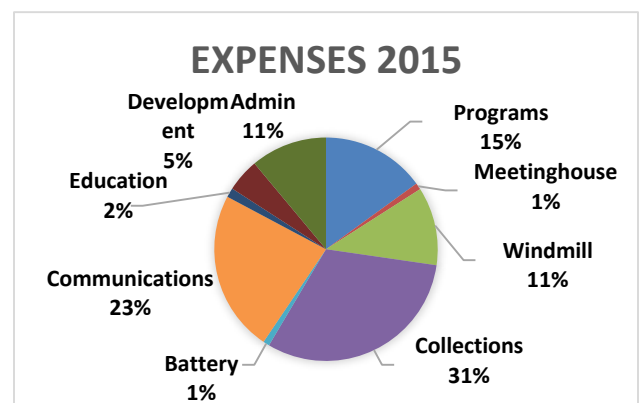
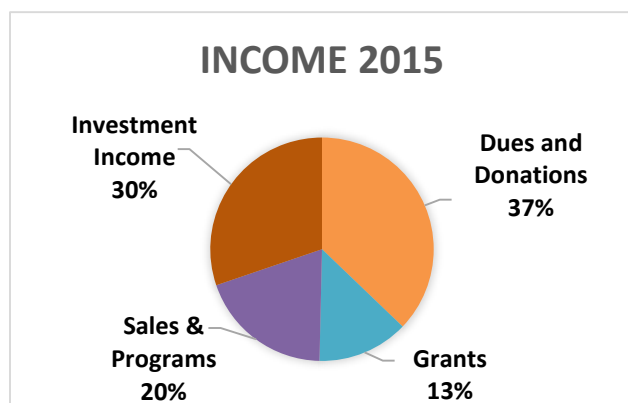
Thompson and Margaret Evans; the Conanicut Friends Meeting House Endowment Fund managed by the Friends Fiduciary; and the Buttrick Building fund, established this year at the Philadelphia Foundation. As of the latest data available, the balances in the JHS endowment funds and the income distribute in the past 12 months are as follows:

Fund	Amount	Income distributed
RIF General Fund	\$358,366	\$13,202
RIF Windmill Fund	\$10,535	\$409
PF Old Jamestown Windmill Fund	<b>\$148,160</b>	\$5,624
Meetinghouse Endowment	\$45,795	\$982
Buttrick Building Fund	\$497,617	\$0
RIF Miner Archives Fund	\$10,268	\$400

In addition, the Finance Committee manages approximately \$165,000 in JHS investments, plus a \$42,000 endowment for the Conanicut Battery. Over the ten months between January 1, 2015 and October 31, 2015, all income and dividends were reinvested, and a donation of \$200 was added to the meeting-house investments.

Accounts	Value 10/31	% Change
General Investments	\$100,850	+1.18%
Meetinghouse Investments	\$2,466	-5.43%
Windmill Investments	\$50,657	+1.01%
Battery Investments	\$13,395	+2.62%
Battery Endowment	\$42,378	+1.94%

The net income after expenses for 2015 is expected to exceed the 2014 net income.



# COMMUNICATIONS

Delia Klingbeil

Our updated website is now in full operation at [www.jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.jamestownhistoricalsociety.org).

On the website, members and the general public can read about our newest exhibits and events. Be sure to click on [News & Events](#) to keep up with what happening. The site serves as a portal to images and information about our large [collection](#) of photos, objects and historical archives – including descriptions and images of 18<sup>th</sup> century handwritten Jamestown town documents.

From our [Publications](#) page, under the About Us menu item, you can purchase our books and videos and view historical early 20<sup>th</sup> century videos of Jamestown on our [YouTube](#) page. Below are samples of our [News & Events](#) and [Publications](#) pages.

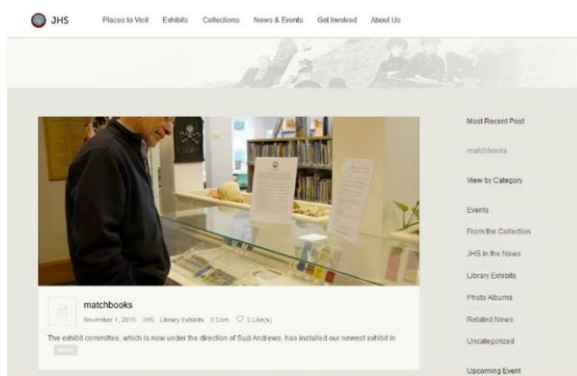
All members receive periodic emails with our latest news and links to updates on our website. You

can subscribe to get these emails on the website or you can “Friend Us” on our [Facebook](#) page and get the news that way.

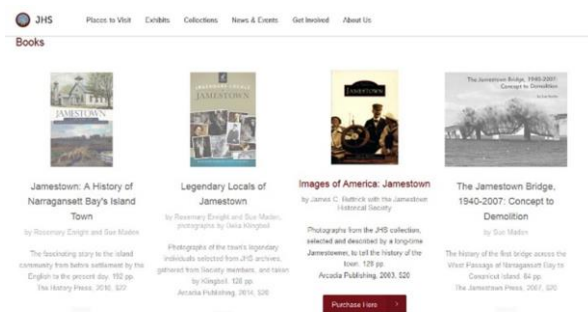
For your convenience, you can also become a [member and pay your dues online](#).

While our focus lately has been on the website and social media, we continue to keep the public aware of the society’s mission through print. Our monthly JHS news column in the *Jamestown Press* tells everyone in town about our activities. The *Press* also publishes a monthly feature on some aspect of Jamestown history by Rosemary Enright and Sue Maden under the society’s logo.

Articles on the summer exhibit at the museum and on the renovation taking place this winter at the windmill appeared in the *Newport Daily News*.



News & Events



Publications

# BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Matthew Clarke

The Jamestown Historical Society continues to be blessed to have a number of volunteers who serve on other JHS committees who deal with major projects at all locations. As the old saying goes, many hands make light work.

Harry Wright, Marcie Lindsay, and William Smith II are to be commended for their constant care and attention to the Friends Meetinghouse. Jane Bentley arranged for the renovation of the upper floors of the windmill with our millwright Andy Shrake. Dianne Rugh and Joe Logan monitored the maintenance at the museum and vault, including monthly assessment of humidity levels, which have improved markedly in the museum since the installation of a vapor barrier in

the crawl space. Bob Flath has taken care of many of the “hands on” tasks at all the sites.

You may read about other work going on at each property, from the chairperson of each specific property for other special projects. As anyone who owns or maintains an “older building” knows, they need constant care and attention.

During the summer months, the committee has contracted for and overseen the routine mowing and yard maintenance at all of the properties.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Jim Buttrick’s generous gift to the society. It will help maintain the JHS properties for many years to come.

Best wishes to all as we enter the holiday season.



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

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