

**Handout for**  
**Steven Slosberg's Walking Tour of**  
**Poets' Corner in Stonington Cemetery**  
**Saturday, May 22, 2021**

These bios of those in Poets Corner were compiled by Steven Slosberg from sources including Wikipedia, newspaper stories and obituaries, local histories and personal recollections. If they are to be quoted or cited, please remember they are not scholarly attributed.

## Poets' Corner

**Griffith Baily Coale** (21 May 1890, Baltimore - 20 August 1950, Stonington)<sup>[1]</sup> was an American painter; best known for establishing the Navy Combat Art Program.<sup>[2]</sup>

In 1941, as it became more likely that the United States would have to enter World War II, he approached Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and proposed having artists placed on board Navy ships, to document what they saw in paintings.<sup>[5]</sup> This derived from his own personal experiences in World War I, as well as being inspired by the war art program of the British Navy. Admiral Nimitz was impressed with his proposal and established the Navy Combat Art program.

Later that year, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant Commander in the Naval Reserve, working for the Office of Public Affairs. As part of his first assignment in the North Atlantic, he witnessed the sinking of the USS Reuben James. He then went to the Pacific, where he saw the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor and gathered eyewitness accounts. He also observed troops training for the invasion of Midway and visited the islands after their recapture. His third assignment sent him to the South East Asia Command in Ceylon (Sri Lanka). After the war, he painted two murals (now lost) for the Naval Academy, depicting the attack on Pearl Harbor and the Battle of Midway.<sup>[5]</sup> He left the Navy in 1947, with the rank of Commander and returned home, retiring to Connecticut, where he died in 1950, at the age of sixty.

In addition to his paintings, he authored two books describing his experiences: *North Atlantic Patrol: The log of a seagoing artist* (Farrar & Rinehart, 1942), and *Victory at Midway* (Farrar & Rinehart, 1944).<sup>[3]</sup>

From 1947 until his death in 1950, he was president of the Stonington Historical Society. He also apparently was the inspiration for the Benet and Stone families to come to Stonington. They are the first families, so to speak, of Poets' Corner. (By extension, John Mason Brown, not far away, was a friend of the Benets in New York and that apparently drew Brown and his family to Stonington.)

Coale's first wife, Margaret McCulloch Coale, born in Ireland, died in Stonington in 1932, in what was deemed a suicide. Her body was found in Sylvia's Pond. She, too, is buried here, but not in Poets' Corner. She is several lanes away.

Coale's second wife was Elizabeth Alice van Antwerp Manning, daughter of the Episcopal Bishop of New York. On Marcy 25, 1939, the New York Times reported, on the front page, an attempt to kidnap their daughter, 3-year-old Betsy Coale, from their home at 125 West Eleventh Street in New York. The caper was foiled by the couple's butler while the Coales were out dining with the president of the NY City Council.

**Grace Zaring Stone** (January 9, 1891 – September 29, 1991) was an American novelist and short-story writer.<sup>[1]</sup> She is perhaps best known for having three of her novels made into films: *The Bitter Tea of General Yen* (starring *Barbara Stanwyck*), *Winter Meeting*, and *Escape* (starring *Norma Shearer* and *Robert Taylor*). She also used the pseudonym **Ethel Vance**.<sup>[1]</sup>

Born in New York City in 1891, Zaring Stone was the great-great-granddaughter of social reformer Robert Owen.<sup>[1]</sup> Her mother died during her childhood. She started writing in St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, where she lived with her husband, Ellis Spencer Stone (1889-1956), later a commodore in the U.S. Navy (where he commanded all of the aircraft carriers at the time of the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941 [none were lost as they were not at Pearl Harbor that day]).<sup>[1]</sup> Later, she and her husband moved to Main Street in Stonington. They had one child, the author and gardener, Eleanor Perenyi.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

Zaring Stone had used the pseudonym of **Ethel Vance** to write her 1939 anti-Nazi thriller *Escape* to avoid jeopardizing her daughter, who was living in occupied Europe during the Second World War. Editions of her books after World War II sometimes credited her as "Grace Zaring Stone (Ethel Vance)", as *Escape* was her best-known book at the time of the war.<sup>[1][2]</sup> Three of her novels --*The Bitter Tea of General Yen*, *Escape*, and *Winter Meeting*--were adapted for film.<sup>[1]</sup>

In 1942, Time magazine, in a review of one of her books, said literary types were guessing at the author's identity. Among those suggested were Rebecca West, Erika Mann, Dorothy Thompson and I.A.R. Wylie. No one guessed correctly.

Later that year, Grace Zaring Stone fessed up, saying she chose the pen name to protect both her daughter and her husband, the U.S. Naval Attache in Paris.

I INTERVIEWED HER AT HER HOME ON MAIN STREET IN BOROUGH AND MENTIONED SHE HAD FRENCH IMPRESSIONISTS PAINTINGS. BORO FOLK WERE AGHAST THAT I MADE THAT PUBLIC.

**Eleanor Perenyi** was the daughter of a US Navy officer, Ellis S. Stone and Grace Zaring Stone. Grace Zaring Stone wrote her anti-Nazi novel *Escape* under the pseudonym Ethel Vance, for fear of jeopardizing the safety of her daughter, who was then living with her husband, the Hungarian noble Baron Zsigmond Perényi, in pro-Fascist Hungary, then to be an ally of the Axis powers during World War II.<sup>[2]</sup>

Perenyi is best known as the author of *Green Thoughts: A Writer in the Garden*, which drew on her work on her husband's rural estate near the present-day town of Vynohradiv, Ukraine (the former Nagyszőlős, Hungary) as well as her garden on Main Street in Stonington Borough. Her life in Hungary was also recorded in her 1946 memoir *More Was Lost*, which describes her

marriage to her Hungarian noble husband and the impact of World War II on life in rural Hungary. Her other books include the Civil War novel *The Bright Sword* (1955) and a study of Franz Liszt.

*Green Thoughts* was reviewed by Brooke Astor in *The New York Times*.<sup>[3]</sup>

*More Was Lost* was reprinted by New York Review of Books Press in 2016 with an introduction by the poet J.D. McClatchy and is reviewed by Sadie Stein in *The Paris Review*.<sup>1</sup>

**The poet, J.D. "Sandy" McClatchy, who is also here, called daughter, who could be bristly, and mother: "Arsenic and Old Grace"**

**Stephen Vincent Benet** (July 22, 1898 – March 13, 1943) was an American poet, short story writer, and novelist. He is best known for his book-length narrative poem of the American Civil War, *John Brown's Body* (1928), for which he received the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, and for the short stories "The Devil and Daniel Webster" (1936) and "By the Waters of Babylon" (1937). In 2009, The Library of America selected his story "The King of the Cats" (1929) for inclusion in its two-century retrospective of *American Fantastic Tales* edited by Peter Straub.

Benét died of a heart attack in New York City on March 13, 1943 at age 44.<sup>[11]</sup> In Stonington, he had owned the historic Amos Palmer House, where Whistler's father, not mother, once lived. He was awarded a posthumous Pulitzer Prize in 1944 for *Western Star*, an unfinished narrative poem on the settling of the United States.

Benét won the O. Henry Award on three occasions, for his short stories *An End to Dreams* in 1932, *The Devil and Daniel Webster* in 1937, and *Freedom's a Hard-Bought Thing* in 1940. He adapted his fantasy short story "The Devil and Daniel Webster" as a play, *The Devil and Daniel Webster: A Play in One Act* (New York: Dramatists Play Service, 1938), and also as a folk opera, *The Devil and Daniel Webster: An Opera in One Act* (New York: Farrar & Rinehart, 1939), with music by Douglas Moore. The story was filmed, for which he co-wrote the screenplay adaptation, but originally released as *All That Money Can Buy* (1941). Benét also wrote the sequel "Daniel Webster and the Sea Serpent", in which Daniel Webster encounters Leviathan.

**Rosemary Carr Benet.** In 1920-21, Benét went to France on a Yale traveling fellowship, where he met Rosemary Carr; the couple married in Chicago in November 1921.<sup>[6]</sup> Carr was also a writer and poet, and they collaborated on some works. In 1926, he received a Guggenheim Fellowship award and while living in Paris, wrote *John Brown's Body*.<sup>[7]</sup>

Carr was the daughter of Dr. Rachel Hickey Carr, one of Chicago's first women doctors. Rosemary became a well-known poet in her own right. She was also a journalist who, over the course of her

career, wrote for the *New York Herald-Tribune*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vogue*, and *The New Yorker*. In 1933 the husband and wife team collaborated on a children's book of poetry called, *A Book of Americans*.

**John Mason Brown.** Born in Louisville, Kentucky, he graduated from Harvard College in 1923. He worked for the *New York Evening Post* from 1929 to 1941. He served as a lieutenant in the United States Navy during World War II, beginning in 1942. His book, *To All Hands*, documents his activities aboard the *USS Ancon (AGC-4)* during Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily.

Upon his return, his "Seeing Things" column appeared in *The Saturday Review* starting in 1944 until his death in New York City. In a 1948 radio broadcast, Brown attacked comic books as "the marijuana of the nursery; the bane of the bassinet; the horror of the house; the curse of the kids; and a threat to the future."<sup>[21]</sup> (These charges were echoed during this period by other public figures like Sterling North, J. Edgar Hoover, and most notably Dr. Fredric Wertham, until Congressional hearings led to the mid-1950s self-censorship and rapid shrinkage of the comics industry.)

Brown resigned from the Pulitzer Prize drama jury in 1963 when the advisory board rejected his recommendation, and that of theater historian John Gassner, that the prize go to Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*<sup>[31]</sup>

He was inducted, posthumously, into the American Theatre Hall of Fame in 1981.<sup>[41]</sup>

A local joke: After Brown was interred in Poets' Corner (long before his son, Meredith Brown, died and was buried here), it was said that Stephen Vincent Benet was in eternal repose in full view of John Brown's body.

**Meredith Mason BROWN**, aged 77, died in his home in Stonington on April 19, 2018. Son of famed critic John Mason Brown and Catherine Brown, Meredith attended Buckley, Groton, Harvard, and Harvard Law School, where he was an editor of the Law Review.

He clerked for Judge Moore of the U.S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit, then joined Debevoise and Plimpton in 1966, eventually becoming co-chair of the Corporate Department and the Mergers and Acquisitions group. A leading M&A expert, Meredith co-authored "Takeovers: A Strategic Guide to Mergers and Acquisition," and served as Co-chair of the International Bar Association's Section on Business Law, Co-chair of the Committee on Issues and Trading in Securities, and as an adjunct professor at Columbia Law School teaching advanced securities regulation.

After retiring in 2004, Meredith pursued writing, kayaking, poetry, tennis, choir, and history. He served as President of the Stonington Historical Society. He published four books

and numerous articles. He received the Army Historical Foundation's Distinguished Writing Award for his article "A Killing in the Philippines, 1900."

His book "Frontiersman: Daniel Boone and the Making of America" received the Spur Award from the Western Writers of America for best biography of 2008.

**Gaillard Thomas Lapsley** (1871–1949) was an American constitutional historian and fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge University, 1904-1949.<sup>[1]</sup>

A brass plaque dedicated to Lapsley's memory can be found in Trinity College Chapel.

He graduated from Harvard University in 1893.<sup>[2]</sup>

He was a contemporary and friend of Edith Wharton and Henry James. Most notably, he was Wharton's literary executor. He also was the grandson of Emma Willard, a leading advocate for the education of women in the 19<sup>th</sup> century who established the first school of higher education for women in Troy, NY.

A trove of his letters is in the collection of the Beinecke Library at Yale.

He was related to the Stickneys, a prominent New York family that settled in Stonington in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and he often spent several weeks in summer here.

**Ashbel Green.** Ash was an editor at Alfred A. Knopf for more than 40 years, and a partial list of his authors is testament to the esteem he was accorded: Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Andrei Sakharov, Walter Cronkite, George V. Higgins, Philip Caputo, Ken Burns, Geoffrey Ward, Joseph Ellis, Alan Riding, Elena Bonner, Vaclav Havel, Ross Macdonald, Timothy Egan, Ernest Gaines, Jacobo Timerman.

He was a devoted alumnus of Columbia University and collected and published a volume of essays and reflections from other alumni about the school under the title "My Columbia."

He died here at age 84 and his marker is next to that of his first wife, Anne McCagg Green, who died in 1995. She also was related to the Stickneys.

**William O. McCagg Jr.,** a historian and educator who specialized in Central and Eastern Europe, died at home in Stonington at age 62 in 1993. He also had a home in Manhattan.

Dr. McCagg was on leave as the director of the Russian and East European program at Michigan State University, where he taught for 30 years.

He wrote several books, including "Jewish Nobles and Geniuses in Modern Hungary" (Eastern European Quarterly, 1972), "Stalin Embattled" (Wayne State, 1979) and "A History of Habsburg Jews" (Indiana University, 1990). He was fluent in seven languages, including Hungarian and Czech.

In recent years he studied the treatment of disabled people in Soviet and Eastern Europe and was the coeditor of "The Disabled in the Soviet Union" (University of Pittsburgh, 1989). He was afflicted by progressive deafness in recent years and produced and appeared in a 1992 film on deafness, "Ben's Bridge."

Dr. McCagg was born in Manhattan. He served in the Army, where he studied foreign languages. He earned his bachelor's degree at Harvard University and a doctorate in history at Columbia.

**James Ingram Merrill** (March 3, 1926 – February 6, 1995) was an American poet. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1977 for *Divine Comedies*. His poetry falls into two distinct bodies of work: the polished and formalist lyric poetry of his early career, and the epic narrative of occult communication with spirits and angels, titled *The Changing Light at Sandover* (published in three volumes from 1976 to 1980), which dominated his later career. Although most of his published work was poetry, he also wrote essays, fiction, and plays.

James Ingram Merrill was born in New York City, to Charles E. Merrill (1885–1956), the founding partner of the Merrill Lynch investment firm, and Hellen Ingram Merrill (1898–2000), a society reporter and publisher from Jacksonville, Florida.<sup>[1]</sup> He was born at a residence which would become the site of the Greenwich Village townhouse explosion – where members of the Weather Underground were living and planning to place bombs at a nearby military base- which Merrill would lament in the poem "18 West 11th Street" (1972).<sup>[2][3]</sup>

Beginning with the prestigious Gluscock Prize, awarded for *The Black Swan* when he was an undergraduate, Merrill would go on to receive every major poetry award in the United States, including the 1977 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for *Divine Comedies*. Merrill was honored in mid-career with the Bollingen Prize in 1973. He would receive the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1983 for his epic poem *The Changing Light at Sandover* (composed partly of supposedly supernatural messages received via the use of a Ouija board).<sup>[23]</sup> In 1990, he received the first Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry awarded by the Library of Congress for *The Inner Room*. He garnered the National Book Award for Poetry twice, in 1967 for *Nights and Days*<sup>[24]</sup> and in 1979 for *Mirabell: Books of Number*.<sup>[25]</sup> He was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1978.<sup>[26]</sup> In 1991, he received the Golden Plate Award of the American Academy of Achievement.<sup>[27]</sup>

After Merrill's death in 1995, his home, at 107 Water Street, came under the stewardship of the Stonington Village Improvement Association and, in Merrill's honor, uses it to provide a place for poets and writers to live and work.

The building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Merrill first came to Stonington in 1953, invited here by a sculptor he'd met on a beach in Italy who had a boyfriend living on Gold Street in Borough. Merrill returned with his partner,

David Jackson, in the summer of 1954, renting an apartment at 107 Water Street. They came back the next year and Merrill bought the property at 107 Water St.

Lastly, Merrill dedicated his 1962 volume of poetry, *Water Street*, to Eleanor Perenyi and her mother, Grace Zaring Stone.

**David Jackson.** A writer and artist, Jackson is remembered today primarily for his literary collaboration with Merrill. The two men met in May 1953 in New York City, after a performance of Merrill's play, "The Bait." They shared homes in Stonington, Connecticut; Athens, Greece; and Key West, Florida. "It was, I often thought, the happiest marriage I knew," wrote Alison Lurie,<sup>[citation needed]</sup> who got to know both men in the 1950s and thought enough of the relationship to write a memoir about it more than forty years later, *Familiar Spirits* (2001).

Over the course of decades conducting séances with a Ouija board, Merrill and Jackson took down supernatural transcriptions and messages from otherworldly entities. Merrill's and Jackson's ouija transcriptions were first published in verse form in *The Book of Ephraim* (printed for the first time in *Divine Comedies*, 1976, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1977).

Many critics consider Jackson to be a kind of co-writer, certainly the catalyst if not the medium, for much of James Merrill's most significant poetic output.<sup>[citation needed]</sup> *The Book of Ephraim* (1976), *Mirabell: Books of Number* (1978), and *Scripts for the Pageant* (1980) were all written with Jackson's assistance. Together, they constitute the epic trilogy *The Changing Light at Sandover*, a 560-page apocalyptic poem published in its entirety in 1982.

He and James Merrill are buried side by side at Evergreen Cemetery, Stonington. Jackson's former wife and Merrill's friend, Doris Sewell Jackson is buried behind them.

**Osborn Elliott** (October 25, 1924 – September 28, 2008) was the editor of *Newsweek* magazine for sixteen years between 1961 and 1976.<sup>[1]</sup> Elliott is credited with transforming *Newsweek* from a staid publication into a modern rival of *Time*.<sup>[1]</sup>

*Newsweek's* circulation doubled to 3 million issues during Elliott's tenure as editor, which narrowed the gap with *Time*.<sup>[1]</sup>

Elliott was named dean of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in January 1978.<sup>[1]</sup> He stepped down from that position in 1986, but remained at the school as a journalism professor.<sup>[1]</sup> The Asia Society, which is headquartered in New York City, has since named an annual journalism prize, the Osborn Elliott Prize for Excellence in Asian Journalism, in his honor.<sup>[1]</sup> In 1975, Elliott founded Citizens Committee for New York City along with Senator Jacob Javits. His 1980 autobiography was titled "The World of Oz."



Elliott "won" this burial site at a Stonington Historical Society fund-raising auction. His wife, Inger McCabe, a photojournalist for Newsweek and the New York Times who later founded a fabric design firm, then bought the plot next to him.

**Dorothy Crayder** was born in New York City in 1906. Labeled a delicate child, she had an atypical education. After attending New York University and Columbia School of Journalism, she worked as a secretary, as a model, and in sales before beginning her writing career. She has written children's books, short stories, and radio and television plays.

Ishkabibble!, The Riddles of Mermaid House, She and the Dubious Three, She, the Adventuress

A short stroll down the lane from Jackson and Merrill is Robert Newman, who wrote radio shows in the 1930s and '40s, "Search for Tomorrow" and "Peyton Place" episodes for television, and books for young people. He also handled radio for FDR's re-election campaigns. He died at 79 in 1988. Next to Newman is his wife, Dorothy Crayder, who died in 1994, at age 88, and wrote children's books, including "Ishkabibble" and "She, the Adventuress."

After her husband died, she often walked the streets of the borough, elegantly dressed and using a cane. James Merrill, who was fond of her, signed one of his books to her: "To my favorite street walker."

**Robert Newman**, a writer, died at age 79 at the Connecticut Hospice in Branford, Conn. He lived in Stonington.

Mr. Newman, who was born in Manhattan, began his career as a writer for radio shows. In 1944, he was in charge of the radio portion of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's re-election campaign. He also wrote "Search for Tomorrow" and "Peyton Place" episodes for television.

For the last 15 years of his life, he wrote books for young people, including "The Case of the Baker Street Irregular," published by Atheneum in 1978, and two novels.

He was a founder of the Radio Writers Guild, which would eventually merge with other writers' groups to become the Writers' Guild of America.

The Newmans likely came to Stonington at the invitation of Crayder's literary agent, Candida Donadio, who had a home here and was renowned for her clients who included Joseph Heller, Philip Roth, Thomas Pynchon, Robert Stone and Mario Puzo.

She is not buried in Poets' Corner.

**James A. Houston**, an artist who brought an appreciation of Inuit art to audiences around the world when he lived in the Canadian Arctic in the 1950s and '60s, died at age 83 at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London in 2005

He was a master designer at the renowned Steuben Glass Co. in New York City, where he worked for the last 43 years, and became the first designer to be honored by Steuben with a major retrospective exhibit in 1992.

Among his best-known works were "Arctic Fisherman," a sculpture showing an Inuit fisherman preparing to spear a fish in the water, and "Trout & Fly," in which a fish leaps to catch a gold fly.

Houston was the person who introduced the use of gold, silver and other precious metals to Steuben's glass sculptures.

"Realizing a connection between glass and ice was of huge importance to me and set me on Nature's trail," Houston wrote in the preface to "The Arctic Fisherman," a limited-edition book from Steuben.

Houston was also the author of numerous adult and children's books on the Inuit people and stories. His novel "The White Dawn" was made into a film starring Louis Gossett Jr. in 1974.

Born in Toronto in 1921, he grew up being inspired by nature.

He met Inuit people in 1948 on a sketching trip to the Canadian Arctic. He ended up living among them for 14 years.

Houston described the first time he saw the Arctic to New London's newspaper, the Day:

"I looked around at the barren rocks and tundra with the few tents graying with age and weighted down against the wind, and I took in the steel-blue sea and the biggest ice that I had ever seen and then the tanned, smiling people. I could scarcely breathe. I thought, this is the place that I've been looking for and now I've found it. I'm here!" he said.

His widow, Alice Houston, lives today in the home on Main Street once owned by Stephen Vincent Benet.

She told me that half of Houston's ashes are scattered here and the other half are on Baffin Island.

**J. D. "Sandy" McClatchy** (August 12, 1945 – April 10, 2018)<sup>[1]</sup> was an American poet, opera librettist and literary critic. He was editor of the Yale Review and president of The American Academy of Arts and Letters.

McClatchy was born Joseph Donald McClatchy Jr., in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, in 1945. He was educated at Georgetown and Yale, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1974.<sup>[2]</sup> He lived in Stonington, Connecticut, and New York.<sup>[3]</sup> His husband was graphic designer Chip Kidd.<sup>[4]</sup>

McClatchy was affiliated with Yale University, where he was an adjunct professor, fellow of Jonathan Edwards College, and editor of The Yale Review.<sup>[7]</sup>

In 1999, he was elected into the membership of The American Academy of Arts and Letters,<sup>[8]</sup> and in January 2009 he was elected its president.<sup>[9]</sup> He previously served as Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets from 1996 until 2003.<sup>[10]</sup> In addition to these appointments, he was a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation,<sup>[11]</sup> the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Academy of American Poets.

In addition to being Literary Executor to Anthony Hecht and Mona Van Duyn, McClatchy was also, along with UCLA professor and poet Stephen Yenser, co-executor for the literary estate of James Merrill.<sup>[12]</sup>

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**Pati Hill** (April 3, 1921 - September 19, 2014) was an American writer and photocopy artist best known for her observational style of prose and her work with the IBM photocopier.<sup>[1]</sup> While she was not the first artist to experiment with the copier, her work is distinguished by its focus on objects, her emphasis on the accessibility of the medium, and her efforts to unite image and text so that they may "fuse to become something other than either."<sup>[1][2][3]</sup>

Hill was born **Patricia Louise Guion Hill** in Ashland, Kentucky in 1921.<sup>[1]</sup> She moved to Charlottesville, Virginia with her mother at age eight.<sup>[2]</sup> In her late teens, Hill attended George Washington University before moving to New York.<sup>[1]</sup> Throughout her life, she moved between France and the United States before finally settling in Sens, Yonne, France in the 1990s.<sup>[1][3]</sup> Beginning in 1956, she lived for several decades in Stonington.<sup>[4]</sup>

For several years in the late 1980s, Hill owned an antiques shop in Mystic, Connecticut.<sup>[4]</sup>

On the subject of marriage, Hill was recorded saying, "it was invented by the Devil—in the guise of a man." She was married three times throughout her life. Her first marriage lasted approximately nine months.<sup>[5]</sup> In the 1940s, Hill married her second husband, Robert Meservey, a skier for the Dartmouth Ski Team, in what was called "a wedding-on-skis." Hill and Meservey skied to the church while Hill carried a bouquet of evergreen branches.<sup>[6]</sup> Hill's marriage to Meservey was featured in a photo spread in LIFE.<sup>[4]</sup>

In 1960 after her two previous marriages, Hill married French gallerist Paul Bianchini, known for bringing attention to postwar artists such as Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, and Claes Oldenburg. In 1962, Hill gave birth to a daughter, Paola.<sup>[3]</sup>

Hill was widowed in 2000 when Bianchini died of cancer.<sup>[7]</sup>

Hill died in her home in Sens, France on September 19, 2014.<sup>[1]</sup>

At age 19, Hill moved to New York where she worked as a model for the John Robert Powers Agency.<sup>[2][8]</sup> In the late 1940s, Hill moved to Paris to continue her modeling career, becoming "a top-flight model" for Edward Molyneux and other designers.<sup>[1][9]</sup> There, she modeled what she recalled was "the first collection of American clothes" in Paris.<sup>[2]</sup>

During the 1940s and 1950s, Hill was featured on the covers or in the layouts of magazines such as Harper's Bazaar, LIFE, and Elle.<sup>[4]</sup> She modeled throughout her twenties and occasionally modeled for photographer and close friend Diane Arbus before withdrawing from fashion to retire to the French countryside.<sup>[3]</sup>

**Teresa Herring Weeks**, 93, died peacefully at her home in Baltimore, MD, February 2, 2019.

She was preceded in death by her husband Louis.

Terry attended Miss Porter's School and graduated from Barnard College in 1976. She spent her professional life in New York City teaching at the New School and as a contributing editor at *Gourmet Magazine*.

From 1980 to 1993, Weeks wrote more than 40 articles for *Gourmet*, each one thoroughly researched before she set out. "Writing those pieces was arduous," says Weeks. "With each one, I said, 'This is the last one,' because of the demanding mix of elements—food, of course, but also history, touring, shopping, museums, art and crafts. I always did a lot of work before I went—three or four weeks before taking a trip, gathering information that would probably be available immediately online today.

"I was eventually made a contributing editor, and they knew I spoke Spanish, French, and Italian—that made a difference. It is very difficult for me to think of doing any of those articles without speaking the language. I was much more comfortable where I could talk."

In recent years, 29 of Terry Weeks's *Gourmet* articles were republished in book form; their subject matter ranges from coastal Maine and San Miguel de Allende to north and south Wales, the Amalfi coast, Venice, and Florence. The 367-page *Travels with Louis: Two Decades of*

Writing for Gourmet is available on Amazon or at some bookstores. The book includes a bonus chapter, "Back to School . . . After Twenty-Seven Years," an article she wrote about Barnard for Vogue in 1980. After being a "dropout" for more than a quarter of a century, she writes about the pleasures and challenges of being an older student, remarking, "I am certain that anyone who decides to go back to college at middle age has a great awareness of how precious are the time and opportunities that present themse

## IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

**Rosalie Thorne "Rollie" McKenna** (November 15, 1918 – June 14, 2003) was an American photographer. Writers photographed by McKenna include Sylvia Plath, Robert Frost, Dylan Thomas, and Truman Capote. McKenna had a long term friendship with Malcolm Brinnin, who helped her come in contact with many of the people she photographed.<sup>[4]</sup> In addition to portraiture, McKenna also had an interest in architecture, particularly the architecture of Stonington.

From March 1 through March 13, 2001, McKenna's portraits including but not limited to: W. H. Auden, T. S. Eliot, Dylan Thomas, Ezra Pound, Sylvia Plath, Ted Hughes and artists including Bill Brandt, Laura Gilpin, John Minton and Henry Moore were displayed in the National Portrait Gallery at St. Martin's Place in London, England. *Rollie McKenna: Artists & Writers*, was McKenna's first European exhibition. An accompanying book featuring the portraits was also sold during the time of the exhibition.<sup>[4]</sup>

McKenna's work is also featured in the National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C., United States. Her portrait of Elizabeth Bishop, a Pulitzer Prize winning poet from Worcester, Massachusetts, was taken in 1951.

In 2018, The Stonington Historical Society created an exhibition in her honor. McKenna, who formerly lived and worked in the town, took many photos aside from her famous portraits. *A Village Love Affair: A New Photography Exhibit & Publication Featuring Rollie McKenna's Images of Stonington* displays her documentary-style black and white photography of people, places and events in the town. Along with the physical exhibition, the Stonington Historical Society also published a 100+ page book of her photographs titled, *A Village Love Affair: Rollie McKenna's Stonington*. This book is a broad collection of the photography of small-town Connecticut, a place McKenna quietly lived and used to express her personal photographic creativity.<sup>[5]</sup>

**Episcopal Bishop Paul Moore Jr.** (November 15, 1919 – May 1, 2003) was a bishop of the Episcopal Church and former United States Marine Corps officer. He served as the 13th Bishop of New York from

1972 to 1989. During his lifetime, he was perhaps the best known Episcopal cleric in the United States, and among the best known of Christian clergy in any denomination.

In 1944, while in the Marine Corps, Moore married Jenny McKean<sup>[7]</sup> a daughter of Bohemian privilege reared on the North Shore of Boston and educated at Madeira School, Vassar College and Barnard College. (Her mother was Margarett Sargent McKean, a noted painter in the Ashcan School and a follower of George Luks.) Together they had nine children (and, at his death, many grandchildren). Jenny McKean Moore published a well reviewed account of their decade together in the slums of Jersey City under the title *The People on Second Street* (1968). During that time the family lived in the tenement-like rectory of Grace van Vorst Church on Second Street in Jersey City (now called in his honor, Bishop Paul Moore Place).

Jenny McKean Moore died of colon cancer in 1973. Eighteen months later Moore married Brenda Hughes Eagle, a childless widow twenty two years his junior. She died of alcoholism in 1999. It was she who discovered his bisexual infidelity, around 1990, and made it known to his children, who kept the secret, as he had asked them to, until Honor Moore's revelations in 2008.

Honor Moore, the oldest of the Moore children and a bisexual,<sup>[8]</sup> revealed that her father was himself bisexual with a history of affairs with men in a story she wrote about him in the March 3, 2008 issue of *The New Yorker*<sup>[9]</sup> and in the book *The Bishop's Daughter: A Memoir* (W. W. Norton, 2008). In addition, she described a call she received six months after her father's death from a man, identified in the article by a pseudonym, who was the only person named in Moore's will who was unknown to the family. Honor Moore learned from the man that he had been her father's longtime lover and that they had traveled together to Patmos in Greece and elsewhere.<sup>[10]</sup>

In 2018, Moore's successor at the helm of the diocese of New York recognized publicly that Moore had engaged in continual sexual misconduct, targeting priests, seminarians and laypersons.<sup>[11]</sup>

Bishop Andrew Dietsche released a pastoral letter describing the late Paul Moore Jr. as a “serial predator” who engaged in “long-time patterns” of sexual exploitation and abuse.<sup>[12]</sup>

### **Catherine Voorsanger.**

She was an associate curator of American decorative arts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, who died at age 51 in New York in 2001 from complications of melanoma.

She also lived in Stonington, with her husband, Bartholomew Voorsanger, an architect who designed the renovation of the Asia Society and the expansion of the Morgan Library.

Ms. Voorsanger worked at the Met since 1983, contributing actively to the increasingly visible field of post-Federal American decorative arts. Her main area of concentration was 19th- and early-20th century American furniture, but she arrived there after studying American 19th-

century painting and architecture and, at the Met, conducting extensive research on John LaFarge's stained glass and the American Aesthetic Movement.

A prime example of her work was "Herter Brothers: Furniture and Interiors for a Gilded Age," an exhibition organized in 1994 with Alice Cooney Freilinghuysen of the Met's decorative arts department, and Katherine S. Howe of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

She earned a B.A. in art history from Smith College in 1972, and, later, a master's and a doctorate from the City University of New York. From 1972 to 1979 she worked as assistant curator and then curator at the California Historical Society in San Francisco. During this time she was a protégé of Alfred Frankenstein, a well-known San Francisco art critic.

Her headstone is modeled after the work of the Herter Brothers.

#### **Katherine "Kate" Johnstone.**

Katherine Tod Johnstone (1922-1999) lived at Salt Acres by the water in Stonington and is probably best known as the sculptor of "Touch Me," depicting a mother and child seal, located within the Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration at the Pribilof Islands outdoor exhibit. There is a smaller version at Mystic Seaport.

She concentrated on oil painting for ten years beginning in 1951. In 1961 her interest changed to sculpture, for which she soon discovered she had a natural talent and derived great satisfaction. She first studied with Beonne Boronda of Mystic and later at the Lyme Academy of Fine Arts where she took figure sculpture with Laci de Gerenday and portrait sculpture with Elisabeth Gordon Chandler.

Through Elisabeth Chandler's encouragement, she entered the 50th Anniversary Show of the Hudson Valley Art Association in Bedrod, New York, winning the highly prized Anna Hyatt Huntington Award in 1978 for her *Dolphins*.

Immediately thereafter, her work was accepted in the first open show held by the prestigious Salmagundi Club, NY. Other awards include 1st jury award in sculpture for 3 out of 5 years in the Mystic International Exhibition, and several awards at the Mystic Art Association where she was an active artist for many years. In 1982 she was elected a Fellow of the Rhode Island School of Design. Her principal works are at the Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH; Mystic Seaport; Mystic Aquarium; the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dingy Club, Bermuda; and the Town Hall, Stonington.

The Town Hall sculpture is a bust of her husband, David Johnstone, who served as first selectman in Stonington as well as a state legislator in Connecticut's General Assembly.

Her son, D. Tod Johnstone, of Masons Island, as a teenager was at the helm of the two-masted, 117-foot vessel, the Albatross, that, in May 1961, was hit by a sudden severe storm, or microburst, in the Gulf of Mexico and sank, resulting in the deaths of six of those on board, including the wife of the captain. Thirteen others were rescued. The incident was the basis for the 1996 film, "White Squall," starring Jeff Bridges.