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The Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series Presents

Waltham Goes to (Civil) War

with Tom McIntyre

The March 13, 2012 Edmund L. Sanderson lecture by Mr. Thomas McIntyre will focus on the impact of the Civil War on the American Watch Company business. We will hear about the consequences of the depression of 1861 due to the start of the war between the states and the recovery of the watch business in the following years.

One focus of the evening's story will be Royal E. Robbins' Treasurer Reports and the incorporation of the Nashua Watch Company as another.

We will learn of the impact of the Springfield Armory and soldier recruitment on the labor market and its contribution to the failure of the Nashua Watch Co. Also discussed will be the production of the soldier's watch and its impact on Waltham's fortunes.

Tom McIntyre is owner of the McIntyre Watch Co. and its sister company the American Watch Co. He has been engaged in collecting fine antique pocket watches for over 20 years.



The American Watch Co. is named after the company that did the most to advance the machine production of truly fine watches and later became the Waltham Watch Company.

Doors to this lecture open at 6:30. The lecture will begin promptly at 7:00 pm and will be held at the RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street, (rear) in Waltham. For more information please call 617-448-6706.



Erica Zissman shows off some of the labels peeled from the walls in the corridor.

First Bright cleaning party fun for all!

The only significant snowfall of the year decided to arrive on the same day, and at the same time as, our first cleaning party! But that didn't stop some of our most intrepid volunteers! Joe Keefe assisted in sorting and moving some of the items in two of our rooms and helping set up a display in another. Mort Isaacson and Erica Zissman spent hours removing stray staples, tape,

and nails from the walls along the corridors. It was tedious work, but resulted in a huge improvement in appearance of our displays. Let's hope the next cleaning party doesn't bring more snow!

If you'd like to be notified of these events please call or email the Society at waltham.historical.society@gmail.com and we'll be sure you don't miss a single opportunity.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2011-2012 ARE NOW PAST DUE!
PLEASE CHECK THE MAILING LABEL FOR YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STATUS.**



The Historical Society, in Collaboration with Historic New England announce...

Living with Your Old House

Celebrate National Preservation Month this May by learning how to take care of your old house. Historic New England and the Waltham Historical Society present a lecture series designed to help homeowners enhance their knowledge and understanding of houses built before 1950.



Lecture Number 1: Architectural Styles in Waltham's History: From the Seventeenth Century to the Present

Tuesday, May 8, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Join us as Jack Cox, History teacher at Waltham High School, Member of the Board of Directors of the Waltham Historical Society, and Current Member and Past Chair of the Waltham Historical Commission, examines the range of architectural styles found in Waltham over the past three hundred years. Learn the various building styles used as homes moved from providing shelter from the elements to statements of status and beauty.

Lecture Number 2: Understanding Your Old House

Tuesday, May 15, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Getting to know more about your old house — who built it and when, what's special about it, and how it can be sensitively updated — gives you a sense of confidence about owning and caring for it. Learn how to piece together the history of your old house as Joseph Cornish, senior

stewardship manager at Historic New England, shows where to look to track down records of your home's history, and what the surviving physical evidence of your old house has to say about its past.

Lecture Number 3: Paint and Maintain Your Old House

Tuesday, May 22, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Whether your house was built in 1960 or 1760, taking time to conduct an annual inspection can help you prioritize repair and routine maintenance projects to ensure its long-term preservation. Historic New England Senior Stewardship Manager Joseph Cornish reveals what to look for when inspecting the exterior and interior of your old house and how to address common problems.

Lecture Number 4: Weatherizing Your Old House

Tuesday, May 29, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Simple, cost-effective energy upgrades and traditional building-envelope repairs can make your old house more comfortable to live in and more efficient to operate. It is possible to make any older home greener and more sustainable. Hear tips based on Historic New England's work to weatherize its historic houses and, during a tour of weatherization upgrades at the Lyman Estate, see how this National Historic Landmark is meeting today's energy conservation challenges. Co-sponsored with the Waltham Historical Society.

All lectures will be held at the Lyman Estate, 185 Lyman Street in Waltham. Special pricing is available for tickets to the entire series. Registration is required. Please call 617-994-5959 for more information. Purchase tickets now.

More information on this series will be announced soon.

Upcoming Events of Interest

Calling the Heart Back Home: Irish-American Stories from the Archives Wednesday, March 14, 4:00-7:00 pm at the Joseph P. Healey Library, 5th Floor, University of Massachusetts Boston. Call 617-287-5944

Waltham Food and Wine Festival. Thursday, April 5, 6:30-9:30 pm at the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation 781-893-5410.

WWII Letter from the Past: Pfc. John R. Moore to Claire Kimmens

Marie E. Daly, Director, Waltham Historical Society

Conclusion of the story of the World War II letter of Pfc. John R. Moore to Claire Kimmens.

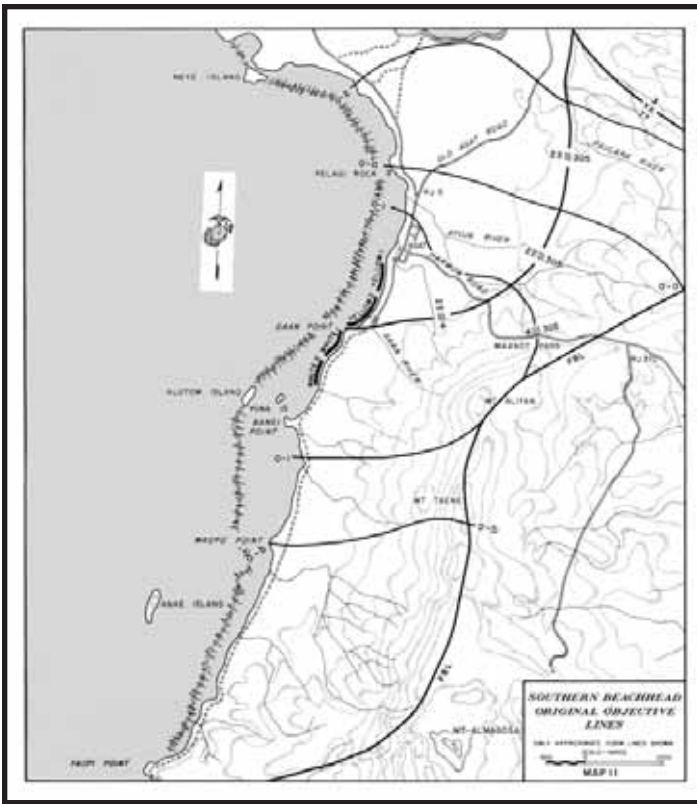
Pfc. Jack Moore said the Marshall Islands invasion was "work, filth and mind torturing."



Here Marines relax with a hot cup of coffee on board ship after victoriously ending the bruising fight for Eniwetok. (Department of Defense Photo (USMC) 149144)¹⁸

The 22d Marines were next sent to Guadalcanal in late April 1944, where they trained for the attack on Guam, which began on July 21. Although he was not allowed to state where he was, other than the southwest Pacific, the location can be deduced by the history of the regiment. Since the 22d Marines were in Guadalcanal from April to July 21, 1944, Jack Moore most likely wrote his letter of May 11 from Guadalcanal.

On July 21, 1944, United States troops began the Second Battle of Guam by invading both sides of the Orote peninsula. The 22d Marines formed part of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, which landed on the morning of July 21 just south of Agat. Under Colonel Merlin F. Schneider, the 22d Marines, along with the 4th Marines under Colonel Shapley, landed on the beach just south of Agat village. "The enemy had his defenses ashore, consisting of numerous pillboxes built in coral outcroppings, well-organized. Concrete blockhouses, located on Gaan Point, held a 75mm41 and a 37mm gun which enfiladed the beaches."¹⁹ The Japanese small arms and mortar fire raked the 2d Battalion of the 22d Marines as they landed on the beach, and the Battalion suffered heavy loss of men and equipment in the first



The 22d Marines landed on Yellow 1 and Yellow 2 just south of Agat Village. (Major O. R. Lodge, USMC, *The Recapture of Guam*)

few minutes.²⁰ Since the medical unit took a direct hit, there was no doctor on the beach until the afternoon. The 2d Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel Hart reorganized on higher ground and prepared for an attack on O-1. The Battalion encountered heavy artillery fire as they inched forward, and they called for an air strike. The strafing hit the front lines and ten bombs fell in the area of Company F. The American forces prevailed in the assault and by July 27 American sovereignty over Guam was proclaimed. The 22d Marines 2d Battalion lost 70 enlisted men and officers, with 2 officers and 48 enlisted men killed-in-action.²¹ Among these was Pfc. Jack Moore.

For its service in the recapture of Guam, the Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal, commended the First Provisional Marine Brigade (which included the 22d Marines):

“For outstanding heroism in action against enemy Japanese forces during the invasion of Guam, Marianas Islands, from July 21 to August 10, 1944. Functioning as a combat unit for the first time, the First Provisional Marine Brigade forced a landing against strong hostile defenses and well camouflaged positions, steadily

foxholes and exterminated them. By their individual acts of gallantry and their indomitable fighting teamwork throughout this bitter and costly struggle, the men of the First Provisional Marine Brigade aided immeasurably in the restoration of Guam to our sovereignty.”

“All personnel serving in the First Provisional Marine Brigade, comprised of: Headquarters Company; Brigade Signal Company; Brigade Military Police Company, 4th Marines, Reinforced; 22d Marines, Reinforced, Naval Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 515; and 4th Platoon, 2d Marine Ammunition Company, during the above mentioned period are hereby authorized to wear the NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION Ribbon.”²²

Pfc. Jack Moore was killed in action on this landing day, July 21, 1944, but it is unknown exactly when and where he met his demise. He could have been cut down by the Japanese withering gunfire when the 22d Marines landed on the beach. Or a Japanese artillery shell may have ended his life. But we do know that a 19 year-old Massachusetts Marine died defending his country from Japanese aggression. His name is

advancing inland under the relentless fury of the enemy’s heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire to secure a firm beachhead by nightfall. Executing a difficult turning movement to the north, this daring and courageous unit fought its way ahead yard by yard through mangrove swamps, dense jungles and over cliffs and, although terrifically reduced in strength under the enemy’s fanatical counterattacks, hunted the Japanese in caves, pillboxes and

inscribed on the Asan Wall Memorial Military Casualties at the Marianas Military Museum.

¹Letter by D. J. Moore, The Wolfs of Kenton, Ohio, <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/d/u/d/Norma-A-Dudiak/WEBSITE-0001/UHP-Sources.html#908>.

²Massachusetts Vital Records, Worcester, Births, 1891, vol. 414, p. 550.

³1930 Federal Census, Shrewsbury, Worcester County, Massachusetts, Roll 965, p. 10B, ED 261.

⁴Letter by D. J. Moore, op. cit.

⁵Massachusetts Vital Records, Berlin, Marriages, 1947, vol. 7, p. 308, #32.

⁶Massachusetts Vital Records, Hudson, Deaths, 1956, vol. 55, p. 283, #27.

⁷Joan E. Douglas, Descendants of John Kimmens, <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/d/o/u/Joan-E-Douglas/index.html>.

⁸List of Holden High School graduates on the Holden Historical Society website, www.holdenhistory.org.

⁹1948 Belmont, New Hampshire Town Report, <http://belmontnh.homestead.com/SchoolReports/1948SR0001.pdf>.

¹⁰Massachusetts Vital Records, Wayland, Marriages, 1949, vol. 106, p. 105.

¹¹Ohio Deaths, 1958 – 2007, www.ancestry.com.

¹²U.S. Veterans Gravesites, ca. 1775 – 2006, www.ancestry.com.

¹³Harold P. Hamman, History of the 22d Marines, <http://22dmarines.org/history.htm> (cached)

¹⁴Martha Vockrodt-Moran, History of D.T.Fleming and the Fleming Arboretum, <http://www.flemingarboretum.org/dt-fleming-martha-vockrodt-moran.html>

¹⁵Lt. Col. Robert D. Heintz, Jr. USMC and Lt. Col. John A. Crown, USMC, *The Marshalls: Increasing the Tempo*, <http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-M-Marshalls/USMC-M-Marshalls-8.html>

¹⁶Capt. John C. Chapin, USMCR (Ret), *Breaking the Outer Ring: Marine Landings in the Marshall Islands*, National Park Service Marines in World War II Commemorative Series, http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/npswapa/extContent/usmc/pcn-190-003124-00/sec5a.htm

¹⁷Ibid.

¹⁸Ibid.

¹⁹Major O. R. Lodge, USMC, *The Recapture of Guam*, Historical Branch, G-3 Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 1954, <http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-M-Guam/USMC-M-Guam-3.html>.

²⁰Cyril J. O'Brien, *Liberation: Marines in the Recapture of Guam*, http://www.marines.mil/news/publications/Documents/Liberation-Marines%20in%20the%20Recapture%20of%20GUAM%20PCN%2019000312600_1.pdf.

²¹Major O. R. Lodge, op. cit.

²²Major O. R. Lodge, op. cit.

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 were early contributors to this year's cemetery tour as Friends or Business Friends. 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.

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A Special Thank You!

Mario Lituri of **Lituri & Son Locksmiths** for their patience and assistance in securing our new headquarters on Grove Street.
lituriandson@hotmail.com
781-893-2117

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