

The Waltham Historical Society
190 MOODY STREET
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

“In Accordance with Justice”

Sunday, March 26, 2006

2:00 pm at the Waltham Public Library

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2005-2007

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The March meeting of the Waltham Historical Society will be held at 2:00 pm, on Sunday, March 26th, 2006, in the Lecture Hall at the Waltham Public Library.

A brief business meeting will be followed by the presentation **“In Accordance with Justice”** by David L. Smith.

His program will present a different picture of how this country evolved. He will discuss various documents, events, and people, that were the core of the Declaration of Independence, our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and many cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

From the Magna Carta to Columbus’ “Grant of Privileges and Prerogatives” to the formations of societies in The Mayflower Compact, Thomas Paine’s “Common Sense,” and the Virginia & Kentucky Resolutions, we will see how our basic Rights and Freedoms were established.

Changes that resulted from The Civil War, through the 13th-14th- and 15th (so-called) Civil War Amendments, with an emphasis on how we began to view the 1st and 14th Amendments from Post Civil War to current days will be discussed. The program will center on how a desire to be our own country with a small, weak government, suddenly became a great Global Power, in need of a bigger, stronger, and centrally powerful bureaucratic Government. His program will show how this Civil War, fought for a Democracy, individual rights, and freedom literally exploded into the major Global Nation of today. The American Civil War, with its loss of 630,000 American lives, followed by a westward expansion spurred by huge immigration growth, and the expansion of Railroads, are the reasons for today's lifestyle.

David L. Smith has been President of The Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston since 1991, as well as Editor of its newsletter THE RECALL, and Webmaster of their website www.cwrtgb.com.

He currently serves as Chairperson of The Waltham Historical Commission, is a member of Board of Directors of The Waltham Historical Society, and is a member of The Historical Society of Watertown, The Bostonian Society and The U.S.S. Constitution Museum. Born in the old West End of Boston, he began his great love of American History and Preservation.

If you have any questions, please contact Sheila FitzPatrick at 781-894-0062 or email Wayne McCarthy at

Did You Know...? The first public meeting held in the Lecture Hall of the “new” Waltham Public Library was on January 18, 1916 and was a meeting of the Waltham Historical Society.

Can You Identify this Waltham Location?

From time to time we will publish an image of a location in the city and identify it in the next issue, or on the society’s web page, www.walthamhistoricalsociety.org.



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About this issue's featured story

The intent of The Waltham Historical Society's Newsletter is to provide information on historical, current, and upcoming events in which the Society is involved.

This issue contains more on Company F, during WWI. Mr.

Brad Bigham has sent us a couple of pieces written by him over the years for publication in local newspapers. In an effort to keep the history of Waltham alive, we will publish here various items that are part of Mr. Bigham's collection.

With apologies to the original author, we hope to encapsulate the information in the space available to us.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, and encourage your comments.

Memories of a hero from WWI

Based upon an article written by Mr. Brad Bigham and printed in the Waltham News Tribune of November 12, 1990



Mr. Fritz E. Hedlund in a photo taken after his return to Waltham.

Corporal Fritz E. Hedlund, bearing service number 60879, Company F, 101st Infantry, 26th Yankee Division was the most highly-decorated veteran of the First World War.

In May of 1917, only a few months past his 17th birthday, Mr. Hedlund enlisted, becoming one of the youngest soldiers in Company F.

Among his exploits, the story of actions during the Second Battle of the Marne in July of 1918, expose the dangers he faced to help protect his comrades. During the Chateau-Thierry Campaign, his assigned duties were as company runner, delivering messages between platoons and headquarters.

As is the case today, communications during combat activities is essential. But unlike today, where cell phones and GPS systems can relay information instantaneously, communications in 1918 was carried out by individuals using physical courage and perseverance under extreme exposure to enemy fire. Running from one place of cover to another, from the platoon to headquarters, and back, Mr. Hedlund faced danger at every step.

Messages were delivered to headquarters on positions occupied by a platoon, and instructions were returned on the next action to be taken. Failure to complete communications could lead to forward elements of the platoon being isolated or cut off from the main body. It could lead to being overrun by the enemy, or being caught in a cross fire, or even a friendly fire circumstance.

Runners faced machine gun and artillery fire, as well as exposure to snipers lying in wait for anything that moved. Front lines

were fought over in such a manner that they could be forward or back many times during a battle. At any moment, a runner may find they are lost in No Man's Land or even behind enemy lines.

Mr. Edward Bigham is quoted as crediting Mr. Hedlund with saving the day for one platoon on July 23, 1918. The story details the citation issued to Mr. Hedlund, citing his multiple trips to and from the combat group, in maintaining a constant liaison critical in saving the platoon from being wiped out.

After returning to Waltham, at age 19, Mr. Hedlund married Wanda Suleski, and operated Fritz and Wanda's Bar on Moody Street.

Mr. Hedlund died in October of 1961, and is buried in Mt. Feake Cemetery.

Among the medals awarded to Mr. Hedlund are the Army Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry in battle, the French Medaille Militaire, French Croix de Guerre with Palm, American World War I Victory Medal with battle clasps for Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse Argonne, Defensive Sector.

More detailed information is available in the book "Waltham Rediscovered" by Kristen Petersen and Thomas Murphy, a copy of which may be obtained through the Historical Society.

We would like to thank Mr. Brad Bigham for sending us this article, (and a few others we hope to re-publish in the future), and for collecting and maintaining the artifacts and histories with such care.

Horatio Moore

1810-1886

Rephrased from a news article of unknown date and publisher from the archives of the Waltham Historical Society, March 2006.

Horatio Moore was born in Bolton in 1810 and came to Waltham soon thereafter. He married Lucy A. Tower in Waltham in 1836.

Mr. Moore's achievements and activities were many and varied, and included politics, town government and organizations.

Mr. Moore joined the Newton Chymical Company as a bookkeeper in 1832, and quickly advanced to become manager, a position he held for 30 years. The Chymical Company's sole product was highly concentrated sulphuric acid, at the time called oil of vitriol. With the business becoming profitable in 1835, it covered nearly 40 acres of land. Its boundaries included the Charles River on the north, Newton St. on the east, High St. on the south and on the west by a line where now is located Hall St.

Another 35 acres was later added, and was at the time, part of Newton. In 1849 the property was annexed to Waltham and became known as the "South Side."

Upon Mr. Moore's resignation, land and a house, located on the corner of Gardner and Pine Streets, was given to him by the Company. In 1883 he and his family moved from this location to a house they had built on Appleton Street.

In 1857, Mr. Moore was on the Committee no. 24 on Chemical Products, and wrote an article on "Description of the Blowpipe and Retort" for the Industrial Exhibition held that year.

From 1855-1857 Mr. Moore was a Director of the Waltham Watch Company, and became its President from 1878-1883.

He was selected to represent Waltham in the Legislature in 1851-1853, 1856, and 1869. From 1857-1861 he was a member of the Board of Selectmen. He was one of the first trustees of Mt. Feake Cemetery in 1859, became Director of the Waltham Bank, and was a member of the original board of trustees of Waltham Savings Bank, becoming its first President.

Mr. Moore died on April 28, 1886, leaving his widow, his son, John Frederick Moore, City Engineer, and five daughters.



Portrait of Horatio Moore in the collection of the Waltham Historical Society.

Sponsor Sought for the Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series

Edmund L. Sanderson graduated from Waltham High School in 1883, and went on to research and document much of Waltham's history. Previous issues of this newsletter have contained some of his works, and many others are still awaiting available space. His name appears on many of our most prized possessions, and his research has been cited in numer-

ous areas of significance to the History of our City.

The Society is currently seeking a corporate sponsor to underwrite the costs of the Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series, a series of guest speakers on topics of historical significance to what is now Waltham, but what also once included Watertown. If you are interested in sponsoring this Lecture Series, or know an organization or individual seeking to increase exposure by a commitment to serving the Community, please contact Wayne McCarthy



Early days of The Piety Corner Tennis Club including Edmund L. Sanderson (far right).

House Tour 2006

The 2006 Waltham House Tour Committee is gearing up for our 10th annual event. If you would like to offer your home for inclusion, or know someone who may, please contact our committee chairs Joline Fish or Joan Sheridan at 781-891-5815.

We hope to have a few special opportunities this year, so please join in and lend a helping hand.

Please let Wayne, Sheila, Joan, or Joline know if you'd like to help. We need sponsors, people to obtain ads and handle publicity, write/research homes, sell tickets prior to the event, and act as docents the day of the event.

2005 Business Friends of the Waltham Historical Society

Allegra Print and Imaging
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 New England Historic Genealogical Society
 John C. Peacock, Executive Director

The Regan Family
 Radio Station W R C A
 Stack Chiropractic Office
 Waltham Land Trust, Inc.
 Lizzy's Ice Cream
 The Nelson Companies
 Professional Hearing Aid Center
 Rotary Club of Waltham, Serving Waltham Since 1925
 Sadies Saloon and Eatery

Recent correspondences:

Bob Howett, a volunteer at the Charles River Museum of Industry, would like to be in contact with anyone with pictures of bicycles, people, and Bicycle Park from the 1890's through the 1920's. Please contact Bob at 781-275-7921 after 6:00 p.m.

I am conducting research at the Gore Place on an area in the servants chambers, which is thought to be a drying chamber. I was wondering if the Waltham Historical Society has any records or photographs related to Christopher and Rebecca Gore, the Gore Place, Walter F. Starbuck's ownership, or the Country Club? Thank you.

We are putting together a documentary on the children of the Fernald School, and were wondering if there are any local historians that we can correspond with on this subject.

25 years ago my parents bought a trunk in New England which appears to have great age; they have just given it to me. It is painted 1826 A. Abramsson (spelling is a bit unclear) Waltham Mass. It has paper labels that say Goteborg, Cunard Line, From C.A. Berglund, Gothenburg.

Any information you may be able to give me about this item would be greatly appreciated.

Do you have any info on the riot that took place when the Casa Loma Orchestra appeared at Nuttings for a one nighter that took place between 4/28/34 to 5/23/34. The newspaper that would have carried it was The Boston Post. The obit. on Si Shribman 6/3/46 might discuss it. In any case -it was the first music riot in American popular history. Thank you very much for your time and interest—sincerely, hope to hear from you.

Thank you very much for sending the pictures of the Waltham City Hall. It was very nice of you to take the time. I am particularly pleased to know the date of the groundbreaking. I am a collector of US Route 20 memorabilia, together with the historic buildings along the route. This will be a nice addition to my knowledge of the road.

If you have any information on these inquiries, or would like to become involved in any of the activities mentioned, please contact us at the headquarters 781-891-5815, and we will be delighted to put you in touch with the individuals involved.

Calendar

April 22, 2006

The Massachusetts Genealogical Council's Annual Seminar to be held in Marlborough, MA. Non-members \$60 before March 22. Further information at www.massgencouncil.org or P.O. Box 5393, Cochituate, MA 01778.

April 23, 2006

Minuteman Regional Historical Society Meeting. 1:30 pm in the Col. Francis Faulkner Room of Acton Town Hall, 472 Main Street, Acton, MA. "The Invention of Benjamin Franklin."

March 28, 2006

"Dear Mr. Secretary": Letters to the War and State Departments. National Archives and Records Administration, 2:00 pm, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham, MA. 866-406-2379

April 11, 2006

Census, Nationalization and Passenger Lists. 2:00 pm, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham, MA 866-406-2379.

May 1, 2006

The Annual International Food and Wine Festival at the Charles River Museum of Industry, 154 Moody Street, Waltham, MA. For information call 781-893-5410.

July 15-16, 2006

Watertown Treaty Days. 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday at O'Connell Field, Rt. 16, Watertown, MA

Civil War Restoration Projects

On May 18-21, 2006 The Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston will going on its 26th Annual *Four Days In May Battlefield Tour*. Revisiting Arlington National Cemetery on Friday May 19, 2006 we will have the honor of placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, along with seeing several other historic sites.

The following day we will be revisiting Gettysburg, Pa. While in Gettysburg, along with several of the usual highlights, we will view the site where developers are planning to build a gambling casino, adjacent to some of this Nation's most sacred ground. We will also go to the sites of the recently desecrated monuments, including those of the 11th Massachusetts Vol. Infantry. This year, along with the Restoration Project of the Nathaniel P. Banks Gravesite in Waltham (co-sponsored by The Waltham Historical Commission), we will make a special effort to raise monies for The 11th Mass. Monument and The Civil War Preservation Trust. If anyone cares to help with these Projects, please send your donation to The Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston (CWRT of GB) c/o David L. Smith, 3 Waverley Oaks Rd., #202, Waltham, MA 02452-6274

The Waltham Historical Society is grateful for the continued support of the RTN Federal Credit Union.

