

The Official Newsletter of

The Waltham  
Historical Society

WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

FEBRUARY 2021



**DUE TO COVID-19  
GUIDELINES AND  
CONCERN FOR  
MEMBER HEALTH AND  
SAFETY THIS LECTURE  
WILL BE HELD USING  
ZOOM**

Board of Directors  
Term: 2019-2021

*President*  
Wayne T. McCarthy

*Vice-President*  
Sheila E. FitzPatrick

*Treasurer*  
Marie Daly

*Assistant Treasurer*  
Jack Cox

*Recording Secretary*  
Janis Marchese

*Corresponding Secretary*  
Jeremy Hagger

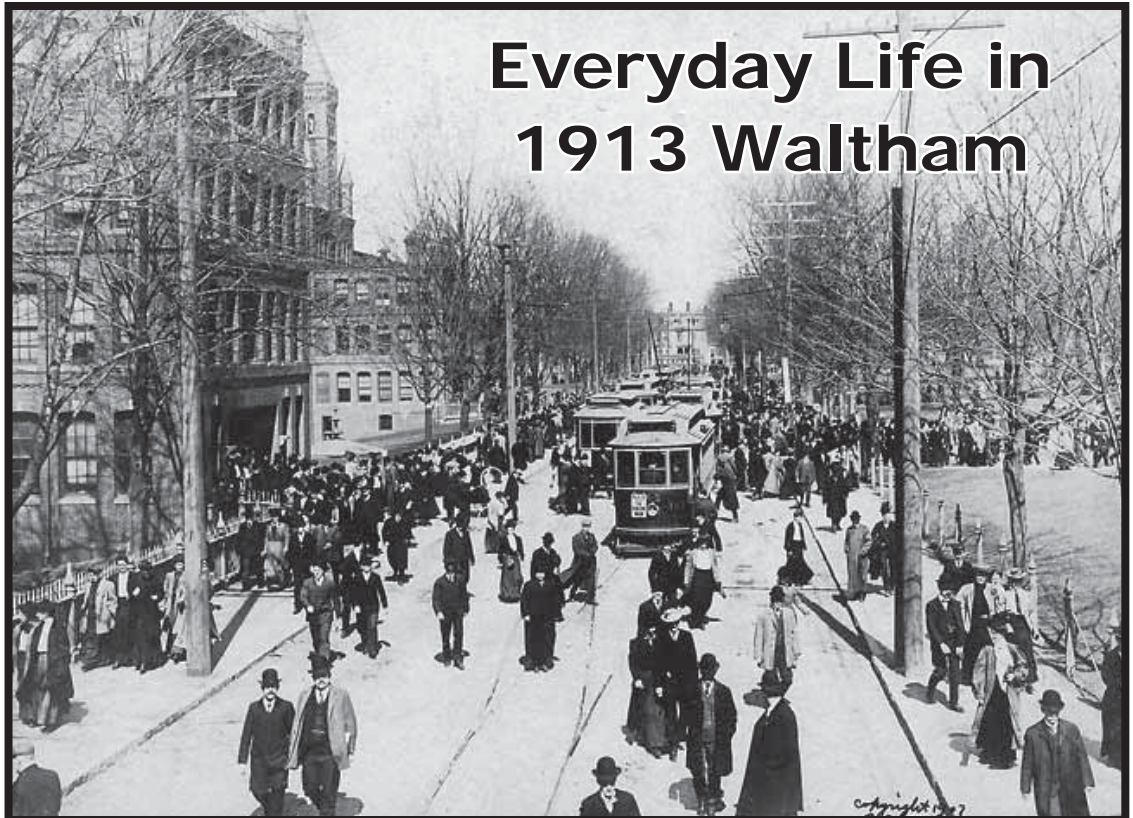
*Curator*  
Vacant

*Assistant Curator*  
Vacant

*Membership*  
Gail Cormier

**Board Members**  
Ruth M. Arena  
Walter Beebe-Center  
Joseph Connors  
Dr. Helene Day  
James Grenier  
Ron Guertin  
Morton Isaacson  
Rachel Malley  
Chauncy Perry  
Al Smith  
David Smith

*The Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series presents*



## Everyday Life in 1913 Waltham

*Crescent Street from WHS archives (scenes of Waltham ca 1913)*

**Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

**7:00 pm via Zoom**

*A Link Will Be Sent*

**By Marie Daly**

*Treasurer, Waltham Historical Society*

### Everyday Life in 1913 Waltham

In 1913, Waltham was a very different place in some respects, and remarkably the same in others. On the south side, Waltham was a hub of innovative businesses that manufactured textiles, watches, tools and pipes. On the north side, small family farms provided produce and milk to urban populations. Horses and carriages delivered ice and milk door-to-door on unpaved roads.

But people were also living in an era of great change. The nineteenth century, small-town ways of horses and carriages or sleighs, paternalistic government, and a closed society of old-timers were giving way to new technology, new immigrants, and new ideas and forms of entertainment. This was the advent of modernism. Some aspects were not that different from today. Technological innovations were changing the daily lives of most people. Young people enthusiastically embraced the changes, while

older residents resisted and were disconcerted at the new developments. The city was slowly evolving politically toward the acceptance of women in public life. Many professional women, including Waltham Historical Society members, were active in pursuing voting rights for women. So, in 1913, Waltham was on the cusp of a new modern era.

This lecture will examine everyday lives of Waltham residents, and review the major issues of the day.

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

*© Copyright 2021, 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.*

# More Images of Waltham in 1913



1913 Waltham baseball team (WHS collection) (example of recreation in Waltham)



Women's suffrage parade from Library of Congress (example of fashion in 1913 & also political movements)

Bunny Hug from WYSO Public Radio, "Dirty Dancing in the Early 1900s" (example of new two-step dances)



Glenwood stove advertisement from Waltham Street Directory 1912 (example of home appliances)

**If You Didn't Start Right**  
trade your old range for a

# Glenwood

The Range that  
"Makes Cooking Easy"

A Glenwood Coal or Gas Range has cooking and a Glenwood Pantry. Features an inner hot holding drawer with contacts for 100 lbs. coal.

Taylor & Percival, Waltham  
W. I. Lamson, Waltham



Madame Childs and Family at 396 Lexington Street in 1913

**C. P. NUTTING & CO.**  
 Canoes and Boats To Let  
 Manufacturers of  
 High Grade Canvas Canoes  
 If you want a CANOE that you will be proud of, call on us and we will show you the best line in town  
 Riverview Boat House, Prospect St., Waltham, Mass. CARS PASS THE DOOR



Mr. J. Slamin and Mr. W. Cosgrove at the Waltham Car Barn, May 30, 1913

**Waltham Co-operative Bank**  
 EARL F. CASWELL, Secretary and Treasurer  
 NOW PAYING **4 1/2%** PER ANNUM COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY  
 Men, women, or children may become members of this bank by taking out from 1 to 25 shares, for which they pay \$1.00 per share each month.  
 A depositor placing \$1 in this bank each month for 152 months would receive a profit of \$48, which would enable him at that time to withdraw \$200.00 at the present rate of interest, which is 4 1/2 per cent. It is not necessary, however, to deposit 152 months in order to receive the proportionate profit.  
**New Shares Offered for Sale**  
 February May August November

CENTURY ADVERTISEMENTS—FINE WATCHES 35

At both extremes of size and in between  
**Waltham Watches**  
 have the supreme instrumental excellence

The watch on the left is the Waltham "Vanguard", the most accurate watch in the country you will ever own and running for years. But this is the height of the instrument, for the watches such as these are not particularly accurate.

Ask your jeweler to show you a Waltham Riverside model. It is worth a hundred "toy watches."

Riverside Watches are described and illustrated in a booklet, sent free upon request. Please mention "The Riverside Family."

Waltham Watch Company  
 Waltham, Mass.

July 1913 advertisement for Waltham Watches

**BUNNY HUG RAG**  
 TWO STEP  
 TURKEY TROT  
 OR BUNNY HUG  
 DANCE FOR PIANO  
 BY GEORGE L. COBB

PUBLISHED BY  
 CHAS. E. BEAT-MUSIC CO. LTD.  
 DENTON CREEK, MICH.

## WE ARE CARRYING ON!

Even though we are all impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic our volunteers have continued to work from home, and on rare occasions in isolation or socially distanced at the archives. Inquiries and digital donations through the website have not slowed.

Fund-raising is still a challenge under these circumstances. We have been updating our website and social media to share some of the holdings of the Society and are now able to offer items for sale on-line. Please keep in mind that

all items are in limited supply, so plan to order early to ensure we have sufficient inventory to satisfy your gift-giving needs.

Although the official Memberships renewal period has ended you can still renew your membership through the website. **You should have received your membership card in late December. If you haven't please let us know at [members@walthamhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:members@walthamhistoricalsociety.org)!**

Thank you for your continued support of the Waltham Historical Society.

## Recent Donations



The Arlington Historical Society recently contacted us with an offer of state-of-the-art display cases. They acquired more display cases than they needed and reached out to see if we had need for some. After working with the display cases we had donated years ago it seemed like an opportunity we couldn't resist.

The new cases will allow us to make more of our holdings visible to the public in a manner that was designed for the purpose.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Ms. Sara Lundberg at the Arlington Historical Society for the generous consideration and hope to collaborate on a mutually beneficial initiative once the pandemic restrictions have been lifted.



We also acquired a baby bassinet from the Waltham Hospital nursery circa 1948. If you were born at Waltham Hospital around that date you may have had a ride in it. Mr. Mark Poirier brought the bassinet and a couple of other items down from his home in Maine.

Mr. Poirier also donated a Watch Factory postcard, a Grover Cronin soft cloth purse and a poster from the Fuller Home listing the rules and regulations to be followed while living at the home.



Mr. David Greeley of Spokane, Washington donated a framed photograph of Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Worcester, a letter written in 1958 by Dr. Worcester, a hardbound book of Dr. Worcester's Medical Papers, and a typed manuscript of speeches made by Dr. Worcester.

We are pleased to accept these donations and appreciative of efforts to preserve artifacts from the City's history.

*We will announce re-opening as soon as COVID guidelines permit. Meanwhile, visit us on-line at [WalthamHistoricalSociety.org](http://WalthamHistoricalSociety.org) or email at: [Waltham.historical.society@gmail.com](mailto:Waltham.historical.society@gmail.com)*



*The Society newsletter is funded in part by a grant from the Waltham Community Foundation.*

*Thank you for your support!*