

As the Annual Report was going to press, the Preservation Society family was saddened to learn of the death of Chairman Emeritus John Grenville Winslow. Mr. Winslow, an acknowledged authority on the history of Newport, served as President and Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1977 to 1989, guiding the Preservation Society through a period of significant expansion.

The next issue of the Newport Gazette will feature a look at some of Mr. Winslow's greatest contributions to the preservation of Newport's rich artistic and architectural heritage.



The Chairman's Report

By Donald O. Ross

Remarks delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 16, 2011

ood evening and welcome to the 2011 Annual Meeting. I'm Donald Ross, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Preservation Society of Newport County. This is our 65th Annual Meeting—and my first as your Chairman.

I have served on the Board since 1989, with one year off in the '90s, and chaired the Finance Committee for the five years preceding my term as Chairman. During my term on the Board, I have served on a variety of committees and seen many ups and downs in our organization. We've come through a period when our deferred maintenance was \$12 million, the economy was falling or crashing, and the outlook was for one very expensive roof re-do after the next. We worried about attendance—and then re-budgeting in mid-year—far too many times.

This evening I bring you some good news.

I am very happy to report that the fiscal year which ended March 31, while not devoid of worries, turned into a very good year in many respects. And it was a continuation of the good period we had the prior fiscal year. I want to congratulate everyone on a terrific job well done—actually a superb job well done.

Over the next few minutes, I want to put the year's achievements, events and milestones in perspective, highlighting a few key items. Some of these things were years in the making, but taken together, tell us that we are staying very true to our mission and are well positioned for the next several years.

While we all know that our Board's responsibility is to preserve and protect these historic houses and their grounds, the early mission was clearly broader than that, and reflected a time before we actually had the portfolio of these homes. One section of our current mission statement is particularly important. "Through our historic properties, educational programs, and related activities, we engage the public in the story of America's vibrant and cultural heritage." With the completion or near-completion of a number of structural preservation efforts, effective managing of the financial plans, and good attendance (which funds 40% or so of our budget), we are now in a position to have greater focus on our collections, our landscapes, our research and our education efforts. And, importantly, advocacy as it relates to preservation, landscapes and various issues, which can involve public policy initiatives, that fit



within our mission. You will hear tonight about some of our strategic initiatives that we plan to undertake over the next several years, but first I would like to tell you about and show you some of the important events which shaped our efforts over the last year.

One of our most significant achievements was the Gothic Art in the Gilded Age exhibition at Marble House, which was enjoyed by over 120,000 people. This collection, which had been acquired by Alva Vanderbilt, made up the largest such exhibition ever presented by the Preservation Society, and a collaboration years in the making with The Ringling Museum in Sarasota, Florida. The exhibition would not have been possible without the support of The Kress Foundation, The Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust, Gene and Lynn Roberts, and David Ford.

The extraordinary teamwork it took to mount this exhibit was what we have come to expect day in and day out here at the Preservation Society - involving every department, from curatorial to conservation, from properties to special events to museum experience. I know many staff members were involved, led by Trudy Coxe, our CEO and Executive Director, but I do want to specifically thank Paul Miller, our head curator, and Jeff Moore, our chief conservator, for their efforts.

In addition to being a reason for visitors to come back to Marble House, this exhibition also elevated our exposure within the overall museum community for the quality of the research and collaboration involved. It's just too bad that the collection had to return to Florida.

I should mention that from time to time items from our own collections go on the road. While not within the last 12 months, not too long ago we did loan several pieces, including the Gilbert Stuart painting from Hunter House, to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York for their John Townsend exhibit. Here in Newport last year we collaborated with the Newport Art Museum by lending them certain items from our collections for the Japan Craze exhibit, and we will again this year work together on another special exhibit.

The real milestone on the preservation front, however, was the completion of the Chateausur-Mer roof and exterior restoration project. After five years and \$2.1 million, Chateau stands proud. I want to thank the major supporters of this effort: The 1772 Foundation, The Brown Foundation, Inc.,

Felicia Fund, Inc., Ford Family Foundation, Hope Foundation, Save America's Treasures, Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission, Sachem Foundation, The Champlin Foundation, and the van Beuren Charitable Foundation. And we commend Crocker Architectural Company for taking on the job and completing a complicated restoration brilliantly.

Even as the exterior work was going on, our conservators were restoring the collapsed ceiling above the main staircase, which has now been put back in place; as have the torcheres at the foot of the grand staircase, which has put a dazzling exclamation point on the Chateau-sur-Mer project. The icing on the cake: the Victorian Society in America has awarded us its prestigious Preservation Award for the excellence of the restoration!

We also took some big steps forward in interpreting our permanent collection. We followed the original audio tour at The Breakers with a Family Tour aimed at engaging children in visiting the house. Here is what one visitor wrote to us about taking the tour with her 4 and 6 year old daughters:

"We were amazed at how much the girls enjoyed their audio family tour. Our oldest daughter, Paige, said, 'Mom! The house was talking to me!' It brought the experience to life for them, and made them want to learn about history. It was such a pleasure to see the girls enjoying it."

When guests tell us things like that, then we know that we are reaching people in the right way, giving them an educational experience, not just a tourist experience.

We have also expanded our audio tours to include Rosecliff, completing the full cycle of audio experiences envisioned more than a decade ago when we began investing in this form of educational interpretation. The audio tour includes voices ranging from Sam White, the great grandson of the architect



Chairman Donald O. Ross accepts the Victorian Society in America's Preservation Award for the restoration of Chateau-sur-Mer from John Simonelli and Tina Strauss of the VSA Board. Photo by Andrea Carneiro

Stanford White, to David Leys, one of our long time trustees, reminiscing about the day as a young boy when he saw firsthand the damage caused to the ceilings and floors of this beautiful house by a burst water pipe.

Speaking of Rosecliff, on your way out tonight please take a look at the marble steps along the front of the house. They were restored earlier this year, just another example of the day-to-day work that goes on to maintain our houses in the best possible condition, to ensure that they can be sustained into the future.

The work on The Breakers gates reached another milestone with the completion of the pedestrian gates on the north side, funded

by a generous gift from The Loebs Family Foundation. The remarkable work by Lodi Welding from Hackettstown, NJ on the Ochre Point Avenue entrance gates brought us a Rhody Award from the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission and Preserve RI. Work on the main north gates and the Cliff Walk gates continues –funded by The Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust.

We also completed The Bellevue Avenue History Trail in co-operation with former trustee David Bazarsky, Aram Garabedian, the Newport Restoration Foundation and Salve Regina University. The trail is a series of interpretive panels which run from Memorial Boulevard all the way to Rough Point, depicting many lost buildings from Bellevue Avenue's past and explaining the survival of many of those that remain. Former trustee Ron Fleming conceived of and funded this series of 11 markers that are being enjoyed daily by visitors and Newporters alike. John Tschirch, our head of Museum Affairs, played an important role in the scripting of these markers. And the City of Newport just gave this group of collaborators an award for this effort.

We are fond of reporting on the completion of projects at annual meetings, but often a project begun is just as important as one completed. That is the case with the conservation of the lacquer panels in the breakfast room of The Elms. After an extensive and detailed planning phase funded in part by the Getty Foundation, the actual restoration work is underway, with grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, the Berwind Fund, the Berwind Corporation, the Felicia Fund, and John Brooks. We expect that the lacquer panel project may take another couple of years before the breakfast room is put back in "working" order.

Another project "beginning" that we are celebrating is the creation of an Historic Structures Report for Hunter House, perhaps the least understood building in our collection. Thanks to a generous grant from the van Beuren Charitable Foundation, we will learn things about the construction of Hunter House that we never knew before.

There was another milestone that may not have as much pizzazz as researching Hunter House or conserving The Elms panels, but it is nevertheless as important. And that is a major investment in technology, to digitize our membership and general admissions systems.

From purchasing a membership or tickets online, to booking a date for an event at Rosecliff, making plans to attend the wine and food festival, reserving a behind-the-scenes tour at The Elms, or ordering snacks at The Elms Carriage House and the Chinese Tea house—it is all now on one integrated computer system. And we have trustee John Muggeridge and the Fidelity Foundation, and, again, the Institute of Museum and Library Services to thank for bringing us further into the 21st century. Our strategic plan continues to envision technology spending for the future to enhance our operations and the visitors' experience.

Part of our mission is "to inspire people to an appreciation of the importance of historic preservation." Clearly, in order to do that, first we have to get them here. And they are coming, despite the turbulence of the national economy. We experienced the 4th consecutive year of admissions growth, and finally saw a return of visitation to the levels we experienced before the events of 9/11.

More than 800,000 times last year, a visitor stepped into one of our houses. They came from all 50 states and more than 20 countries. Admission revenue was more than \$400,000 ahead of budget and is approaching \$8 million annually. Total visitation growth for fiscal year 2011 was 2.7% above the previous year. Membership revenue also grew and we now have over 23,000 members.

One way that you know things are going well is when other people want to be associated with your efforts. Discussed amongst Board members for several years as a concept, last year we decided to move forward and establish an International Council. And we actually did attract 35 of the best and brightest leaders from around the world in the fields of the arts, historic preservation, and landscapes to serve on our newly formed Council. We've gathered this group of individuals from around the globe to give them a forum to discuss issues that they see in their professional and volunteer lives relating to the subjects that are near and dear to our hearts at the PS. They will also be very helpful for our research and education efforts, as well as providing insight as to global issues that affect cultural heritage organizations like ours, and they can serve as international ambassadors for the Preservation Society.

This is a very impressive group of people. Armin Allen, a past Chair of the Preservation Society, serves as co-chair of the Council, along with Rusty Powell, known to many Newporters, who is the Director of the National Gallery in Washington.

Members include Richard Guy Wilson, who chairs the University of Virginia Architectural History Department, and who delivered a terrific lecture here recently on Messrs. McKim, Mead & White, and Dick Moe, who recently stepped down as the Chairman of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. We also have Dame Fiona Reynolds, who is Director General of the National Trust in Great Britain, and Sir Hugh Roberts, who only just retired from his role as the Director of the Royal Collection and Surveyor of the Queen's Works of Art.

Also Bonnie Burnham, President of the World Monuments Fund; Count Denis de Kergorlay, who is Executive President of Europa Nostra and President of the French Heritage Society; and El Marques de Santa Cruz, who is the former Chairman of Patrimonio Nacional, the organization responsible for the Royal Palaces and Crown Art Collections in Spain.

And most recently, an individual with a Newport ancestry: Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill of the Blenheim family, who is a great-granddaughter of Consuelo Vanderbilt, who, of course, lived at Marble House during the summers.

That's just to name a few. I want to thank trustee Susan Stautberg, an experienced practitioner of creating advisory councils, for her help in spearheading this important effort of the Preservation Society.

The creation of the International Council provides us with additional inspiration for our future objectives. We have spent a lot of the past year in setting strategic priorities that will bring us into the upper echelon of museum institutions when it comes to endowed support for our educational, conservation and curatorial capabilities. Trudy will discuss some of these in her remarks. One thing I believe we have demonstrated this year is that our milestones - the many that I cited - help drive us forward and your support makes those milestones a reality.

In closing, I would like to also commend our staff, led by Trudy Coxe, for their extraordinary dedication and work effort. Our Finance Director, Jim Burress, was named by the Providence Business News as the top non-profit Chief Financial Officer in Rhode Island this year, an award that was prompted by a nomination from the senior staff. And not to be outdone, some of you may be aware that Trudy was awarded the Business Leader of the Year Career Award for Women by the Providence Business News. She was unaware that she had been nominated... and she was nominated by her staff.

Thus, I think you would agree that we really have had a year with a broad range of successes. But we are working hard to consider the many challenges we face over the next several years.

In closing, I wish to thank you all very much for what you do for the Preservation Society. It is you, our supporters which make these tall orders possible.

CEO & Executive Director's Report

By Trudy Coxe

Remarks delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 16, 2011



Let's congratulate Don for such a successful first year as chairman of the board. We've had a lot of great accomplishments under Don's leadership and all of us here are grateful for the energy you put into this time-consuming, non-paying labor of love. Don and the entire Board of Trustees are so important to this organization and I thank them all for their support.

As you've seen from the publicity lately, the Preservation Society - specifically The Breakers - has been selected by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to compete in a contest called "This Place Matters." We are up against 99 other sites around the country - the only RI site selected - only 8 in New England - and the site that receives the most votes from the public will receive \$25,000 and, of course, national prestige. [See update page 9].

Newport has always been a place that matters.

It mattered to the 28,000 people who in 1948 came to The Breakers during the first four months that it was open to the public. No one on the Board expected such acclaim or popularity.

Why are we doing all of this? Because Newport matters. It mattered to Katherine Warren and our founders, who rganized to prevent Newport's heritage from being lost.

Trudy Coxe

It mattered to the group of volunteers who created the Preservation Society's first Mission Statement. This is what they created:

"To save one of the greatest historical possessions of this country, the old houses of Newport. No American city or town has more or finer early houses than has the city of Newport. Their preservation is a matter of patriotic concern to the nation."

Clearly, this place mattered to the Preservation Society's founders.

It mattered to Katherine Warren, who encouraged members of the Preservation Society to find a way to save the White Horse Tavern. She said,



118 Mill Street, former PS headquarters, 1947

"To permit this old landmark to be replaced by a gas station would be an unforgivable blot on the Preservation Society; it would also lower the standing of the city through the United States if it were known that for the lack of a paltry \$15,000 Newport remained asleep at the switch."

For Katherine Warren, Newport and its historic legacy clearly mattered.

And you can sense the strength of conviction about how much Newport and our houses matter when you listen to Bobby Monroe talk about Rosecliff, his family's summer retreat. His comments are included in the new Rosecliff audio tour which debuted in early April.

Today, to every volunteer who commits time to serving on the Board of Trustees, the International Council, or one of our many committees, to those who help plan and orchestrate the Newport Flower Show or the Wine & Food Festival or any of our dinner dances; to those who volunteer their time on hot summer days to weed our gardens; to everyone – from the past and in the present – their dedication and commitment to our mission signals just how much this place matters.

Over the past few years our Board of Trustees and senior staff have spent a considerable amount of time envisioning what the Preservation Society should look like 5, 10, even 20 years from now—making sure that we do our part to make this place matter. There are now strategic goals in place, business plans to refer to, and subcommittees hard at work.

Our goals include:

- Creating a conservation lab that incorporates 21st century technology;
- · Growing our collections fund to a million dollars; and
- Building a permanent museum ticket and refreshment center at The Breakers, because a tent (with no air conditioning, dusty dirt floors and no protection from rain or lightning) is not a proper venue to welcome the 350,000 guests who annually visit The Breakers alone.
 We need to treat our visitors as if they matter.

Our strategic plan includes many initiatives, but I want to mention two that will have a tremendous impact on redefining the Preservation Society: building preservation advocacy into our daily activities; and creating a Scholars Center.

As Rhode Island's most significant cultural institution, we receive many requests to take a lead or be involved on a variety of topics that range from historic tax credits to gambling. In our vision of the future, we will have a full-time professional on staff to help turn the Preservation Society into a hub of action – a place that's brimming with new ideas – where key issues that affect the character of Newport County can be addressed. These include issues like how to save disappearing viewsheds and make the entranceways onto our Island more attractive; and how to work with the city to ensure that before cobra lights are installed on Broadway or brick sidewalks are torn up, the public's view has been considered.

Truth be told, civic engagement is not new at the Preservation Society. If you look back at our minutes from the 1940s and '50s, we have been preservation advocates right from the beginning, not just preserving buildings but preserving the historic character and fabric of Newport County:

- The Hunter House in 1946;
- The Pitts Head Tavern (built in 1725) in 1947. This building was first located on Washington Square, was moved to Charles Street and served as the main headquarters of the Preservation Society until the late 1950s and was later moved to the Point section;
- In 1954, thanks to the generosity of the van Beuren family, we acquired the White Horse Tavern and two buildings next door. The founders wanted the Tavern because it served as the RI State House before the Revolution;
- We bought the Augustus Lucas House on Division Street at a public auction (for \$1,825) and sold it within a week for the same price. The only reason we bought it was to save it.
- Over the years, we acquired the Rogers House, the Auton House, Mill Street, Malbone, and Hopedene.



Hunter House, circa 1955

Why did we buy and sell these houses? Because they mattered. But, it wasn't just buildings we were saving, it was the city's character.

In 1948, when the Sun Oil Company was going to build a gas station across the street from the Old Colony House, we tried to get them to design a colonial style building in keeping with the neighborhood. Mrs. Warren reported at the annual meeting that it was "unfortunate that the Sun Oil Company did not see fit to adopt the plan."

In 1957, the trustees opposed the building of an oil refinery in Jamestown. They said it would "change the overall character of the region, tourist trade would fall off and income from this source would diminish and in time disappear." Can you imagine an oil refinery in Jamestown?

In 1959, we tried to persuade St. Paul's Church not to tear down the Parish Hall and put up a "functional" building. It was written that "with the loss of the parish house would go the whole vitally important 'street scape.' And one more bit of irreplaceable Newport will be lost." We lost that battle, but you can see we were in the mix on all sorts of activities.

So, with all this history under our belts it's logical to build our voice and presence on behalf of this community and its historic assets. Creating a focus on preservation policy - working day in and day out – will allow the Preservation Society to be proactive rather than reactive on important community issues; grow a constituency of preservationists throughout the region; be present and heard at important local, state and federal meetings; and be a persuasive, articulate and educated voice, proclaiming that this place matters.



The Elms Carriage House



White Horse Tavern, 1954

The second vision for our future is to restore and turn The Elms Carriage House into a scholarly research center which will attract the best and brightest graduate students from around the world to help expand the intellectual credibility and horsepower of Rhode Island and its history. We've gained so much from students in the past:

- A Winterthur student discovered that the walls of The Morning Room at The Breakers were platinum leaf;
- A London Guildhall student treated the porch dolphins at the Isaac Bell House;
- A London Metropolitan University student gilded the weathervane at Chateau-sur-Mer;
- A group of Roger Williams University students helped restore the ceiling of the Gothic Room at Marble House.

Scholarly research is competitive and the best way we know to attract the best and the brightest is to provide an attractive and well-appointed place for students to live and work. Can you imagine a better spot to live and do research than Newport?

The second and third floors of the Carriage House need restoration but a little imagination tells you how great an inducement these rooms could be as a Scholars Center. Architects have begun to develop a restoration and reuse plan; we met with city officials and neighbors; have begun the permitting process, and, when successful, we will have the best Scholars Center in America.

Why are we doing all of this? Because Newport matters. It mattered to Katherine Warren and our founders, who organized to prevent Newport's heritage from being lost. It mattered to the concerned citizens who saved The Elms from being torn down. It mattered to J. Edgar Monroe and Harold Vanderbilt and Alletta Morris McBean, and so many others in the decades that followed who shared the belief that the old houses of Newport are among the greatest historical possessions of this country. A matter of patriotic concern to this nation!

And clearly, it continues to matter to all of you. And for that, we are very grateful.



We Won! The Breakers Won!

On August 22, 2011, Preservation Society Chairman Donald O. Ross and Executive Director Trudy Coxe accepted a check for \$25,000 from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for winning the Trust's 2011 "This Place Matters" Community Challenge. The Preservation Society received the most online votes from the public in the month-long competition among 100 historic sites nationwide.

"We are incredibly grateful to the thousands of people who took the time to register votes on our behalf during the contest," said Coxe. "While we are thrilled to receive the prize money, and will put it to good use, we are most gratified by the demonstration of affection and respect that so many people have for our mission to preserve The Breakers and the other Newport Mansions."

Coxe also thanked the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for sponsoring the challenge. "This innovative competition helped to shine the spotlight on historic preservation projects all over the country, and energized preservation efforts in all of those communities."





Treasurer's Report

By Monty Burnham

Remarks delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 16, 2011

As I was writing this report, I considered what people want to hear most of all from the Treasurer's Report. Leaving apart good news, which I can in this instance supply, I concluded that it was The End. Therefore I will try to be brief.

From a financial point of view, the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011 was a considerable success. Numbers were improved in virtually every area. Excluding endowment draw, operating revenues totalled \$15.4 million, versus a budget figure of \$14.8 million. This \$626,000 increase was driven by revenues from tickets, memberships, sales, fundraising and special events. A major source of this success was the 2.7% increase in visits, from 780,000 visits in fiscal year 2010 to nearly 801,000 visits in fiscal year 2011.

The Annual Fund also contributed significantly to this performance. Our Annual Fund, to which so many of you contribute, set another record this year, with \$663,000 in contributions. We are enormously grateful to you, as we are to Co-Chairs Elizabeth Leatherman and Paul Szápáry, who have generously agreed to chair next year's campaign as well.

Results were also enhanced by excellent controls on operating expenses. Thanks to the prudence of our department heads, operating expenses exceeded budget by only \$74,000, and most of this unbudgeted expense was attributable (i.e. linked) to higherthan-budgeted revenues.

In terms of capital expenditures, this past fiscal year we invested the final \$250,000 needed to complete the five-year, \$2.1 million exterior restoration of Chateau-sur-Mer. We also embarked on an extensive and long-overdue upgrade of our computer technology. We have installed a modern ticketing system which visitors love and which allows us to understand their preferences and habits. On this new system visitors can purchase and print tickets on the internet, which eliminates standing in a ticket-buying line. Lines in fact are declining at the PS, as with the expansion of our audio tour program, which now covers 92% of tours taken, far fewer visitors spend much time in line.

We continued to pay down the loans we took out to install The Breakers audio tour and to terminate our defined benefit pension plan. We need to generate \$450,000 a year to keep up with our loan payments and declining limits on our credit lines. This is consistent with appropriate financial management and we are very grateful to BankNewport for our strong working relationship.

During calendar year 2010, the Society paid over \$7 million in compensation to 449 individuals. Four hundred forty nine individuals translates to 197 FTE's or Full Time Equivalents, because of our many part-time and seasonal employees. It is remarkable to note that FTEs increased less than 10 percent from 1997 to 2010. In other words, we are

> doing much more with a very modest increase in numbers of employees. This performance is certainly worthy of a loud round of applause for all the devoted and hard-working members of the Preservation Society staff!

The trend lines for the last fiscal year were all up: visitor attendance was up, membership was up, donors and donations were up, revenues were up, operating expenses were only modestly up, even the value of our endowment increased, the general economy notwithstanding. The numbers of donors making cash contributions to the Preservation Society are worthy of special note, as they have increased more than 50% over the past five years, from slightly over 7,000 to greater than 10,500. Our membership rolls have increased on a parallel line over the past five years, which is equally exciting and illustrates the value of the Museum Experience to our visitors.

That said, the first two months of the new fiscal year have not been encouraging. We are concerned about this year. With gas prices generally rising, an apparently softening economy, and some of the coldest and rainiest spring weather in a long time, we have gotten off to a slow start financially.

The number of visitors is slightly behind last year at this time. In addition, the governor has proposed a six-percent sales tax on ticket and membership sales and a one-percent tax on non-profit purchases, which could cost the Society as much as \$600,000. Trudy and her senior staff have already responded to these threats by imposing spending restrictions, and we will be looking carefully at whatever budget bill appears from the Rhode Island state legislature. *

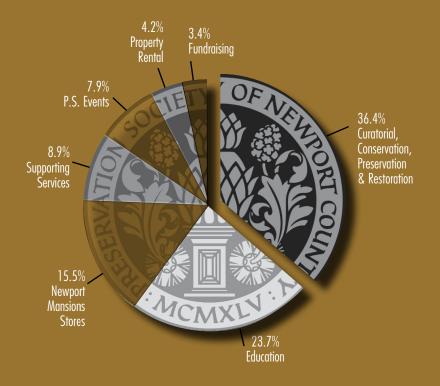
To leave you on a more positive note, I should point out that it is in the nature of accountants to be pessimistic. If we are not worrying about something, we wonder what we may have forgotten.

But with our extraordinarily capable staff, and the support of the Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee, financial results will be monitored and projected to the best of our ability and we will weather economic developments as we do the climate in New England.

*At the time of publication, the Governor's sales tax proposal had been defeated by the Legislature.

REVENUE

Admissions	41.2%
Contributions	20.3%
Newport Mansions Stores	16.2%
Endowment Draw	7.7%
Property Rental	7.5%
Pres. Society Events	7.1%



EXPENSES

Curatorial, Conservation, Preservation & Restoration	36.4%
Education	23.7%
Newport Mansions Stores	15.5%
Supporting Services	8.9%
Pres. Society Events	7.9%
Property Rental	4.2%
Fundraising	3.4%

20 I I

William W. Corcoran, ESQ.



Donald O. Ross and William Corcoran, Esa.

For Distinguished Vervice and Untiring Devotion to the Work of The Lreservation

William W. Corcoran, Esq. has given more than 50 years of volunteer service to the Preservation Society since he was first elected to the Preservation Society Council in 1959. During his tenure as a member of the Council, Board of Trustees, and Finance Committee, he has shared with us his vast storehouse of knowledge, wise counsel, and generous spirit.

Bill played an important role in shaping the destiny of The Preservation Society of Newport County. His legacy brings great credit upon himself and reflects well on the Preservation Society. As a Trustee and as principal legal advisor, he helped oversee the tremendous expansion of the Preservation Society from a struggling organization with one property, Hunter House, to today's internationally recognized institution with eleven historic properties, seven of which are National Historic Landmarks.

He has had a close relationship with the City of Newport for many years, having served on the Newport City Council and as a member of the Newport Redevelopment Agency in the 1960s.

He drafted the City's first historic zoning ordinance, and with much skill and deft diplomacy he represented the Preservation Society as it successfully pursued with others the creation of Newport's historic districts in an effort to stabilize and preserve the City's historic integrity.

As a member of the Preservation Society Finance Committee for many years, his keen ability to analyze the impact of every financial decision has enabled him to provide critical oversight of the Preservation Society's annual operating budget, which today is approximately \$18,000,000.

Always equipped with a grin and mirthful chuckle, Bill takes all his tasks very seriously, but never himself. He has a genuine love for the Preservation Society and his native Newport, a love that carries over to his sincere regard for the staff and many volunteers of the Preservation Society and to his fellow Newporters.

For all of these reasons, and for his overall devotion to the Preservation Society over the past 50 years, as well as his ongoing appreciation for the value of historic preservation, we are honored to confer on William W. Corcoran, Esq. 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 16th day of June, 2011

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.

David Hart

For Artisanship

In recognition of his exceptional expertise in crafting a state-of-the-art Facilities Management Plan for restoring our historic properties.



William Wilson and David Hart



Jocelyn Sherman, Pat Fernandez, Candace Morganstern and Susan Stautbera

Pat Fernandez, Candace Morganstern and Jocelyn Sherman

For Volunteerism

In recognition of their energy, creativity and inspiration as co-chairs of the Newport Flower Show.



Angela Brown Fischer, Helan Buchanan and Monty Burnham

Helen Buchanan

For Horticulture

In recognition of her knowledgeable and passionate support for the restoration of The Elms Sunken Garden and her service on The Elms House Advisory Committee and the Gardens and Grounds Committee.





Donors

April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011

The Preservation Society of Newport County is grateful to its many members and friends for your ongoing support. Your generosity is what makes it possible for us to preserve Newport's architectural and cultural heritage.

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS

Champions of Preservation

\$100,000 and above

Mr. and Mrs. A. Leslie Ballard The Estate of Elizabeth A. Burton Mr. Dayton T. Carr Mrs. Alexander C. Cushing

\$50,000-\$99,999

Mr. David B. Ford

\$25,000-\$49,999

Mrs. Helen D. Buchanan and Mr. and Mrs. Richard I. Burnham Mr. and Mrs. Glenn M. Darden Mr. Ronald Lee Fleming Mr. and Mrs. Bernard S. Gewirz Mr. and Mrs. Peter D. Kiernan III Mr. and Mrs. Eugene B. Roberts, Jr. Mrs. Alfred S. Wilsey

CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

\$10,000-\$24,999

Mrs. Russell B. Aitken Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer Berkowitz III Mrs. Thomas W. Blake Mr. and Mrs. Duncan A. Chapman Mr. & Mrs. Eugene P. Conese, Sr. / Conese Foundation Mr. and Mrs. Edmond de La Haye Jousselin Elizabeth Prince de Ramel Mrs. John R. Donnell Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Galkin Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Grace Mr. and Mrs. David E. P. Lindh Mrs. Claiborne C. Pell Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Prince IV Mr. and Mrs. John Purdy James and Alice Ross Mr. and Mrs. Guy F. C. Van Pelt Anonymous

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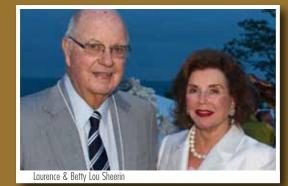
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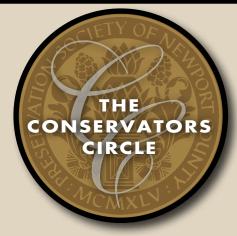
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Gardens & Grounds Director Jeff Curtis works in the cutting gardens. Photo by Andrea Carneiro

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2010-2011 Annual Report
Editor: Andrea Carneiro
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www.NewportMansions.org

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)

Front Cover: The Breakers "This Place Matters"

Photo by Roskelly.com

Back Cover: Diner Dance at Marble House, August 2010

Photo by corbettphotography.net



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- 1. The Elms. Photo by corbettphotography.net
- 2. Artist Thomas Arvid works on a painting at the Newport Mansions Wine & Food Festival.

 Photo by Andrea Carneiro
- Less Ballard with his daughter Lesley Hull and granddaughter Catherine. Photo by Andrea Carneiro
- 4. Robert & Kate Bartlett with Donald O. Ross at the Newport Flower Show. Photo by corbettphotography.net
- 5. Living statues in historic garb at the Newport Flower Show.

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- 6. Dorrance Hamilton. Photo by Andrea Carneiro
- 7. AnaPaula Watson, Barbara Chapman, Sherri Grace and Alice Ross. Photo by corbettphotography.net
- 8. Young guests enjoy the Green Animals Children's Party. Photo by Andrea Carneiro



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