The Official Newsletter of

## The Waltham Historical Society

WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**MAY 2013** 

Board of Directors Term: 2011-2013

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

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Sanderson Lecture Series

7:00 p.m., Tuesday Evening

MAY 14, 2013

RTN Federal Credit Union 600 Main Street Waltham, MA 02453

The Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series

# "Citywide Historical Inventory and Survey"

Mr. Alex Green and Mr. Arthur Bennett

> Tuesday May 14, 2013 7:00 p.m.

RTN Federal Credit Union 600 Main Street, Waltham



Alex Green and Arthur Bennett will present the findings of the Waltham Historical Commission's recent citywide historical inventory and survey. The survey was conducted by Arthur Krim, from 2011-2012 with funding from the Community Preservation Act and the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The results are a treasure trove of historical data on 99 historical properties from across the City of Waltham, as well as a wealth of information about their owners and city at large. Mr. Green and Mr. Bennett will also present innovative ways these findings will be made available to citizens across the city.

Alex Green is the chairperson for the Waltham Historical Commission.

Arthur Bennett is the preservation consultant to the Waltham Historical Commission on behalf of the City of Waltham.

## Vote!



The lecture will begin immediately following the Society's May business meeting where officers will be elected to serve the Society for the next two years. This is your opportunity to show support for the Society by choosing those who will lead us for the next two years. The event will be held in the RTN Richard Osborne Community Room, 600 Main Street, (rear) in Waltham. Light refreshments will be available following the lecture. Call 617-448-6706 if you have any questions.



Don't miss this collaborative event with Historic New England:

## A Walk and Talk in the **Lyman Street District**

Sunday, May 5, 2013, 1:00-3:00 PM

Beginning at the Lyman Estate 185 Lyman Street in Waltham

\$5 for Historic New England and Waltham Historical Society members, \$10 nonmembers

On this two-mile walking tour, learn about the history and architecture of the

Lyman Street neighborhood and get tips on adding curb appeal to your old house through historic paint color combinations. Lyman Street offers excellent examples of vernacular architecture from almost all periods of the nineteenth century. The adjacent area, an early center of settlement, contains many important historic sites, including two eighteenth-century houses. Waltham Historical Society Director Mort Isaacson provides the historical background on the houses while paint color expert Sally Zimmerman of Historic New England shares information on how to help a historic home look its very best with period color.

Registration is required. Please call 617-994-5959 for more information. Purchase tickets now!





#### **Election of Officers 2013-2015**

The Tuesday, May 14, 2013 meeting will include election of officers for the 2013-2015 term. The following have been nominated.

President: Wayne McCarthy
Vice-President: Sheila FitzPatrick

**Treasurer:** Mary Selig

Assistant Treasurer: John Cox Recording Secretary: OPEN

Curator: Joe Keefe

Assistant Curator: Winifred Kneisel Corresponding Secretary: Joe Vizard

#### Directors:

Ruth M. Arena Tim Close Joseph Connors Marie Daly Dr. Helene Day Carol DiFranco Edna L. Dolber Denise Dube Marge Duby Ron Guertin Louise Hamilton Virginia Hays Morton Isaacson Sue Keefe Larry Logan Joan M. Sheridan David Smith

### The Historical Society's Bright School Wish List



Still on the list are the following:

- · Fire Safe File Cabinets
- Phone / Internet
- New Computer
- · Safety ladder
- Window Shades 57" x 96"
- Door Shades 36" wide
- 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 contact donors, or pick up or move the items.

#### Bentley University Kappa Sigma Fraternity Day of Community Service

On Saturday April 13, the Kappa Sigma fraternity at Bentley University celebrated their National Day of

Community Service by assisting the Society. Thirty young men arrived in shifts beginning at 9:00 am and worked until nearly 5:00 pm painting and moving furniture.

In December,

the Society was contacted by the fraternity and asked if there was some way they could assist us while earning credit for community service. A meeting was arranged to discuss what possibilities existed that would benefit both our organizations.

Kartik Devenini met us at a local coffee shop and it was decided that the fraternity could come to the

Bright School site and assist us.

In January four of the fraternity brothers came over, and together with a couple of Society members arranged and sorted furniture left behind when the school closed. Most of the items

were desks and chairs that were due for replacement in the late 1980s. Many of the pieces were moved to the dumpster. But the best part of that day was that the fellows mentioned their upcoming National Day of Community Service. They had hoped to find an opportunity where the entire fraternity could serve in a single location. No problem with the Historical Society!

The brothers adopted the Society as the recipient of their services. Once it was decided the work of organizing the day began. Consultations among some Board members and Exhibit Committee members determined paint colors and arrangements that would serve as the basis of future efforts. Much of the decision-making was made easy by simply matching what had been decided upon . Joe and Sue Keefe had paint remaining

from a recent update that they generously donated for the exhibit cases. The Kappa Sigma brothers supplied

paint and supplies to paint desks to serve as bases for exhibits. Flat black was decided upon.

Earlier cleaning parties had focused on removing staples, nails, and tape from the

homosote boards in the classrooms and in the corridors. Now the task was to make all the boards match in color with the exhibit stands previously donated to the Society by the National Archives and Records Administration. The color is called Whale and works well to allow viewers to appreciate images without interference or distraction from their

backgrounds.

Scheduling of tasks and recruitment of Society members to oversee the work and ensure safety measures was completed. As always this is where our members who are always there stepped up to as-

sist. Mary Selig, Angie & Tom Emberley & David Smith are always the first to lend a hand. It was the same again!

With Tim Close, Sue Keefe, David Smith and Marie Daly, we were well staffed. With donations of brownies and cookies by Beth Guertin, along with Angie's goodies, and Counselor Gary Marchese's contributions the young men were well fed and refreshed! These donations were greatly appreciated by the brothers and were totally exhausted by day's end. Thank you to all who contributed.

The fraternity has offered to adopt the Society as the recipient of ongoing community service activities, and we very gratefully accepted. Keep your eyes on our notices to learn of any upcoming opportunities to meet these fine young gentlemen. They are a credit to their fraternity and to Bentley University.





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 & 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

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Robert Fitzgerald

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72 FELTON ST

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



As a proud member of the Waltham community for 63 years, we look forward to serving all members of the Society.

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER

## THANK YOU!

**Watertown Savings Bank** 

Gary Rogers, Realtor

Special Thanks this month to Mr. Michael Privitera for acquiring window tinting for the Bright School. Installation will begin soon.



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