



# PORTSMOUTH

## *Historical Society*

### PHS March 2019 Newsletter

(A note from Chairperson Anne Northup Burns of the Portsmouth Historical Society Nominating Committee):

“As you know, the Portsmouth Historical Society has a growing membership and a wealth of activities offered to enrich the lives of all of us. As we approach the end of our fiscal year in June, we are looking for a few new interested individuals to join our Board of Directors. While knowledge of Portsmouth is helpful, it is certainly not mandatory, just an appreciation of history and a desire to become involved in the community. You may offer your talents in any number of ways, such as organizing events, grant writing, or just an extra hand staging and showing off our museum! If you would like more information, please send an inquiry by March 15, 2019 to the following address: [phsnominating@portsmouthhistorical.org](mailto:phsnominating@portsmouthhistorical.org). We are also in need of a new Board President. If you, or someone you know is interested, please contact us. This is a great opportunity to lead the continuing growth and community involvement of the Portsmouth Historical Society, now in its 81<sup>st</sup> year”.

#### Upcoming Events:

Thursday, 7 March 11 AM to 1 PM at the Portsmouth Town Hall - **Founders' Day**: Annual Viewing of the **original Portsmouth Compact (1638)** from the RI State Archives and a short introductory talk by the Town Historian, Jim Garman.

Thursday, 14 March-6-8 PM: Gulf Stream Bar and Grill at Melville. **Third Annual Portsmouth Historical Trivia Contest** for Middle and High School student teams. Parents invited to watch.

Monday, 25 March-6 to 7:30 PM: Portsmouth Free Public Library. **Portsmouth History Book Club** meeting. The book to be discussed is Gerald Carbone's

***“Nathanael Greene: A Biography of the American Revolution”***. The discussion will be led by Anne Wagner. Greene was the most important American General in the Revolutionary War and he participated in the Battle of Rhode Island here in Portsmouth.

Thursday, 4 April 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM: Portsmouth Free Public Library. A lecture: ***“Roger Williams: Founding Father of Religious Freedom in America”*** by local historian Fred Zilian. Co-sponsored by the Library and PHS.

Thursday, 11 April – 6:30 – 8:30 PM: The Valley Inn - **Portsmouth History Trivia Contest for All** - Start getting your teams together!

Saturday, 20 April at 1 PM: Portsmouth Free Public Library. Lecture/Discussion on ***Cemetery Research*** with Pegee Malcolm and Lew Keen.

These are the first of 24 events that your Historical Society has scheduled for 2019. Please support the Society with your attendance!

**Special note:**

***Extraordinary Women of the East Bay: An Exhibition of Images, Artifacts and Biographies.***

In the months of March (Linden Place in Bristol) and April (Edward King House in Newport) there will be a special exhibit that recognizes and celebrates 60 women of the East Bay communities that have had a major impact. Sixteen historical societies (including Portsmouth’s) have provided information for this exhibit. Gloria Schmidt, one of our Curators, has made our great contribution to this exhibit. The show is the brainchild of Heidi Benedict, archivist at Roger Williams University and will be well worth the trip to see. It will be open on Tuesdays to Saturdays from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of March in Bristol.

As we begin to think about opening our museum in late May we begin to look for volunteers to be Docents at our museum. This involves spending three hours (2 to 5 PM) on an occasional Sunday afternoon, welcoming visitors to our three museum buildings. Training will be provided and new docents will always be paired with other experienced docents. Please think about volunteering for this opportunity.

See you at the upcoming events!

Jim Garman

President