



## *Westwood Historical Society*

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Co-Presidents

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## Fall 2018 Newsletter

*Each spring, we ask you to update your Westwood Historical Society membership. In the fall, we ask for additional contributions to support our programs, our 1800s School Day for all Westwood third graders, the printing of our newsletters, the maintenance of our collection of Westwood items and the upkeep of the Fisher School. A donation card is included with this newsletter – and we sincerely appreciate any amount you can give!*

## Upcoming Programs

### **October Program: William Martin, author of *Back Bay***

**Tuesday, October 9, 7:30 pm at the Fisher School**

William Martin is an award-winning New York Times author. During this program, he will talk about his historical fiction novel: *Back Bay*. Copies of his *Back Bay* and *Bound for Gold* books will also be available for purchase.

### **November Program: Rufus Porter and his Wall Murals**

**Tuesday, November 13, 7:30 pm at the Fisher School**

Sloane Awtrey is a Research Intern for Decorative Arts, Art of the Americas, with the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA). She has given numerous presentations on the Rufus Porter mural at the MFA and is looking forward to telling us more about how his Westwood murals have impacted art history.

### **Westwood Artisans Marketplace**

**November 30 (3:30 to 7 pm) and December 1 (10 am to 3 pm) at the Fisher School**

The Westwood Historical Society is delighted that the Westwood Artisans Marketplace will be using the Fisher School for their holiday showcase. We encourage you to stop by to see these local artists and purchase their lovely wares.

### **Holiday Party and Sing-Along**

**Sunday, December 9, 2 pm at the Fisher School**

All are welcome to join us for refreshments and our annual sing-along! Please bring your family, friends and children. Sunny O'Malley will again be playing piano for us – and taking requests.

**Quarter Century Award Presentation.** This year's Quarter Century Award recipients, Nancy and Charlie Donahue, will be honored at our Holiday Party. Please come and join us in recognizing their wonderful contributions to Westwood.

### **January 2018 Program: The Hurricane of 1938**

**Tuesday, January 8, 7:30 pm at the Fisher School**

Sarah Sycz Jaworski will be our speaker on the Hurricane of 1938. Sarah is from Historic New England and will share many stories of this historic event.

# Curator's Corner

Lura Provost

We always appreciate your donations – as they help us build our collection and knowledge of Westwood life in the past. This year has also seen an increase in inquiries about our history and specific houses in town. Here are some of our special acquisitions this year.

**Wooden Bench.** We received a wonderful wooden bench from General Clarence Edwards' Stone Cottage, which was donated by Pamela Layton. During World War I, General Edwards was head of the 26<sup>th</sup> Division. This division was mostly composed of Massachusetts residents and so was named the Yankee Division and was known for having fought well. Following World War I, the Division became the National Guard under the same name. Note that Camp Edwards on Cape Cod is also named for General Edwards.

After the war, General Edwards owned a property on Grove Street and built the stone cottage as a replica of his headquarters in Ardennes, France. Situated on a rocky knoll under the canopy of mature trees, the cottage is made of natural stone. A huge fireplace dominates the room and the windows are perfect replicas of the original. One wall is reserved for maps of battle scenes.

**Traveling Trunk and Books.** Another recent acquisition is a traveling trunk from the Nancy E. Colburn family (early Westwood residents). Paula Kline donated the trunk along with several leather bound books with Nancy's name plate. Some of these gold embossed volumes are: Edgar Allan Poe's Criticism, Tales and Poems. The other donated books were published between 1854 and 1890.

## In Remembrance...

We are sad to note that Ralph A. Buonopane passed away in early August. Ralph was a member of the Historical Society for at least 50 years – and was one of our volunteers "extraordinaire." Some of his special projects included: managing the move and siting of the Fisher School on the current property, finding and reproducing our "Westwood Gothic" wallpaper with Waterhouse Wallhangings, planning our daylily bed to ensure yellow blooms throughout the season and working as Historic Commission Chairman so that the Colburn School would be saved and could be used as a landmark historical building in Westwood.

The Society also wants to remember Alan Ward who volunteered many hours at the Society inputting the data we need to document our Collection. And, we will miss Jane Forsberg, another special friend and longtime member of the Historical Society.

## In Thanks...

We extend a special thanks to Charlie Donahue who oversaw the third grade School Program this May with the help of many volunteers: Lauren Arvidson, Mike Beaumont, Sean Bevan, Allison Borchers, Irene Buonopane, Jerry Cronin, Nancy Donahue, Charlie Flahive, Jim Gavin, Joe Gearon, Arthur Gearty, Abby Hanscom, John Hickey, Mike Jaillet, Josepha Jowdy, Pat Keyo, Emily Parks, Jack Patterson, Dottie Powers, Margaret Rustrian, Maria Ryan, Steve Springer, Patti Wright and Steve Wright.

**Have Ideas for Programs? Want to Rent the Fisher School?** As many of you know, the Fisher School is available for rental (e.g., music events, receptions, special shows). We would also welcome ideas for future programs (whether you can present or know someone who could). Just contact either of our co-presidents: [Luraprovost@gmail.com](mailto:Luraprovost@gmail.com) or [marilyn.freedman@removes.com](mailto:marilyn.freedman@removes.com).

## Our Board Members

Current Board members include: Marilyn Freedman and Lura Provost (Co-Presidents), Mary Ellen Washienko (Secretary), Ron Sudduth (Treasurer), June Cassidy (Publicity) and Kate Langenberg (Social Media).