



[www.warwickhistoricalsocietyonline.org](http://www.warwickhistoricalsocietyonline.org)

## NEWSLETTER

March 2014

It has been a cold snowy winter but we have prevailed and look forward to Spring.

Since our last newsletter we have continued to receive Westcott materials from the historian of the Westcott Family Descendants Society, Betty Acker. They will be having their reunion here in Warwick June 26-29, and we will have the entire collection on display at that time. As a result of receiving these documents and memorabilia we took a closer look at Westcott materials that we already had in our possession and discovered a copy of a research paper from 1886 that identified the previously unmarked cemetery of the Westcotts located on the grounds of the Westcott Homestead on West Shore Rd. This research paper directed the Warwick Cemetery Commission to documents showing the location of the cemetery and indicated that it was apparently the first cemetery laid out in Warwick in 1663 by surveyor John Warner and was entered into the town records on December 21, 1714. This cemetery was not identified in the James Arnold transcripts of 1890-1894 that attempted to list all the cemeteries in Warwick, and was again unidentified by John Sterling in his book published in 1997. The end result is that the Westcott Cemetery has now been officially recognized as Warwick Historical Cemetery #164. It can be assumed Stukely Westcott is actually buried there, however no records exist stating who was buried in that cemetery.

In December we received a Champlin grant that will be used to refurbish the outside of the Arnold House and replace the storm windows. That will be an ongoing project over the next year or so. Our sincere thanks to the Champlin Foundation for their generosity.

We are also planning on updating our website. Sometime in the coming weeks our existing website will shut down. You will be notified when we are back up and running with our new website address.

We have told you before about our oldest living charter member, Elsie Williams. She turned 105 in February and her next book should be out soon. Her daughter recently identified her in an old photo we had from 1965. In that photo below she is the 5<sup>th</sup> from the right in the long white dress wearing a bonnet in front of the Arnold House. The other photo is a picture taken at a recent event. Happy Birthday Elsie.



## SCHOLARSHIP

We are currently accepting applications for this year and will let you know the recipient in our next newsletter.

## ACTIVITIES

March 1 City Hall Display- changed to *The Civil War 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
Participation of Rhode Island

April 1, 6pm the library on Sandy Lane- Christian McBurney, Brown University graduate, will speak on his new book *Kidnapping the Enemy: December 13, 1776*, during the Rhode Island Campaign of the Revolutionary War

May 8, 1pm Felicia will be presenting *Carousels and Quahogs* to the East Greenwich Leisure Living Group. This is a slideshow featuring Rocky Point and Oakland Beach Amusement Parks. Accompanied narration by John Caruthers including sound effects on tape.

June 26-29 Arnold House – The entire Westcott Collection will be on display. A DVD of the collection will be available for sale  
Annual Open House-Times TBA  
New Board of Directors TBA

Several books have been published recently by our members and are available through our office. *The Cole Farm* by Henry AL Brown; *Painted Rooms of Rhode Island* by Anne Eckert Brown; *Historic RI Farms, Historic Taverns of RI and NE Maritime Tradition* by Robert Geake; *Coventry* by Raymond Wolf; and *Legendary Locals of Coventry* by Andrew Boisvert.

Felicia accepting RI Heritage Hall of Fame Citation on behalf of Col. Randall Harrington owner of Rocky Point from 1888 to 1918 from (l-r) Al Klyberg and Dr. Patrick Conley, Esq.  
Citation now on display at the Arnold House.



## **FUND RAISING**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Another year has rolled around and we are again asking you to renew your membership. We do not receive any city or state funds and rely heavily on your dues, donations and fund raising. In the past few years heat and electricity bills have doubled. We need your support to continue running the Arnold House and to maintain our society. A membership form can be printed from p. 6. Please respond as soon as possible.

### **MEMORIAL BRICKS**

We have an arrangement with a local monument company to provide us with memorial bricks to be placed on the grounds of the Arnold House. The cost of 4 x 8 bricks is \$50 and 8 x 8 bricks is \$75. An order form can be printed from p. 5. Make checks out to Warwick Historical Society and return checks and order form to our address. One order form for each brick if you want more than one. This is a wonderful way to provide a lasting remembrance of a significant person or event.

### **MAP RESTORATION PROJECT**

We now have in our possession a relatively rare 1862 Henry F. Walling 5' x 6' linen map of Rhode Island. It is a greatly detailed map showing the names and locations of private properties in the various cities and towns at the time. It is in need of restoration at an estimated cost of \$800-\$1000. We are establishing a fund for this project and require donations. When the project is completed the names of the donors will be displayed along with the map.

### **TOUR REBATES**

Ray Wolfe is giving bus tours in March and April to the *Lost Villages of Scituate*. Go to [www.raywolfbooks.com](http://www.raywolfbooks.com) and click on tours. If you tell him you are from the Warwick Historical Society he will rebate us \$5 per ticket. There is also a \$3 discount for AAA members. If you already have the book be sure and bring it with you as he refers to it during the tour.

**PHOTOS FROM OUR CIVIL WAR COLLECTION**



City Gate St Augustine Florida during  
the Civil War  
*Boston Public Library Photo  
Civil War Collection*



City Gate St Augustine Florida 2012  
*Member Photo*

See more of our Civil War material in our display at City Hall and at the Arnold House

*History is the sum total of the things that could have been avoided-Konrad Adenauer*

# ENGRAVED BRICK ORDER FORM

14 CHARACTERS PER LINE (INCLUDING SPACES & PUNCTUATION)

4X8 BRICKS UP TO 3 LINES OF TEXT

8X8 BRICKS UP TO 5 LINES OF TEXT

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**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION / APPLICATION**

<b>NAME:</b>	
<b>STREET:</b>	
<b>CITY/STATE:</b>	
<b>ZIP CODE:</b>	
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	
<b>EMAIL:</b>	
<b>TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>PLEASE PRINT, FILL IN ALL INFORMATION AND SEND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE  PAYABLE TO: THE WARWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY</b>
INDIVIDUAL-\$10 _____	
FAMILY-\$15 _____	
STUDENT-\$5 _____	