



HAMILTON HOUSE

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION PACKET

General Information

276 Angell Street
Providence RI 02906
(401) 831-1800

www.historichamilton.org
www.facebook.com/HHLearningExchange

Regular Building Hours: M-F, 9 am - 4 pm Receptionist Hours: M-F 9 am - 2 pm

Hamilton House is closed on all Federal Holidays in addition to the last week of December until January 2nd.

Our policy for winter storms/weather advisories is to close when Providence Public Schools are closed, or at the discretion of the Executive Director based on the safety and accessibility of the building. Communication will go out via email to members on our list.

Our Mission

To inspire and enhance members' lives through stimulating interaction with ideas and friends in an adult learning center and to connect them with opportunities to serve the community.

Hamilton House is organized to provide a program center for older persons, without discrimination on the grounds of race, creed, color, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, military status, or any other status prohibited by applicable law in any of its programs or operations; and to offer a wide variety of activities that enhance the meaning, pleasure, and health as we age and in retirement.

Staff

Chloe Clasper-Torch, Executive Director hamiltonhouse276@gmail.com | chloe@historichamilton.org
Liz Kelley, Programs and Outreach Manager hamiltonhouseoffice@gmail.com
Collin Mills, Facilities and Maintenance Manager
Patty Tanalski, Kitchen Assistant

Board of Directors

Officers

Charlene Kneath, *President*
John Setevnson, *Vice President*
Jerry DeSchepper, *Secretary*
Rob Distefano, *Treasurer*

Directors

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| Elissa Arffa | Bill Irons |
| Kip Brott | Maggie Kuriakose |
| Frank Capecci | Sue Pandit |
| Herman Dekoe | Dee Dee Witman |
| Pat Donovan | |

A Brief History of Hamilton House

The lovely, statuesque French Chateau mansion was built for Francis W. Carpenter (of Congdon and Carpenter Steel Company) in 1896, who needed a house large enough for his family of nine children. He chose the architects, Carrère and Hastings whose works include Central Congregational Church (next door), along with the New York Public Library.

The next owner, George Champlin, presented the house as a wedding gift to his daughter, Florence, who became Mrs. Ralph Spencer Hamilton Jr. Upon the death of Mrs. Hamilton in 1970, the house was bequeathed to Central Congregational Church.

In 1972, a Board of Directors was formed and Hamilton House became a non-profit educational and social center for active adults 55 years and older. It was named Hamilton House in honor of Florence Hamilton's dedication to the community.

Member Dues & Special Programs Fees

In 2026 the annual member dues (\$275/individuals; \$425/dual-household) cover the cost of participation in all regular programs offered at Hamilton House. Payable by card online, cash or check. These dues go towards the operational costs of running our organization, and are necessary for us as a non-profit to provide the service that we do! The breakdown of our individual membership dues is less than \$25 a month, with ~30+ activities offered on a weekly basis. We recognize that a lump sum payment may be difficult for some of our members. *Please talk to Chloe about alternative payment schedules, or scholarship funds. You may also speak with Chloe if you would like to donate to our scholarship fund.*

There are occasionally programs that may have additional fees associated with them. These require advance sign-up and include Trips, Social Events, or Special Programs that have a fee to cover the cost of a special meal or beverages (i.e. Wine Tastings, Pub & Trivia Night, Summer Cook-Out, Film & Feast, Thanksgiving Meal). Presently, all payments are required at the time of sign-up to reserve one's place. This can be done with the front desk receptionists. Checks and Cash accepted at this time.

Parking Information

All members are eligible to receive a Hamilton House car decal/sticker to be displayed on a back windshield. This sticker allows for extended parking during the day on Angell Street between Hope St. and Diman Place.

Hamilton House does have a small parking lot. We ask that members consider the accessibility needs of our community, and only park in the lot if necessary. Please do not park behind other cars in the lot, as this can lead to disruption in programming if someone cannot exit when they are ready to leave. We understand that parking is often difficult on the East Side and encourage alternative modes of transportation for those who are able! (Carpooling with a friend, Rideshare (Uber/Lyft), Bus [lines 33, 32, 40, 34, 61X], Walking or Biking!)

Cafe

Monday–Friday, *Hours:* 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Weekly on Mondays, a menu is shared out to the membership via email. The daily menu is also listed on the whiteboard next to the service window. Regular offerings include sandwiches, soup, quiche, salad, and dessert. Offerings are subject to change throughout the week based on popularity of items/vendor changes. Coffee, tea, cold beverages and snacks are always available on the counter and in the mini-fridge. Current payment options include cash and check.

The Cafe is overseen by staff member Patty T., our Kitchen Assistant. Patty serves lunch Monday – Thursday with the assistance of member volunteers. Typically on Fridays, members of Hamilton House volunteer to serve lunch. If you are interested in volunteering to support lunch service, be in touch with the Executive Director, Chloe. The Kitchen & Cafe operations are supported by the Kitchen Committee.

Volunteer Opportunities

Our members engage with Hamilton House activities in many different ways! As a nonprofit, we rely heavily on the volunteer efforts of our community to keep us running. Members are often able to bring their unique skills and passions to the community by way of these volunteer opportunities. If you don't see any area that you are interested in, but have an idea of how you can share your special talents and wisdom with our community, please reach out to Chloe.

Below are some examples of several ways to get involved. *The level of time commitment for each of these may vary, but **all** ways of giving back are of value and make a difference!*

- Teach a Class or Give a Special Presentation on a topic of your choice (in coordination with Programs Manager)
- Welcome guests and members as a Front Desk Receptionist
- Serve Lunch or help with clean-up
- Provide Office Support (Data entry, Newsletter proofreading & collation, Mailings, etc.)
- Become a Board Member
- Join a Standing Committee (Finance, Development, Governance, Membership, Personnel, Property & Grounds, Special Events, Travel, Food)
- Work in the garden or on property and grounds improvement projects
- Hang artwork in the gallery for new exhibits
- Assist public events such as annual PorchFest
- Give tours of the building to prospective members!

Publications and Communications

Every two months *The Courier* is published, which includes the schedule of events and program descriptions for activities for the upcoming weeks. Additionally, our calendar of events is located online.

In addition to our bi-monthly newsletter, members are added to our “ebulletin” list. The Ebulletin is sent out every weekend; please review for upcoming activities, changes/additions to the schedule or important announcements. If you are not currently receiving it (or realize that over time you no longer do) please reach out to staff member, Liz Kelley.