



*Jamestown Historical Society*

# ***HERITAGE***

FALL 2018

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

## ***WINDMILL DAY 2018***

The weather was glorious for Windmill Day, July 21. Millwright Andy Shrake set the cloth on the sails and started the huge arms spinning. Visitors parked in the Dutra field on Weeden Avenue and crossed the stile to the windmill field. Music, food, and fun greeted them.

Guests toured the windmill. Children sat under the birch trees with paper and crayons drawing the mill. The nearby Quaker Meetinghouse was also open, and members of the Conanicut Island Society of Friends welcomed visitors.

A good time was had by all.



Above: Pottle's Possum Hunters entertaining the crowd (top); Linda Warner and Sue Maden dispensing water and windmill cookies (bottom).

Center: Windmill in motion (top); Little Rhody Model A Club cars (bottom).



Above: Land Hay in colonial costume making jonny cakes (top); getting lunch at Champion Melt food truck (bottom).

Dues and donations are our lifeblood, financing about 45 percent of our \$70,000 annual budget. We are particularly grateful to the members who annually give more than their dues. In 2017, donations from members was more than double the amount received in annual dues and about 37 percent of our total income.

Without these generous donations, the society would be unable to maintain our historic sites, preserve and conserve the artifacts entrusted to us, and mount the programs and exhibits that you will read about in the rest of this newsletter.

Thank you.

### ***The Need***

The society is looking into the future and seeing ongoing and expanding needs. Our collection of artifacts is growing and with it the need for storage. As our historic buildings age, maintenance becomes critical. Technology is changing the way we interact with the public and the way we store and access information.

### ***How You Can Help***

Are you interested in donating to fund an important project? We have a number of projects in the works for which we are seeking individual donations:

- The windshaft at the windmill will need to be replaced soon.
- Professional restoration of donated artwork, such as *Jamestown Waterfront* by Francis X. West, will allow these treasures to be viewed with more enjoyment.
- Films and videos in the collection are being digitized and made available online – a costly but important project.
- Descriptive signage is needed for a number of the town's historic sites.

Looking for a less focused way to contribute? You can become an individual lifetime member for \$500 or join the **1657 Society**, which recognizes lifetime members who contribute \$1,000. All life memberships are invested into our General Endowment at the Rhode Island Foundation and

generate ongoing income equivalent to an annual membership fee. 1657 Society members are eligible for a house plaque indicating their support.

Would you like to make a larger impact to preserve the history of our beloved island community? **The Stewardship Society** has been established to recognize donors who give \$5,000 or more toward our ongoing tasks of preservation. Your donation may be a one-time gift, a commitment to a series of donations, or a planned bequest.

The donation or bequest may be made directly to the society or to one of the endowments that ensure the long-term financial health of the organization. In addition to the General Endowment, the society has focused endowments to support the windmill, the archives and the battery. By contributing to your choice of our endowment funds, your charitable gift can benefit the society forever. Our partnership with the Rhode Island Foundation gives you access to planners to help you craft the details of your gift or bequest to ensure the best arrangement for you and for the society.

If you are able to make a donation of any size, or if you would like to include a bequest to the Jamestown Historical Society in your estate plans, we encourage you to contact Bill Salmons, Development Committee Chair, at 401-560-0005 or [williamsalmons@gmail.com](mailto:williamsalmons@gmail.com).



1657 Society house plaque

# *HONOR ROLL OF VOLUNTEERS FOR 2018*

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In 2018, 155 volunteers gave their time to ensure that the Jamestown Historical Society had a successful year. They greeted visitors at the windmill, museum, and meetinghouse. They helped at the annual house tour and worked at Windmill Day. Many served on the

Board or on committees. Others catalogued artifacts in the society's growing collection. They designed and installed exhibits, brought beautiful flower arrangements to decorate the museum, and coordinated our activities with other organizations.

Alex Allardt  
Dick Allphin  
Joyce Allphin  
Craig Amerigian  
Stephanie Amerigian  
Suzi Andrews  
Rita Antine  
Eric Archer  
Carolyn Armington  
Fran Basso  
Rhonda Beardsworth  
Judy Bell  
Jane Bentley  
Anna Bernath  
Judith Boone  
George Boyer  
Fred Brown  
Lisa Bryer  
Carol Buglio  
Alan Burse  
Jim Buttrick  
Candace Powell  
Kevin Carty  
Donna Chellis  
Matthew Clarke  
Edwina Cloherty  
Nicole Contino  
Ann Crompton  
Fuzz Crompton  
Gloria Dahl  
Alma Davenport  
Anne DeStefano  
Beth Di Censo  
Paul Di Censo  
John Drotos  
Tina Duhaime  
Bob Dutson  
Rosemary Enright  
Karen Estes

Cheryl Fernstrom  
Aileen Flath  
Bob Flath  
Donna Fogarty  
Mary Forman  
Jill Frew  
Denise Gamon  
Jane Garnett  
Ken Gladding  
Nikki Gladding  
Michael Glier  
Janet Grant  
John Grant  
Mike Gray  
Ed Gromada  
Madeleine Gromada  
Land Hay  
Mary Heath  
Steve Heath  
Gabrielle Highstein  
Deborah Homer  
Polly Hutcheson  
Bill Hutchinson  
Sandra Johnson  
Rose Karentz  
Varoujan Karentz  
Delia Klingbeil  
Ralph Klingbeil  
Bill Knapp  
Judy Knight  
Winston Knight  
Jane Koster  
Carol Lake  
Jarvis Lambert  
Jean Lambert  
Anne Lane  
Hugo Lazen-Bernardt  
Denise Lazo  
Michael Lazo

Susan Levin  
Marcia Lindsay  
Dorrie Linn  
Anne Livingston  
Bruce Livingston  
Joe Logan  
Fran Lopes  
Sue Maden  
Kathy Maloney  
Maggie Marcus  
Peter Marcus  
Myrna Maxfield  
Phil Mayer  
Larry McDonald  
Jeannie McDonough  
Sandy McQueen  
Lois Migneault  
Martha Milot  
Jane Miner  
Francis Molinari  
Lisa Molinari  
Karen Montoya  
Betsy Moody  
Heidi Keller Moon  
John A. Murphy  
Mary Jane Murphy  
Mickie Musselman  
Ken Newman  
Patricia Newman  
Andy Nota  
Betsy Outerbridge  
Barbara Parent  
Roland Parent  
Stan Pelli  
Elizabeth Perik  
Linnea Petersen  
Paul Petersen  
Erika Peterson  
Connie Rainone

Gabrielle Reed  
Evelyn Rhodes  
Owen Rice  
Dianne Rugh  
Emily Rutherford  
Nancy Sall  
Bill Salmons  
Mary Lou Sanborn  
Ginny Saunders  
Bill Schaal  
Jane Sigal  
Cynthia Smith  
Helen Smith  
William W. Smith III  
David Smyth  
Sherrie Smyth  
Linda Sullivan  
Deb Swistak  
Gayen Thompson  
Geoff Turner  
Pat Ustick  
Nancy Van Devanter  
Joan Vessella  
Andy Wade  
Jennifer Walrad  
Chris Walsh  
Linda Warner  
Dennis Webster  
Anna Williams  
Basil Williams  
Ann Wilson  
Jack Wilson  
Dan Wright  
Harry Wright  
Josy Wright  
Ann Zartler  
Deede Zeek  
Greg Zeek

***THANK YOU!***

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# MEMBERSHIP

LINDA WARNER/GABRIELLE HIGHSTEIN

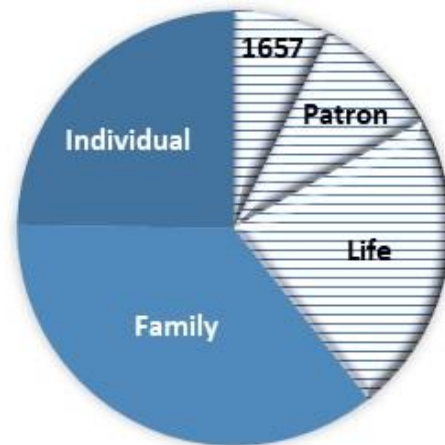
The Jamestown Historical Society has 315 paid memberships. Counting each family membership as two people, that is 450 members.

About 40 percent of our members are in three categories of life memberships, shown in the shaded areas of the chart. The “Life” category includes longtime supporters who joined before the 1657 and Patron levels were established.

This winter we will be sending each of you a JHS brochure and envelope, with a plea to pass the packages to non-members and encourage them to join. Please help with this effort to grow our membership.

Or start early and give a membership as a holiday gift.

**Jamestown Memberships**



# EDUCATION

DAN WRIGHT

Two awards for history and social studies were presented by the society to students graduating from the Lawn Avenue School this June. The winning students, select by Social Studies teacher Maureen McGuirl, were Nayan Sapers and Gabriella Carnevale. Nayan was also co-valedictorian of his class.

This fall’s history exhibit in the case at the Lawn Avenue School library focuses on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hurricane of 1938. The exhibit includes a bound copy of the log from the *Governor Carr*, the ferry that carried Jamestown high school students home from Newport in the teeth of the storm.

# CONANICUT BATTERY

LARRY McDONALD

With the aid of the generous state grant sponsored by our State Senator Dawn Euer, the long-planned trail to the mining shed at the West Passage has been started. The three-year project envisions a trail that leads from the 1776 battlements to the edge of the cliff at the shore. We plan to place a bench close to the water, so visitors can better enjoy the view.

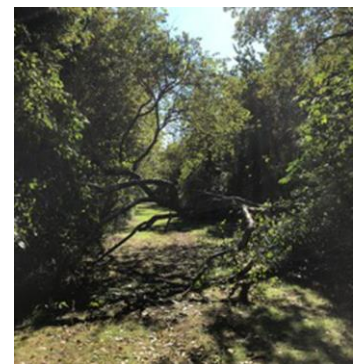
The town and the society are moving slowly on this project because of safety considerations. The drop at the shoreline is 15 to 20 feet. We need CRMC permission to cut close to the shore, and the okay of the Jamestown Tree Committee to cut down any of the larger trees.

Maintenance on the trails has continued, and thanks to two scout projects the trails are dry and easily accessible. The storm in September broke branches and, for a while, blocked the main trail. We were able to cut a path through the barrier, but final

cleanup had to wait until the Public Works Department could help.

The brass cannons are being polished for Battery Day next May. The date is still uncertain as we line up reenactors. You’ll hear more by email and in the *Press*.

Those interested in volunteering some time to assist in ongoing maintenance at the battery are highly encouraged to get in touch. Send an email to [info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org) with your contact info and we’ll get back to you.



Battery path after initial cleanup.

# MUSEUM AND EXHIBITS

SUZI ANDREWS

This summer's museum exhibit, *Then & Now: Where We Stayed*, curated by Jim Buttrick, looked at the island's past hotels and boarding houses through postcards and photographs in the society's collection. Many visitors found the information about the boarding houses, guest houses, and small hotels that grew up around the village particularly interesting, comparing it to the current phenomenon of booking rooms in private homes on the internet.

The exhibit team of Carol Lake, Sue Maden, and Rosemary Enright put together monthly exhibits for the JHS display case in the library: *Jamestown Weddings* for June, *Jamestown Day* for July, *Hurricane of September 21, 1938, 80th Anniversary* for August-September; *Garages* for October, and the current exhibit, *Armistice*

*Day, November 11, 1918: Remembering World War I*. In addition, they mounted separate displays on the 1938 hurricane in the library meeting room and in the Lawn Avenue School. Peter Marcus helped mount the display of textiles from the historical society collection still on display in the library meeting room.

Fred Brown is doing a stellar job keeping up with museum maintenance. The next time you go by, notice the new "Jamestown Museum" sign over the door. The old one, put up in 1972, was cracked and rotting. We tried to make this one look as much like the original as we could.

The exterior of the building, including the new door at the rear, is fine. We are getting bids for painting the interior before next season.



The new Jamestown Museum sign

# COMMUNICATIONS

STEPHANIE AMERIGIAN

In addition to keeping the society's website and Facebook pages up to date and sending emails about the society's events, this year the Communications Committee has been working with the Exhibit Committee to create online exhibits.

Rhode Tour, a joint initiative of the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities (RICH) and Brown University, has 23 tours of Rhode Island. One of these tours, [\*Jamestown Forts: Rhode Island's First Line of Defense\*](#), was curated by the JHS's Stephanie Amerigian and Carol Lake. It showcases five military installations on Conanicut, Dutch and Gould islands.

RICH is hosting a Happy Hour on November 16 to celebrate the launch of the tour. If we have your email, you got an e-vite to the event. If you weren't invited, please go to [jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://jamestownhistoricalsociety.org) and sign up to receive emails in the future.

Another online collaborative project is Roger Williams University's *Women of the East Bay*. The goal

of the project is to recognize remarkable women from Bristol and Newport Counties, including Jamestown. Ultimately, it will include a physical exhibit, online exhibit, a searchable database, and related special programs. The exhibit is due to launch next March. Five Jamestown women – Elizabeth H. Clark, Marguerite Elliott Eddy, Mary Stearns McGaughan, Mary Robinson Miner, and Mary Rosengarten – will be included in the initial release of the database.



Fort Greble on Dutch Island from  
*Jamestown Forts: Rhode Island's First Line of Defense*  
5 – Fall 2018

We kicked off the summer season on Saturday, June 23, with a reception at the museum to celebrate the official opening of the 2018 summer exhibit *Then and Now: Where We Stayed*. A month later, we celebrated our biannual Windmill Day. (See the pictures on page 1.)

### Members Outings

Throughout the summer, members' outings, arranged by Jim Buttrick, took us to places of historic interest around the state. On June 21, we visited Swiss Surprise Valley Farm (aka Swiss Village Farm) in Newport. The guide for our August 4 tour of Whitehall, the 18<sup>th</sup> century home of Irish philosopher George Berkeley in Middletown, was a philosophy scholar on a summer sabbatical at the house. At the New England Wireless and Steam Museum in East Greenwich on August 24, we saw steam-driven fly wheels as large as 17 feet and were shown early radio crystal sets.

In October, Heidi Moon organized an outing to the Tomaquag Museum in Exeter. She reports that 14 JHS members enjoyed a private visit that included learning a few dance steps and listening to interesting stories about the traditions and culture of the indigenous people of Rhode Island. "Executive Director Lorén Spears demonstrated her passion for, and her lifelong commitment to, providing an accurate accounting of U.S. history that highlights the richness of our heritage and reminds us of the injustices that also must be considered and acted upon."



Jim Buttrick, John Murphy, and Rosemary Enright listen to their guide's explanations at the New England Wireless and Steam Museum.

### Annual Meeting

On August 6th the Annual Meeting of the Jamestown Historical Society was held at the Jamestown Philomenian Library. The meeting began with the annual report and the election of officers and directors for 2018-2019. Following the business meeting, the guest speaker, James Ricci, addressed the group. Mr. Ricci is the author of the new book, *The History of the Newport Bridge: A Monument to Perseverance*. He conducted research in the JHS collection and used some of our photographs in his book.

### House Tour

The annual House Tour weekend got off to a roaring start on Friday, September 14, as 115 members enjoyed drinks and hors d'oeuvres at the Preview Party at the 1895 Carton-Benoist Cottage at 53 Walcott Avenue. The house was designed by Charles Bevins and has been in JHS Vice President Gabe Highstein's family since 1907. Lumieres lined the drive that wound down to the house and grounds with views of Narragansett Bay and Fort Adams.

The "Along the Shore" house tour the next day visited four turn-of-the-century houses built by families from Philadelphia and St. Louis along the eastern shore south of the village.

The Round House (aka Monitor) and the Annex on Racquet Road were built for Daniel S. and Eleanor Newhall of Philadelphia. The design of the Round House, built in 1888, is attributed to Charles F. McKim of McKim, Mead, and White. McKim and Newhall were friends and, according to family lore, the design grew out of a discussion between the two about how a house could best withstand a hurricane.

The original 1900 Annex housed Newhall staff until it was destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. Daniel A. Newhall, son of the original Daniel, rebuilt and enlarged the small cottage, setting it firmly on a concrete foundation.

Bull Point, built about 1900 on Fort Wetherill Road west of the park, was the carriage house and stables for Harbor Entrance, which stood on the promontory above the fort and was one of the island's largest summer cottages. When Harbor Entrance was demolished in 1966, the family salvaged artifacts from





Joyce and Dick Allphin worked during the House Tours as volunteers collecting tickets and handing out tour guides at Bull Point.

the house and integrated them into the carriage house transforming it into a five-bedroom cottage.

The fourth house on the tour, Belcour at 57 Walcott Avenue, was built in 1895 for Dr. John Bates Johnson of St. Louis. After the death of the Johnsons, their son-in-law, Hermann Schaus, a New York art dealer, purchased the house in 1910. The house remained in the Schaus family until 2012.

The 2018 House Tour attracted about 250 visitors who enjoyed the diversity of this year's selection of houses. Many appreciated that the houses had been maintained in their original condition.

### ***80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the '38 Hurricane***

The final event of the season commemorated the 80th anniversary of the hurricane of 1938. The Jamestown Historical Society collaborated with the



Director Bill Salmons (left) was joined at the Round House by sculptor and environmental artist George Trakas and architectural historian Ron Onorato.

Jamestown Philomenian Library and the Jamestown Police Department to sponsor a week of events

Documentary films were shown on Tuesday, September 18 and 19. On Thursday, September 20, video interviews with Jamestown residents were shown and, later that day, the Historical Society presented first-hand accounts of the hurricane through letters and newspapers read by local residents as well as reminiscences and contemporary accounts from Jamestowners.

On Friday, September 21, the actual date of the hurricane, additional video interviews were aired as well as another documentary film. On Saturday, September 22, Chief Mello of the Jamestown Police gave a talk on hurricane preparedness.

As part of the commemoration, the society mounted two exhibits in the library about the storm.

## ***WINDMILL***

The summer saw a steady stream of visitors to the mill. Most were from Rhode Island, and many were from Jamestown – especially on Windmill Day.

Dennis Webster spent his free time while he was the docent in July and September recalculating the weight of the grindstones in the mill. According to his calculations – and our millwright, Andy Shrake, agrees – the two stones together weigh about 4.5 tons, rather than the 1.75 we currently estimate in our signage and documentation.

## ***ROSEMARY ENRIGHT***

We'll correct the booklet and signs as soon as possible.

Andy Shrake continues to take good care of the structure. He reports that the stocks that support the sails need to be replaced, and we have budgeted \$8,000 for that repair in 2019. They were last repaired in 2010. The windshaft is also showing some deterioration. Andy suggests a wait-and-see policy on that. The shaft was last replaced during the major repair project in 2000.

Our thanks to donors for their contributions to the preservation of Jamestown's heritage. Not a month passes without donations for the Collections Committee to review and accept based on the JHS Collections Policy. During the last six months there were over 40 donors. Here are highlights of some of the unique donations. A complete list of donations received May 1-November 1, 2018, follows.

## Donations

Connie and Garner Koons donated a sign with the name Islander Restaurant on one side and the name Chopmist Charlie on the other side. The restaurant changed names in 1996 when Chuck Masso purchased the Islander and opened Chopmist Charlie on August 29, 1996. The Islander/Chopmist Charlie sign joins the JHS collection of Jamestown business signs that includes Jamestown Designs, Island Reality, Godina Garage, Bay Voyage, Lyons Market, and Meredith & Clarke. Smaller signs are stored in the Museum attic. Signs too large for the attic hang on the wall outside the JHS vault in Town Hall and are on display elsewhere around town.

Marston Keeler Jr. donated photographs and documents related to two notable Jamestown properties, Cedar Point and Cedar Hill. JHS received a photograph of Cedar Point along with correspondence and invoices belonging to Dr. John Marshall who built the house in Ocean Highlands in 1916. The second property, was the 80-acre Cedar Hill Farm located off Helm Street. Originally owned by the Carr family, the farm was sold in 1972 to the Keeler family who in 1987 sold the property to Cedar Hills Farm Development. Included in the donation are advertising brochures, open house invitations, newspaper articles, and documents related to the Cedar Hill Farm sale and its development.

A unique gift from Keeler was Jamestown Dog Tag 1. The metal tag in the shape of a dog house is

inscribed "Dog Tax, 1974 Jamestown, Rhode Island 1". At that time, Jamestown issued dog tags with the number matching the owners' telephone number.



Jamestown dog tag 1, 1974

Conanicut Island Land Trust turned over to JHS letters from two organizations formed to oppose the Commerce Oil refinery. There are 11 letters written between 1957 and 1967 by the Jamestown Protective Association and five letters written in 1958 by the Narragansett Bay Owners Association.

Conanicut Marine Services sponsored many Jamestown sports teams. Bill Munger loaned JHS the sports teams' plaques with pictures of Jamestown Soccer Association teams and Jamestown Major League baseball teams. JHS photographed the plaques and Linda Warner and Stephanie Amerigian identified many team members. There are a few team members still unidentified. Please let us know if you think you can help with the identification. We would love to hear from you.

The Wright Family gave material collected by Catharine Morris Wright when she edited the book, *The Portuguese of Conanicut Island: History through Memories 1895-1980*, published in 1980. JHS is grateful to have her mock-up of the book along with photographs and correspondence she collected for the project.

JHS received a copy of the Newport Bridge 50-year bearer bond from Varjouran Karentz. Linda Warner gave George Warner's Jamestown Constabulary badge and his Town Sargent badge. Shelley Campbell donated a Tony Balloch photograph of Beavertail. Thanks to Chris Powell and the Jamestown Yacht Club, JHS now has all the Round the Island race posters designed by Hillary Dutton



The Islander Restaurant sign donated by the Koons.



from 2012 to 2018. Unfortunately JHS does not have the first poster designed by Dutton in 2011.

### **Acquisitions**

The Collections Committee has a small acquisition budget and was able to purchase a 1784 document with affidavits related to the previously acquired 1783 Report of the Committee Appointed by the General Assembly Relative to the North End Farm on Conanicut. The case involved the dispute of ownership of the North End Farm after the evacuation of Rhode Island by the British troops.

### **Collections Committee**

It is the responsibility of the Collections Committee, which meets monthly, to oversee the collection. Members of the committee chaired by Dianne Rugh are Stephanie Amerigian, Elizabeth Di Censo, Rosemary Enright, Madeleine Gromada, Delia

Klingbeil, Carol Lake, Joe Logan, JHS archivist Sue Maden, and Linda Warner.

Processing, cataloging, housing, scanning, and photographing the many donations falls to a dedicated group of vault volunteers. Volunteers create for each donation a catalog record with a description of the item along with donor information. They scan photographs and some archives. Objects are photographed. The scans and photographs are attached to the catalog records and can be viewed in the JHS online catalog which has over 38,000 records.

To search the JHS online catalog go to [jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](http://jamestownhistoricalsociety.org). On the home page select **Online Catalog**. Next click on **Search the Online Catalog**.

The vault, located in the lower level of Town Hall, is open Tuesday and Thursday, 9 AM to noon.

## ***ACQUISITIONS AND DONATIONS: MAY 2018 THROUGH OCTOBER 2018***

### **Acquisitions by Purchase**

1784 Jamestown RI Conanicut Island Land Dispute Document.

Teresa Murray's CD of poetry.

### **Donations**

**American Legion:** documents to copy and return.

**Anonymous:** banner for 350th Jamestown celebration.

**Charlotte Biddle:** postcards of aerial view of East Ferry.

**Kathy and Barbara Brownell:** photos of the windmill, Beavertail, East Ferry, and ferryboats.

**Lisa Bryer, Jamestown Town Planner:** architectural drawings for Jamestown Town Hall.

**Jim Buttrick:** *Important American Paintings, Drawings, and Sculpture*, Christie's New York, 2001.

**Shelley Campbell:** Balloch photo of Beavertail.

**Conanicut Island Land Trust:** letters and brochures of the Jamestown Protective Association, Inc., 1957-1961; 5 letters from the Narragansett Bay Home Owners Association, Inc., 1958.

**Paul Day:** rifle cartridge remnant found at Ft. Burnside.

**Beth Di Censo:** JTN 2018 Rocket 'Hogs Jamestown RI t-shirt; 7th Annual Payton's Pace 5K t-shirt and Payton Elizabeth Watson Memorial Foundation magnet.

**Archie Clarke:** copy of page from log of *Beavertail*, Sept. 21, 1938.

**Conanicut Yacht Club, Chris Powell:** posters for the Round the Island races, 2012-2018.

**John Doty:** copy of photo of Indians Jamestown Jr. Basketball League, 1948-49; copy of Newport Daily News photo of students in Mrs. Winfred Munger's

first grade class, 1955; copy of program of

Jamestown Elementary School graduation, 1962.

**Sue Fay, St. Matthew's Thrift Shop:** books, *Jamestown Bridge, 1940-1990* and *Mary Remey Wadleigh*.

**Mary Beth Garrett:** photos of 2 Francis West paintings.

**Carol Currie Gillerin:** newspaper clipping about military service of Matoes brothers; 3 elementary school class photos and 2 photos of telephone operators.

**Varoujan Karentz:** copy of Newport Bridge 50-year Bearer Bond and copy of final coupon.

**Marston W. Keeler Jr.:** photos of Cedar Point and documents related to the building of the house; Cedar Hill Farm sale and first Jamestown golf course information; Jamestown Dog Tag 1.

**Connie and Garner Koons:** Islander Restaurant sign.

**Barbara Leary:** photos, mostly of Hurricane Carol.

**Dorrie Linn:** East Ferry postcard.

**Bert Lippincott, Newport Historical Society:** *Gleanings from Newport Court Files 1659-1783* by Jane F. Fiske.

**Sue Maden:** Rocket Dogs JTA sticker; 2 articles on Joan Hall's Newport Art Museum exhibit.

**Pede Manchester:** photos of Jamestown events.

**Heidi Moon:** 2 articles about freighter, Haul Ingritta running aground; 2 photos of August 2005 parade; photo of Elsie Robertson, Portuguese Festival, 1999.

**Bill Munger:** Jamestown sports teams' award plaques.

**John Murphy:** Lions Club album and material from the Lions Club and other organizations and events.

**Roland Parent:** "A Brief Report on the Blueprint (Black Line Drawing) of the Ferryboats *Jamestown* and *Newport* in the JHS Collection;" copy of drawing.

**Chris Powell:** Fools Rule t-shirt.

**William Schaal:** photos of the Arnold Cemetery.  
**Michelle Silvia Shearouse:** photos of soap box derby.  
**Slattery family:** photo of Mrs. John Price Wetherill.  
**Helen Smith:** letter from John Tew about his ancestors' property in Jamestown.

**Linda Warner:** badges, Jamestown Constabulary 12 and Town Sergeant; genealogy of John Weeden II; "Dedication Set for St. Matthew's"; St. Matthew's Church note card; photos of area cleared by Bay View demolition, Connie Armbrust sewing last stitch of bicentennial quilt, and Rec Center square dance.

**Kimberly Weeks:** Jamestown postcards and photos; Evelyn Rhodes drawing of Bay View; letter about subscriptions to Casino Land Company, 1911; articles from the *Electric Spark*; Shoreby Hill brochure.

**Mary Ann Williamson, St. Matthew's Church Fair:** 2 framed Jamestown Millennium posters.

**Harry Wright:** meetinghouse material; "In R.I., a Bridge that Holds up Murphy's Law," 1991.

**Wright Family;** mock-up for book, *The Portuguese of Conanicut Island: History through Memories 1895-1980*; letters, photos, and articles related to book; letter, Mary Watson to Brother Thomas; "Horror at Pineapple Cottage," *Master Detective*, September 1955; Jamestown School Budget, 1971; Jamestown Financial Reports 1955 and 1957; JHS bulletins, June 1941 and August 1936; Golden Jubilee St. Mark Church, 1960; St. Matthew's Parish Summer Sale brochure; Jamestown Tercentenary material, 1957; Jamestown Philomenian Library Bulletin material 1970s; letter, Friends Meeting Jamestown, June 29, 1956; "College 'dig' irks Jamestownner," 1979; Commerce Oil Refinery newspaper clippings ; Jamestown *Gazette*, June 1937; postcards.

## MEETINGHOUSE

MARCIA LINDSAY

The Old Meetinghouse on Weeden Lane has been maintained by the historical society since the transfer of its deed from the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in 1995. The building remains a functioning Meetinghouse for the Quaker community it was rebuilt to serve in 1786, since the deed gives Conanicut Friends Meeting the right to hold services there and conduct business related to Quaker ministry. This is unique in the Society's properties.

This summer Seth Thompson photographed the meetinghouse for his Sacred Spaces of New England website. To see the panorama pictures, go to <https://seththompson.info/sacredspacesne/> and search for **Jamestown**.

The Meetinghouse closed for the winter on November 1, after some minor work on the weakening walls and the trim at the shed this fall. Ken

and Nikki Gladding, with help from Fred Brown and members of Conanicut Friends Meeting and with the permission of the abutting Dutra family, are currently removing vines and undergrowth that choke the walls and surrounding plantings. Local mason Chris Evans is reconstructing damaged parts of the walls.

In 2019, we will work with the Building and Grounds committee to obtain a formal structural engineering assessment that we hope will help us create long term plans for the maintenance of the historic building, especially how to reduce damage from powderpost beetles effectively. Landscaping is also a concern. The hemlocks along North Road are diseased. Removing them and planting new bushes, such as rhododendron, will be a focus for activities at the Meetinghouse when Quaker services resume there in May 2019.



Photographer Seth Thompson with his camera and his wife Karen at the meetinghouse.



A portion of the meetinghouse wall that is being repaired this fall.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

ROSEMARY ENRIGHT

Financially this has been a good year. Over the past 12 months, our total income, exclusive of investment, was \$72,120 against expenses of \$69,530.

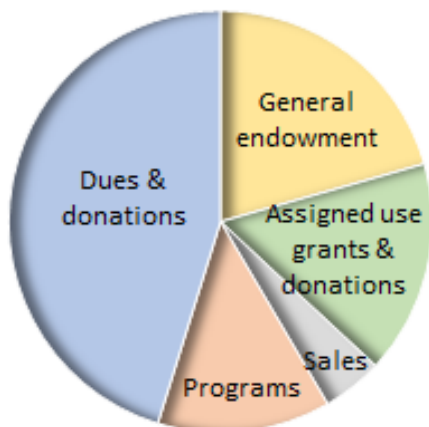
## Income

Dues provided approximately 11 percent of the operating budget. Donations from members contributed 22 percent, and donations from other sources accounted for 12 percent. The Holy Ghost Society has been very generous with two gifts totaling \$6000. We also received almost \$3,000 in contributions in memory of two long-time members, Brookie Harding and Dick Hutchinson. We are grateful both to the donors and to the families of the deceased who suggested the society to them.

Slightly more than 21 percent of our operating income was a distribution from the General Endowment established at the Rhode Island Foundation as a result of our 2006-2007 capital campaign. This fund continues to grow. All life memberships are deposited there, and \$2,500 of donations received this year were specifically directed to be added to the endowment. About 4 percent of available funds are distributed to the society each year.

Income from endowments for specific purposes and assigned-use grants and donations made up another 16 percent of the income. This past year, we received three external grants – one from the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority to support Windmill Day, one from the RI Senate to support the expansion of trails at the 1776 Battery, and one from the First Day Plunge to update and reprint the Jamestown walking tour brochures.

**JHS Income**



The house tour weekend grossed \$8,440 and with royalties and sales accounted for the remaining 18 percent of our income.

## Expenses

As the charts below show, 50 percent of our budget was spent maintaining the collection and the historic sites in our care. Details of these accomplishments are in the specific columns.

The outreach budget includes our print and online presence – the website, Facebook, and emails. It also includes the exhibits in the museum, the library, the school, and other places around town.

The administration expenses were about 31 percent of the total expenses this year – up from the more usual 10 percent last year. The spike is due to \$12,500 for legal and professional services to protect the windmill in a property dispute.

## Investments

The JHS has total investments of \$294,250. This year's bull market has increased our holdings by 17 percent, the gain may not be sustained through the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. About \$100,000 of the total are funds dedicated to specific purposes. We have not needed to access these funds this year and have reinvested all income.

The society is also the named beneficiary of endowment funds totaling approximately \$1,100,000. Income from all but the \$400,000 General Endowment may be used only for specific purposes as defined in the endowment documents.

**JHS Expenses**





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

Non Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Newport, RI  
Permit #286

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

<i><b>Officers 2018-2019</b></i>	<i><b>Directors to 2019</b></i>
<i>President</i>	Stephanie Amerigian
Mary Heath	Polly Hutcheson
<i>Vice President</i>	Daniel Wright
Gabrielle Highstein	<i><b>Directors to 2020</b></i>
<i>Secretary</i>	Fred Brown
Delia Klingbeil	Bob Flath
<i>Treasurer</i>	Marcia Lindsay
Rosemary Enright	Larry McDonald
	Linda Warner
	<i><b>Directors to 2021</b></i>
	Suzi Andrews
	Jim Buttrick
	Madeleine Gromada
	Dianne Rugh
	Bill Salmons

