



P O R T S M O U T H
Historical Society

2022 Annual Meeting

Our Mission Statement

The Portsmouth Historical Society is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation and active promotion of Portsmouth, Rhode Island's rich history.

Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

- Anne Northup Burns - President
- Craig Clark - Vice President
- Bill Douglas - Treasurer
- Kerry McAuliffe - Curator
- Rich Talipsky - Recording Secretary
- Sandra Rezendes - Corresponding Secretary
- Dave Duggan-Buildings & Grounds Chairperson
- Sarah Thurston Nekrasz-Docent Coordinator Chairperson
- Becky Sattel-Grants Committee Chairperson
- Jim Garman, Town Historian
- Gary Crosby
- Dave Gleason
- Stephen Luce
- Jerry Macomber

Thank you to our Amazing Docents and Volunteers!

- Ray Armijo
- Anita Berwind
- Patrick Burns
- Carol-Anne Ciminello
- Marybeth Clark
- Sue Sunderland Cook
- Hadrian Dougherty
- Debra Duggan
- Dave Goetzinger
- Gary Gump
- Kerry Hood
- Laura Logan
- Tim Logan
- Sharon Lynch
- Donna Macomber
- Pauline Massed
- Ray Nekrasz
- Jennifer Pendergraft
- Tim Phelps
- Joe Pratt
- Michael Probert
- Michael Quay
- Lois Ryan
- Jim Sattel
- Gloria Schmidt
- Richard Schmidt
- Joanne Spero
- Beth Sousa
- Anne Wagner
- Conley Zani

2022 Initiatives

- Expanded role of Administrative Assistant to Administrative Coordinator-welcome new hire Judith Costa
- Conducted Docent Recruitment and Training
- Held Volunteer Recruitment Sessions and Orientations
- Published Constant Contact event notifications; quarterly newsletters, Facebook posts; press releases
- Fostered Member and Community Engagement
- Created Featured Collection Item Posts
- Portsmouth RI Historic Photo Facebook page 1,600 followers, 114 posts with 35,974 views
- Enacted a Research Policy
- Continuously respond to requests for historical research; property information and genealogical assistance, etc
- Conducted pre-septic archaeological survey and 2nd site dig on property
- Historic House Plaque efforts continued
- Community Outreach Expanded-Hosted DAR meeting and tour

2023 Initiatives

- Update Portsmouth Historical Society Website
- Install Portsmouth Historical Signage at key sites in town
- Increase Memberships and Improve Membership Renewals
- Formal Recognition of Members and Donors at Giving Levels
- Investigate additional parking options
- Replace Southermost School House Roof
- Install New Septic System
- Complete Security System Upgrade
- Work on Town of Portsmouth Comprehensive Plan items for the Portsmouth Historical Society
- Continue progress on Strategic Plan
- Continue researching Portsmouth history stories and people
- Conduct Paid Executive Director Feasibility Study
- New President Search
 - Becky Sattel and Craig Clark to lead as Co-Vice Presidents
- Portsmouth Flag almost ready for sale

2022 Lectures

- Attendance averages 65 people per lecture
- New policy of free to members, \$5 donation for non-members very effective
- History of the Christian Union Church-J. Garman
- Sandy Point Farm: A Gentleman's Farm-J. Garman
- The Mining of Portsmouth Coal-J. Garman
- Crossing the Sakonnet: Ferries, Bridges and Railroads-J. Garman
- Howland Ferry-J. Garman
- New England Before the English-J. McNiff
- Indigenous Peoples of Portsmouth During Colonial Period-S. Luce

2022 Events

- Portsmouth History Trivia Contest
- Annual March 7th Founders Day Celebration
- Lawton Valley and Portsmouth Asylum Cemetery Tours
- Navy Choristers Concert “Proudly We Sing” Fundraiser-CD’s for sale
- Museum Grand Reopening Member Reception
- Melville Park Historical Walking Tour
- All Charity Day Newport International Polo
- Second Annual “An Evening at Blue Bill Cove Music Night” at Thrive
- Special Historic 33 Star Flag Showing
- Hosted Annual Beirut Memorial Service for the Marine Corps
- Annual Meeting and Holiday Party

2023 Lectures and Events in Planning

- Jan 25th - CFP Hall-Northern Portsmouth Lecture-J. Garman
- Feb 16th - Portsmouth History Trivia Contest-Gulf Stream Bar & Grille
- March 7th - Annual Founders Day Celebration -Portsmouth Town Hall
- March 29th - “Dark Voyages”-Christian McBurney
- April Lecture - “Meet Me at the Biltmore”-Amanda Blount
- James Garman Lectures - “Abbie Sherman Diaries” and More
- John McNiff Lecture - Roger Williams
- Halsey Herreshoff Lecture
- Stephen Luce Lecture - New
- Lawton Valley Cemeteries Tour
- Melville Park History Tour
- Newport Polo All Charity Day - Summer 2023
- Third Annual “An Evening at Blue Bill Cove Music” at Thrive - Summer
- August-100th Anniversary Rededication of Butts Hill Fort with BORIA

Financial Report – Balance Sheet

as of June 30, 2022

| | Totals |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Bank Accounts | |
| Checking | 29,455.43 |
| Savings | 51,377.54 |
| Total Bank Accounts | \$80,832.97 |
| Other Current Assets | |
| Investments | 514,194.00 |
| Total Other Current Assets | \$514,194.00 |
| Total Current Assets | \$595,026.97 |
| Fixed Assets | |
| Capital Improvements | 66,554.66 |
| Total Fixed Assets | \$66,554.66 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$661,581.63 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable | 28,448.91 |
| Total Accounts Payable | \$ 28,448.91 |
| Total Current Liabilities | \$ 28,448.91 |
| Total Liabilities | \$ 28,448.91 |
| Equity | |
| Retained Earnings | 58,222.27 |
| Unrestricted Assets | 539,035.98 |
| Net Income | 35,874.47 |
| Total Equity | \$ 633,132.72 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | \$ 661,581.63 |

Unaudited

Financial Report – Income Statement

July 2021 – June 2022

| | Totals |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Income | |
| Sales | |
| Income | |
| Membership Dues | 17,661.49 |
| Donations (Unrestricted) | 10,363.85 |
| Program Receipts | 720.00 |
| Event Receipts | 8,456.60 |
| Merchandise Sales | 794.00 |
| Amazon Smile | 84.86 |
| Total Income | \$ 38,080.80 |
| Total Sales | \$ 38,080.80 |
| Grants | |
| Total Grants | \$ 12,386.39 |
| Total Income | \$ 50,467.19 |
| Gross Profit | \$ 50,467.19 |
| Expenses | |
| Utilities | |
| Total Utilities | \$ 4,939.40 |
| Insurance | |
| Total Insurance | \$ 3,610.00 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | |
| Total Repairs & Maintenance | \$ 4,808.12 |

| | Totals |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Museum Expense | |
| Curatorial Supplies | 1,096.80 |
| Events expense | 1,798.69 |
| Membership Development | 100.00 |
| Programs expense | 450.00 |
| Total Museum Expense | \$ 3,445.49 |
| Contingency | 743.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 32,562.71 |
| Net Operating Income | \$ 17,904.48 |
| Other Income | |
| Other Income | |
| Interest Earned - Savings | 64.99 |
| Dividend Income - Fidelity | 7,867.00 |
| Total Other Income | \$ 7,931.99 |
| Total Other Income | \$ 7,931.99 |
| Net Other Income | \$ 7,931.99 |
| Net Income | \$ 25,836.47 |

Unaudited

Grants/Large Donations

Totaling \$38,265

- Town of Portsmouth Civic Grant \$7,000 for general fund
- Legislative Grant Sen. Jim Seveney \$1,500 for conference table
- Legislative Grant Rep. Terri Cortvriend \$1,500 for conference table chairs
- Champlin Foundation \$17,800 for new septic system
- 1772 Foundation \$2,465 for security system
- RI Foundation J. O'Neill/Ott \$1,000 for documentation storage
- RI Society Sons of the Revolution \$1,000 for historic programming
- Clements Marketplace \$1,000 for general fund
- Rich Talipsky \$5,000 for ADA improvements to museum

Building and Grounds

- Completed HVAC system installation
- Upgraded alarm and security systems
- Painted interior of museum
- Replaced outdoor light fixtures
- Commenced Comprehensive Lighting Plan
- Manufactured and finished Chase Ship model table
- Regularly maintained grounds and monitored buildings for potential issues and pest control
- Repaired flag pole
- Added seasonal American flag bunting and flower pots to improve curb appeal



Butts Hill Fort Restoration

Battle of Rhode Island Association

- Butts Hill Fort - Added to WARO Trail
- 4 Volunteer Clearings
- Archeological Survey Completed
- Topographical Plan Development
- Master Plan in Progress Expected January 2023, Submit to Town Council and Public Comment 2023
- Trail Clearing 2023
- Battle of Rhode Island.Org
- 32 Partner Members
- Long term goals include
 - 2026: host the 250th celebration of Declaration of Independence at BHF and other RI locations
 - 2028: host the 250th celebration of the Battle of RI at BHF and other locations
 - Raise Funds for:
 - Restoration of the fort including uses as a recreational site with signage, toilets, picnic facilities, etc.
 - Endowment for BHF Maintenance

Museum Update and Featured Program

2022 Grand Reopening

- New Exhibits
- Portsmouth Free Public Library Displays
- 2023 Spring Reopening
- 2022 Acquisitions
 - Cannonball - Mr. David G. Reise
 - Seth Thomas mantel clock - Mrs. Nancy Wake
 - 1920s table water container and cradle - Mr. Stephen Moss
 - 1885 map of Aquidneck Island - Estate of Vernon and Elizabeth Harvey
 - Portsmouth Lions Club Banners - Mr. John Woodhouse
 - 1864 lithograph of Lovell General Hospital in Portsmouth, RI - Society Purchase
 - Brig Model built by Capt. Alfred Chase - Mr. and Mrs. David Chase
- PastPerfect Catalog
 - 1,019 objects
 - 428 photographs
- Introduction of Featured Program

Special Recognitions

Volunteer Experts

- Patrick Donovan
- David Imbriglio
- Seth Linton
- Dr. Kevin McBride
- Ryan Meyer
- Paul Norbury
- Tony Rego
- Alec Tessa
- Maria Vazquez
- Renee Walker-Tuttle
- Jay Waller

In Memoriam Life Member

- Joy Schuur

Special Community Partners

- Town of Portsmouth
- Portsmouth Free Public Library
- Portsmouth Arts Guild Center for Arts
- Portsmouth Business Association
- Clements Marketplace
- Portsmouth Garden Club
- Common Fence Point Community Center
- Thriving Tree House Coffee
- Gulf Stream Bar & Grille
- Greenvale Vineyards
- 375th Legacy Committee
- Newport Navy Choristers
- The Artillery Company of Newport
- Varnum Armory
- Battle of RI Association
- Glen Manor House
- St. Barnabas Church
- Island Park Preservation Society
- Portsmouth This Week

How Can You Help?

- Become a volunteer!
- Share your knowledge and ideas
- Attend our lectures and events
- Visit the museum, bring others!
- Make a financial donation or increase your level of giving
- Renew your membership or become a new member
- Recruit new members
- Donate to our Collection
- Follow and like our Facebook pages
- If shopping Amazon, use Amazon Smile- designate Portsmouth Historical Society



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