Annual 09/10 Report

Restored Roof at Chateau-sur-Mer

A PUBLICATION OF THE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF NEWPORT COUNTY 2009 - 2010

"Me want to make sure that millions more people will have the opportunity to visit our museum properties and further enhance their experience with us in new and exciting ways." Lierre du Cont Trving

The Chairman's Report

By Pierre duPont Irving

Delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 17, 2010

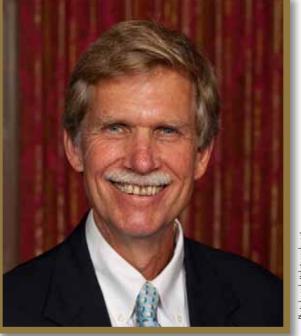
adies and gentlemen, good evening. This will be my final opportunity to address you as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. After five personally rewarding years in this office, the time has arrived for me to step down. At the close of this meeting Don Ross will become the next Chairman of the Board of Trustees and I couldn't be more delighted. I step down knowing that the Preservation Society will be in good hands.

There are six trustees who will be rotating off the board with me this year. They are Ron Fleming, Joe Hammer, Leila Jenkins, Frank Ray, Pat Stensrud, and Keith Stokes. I thank you all and the entire board for your volunteer efforts, wise counsel, and support of our organization.

Earlier this year we sadly lost one of our most valued trustees, Jay Humphrey. He served on our Finance Committee and spearheaded the work on our benefit plans. Knowledgeable and thoughtful with a self-deprecating sense of humor, Jay knew how to get people to work together in a cooperative manner under challenging circumstances. We are honored to have Jay's wife Kammy and son Will with us here tonight. May we please have a moment of silence for Jay.

The employees and senior staff of the Preservation Society manage this organization professionally and to the highest standards. It takes a lot of talent to manage an organization of this size which relies on a number of volunteers. I thank them all, employees and volunteers alike, for their dedication and hard work.

I want to especially thank our Executive Director and CEO Trudy Coxe for working so closely with me and the Board of Trustees. Trudy possesses an extraordinary amount of energy and initiative, and she has done a remarkable job of guiding the



Preservation Society forward into the 21st century. The Preservation Society is fortunate to have her at the helm. It has been my pleasure to work with her.

My wife Kathy told me that if I didn't thank her she would throw a tomato at me. It really has been a joy to have her by my side. The staff is probably fonder of her than me. Now that she is stepping down as the Chairman's wife, she's afraid she'll suffer from FOMO, Fear Of Missing Out. Don't worry, Kath. That will never happen to you.

The Board first elected me as a trustee of the Preservation Society in 1986. I would like to take this opportunity to reminisce a bit and reflect upon my experience with this great organization.

As a brand new Board member, I first stepped over the threshold of the front door and into the offices of the Preservation Society exactly 24 years ago. They were located at 118 Mill Street then, in the private home Katherine Warren had generously donated to the Society. You probably don't know that prior to that it was Trudy Coxe's great-grandmother's home.

Mill Street was too small for full meetings of the Board of Trustees, so they were of necessity held in the bigger houses. Back then, there was no Development Department and no Annual Fund. John Winslow was the President and Chairman and he ran the organization in his own unique and inimitable fashion, with an artful political astuteness that more than made up for their non-existence.

Monique Pannagio managed the Preservation Society's publicity all by herself, and she hated to spend money. If it wasn't free, it didn't interest her, and she did do a remarkable job of getting the word out about the Newport Mansions into many publications nationwide.

The Elms Sunken Garden was literally and figuratively sunken. What remained provided a perfect venue for the beloved Elms Fair. There was no danger of trampling any planting since the garden no longer existed. The Elms Fair was the fundraising event for the season that year. The Preservation Society was the acknowledged master of gala events.

The houses all had mothers. Well, they didn't really have mothers. But it felt to me like each one had a mother who watched over it carefully with her house committee.

Chepstow and the Isaac Bell House were still in private hands. As has always been the case with any house that the Preservation Society eventually acquired, both needed work.

Total revenues and expenses were a little over 3.4 million dollars. Membership had just broken 3,000. Visitation accounted for a whopping 78% of revenue, a very high percentage which was of concern to the Board. Other sources of revenue needed to be found. Maintaining the properties that year cost \$629,000. Fifty full-time employees were working for the

Society; records for part timers don't go back that far. Deferred maintenance for all the properties, although we didn't know it at the time which was probably just as well, was over 14 million dollars and counting. Our endowment was just over 6 million dollars, less than double our annual revenues and very small for an organization like ours.

If you were a visitor in 1986, you could choose to tour among 9 houses and every tour was conducted by a guide. In high season at The Breakers there was often a long waiting line. If you got hungry, you were unfortunately out of luck, although you could get something to drink. The Breakers was famous for having the highest grossing Coca-Cola® machine in southern New England. It also had an odorific public bathroom. You could shop at a small store in The Breakers, but nowhere else.

There were popular field trips and lectures which were offered to our members, and the first of many costume exhibits was put on display.

As I look back to that time when I first became involved, and compare it to where we are now as we are gathered here this evening, what impresses me is how the Preservation Society has continued to mature as a vibrant cultural institution. A lot of strategic planning has gone into it. Building needs and collections needs have been quantified. Business liabilities have been addressed. The Preservation Society was the first non-profit in Rhode Island to move to health savings accounts, which has allowed for more control over health insurance premiums. Our defined benefit plan has been replaced by a defined contribution plan. Departments have been reorganized to maximize the effectiveness of our museum mission and visitor experience.

Today, having outgrown Katherine Warren's house, the administrative offices of the Preservation Society have moved to the Pell Building at 424 Bellevue Avenue, our former Executive Director Toby Pell's grandfather's home. Trudy Coxe's office is

> in Toby's father's old bedroom. Newport is, at heart, a small town.

The Preservation Society is now able to offer a far richer experience to its visitors and members than was available when I was a new trustee. Audio tours incorporating the latest in technology help to recreate the living history of the largest houses. When the new audio tour was inaugurated at The

Breakers last year, the lines disappeared. Specialty tours can be arranged. A behind-the-scenes tour at The Elms is very popular. The audio tours can be listened to in four languages, and many of our tours are available in written form in additional languages. Most recently they have been translated into Mandarin Chinese and Korean.

In addition to the famous Breakers Coke® machine, food and snacks are now available to our visitors at The Elms Carriage House and the Marble House Tea House. Today, a visitor won't go away hungry. Upscale museum stores with modern bathrooms are in each of the big houses and downtown at Bannister's Wharf.

Marble House is the venue for the new Gavet exhibit, which has brought over 350 paintings, sculptures and decorative works of art back to their home in the Gothic Room. In conjunction with the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, it is the most ambitious exhibit that the Preservation Society has ever put on.

Educational offerings have grown tremendously over the years. The Newport Symposium provides a unique educational forum for members and visitors who are interested in the decorative arts. There are numerous lectures and forums held throughout the year. Our web site offers scholarly research articles, video and audio podcasts and is being continually expanded.

With the help and guidance of the Development Department, the Annual Fund, gifts and grants, and membership revenues totaled two and a half million dollars, an amount more than two-thirds the size of total revenues in 1986.

The Newport Flower Show, which raises funds for gardens and grounds, has become an institution in itself which draws gardeners from all over. It is the only open air flower show remaining in America. The Wine and Food Festival brings in additional funding

for Preservation Society operations. Corporate sponsorship has become an integral part of these activities as they have grown.

Last year's revenues and expenses were 16 million dollars. Membership has increased dramatically. Visitation was 43% of total revenues, a more comfortable percentage for the Board and staff. Keeping up the properties and grounds cost about 3.9 million dollars. The

Preservation Society had

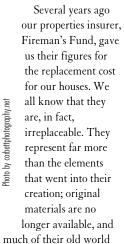
97 full-time, and 232 part-time employees. Deferred maintenance has been quantified and reduced significantly, to about 1.7 million dollars. Our endowment at the fiscal year end in March had grown to 28 million dollars, still less than double the size of our annual revenues and comparatively small for an organization of our size.

Much of the increased revenue the Preservation Society has generated over the years has been devoted to house and museum activities. The Preservation Society is no less committed to promoting historic preservation than it has been since its inception. We continue to work diligently towards that end. As I speak, the Preservation Society is closely involved with proposed revisions to the Historic District Ordinance for Newport and trying to protect historic fences and walls along Bellevue Avenue. Most importantly, our houses serve to exemplify the value of historic preservation to all our visitors. These iconic houses, their collections, and their gardens constitute a unique, living museum in situ in the City of Newport.

Since they first opened to the public in 1948, over 30 million people have walked through the doors of the Preservation Society's houses. At the height of the summer season, the Newport Mansions draw more visitors than any other cultural institution in New England. Admissions last year were over 780,000. I never cease to be amazed when I see numbers like that. After all, I think, Newport is at heart a small town. The public clearly respects and values our museum properties. Over the course of time I daresay the Preservation Society has become a venerable institution.

We want to make sure that millions more people will have the opportunity to visit our museum properties and further enhance their experience with us in new and exciting ways. As an organization, we want to learn, we want to educate, we want to excel. We are not suffering from any lack of ideas. All we need

are the resources to put them to work. We are a vibrant institution.



Pierre Irving turns over the helm to Donald O. Ross at the Annual Meeting.

craftsmanship cannot be recreated. I want to bring up this number to give you an idea of the monumental task ahead of us to preserve and protect our buildings. The replacement value of the houses alone, not their collections or landscaping, is over 750 million dollars. Just imagine the expense to keep up a 750 million dollar home. To date, the restoration cost for all of the Preservation Society's houses has exceeded 51 million dollars. The financial challenges are immense. We must do whatever is necessary to assure success in this endeavor. This is where the Preservation Society is vulnerable.

As I prepare to step down, I am so impressed by what our founders and those who followed them have accomplished. When I look at the Preservation Society today these three words come to mind: venerable, vibrant, and vulnerable. The Preservation Society is a unique, remarkable, and wonderful organization that has touched the lives of many, many people. Let us do what we can to assure that many, many more will be touched in the future.

I thank you all for the privilege of working with you. It has been my pleasure.



Pierre Irving, Toby Pell, Helen Winslow, Jerry Slocum and Armin Allen

CEO & Executive Director's Report

By Trudy Coxe

Delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 17, 2010



The Directors of some of America's most distinguished Gilded Age museums gathered at The Breakers for a unique public roundtable discussion. From left, Joel Hoffman of Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami; Gary Vikan of The Walters Art Museum in Baltimore; Anne Poulet of The Frick Collection, New York; Trudy Coxe of The Preservation Society of Newport County; Anne Hawley of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston: Bill Bodine of the Frick Art & Historical Center in Pittsburgh, and John Blades of the Flagler Museum in Palm Beach.



Guests examine jewelry and other objects included in the Gothic Art exhibit at Marble House.

- of people we have attracted, I'll mention two: Richard
- 3. We are forging a very promising relationship with Bryant University and its Chinese Institute and as a result, a Chinese art historian will spend a year here, researching our collection of Chinese artifacts at Kingscote and Chateau-sur-Mer-a first-of-its-kind research project for us.
- 2. We continue to refine the organizational structure in order to better accomplish our mission, with two new departments created in the last year - the Department of Museum Experience and the Department of Museum Affairs, which incorporates the functions of Academic Programs, Curatorial and Conservation.

And finally, number 1 on our Top Ten list is the fact that

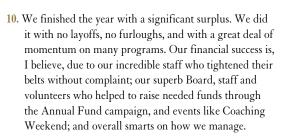


Board, I will be losing a very good partner and colleague. I have been blessed over the last decade to work phone and through meetings, John Winslow, and, for the past five years, Pierre Irving. I have enjoyed every single minute. there's never been a reason to feel discouraged or fearful; only hopeful and optimistic. He's been a great captain of the Preservation Society ship, and I ask you to join me in a round of applause for Pierre.

world, that's huge. What I'm going to do tonight is to share with that has helped propel us forward.

"The goal is ...to be a center of excellence for the stewardship of historic sites; to be a leading educational resource and research center for visitors and students from around the world; and, to be a nationally-significant advocate for preservation"

Trudy Coxe



- 9. We did some really neat preservation projects big ones that included restoring the front gates at The Breakers and preserving the roof at Chateau-sur-Mer, a project that will be complete at the end of July after five long years.
- 8. We had a banner year for attendance. Total admissions grew by 4.7%, to over 780,000. That is the highest rate of growth in more than a decade, the highest total admissions since fiscal year 2004, and the third consecutive year of admissions growth.
- 7. Our membership reached 23,870.
- 6. We debuted one of the most significant exhibitions in the Preservation Society's history – the return to the Gothic Room of Alva Vanderbilt's original collection of Medieval and Renaissance art and artifacts.
- 5. The new audio tour at The Breakers received rave reviews, starting with The Newport Daily News and The New York Times. In about 2 weeks we'll be debuting another new audio tour of The Breakers, designed specifically for 8-10 year olds. And my greatest worry is that it'll be more fun than the adult tour.
- 4. We have created an International Council of distinguished individuals that will be chaired by the head of the National Gallery, Rusty Powell, and our former Chair, Armin Allen. Just to give you an idea of the caliber

Moe, who is retiring as President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; and Dame Fiona Reynolds, Director General of the National Trust of England.

we had Pierre at the helm this past year!



his is a bittersweet night for me, because with Pierre's Irving's imminent departure as Chairman of the with four great Chairs: Jerry Slocum and Armin Allen, and by Pierre and I have been through all sorts of challenges - many of them - and because of Pierre's leadership style and temperament,

It's been a tremendous year for us, and, given the state of the you my Top Ten list of Preservation Society accomplishments, and then take a few minutes to look ahead 25 years, much as Pierre reflected back on the last 25. I hope that you'll conclude that you're supporting a great cause and that it is your support



At the Newport Symposium: His Excellency Mr. Pierre Vimont, Ambassador of France to the U.S., Trudy Coxe, Donald Ross and John Tschirch.

So, here we are: strong financially; a tremendously talented and committed Board (and I look forward to working with Don and the new Board); and, a staff that is professional, hardworking and creative, and brimming over with passion for their work.

I have to say that I am very optimistic about our future. We've spent many months laying out a vision for what the Preservation Society will be in 25 years, in preparation for a comprehensive campaign that will help sustain the Preservation Society for the century to come. And the goal is straightforward: to be a center of excellence for the stewardship of historic sites; to be a leading educational resource and research center for visitors and students from around the world; and, to be a nationally-significant advocate for preservation.

As everyone here knows, our challenge is monumental. Caring for 33 buildings, 82 acres of gardens and grounds, 1,800 specimen trees, and 40,000 objects is no small task.

So, imagine our future if you will. We see thousands of school children enjoying a behind-the-scenes tour of the basement at

The Breakers, where they will learn how that building was constructed, or the Isaac Bell House, where they'll learn how that house was preserved. And they're having fun.

We see student researchers and young scholars flocking to Newport to help us uncover how The Breakers was built so quickly, who the craftsmen and artisans who labored here were, and who designed the landscape at Kingscote, a real Victorian gem.

We see these young researchers – who will be museum leaders in the future – bunking down in a newly-restored carriage house at The Elms after a hard day of work.

We see our landscapes recognized as the finest arboretum in America.

We see a real Visitors Center, not a tent, to welcome our guests.

We see our staff working out of a state-of-the-art conservation and collections storage facility, created in concert with other institutions like the Redwood Library, to solve a common museum problem: how and where to store our collections.

We see our endowment 2.5 times larger than it is right now so that we can recover lost collection objects when they become available in the marketplace, or make emergency repairs when we have to.

Finally, we see the preservation ethic in Newport so strong that we'll never have to worry about whether unsightly chain link fences will dominate historic Bellevue Avenue, the most beautiful road in America. Right now, under the current law, we could take down the gates and fence at Marble House and replace them with chain link.

Dreaming? Hardly. This "shared vision" is much more than a dream. It is our beloved institution's destiny, one that Katherine Warren would have been proud of, and with your help and support one we will endeavor to realize.

Thank you



Tour guide Ray Roy with the Governor of Bermuda, Sir Richard Gozney, and Lady Gozney, after giving them a tour of Marble House.



Magnificent historic trees are among the outstanding features of the Preservation Society's landscapes.





Treasurer's Report

By Donald O. Ross

Delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 17, 2010

am happy to report that the Preservation Society had an excellent year from a financial point of view for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010. These have been exceedingly difficult times in the museum world, and we seem to have made it through thus far in better shape than many of our peers. That being said, we certainly remain vigilant on the expense front, and are always looking at ways to enhance our financial condition.

The budget that we structured for the fiscal year just ended was developed and reworked during the first two months in early 2009. I am sure you all will recall that the country and the world were faced with the most dire financial conditions since the 1930s. It was in that environment that we made a decision to scale back our forecast for admission revenue by 5%. We then looked at ways to cut expenses without any layoffs.

The results: on total revenues of \$16.1 million, we achieved a surplus of \$332,000 for the year ended March 31. We actually had a 4.7% increase in visits to our properties, which resulted in admission revenues being 12.5% better than budget. (Admissions continue to represent about 40% of our overall budget.) In addition, memberships contributed \$830,000, which was an increase of almost 12% over the 2009 figure. Further, we had our most successful Annual Fund ever, raising \$633,000. We owe an enormous thanks to Angela Fischer and George Warren who, yet again, put in untold hours and smart

thinking to make this year's effort a great success. Overall on the gift front, we received \$3.7 million in cash and non-cash gifts, which was an increase of \$400,000 over the prior year. Many, many thanks to all of you who contributed so generously yet again.

Partially as a result of our better-than-expected admissions, as well as careful planning, our stores netted about \$240,000, which represented a 75% improvement over last year, and far, far better than budgeted. Actual store sales were up more than the associated expenses, meaning our margins in the stores were higher. That's no small feat in the current environment. And, last year, the Coaching Weekend was extremely successful, and contributed better than expected to our revenue picture.

On the expense front, strong fiscal controls kept the budget extraordinarily in line.

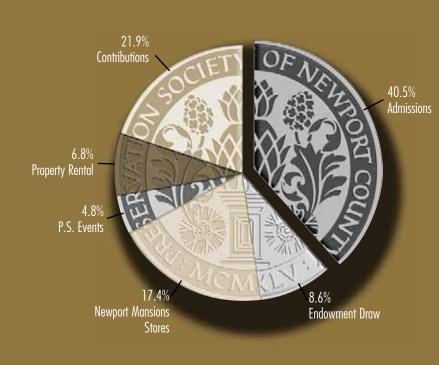
The net results were that we actually had a balanced budget before drawing anything from our endowment. We typically draw 5% of a three year average balance figure, but last year drew slightly less in order to allow the endowment more chance to recover from the ravages of the bear market. The endowment, which is very well diversified amongst a variety of asset classes, was very much improved and had a total net return of 36% for the year ended March 31. Our capital expenditures were \$1.6 million last year, as we decided

to push forward the completion of the Chateau-sur-Mer roof, when we had a chance for a lower price from the contractors in return for stepping up the schedule. Other major project expenses included the creation of the audio tour for The Breakers, which we view as a strategic investment, and which has been very well received. We also made a strategic decision to change the structure of our employee retirement benefits, which necessitated a \$1.8 million borrowing to switch to a defined contribution plan. While this puts pressure on our balance sheet for a while, the long-term implications are expected to be positive for all parties.

Again, we went through agonizing budget discussions earlier this year, and are working towards a balanced budget and debt reduction. After deferring pay raises for a year, we did implement salary enhancements for our extremely hard-working, very dedicated and extraordinarily-talented staff. I cannot emphasize enough how pleased the Board is with the efforts of the entire team. We have major challenges ahead of us over the next few years, with continued capital projects and maintenance. We have to be creative in ways to showcase our houses, with exhibits such as the Gothic Exhibit at Marble House, and further ways to develop our reputation as the source of knowledge for the things that are important to us: architectural history, restoration and conservation techniques, landscapes, collections within house museums, as well as preservation advocacy. But I believe we are well positioned to meet these challenges and opportunities.

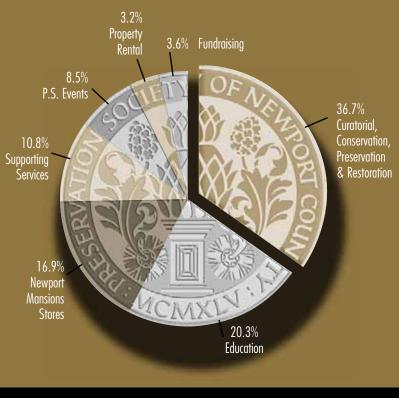
So far this year, we seem to be on the right track and are within our budget.

I want to specifically thank Jim Burress, our Finance Director, and his team who year after year continue to impress us— and also the members of the Finance Committee. After 21 years on the Committee and chairing it for the last five, I will be stepping down, and handing the baton to Monty Burnham, who has been thoroughly involved in the Committee for several years. But I won't be far away.



Revenue

Admissions	40.5%
Contributions	21.9%
Newport Mansions Stores	17.4%
Endowment Draw	8.6%
Property Rental	6.8%
Pres. Society Events	4.8%



EXPENSES

Curatorial, Conservation, Preservation & Restoration	36.7%
Education	20.3%
Newport Mansions Stores	16.9%
Supporting Services	10.8%
Pres. Society Events	8.5%
Property Rental	3.2%
Fundraising	3.6%

Thank you.

Antiquarian Awara

For Distinguished Tervice and Untiring Devotion to the Mork of The Preservation Tociety of Newport County



Pierre duPont Irving, with his wife Kathy and son Michael

Pierre duPont Irving has been a calm and deliberative force in the development of The Preservation Society of Newport County for nearly a quarter of a century. Beginning with his election to the Board of Trustees in 1986, through his service as Treasurer, Vice Chairman, and ultimately Chairman of the Board, he has provided dependable and thoughtful leadership on issues of significance facing the organization, and helped it grow into the internationally-recognized and accredited museum complex it is today.

Through the years of his devoted volunteer service, Pierre has been especially influential on the Preservation Society's fiscal policies, helping to oversee the growth of our budget from approximately 3.5 million dollars to approximately 17 million dollars today.

Under his direct leadership, the Preservation Society created its multi-year strategic plan - a comprehensive roadmap for how we will operate, grow, and remain relevant into the 21st century.

Pierre has worked tirelessly over the years to ensure that the Preservation Society properties, each an important cultural landmark helping to define our national heritage, are preserved and made available for interpretation by present and future generations.

Pierre was also actively involved in the Public Policy Committee, helping to extend the influence of the Preservation Society statewide as the Society worked to support legislation in support of state historic preservation tax credits, and locally, the hiring of an historic preservation planner for the City of Newport. Within Newport County itself, Pierre is helping to make the Preservation Society an influential partner with the City of Newport and local organizations to preserve the historic character and quality of life of our city.

Equipped with a warm smile and a down-to-earth sense of humor, Pierre is as much at home mingling with staff at the employee picnic, as discussing the intricacies of finance in the Board Room. His approachability and his genuine interest in the concerns of Trustees, members, employees, and volunteers are much appreciated by all.

For all of these reasons, and for his overall devotion to the Preservation Society over twenty-four years of faithful volunteer service, as well as his ongoing appreciation for the value of historic preservation, we are honored to confer on Pierre duPont Irving the Antiquarian Award for Distinguished Service and Untiring Devotion to the Work of The Preservation Society of Newport County.

Given at Newport, Rhode Island This 17th day of June, 2010

Donald O. Ross The Preservation Society of Newport County

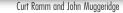


Recognition of Outstanding Vervice, Artisanship or Leadership

The Laurel Award is given annually by the Preservation Society in recognition of outstanding service, artisanship or leadership in support of its mission. This year, three Laurel Awards were bestowed at the Annual Meeting in June.

> Curt Ramm For Artisanship











Kate Gubelmann and Pierre Irvir

David Dangremond

Newport Mansions DVD.

For Volunteerism

In recognition of his years of leadership and involvement with The Newport Symposium, making it an internationally-acclaimed forum for the discussion of art and cultural history.

In recognition of his masterful artistry - weaving voices, music and sound into tapestries of mood and message - in the criticallyacclaimed audio tours of The Breakers and our interpretive

Kate Gubelmann For Horticulture

In recognition of her commitment over the years to preserving Newport's landscape history, including the establishment of The Newport Flower Show, the restoration of Miss Wetmore's garden at Chateau-sur-Mer, and most recently the re-publication of the classic book Newport in Flower.



Howard Fafard, David Lindh and Madlyn Fafard

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\$10,000-\$24,999

April 1, 2009–March 31, 2010

The Preservation Society is grateful for the support of its many members and friends. Your ongoing generosity is critical to accomplishing our mission of preserving Newport's architectural and cultural heritage.

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS CHAMPIONS OF PRESERVATION \$100,000 and above Mr. and Mrs. A. Leslie Ballard Mr. David B. Ford

\$50,000-\$99,999 Mr. Dayton T. Carr Mr. and Mrs. Eugene B. Roberts, Jr. The Estate of Harold B. Werner

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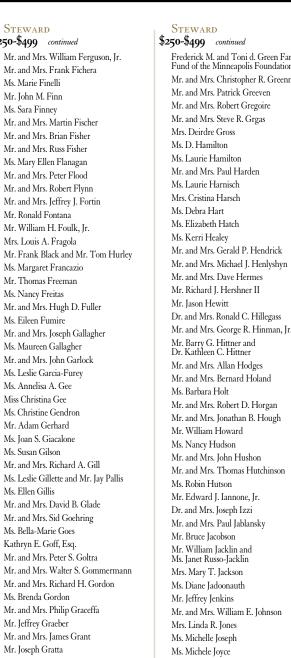
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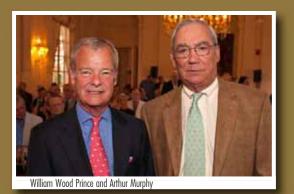
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A bequest provision represents exceptional support of historic preservation as part of a person's social legacy. The Conservators Circle honors these individuals for their far-sighted commitments.

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Conservation Assistant John Bartosh re-assembles fragments of the Chateau-sur-Mer stair hall ceiling.

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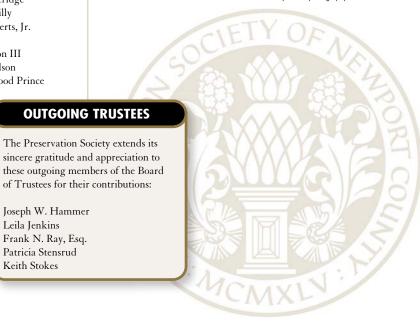
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Standing, left to right: William Wood Prince, Duncan Chapman, William Lucey, Peter Damon, Arthur Murphy, Richard Loebs, Jr., Mark Watson, David Lindh, John Muggeridge

Not Pictured: Carol Ballard, Monty Burnham, Angela Brown Fischer, David Ford, Andrew Reilly, Eugene Roberts, Jr., Mary Van Pelt, William F. Wilson

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2009-2010 Annual Report Andrea Carneiro Editor: Roskelly Inc. Design: Printing: Meridian Printing

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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.

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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) Front Cover: Roof detail, Chateau-sur-Mer Roskelly Inc

Inside Front Cover: Chateau-sur-Mer Roskelly Inc

Back Cover: The Newport Flower Show Opening Night Party corbettphotography.net



1. Guests at the Coaching Ball dined under an elegantly-decorated tent on the terrace of The Breakers

2. Thousands enjoyed the coaching demonstration at The Elms

3. Gary and Angela Moore

- 4. The Easter Bunny greeted fans at Rosecliff
- 5. A Chinese dance troupe enchanted guests at The Breakers
- 6. Kim Herrlinger, Diana Sylvaria and Paul Szápáry
- 7. Marion "Oatsie" Charles was honored as a co-founder of the Newport Flower Show
- 8. A topiary lion looked over the front lawn of Rosecliff at the Newport Flower Show
- 9. Minnie and James Coleman
- 10. Auctioneer George McNeely of Christie's at the Newport Mansions Wine & Food Festival 11. Topsy Taylor and John Peixinho
- 12. Jacques Pépin cooked for the crowd at the Newport Mansions Wine & Food Festival



Thank you to our donors for their charitable contributions to the Preservation Society's mission.





The Newport Daily News

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