Executive Director’s Note

Ruth S. Taylor
Newport Historical Society

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Executive Director’s Note

This issue of the Journal, *Newport History*, is a milestone in several ways. It is the first to be produced without the long-standing team of Dr. James Yarnall and Jane Carey, who have both retired. James and Jane have long been responsible for *Newport History*. The issues they created together comprise a substantial body of scholarship, which provided many hours of education and enjoyment for our members and subscribers. This work continues to be very valuable – articles are available, and free for members, at http://digitalcommons.salve.edu/newporthistory/.

This edition is the first to be published under a reorganized Publications Committee with a new program and a new editor. Dr. Elizabeth C. Stevens is the editor of *Rhode Island History*, the scholarly journal of the Rhode Island Historical Society. She was an associate editor of the *Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, a thirteen-volume NEH-sponsored project at the Rhode Island Historical Society that was completed in 2005. She has also worked on another historical editing project, volume two of *The Jane Addams Papers*. Elizabeth has a doctorate in American Studies from Brown University (1993) and is the author of *Elizabeth Buffum Chace and Lillie Chace Wyman: A Century of Abolitionist, Suffragist, and Workers’ Rights Activism*. (McFarland, 2004)

The new Journal will be peer-reviewed, and we hope to attract articles by scholars on a broad range of topics associated with Newport’s history. Finally, this is the first volume wherein both articles are by former participants in the Newport Historical Society’s noted Buchanan-Burnham Internship program. This gives us great pride, and we hope these connections will continue.

Ruth S. Taylor
Executive Director

Editor’s Note

The occupation of Newport by British troops during the Revolutionary War marked a significant era in Newport’s history. The British occupation was part of a strategy to subdue and control the principal coastal cities of England’s American colonies. The plan ultimately failed, but as Donald F. Johnson demonstrates in his article in this issue, residents who remained in Newport during the British occupation, whether loyal to the crown or partisans of the revolution, were profoundly changed by the experience. Donald F. Johnson is Assistant Professor of History at North Dakota State University. He received his Ph.D. in 2015 from Northwestern University; his work focuses on everyday experiences of military rule during the American Revolution. In the summer of 2014, he was a Buchanan-Burnham research fellow at the Newport Historical Society.

Charles Hunter, who left Newport in 1831 to pursue a career in the U.S. Navy, has bequeathed superb evidence of his challenges as a midshipman. The journals he assiduously kept while training to become a naval officer are now in the Newport Historical Society collections. In her meticulous scrutiny of a diary that Hunter wrote while aboard USS *Potomac* in 1831, Margaret Stack reveals that during a midshipman’s training at sea, education in other than navigational topics was woefully neglected. Margaret Stack earned her undergraduate degree from Bryn Mawr College, and her Masters degree from the University of Connecticut, where she is currently pursuing a Ph.D. In the summer of 2014, she was a Buchanan-Burnham intern at the Newport Historical Society.

Elizabeth C. Stevens
EDITOR