



www.whsri.org and Facebook

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2014

The work at the Arnold House is finished and we are very pleased with how it looks. Go to our Facebook page to see more photos if you have not already seen them and stop by the house and take a closer look.



BRICKS:

We are meeting this week with the stone cutter to make arrangements for the bricks that have been ordered to date.

PARANORMAL EVENT:

We have a paranormal event scheduled for Saturday November 1st. [see flyer below]
This is an exciting new adventure for us and if it is successful we will schedule more in the coming months.

BOOK SIGNING AND POWERPOINT WITH HENRY A.L. BROWN

His book COLE FARM.

This is scheduled for Thursday November 6th at 6 pm at the Warwick Library. We originally intended to have a slideshow of Pawtuxet, but Henry received another order of books in the meantime and will have copies available for sale.

RAFFLE

The drawing for the raffle will take place at the November 6th meeting at the Library. You can still purchase tickets at the Arnold House or at Ocean State Apparel on Post Rd. You can also download the tickets from here. [form and list of gifts below] If you have trouble downloading and are unable to come to the house, if you send us your donation we will enter your tickets for you. You do not have to be present to win.

COLLECTION FOR HOMELESS VETS

We have gathered quite a lot, but they always need more. The drive continues until the end of the month. You can drop items off anytime we are open. For those who have already donated, thank you. You know the vets will appreciate whatever you provide. Cash donations are accepted as well. We will purchase needed items.

MEMBERSHIP

For those of you that have paid, our sincere appreciation. We have added two more corporate sponsors. Bald Hill Jeep and Custom Built Windows. [see sponsor pages] You can see Custom Built Windows that were recently installed on our house. Please make every effort to support all our sponsors if you can.

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Go to our website www.whsri.org to see the changes that have been made. Mike Cabral is our webmaster and has done a fabulous job. There is still more work to be done but we are pleased with it so far. We are also updating our Facebook page regularly. We invite all of you to friend us.

In the last Newsletter we had just received the notice of the passing of Ed Greer as we were getting ready to print and mail. Included this month is a tribute written by his long time friend Henry Brown.

Study the past, if you would devine the future.---Confucius



The RISEUP Paranormal Society

Cordially invites you to THE FIRST EVER
public investigation of

THE JOHN WATERMAN ARNOLD HOUSE

25 Roger Williams Circle

Warwick, R.I.

Saturday, November 1st

7pm - 12am

\$25 per person

Reservations are limited to 6 people

All proceeds benefit the Warwick Historical Society

FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

info@riseupparanormal.com

EDWARD GREER A FRIEND OF PAWTUXET

Ed Greer was a man deeply rooted in the village of Pawtuxet his birth place. He attended the old wooden schoolhouse on So. Atlantic Ave. graduating in 1934.

He related to me of his home adjacent to the "Bumblebee Trolley line" [abandoned in 1928] telling to me of the trolley wheels squeaking as the vehicle round the corner by his home and heading for Lakewood connecting to the Providence & Buttonwoods line. (the sound so familiar to a boy---this Pawtuxet native remembered).

As founder of the Rhode Island Bottle Club ---Edward interested me an old bottle----- inscribed "PERRY DAVIS". I was led into research of this man Davis & his magical elixir----- -"GOOD for MAN or BEAST" !!! Once uncovered it led me into writing many many stories & one for the BRIDGE. The Pawtuxet children's program from E. T. Wyman & St. Peters School enacts the Perry Davis story standing on the steps of the Fair Mansion House, the site where Davis first sold his tonic, ----a wellness product at the Pawtuxet Fair Grounds in 1847.

During WW 2 Ed was employed at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyard established at Edgewood, Kirwins Beach, (Providence). In 1942 the firm was constructing Liberty ships. [Johnson-Wales University is located near the site). He told me of schools of "whiting" referred to as frost fish seen only in October/ November seeking silver-sides to eat---bait fish. "I easily caught in the shallow water when I had a break between shifts". Ed was disturbed owing to the demise of the fish no longer seen in Narragansett Bay [1972] . "All the whiting were seined, fished out, from the bay -----now but a memory of a time when the poor folk adjacent to the bay depended upon the fish for food & salted down for winter use". I shared his interest that extended to the horse-shoe crab that was fast being depleted. Ed formed the "Save The Horseshoe Crab" known only to he & I as "CRAB". We were the only members and identified with special tiny crab pin. The identity of numbers & location of crabs mating in the upper bay was recorded. We had a greater impact on the disappearing crab than one can imagine. Ed had alerted Wendly Ferguson of Save The Bay [also working on the issue], to the loss of horseshoe crabs in Narragansett bay. Save The Bay notified us to a federal hearing being held at the old Brown & Sharpe building in Providence. He & I attended. Queries were elicited. He & I testified as expert witnesses. The result by the U. S. Wildlife & Conservation Commission recommended a moratorium on seining & catching the crabs in the bay. Ed had led the way from Pawtuxet.

Ed had a keen mind for uncovering, preserving & sharing the village life & history, but his physical presence was everywhere, pruning, planting, and organizing and sharing his encyclopedic knowledge without fanfare (his smile & laugh was contagious). He was a gift to our Pawtuxet Village Association more precious than gold & silver. He is a valued friend to our village though death has closed his eyes.

Following his passing Ed's family generously donated his extensive Perry Davis collection, maps, photographs of village life unfolding to the Warwick Historical Society known as the "EDWARD GREER COLLECTION".

Love, all alike, no season knows,

Nor hours, days, months, which are all the rags of time.

Henry A. L. Brown, September 30, 2014

WARWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

RAFFLE

As a fund raising event we are having a raffle, the drawing to be held on Thursday November 6th at 8 pm at the Warwick Public Library.
You do not have to be present to win.

Items you can win:

- *Cole Farm* Book by Henry AL Brown [autographed]
- Published pictorial books of RI history by Robert Geake [autographed]
- Framed Warwick postcard reprint from Warwick Historical Society [your choice]
- Rhode Island Products Gift Basket from Ocean State Apparel
- Newport Restaurant Group Gift Certificate [Hemenway's, Waterman Grille in Prov]
- Subway lunch gift certificate [Rte 3 West Warwick]
- Papa Gino's large cheese pizza gift certificate [any store]
- Dunkin Donuts Gift Certificate [any store]
- Warwick poster [24 x 36] by Sheila McGrath Parenteau [suitable for framing]
- Plum Beach lighthouse poster [suitable for framing]

Tickets \$1 each, 6 for \$5 Can be purchased at Warwick Historical Society, Ocean State Apparel, 2105 Post Rd or:

Download ticket form, fill in and return with check to:

Warwick Historical Society

25 Roger Williams Circle

Warwick RI 02886

RAFFLE TICKET

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