

The Official Newsletter of

The Waltham
Historical Society
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

JANUARY 2013



Sanderson Lecture Series

7:00 p.m., Tuesday Evening

January 8, 2013

RTN Federal Credit Union

600 Main Street

Waltham, MA 02453

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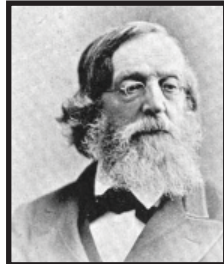
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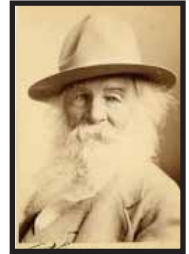
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*The Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series
Presents Mr. Rob Velella*



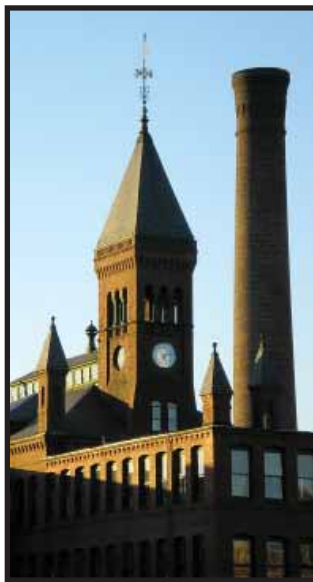
American Literature and American Industry

Tuesday, January 8, 7:00 p.m.

RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street, Waltham, Mass.

Please join us and enjoy Waltham native Rob Velella's "*American Literature and American Industry*," tracing the development of American literature as both a complement to and as a resistance to industrialization. With Waltham squarely in the center of things Mr. Velella will trace its connections to people like James Freeman Clarke, Walt Whitman, Hamlin Garland, and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. It will specifically focus on the 19th century.

Mr. Velella was recently featured on National Public Radio's "Here and Now" for his expertise of literary history." He was also featured in The Waltham News Tribune in 2008 when he published "Edgar Allan Poe: Bicentennial Desk Calendar."



Rob Velella is an independent literary historian and playwright specializing in American literature of the 19th century. As a scholar, Velella has published articles and presented academic papers on figures as varied as Margaret Fuller, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Walt Whitman. 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. Velella 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."

HAPPY NEW YEAR! HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY!

**We wish you a happy &
prosperous New Year!**

Don't miss our exhibit at the Waltham Public Library beginning January 1 and running for the entire month. The Society is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2013 and the display

is the first of many events we plan to host during our centennial celebration. Join us for all the festivities. Contact Wayne or Sheila to get involved.

PLEASE CHECK THE MAILING LABEL FOR YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STATUS.



MOODY STREET



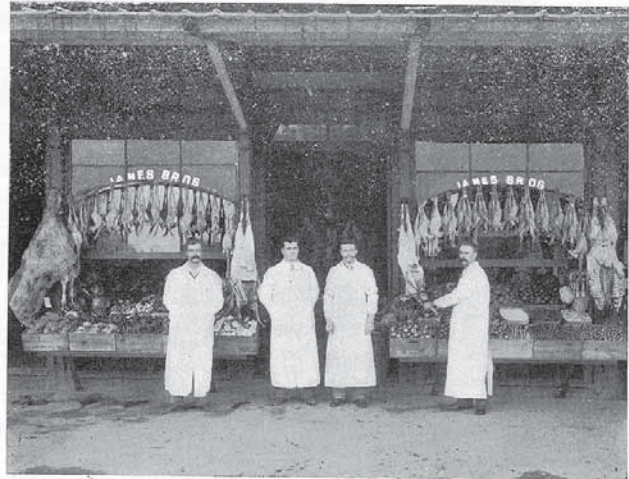
Reeds Corner — 472 Moody Street



Charles McCarthy at 15 — 1915



Circus Parade 1903 at the intersection of High and Newton Streets

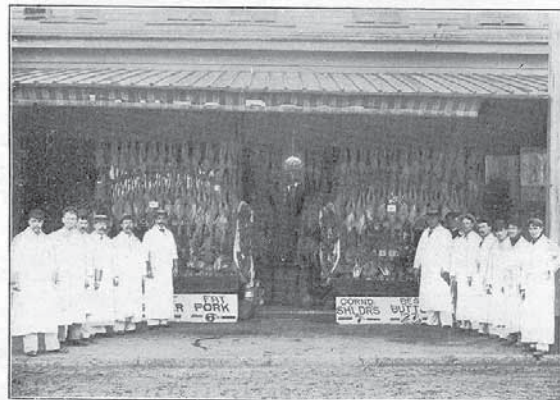


JANES BROS. AND CLERKS IN 1891

**JANES BROS.,
Grocers, 87 Moody St.**

Metropolitan in aspect, modern in operation and notable for handling high grade food supplies at the lowest market quotations, the widely known store of Janes Bros., 87 Moody street, is decidedly the great public market of Waltham

In 1891, when established, 3 clerks were employed and a trade of \$250 a week had. Today there are 17 clerks and a business of \$5000 a week is being done. There's a reason, and the reason in brief is that continued and increased prosperity is the result of reliability and unrivalled service. Two floors of 5000



JANES BROS. AND CLERKS IN 1905

and an institution of the city. All that is reliable and desirable for the table is to be obtained here, including fresh and cured meats, superior canned goods, farm and dairy products. Janes' teas and coffees and unsurpassed butter are special features, and these goods are so popular in Waltham and vicinity that the sales on butter alone amount to \$1000 a week. Pronounced also are the fancy groceries carried, embracing various pure food specialties, table delicacies and imported tid bits to coax jaded appetites. Like most enterprises of great merit the business had a small beginning,

square feet each are occupied. Chas. W. Janes was born in Salem, Mass., and educated in the schools of Greenville, N. H. and New Epswich, N. H., academy. Practically he was brought up in this business being formerly in the grocery trade with his father at Marlboro. John E. Janes is a native of Boxford, Mass., was educated in Greenville, N. H., and is a member of the Masons. The Janes Bros. are numbered among the leading and most progressive merchants and highly regarded by their fellow citizens for their integrity and estimable characteristics.

A Ramble through Waltham's History on the Great Country Road presented to the Waltham City Council

On Monday evening, December 10, 2012 Board Member Mort Isaacson and the Waltham Historical Society were honored to present to the City Council Mort's newly released driving tour book.

Covering Main Street from W tertown to Weston Street, *A Ramble through Waltham's History on the Great Country Road* provides descriptions of architectural styles, structural additions, and historical facts about the homes along the way. With more than 60 pages, you will learn about the famous people and events surrounding each of the many landmarks we pass by each day.

The City Council presented Mort Isaacson and the Historical Society proclamations in recognition of our efforts in preserving and celebrating Waltham's significant history.

Students from Waltham High School's Vocational Graphic Communications classes were also acknowledged for their work on the publication. For four years their efforts included assisting in the layout, design, photo editing, printing, finishing and binding of the publication. This collaborative effort exposed numerous students to the history found in their neighborhood while simultaneously immersing them in learning the processes found in the graphic design and printing fields. This collaboration follows in the footsteps of previous years' classes who have produced research and publications that, when combined, provide snapshots in time of our City as it has evolved from an agricultural, industrial, and now high-tech community.

The Historical Society would like to extend sincere appreciation to all those who have contributed to the successful publication of this work.

The *Ramble* will be available for purchase (\$20) at upcoming meetings or by contacting Board Members or e-mailing the Society at:

waltham.historical.society@gmail.com

Community Service for Waltham Students

On Saturday, December 8th Angelo Cotoni, Vaibhav Desai, and Anthony Cody earned community service credits by helping the Waltham Historical Society move items from our Moody Street headquarters to new space at the Bright School.

Thanks to the generosity of Realtor and Historical Society member Gary Rogers, we were also able to bring our outdated and defective electronics to the recycling center set up at Veterans Field on Forest Street. Gary loaned us his truck for the effort! This isn't the first time he's been so generous.



Vaibhav Desai, Angelo Cotoni, and Anthony Cody performed community service by volunteering to assist in moving items from Moody Street to the Bright School.

The Historical Society's Bright School Wish List



Still on the list are the following:

- Fire Safe File Cabinets
- Phone / Internet
- New Computer
- Window tinting
- Window UV filter
- Safety ladder
- Window Shades 57" x 96"
- Door Shades 36" w
- Fire Extinguishers
- Electrical for cases

If you're able to donate any of these items, or if you know a business operation with surplus equipment or items contained on the list, please let us know and we will do what we can to acquire them for the Society.

Call Sheila or Wayne and they will follow up with you to make arrangements necessary to pick up or move the items.

Upcoming Events

"Everyday Life in Waltham 100 Years Ago"

*RTN Federal Credit Union
600 Main Street, Waltham
March 12, 2013, at 7 P.M.*

In celebration of Waltham Historical Society's 100th Anniversary, Board Member Marie Daly will be presenting "*Everyday Life in Waltham 100 Years Ago.*" The lecture will highlight the founding of the Waltham Historical Society; how Walthamites lived, worked, played and dressed; and the major local political issues of the day. Topics covered will include celebration of Waltham's 175th anniversary, women's suffrage movement, the selection of the library site, the appointment of Waltham's first female department head, the ice shortage crisis, the shocking new Turkey Trot dance, police raids on liquor dealers, and the Metz championship car.

Walk and Talk in the Lyman Street District

Saturday, May 5 or 19 (TBD), 2013

In Collaboration with Historic New England Mort Isaacson and Sally Zimmerman will lead a walking tour of the Lyman Street district identifying and explaining significant architecture along the way.



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

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Kate Tranquada
Eric Ward & Family

Fran's Fruit & Flowers

Phil Burke

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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



A Special Thank You!

Angie Emberley, Ellie Smerlas, Winnie Kneisel, Mort Isaacson and Sheila FitzPatrick for providing modeling services to Historic New England for their new brochure.

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"Thank you" to the Waltham Historical Society for preserving the City's rich legacy!



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