



Jamestown Historical Society

HERITAGE

Fall 2021

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



Stories in Stone

Cemetery Tour

(from upper left) Alma Davenport (Ellen Tucker Cottrell), Ken Newman (Thomas Hazard), Jane Kennedy (Lucy Ann Hazard Tefft), Jim Buttrick (Abel Franklin), Chris Walsh (Capt. Bill Pemantel), Pat Ustick (Lena Clarke), Kim Dumpson (Olivia Johns Rice), Peter Fay (Champlin Family).

Photos by Andrea von Hohenleiten

Summer 2021

It has been an exciting summer season.

In keeping with COVID pandemic recommendations, all events – with the exception of the annual meeting – were held outdoors. The numbers at most were limited to ensure that social distancing could be practiced. Thankfully, the weather for every major event was beautiful.

Annual Meeting

Anne Tait, Roger Williams University Professor of Art, spoke at the annual meeting on August 10 at the library. The 45 members present confirmed the Nominating Committee's slate of directors and officers. The new members of the Board are profiled on page 10.

Preview Party

On August 26, the annual fundraising Preview Party was held at a 1927 Whittier Road cottage designed by D.E. Sullivan and recently renovated and restored by interior designer Courtney Taylor.

The yard where the party was held overlooks the golf course to the Great Marsh, Windmist Farm, and the windmill beyond, which served as a nice reminder of the tour of the farms on the following Saturday. Small tents borrowed from the town protected the bar and food tables, and seating areas were decorated with flowers donated and arranged by volunteers.

The 85 members who attended thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Farm Tour

The usual annual house tour became a farm tour this year. On August 28, two groups of about 30 each traveled to three Jamestown farms – Windmist, Watson,



Photo by Elizabeth Baldwin

The view at the Preview Party.

and Godena. At each farm, they learned about the activities and history of the farm.

The photos on page 3 give a taste of some of the activities of the day.

Stories in Stone

The “Stories in Stone” cemetery tour through Cedar Cemetery and the adjoining Hazard and Friends graveyards took place on October 2. The tour was limited to 80 attendees who were divided into seven groups, each groups starting their tour at a different grave site.

The photographs on page 1 capture the spirit of the day. Pictures cannot, however, capture the effort behind the successful event.

Planning for the tour began almost two years ago. Sue Maden took the lead. In addition to the eight interpreters pictured, more than 20 members volunteered in many different capacities: researching and writing the scripts, leading the groups from site to site, photographing the interpreters both during dress rehearsal and during the event, staging an exhibit of artifacts associated with the men and women whose stories we were telling, publicizing the event, tracking registration, setting up, parking, and providing refreshment.

Special kudos to Judy Knight who with help from Jane Kennedy and Dorrie Linn made the costumes that brought the historic characters to life.

Everyone who helped is acknowledged in the list of volunteers on page 11.

Members-Only Outings

In addition to these major events, Jim Buttrick organized four members-only outings this summer.

Clouds and drizzle did not deter interested members from visiting Newport's Common Burying Ground on June 3. Lew Keen of the Newport Historic Cemetery Commission conducted the tour of the cemetery established in 1665.

Only 20 members could be accommodated on the Blue Garden tour in July, and the event sold out immediately.

In August, members traveled to Coventry to the Nathanael Greene Homestead that from 1770 to 1776 was the home of Rhode Island's most famous American Revolutionary War general.

The last outing of the year was a visit to the *Oliver Hazard Perry* in Newport on September 27. The ocean-going full-rigged ship is the largest civilian sailing school vessel in the United States.

Farm Tour



Photo by Elizabeth Baldwin



Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten



Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten

(top to bottom) Owner Martha Neale explaining the operations and activities at Windmist Farm.

Jane Hennedy of Historic New England talking about the history of the Watson Farm.

Quentin Anthony of the Conanicut Island Land Trust describing some of the native plants cultivated at the Godena Farm.

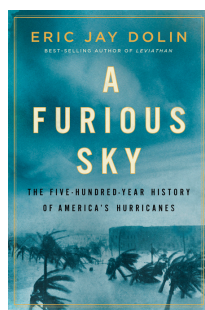
Programs 2022

Winter Programs

Because of continuing concerns about the pandemic and encouraged by the success of last year's Zoom presentations, our winter and spring programs will again be over the internet. Programs are planned for every other Tuesday in January, February, and March.

January 4, 7 p.m.: "Sex & Punishment in Jamestown: Illegitimacy, Whippings, and Prostitution" with JHS Board member Peter Fay.

January 18, 8 p.m.: "Ice Harvesting in Jamestown and New England" with Jane Hennedy of Historic New England.



February 1, 7 p.m.: "A Furious Sky: The Five-Hundred-Year History of America's Hurricanes" with writer Eric Dolin.

February 15, 7 p.m.: "War on Conanicut: the King Philip War and the Making of Jamestown" with Peter Fay.

March 1, 7 p.m.: "Jamestown Rum Men: Rum, Molasses, and the Slave Trade" with Peter Fay.

March 15, 7 p.m.: Video of Stories in Stone, the 2021 JHS Cemetery Tour (Part 1)

March 29: Video of Stories in Stone, the 2021 JHS Cemetery Tour (Part 2)

Watch your email for registration information and instructions for joining the webinars.

Next Summer

The summer of 2022 will be a busy one.

Before Covid, the opening of the summer exhibit at the museum in mid-June was the occasion for a party to kick off the season. The party is back. Nibbles, wine, beer, and soft drinks on Friday, June 17, will accompany a preview of the exhibit, which opens to the public the following day.

Both the museum and the windmill will be open every Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holiday from then until Indigenous Peoples Day, October 10.

Both a Battery Day in May and a Windmill Day in July or August are in the planning stages. The society usually does not hold both in the same year, but we have not had a Windmill Day since 2018 or a Battery Day since 2019. It's time to catch up.

If pandemic concerns allow, we will have a house tour also. One of our members has already volunteered to open his house for the tour.

Outreach

Exhibits

Museum

The summer museum exhibit, [The Art of Jamestown](#), curated by Peter Marcus attracted fewer than the normal number of attendees - perhaps because of the COVID restrictions. People who came were generous, and donations exceeded our (admittedly reduced) expectations.

2022 is the 50th anniversary of the Jamestown museum. In November 1971, the Town Council agreed to rent the building – which had been built as a primary school in 1875 and used as the town library from 1898 until the current library was built in 1971 – to the historical society. The first year was spent remodeling the building. The first summer exhibit was mounted in 1973 and the museum has housed changing exhibits every summer since.

Next summer's exhibit will celebrate this Golden Anniversary with a retrospective of previous exhibits.

Library and School

Each month, a new exhibit is mounted in the society's display case in the foyer to the Jamestown Philomelian Library. Since the spring, these mini-exhibits have shown insignia of many of the organizations to which Jamestowners have belonged, commemorative plates, the donations received by the society in the first years of its existence, room keys from early hotels, and pictures and scorecards for Jamestown's three golf courses.

The current exhibit is of boxes of many different types and the objects that they hold.

The fall exhibit at the Lawn Avenue School tells the story of the relationship between changing modes of transportation and population growth in Jamestown.

Special Exhibits

Lynda Sutton designed and, with the help of Sue Maden, selected artifacts for a small exhibit at the "Stories in Stone" cemetery tour. Included were the hand-sewn knee pants worn by Lucy Ann Tefft's son as a child and a 1921 album of 42 photographs of Jamestown houses taken by Lena Clarke.

Our collection has many photographs of the old Jamestown Golf and Country Club club house and of sporting events on the island in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The JHS Exhibit Committee is currently working with the town to select historic photographs for display in the new club house.

(right) One of the photos under consideration for display in the club house.

Our Media Presence

Online

The historical society website at www.jamestown-historicalsociety.org continues to be our major online "face." Through the website, visitors can visit our collections database, pay their dues, purchase merchandise, and catch up on JHS activities and exhibits.

Betsy Baldwin posts information about our events and activities on the Facebook group Jamestown, RI. The group, with more than 7,400 members, has enthusiastically responded to posts asking for memories of Jamestown in the years following World War II and to reports on the cemetery tour.

Email has become the most effective way to communicate with most of our members. If you do not receive periodic emails, please make sure that mail from jamestownhistoricalsociety@gmail.com is not being blocked by your spam filter and that we have your correct email. You can subscribe to receive messages in the footer of any page on the website.

The most popular email is the monthly "From the Collection," written by members of the Collections Committee. November's "From the Collection" introduced recipients to the society's artifacts and photographs of the 1776 Conanicut Battery.

In Print

Since 2012, Sue Maden and Rosemary Enright have been writing monthly history columns for *The Jamestown Press*. This month Peter Fay joins the group of authors. His first article as a regular contributor is "Jamestown Inherited Two Thanksgiving Traditions." Peter will now be writing one article every quarter.

Books about Jamestown, with all profits going to the JHS, are available at our website Museum Store and at four stores around town: All Ashore Cottage Outfitters, Fuller Art Gallery, Conanicut Marine Services, and - our latest outlet - Curiosity & Co. Give a gift of history this holiday season!



At Our Sites

The windmill, meetinghouse, and museum are now closed to visitors for the winter. Volunteers are busy making sure they, as well as the Conanicut Battery, are in good condition when they open again in the spring.

Windmill

After two year of looking like, as one of our members suggested, “a misplaced lighthouse,” the windmill has a new wind shaft. The stocks to hold the sails are in place. Attaching the latticework sail structures to the stocks was delayed, and because of weather concerns has been put off until the spring.

Roger Marshall has donated the large model of the mill that he constructed at the scale of a 1/4 inch to one foot. The model will be added to the exhibit on the second floor of the mill in the spring.



Photo by Rosemary Enright

*Raising the wind shaft,
October 22.*

Conanicut Battery Historic Park

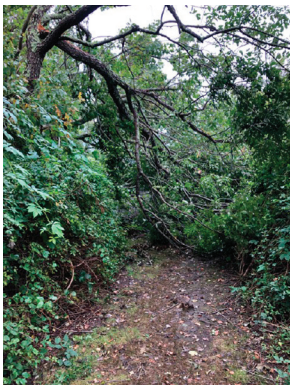
After the Friends of the Conanicut Battery reclaimed the historic town park from the wilderness in 2002, the JHS entered into a cooperative agreement with the town to preserve and maintain the park and its historic artifacts and structures.

This year we replaced all the signage in the park. The signs had faded over the years and some had been vandalized.

We also continued our ongoing efforts to open up a view corridor to the West Passage so that modern visitors could get an idea of what the soldiers at the battlements would have been able to see during the Revolutionary War when no trees obstructed their view.

The heavy storms this summer washed out some of the main trail into the park.

Reconstruction of the trail by Atlantic Lawn and Garden will begin soon and be completed before the snow flies. The trail will be in good condition for Battery Day.



This summer's storms kept the Battery Committee busy clearing the trails and cutting back fallen trees.

Photo by Larry McDonald

Museum

After several false starts, the museum is on its way to getting new light fixtures.

The track lighting currently in the museum was installed in 1987. At the time, it was state-of-the-art. Thirty-five year later, it is obsolete to be replaced by new energy-efficient LED lighting technology. Jamestown architect Jim Estes is working with the society to install a lighting system that will be flexible enough to light exhibits of various type and that will fit the historic nature of the building.

Meetinghouse

After a quiet summer, the Meetinghouse welcomed skilled craftsmen to make some much needed repairs at the end of October.

William Smith III of Liberty Carving replaced two original floorboards that had extensive powderpost beetle damage. Jon Furtado of J's Plastering in Fair Haven removed old plaster that had separated from the ceiling lathe over the main entry door. He stabilized several other areas, and advised that the entire ceiling needs replacement. Stone mason Chris Evans is working on the stonework foundation and repairing the walls

Removal of the 18 diseased hemlocks along North Road will require new plantings suitable to the site, perhaps as early as spring.

Much more restorative work lies ahead. In his 2019 structural report, Michael James recommended replacing and extending floor beams and joists, installing moisture barriers at the sills, and perhaps doing further drainage work.

Moving away from building concerns, John Drotos, a Newport member of the Conanicut Friends, has volunteered to research the graves at the northeast corner of the lot that are marked by two granite posts put in by William Smith II. These are believed to be the final resting places of British soldiers who died when the meetinghouse was being used as a hospital during the American Revolution.

This is certainly an aspect of the meetinghouse history that would contribute to our understanding of the British occupation during the war.

Jon Furtado repairing the meetinghouse ceiling.

Photo by Marcia Lindsay



Collections

The vault volunteers are working steadily every Tuesday and Thursday morning to keep the collection records in PastPerfect up to date and ensure all artifacts and archives are housed properly. Casual visitors are still discouraged, although appointments can be made to meet with a Collections Committee volunteer in the vault, preferably outside of normal work hours to reduce contact.

As the list below attests, the society has received many new and interesting contributions in the past six months.

One of the most fascinating donations was the guest book for Shoreholm, the Whitall family summer home on the East Passage north of town. The book, which was given to us by the Smith and Thompson descendants of James Whitall, who built the house,

contains signatures, drawings, and comments by many Jamestown summer visitors of the early 20th century. The book was accompanied by contracts and receipts for the construction of the house and digital biographies of many members of the Whitall family.

Several new additions immediately made their way into exhibits. Pem Attaway's greens fee tickets and Jack Bond's 1913 pewter award mug from the Jamestown Country Club, both appeared in the October library exhibit about Jamestown golf courses. Captain Ballinger's Jamestown Ferry Authority hat, donated by Archie Clarke, was used as a prop at the Stories in Stone tour.

The online database has recently been updated so that information about the new acquisitions is now available to all.

Additions to the Collection: May 1 to October 31, 2021

Donations

Craig Amerigian: *Historically Famous Lighthouses*; Photocopy of *Bulge Bugle*, Feb. 2004.

Suzi Andrews: photos of boats washed ashore during hurricane Henri.

Anonymous: *The Grandmothers' Cookbook* by Catharine Morris Wright, autographed to Art & Ethel Lesser; two copies of the article "A Gem on an Artist Shares her Lifetime Treasures," *South County*, Oct. 2, 1980.

Pem Attaway: two greens fee tickets from the Jamestown Country Club, Aug 4, 1959 and Aug. 30 1966; fishing map of Jamestown with Zeek's Creek card printed in corner, no date; undated map of Jamestown from Conanicut Real Estate; hand-drawn layout of buildings in village now (1991) and then (unidentified).

Anne Beckwith Ferguson: *The Beckwiths of Cazenovia New York* by Anne Beckwith Ferguson.

Dorothy Richardson Blythe: music book belonging to the Jamestown Brass Band; Francis West painting of sailing ships; painting signed by West with RES (Red Elephant Studio); crock found in a partition of the Bay Voyage Hotel and believed to have been brought across the Bay with the building; Gardner House room key.

Jack Bond: pewter mug engraved with "Jamestown Golf & Country Club Saturday Handicap 1913."

Elliott Brown: papers concerning the purchase of the David W. Clarke Memorial Ambulance for the Jamestown Red Cross in 1952: invoice for \$4250 dated Sept. 10, 1952, from Guy Barnette & Co., Inc. Funeral Coaches, Ambulances; two-page letter from the distributor acknowledging receipt of \$200 and \$850 payments, with the receipts; receipt book listing the names of people who donated toward the ambulance with dates and amounts.

Central Baptist Church: *Memories of the Central Baptist Church* by Fred C. Caswell; 100th Anniversary 1867-1967 Central Baptist Church Jamestown Rhode Island; 1867-1927 Sixtieth Anniversary of the Central Baptist Church; re-dedication services of the Central Baptist Church, July 10, 1932; photographs to scan and return.

Archie Clarke: Jamestown Ferry Authority captain's hat belonging to Captain Ballinger; Jamestown Ferry Authority Freight Clerk hat band in original box.

Chris Clarke: scans of family photographs and documents.

Barbara Cunha: her father Manuel Cunha's RITBA patch.

John Doty: *Steamboat Bill, Quarterly Journal of the Steamship Historical Society of America*, Spring 2021, p. 5, "The Fate of Jamestown."

Rosemary Enright: magnet from East Ferry Deli; *Rhode Island 39 Club: Your Passport & Guide to Exploring Rhode Island*, Martin Podskoch, editor.

Geoffrey Gamble: "A Jamestown Remembrance," essay that he wrote marking what would have been his mother's 100th birthday. Includes pictures of Jamestown people and life in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s.

Darlene Gammon: "Fishing at Beavertail," *Rhode Islander*, September 18, 1960; Torpedo Station photograph, *Newport Daily News*, Dec. 18, 1965; West Ferry Real Estate, *Providence Journal*, Feb. 15, 1998.

Nikki Gladding: 68th Annual Parish Meeting, St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown RI, February 1, 1965.

Jamestown Planning Department: material related to the 2007 Jamestown Vision Charette.

Jamestown Press: Andrea Von Hohenleiten's photos of the JHS Farm Tour.

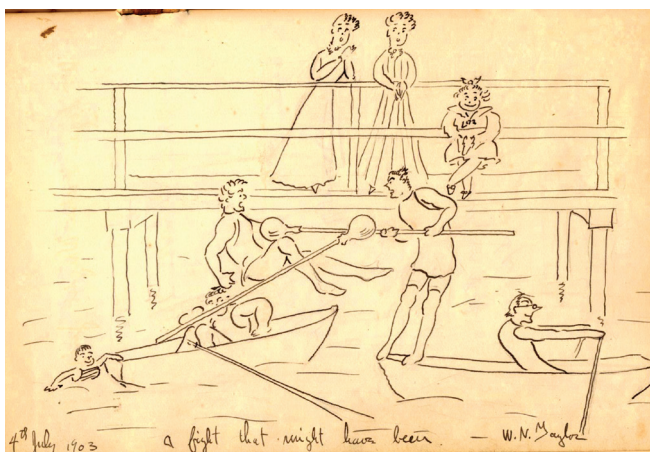
Ethan Kincaid: Jamestown Dog Tag #52, 1942.

Delia Klingbeil: Spinnakers Café menu.

Additions to the Collection (cont)



Shoreholm guest book cover (left) and a graphic "signature" from W. N. Taylor, dated July 4, 1903 (below). The drawing depicts tilting from small boats with blunted "lances," a sporting event that was held at the Conanicut Yacht Club's annual Water Sports Day.



Garner Koons: "Seaworthy Fare" sign which at one time hung below the Islander Restaurant sign.

Cynthia Leonard: photographs of Camp Seaside, April 1967.

Tom Mackie: Norcross Greeting Cards customer bag from Smith's Flowers & Gifts, Ye Village School, Jamestown RI.

Sue Maden: Curiosity and Co. bookmarks; *The Jamestown Press* cap.

Sue Maden and Madeleine Gromada: pandemic masks.

Estate of Gale Marks: bound copy of the Bayles chapter on Jamestown.

Roger Marshall: Windmill model

Myrna Maxfield: "Martha Neale," article in *Edible Rhody*, Spring 2019, no. 49.

Nancy Richardson McDermott: copies of photographs of Harold Richardson and the John E. Watson Grocery Store.

Heidi Moon: books about Jamestown.

John Murphy: 2020 election signs; "More Memories of Childhood on the East Passage."

Jim Rugh: Gould Island Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

Fall Meeting 2021; Gould Island RAB Committee 23 September 2021.

Robert Smith, Eric Thompson, and Gayen Thompson:

Whitall, Smith, and Thompson Family Tree on DVD; Shoreholm Guest Book, 1900-1931; Whitall Family construction contracts, correspondence, and receipts.

Lydia Biddle Thomas: Nicholas Biddle correspondence about proposed Taylor Point marina and Beavertail airfield.

Linda Warner: photos: Mary Beth Garrett and Susan Wright with Hillary Aubois' preschool class, George and Linda Warner on ice in Dutch Island Harbor, Men's Softball Team 1980s, Girl Scout Troop 1953, May Day 1950, class picture at Carr School, 1910-1915; postcard for Kit Wright retrospective, 1952; road map New York to Cape Cod with ferry schedule, 1928; summer ferry schedule 1941; patch for Jamestown Striper Club; two pins for Sunday school attendance at St. Matthew's; ferryboat charm by Breakell; signed typewritten copy of "Ye Olde Wynd Mill" poem by Winthrop Wilson; Jamestown Tax list 1954; Jamestown School budget, 1977-78; letter from PTO about 1977-78 school budget; program CIAA Art Show 1986; Armbrust Christmas card designed by Connie Armbrust; Jamestown Country Club brochure/score card; newspaper photo from *Standard Times* Feb. 2, 1984 of Connie Armbrust and coffee mugs being sent to President Ronald Reagan; thank you letter for coffee cups from Reagan; copies of wills and information about cemeteries; article about high school vouchers 1978; photocopy of The Islander placemat designed by Connie Armbrust; series of undated clippings; photograph of Richard S. Chews' portrait of Linda, 1963; "Beavertail," article in *South County Life*, June 2021; Conanicut Grange No. 21 sign.

Dennis Webster: insignia for the U.S. Army 80th Division, the unit with which Lewis Burdick was serving when he was killed in action, Feb. 22, 1945; insignia for the 101st Airborne Division, the unit to which Dennis Webster and several other Jamestowners belonged; copy of Webster's speech from 2021 Memorial Day ceremony.

Harry Wright: snapshots of the Holy Ghost Festival in 1976.

Transfers

From Central Baptist Church to JHS

Records of the First Baptist Society Jamestown, RI July 1841-Apr. 7, 1905; Feb. 21, 1867-Aug. 29, 1897; Jan. 14, 1913 to Nov. 29, 1918; Jan. 14, 1919 to Jan. 2, 1925; May 4, 1939 to March 21, 1941; May 5, 1938 to July 22, 1947

Acquisitions

Four Winds Antiques business card

The Gardner House Jamestown Rhode Island envelope

The Thorndike Hotel envelope, Wm P. Kenney proprietor

Postcard, "Beauty Shop," postmarked Jamestown

Some Things We Learned From You

Memories Project 2021

Debbie Anderson Swistak has been heading up the memories project, collecting reminiscences about Jamestown in the period between the end of World War II and the opening of the Newport Bridge. “Reading the comments and talking in person to friends and acquaintances,” Debbie reports “I can see that Jamestown is near and dear to the hearts of many. It was a unique time in the history of our island. Capturing and sharing those memories helps illustrate what a fiercely independent community we were; one that showed great compassion, humility, and pride.”

The Facebook posters and the comments they generated have been saved and will be entered in the collection where they can be referred to at any time.

Lovecraft and Dr. Bates

Paul Raterron alerted us to the subtle reference to Dr Bates’ Sanitarium in H.P. Lovecraft’s novel *The Case of Charles Dexter Ward*.

“Ward was taken to the restfully and picturesquely situated private hospital maintained by Dr. Waite on Conanicut Island in the bay,” Lovecraft wrote, “and subjected to the closest scrutiny and questioning by all the physicians connected with the case.”

And later in the novel, “So on the morning of Friday, April 13, 1928, Marinus Bicknell Willett visited the room of Charles Dexter Ward at Dr. Waite’s private hospital on Conanicut Island.”

Dr. Waites with his private hospital on Conanicut Island is obviously a slightly veiled reference to Dr. Bates. The novel was written in early 1927, but not published until 1943, six years after Lovecraft’s death.

Dog Stories

Last April, we asked everybody for stories about Jamestown dogs.

Nike

Molly Conlon told us about Nike, the beloved dog of the Holland Family for 16 years. Nike was deemed “The Mayor of Howland Avenue” because he would lie in his spot on the corner of Howland Avenue and West Street every day and watch over his street.

“I can still remember the day they got Nike. He was 8 weeks old. He had been abandoned in a cardboard box on the side of the street and was taken to the Cranstons Pound,” Molly wrote.

“We named him Nike because he had a mark on his head that resembled the Nike swish,” Ed Holland post-

ed. “The mark was from leaning against the cage while he waited to be adopted. How do you leave a dog in the Pound who wants so badly to come home with you?”

Sometimes Nike would travel from the Holland’s house to their heating and air conditioning shop, H.V. Holland, just a minute away, in Hammett Court and sleep by the feet of his owner, Sharon, as she worked in the office.

“Mostly he lay in his sunny post on the corner. Many people would stop to pet him and even check on him as he got older. They would worry because he never moved, he was fine – just sleeping!

“When Nike passed, the Holland’s received lots of condolence cards, including some from people they didn’t even know. A memorial was created near the tree that Nike slept next to for all those years.”

Nike was brought to Howland Ave in 1996 and passed away peacefully in June 2012.



Nike

Courtesy of Molly Conlon

Applejack

“Applejack was a fun loving Jack Russell Terrier. His idea of fun is going for walks, hanging out with his human pal Kathy Brownell and dressing up for Halloween, Christmas, the Jamestown North End 4th of July and the puppy parades,” Kathy wrote.

“He never seemed to mind being the center of attention. He was a good and faithful companion and even though no longer with us he is remembered for his outlandish costumes.”



Applejack as a Christmas mouse

Courtesy of Kathy Brownell

From Your President

Dear JHS members,

When I last wrote we were full of hope that we could achieve some approximation of normalcy. And we did!

An exhibit of some of the works of art in the JHS collection was hung in the museum by Peter Marcus with help from Suzi Andrews and Rosemary Enright. The museum was open Fridays through Sundays from mid-May to early October – masks recommended. The touchscreen in the museum, which showed many of the JHS works of art not on display, generated interaction especially of the younger visitors.

The Windmill, still armless, followed the same schedule.

Judy Knight organized all of the willing and helpful docents to welcome visitors to both places.

At the Windmill people watched the slow process of the shaping of the new wind shaft that holds the sails. You can see the results on page 5.

In August at our annual meeting, we said thank you and good bye to Board members Bill Salmons of the Finance and Outer Islands committees, Suzi Andrews of the Exhibit committee, and Devi Ross who led our Outreach to Children. And we welcomed Leo Orsi, who will chair our Finance Committee, and Peter Fay whose research and IT skills will be helpful across many areas. We also rejoiced at the return of Dianne Rugh to the Collections committee. Short bios of our new members are on the next page.

We had a wonderful preview party two nights before the Farm Tour masterminded by Betsy Baldwin with the help of her family and a team of loyal and hardworking volunteers. The backyard on Whittier where the party was held gave us a view of the whole central corridor of the island including the Belted Galways at Windmill Farm, which we would get a closer view of on the Farm Tour the following Saturday.

Membership

More than 530 Jamestowners are members of the society.

Over that last six months we have added six new life members – three at the 1657 level and three patrons. In addition, one of our long-time Life members, some of whom became Life members when a Life membership cost \$75, has purchased a 1657 Society membership.

As you know, 1657 Society and Patron membership receipts are added to our General Endowment at the Rhode Island Foundation. In that way, they continue to generate support for the society in perpetuity.

The Farm Tour itself was good exercise, a great education, and so much fun. I loved catching up with people who have been laying low in response to the pandemic. Many of the wary were willing to venture out since the whole tour was outdoors, as were all our major events this summer.

Our cemetery tour featuring eight islanders buried at the Cedar Cemetery, The Friends Burial Ground, and the Hazard plot was held on one of the most beautiful days of the fall. Seven small groups of attendees went from site to site learning about the life of the islander from a costumed interpreter. (We learned that when we do it again, we need to have golf seats and water available at each site.) Lynda Sutton put together a much appreciated exhibit of artifacts that related to the people whose graves were visited on the tour.

Cider and apple cider donuts from Windmist, as well as Betsy Baldwin's home-made cookies, were served at the end of the tour and were very popular. Again it was so nice to catch up with old friends.

Betsy and Ted Baldwin hosted our volunteer thank you party on October 23 - a little late in the season for an outdoor event and we were very concerned that we would have to postpone it till the spring.

Once again the weather was very good to us. We met on the Baldwin patio to drink cider and wine and nibble on goodies - including some more Windmist donuts.



So I feel that our hope that we could achieve something like normalcy was achieved.

*Gabrielle
Highstein*

We are grateful to all our life members, but particularly to our long-time Life members who realize that their original donation is not sufficient to support the increased activities of the society.

Our annual renewal drive has not fared quite as well as the life membership drive. While over 220 memberships have been renewed, 63 individuals and families who were members last year have not yet renewed.

We hope this gentle prod will result in a flurry of end-of-year renewals.

Your New Board Members

At our Annual Meeting on August 10, vaccinated members of the society met in the meeting room at the Jamestown Philomenian Library. Our speaker for the meeting was Anne Tait, Professor of Art at Roger Williams University, who gave a talk about Art in the Cemetery, Changing Fashions in Grave Markers. Her introduction helped us to understand of what we were seeing at the grave sites during the Cemetery Tour.

The members present said good-bye to outgoing Board members Suzi Andrews, Devi Ross, and Bill Salmons and voted in a slate recommended by the Nominating Committee.

Betsy Baldwin, who as Program Committee chair had been responsible for our winter webinars and summer activities, was elected as vice-president while last year's veep Sue Maden returned to her director's seat. Three new Board members, who introduce themselves below, joined the team.

Peter Fay

I spent childhood summers digging in the sandy creeks of Southold, New York, uncovering the magic of history: Indian arrowheads and pottery, buried for centuries under the mud. Who made them, and what was their life like? My curiosity never abated.

As a draft-age teenager in Weston, Massachusetts, I learned to contest accepted history when I found the Viet Nam war was launched in response to a Gulf of Tonkin '2nd attack,' which had never occurred. I enrolled in a Public Health degree program and then studied in Lisbon, where I witnessed a revolution overthrow a 40-year dictatorship.

Back home again, I organized trade unions in the electrical, steel and health care industries and at 23 won election to leadership of a Steelworkers union. After a workplace back injury, I pursued computer science with an MS from RPI. After two children, a divorce, and decades of consulting, I moved to Jamestown, remarried, and raised two more wonderful kids, working at Brown.

For twenty years I've reprised my early interest in history, lecturing and writing. I'm grateful for the opportunity to uncover new island stories: unrecognized Black Revolutionary War soldiers, white ferrymen and farmers, Indigenous whalers, and the first Black farm (now Cedar Cemetery).



Leo Orsi

I was born and raised in Princeton, New Jersey. I started visiting Jamestown as a teenager when my best friend's parent built a vacation home here. When he told me that there was fantastic striped bass fishing in Narragansett Bay, my bags were packed and ready to go. I have been coming to the island every year ever since, and about 10 years ago I and my wife Patricia purchased a home here. I have many memories of the island, some of memories are chronicled in my 2004 book *Striper Chronicles*.

I am the founder and Principal of the Princeton Group, a national commercial real estate consulting firm providing guidance for large and technically complex corporate real estate projects to many of the country's largest companies. I am also a commissioner on the Jamestown Conservation Commission, serve on the Board of the Beavertail Lighthouse Museum, and am a long-standing member of the Preservation Society of Newport County and the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association.



Dianne Rugh

I grew-up in Illinois and first came to Jamestown in 1968 when the Navy sent my husband Jim to Newport. I taught 7th and 8th grade social studies at the Lawn School while Jim served with the Seabees in Viet Nam and on a supply ship overseas. When Jim was discharged from the Navy, we returned to Illinois and later lived in St. Louis, Cincinnati, and finally Massachusetts.

After 10 years of teaching, I moved into the library field and worked at a public library, a corporate research library, and the American Antiquarian Society. In Massachusetts, I served as chair of the Trustees of the Northborough Free Library during the library's \$7.4 million renovation and addition construction project.

When we retired to Jamestown, I became active in the Quononotquot Garden Club, where I served as president, and the JHS. I was JHS vice president and chair of the Collections Committee. I left the Board because of term limits and am happy to be returning.



HONOR ROLL OF VOLUNTEERS FOR 2021

It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes a lot of volunteers to keep JHS operating efficiently.

In 2021, 147 individuals contributed their time. They greeted visitors at the windmill, museum, and meetinghouse. They helped at the farm tour and entertained us on the cemetery tour. They served on committees, organized events, repaired the windmill, and kept the battery park trails open. They catalogued artifacts in

the collection, designed and installed exhibits, brought flower arrangements for the museum, and researched questions posed to us. Town officials cooperated with many of our efforts, giving us access to records and supporting expanded historic signage in our parks.

We are grateful to all who helped in any way and sincerely hope that we haven't omitted anyone's name from the list below.

Alex Allardt	Alma Davenport	Ralph Klingbeil	Evelyn Rhodes
Joyce Allphin	Ray DeFalco	Judy Knight	Tim Riel
Dick Allphin	Dorothy Denault	Winston Knight	Devi Ross
Craig Amerigian	Anne DeStefano	Carol Lake	Dianne Rugh
Stephanie Amerigian	Elizabeth Di Censo	Jesse Lambert	Jim Rugh
Suzi Andrews	Paul Di Censo	Anne Lane	Nancy Sall
Quentin Anthony	John Drotos	Christian Lazen-Bernardt	Bill Salmons
Tony Antine	Tina Duhaime	Cynthia Levesque	Bill Santos
Rita Antine	Kim Dumpson	Marcia Lindsay	Ginny Saunders
Carolyn Armington	Rosemary Enright	Dorrie Linn	Linda Sedgewick
Andrew Baldwin	Karen Estes	Anne Livingston	Andy Shrake
Betsy Baldwin	Bud Faria	Joe Logan	Pat Sheehan
Kate Baldwin	Peter Fay	Mary-Alice Lurgio	Cynthia Smith
Ted Baldwin	Mary Forman	Sue Maden	Helen Smith
Fran Basso	Jeff Foye	Judy Mandel	William W. Smith III
Judy Bell	Jill Frew	Larry Mandel	Valerie Southern
Chris Bellem	Denise Gamon	Peter Marcus	Robert Sutton
Sarah Bellem	Dona Gibbs	Roger Marshall	Lynda Sutton
Jane Bentley	Nikki Gladding	Phil Mayer	Debby Swistak
Robert Berczuk	Michael Glier	Kevin McCloskey	Courtney Taylor
Charlotte Biddle	Laura Goldstein	Larry McDonald	Lydia Thomas
George Boyer	Janet Grant	Jean McDonough	Robin Tregenza
Sally Braun	John Grant	Lois Migneault	Pat Ustick
Sam Braun	Mike Gray	Martha Milot	Tenley van der Wal
Fred Brown	Mary Gregory	Karen Montoya	Andrea von Hohenleiten
Lisa Bryer	Madeleine Gromada	Betsy Moody	Chris Walsh
Jim Buttrick	Jamie Hainsworth	John A. Murphy	Linda Warner
Ken Caswell	Jane Henedy	Michele Musselman	Dennis Webster
Gail Chase	Gabrielle Highstein	Martha Neale	Marcy Wemple
Harry Chase	Joyce Hooley-Bartlett	Carol Nelson-Lee	Kim Westcott
Donna Chellis	Polly Hutcheson	Ken Newman	Emily Weugek
Carol Chew	Sandy Johnson	Susan Nicholson	Ross Williams
Sarah Civic	Karen Kalisch	Leo Orsi	Harry Wright
Chris Clarke	Rose Karentz	Barbara Parent	Josy Wright
Laura Clarke	Varoujan Karentz	Roland Parent	Andy Yates
Nicole Contino	Jane Kennedy	Stanley Pelli	Martha Yates
Gloria Dahl	Delia Klingbeil	Jay Primiano	Ann S. Zartler

THANK YOU!

Jamestown Historical Society
P.O. Box 156
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Officers 2021-2022

President	Gabrielle Highstein	<i>Outreach</i>
Vice President	Betsy Baldwin	<i>Programs</i>
Secretary	Delia Klingbeil	<i>Collections Liaison</i>
Treasurer	Rosemary Enright	<i>Maintenance</i>

Directors to 2022

Stephanie Amerigian	<i>Website</i>
Elizabeth Di Censo	<i>Collections</i>

Directors to 2023

Fred Brown	<i>Buildings & Grounds</i>
Judy Knight	<i>Volunteers</i>
Marcia Lindsay	<i>Meetinghouse</i>
Larry McDonald	<i>Conanicut Battery</i>
Debby Swistak	<i>Memories</i>

Directors to 2024

Peter Fay	<i>Research</i>
Sue Maden	<i>Exhibits</i>
Leo Orsi	<i>Finance</i>
Dianne Rugh	<i>Collections</i>

