



Board of Directors
Term: 2013-2015

President
Wayne T. McCarthy

Vice-President
Sheila E. FitzPatrick

Treasurer
Mary Selig

Assistant Treasurer
Jack Cox

Recording Secretary
Janis Marchese

Corresponding Secretary
Edna Dolber

Curator
Joseph Keefe

Assistant Curator
Winifred W. Kneisel

Membership
Carol DiFranco

Board Members

Ruth M. Arena
Tim Close
Joseph Connors
Marie Daly
Dr. Helene Day
Denise Dube
Ron Guertin
Louise Hamilton
Virginia Hays
Susan Keefe
Morton Isaacson
Larry Logan
Lou Nocera
Joan M. Sheridan
David Smith

The *Weathervane* is an official publication of the Waltham Historical Society
190 Moody Street
Waltham, Massachusetts 02453
781-891-5815
www.walthamhistoricalsociety.org

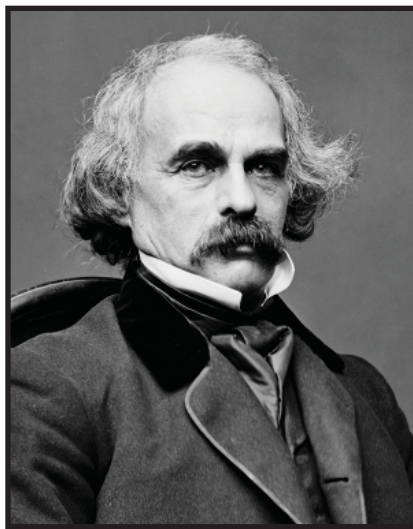
© Copyright 2014. All rights reserved. Membership in the Waltham Historical Society includes subscription to this newsletter among other rights and privileges.

Articles and images submitted for publication, unless otherwise specified, become the property of the Waltham Historical Society. Authors submitting material for publication are requested to sign articles and include name, address, phone number, e-mail if any, and release to print images of any individuals depicted.

The Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Writing the Civil War



Literary Historian Rob Vellella

Discover the dynamic relationship between America's Civil War and 19th century American literature, with an emphasis on writers from New England. Ultimately, the war transformed American writing. This illustrated talk presents works that both inspire action and reflect on war-time traumas. Several writers will be discussed but particular emphasis will be placed on Nathaniel Hawthorne, who died 150 years ago this month, as well as the novelist's surprising connections to Waltham.

About the lecturer



Waltham native Rob Vellella is an independent literary historian and playwright specializing in American literature of the 19th century. A Waltham native, Vellella has published articles and presented academic papers on figures as varied as Margaret Fuller, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Walt Whitman. His most recent publication, a chapter on Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, was included in the compilation *Reconsidering Longfellow* (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2014).

Nicknamed the "Prometheus of American literary scholarship," he has taken his research outside of academia by lecturing at various historical sites, libraries, and colleges from Pennsylvania to Maine. Recently, he served as guest curator for "Margaret Fuller: Woman of the Nineteenth Century" at Harvard's Houghton Library and as research associate for "The Raven in the Frog Pond: Edgar Allan Poe and Boston" for the Boston Public Library.

In his ongoing efforts to bring the writers of yesterday back to the readers of today, he has dramatically brought to life several literary figures, including the young Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Edgar Allan Poe. Vellella also maintains the *American Literary Blog* (<http://www.americanliteraryblog.blogspot.com/>), an "almost-daily celebration of important (and not-so-important) dates in 19th-century American literary history."

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE. PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

YARD SALE

WITH PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT

The Waltham Historical Society

The Historical Society will be holding a yard sale on Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 am to 2:00 PM at the former Bright School, 260 Grove Street. Items currently surplus to Society needs will be offered for sale to the public.

In order to make this event a success, we are seeking donations of items to be added to the sale. The funds raised from the sale of donated items will be used to assist the Society's continued efforts to preserve and protect artifacts from the city's history.

We will work with you to make arrangements for receiving the items in time for the yard sale. All items are welcome including books, toys, or household items you no longer need. Please make certain the items are not better destined for trash.

To donate items or to volunteer on the day of the Sale please contact:

Joe or Carol DiFranco
781-893-7828 or
difrancojoecar@verizon.net

Yard Sale

To benefit the
Waltham Historical Society

Saturday, May 31st

9 am to 2 pm

at the Bright School

If you have items you can donate to the sale, they will be gratefully accepted.

All donations may be dropped off at the Bright School, 260 Grove Street
Saturday Mornings from 9-11 am
Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3-5 pm
or by appointment through contacting
Carol DiFranco at difrancojoecar@verizon.net
or **781-893-7828**

Notes from the Exhibit Team

I would like to thank Angie Emberley and Janis Marchese for helping with the painting of the display cases at the Bright School. We painted the interiors and exteriors of 10 display cases, and with their help, we made quick work of it. These cases, with their nice grey color (and black interiors) create a great visual consistency and flow well with our color scheme at the Bright School. The next project the exhibit team will be tackling will be spray mounting some reproduction photographs for the exhibit room, and signs for the cases. I would like to thank President Wayne McCarthy for his continued encouragement and constant flow of ideas for the future exhibit plans for the Bright School.

The Exhibit Team usually meets a couple of times a month (or more) on Thursday evenings....If you are interested in joining the exhibit team, or just helping on some of our upcoming projects, please contact me at vze3q3d5@verizon.net.

Hope to see you soon, Sue Keefe, Exhibit Coordinator



Please support Joe Connors in the 5K Walk Home, RTN Federal Credit Union's annual walk to benefit the homeless.

The event will be held on Sunday, June 8th beginning at 9:00 am on Waltham Common. Sponsor Joe, come out and walk, and donate to support these efforts.

Left: Waltham Hospital 1892

Right Top: Ladder 1 — 1919 American LaFrance

Right Middle: Waltham High School Class of 1904

Right Bottom: Laying Lower Main Street

Curator's Corner

We are continuing to move forward with the Bright School setup. In preparation for our move of the collections from our holdings at Moody Street and the Garage space, two rooms have been cleared. We have designated these rooms to be available for temporary storage. These rooms will act as a holding location while the processing and cataloging of the collection and proper designation for permanent storage at the Bright School is worked on.

During our recent move of the materials from the storage closet at Moody Street (with the wonderful help of the Bentley students) we came across three un-processed collections. Two of which have been recently processed by the curator, and the third collection is in the works. Here are some of the highlights of the two processed collections: First processed, was the papers of city councilor, Paul Giunta. The collection is comprised of his paperwork from 1963-1994. These materials deal with his time as a city councilor, including Councilor Giunta's work on city planning, capital improvement projects and his work on the hazardous material committee. The next collection processed was the material dealing with the 1924 labor strike at the Waltham Watch Company. The material included such things as administrative records from the Watch Company, labor records, minutes of the Watch Company newsletter and numerous articles from the Waltham News Tribune reporting on the strike. The third group is a collection of material from the Grover Cronin's Department Store, which the curator will report on in the next newsletter.

In Addition to this work, the curator is continuing work on the large Waltham Hospital Collection that was donated to the Society last year. This collection is currently, about 75% processed.

Many of you may be asking, "What does processed mean?"

To "Process" a collection, the materials are first sorted and compiled in our Temporary Storage rooms at the Bright School. Next, all staples, rubber bands and fasteners are removed. Then all photographs, documents or objects are carefully transferred to new archival quality folders, boxes or sleeves (where necessary). Next the collection is given an item number. Then, a scope and content note (which briefly describes the collection) and a box list and/or finding aid is compiled. This information is then logged into our master catalog. The final step is giving the newly processed collection a storage location in our Permanent Archival Storage space at the Bright School.

As you can see, lots of work is taking place and we still have lots of work left to do, but we are getting ever closer to giving our collection of materials a new home at the Bright School.

Thank you,
Joseph Keefe, Curator



The Board of Directors of the Waltham Historical Society wishes to express our appreciation for the support of the individuals and organizations listed on this page. They have been very generous to the Historical Society this past year and we encourage you to thank them for their generosity by patronizing the businesses identified, and by expressing thanks to the individuals. Without this type of support the Society would be unable to continue our work in the community.

Ruth M. Arena
Henry & Patricia Burke
Louise Butler
Robert Charbonneau & Family
Historical Commission
Jack Cox
Gail & Marion Cormier
Angie Emberley
Tom Emberley
Sheila FitzPatrick
Joyce Gianfelice
Ron Guertin
Beth Guertin
Louise Hamilton
Marjorie F. Hartman
Virginia C. Hays
Jean M. Husson
Mort Isaacson
Erica Zissman
Joyce Kelly

Winfred W. Kneisel
Norman MacDonald
Frank Maloney
Barbara Maloney
Roberta McCarthy
Peggy Nix
Chauncey Perry
Nancy Perry
John & Fiona Reardon
Bobby Robinson
Esther F. Seeley
Mary Selig
John Selig
Maria Sheehan
Joan M. Sheridan
Peter & Ellie Smerlas
Mary C. Spiers
Russ & Fran Stearns
Beth Hubley Thomson
Kate Tranquada
Eric Ward & Family

Fran's Fruit & Flowers
Phil Burke
Councilor Kathleen B. McMenimen
Professional Hearing Centers
Marcou Jewelers
Delaney & Delaney Attorneys at Law
James J. Hayes Oil Co., Inc.
Joyce Funeral Home
The Rotary Club of Waltham
Waltham High School Graphics Class
Fran's Flowers
Watertown Savings Bank
Gary Rogers, Realtor

"Thank you" to the Waltham Historical Society for preserving the City's rich history.



As a proud member of the Waltham community for nearly 70 years, we look forward to serving the members of the Society.

Savings | Certificates
Free Checking | Free VISA® Debit Cards

Vehicle Loans | Personal Loans | VISA Credit Cards
Mortgages | Second Mortgages | Home Equity Loans

Free Online & Mobile Banking | Nationwide Branches

(781) 894-5090
FAX (781) 894-0579



FELTON STREET STUDIOS
Museum Quality
Custom Picture Framing

Robert Fitzgerald

72 FELTON ST
WALTHAM, MA 02453

Special Thanks go to Gary Rogers for his continued support of the Society.

600 Main St. | Waltham
781-736-9900 | rtn.org



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
LENDER

Federally insured by NCUA



Relax.
It's Done.™

781-891-6700

merry maids.

fast dependable service
auto • home • industry

PRIME
GLASS and MIRROR
60 Arsenal St., Watertown, MA 02472

Larry Logan

Phone: (617) 924-9050
Fax: (617) 924-5182

www.prime-glass.com
email: primeglass101@aol.com

Looking for a reliable moving company?



BROOKLINE
MOVING CO.
"Nothing but Service"

- » Moving
- » Storage*
- » Unpacking
- » Packing
- » Packing Supplies



*Ask about our 3 months of free storage offer

www.BrooklineMoving.com
Call 617.489.8090

CAFÉ ON THE COMMON

coffees, teas, & French pastries



The Lawrence Building • 677 Main Street
Waltham, Massachusetts
phone: 781-647-4019

RTN



2014

walk Home

5K Benefit Walk for the Homeless

Sunday, June 8, 2014

9am Registration

10am Walk Begins (rain or shine)

THREE WALK ROUTES:

DANVERS RAIL TRAIL

DORCHESTER PARK

WALTHAM COMMON

WALK • SPONSOR • DONATE • VOLUNTEER

register at rtn.org

Help the 44,000 school-aged children who experience homelessness in Massachusetts each year.

All proceeds benefit Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless. Donations of \$10 or more are tax deductible.

To register or for more information, go to RTN.org or call 617-278-5603.

RTN branches near Walk Home locations:

RTN Main Branch:

Waltham

600 Main Street
Waltham, MA 02452

Danvers




(Route 114 opposite Kane's Flower World)
29 Andover Street
Danvers, MA 01923

Dorchester Lower Mills

1205 Adams Street
Dorchester, MA 02124



800-338-0221 ♦ rtn.org ♦

Federally Insured by the NCUA
  
Equal Opportunity Lender