



**PORTSMOUTH**  
*Historical Society*

## PHS December 2018 Newsletter

### Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year!

Although we are in a quiet time, program-wise, there is much happening at the Portsmouth Historical Society:

1. A new roof has been put on the 19<sup>th</sup> C. Old Town Hall/Fire Station behind our main museum.
2. A new security system has been installed in the main museum replacing the old one that was installed in the 1970s.
3. Storm windows have been placed on the main windows on the museum building.
4. Work is currently underway on replacing gutters and making repairs to the soffits on the main building. We had a small amount of water damage inside a few years ago and this work will alleviate that problem.
5. The National Register plaques have been installed on the Union Meeting House (1865) and on the Southermost School (1725).
6. The exhibits have been stored, the buildings have been cleaned up and we are all prepared for the winter season. Great thanks to our Curators and our Buildings and Grounds Committee.
7. A new historical railing has been put by our main door as a safety feature.
8. Thanks to the Portsmouth Garden Club and the Aquidneck Land Trust we have two new trees and two beautiful hydrangeas on our property. The trees are dedicated to Garden Club members Madeline Beaucage, Olivia Marcoux and Kathy Kacon. The Garden Club also made two Christmas wreaths for us and they are on display on our

front doors. We are very grateful to both the Garden Club and the Aquidneck Land Trust.

**Recent Events:** We had a full house for my lecture on “Portsmouth: Then and Now” last week. It was well-received and perhaps in the future we will have additional talks showing a comparison between historic Portsmouth views and the same scenes today. Thanks to all who came.

**Future Events:** Doug Smith, our Vice President and Program Coordinator, has been working hard putting together a list of our planned activities for 2019. So far we have **TWENTY-TWO** different activities scheduled, starting in January Stay tuned to the Newsletter and the website ([portsmouthhistorical.org](http://portsmouthhistorical.org)) for detailed information. Your Historical Society is very actively involved in bringing attention to the wonderful history of our town.

**One upcoming event needs to be mentioned:** On **January first** at Island Park Beach there will be the annual **Polar Dive** sponsored by the **Portsmouth Business Association**. There will be a huge bonfire at 11 and the Dive at noon. Then there will be an **after-Party at Trembley's Restaurant across Park Avenue**. The PBA has made this **a benefit for the Portsmouth Historical Society**. Donations will be gratefully accepted. Please join us, for a good time (and you can stay dry if you wish!)

The Portsmouth Historical Society is a 501 (C-3) organization and all donations for the work of the Society are tax-deductible. We are most grateful for your support, especially at this special time of the year. Please support us with your gift at PO Box 834, Portsmouth RI 02871.

Thanks for your support of what we do.

Jim Garman  
President

Taking Pride in Portsmouth's History

**(website: [portsmouthhistorical.org](http://portsmouthhistorical.org))**