

The Official Newsletter of

The Waltham
Historical Society
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

MARCH 2016



**MARCH 8, 2016
MEETING WILL
BE HELD AT THE
RTN FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION
600 Main Street, Waltham**
Begins at 7:00 pm

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EDMUND L. SANDERSON LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS

Reunions of the Blue and Gray

With Mr. Al Smith

March 8, 2016



Please join us on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 for an informative lecture by Waltham Historical Society Board Member and Tour Chair for the Civil War Round Table of New England, Mr. Al Smith. Mr. Smith will be discussing some of the reunion activities of those who served on both sides during the conflict known as the American Civil War.

In 1888, 1913, and 1938 survivors of the War Between the States gathered together to greet one another, oftentimes over the very walls and fields where their comrades fought and died. This event will also have artifacts and items to view that should prove interesting to those who may know very little of the activities of these folks following the war.

The lecture will follow immediately upon the completion of the Historical Society's March meeting. Business of the Society will be discussed briefly to bring members up to speed on the activities and initiatives currently underway to help the Society continue our efforts at preserving and presenting Waltham's history. This event is free and open to the public and light refreshments will be available. Please plan to arrive early as seating is limited and the doors will be locked once the meeting is underway. Entrance to the lecture is at the Osborne Community Room doors located at the rear of the RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street in Waltham. All are welcome. Call 617-448-6706 with any questions.

At the 50th Anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg, Union (left) and Confederate (right) veterans shake hands at a Reunion in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Courtesy mashable.com/2015/04/10/civil-war-oldest-veterans

A snowy evening at Stonehurst enhances the special reflections of a historic-house devotee

A talk by Elizabeth S. Levy Merrick



On January 12, 2016 Elizabeth S. Levy Merrick, author of *Be There Then: A Guide to Exploring Greater Boston's Historic House Museums* presented a wonderful program covering the topic of her book. The talk was followed by a very informative discussion on some themes and/or challenges of house museums. Using her extensive visitation to the local houses included in the book as examples, we were given an opportunity to look at what's happening in the world of house museums. Perhaps some of the tactics can be imitated to help the Historical Society and the Friends of Stonehurst with future activities.

Highlighted among the several local house museums in the talk was Stonehurst, the Robert Treat Paine Estate owned by the City of Waltham. Building on a strong relationship with Ann Clifford the Society was permitted to utilize Stonehurst to make the discussion even more relevant. Considering the evening's snow storm, the turnout was very strong. The weather which proved a concern to some who were unable to navigate the snow actually provided a spectacular winter's evening reminiscent of snowy days-gone-by.

We hope to have Ms. Merrick return again to discuss more of the technology being utilized in exposing the public to the importance of preserving historic homes.

The Society wishes to extend our sincere appreciation to Ms. Merrick and offer a special thanks to Ann Clifford for the generous access to Stonehurst for this event.



This lecture was co-hosted by the Waltham Historical Society, the City of Waltham and the Friends of Stonehurst.

Mark Your Calendar for these upcoming lectures held in collaboration with Historic New England



Both of these events are a collaboration between the Waltham Historical Society, Inc. and Historic New England, Inc.



Thursday, April 7, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



Waltham in the Early Republic: A Time of Transition

With Jack Cox

Lyman Estate, 185 Lyman Street, Waltham, Mass.

When George Washington was inaugurated as our nation's first president in 1789, the Town of Waltham was a small agrarian village located along the Great Country Road just nine miles west of Boston. Over the next 40 years, economic and social developments fundamentally transformed Waltham, creating a community inhabited by yeoman farmers, factory workers, small business owners, and wealthy Boston families. This presentation will examine the changes that took place in Waltham from 1789 until 1825, and the reasons why these changes occurred.

Tuesday, April 26, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



Mill Girls of New England

With Doug Stewart

Lyman Estate, 185 Lyman Street, Waltham, Mass.

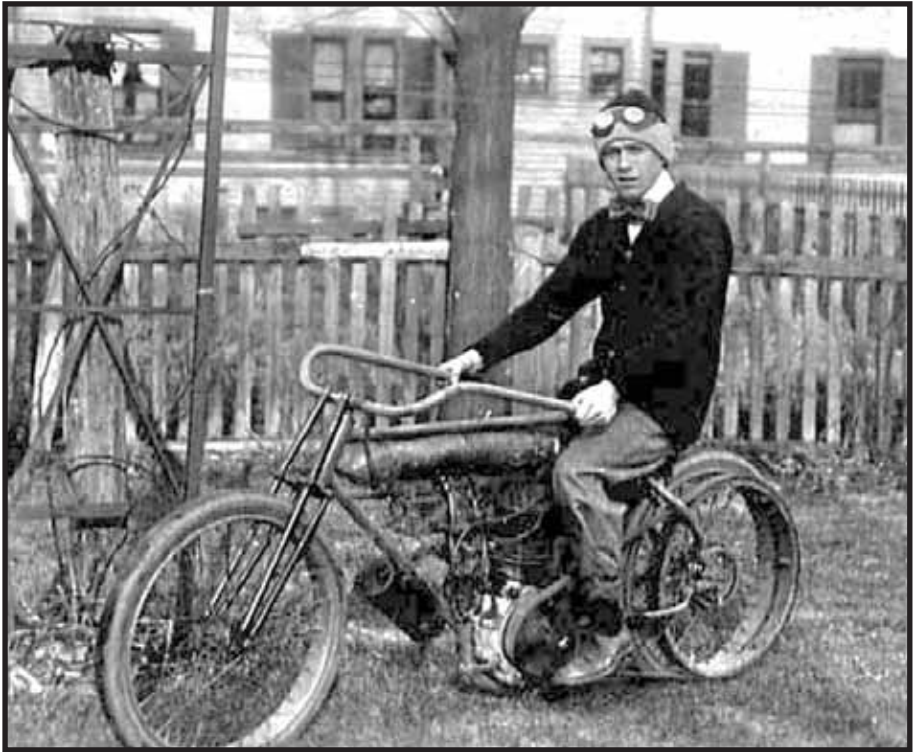
Join Doug Stewart for an illustrated talk about the mill girls of New England. In the 1830s and 1840s, thousands of unmarried New England farm girls flocked to newly created cities like Lowell to earn money in the cotton mills. At first, the mill towns were seen as industrial utopias, where the young women wrote poetry and took piano lessons.

The reality was grimmer. Protests organized by New England's "mill girls" set the stage for both the American labor movement and the women's rights movement. Stewart is an Ipswich freelance writer who has written more than 100 feature stories for Smithsonian and National Wildlife magazines. His stories have also appeared in Time, Discover, New Scientist and American Heritage. All are welcome.

From the Archives:

We are often contacted by folks seeking information about relatives, buildings, businesses, or other Waltham-related issues. Recently we received a correspondence from Mr. Robert Butler that included the following items of interest. According to Mr. Butler:

“It is a booklet marking the 50th anniversary of the “Waltham Roadsters”. My father, Ralph Butler (1892-1983), was born and lived most of his life in Waltham — working at the Waltham Watch Co. He was a member of the Roadsters and lived over on Ash St. I’ve enclosed pics of him with an early motorcycle (~ 1912) and serving in WW1.”



Waltham Roadsters

1896 - 1920

Henry H. Adams	Conrad B. Goodrich	Franklin A. Pierce
Alfred L. Alexander	Watson Gordon	Clarence G. Pratt
Allie R. Anderson	Clifford P. Green*	Walter E. Randall
Fred W. Atwood	Norman H. Griffith	Arthur F. Randle
George A. Bacon	Charles Hall*	Victor F. Ratzburg
Lawrence E. Bacon*	Clarence E. Hamilton	Percy C. Reed*
Shepherd E. Baker	Frank W. Hamilton	Harold G. Rice
Harris E. Ballantyne*	Louis A. Hanson*	Waldo Richardson
Paul W. Bartel	Roger L. Hanson	Arthur S. Rowe
Ball Bartlett	Irving B. Harding*	Willard A. Rowe
Henry Beardslee	Fred Harron*	Percy Royle
Arthur R. Beamish	Alfred B. Hartwell	Everett E. Ryan
Charles Bickley	Guy R. Hartwell	V. A. Seale*
Raymond S. Bicknell	Winthrop W. Hawley	Edward Smith
W. S. Bigelow	Carl B. Horton	Everett Smith
Abbott W. Blodgett	Raymond A. Hutmacher	Walter G. Smythe*
Fredrick A. Blodgett	Guy A. Jackson*	Joseph Spittle
Clarence Bradley	Arthur C. Jones	Frank D. Staples*
Edward S. Briggs*	Fred Kenney	Ralph W. Staples
Arthur C. Brodrick	Robert P. Kerrigan*	Joseph C. Stone
Frank Bryant	Alden R. Kingsbury	Arthur Storer
Fred A. Burgess	Horace A. Knight	P. F. Sunderhauf
J. W. Burnham	William J. Laughlin	Dr. Roy A. Taylor
Ralph S. Butler	Frank Law*	W. Royce Taylor
Claude Byrnes*	Harry R. Law	William Thibodeau
Frank V. Carpenter*	William F. Law	Reginald D. Thomas*
Harry H. Carr*	Harold Leach*	Guy A. Trank
Frank Cogswell	John H. Leonarts	Guy L. Truse
William J. Cogswell	Charles H. Locke	Thomas L. V. Tully
George H. Colburn*	James Locke*	W. H. Waterman
Frank D. Connor	Fred B. Lundberg	Leigh Weaver
Norman R. Crosby	Theodore Z. Maerche	Ralph O. Webber
Charles J. DeMarque	Henry B. Marsh	Harry Weeks
D. W. Dewar	Fred W. Marshall	Dr. Ernest L. Wells
William B. Dow	Ralph Mays*	Harold E. Weston
Romeo Dunn*	C. Walter Metz	Lewis S. Wetherbee
Joseph Dyke*	W. A. Mortimer	Clyde Wheelton*
Arthur Eaton*	Allan V. Mosher	Ralph Wheelton
Harry Eltz	John A. Munro	Dana B. Whipple
Walter W. Evans	Bernard S. Nickerson	C. Clifton Whitten*
Earl L. Fisher	Walter G. Nutting	Dr. Frank E. Whitten
Charles Fisk*	Leon E. Oliver	Charles P. Winn
Frank Gleichman	Fred Perry*	Orin S. Winn*
Edward V. Goodman*	George H. Peterson	Dexter W. Winslow
Clarence J. Goodrich	G. Nelson Pickett	William P. Wood*

*Deceased

Fiftieth Anniversary

Waltham Roadsters

1896 - 1946

Hotel Manger

Boston, Massachusetts

May 4, 1946



We need volunteers to staff the Bright School location, 260 Grove Street. You can choose the days, dates and times and we will work to establish a regular schedule of openings to the public. Please contact us at Waltham.historical.society@gmail.com.

The Board of Directors of the Waltham Historical Society wishes to express our appreciation for the support of the following for their donations. They have been very generous to the Historical Society this past year and we encourage you to thank them by patronizing the businesses and 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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SOCIETY TO ASSIST US
IN OUR CONTINUED
SERVICE TO WALTHAM'S
HISTORY!**

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David L. Smith: (781) 647-3332 • cwrtmass@comcast.net

“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.

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