

# RHODES ON THE PAWTUXET



*Making memories since 1915*

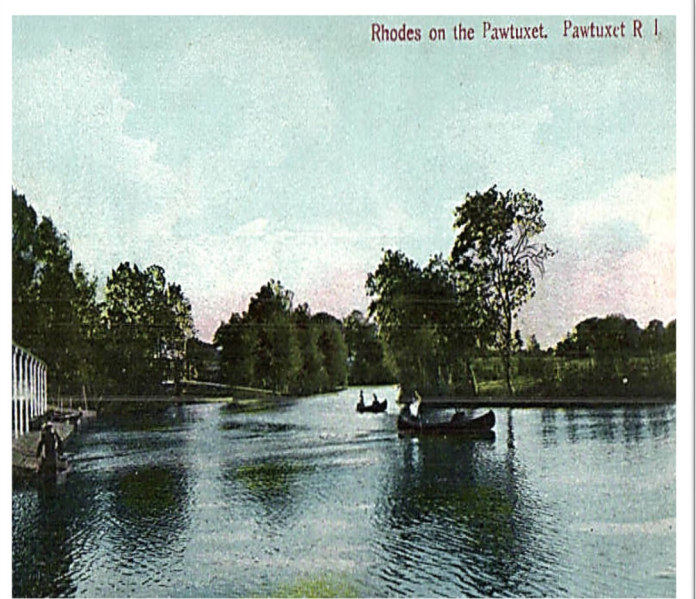
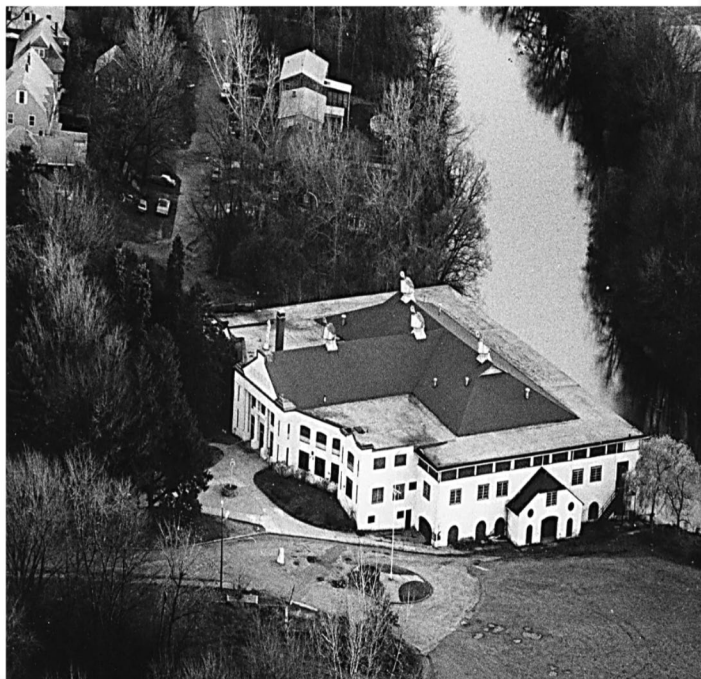
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# The History of Rhodes

**Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet was formerly an even larger complex of social and recreational buildings, located on the northern bank of the Pawtuxet River in the historic Pawtuxet Village, a beautiful coastal area known for its important contributions to the Revolutionary War (site of the capture and burning of the British ship the HMS Gaspee by colonists in 1772.)**

In 1872, Thomas H. Rhodes recognized Pawtuxet's recreational appeal when he opened a modest one-story frame pavilion for clambakes and flat-bottomed canoe rentals. "Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet," as the operations were soon known, quickly expanded to include facilities for dancing, bowling, rowing, and canoeing, and was considered by many to "be the place to be." During the height of its operations, 750 canoes were launched daily from the basement of Rhodes to the water below for scenic tours along the beautiful Pawtuxet River.

In 1898, the year of Thomas H. Rhodes' death, various alterations and expansions had been made, and the newly incorporated Rhodes Brothers enlarged the grounds and built a new casino for dancing.

In 1901, a second new, and larger casino was built, as the earlier one had already been outgrown.

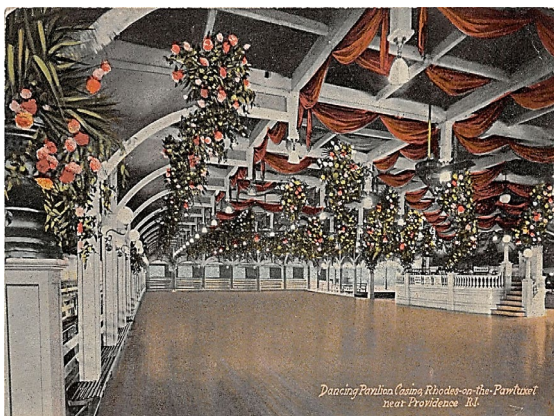
Sadly, on February 11, 1915, a fire started in one of the boathouses, and many of the outbuildings were completely destroyed. On August 14, 1915, the present building, the Rhodes Ballroom, designed in the Classical Revival style by the architect John O'Malley, opened to the public with 10,000 guests in attendance.

Rhodes has been the host to many famous bands and entertainers throughout the years, including Nat King Cole, Benny Goodman, Ella Fitzgerald, Artie Shaw, Glenn Miller, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, The McGuire Sisters, Jerry Vale, Tony Abbott, The Beach Boys, Paul Mitchell, Bonnie Raitt, Louis Armstrong, and more!

Rhodes on the Pawtuxet has recently undergone a restoration, highlighting many of its unique features, including 10,000 square feet of original hardwood floors (considered by many to be one of the finest dance floors in New England), 21' ceilings with unobstructed views, and a beautiful mural of Narragansett Bay, painted by the renowned watercolor artist, Hezekiah A. Dyer. A secret panel, recently discovered, leads to a catwalk, loft, and hidden room, and is thought to have been used during Prohibition. The marble bar is original to the building, and boasts the first liquor license ever granted in Rhode Island. The Rhodes gazebo, the "Trolley Stop", (c. 1880), and the statue of Terpsichore, survived the fire, and are original to the site.

**Rhodes on the Pawtuxet was added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 1978.**

THE DANCING PAVILION & CASINO AT RHODES



ORIGINAL RHODES CASINO DANCE TICKET  
CIRCA 1901



# Photo Gallery



Waiting Station at Rhodes, Pawtuxet, R. I.

*Just a difference in the place*

THE ORIGINAL RHODES ON THE PAWTUXET GAZEBO, AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS THE "TROLLEY STOP", CIRCA LATE 1870'S



THE ILLUMINATED FLAG IS ONE OF THE MOST BELOVED FEATURES OF RHODES. IT IS SAID THAT DURING MILITARY BALLS AND SOCIAL DANCES, LADIES WOULD STAND BENEATH THE FLAG AS A SIGNAL THAT THEY WERE AVAILABLE AND WAITING TO BE ASKED TO DANCE. MANY PEOPLE OVER THE YEARS HAVE MET THEIR SIGNIFICANT OTHERS "UNDER THE FLAG".



*Custro Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, near Providence, R. I.*



# Photo Gallery



RUINS OF THE DEVASTATING FIRE ON FEBRUARY 11, 1915 BELIEVED TO HAVE STARTED IN THE BOAT HOUSE, THE FIRE SPREAD QUICKLY TO MANY OF THE OUTBUILDINGS.



Pawtucket Canoe Club. Rhodes on the Pawtucket, Pawtucket, R. I.

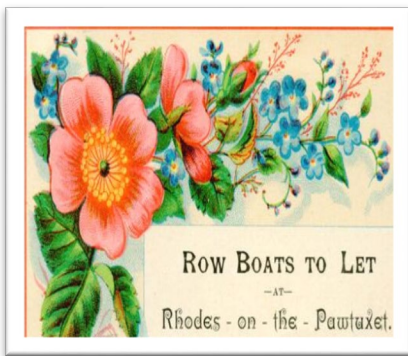
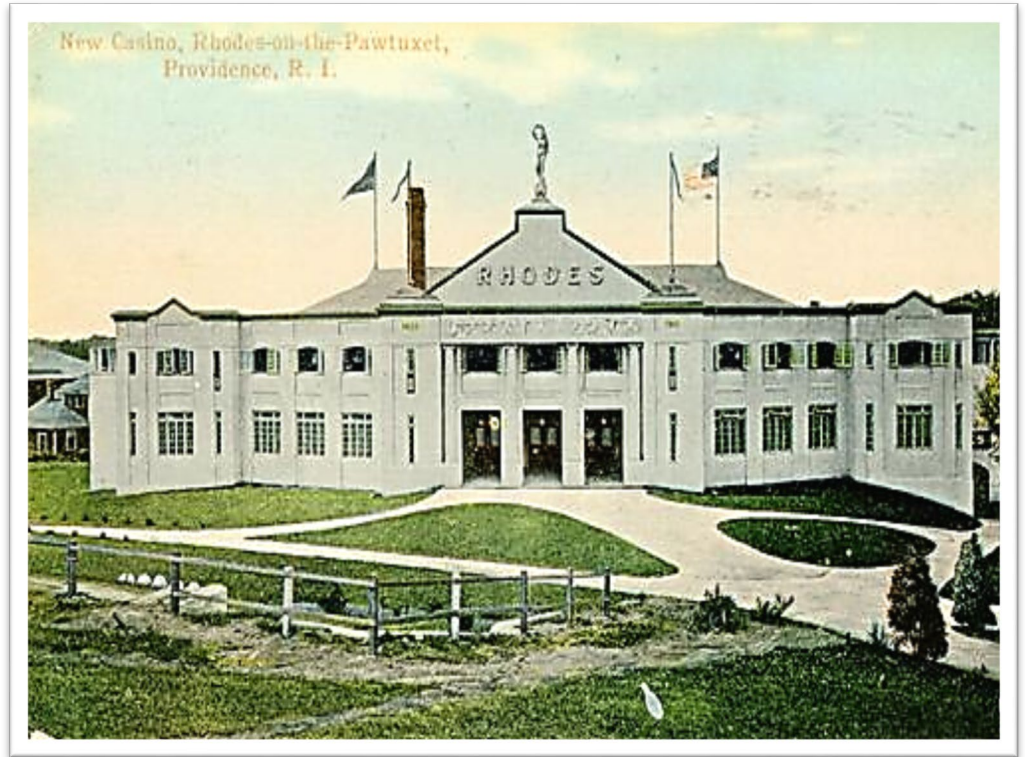


THE STATUE OF TERPISCHORE, MUSE OF THE DANCE, AND THE RHODES GAZEBO LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO RHODES. BOTH STRUCTURES SURVIVED THE FIRE, AND WERE ADDED TO THE NATIONAL REGISTRY OF HISTORIC PLACES IN 1978.

# Photo Gallery

JUST 5 MONTHS AFTER THE FIRE, RHODES RE-OPENED ON AUGUST 14, 1915.

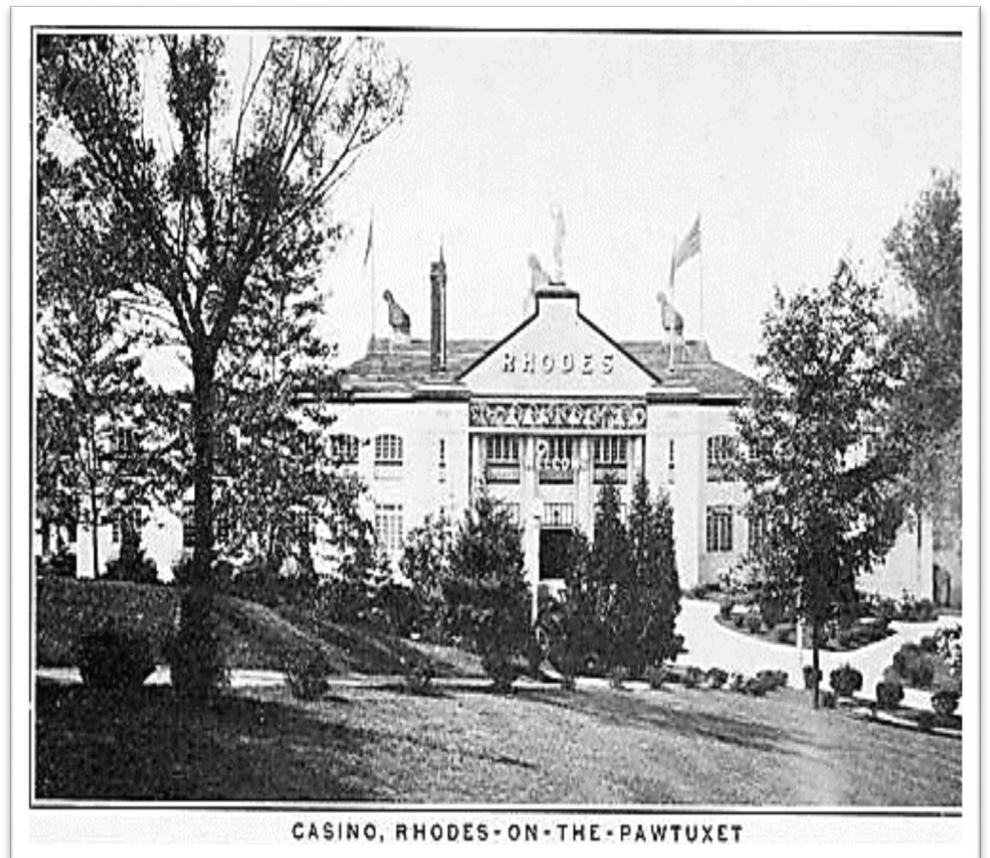
MORE THAN 10,000 GUESTS WERE IN ATTENDANCE TO CELEBRATE THE GRAND RE-OPENING OF THIS CHERISHED LANDMARK.



VINTAGE ADVERTISEMENT



VINTAGE LOVE NOTE FROM RHODES ON THE PAWTUCKET

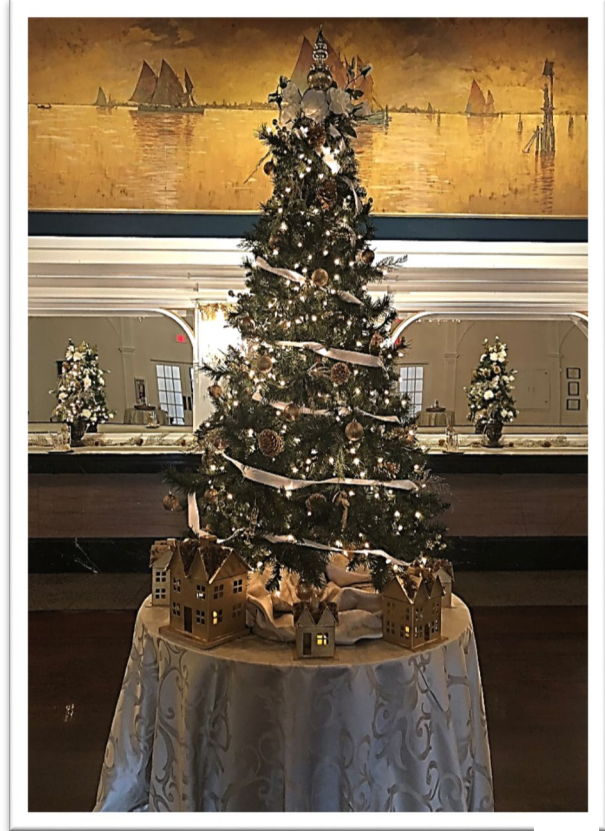
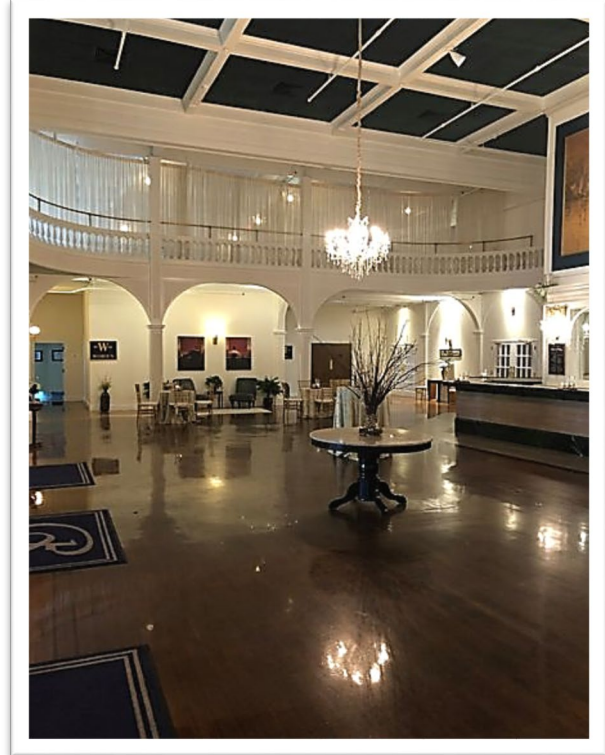


# Photo Gallery



# Photo Gallery

THE FOYER AT RHODES  
FEATURING THE ORIGINAL MARBLE BAR  
THEN & NOW





# Photo Gallery



Interior of Dance Hall, Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Pawtuxet, R. I.



SARA ZARELLA PHOTOGRAPHY



SARA ZARELLA PHOTOGRAPHY

# Photo Gallery



THE INTERIOR OF THE ORIGINAL RHODES BALLROOM - CIRCA 1916 AND 1918



# Photo Gallery



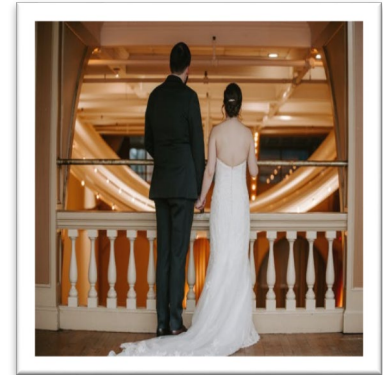
# Photo Gallery



# General Information

## VENUE AMENITIES

- AVAILABLE YEAR-ROUND FOR ALL TYPES OF SPECIAL EVENTS
- ELEGANT DÉCOR
- 21' CEILINGS WITH UNOBSTRUCTED VIEWS
- 10,000 SQUARE FEET OF ORIGINAL HARDWOOD FLOORS
- FULLY HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES (1ST FLOOR)
- PLENTIFUL FREE OFF-STREET PARKING
- FULL SERVICE BAR
- BACK-UP GENERATOR
- FULLY SPRINKLERED FACILITY
- WEDDINGS: BRIDAL SUITE & SEPARATE GROOM'S ROOM - INCLUDES COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE



## VENUE RENTAL FEES

Venue Fees are subject to a 21% House Fee, and 7% RI State Sales Tax. *The House Fee is utilized by the venue to cover operating expenses directly related to your function. It does not represent a gratuity or service charge for employees. If your organization is tax-exempt, a copy of the valid exemption certificate must be received in advance of the event. Tax identification numbers will not be accepted.*

DAY	VENUE FEE <i>*Additional Catering Fees Apply</i>
Monday – Friday, DAY Ending before or at 3:30 pm	\$125.00 per hour, up to a maximum of \$750.00
Monday – Thursday, EVE / 6-hour rental	\$1,500.00
Friday, EVE / 6-hour rental	\$2,000.00
Saturday, DAY / 4-hour rental Ending before or at 2:00 pm	\$250.00 per hour, up to a maximum of \$1,000.00
Saturday, EVE / 6-hour rental MARCH – OCTOBER + DECEMBER	\$3,500.00 (2024 RATE)
Saturday, EVE / 6-hour rental JANUARY & FEBRUARY + NOVEMBER	\$3,000.00
Sunday, DAY / 4-hour rental Ending before or at 2:00 pm	\$200.00 per hour, up to a maximum of \$800.00
Sunday, EVE / 6-hour rental	\$2,000.00

### CEREMONY FEES (IF APPLICABLE):

**\$500.00** (Includes additional ½ hour, standard banquet chairs, set-up, and breakdown costs)

**\*Upgraded chairs or chair covers – ADDITIONAL FEES, BASED ON AVAILABILITY & STYLE**

**\*Gold Circle or Gold Square Ceremony Arches Available - \$100.00 each**

### FIRE & POLICE DETAIL OFFICERS:

The City of Cranston requires Rhodes to have special duty police and fire officers on duty for events that meet certain criteria. The number of officers assigned is determined by a client's estimated count, and the Chiefs of each department will have the final decision on the number of officers assigned. Rhodes will order special detail officers on the client's behalf (as mandated by the City of Cranston.) Charges for special detail officers will be charged to the client.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **\*IS THIS A “HALL”?**

No. Rhodes on the Pawtuxet is a beautiful banquet venue, featuring an exclusive caterer and bar services, elegant décor, plentiful free off-street parking, and handicapped accessible facilities (1<sup>st</sup> Floor). Rhodes on the Pawtuxet is available year-round for all types of special events.

## **\*WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE VENUE RENTAL?**

The Venue Rental includes the use of our standard banquet chairs, table inventory (20 – 72” rounds, 80 – 60” rounds, and 10 – 8’ banquets are available. Additional tables / specific table sizes may be rented at client’s expense), LAP-LENGTH linens (white, ivory, or black with a matching napkin), as well as the basic set-up and breakdown for your event. Bartending staff will be provided by Rhodes on the Pawtuxet at no additional charge (1 Bartender per every 100 Guests is required. ADDITIONAL Bartenders, and / or Cocktail Staff may be secured for \$75.00 per Bartender – ADVANCE NOTICE IS REQUIRED.) Venue Fees are subject to a 21% House Fee, and 7% RI State Sales Tax. ***The House Fee is utilized by the venue to cover operating expenses related to your function. It does not represent a gratuity or service charge for employees.***

## **\*CAN I BRING IN MY OWN FOOD?**

Due to liability reasons, we do require our clients to use our exclusive caterer, Ralph’s Catering, as they are under contract, and are properly food safety certified and insured. However, allowances are made for parties that wish to supply their own outside licensed caterer. Please note that a \$2500.00 outside catering / kitchen fee will be charged, in addition to the full venue fee. Outside caterers will be required to provide a certificate of insurance listing Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Inc. as additional insured certificate holder, for a minimum of \$1,000,000.00, a copy of their valid food safety certification, and a copy of their catering license. **Prior written approval by Rhodes on the Pawtuxet is required in advance of the event. The Caterer agrees to leave the kitchen and dish room area (if used) cleaned and sanitized at the conclusion of the event. Trash bags must be securely closed and brought to the dumpster (Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Inc. provides) immediately following event conclusion. A \$500.00 cleaning fee will be charged if the kitchen is not left in the condition that it was found, or if trash and debris are not properly removed.**

## **\*CAN I BRING IN MY OWN BEVERAGES?**

No. Rhodes on the Pawtuxet MUST provide all beverages. **To ensure the safety of our Guests and Employees, and in compliance with State and Local Liquor Laws, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MAY NOT BE BROUGHT ONTO OUR PREMISES AT ANY TIME.** A full-service bar is available featuring all of your favorite selections. The bar may be run on a cash (Guests pay for their own beverages), open (or “host” bar – the Client pays for the Guests’ beverages) basis, or any combination of the two (beverage packages are available, or, the bar may be run on a consumption basis if preferred. Rhodes accepts cash, credit / debit, and Apple pay for bar arrangements. Restrictions do apply – please ask your sales representative for more information). All open (or “host”) bars are subject to a 21% Administrative Fee, 7% Rhode Island State Sales Tax, & 1% Local Food & Beverage Sales Tax. Guests must be 21 years of age to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages. PROPER ID IS REQUIRED. PER VENUE POLICY: No “shots” neat” or “straight up” beverages will be served. All liquors must be served over ice or with a mixer.

# *Frequently Asked Questions*

## **\*WHAT IS THE LATEST THAT WE CAN STAY FOR AN EVENING EVENT?**

Evening events (as noted in the event contract) must end no later than midnight.

## **\*IF I SUBMIT A DEPOSIT TO SECURE AN AVAILABLE DATE, AND THE EVENT IS CANCELLED, DO I GET A REFUND?**

Events booked are tentative until the required deposit (amount varies based on the type of event) is received. Event deposits are considered non-refundable. In the event of a cancellation by the Client, the deposit may be applied to another available date within twelve calendar months without a penalty.

## **\*WHAT FORMS OF PAYMENT ARE ACCEPTED?**

Full payment of an estimated bill must be received a minimum of three (3) business days in advance of the function. Payments may be in the form of Certified Bank Check (made payable to Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Inc., please), VISA, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express. **Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Inc. will accept a total of \$4,000.00 in credit card payment(s) without a processing fee. A 3.5% processing fee will be added to any additional credit card payments in excess of \$4,000.00 that are applied to a single event. Personal checks will NOT be accepted for final payments.**

## **\*WHEN CAN MY VENDORS MAKE DELIVERIES / SET-UP FOR MY EVENT?**

Deliveries of all NON-PERISHABLE items may be delivered the day before an event, between the hours of 9:30 am – 4:30 pm. In the case of a Sunday event, deliveries will be accepted the FRIDAY before the event, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm. We request that you kindly contact the Sales Office at 401.785.4333 to schedule any deliveries. **PLEASE NOTE: Items delivered prior to the day of the event will NOT be set-up in advance (due to other regularly scheduled events taking place), but will be stored in a safe place. Rhodes on the Pawtuxet is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items. Deliveries, decorating, and Vendor set-ups will be accepted three hours prior to the actual start time. Extra set-up hours may be purchased for \$250.00 per additional hour (subject to availability.)**

## **\*WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR BREAKDOWN FOR MY EVENT?**

All event décor must be removed immediately following the conclusion of the event. Please schedule accordingly, as the facility must be available for events the following day. Vendors and decorators are allowed a maximum of two hours to dismantle equipment and décor and vacate the premises.

## **\*ARE THERE ANY DECORATING RESTRICTIONS?**

- **CANDLES:** Candles MUST be enclosed in glass candleholders or other approved containers. Candles that are not enclosed will not be permitted.
- **GLITTER AND CONFETTI (OF ANY SIZE):** May NOT be used under any circumstances.
- **ROSE PETALS:** May be used for Wedding Ceremonies only.
- **HELIUM BALLOONS and SMOKE / FOG / DRY ICE MACHINES:** May NOT be used under any circumstances, due to very sensitive sprinkler and alarm systems.
- **PUSH PINS, NAILS, GLUE, VELCRO (With the exception of Scotch Hooks):** May NOT be used under any circumstances.
- **TAPE:** Gaffers Tape is the only approved tape that may be used on the floors, walls, or doors.
- **DRAPERY / PIPE & DRAPE:** Must be professionally installed and marked "NON-FLAMMABLE".
- **FLOATING FLOORS, VINYL FLOOR WRAPS / STICKERS:** May NOT be used under any circumstances.



RALPH DEFUSCO, OWNER  
RALPH'S CATERING



# RHODES ON THE PAWTUXET *Ralph's Catering*

Rhodes on the Pawtuxet is pleased to offer Ralph's Catering as their exclusive wedding and special occasion caterer. Boasting over thirty years as a top-rated caterer, Ralph's Catering is fully licensed, and owner-operated, specializing in custom wedding, corporate, and social menus.

The meal is designed by you, with the guidance of a professional and experienced team. We will ensure that all aspects of your dining experience are as you always envisioned them. All menu items are prepared on-site, ensuring that your guests enjoy fresh, hot, delicious food that will exceed your expectations.

Please contact Rhodes on the Pawtuxet directly to select your wedding and special event menus (Rhodes on the Pawtuxet is an authorized representative for Ralph's Catering.). We will be happy to assist you in planning and coordinating your special day, from inception to completion.

## *Outside Caterers*

For parties that wish to supply their own outside licensed caterer, a \$2500.00 outside catering / kitchen fee will be charged, in addition to the full venue fee. Outside caterers will be required to provide a certificate of insurance listing Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Inc. as additional insured certificate holder, for a minimum of \$1,000,000.00, a copy of their valid food safety certification, and a copy of their catering license. **Prior written approval by Rhodes on the Pawtuxet is required in advance of the event. The Caterer agrees to leave the kitchen and dish room area (if used) cleaned and sanitized at the conclusion of the event. Trash bags must be securely closed and brought to the dumpster (Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Inc. provides) immediately following event conclusion. A \$500.00 cleaning fee will be charged if the kitchen is not left in the condition that it was found, or if trash and debris are not properly removed.**



# Hosted Beverage Packages



\*SUBJECT TO 21% ADMINISTRATIVE FEE & APPLICABLE TAXES

## NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Sodas, Juices, Bottled Water, Flavored Seltzers, Shirley Temples, Lemonade  
\$10.00 PER PERSON (ENTIRE EVENT)

## BEER, WINE, & SODA

Domestic & Imported Beers, Red & White House Wines, & Non-alcoholic Beverages  
\$14.00 PER PERSON FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR OR \$27.00 PER PERSON FOR 4 ½ HOURS

## CALL BRANDS

A SELECTION OF OUR MOST POPULAR CALL BRAND LIQUORS  
Domestic & Imported Beers, Red & White House Wines, & Non-alcoholic Beverages  
\$17.00 PER PERSON FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR OR \$31.00 PER PERSON FOR 4 ½ HOURS

## TOP SHELF BRANDS

A SELECTION OF OUR MOST POPULAR TOP SHELF LIQUORS  
Cordials, Domestic & Imported Beers, Red & White House & Premium Wines, & Non-alcoholic Beverages  
\$20.00 PER PERSON FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR OR \$37.00 PER PERSON FOR 4 ½ HOURS

## PREMIUM BRANDS

A SELECTION OF OUR MOST POPULAR PREMIUM LIQUORS  
Cordials, Domestic & Imported Beers, Red & White House & Premium Wines, & Non-alcoholic Beverages  
\$24.00 PER PERSON FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR OR \$43.00 PER PERSON FOR 4 ½ HOURS

# *Additional Beverage Options*

## *Toasting Beverages*

**\*SUBJECT TO 21% ADMINISTRATIVE FEE & APPLICABLE TAXES**

***\*Special Orders Available - Please ask your Sales Representative for details & pricing***

Non-alcoholic Sparkling Cider Toast - \$2.00 per Person

House Champagne Toast - \$3.00 per Adult

House Prosecco Toast - \$4.00 per Adult

House Wine Toast - \$3.00 per Adult

Premium Wine Toast - \$4.00 per Adult

## *Signature Beverages by the Gallon*

SERVES 32 GUESTS PER GALLON

**\*SUBJECT TO 21% ADMINISTRATIVE FEE & APPLICABLE TAXES**

***\*Special Orders Available - Please ask your Sales Representative for details & pricing***

Champagne Punch - \$100.00 per Gallon

Mimosas - \$125.00 per Gallon

Bellinis - \$150.00 per Gallon

Red or White Sangria - \$175.00 per Gallon

Classic Margaritas (Jose Cuervo) - \$150.00 per Gallon

Premium Margaritas (Patron) - \$200.00 per Gallon

Cape Cod (Tito's) - \$175.00 per Gallon

Whiskey Sour Punch (Makers Mark) - \$175.00 per Gallon

## *Cash Bar Pricing*

Premium Spirits - \$12.00 - \$16.00

Top Shelf Spirits - \$10.00 - \$12.00

Call Brand Spirits - \$8.00

Cordials - \$8.00 - \$10.00

Premium Wines - \$10.00

House Wines - \$8.00

Imported Beers - \$6.00

Domestic Beers - \$5.00

Soda / Juices - \$3.00

Bottled Water - \$2.00

