



THE LANDMARK

PUBLICATION OF THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 52

February 2011

No. 3

PO Box 125, Lincoln RI, 02865

E-mail: bvhs58@gmail.com

Affiliate Associations

Preservation Society of Pawtucket ♦ Great Road Historical District

SAVE THESE DATES

Sunday Afternoon, Mar. 13
2:00 PM Upstairs Hall

Presentation about Eddie Dowling and George M. Cohan with musical performance by **Michael DiMucci**

Sunday afternoon, Apr. 10
2:00 PM Downstairs Hall

Lincoln resident and noted collector **Dan Bethel**

Cumberland Ephemera

Sunday afternoon, May 15
1:30 PM Downstairs Hall

**BVHS
Membership Meeting &
Annual Elections**

**All Programs & Events
will take place at
North Gate Toll House
1873 Old Louisquisset Pike
(Rte 246) Lincoln, RI**

**Wilbur Road bridge over Rte
146 closed until summer 2011**

"James Tyson, Providence Bookseller, and The 1936 R I Tercentenary," talk by noted historian Tom Greene Feb. 6 at BVHS North Gate

By *Francine Jackson*

Many of us remember the 350th anniversary of the founding of Rhode Island in 1986, but noted historian Tom Greene will take us back to the 300th, Rhode Island's Tercentenary, in 1936. At that time, Providence bookseller James Tyson created a set of first-day covers (envelopes) in honor of this event, to be cancelled on May 4, 1936.

Enjoy a pre-game afternoon
with the BVHS

Sunday, February 6

Program begins at 1:30 PM

You will be home in plenty
of time for the Superbowl
Kick-off!

Tyson made them by cutting and pasting both relevant pictures and original signatures that he found in books directly onto these envelopes. Although he was not the only person to make a set of these historic souvenirs, Tyson did not make these in quantity; he only produced one set of these covers.

On February 6, 2011, Tom Greene will introduce us to this collection of 62 covers and, by selecting several of them for particular study, will show the beauty and uniqueness of these individual pieces of art and history.

Tom Greene is an expert on postal history. He is Curator of the Philatelic Collections at Brown University. He is president of the Warwick Historical



Historian Tom Greene

Courtesy Pat Armitage

Society, the RI Philatelic Society, the RI Postal History Society, and the Nathanael Greene Homestead. Mr. Greene is the author, editor and publisher of the RI Postal History Journal, and wrote the Photographic History of North Providence, Volumes 1 & 2.

He also is an accomplished musician. After receiving music degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Connecticut, Mr. Greene published articles and critiques for the music journal "Chelys." He was part of the music departments of the Warwick and Smithfield public school systems, and has taught at URI, RIC, Brown, CCRI, and colleges in Boston. Mr. Greene was also involved in an 8-part television series on music for Channel 36.

Blackstone Valley Historical Society Dedicates Virginia Doris archival storage area and the James F. Clarke, Sr. Map Case in the Buckley Building Limerock Fire Station



Before renovations



After the renovations



Inside of the storage unit



Work table in the archival area of the Buckley Building, the Limerock Fire station



Doris artifacts, including the *Casa Clio* house sign. *Clio*, the muse of history in Greek mythology



Al showing some of the Doris Collection archival material



Some of those who attended the dedication



Some of Jim Clarke's Family: his son, James Clarke, Jr; his sister, Elizabeth Clarke Howes; and nieces Dorothy Clarke Turnbeau and Lynda Howes Goldkamp in front of the map case dedicated to Jim Clarke



Pat Armitage, President, Glenn Laxton, and Al Klyberg at the dedication of the new Virginia Doris archival storage area and the James F. Clarke, Sr. Map Drawers

Josephine Godek



Josephine L. "Jo Jo" (Zaborski) Godek, 88, of William Street, Lincoln, passed away at Home and Hospice

Care of RI, on Sunday December 12, 2010.

Jo Jo lived in Lincoln for the past 56 years and was a member of the Blackstone Valley Historical Society. She was married for 65 years to Laurence J. Godek.

Dedication photos courtesy of Gail Harris and Pat Armitage