



Jamestown Historical Society

HERITAGE

Spring 2018

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mary Heath

The Jamestown Historical Society has had a very productive winter and spring.

Jim Buttrick, your vice president, continued to coordinate monthly outings to places and events of



Jim Buttrick during an outing to the Opera House in Newport.

historic interest. (See details on page 7.) Excursions are open to all our members, but because they are for members only and are short turn-around, notice is by email only. Make sure we have an up-to-date email by signing up at our website. I hope you will join us on future excursions.

As an organization we have a responsibility to our members and donors to protect the historic places under our stewardship, including the Windmill. Last November, your Board unanimously decided to oppose the application of David and Jennifer Clancy for a variance to construct a 700-square-foot addition to the Miller's Cottage, doubling the size of the structure, in order to add one bedroom and storage.

The Board approved a budget to hire an attorney and an architect, as an expert witness, to show that the addition submitted by the Clancys did not meet the conditions for granting the variance. Those conditions were that the hardship was not the result of any prior action of the applicant, that granting the variance would not alter the general character of the

surrounding area, and that the relief to be granted was the least relief necessary. The application was denied in a 4 to 1 vote at the April 24 meeting of the Zoning Board of Review.

We would like to thank all of you who submitted letters of support to the Zoning Board. On page 8 of the newsletter are sketches that show the size and scope of the addition proposed.

The Board is moving forward on the five-year plan. We have created committees to focus on three areas of importance: Finance/Long-range Planning, Technology, and Engagement. If you have ideas about the Society's direction in the future, now is the time to come forward. We'd love to hear from you. You can call or text me at 401-835-3509 or email movemarketinggroup@gmail.com.

In the fall, we will begin to draft the strategic plan and will share it with all of you.

I'd like to remind you all to put Saturday, July 21, in your calendars. It's JHS Windmill Day. We promise it will be a lot of fun and an opportunity to celebrate our community with music, food, children's activities, and more. I hope to see you there!

I continue to be amazed with the commitment and work of all our talented volunteers, and the accountability our Board members show day in and day out year-round to serve all of you!



Mary Heath

SUMMER 2018 PROGRAM CALENDAR

Every Tuesday & Thursday

9 AM to Noon

JHS Vault, Town Hall Basement

Vault open. Visitors and researchers welcome.

Monday, May 28

Preview of Summer Exhibit in Museum

10 AM to Noon

Then and Now: Where We Stayed, the 2018 summer exhibit, previews during the Memorial Day parade. Purchase Jamestown memorabilia at our porch sale.

Saturday, June 23

Museum and Windmill Docent Orientation

1 to 4 PM

Opening day for museum and windmill. New and experienced docents are encouraged to visit to refresh their knowledge of the sites and to review opening and closing procedures. Procedure orientation sessions will be held at 1:15, 2:15, and 3:15.

Museum and Windmill Summer Hours

Windmill hours: 1 to 4 PM, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays through Columbus Day, October 8.

Museum hours: 1 to 4 PM, Wednesdays through Sundays and holidays through Labor Day; Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays through Columbus Day.

Both sites will be open on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, July 2 through July 4.

Saturday, June 23

Summer Exhibit Opening Reception at Museum

5 to 7 PM

Members Only party to celebrate the official opening of *Then and Now: Where We Stayed*, the 2018 summer exhibit. Hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine will be served.

Sunday, June 24

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, July 21

Windmill Day

11 AM to 2 PM

Come to the windmill. Come early to help the millwright put up the clothes on the sails. Enjoy the music. Have a picnic in windmill field.

Monday, August 6

Annual Meeting

Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM

Annual report of society. Election of officers and directors for 2018-2019. Guest speaker: Jim Ricci, author of the new History Press book *The History of the Newport Bridge: A Monument to Perseverance*.

Friday, September 14

Members Only House Tour Preview Party

5 to 7 PM

Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres at the 1895 Carton-/Benoist Cottage designed by Charles L. Bevins. A \$50 ticket includes entry to Saturday's house tour.

Saturday, September 15

House Tour

10 AM to 2 PM

Tour historic Jamestown houses. Watch the *Jamestown Press* for details. Tickets \$20.

Thursday & Friday

September 20 & 21

The Hurricane of 1938

Jamestown Philomenian Library, 7 PM

Thursday: Reminiscences of the "wind that shook the world" in the words of those who experienced it.

Friday: *Wake of '38*, a WSBE documentary movie of the events of September 21, 1938.

Co-sponsored with the Jamestown Philomenian Library.

Saturday, September 22

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 free.

Monday, October 8

Jamestown Museum and Windmill Close

Columbus Day. The last day this season to visit the museum or drop by the windmill. Group visits can be arranged any time by calling 423-7202 during vault hours or emailing your request to info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org.

Go to jamestownhistoricalsociety.org for complete JHS calendar.

MUSEUM AND EXHIBITS

Suzi Andrews

Jim Buttrick returns as curator this year for the summer exhibit at the Jamestown Museum. His new exhibit, *Then and Now: Where We Stayed*, is an expansion of last year's *Jamestown: Lost and Found* with special emphasis on the hotels and boarding houses that could be found throughout Jamestown at the turn of the last century.

Ferry houses, where a stranded traveler could stay for short periods, were the first "hotel" accommodations. Boarding houses – at the beginning, often farmhouses where rooms could be rented for a week or a month, board included – came next, followed closely by the resort hotels. The hotels and most of the boarding houses were summer only.

A members-only opening reception at the museum is planned for Saturday, June 23, from 5 to 7 PM. Last year's opening reception – a first for the society – was a great success, and we hope you will all stop by for a nibble and drink and to hear Jim explain his vision for the exhibit.

The museum will be open every Wednesday through Sunday, plus both Monday and Tuesday of the long Fourth of July weekend – always from 1 to 4 PM. – until Labor Day. After Labor Day, we'll only be open weekends until we close on Columbus Day, October 8.

New Town Hall Display

Until well into the 20th century, each city and town in Rhode Island appointed "sealers" to perform inspections and calibrate all measuring devices used by businesses. Jamestown was no exception. The scales and weights as well as the beakers used to measure liquids were owned by the town and, under state law, had to be certified every two years to ensure that the devices used to certify other devices were themselves accurate.

In the mid-20th century, the state slowly began to take over the function. The town of Jamestown transferred the scales, weights, and beakers used in earlier years to the historical society. The society has cared for them, hoping for opportunities to display and explain these artifacts of our past.

This winter the town decided to purchase a display case for these objects, so they could safely be displayed in Town Hall. The case should be ready



Tennant Cottage on Narragansett Avenue, one of Jamestown's early boarding houses featured in this summer's exhibit. Now the Morgan Battey building.

Of course, the museum can only be open if someone is there to greet the visitors. If you would like to spend a quiet afternoon in an air conditioned gallery, talking to people from both on and off island, please email Judy Bell at judithbl44@hotmail.com or call 423-9152 to volunteer.

Docent training takes place on June 23 before the party. Procedure orientation sessions will be held at 1:15, 2:15, and 3:15. New and experienced docents are encouraged to attend to learn about the new exhibit and to review opening and closing procedures.

sometime this summer. We are working on a concise explanation that will help visitors understand how and why these implements were used.



Jamestown's official scales for monitoring weight measurement. Soon to be exhibited in a new display case in Town Hall

Other Exhibits Around Town

This winter, five separate exhibits were mounted in the JHS case at the Jamestown Philomenian Library.

For the holidays, we showed the society's collection of Conanicut Marine Services holiday cards, most of them designed by Evelyn Thistle Rhodes. Interspersed among the cards were the gold and gold and ivory ornaments issued by the Jamestown Press and the Jamestown Village Association in the 1990s.



Some of the cards and ornaments displayed in the holiday exhibit at the library.

This spring we, once again, replaced the emergency exit door that was added in place of the north window on the east side in 2006. We have reluctantly moved to composite rather than wood construction. The door gets little light and is unprotected from wind, snow, or rain. We have also

In February, we celebrated Black History month with pictures and memorabilia of the African American members of our community.

Other exhibits highlighted JHS acquisitions in 2017, programs from events, and promotional objects from Jamestown merchants. The current library exhibit displays cartoons featuring Jamestown.

Library exhibits will continue to be changed every four to five weeks.

At the Lawn Avenue School, the spring semester exhibit showed the students some of the plans made for Jamestown that never came to fruition. Included were 19th century proposals to build a canal through the Great Creek to Potter's Cove and Commerce Oil's attempt to build an oil refinery at the North End in the 1950s.

We have also upgraded the permanent exhibit in the Rec Center.

Thank you to Carol Lake, Sue Maden, and Rosemary Enright who worked so hard on all the exhibits.

Museum Repair

repainted the wrought iron railings and done some touchup on interior and exterior paint.

Next year we plan to repaint the interior, replace the exterior Jamestown Museum sign, which has been in place since 1972 and is in sad shape, and repair the floor in the lavatory.

CONANICUT BATTERY

Eric Archer/Larry McDonald

Winter and spring are both quiet at the Battery, but clearing, cutting and reseeding take place all year in an effort to restore and maintain the view from the Battery that would once have been possible. Thanks to a push in clearing over the last two years, it is now easier to envision what an 18th century cannoneer would have seen from the "Battery or Redoubt with four embrasures," i.e., the earthworks that are nearest to the West Passage.

One near term goal is to better reveal the cable house situated right at the top of the coastal feature west of the earthworks. The structure was used to gather and relay information from the individual fire control towers during the World Wars.

It still requires some imagination to envision the view from the fire control towers themselves – the low slung, fortified communications and observation posts along the paths that now wind among the trees and brush. With the large number of trees, the constant invasion of new vine species, and the decline of grazing and grass fires that were a constant part of Jamestown's agrarian past, these observation posts seem as if they were designed to be hidden from sight from the West Passage, rather than observation posts set up to monitor the mines laid there during both World Wars. JHS members, Town of Jamestown, Scouts, volunteer efforts, and state legislative grants all work in tandem to continue the sight restoration efforts in a manner allowable within CRMC guidelines.

The windmill opens this year on Saturday, June 23. I will be there from 1 to 4 PM to help new docents learn the drill for opening and closing the mill and to refresh the memory of docents who wish to come up for a visit. Docents will be given a copy of a booklet explaining the history and operation of the mill.

We'll be open every Saturday, Sunday, and holiday though Columbus Day, October 8. That's 39 days that we need "windmill sitters," because the windmill can't be open if one of us isn't there. Please email Judy Bell at judithbl44@hotmail.com or call her at 423-9152 to volunteer.

Early Visitors

Two groups of Jamestown students will visit the windmill before opening day. On the school's Island Treasures day, May 18, nine fifth and sixth grade kids learned from millwright Andy Shrake how to turn the bonnet into the wind and raise the clothes on the sails.

On June 15, the three fifth grade classes will tour the windmill and the nearby Friend's meetinghouse.

The television show "This Old House," called us in early May. The show is featuring the redo of a house on Plymouth Road in an upcoming segment. They visited in mid-May to get a sunrise photograph of the windmill for the lead-in to the segment, which will air in the fall and will credit the Jamestown Historical Society

Windmill Day

Our biannual Windmill Day is July 21. It is a day to celebrate our agricultural history as well as our historic windmill. Joe and Jessie Dutra are cutting the field between Weeden Lane and the mill for parking. The stile across the stone wall gives access to the windmill field.

Millwright Andy Shrake will start raising the clothes on the sails about 10 AM. He'll need help with that, and volunteers – both children and adults – are welcome. If the wind cooperates, the sails will be turning by 11, when the celebration officially starts. At 2 PM, he'll reverse the process. Again, helping hands will be welcome.

Tours of the mill will be conducted throughout the day. Many other activities are still in the planning stages, but expect games and activities for the children,

music, antique cars from the era in which the society acquired the windmill, and – if the mason is willing – a lesson in how to repair a stone wall.

The Quaker meetinghouse near the entry to the parking area will also be open. Members of Jamestown's Society of Friends will be there to tell you about Quaker meeting and the history of the Quakers in Jamestown.

Windmill Day is the same day as St. Matthew's summer fair, so have a day of fun – first at the fair, which starts at 9, and then come up to the windmill for a picnic lunch.

Windmill Maintenance

Our mill is in good shape – kept that way by our millwright, Andy Shrake. This winter he built and installed a new front door. He is keeping an eye on some dry rot in the windshaft, but expects it will be a few years before the shaft will have to be replaced.



Lawn Avenue School students help turn the bonnet to the wind on Island Treasures Day.

MEETINGHOUSE

Marcia Lindsay

This wet spring has shown the efficacy of efforts of the Society to remove and ameliorate dampness coming from the meetinghouse's shallow crawlspace. The crawlspace drain installed over 15 years ago by Archie Clark and the vapor barrier installed five years ago have kept mold under control.

Meetinghouse trim is being sanded and painted this year by a local painter; and new paint will be applied to the shed's trim by the Quaker community, which regularly does the small routine maintenance.

William Smith III continued to contribute his talents toward minor repairs. Early in April, he replaced the weakened handrail at the west entry, removed rotted trim boards, stabilized the attic joists, and replaced the attic walkway.

Last fall and again this May, photographers have been granted permission to capture the interior of the



Heavily charred, hand-sawed boards found in the attic above the old stove perhaps indicate a narrowly avoided catastrophe for the historic building.

1787 building for their special projects. Jean Schnell, has a website to showcase her many regional Meetinghouse "portraits" at JeanSchnell.com. Seth Thompson will add Conanicut Friends Meeting to his panoramic photos to his website "Sacred Spaces of New England" later this spring.

EDUCATION

Dan Wright

Island Treasures Day is a fun and educational day for students from Jamestown's Lawn Avenue School. Experts from different professions teach the kids about jobs in a field of their choice.

The JHS has participated for several years. This year Andy Shrake, our millwright, was at the windmill on May 18 to show students how to raise the clothes on the sails, turn the sails into the wind, and set the mill up to grind corn into cornmeal.

Lawn Avenue fifth graders also spend a day toward the end of the school year touring historic sites on the island. This year on June 15, they will visit the meetinghouse and windmill in the morning and the Conanicut Battery after lunch.

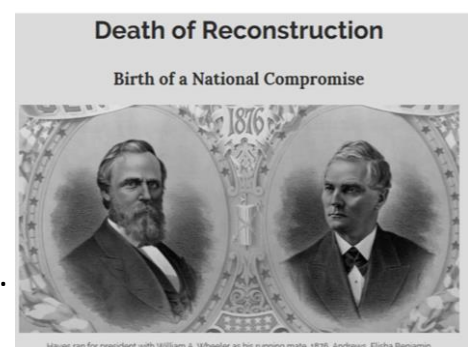
Two graduating students will receive awards in Social Studies from the JHS at the school's awards ceremony on June 21.

Eight students from Maureen McGuirl's social studies classes at the Jamestown Lawn Avenue school competed in the state-wide National History Day. Three made it into the national competition that takes place in June: Natalie Conover, Jesse Long, and Nayan Sapers. Natalie and Jesse worked together to create a website on the end of the Reconstruction Era in 1877. Nayan's entry is about India's drive for independence from Great Britain.

The Jamestown Historical Society is contributing the registration fees for these students and wishes them well at the national competition.



Websites created by Lawn Avenue National History Day competitors.



PROGRAMS

Linda Warner/Jim Buttrick

Members-Only Outings

Our members-only outings to nearby places of historic interest continued through the winter.

In November, we visited the Opera House in Newport to see the on-going reconstruction of this historic building. In January, we toured Touro Synagogue. Our visit to the Redwood Library in February included a tour of their archives and a meeting with their Executive Director Benedict Leca, who guided us through their current exhibition “Modernity vs. Tradition: Art at the Parisian Salon 1750-1900.”

Our March outing took us to Rosecliff for a lecture and exhibit on the British Aesthetic Movement and a talk given by Ashley Householder, the curator of the exhibition on Oscar Wilde's Newport. In early April, we went to Linden Place in Bristol, the 1810 mansion of the DeWolf family, for a lecture on “The Forgotten Drinks of Colonial New England” and a tasting of some of the same.

Earlier this month, we had our first “in-ing.” Dianne Rugh and members of our Collections Committee brought out some of the seldom-seen objects in our collection for a “show and tell” in our vault in Town Hall.

Our next outing, on the morning of Saturday, June 16, will be to Newport's Swiss Village. Swiss Village was built as a folly by Arthur Curtiss James in 1916 to ornament his estate. Today the original faux-Austrian buildings survive on 35 acres devoted to preserving heritage breeds and their genes. Swiss Village is open to the public only one day per year, and June 16 is it.

Because the events are short turn around and restricted to members, notification is by email only. If you are interested in joining us, make sure we have an up-to-date email address.

Summer Events

Our first event of the summer season is the opening for the exhibit at the museum. A members-only opening reception at the museum is planned for Saturday, June 23, from 5 to 7 PM. You can read more about the opening and the exhibit in Suzi Andrew's column on page 3.



Paul Di Censo and Linda Warner study one of the Jamestown-related artifacts in the Redwood Library collection during the February outing.

Windmill Day is Saturday, July 21, from 11 to 2. Details are in the Windmill column on page 5.

Our annual meeting is on August 6 at 7 PM in the meeting room at the Jamestown Philomenian Library. Our speaker this year is Jim Ricci, the author of *The History of the Newport Bridge: A Monument to Perseverance*, which is being published by The History Press in July. Archivist Sue Maden helped Jim when he was doing research in the JHS collection, and some of the photographs in the book come from our files.

The annual house tour is planned for the weekend of September 14-15. Join us for the preview party at the Carton/Benoist cottage on Friday at 5. The cottage was designed by Charles L. Bevin, Jamestown's most prolific architect of summer cottages, for John F. Carton in 1895. It has been in the Benoist family since 1907. Negotiations for the houses on Saturday's tour are still underway.

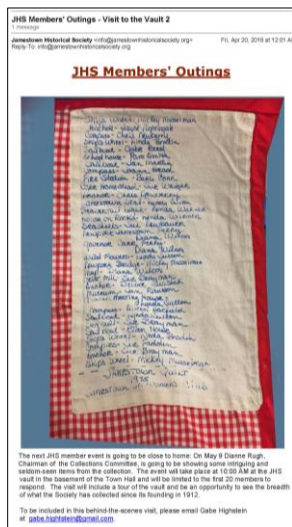
The following week is the 80th anniversary of the Hurricane of 1938. The historical society is joining with the Jamestown Philomenian Library to commemorate the occasion with a two-part program. On Thursday, September 20, reminiscences and contemporary accounts from Jamestown residents who survived the disaster will be presented. A movie of the events of September 21, 1938 will be shown on Friday.

The Communications Committee – Stephanie Amerigian, Rosemary Enright, Gabe Highstein, and Delia Klingbeil – works hard to keep you informed about all the activities you have read about in other columns. A lot of information flows quickly through email, our [website](http://jamestownhistoricalsociety.org) at jamestownhistoricalsociety.org, and posts to our [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/jamestownhistoricalsociety)

We haven't forgotten the print medium. Press releases in the *Jamestown Press* tell 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 JHS

logo. And, of course, this biannual newsletter goes out by both email and snail mail and is posted on the website.

Our latest adventure, spear-headed by Stephanie Amerigian, is a smartphone/website tour of the military sites in Jamestown. The tour will join other digital tours at [RhodeTour](http://RhodeTour.com), a state-wide initiative to capture stories about historic landmarks.



Some emails, such as invitations to members outings, go out to members only.

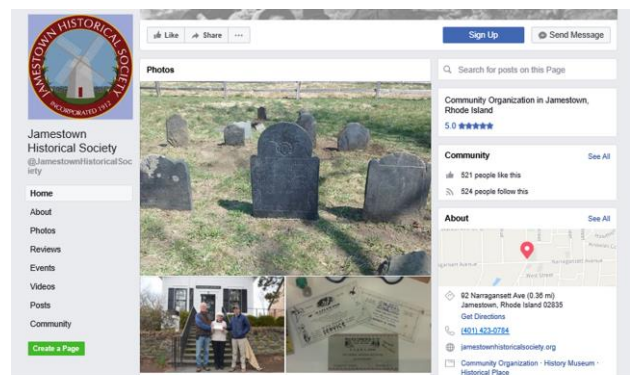
As our President told you in her column, the Board voted to oppose the construction of a 700-square-foot addition to the Miller's Cottage. These



View from the street.



Email blasts telling you about events, such as our recent gift from Jamestown's First Day Plunge for reprinting of our Jamestown walking tours, are also posted on our website (above) and Facebook (below) pages. "Friend" us on Facebook to get the latest news fast.



Along with the Technology committee, we are looking into establishing QR codes at our sites. The technology is there. We just have to develop the content.

two sketches ghosting the proposed addition will, we hope, help you understand the reasons behind the decision. A picture is worth 1,000 words.



View from the windmill.

Recent Additions to the Jamestown Historical Society Collection

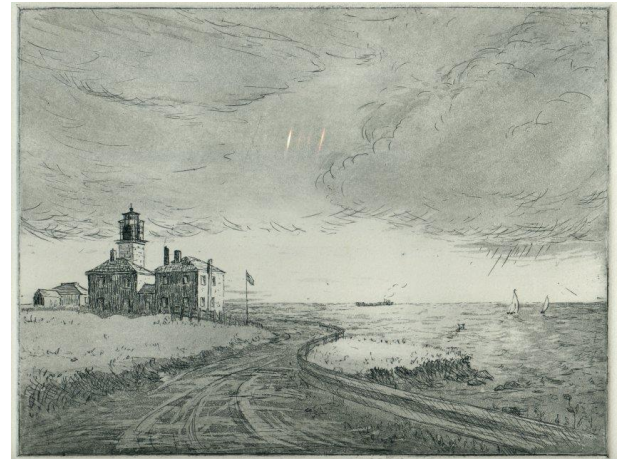
JHS is grateful for all donations that support the Society's mission to collect, preserve, and share with others the heritage of Jamestown. The JHS collection includes books, manuscripts, art works, textiles, maps, recordings, videos, objects, photographs, documents, and ephemera, all of which pertain to the history of the community of Jamestown. A complete list of donations received between November 2017 and April 2018 is one page 11.

Stephanie and Craig Amerigian donated a Beavertail Lighthouse etching by June L. Webb. June Webb was a well-known Jamestown artist before moving to Sarasota, Florida where she died in 2012 at the age of 92. JHS has a photograph of June Webb painting on Narragansett Avenue and a Christmas ornament of the Old Jamestown Bridge designed by Webb and issued by the *Jamestown Press*.

JHS received the original Jamestown Yacht Club sign from Chris Powell who made the sign 1978-1979. The wooden sign has a dark blue border and a field of white with dark blue lettering and the club's burgee in the top quadrant. For years the sign hung on the Bay View outside the office of the Jamestown Yacht Club.

While assembling the Christmas exhibit for the JHS exhibit case in the library, the Exhibit Committee discovered that JHS did not have the Governor Carr Ferryboat Christmas ornament. An appeal for the ornament was placed in the *Jamestown Press* and Gabe Highstein came forward donating the ornament. The ornament made by Barlow was issued in 1996 as part of the Ferry Boat Series of the Jamestown Village Association. The inside cover of the ornament's box describes the ferry. The *Governor Carr* was in service from 1927 to 1958. Although beached by the 1938 Hurricane, she was refloated and served for two more decades before being sold for scrap.

Donations spanning 100 years came from Linda Warner. The most recent is a lapel pin commemorating "America's State Parks First Day Hike 2018 Beavertail State Park." Another is 1980 brochure, "Everything Under the Sun...St. Matthew's Annual Summer Sale." The brochure not only has a history of the church but also advertisements for Jamestown businesses and art work by local artist, Constance



Beavertail Lighthouse etching by June L. Webb.

Armbrust. Warner's third donation, dated August 31, 1918, is a bill in the amount of \$45 from the Jamestown and Newport Ferry to D.W. Arnold Sr. for the delivery of 60 loads of Eastern Coal.

JHS received from Harry Wright early items from the Conanicut Golf Club and the Conanicut Yacht Club both founded in the 1890s. The handwritten memorandum for the Conanicut Golf Club, founded July 1893, has the "Rules & Regulations" for the beginning of the 1895 season along with the names of the four original members and names of 12 members listed for 1894. The 1900 Conanicut Yacht Club booklet contains the constitution, by-laws, sailing regulations, history, membership, and former officers.

In the 1930s and 40s Metro Goldwyn Mayer did a study of all its East Coast theatres. The report cards include basic information about location and seating capacity of the theater and a photograph. The Collections Committee purchased the 1941 MGM report on the Palace Theatre. The photo on the report shows posters for *Rookies on Parade* and *The Lady Eve*.

THEATRE PHOTOGRAPH and REPORT	
State: R. I.	City: JAMESTOWN
Branch: BOSTON	Zone:
Date Photo Taken: 5/41	Name: PALACE Theatre
Street Address: NARRAGANSETT AVE.	
City Population (1940): 1-2	
Competing Theatres: STANLEY - Newport	
Is Theatre an M-G-M Customer Now? YES	
How Long Has It Been Playing M-G-M Product? OVER 5 YEARS	
Date Built: 1925	Condition: FAIR
Seats: Main Floor: 426	Balcony: 100
Type of Patronage: GENERAL	
Balcony: 100	
Signed: [Signature]	
A3271-1050-001	

MGM report on the Palace Theatre, purchased on eBay.

Caring for the Collection

It is the responsibility of the Collections Committee to oversee the Collection. Sue Maden, JHS archivist, is a member of the Collections Committee along with Stephanie Amerigian, Elizabeth Di Censo, Rosemary Enright, Madeleine Gromada, Delia Klingbeil, Carol Lake, 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.

A dedicated group of about 20 volunteers works in the JHS Vault. Volunteers create for each donation a catalog record with a description of the item along with donor information. Volunteers scan photographs and some archives. Objects are photographed. The scans and photographs are attached to the catalog records and can be viewed in the online catalog. The online catalog can be found on the website at jamestownhistoricalsociety.org. On the home page select "Online Catalog." Next click on "Search the Online Catalog."

In addition, volunteers are involved with ongoing projects such as digitizing multi-media in the

Collection. Recently a 8mm 1969 film of the last ferry ride and a 16mm film of Jamestown after the 1938 hurricane were digitized. Soon these films and other multimedia in the JHS Collection will be shared through the online catalog.

Another ongoing project is inventorying the Collection. Inventories locate items incorrectly shelved or not fully cataloged and objects that were never photographed. An inventory is also an opportunity to learn more about objects. Don Richardson provided valuable information on ferry objects in the Collection. Roland Parent identified a large drawing of a ferryboat that was found in the museum attic as either the *Newport* or *Jamestown IV* ferryboat. The sister ships were built in 1940 by the Busey & Jones Corporation, Wilmington, Delaware. It was common to have a drawing of the ferry posted on the boat for crew and passengers. It is believed the drawing came to JHS from RIDOT when the Newport Pell Bridge opened.

Please visit the Vault, located in the lower level of Town Hall, to see the Collection, to deliver donations, or make reference requests. The Vault is open every Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 AM to noon.

MEMBERSHIP/DEVELOPMENT

Gabe Highstein/Bill Salmons

While we continue our work to get grants, donations, and legacies to support our mission, your memberships are the life's blood of the society.

Our membership year is July 1 to June 30. If you are not a Life Member, you will receive a renewal notice the last week of June. Please feel free to send in your dues now using the form on the back page of this



1657 Society house plaque. A larger plaque with the name and year of the house is available.

newsletter or PayPal from our website. Payment will be credited to the upcoming membership year.

We have 363 memberships paid and current. Many are family memberships, so the exact number of members is hard to calculate.

Life memberships account for 131 of the total. You may become a Life Member by paying \$500 to be a Patron or \$1,000 to be a "1657" member – named for the year the island was purchased from the Narragansett. We also maintain contact with 92 past members whom we hope to entice to renew their memberships and have 24 honorary members

Forty-five new memberships were established since June 30, 2017, of which two are new Life Members: one Patron and one "1657" member.

Encourage your neighbors – especially those new to town – to join. Joining the society can help them to preserve the beauty that attracted them here. Gift memberships are a great way to get people involved.

Membership has its advantages. Members receive invitations to the annual members-only House Tour Preview Party, to the Museum Opening Party, and to the monthly Members-Only Outings. Member also get discounts on society merchandise.

Donations and Acquisitions: November 2017 through April 2018

Donations

Craig and Stephanie Amerigian: June Webb etching of Beavertail.

Anonymous: photo album left at the Jamestown Library for JHS.

Conanicut Marine Services: 2017 holiday e-card with art work by Evelyn Rhodes.

Peter Converse: scan of photo of oil rig *Alaskan Star*.

Marilyn Dennis: Central Baptist Church Sesquicentennial booklet.

Elizabeth Di Censo: bag, Jamestown Chamber of Commerce; magnet, Cathryn Jamieson Salon.

John Doty: copy of photos: Union Street, 1962; Union Street after snow, 1978; John Doty Sr; Clarke School, sixth grade, 1955.

Rosemary Enright: Video Showcase Jamestown key ring; bracelet, Jamestown Robowolves.

Kathleen Flath: canvas bag produced for her North Kingstown High School Project with proceeds benefitting the Sailing Foundation Scholarship Program.

Michele Fogg: register of Jamestown Shore Realty stock certificates; map of 6.9 acres of land improvements licensed to the Town of Jamestown; lease agreement between the Town of Jamestown and the State of Rhode Island, 1980.

Gabe Highstein: *Governor Carr* Christmas ornament.

Jamestown DPW: *The Conanicus Rag*, JR Sauzedde editor/publisher, 1st edition, 1984.

Varoujan Karentz: article, "Use of U.S. Navy Beavertail Communications Antennas after U.S. Navy."

Heidi Keller Moon: Feast of Holy Ghost Society, six photos, one ribbon, and newspaper articles.

Sue Maden: button, Jamestown Middle School Band Booster; brochure, Jamestown Community Playground Renovation Fund.

Kathy Merrill: material from CBC Players presentation of *Our Town*.

Paul Petersen: Lyons Market pen.

Chris and Candy Powell: Millennium 2000 Jamestown First Day Cover; Jamestown Yacht Club sign made by Chris Powell, 1978-1979.

Denise Quattromani: 10 cassette tapes of oral histories recorded for the book *The Portuguese of Conanicut Island*.

Evelyn Rhodes: Conanicut Marine holiday cards with Evelyn Rhodes' art work.

Tom Ross: *Wildwood* ferryboat life vest.

Coleen Smyth: 2 ferryboat crew caps and 2 cap covers.

Valerie Southern: postcard, "Re-elect Val Southern, Jamestown Town Council."

Linda Warner: pin, America's State Parks First Day Hike 2018. Beavertail State Park Jamestown RI; bill from Jamestown and Newport Ferry to D.W. Arnold Sr. for delivery of coal, August 31, 1918; ticket for whist party at Gardner House Hall for the benefit of Jamestown Fire Department; brochure, "Everything Under the Sun...St. Matthew's Annual Summer Sale," 1980; brochure, Jamestown, RI, 150th Anniversary of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 1836-1986; brochure, Introducing the Republican Candidates Jamestown Town Election May 5th 1965; newspaper clippings, "Jamestown Slates Filed," March 18, 1965 and "Island Gets Dial System," Nov. 1, 1964; *Clingstone*, history, sewer works, power & light, water works, and floor plan; ticket, Jamestown Graduation, June 15, 1956.

Charles Wharton: digital image of letter concerning purchase of *Clingstone*, Nov. 4, 1961; digital copies of photos: J.S.L. Wharton and others on sailboat; J.S.L. Wharton; Benjamin Shoemaker; J.S.L. Wharton, Amelia Shoemaker Wharton, and their son; J.A. Williams stereo view of Fort Dumpling; *Clingstone* Model Yacht Club trophy; Thelma/Thelema Yacht leather shot glass case and cigarette case trophy; Thelma/Thelema about to pass Braecleugh.

Harry Wright: Conanicut Yacht Club handbook, 1900; Conanicut Golf Club Rules and Regulations, July 1893; transcriptions from Anna Wharton Morris's journal for 1884 and 1934 along with her 1934 talk at the 50th anniversary of the building of Horsehead.

Acquisition

The MGM Studio May 1941 report card of Jamestown Theatre



Canvas bag by Katie Flath.

Some of objects acquired in the last six months.

Go to jamestownhistoricalsociety.org to see descriptions and pictures of all artifacts in the collection.



Wildwood life vest.



Governor Carr Christmas ornament.

Jamestown Historical Society
P.O. Box 156
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