The Preservation Society is grateful to Carol and Les Ballard for their support in underwriting this issue of the Newport Gazette.

## Enjoy a Relaxing Lunch

Preservation Society members & ticket holders are invited to enjoy lunch & snacks at The Elms Carriage House Cafe, while relaxing at umbrella-shaded bistro tables overlooking the garden. Available daily through October 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Featuring:** Sandwiches, Salads, Snacks, Desserts, Coffee, Cold drinks

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www.NewportMansions.org

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Among the many lessons we can learn from our current economic crisis one stands out: large institutions are as vulnerable to the forces of economic change as small ones, especially if they try to ignore what's going on around them. With that in mind, I thought it would be timely to revisit the findings of the Forum on Historic Site Stewardship in the 21st Century, a conference that brought 32 of us representing historic sites, professional associations and selected foundations from around the country together at Kykuit in New York just over two years ago.

The conferees struggled with the apparent dichotomy between the many institutions living at the margin of survival and the few doing well economically with their larger budgets and larger attendance. But it soon became apparent as we talked that the same basic question faced us all: relevance. Why do we matter to people? The findings of that conference can serve to refresh our thinking about what the Preservation Society must do to remain strong and sustainable in these difficult times.

We all walked away from Kykuit with one undeniable truth in mind. No historic site or institution can survive if it is not relevant to the broader community. We must see our visitors not just as tourists, but as individuals with whom we form a connection. From such connections springs relevance. For us that means changing how we tell our story, how we present our programs, how we respond to the forces at work around us. The Kykuit report emphasized that "historic sites must no longer think of the velvet rope tour as their basic bread and butter program and must generate more varied ways to utilize their remarkable resources to enrich people’s lives." The report went on to say, "innovation, experimentation, collaboration and a broad sharing of the resulting information are essential to achieving historic site sustainability on a broad scale."

As if prescient, all this was written before the economic storm clouds burst last fall.

In 2009, the Preservation Society is tackling these challenges with innovation. The premiere of our new audio tour at The Breakers is both a critical and popular success. Nevertheless, we do not plan to coast through 2009 on the tour’s coat tails. Adhering to the simple notion that in tough times "cutting expenses is the same as generating revenues," our operating budget this year is one million dollars less than last year.

Over the winter months, more than 50 of our employees gathered in working groups to evaluate all the work we do with an eye to how we can do it even better. From those who actually do the myriad of hands-on tasks at the Preservation Society came many practical, worthwhile ideas that are being implemented without undue cost. Whether the economy is good or bad one thing our guests expect and deserve is extraordinary customer service. With that in mind we have adopted an advanced customer service training program for every employee.

The profile and value of our academic research continues to grow. Dr. David Hochfelder, Professor of Public History at the University at Albany-State University of New York, has identified the work done by our Director of Academic Programs, John Tschirch, and his researchers in the creation of the new Breakers tour as deserving further academic exploration, and he is interested in including us in his research on public history and willing to help us in return.

How did Professor Hochfelder discover John’s body of research? While taking the new Breakers audio tour! The fruits of innovation can turn up unexpectedly. That is why we must push our efforts at “innovation, experimentation, and collaboration” forward not only in 2009 but in the years ahead. This is certainly a challenging year, but it can also be one of our most rewarding.
The front gates (1895-96) of The Breakers are a design masterpiece, providing an elegant and theatrical entry to the grand house beyond. But, as documented in the winter issue of the Newport Gazette, the gates were in desperate need of repair after more than a century of wear and tear and exposure to the weather.

Funded by a $325,000 grant from the Alletta Morris McBean Foundation, with additional support from the Loeb Family Foundation and the Hope Foundation, the gates were dismantled in early April and transported to New Jersey, where they are being restored by Lodi Welding Company. The restoration of the wrought-iron gates is expected to be about a four-month process. The project includes sandblasting all the pieces to clean them and remove all paint and rust. Damaged elements will either be repaired or replaced, and all parts galvanized to make them impervious to rust.

Dismantling the gates was a monumental task. The two sections of the main entry gate weigh 6,500 pounds each; the crown above 5,000 pounds. And each of the two pedestrian gates on either side of the main gate weighs 1,800 pounds.
Roman Splendor: A Gilded Age Billiard Room

By John R. Tschirch,
Architectural Historian/ Director of Academic Programs

Architect Richard Morris Hunt created one of the most sumptuous rooms of the Gilded Age for Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt II with his design for the Billiard Room of The Breakers. Inspired by Italian Renaissance and ancient Roman models, the interior is a tour de force of marble and mosaic craftsmanship. The material splendor of the space is based on the use of matched slabs of Cippolino marble from Switzerland, alabaster arches and frames, and a variety of inset semi-precious stones. The firm of Batterson, See and Eisele of New York were responsible for the installation of the room. As an acknowledged leader of the cultural and artistic movement known as the “American Renaissance,” Hunt drew upon classical sources used with an opulence not seen before in America. Only the pink Numidian marble walls in Hunt’s Marble House, for Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, rival the Billiard Room of The Breakers. Both rooms are testaments to the increasing sophistication and skill of American designers during the Gilded Age.

“The idea of a Roman Villa, a “seaside Palace” at Capua... in the Imperial period, seems to have been in the minds of the architect and owner of The Breakers.”

— Montgomery Schuyler, “A Newport Palace,” Cosmopolitan, August 1900
Corinthian-style capitals

Diamond-shaped frames with semi-precious stones

Mosaic of Roman lady and child

Dolphin, trident and scallop shell mosaic

Wall sconces by Tiffany

The Breakers Billiard Room

Detail, scallop shell, dolphins and honeysuckle on ceiling

Detail, acorn mosaic on floor
In 1895 there were 2,229 servants living in Newport, a small village-sized community in a city of less than 20,000. Over half of them emigrated from Europe. They comprised a fundamental element of Newport's Gilded Age society and posed an engaging research opportunity. In 1999, The Preservation Society of Newport County initiated an oral history project, “Keeping House.” It began as a community effort appealing to locals who knew of individuals who worked in Newport's mansions. Information and leads came forth from people who were domestics at the mansions and relatives of former domestics. Documenting their stories opened a fascinating personal perspective on behind the scenes life in Newport's great houses of the Gilded Age and encapsulated a unique social and cultural group in Newport. Following are several brief profiles of servants who worked in Newport's houses, some of whose stories can be heard in the new audio tour of The Breakers. We thank everyone who shared their stories and photographs for this important research project.

**Rudolph Stanish (1913-2008)**
Pictured here as the celebrity “Omelet King” with actor Carl Reiner (left) and guest.

Rudolph Stanish's Croatian mother and Serbian father immigrated to the United States shortly after the turn of the 20th century and settled on a farm in Pennsylvania. Rudolph was born in Yukon, PA in 1913. At the age of 14 he came to Newport with his godmother, who was invited to prepare her Russian specialties for a wedding feast at Wakehurst. There, he was initiated into domestic service as a kitchen boy. A quick study, Rudolph became an accomplished chef in Newport. He later earned nationwide fame as “The Omelet King.”

Photo courtesy of Stephen Selby
Magda Goodheart (1905-1986)

Magda Goodheart was a Hungarian immigrant who first traveled to the United States as a nursemaid for Countess László Széchényi, the youngest daughter of Cornelius Vanderbilt II. The Széchényi children visited their grandparents in Newport during the summer. Magda met her future American husband, Charles Goodheart, while taking the children to Bailey’s Beach, where he was an attendant.

Photo courtesy of Mary Seliga

Norah Kavenaugh (1901-1987)

Norah Kavenaugh emigrated from Ireland in 1926 to join her siblings in New York City, and was hired through an agency to work for the Vanderbilts, where she held her first position as a chambermaid at The Breakers. Subsequently she worked for many families who summered in Newport, until she married in 1933.

Photo courtesy of Patricia Coleman

Lawrence Bauerband (1890-1962)

Lawrence Bauerband was the second generation of a German immigrant family. He graduated from Stuyvesant night school in New York in 1916 with competency in electrical engineering and shop mechanics, and was hired as superintendent for The Breakers by Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt II that same year. In this photo, Lawrence and his wife Blanche pose in front of the caretaker’s cottage at The Breakers, where they lived until September 1917, when he joined the U.S. Army.
Visitors Rave About New Tour Of The Breakers

By Andrea Carneiro, Communications Manager

Our new tour of The Breakers debuted in early April to rave reviews from visitors, who appreciated the personal stories about people who lived in the house and the opportunity to tour at their own pace.

The very first visitor to experience the new audio tour was Preservation Society member Gene Smith of Madison, CT, who arrived with his son Brandon on Saturday, April 4. “It’s fantastic,” was Mr. Smith’s review as he returned his audio player in the butler’s pantry at the end of the tour. “I love it,” said Kristen Hoeker of West Dennis, MA, who visited with her friend Stephanie Peltier from Michigan.

The audio tour delivers a new interpretation of The Breakers, bringing it to life in a refreshing and inspirational way. For the first time, visitors are seeing the house from multiple points of view, experiencing it the way different people did in its heyday—whether a family member, a servant, or a guest.

“T he tour route deliberately walks the public through the house in a whole new way, allowing them to see the contrast between the grand public spaces and the functional spaces that connect them—servant corridors, closets, bathrooms and workrooms,” said Architectural Historian John R. Tschirch, who designed the tour.

“People are having exactly the kind of response we thought, and hoped, they would,” added CEO and Executive Director Trudy Coxe. “This new approach is putting a more human face on The Breakers, making it more relevant and encouraging our visitors to think more actively about how it reflects our cultural achievement as a society.”
The Gilded Age refers to the period between the end of the Civil War in 1865 and the beginning of World War I in 1914. During these years, rapid industrial growth and technological innovation transformed society. While an era of great progress in the arts, sciences and industry, the Gilded Age was also a time of social and economic inequity.

Below is a timeline of historical and artistic moments of the Gilded Age, intertwined with events in the Vanderbilt family and Newport.

1865 On April 8, Robert E. Lee surrenders to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, ending the Civil War.

1867 Das Kapital is published by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels.

1868 Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott, is published.

1869 Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton form the National Woman’s Suffrage Association.

1870 Cornelius Vanderbilt establishes a railroad line connecting New York with Chicago, propelling his railroad network to national importance.

1871 The Great Chicago Fire.

1873 Mark Twain and Dudley Warner publish The Gilded Age, a critical examination of politics and corruption in American society.

1874 The first Impressionist art exhibit is held in Paris.

1876 Alexander Graham Bell is granted a patent for the telephone.

1877 Tchaikovsky’s Swan Lake debuts.

1879 Thomas Edison demonstrates incandescent electric light to the public at Menlo Park, New Jersey.

1881 Portrait of a Lady, by Henry James, is published.

1882 Nikola Tesla invents alternating current (AC).

1883 The Brooklyn Bridge opens.

1884 The 8 hour work day is established by the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions.

1885 The Statue of Liberty arrives in New York Harbor.


1889 The Eiffel Tower is inaugurated in Paris.

1890 The Sherman Anti-Trust Act is passed, controlling monopolies.

1892 Construction begins on the new Breakers in Newport, designed by Richard Morris Hunt for Cornelius Vanderbilt II.

1893 Frank Lloyd Wright designs his first Prairie style house, The Winslow House, in River Forest, Illinois.

1896 John Phillip Sousa composes Stars and Stripes Forever.


1901 Theodore Roosevelt invites Booker T. Washington to the White House.

1903 Oliver Wright navigates the first powered flight of an aircraft at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

1905 Albert Einstein introduces his theory of relativity.

1906 The Jungle by Upton Sinclair exposes the meat packing industry in Chicago.

1912 The RMS Titanic strikes an iceberg and sinks on April 15.

1913 The 16th Amendment to the Constitution, establishing a Federal Income Tax, is ratified.

1914 Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand at Sarajevo initiates World War I.

Fourteen million immigrants have passed through Ellis Island, New York.

1915 The Lusitania is sunk by a German U-Boat, claiming the life of Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt.
Rosecliff Costume Exhibit Features 1970s Evening Fashions
By Charles J. Burns, Associate Curator

Join us this summer for a look at Newport fashion during the 1970s, inspired by a selection of photo albums from the collection of Mrs. Aletta Morris McBean (1912-1986), whose Newport summer cottage Chepstow is one of The Preservation Society of Newport County’s historic properties. The albums depict some of Mrs. McBean’s weekend cocktail and dinner parties held at Chepstow. Some of these dinners preceded Newport’s seasonal charity events of the era, as well as Newport’s Bicentennial celebrations in 1976. Mrs. McBean’s family members were long-standing Newport summer residents, a tradition she continued throughout her life, using Chepstow for the traditional three month summer season.

The exhibition is arranged around the concept of a 1970s dinner at a summer cottage, followed by another evening’s dinner/dancing at a seasonal charity event; hence, a house party weekend. The dresses shown might have been worn to parties at Mrs. McBean’s house, or elsewhere around the city during such occasions.

One evening ensemble designed by Malcolm Starr (circa 1970) was indeed worn by Mrs. McBean. It is a lime green tunic-style dress accented with elaborate yellow beading. Other well-known designers featured in the show include Hubert Givenchy and Christian Dior. Among the Givenchys are a flowing red chiffon evening dress with a horizontal-pleated bodice and a matching cape; the other is a classic solid black ensemble emblazoned with sparkling rhinestones along the neckline and cuffs. Both were worn by Mrs. Martha S. Crawford von Bulow. The show also features designs by Dimitri Kritsas, Arnold Scaasi, Halston, and Oscar de la Renta, that were worn by several of Newport’s leading ladies including Mrs. Otsie Charles, Mrs. Elinor Dorrance Ingersoll, Mrs. John G. Winslow and Mrs. John R. Drexel, III.

The fashions will be on display in the Lesley Bogert Crawford costume vitrines on the 2nd floor of Rosecliff through November 19.
Gardening Green
By Jeff Curtis, Director of Gardens and Grounds

The phrase “Going Green” is currently very popular. With the high price of oil and the threat of global warming, everyone is looking for ways to decrease his/her carbon footprint.

For several years the Gardens and Grounds Department has worked gradually to lessen the impact we have on the surrounding landscape by minimizing our dependence on commercial fertilizers and pesticides. For example, we compost our leaves and woodchips for use as mulch and have incorporated an integrated pest management system into our greenhouses and gardens. Integrated pest management is a technical way of saying that we use preventative measures to reduce our use of pesticides. To do this, we keep clean greenhouses and address pest problems at the first sign.

Our philosophy is that in order to reduce the use of pesticides, both in the greenhouses and outdoors, we must provide the healthiest environment for plant growth. A healthy landscape is more capable of withstanding physical stress such as insects and disease.

Homeowners can also use this philosophy when planting their own gardens. There are three key factors to consider when establishing a new garden at home. The first, and the most important, is site preparation. It requires quite a bit of labor if done properly. However, your hard work will be rewarded by enhanced plant growth. You must till to a proper depth, incorporate organic matter, and have the correct pH level for whatever you are planting. When purchasing plant material, consult your local garden center regarding your plants’ needs. This will help provide your plants with the nutrients that are already in the soil which will limit the amount of fertilizer needed during the growing season. If fertilizer is needed, there are many organic fertilizers on the market.

The second key to growing a healthy garden is selecting quality plant material. Plants that are healthy and have no signs of insects or disease will have a better chance of thriving in your garden. Disease and insects tend to strike weaker plants. Healthy plants will keep pests and disease at bay.

Finally, you should try to choose plant species that are native to your area. Native species have the ability to fight off disease and insects commonly found in their environment. Species from other climates require specific temperature ranges, nutrients and pH levels that may not be available in your area. As a result, these plants may suffer greater stress, thus attracting pests or disease.

If you are interested in altering your impact on the environment, consider these recommendations. But don’t feel you must do everything all at once. The Preservation Society’s Gardens and Grounds Department has taken a gradual and continuing approach to addressing this concern. We suggest that you do the same. Even small steps add up to provide important benefits to our environment.
How to consider a charitable gift annuity at this time

By Jim Roehm, Leadership & Legacy Gifts Officer

A long-time member inquires: “Does The Preservation Society of Newport County arrange gift plans that provide income as well as tax benefits for my spouse and me?” The answer is an enthusiastic yes. A charitable gift annuity agreement is a simple way to make a personally meaningful gift that provides payments that cannot be outlived for one or two people.

Typed on plain paper, charitable gift annuity agreements help people who are deeply interested in the Preservation Society make a larger gift than previously thought possible, because of the tax benefits and life-long annuity payments they receive in return. The donor enjoys the personal satisfaction of making an endowment gift today rather than “someday.”

In a time of volatile or diminished investment returns, a charitable gift annuity agreement allows a person to convert a low-dividend asset into predictable, fixed payments that are received on the same date, like clockwork. The agreements are backed by the entire assets of the Preservation Society of Newport County under the oversight of the Board of Trustees.

An example can illustrate the specific benefits. A member, age 78, considers a one-life $10,000 gift annuity agreement*. The annuity will be $670 annually, or 6.7%, for as long as she lives and wherever she lives. She is allowed a current charitable deduction of about $4,700. For the next decade, about $500 of the annuity will be free of income tax. When she no longer needs the annuity, a Preservation Society endowment fund is created in her name.

For “younger” people in their mid 50s to early 60s, a deferred payment gift annuity allows one to make a gift now that creates an additional, future source of retirement income. A member, age 58, can lock in an 8.2% one-life annuity payment to begin when he turns age 68. With this gift annuity option, anyone can supplement their “later on in retirement” payment sources.

Annuity rates are provided by the American Council on Gift Annuities (www.acga-web.org) as of July 1, 2008. Eligibility varies by state of residence.

To consider your own personalized example, please contact Jim Roehm in the Development Office by mail, telephone (401) 847-1000 extension 142, or e-mail: jroehm@newportmansions.org.

* This example uses the June 2009 discount rate of 2.8%. Two-life gift annuity rates are slightly lower due to longer life expectancy.

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Sargent Portrait of Cornelius Vanderbilt II Acquired

A John Singer Sargent portrait of Cornelius Vanderbilt II, painted in 1890, will shortly return to its original home at The Breakers. The portrait was acquired in late May at Sotheby’s New York’s sale of American Paintings, Drawing and Sculpture. The purchase was financed from the Preservation Society’s Collections Reserve, with additional funds pledged by Vanderbilt family descendants. The portrait depicts Mr. Vanderbilt bust-length in a black day suit against a neutral ground. The acquisition not only returns a key artistic work to the Preservation Society’s collections, but adds the first work by Sargent to be on public display in Newport.

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Make a difference in the lives that follow
Remembering Ralph E. Carpenter 1909-2009

During his remarkable life and multiple careers, Ralph Carpenter achieved more than most people could ever dream of doing. He was a preservationist extraordinaire, a fundraising magician, a visionary of the arts, and a sagacious collector. His beloved town of Newport bears tangible evidence of his talents and handiwork in the form of the restored Hunter House, Trinity Church, the White Horse Tavern, the Brick Market, and the Redwood Library.

Ralph was the longest living member of the Walpole Society and, among his many honors, a recipient of the Henry Francis duPont Award. Perhaps as important, however, was his ability to impart his enthusiasm for his many endeavors to others.

Trust, honesty, forthrightness, and passion were his basic tools.

– Dean F. Failey, Senior Director, Christie's
Show the World Your Support for Historic Preservation

By Ivan Colon,
Corporate Sales Manager

The Preservation Society, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company want you to help spread the word about preserving the places that matter in our lives, by sharing photos of your favorite historic sites.

“Let the world know that the historic houses of the Preservation Society matter,” said Preservation Society CEO and Executive Director Trudy Coxe. “Have your photo taken in front of your favorite Preservation Society property, and post it to the National Trust website, to show the world that the work we do here to preserve these properties for future generations is important and matters to you.”

The website “This Place Matters” is a venture of Fireman’s Fund® and the National Trust. It showcases the diverse places that matter to all of us and deserve to be protected. It features photos of people posing in front of their favorite historic places with a sign that reads “This Place Matters.” The sign can be downloaded from the National Trust website, www.preservationnation.org.

Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company is the loss prevention partner and insurance provider for the Preservation Society’s historic properties and a valuable sponsor of many of our activities. They specialize in understanding historic structures, valuable art collections and personal or business insurance needs.

“The excellent working relationship that we have developed with Fireman’s Fund has allowed us to continue our efforts with confidence that we are appropriately protected, especially in these times of such uncertainty in the financial and insurance markets,” said Coxe. “They have worked closely with us to make sure our properties are appropriately safeguarded against loss.”

Preservation Society CEO Trudy Coxe, John North, Deborah Coleman and Greg Nardone of Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company, and Preservation Society Corporate Sales Manager Ivan Colon make it known that the Preservation Society’s historic properties matter to them. Photo by Terry Dickinson

EMPLOYEE NEWS

Architectural Historian and Academic Programs Director John R. Tschirch is teaching a continuing education course on the history of landscape design at the Rhode Island School of Design this summer. The course will focus on Newport and the Preservation Society’s rich collection of gardens. See the calendar page 17.

A associate Curator Charles Burns traveled to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, in April to deliver a lecture on “The Golden Age: Decorative Arts and Architecture in Newport 1725-1776.” The lecture took place at Bayou Bend, built in the 1920s by architect John F. Staub.

Kristina Ebbit, a senior majoring in Textiles, Merchandising, and Design at the University of Rhode Island, is interning in the Conservation Department through the summer. She will be working with textile conservator Jessica Urick to help organize the Preservation Society’s textile storage space.

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2009 Calendar of Events

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 – SUNDAY, JUNE 28
The Newpord Flower Show
FRIDAY, JULY 10 – SUNDAY, JULY 12
Glorious Green: The Natural Path
Rosecliff

TUESDAY, JULY 14
Children’s Party
Green Animals Topiary Garden, 4 pm-8 pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15
Lecture: Splendor by the Sea: Newport Villas of the Gilded Age
Rosecliff, 11 am
Author Michael Katherns examines the architecture and ornament of Newport’s great villas.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4
The John Grenville Winslow Lecture: Hearst Castle
Rosecliff, 8 pm
Historian Victoria Kastner lectures on the remarkable life story of William Randolph Hearst.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 23
A Weekend of Coaching
19th century horse-drawn coaches participate in daily drives through the streets of Newport and the grounds of the Newport Mansions.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22
Coaching Dinner Dance
The Breakers
7:30 pm

MONDAY, AUGUST 24
Golf Outing, Dinner and Auction
Newport National Golf Club

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25
Panel Discussion: A Museum Directors Roundtable
The Breakers, 6:30 pm
The directors of America’s most distinguished Gilded Age museums get together for a wide-ranging discussion.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
End of summer Members’ Sale*
Newport Mansions Stores

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
Lecture: Lost Houses of Newport
Rosecliff, 11 am
Preservation Society Curator Paul Miller presents an illustrated talk highlighting over 50 former summer estates vanished from the Newport scene.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
Fall Family Festival
Green Animals Topiary Garden
10 am - 5 pm

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
Newport Mansions Wine & Food Festival
The Breakers and Marble House

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7
Lecture: Ocean Drive Revisited
Rosecliff, 11 am
Mack Woodward of the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission examines one of the most significant picturesque landscapes in America.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28
Lecture: Dumfries House - a Scottish Treasure House
Rosecliff, 11 am
Lady Cynthia Shaw Stewart gives us a look at a perfect 18th century house.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Pre-Thanksgiving Members’ Sale*
Newport Mansions Stores

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20 – SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010
Christmas at the Newport Mansions
The Breakers, The Elms and Marble House

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19
Holiday Dinner Dance
The Breakers

Visit www.NewportMansions.org for information, admission prices, and reservations, or call (401) 847-1000.

Landscape Design History-Focus on Newport, The Eden of America

JUNE 17, 24,
JULY 1, 8, 22, 29
10 am
424 Bellevue Avenue, Newport

The Preservation Society and Rhode Island School of Design present a continuing education lecture series led by instructor John R. T. Schirch, Architectural Historian of the Preservation Society.

This series traces the evolution of Western landscapes from ancient times to the present. Learn about the planning, horticulture, and cultural meaning of gardens as well as major designers who shaped the course of landscape history. Lecturer John Tschirch will share several images from his studies of gardens in Italy, France, Germany, England and Ireland, as well as Newport, during the series.

June 17: Ancient and Medieval Gardens
June 24: The Renaissance Garden
July 1: The Baroque Garden
July 8: The Picturesque Garden
July 22: The Romantic 19th Century Landscape
July 29: The Modern Garden

Admission: Preservation Society members $10 per lecture, non-members $15 per lecture. Advance registration requested. Register at www.NewportMansions.org, or call (401) 847-1000 ext. 154.

Schedule subject to change. Call or visit website for the most current information.

*Members enjoy 25% savings on all purchases.
Our Mission

Great houses connect people to a nation’s heritage and open windows to another age. The Preservation Society of Newport County is a non-profit organization whose mission is to protect, preserve, and present an exceptional collection of house museums and landscapes in one of the most historically intact cities in America. We hold in public trust the Newport Mansions which are an integral part of the living fabric of Newport, Rhode Island. These sites exemplify three centuries of the finest achievements in American architecture, decorative arts, and landscape design spanning the Colonial era to the Gilded Age. Through our historic properties, educational programs, and related activities we engage the public in the story of America’s vibrant cultural heritage. We seek to inspire and promote an appreciation of the value of preservation to enrich the lives of people everywhere.

PRESERVATION SOCIETY PROPERTIES

Arnold Burying Ground (1675)
Hunter House (circa 1748)
Kingscote (1839-1841)
Chateau-sur-Mer (1851-1852)
Green Animals Topiary Garden (circa 1860)
Chepstow (1860-1861)
Isaac Bell House (1881-1883)
424 Bellevue Avenue (1887-1888)
Marble House (1888-1892)
The Breakers (1893-1895)
The Breakers Stable & Carriage House (1895)
The Elms (1899-1901)
Rosecliff (1899-1902)
Rovensky Park (1959)

The Preservation Society of Newport County is accredited by the American Association of Museums, and its ten historic house museums are official projects of Save America’s Treasures.
SEPTEMBER 25 – 27, 2009
The Breakers & Marble House

- Special guests: Chef David Burke and “Dr. Vino” Tyler Colman
- Grand Tastings – Saturday & Sunday
- Celebrity Chef Cooking Tent
- Sunday Jazz Brunch
- A Vintage Evening at The Breakers
  Featuring a collectible wine auction
  Auction services provided by: CHRISTIE'S

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 20 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

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