

WORCESTER WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

We remember our past . . . to better shape our future.



Linda Cavaoli to Receive

Women Making History Award



On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Worcester Women's History Project, we are proud to announce the recipient of our first Women Making History Award—Linda Cavaoli, Executive Director of the YWCA of Central Massachusetts.

This award is given to a woman who demonstrates extraordinary commitment to the improvement of the quality of life for women and/or girls in the Worcester area.

A community leader in the elimination of racism and empowerment of women, Cavaoli has headed groundbreaking programs at the YWCA for over 23 years. In addition, presently she volunteers for the United Way of Central Massachusetts Women's Initiative as Co-Chair of Membership, for the Department of Children and Families Worcester West Area Office as a Community Board member, for the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women as Commissioner, and for Quinsigamond Community College as a member of its Board of Directors. She also serves on the City Manager's *Task Force on Bias and Hate*.

A fighter for the rights of all women and their personal and economic advancement, Cavaoli has been the catalyst to provide for a better future for women of many cultural backgrounds and their loved ones.

Cavaoli is one of the founders of the Worcester Women's History Project which gives voice to the important but often overlooked contributions of women in our community. One initiative, the Worcester Women's Oral History Project, is celebrating an anniversary this year also—its 10th.

We invite all to our award presentation as part of our 20th anniversary festivity on Thursday, October 22, 2015, at the Worcester Historical Museum. (See Page 3.)

WWHP Steering Committee

WWHP Vision Statement

The Worcester Women's History Project will celebrate and document women's contributions to the history, social fabric, and culture of Worcester and beyond.

NOTICE

OF

20th Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 22, 2015

5:30 p.m.

Worcester Historical Museum

followed by

20th Anniversary Celebration and presentation of

Women Making History Award

and Lecture and Booksigning
by Bonnie Hurd Smith

Light Refreshments

ALL WELCOME



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WORCESTER WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

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wwhp.office@gmail.com

Newsletter Committee: Kara Wilson Yuen,
Susan Wobst, Mary Plummer, Nancy Avila

WWHP is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable and educational organization incorporated in 1995 with a vision "to celebrate and document women's contributions to the history, social fabric, and culture of Worcester and beyond." Its mission is to

- raise awareness of the rich history of women in the Worcester area
- create national recognition of Worcester's role in the history of the women's rights movement
- advance the ideals put forth in the 1850 convention that there should be "equality before the law, without distinction of sex or color," or ethnicity.

www.wwhp.org

Looking Back While Looking Forward

The Worcester Women's History Project is looking back while looking forward. In 2002, the Worcester Women's Heritage Trail booklet was published by WWHP. The booklet outlines the important role Worcester, and our women in particular, had in the struggle for racial and gender equality in the mid-nineteenth century.

The original plan was to include trail markers throughout Worcester to guide visitors to the many people and places central to our contribution to equal rights for all. A decision was made to focus on the mid-nineteenth century. The guide includes, for example, Abby Kelley Foster. However, because it is about the mid-nineteenth century only, other significant Worcester women, such as Frances Perkins, the first female U.S. Cabinet member and the creator of Social Security, are not in it. The trail guide project began well before Smart Phones were created. Trail markers were costly.

We have begun the process of updating the trail guide and are working with other groups interested in highlighting important historical locations in Worcester. Now, through easily available technology, we will be able to link simple trail markers to our website so that visitors can readily access information about people and places in a simple and cost-effective way. Allison Chisolm, author of *The Inventive Life of Charles Hill Morgan*, is working with us to add important people and places that were not in the original guide. She is currently researching Frances Perkins, Emma Goldman, Josephine Wright Chapman and Elizabeth Bishop. Technology will allow us to better link the past to the present and future. We welcome your suggestions of people and places to be included in our updated guide.

Your support on any of our projects and committees is always welcome. If you would like to take an active role on a committee, or if you have some thoughts about other ways we can celebrate women in Worcester, contact us at 508.767.1852 or wwhp.office@gmail.com.

Please join us as we continue our work in celebrating and advancing racial and gender equality.

Thank you.

Dianne Bruce, President

THANK YOU to those who helped with this newsletter:

*Ann Marie Shea, Charlene Martin, Dianne Bruce, Jeana Edmonds,
Kara Wilson Yuen, Louise Gleason, Lynne McKenney Lydick,
Mary Plummer, Maureen Ryan Doyle,
Nancy Avila, Pam Bobay, Susan Wobst*

DO YOU KNOW?

Do you know the first ten states to give women the right to vote? (See answers on Page 10.)

WWHP ANNUAL MEETING and 20th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Thursday, October 22, 2015
Worcester Historical Museum
30 Elm Street, Worcester

5:30 p.m.

Hear a review of what we have been doing for the past year and help plan for the future. Elect new Officers, Steering Committee members and Nominating Committee members. Remember Charter member Betty Hoskins.

Refreshments

6:30 p.m.

🌀 Presentation to Linda Cavaioli of first
Women Making History Award

🌀 Bonnie Hurd Smith lecture and booksigning

***"Give the help of your best thought to separate the light from the darkness":
An appreciation of Women's History and Worcester***

As women organized for change nation-wide on such issues as suffrage, abolition, marriage and property rights, equal education, employment opportunities, and social services, what role did Worcester women play? What role did Worcester itself play? On the 20th Anniversary of the Worcester Women's History Project, join author Bonnie Hurd Smith for a look at our local and national story. Bonnie Hurd Smith writes and speaks about women's history in Massachusetts and the nation and leads Unitarian Universalist services on the subject. She has created women's history trails in Boston and Salem, and bicentennial exhibits on Margaret Fuller and Elizabeth Peabody. Bonnie is recognized by Oxford University Press as the leading scholar on the eighteenth-century essayist and women's rights champion Judith Sargent Murray of Gloucester. She has served as the board president of the Sargent House Museum in Gloucester (Judith Sargent Murray's home), as executive director of the Boston Women's Heritage Trail, and executive director of the Ipswich Historical Society. Bonnie holds two degrees from Simmons College in Boston and currently manages two companies: Hurd Smith Communications (publishing) and History Smiths (writing and promotion). Bonnie is the author of several women's history books, including her most recent title, *We Believe in You: 12 Stories of Courage, Action and Faith from Massachusetts Women's History*. She resides in Salem, Massachusetts.

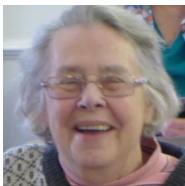
(Title quote is from Paulina Wright Davis's *Call to the Convention* of 1850.)



All Welcome

BETTY HOSKINS (1936 - 2015)

Betty (Bruening) Hoskins, 78



Worcester, MA - Betty (Bruening) Hoskins, Ph.D., of Worcester died unexpectedly at home at the end of June 2015, days before her 79th birthday. Lord Peter Wimsey, a lifelong favorite, was on the nightstand, and in the garden berries, grapes, and herbs transplanted from her parents' garden (in Baltimore) were ripening.

She was preceded in death by her son, Kent Eric Courtland Hoskins; parents John and Bessie Bruening; siblings Bob and Grace Bruening.

She is survived by her daughter, Kathryn Millis, sister in law Elizabeth Bruening, cousins, and close friends of many decades. Her cats Emma and Ash were re-homed by Sweetpea For Animals.

In 1972, Dr. Hoskins was the first woman hired as a tenure-track faculty member at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. She had graduated from Goucher (a women's college) at age nineteen, then earned a Master's degree in entomology from Amherst (at the time, a men's college), and a doctorate molecular biology at Texas Woman's University. She also taught at Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and was an editor at Ginn and Company and Third-Party Publishing.

She was an active scholar and leader of academic, women's, religious, and arts organizations.

She wrote about bioethics, reproductive technology, feminism and women in science, religious education and Safe Congregations materials, in addition to dozens of research articles. She edited books including "Birth Control and Controlling Birth: Women-Centered Perspectives," and "The Custom-Made Child?: Women-Centered Perspectives," and served decades on science journals' editorial boards.

Betty loved singing with Salisbury Singers, Folk Song Society of Greater Boston, and Uppity Women Singers. A longtime folk, contra, and English Country dancer, she was president of CDS-Boston Centre, and passed on the joy of community dance to her daughter. With dear friends she regularly enjoyed ballet, opera, organ recitals, concerts by the All Saints Choir of Men & Boys, with which Kent had sung before his death at age nineteen; lectures, and classes through the Worcester Public Library and Worcester Institute for Senior Education.

She attended First Unitarian Church and Worcester Friends Meeting (Quaker). She served as president of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation, chair of Collegium, an association of liberal religious scholars; in leadership roles for Institute on Religion in an Age of Science, Religious Coalition For Reproductive Choice, and Theological Opportunities Program at Harvard Divinity School, was a founder and early steering committee member for the Worcester Women's History Project, and longtime supporter of Abby's House.

She made arrangements to be an organ donor, and an anatomical donor to the University of Massachusetts Medical school.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 10:00, at First Unitarian Church of Worcester, 90 Main St.

In lieu of flowers please contribute to an organization like those named here.

Published in Worcester Telegram & Gazette from Sept. 12 to Sept. 13, 2015

Abby Speaks to the Generations

By Lynne McKenney Lydick

On September 5, 2015, Mount Gulian Historic Site, in Beacon, NY, celebrated the life of James F. Brown, an escaped slave from Maryland who made his way to freedom in New York State with the help of the Verplanck family. Brown became a master gardener, voter, property owner and community-minded activist in pre-Civil War Dutchess County, all while maintaining a unique journal of everyday life for almost 40 years.

The event, *From Slave to Mr. Brown*, included conversations with history professors, Gospel singing, an award winning short film and a performance of *Yours for Humanity—Abby* and took place in the family's 1700s Dutch barn on the forty-four acre historic site.

At the end of my performance, John Rounds, from New Jersey, told me he was compelled to attend the event to "Hear Abby" as his great, great, great grandfather and grandmother had heard Abby speak in Salem, Ohio in the early 1840s. They were so moved, they named their daughter, Abigail.

These connections from the past to the present speak volumes about Abby's strength and influence. Her words did change people's hearts and minds wherever she spoke and young girls were named in her honor.*

*Salem, Ohio, was the location of the *Anti-Slavery Bugle*, the newspaper started and supported in large part by Abby. And in 1845, a young slave girl was "rescued" by a group of abolitionists and re-named Abby Kelley Salem.

Yours for Humanity—Abby

Upcoming Performances

September 19, 2015

Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University, Worcester

October 14, 2015

UMass Lowell Honors College, Lowell

October 26, 2015

New Bridge on the Charles Retirement Community, Dedham

March 12, 2016

DAR, The Oaks, Worcester

March 29, 2016

Briarwood Retirement Community, Worcester

WHAT'S NEW ABOUT THE SPEAKERS' BUREAU

By Margaret Watson

One request for a speaker was received for the spring. The Tuesday Lunch Club in Webster, Massachusetts, asked for a presentation regarding two women publishers, Mary K. Goddard and Katherine Graham. On the first Tuesday of May, Margaret Watson gave the presentation to an enthusiastic audience of fourteen women.

Several inquiries regarding a fall presentation have been made although no firm plans have been made as yet. The Holden Women's Club and the Holden Senior Center have been two organizations expressing strong interest. Now that Labor Day has been enjoyed and is now but a memory, we expect that requests will be made soon.

A few brochures remain. These will be handed out soon, and more will be printed if there seems to be a need. In the summer of 2016, we will be revising the brochure and asking the WWHP membership to indicate their desire to make presentations regarding important women in our history. You might be thinking of possibilities at this time. Please pass any suggestions on to the WWHP office or to Margaret Watson at margjkw@aol.com. These speaking engagements help to educate the public, whether students in school or adults, concerning the lives of important women who have contributed much to our history.

WWHP has a Lending Library!

By Mary Plummer

Do you know WWHP has a very interesting library located in our office at the Worcester Historical Museum? Many books concerning women's issues and history are available and on loan. There is a simple borrowing system with instructions on a file box on top of the first book case. Contact Nancy Avila* to make arrangements before visiting the Museum. She is also able to send you the complete list of books through email if you are looking for a specific subject or book. Feel free to keep the books as long as you need them. We hope you take advantage of this wonderful resource.

* info@wwhp.org or 508-767-1852



WWOHP Celebrates Ten Years: *In Her Shoes* Book Launch on December 1

By Maureen Ryan Doyle

A new book, *In Her Shoes: A Compilation of Inspiring Stories from the First Decade of the Worcester Women's Oral History Project*, by the Co-Chairpersons of WWOHP, Charlene L. Martin and Maureen Ryan Doyle, will be launched on December 1, 2015, commemorating the tenth anniversary of Worcester Women's Oral History Project.

WWOHP records, collects, and shares the personal and historical memoirs of women from Central Massachusetts. As the editors researched and reviewed the full transcripts of oral histories for this book, certain common themes emerged. Almost every woman who was interviewed discussed the high-wire act of finding time for the competing responsibilities of spouses, children, extended family, careers, housework, and volunteering. Another subject which emerged was the passion that women displayed when talking about what is near and dear to them. And the final topic involved how women created their own paths in life. Some overcame the adversity of illness, poverty, teen pregnancy, loss of parents, sexual assault or immigrating to a new country.

At this time, 300 oral histories have been collected and transcribed by WWOHP. Many full-text transcripts are available to the public on the Project's website. The Project is honored to have the Schlesinger Library as the permanent repository for its oral histories. The Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America is on the campus of Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University and maintains collections relating to a wide range of women's activities. It provides rich material for researchers and historians.

In a culture that is driven daily by the power of celebrity, the day-to-day struggles, challenges, and victories of ordinary women in Central Massachusetts could be easily lost. The mission of WWOHP is to preserve and share these stories. Please join us on December 1 at 5:30 p.m. in the Saxe Room of the Worcester Public Library when Charlene L. Martin and Maureen Ryan Doyle will read excerpts from their new book and invite you into the personal struggles and private triumphs of some truly inspiring women.

For further information, please contact Maureen Ryan Doyle at mryandoyle@aol.com or 508-829-6968.

“Worcester’s Frances Perkins: Public Figure, Private Faith”

May 14, 2015, marked the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Worcester’s own Frances Perkins (1880-1965), the first woman to serve on the U.S. Cabinet. She was appointed U.S. Secretary of Labor in 1934 by President Franklin D Roosevelt and served for twelve years.

In 2009, the Episcopal Church recognized Perkins with her own feast day, May 13, a day marked with prayers and music dedicated to her memory. A service of celebration was held at St. Michael’s-on-the-Heights Episcopal Church on Wednesday, May 13, 2015. The Rev. Deacon David Woessner officiated. We were honored that her grandson, Tomlin Perkins Coggeshall, was able to join us for this special occasion. Mr. Coggeshall is founder of the Frances Perkins Center in Damariscotta, Maine.



Tomlin Perkins Coggeshall,
Founder of Frances Perkins Center



Tomlin Perkins Coggeshall with Fran Langille,
Ann Marie Shea & Sharon Smith Viles of WWHP planning committee

Perkins’ Home in Maine National Historic Landmark

By Ann Marie Shea

On June 13, 2015, the Frances Perkins Center hosted a ceremony at the Brick House in Newcastle, Maine, the ancestral home of Frances Perkins, a Worcester native and the Secretary of Labor under President Franklin Roosevelt. A plaque was unveiled identifying the Brick House as a National Historic Landmark. About 2,500 historic places bear this distinction, representing the most important 3% of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The 57-acre property has been in the Perkins’ family for about 250 years, the Brick House itself dating from 1837. It is still a private residence today, the home of Frances Perkins’ grandson, Tomlin Coggeshall.

Following the ceremony at the Brick House, the Frances Perkins Center in nearby Damariscotta hosted a free performance of *Madame Secretary, Frances Perkins* in the Lincoln Theatre next door to the Frances Perkins Center on Main Street.

Other summer events at the Brick House, sponsored by the Frances Perkins Center, included the annual garden party on August 14, marking the 80th birthday of Social Security, a program that was the centerpiece of Perkins’ career.

For more information on the Frances Perkins Center and the Brick House, visit ww.francesperkinscenter.org.

Women’s History Month at City Hall



A Frances Perkins’ exhibit at City Hall was
arranged by Mary Oroszko.

Family Histories: The 12th Annual WOMEN IN PRINT

A review by Kara Wilson Yuen

The twelfth annual Women in Print event was held on March 18, 2015, in the Saxe Room at the Worcester Public Library. The theme for the event was “Family Histories,” highlighting three local authors who all drew heavily upon genealogical research and family stories while writing their books.

The evening began with a warm welcome from WWHP President Dianne Bruce, who introduced each of the authors. **The first author to speak was Dr. Jennifer Davis Carey.** When Dr. Carey was a child growing up in Brooklyn, her grandmother would tell stories about her experience of emigrating from Barbados to Brooklyn at the turn of the 20th century. As Dr. Carey reached adulthood, she reflected upon those stories and wondered, “How sanitized are the stories that are told to children?” She decided to use her grandmother’s stories and letters she found in her grandmother’s old black leather handbag as a starting point for researching her debut novel *Near the Hope*. The novel explores the harsh realities of emigrating from the class and color restrictions of Barbados through the eyes of the main character, Dellie Standard, based upon Dr. Carey’s grandmother.

During the 19th century, Barbados was full of enslaved Africans working on sugar cane plantations. This industry affected the whole island. While Barbados is a very beautiful island, the difficulty of life there “drove people to madness” according to Dr. Carey. This is what motivated people from Barbados to emigrate to the United States, where they had high hopes for a better life. However, adjusting to life in New York had its own set of challenges. Dr. Carey concluded by reading an excerpt from *Near the Hope*, describing how everything about New York felt very different — “even the pavement beneath their feet instead of soil.”

The second author of the evening was Allison Chisolm, author of *The Inventive Life of Charles Hill Morgan*. Ms. Chisolm began her talk by mentioning that she didn’t set out to become a biographer, but in her public relations work, she enjoyed writing profiles. When Charles Hill Morgan’s 82-year-old grandson, Paul Morgan, approached her to write his grandfather’s biography, Ms. Chisolm thought at first it would be like writing “a very long profile,” not realizing all of the sifting and sorting of information that writing a biography entails. It ended up taking her eight years to write and publish the book.

Ms. Chisolm gave a brief synopsis of Charles Hill Morgan’s life. He was an inventor who was born in 1831 and grew up in Clinton, Massachusetts. Morgan believed “there was always a better way to achieve something.” Morgan’s many achievements included learning about railroad engines, finding a commercially viable way to manufacture paper bags, inventing a machine called “continuous rolling



Jennifer Davis Carey, Allison Chisolm, Audrey Nicholson

mills,” helping expand the Washburn wire business, and becoming a trustee at WPI. Morgan also started a construction company that contributed great things to Worcester, such as the maternity ward at Memorial Hospital, built partly as a response to the loss of Morgan’s wife and son during childbirth. As she spoke, Ms. Chisolm also displayed a slideshow with pictures of Morgan, his family, his inventions, and places significant to his life. In closing, Ms. Chisolm remarked, “Biography can help us learn from other’s experiences and give us hope that we can improve ourselves in some way.”

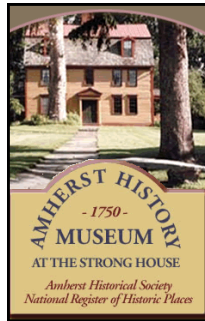
The final author of the evening was Audrey Nicholson, author of the novel *Celtic Knots*. Ms. Nicholson was born in London, England, raised in Belfast, Ireland, and is the child of an interfaith marriage between a Protestant and a Catholic. She mentioned she wanted to write a story about Northern Ireland that didn’t read like a history book, but told a story of a family and their struggles. *Celtic Knots* mostly takes place in the 1930s, but according to Ms. Nicholson, “The Irish struggles go back centuries, particularly the Protestant/Catholic animosity.” Similarly to Jennifer Davis Carey, Ms. Nicholson drew upon family stories she heard as a child to write her novel.

Ms. Nicholson gave a brief summary of the novel, which centers around a Catholic man named Tom, who was a philanderer. Tom’s daughter, Lucy, was not willing to put up with his behavior and confronted Tom and his mistress. This confrontation ended in disaster: Lucy wound up in the hospital in a coma and her mother, Ellen, died on the way to visit her after being struck by a tree branch. Ms. Nicholson read an excerpt from the book which takes place right after Ellen’s burial. While Tom is struggling with living on his own, “it dawned on him how many ways there were to miss a wife.” Tom also wonders in this section of the novel how much difference it makes to be Protestant or Catholic.

(See continuation on Page 10.)

12th Annual Women's History Tour Experience Historic Amherst

By Louise Gleason



Once again, the Events Committee of the Worcester Women's History Project did an outstanding job putting together the yearly bus trip (C.J. Posk and Hanna Solska, co-chairs). This year we traveled to Amherst for *all things Emily*—that is, Emily Dickinson. There is an Emily Dickinson-Worcester connection. Sarah Cushing Tuckerman, wife of Amherst professor Edward Tuckerman, and Emily Dickinson were part of the social scene during Emily's lifetime. Sarah received notes and poems written by Emily. Stephen Salisbury I married Elizabeth Tuckerman. Tuckerman Hall is named after her.

Just like all WWHP events, quality describes this Amherst trip the best.

We arrived in Amherst about 8 a.m. with our first stop being the Dickinson family home ("The Mansion"). It is a large stately house located a short distance from the center of town. An excavation was in progress at the back of the house, the purpose of which was to locate the original barn and related objects. It is always interesting to see actual excavations in progress and the history being unearthed. A small artifact was found while we were there.

On to the tour of the home. We were extremely fortunate to have a docent who not only was well versed in Emily's life but also in the lives of her family and life in Amherst at that time. Her knowledge, admiration and love of Emily Dickinson was evident in her presentation. We had a wonderful dialogue between our group and the docent. She put to rest some myths about Emily:

"No, she did not dress only in white.... Yes, she did have a "male friend." Emily's comments about this relationship would lead you to believe it may have been more than friendship. He was a widowed judge and they spent many hours together alone. A good round of applause went out for our docent.

The next stop and just a footpath away is her brother William Austin Dickinson's home. Although it is in need of great repair, it is equally impressive. It is another window into the Dickinson family life. Austin, as he was called, was the "star of the family." His life was sad yet fascinating. His son died at an early age. The family was devastated by the loss and Emily grieved deeply. The house itself was well known for its parties, especially lavish dinner parties. Austin also had a long-standing affair with Mabel Loomis Todd. Mabel was responsible for finding and transcribing Emily's work and bringing it to publication.

We then chose to walk or ride to the Amherst Library. There, after a brief presentation, we were free to explore photos and writings of Emily, her family and their home. In addition, there was also a big emphasis on Robert Frost.

On display were photos, writings and stories of his link to Amherst.

Lunch was on our own. Fortunately, my granddaughter Hayley is a student at UMASS-Amherst. She found us a great reasonable restaurant. After lunch, we still had time to "shop Amherst" which is always a great experience. A farmers' market was in progress in the center of town.

Then we all met at the Amherst Historical Society and Museum. The Society was founded in 1899 and is housed in the 1750 Simeon Strong house. There were many artifacts of Amherst dating back 300 years. There we saw the original "little white dress" not done yet. The bus took us to Emily Dickinson's gravesite and then lastly to "the Kitchen Garden." The Sixteenth Century Renaissance Kitchen Garden is a jewel. Here we found plant strains dating back to 1500 AD or before. There was an apple orchard with similar lineage.

If you have never gone on a WWHP trip, "you gotta go." It's fun, fabulous, educational, extraordinary, and also a terrific way to meet and talk with other WWHP members and friends.

(Continued on Page 10)

*Thank you
to
our members
and supporters
as of Sep. 1*

Victoria Aberhart
Madelyn Anusbigian
Hildegard Armstrong
Joanne Arello
Thea Aschkenase
Anita J. Aspen
Nancy Avila
Margot Barnett
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Joan Bedard
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Lizbeth Gustavson
Linda Haddad
Heather-Lyn Haley
Beth Harding
Marjorie Hastings O'Connell
Carolyn Howe
Jayne M. Hughes
Barbara Combes Ingrassia in
Memory of Marie Walker Sole
Wendy Innis
Lynda Johnson
Mary E. Johnson
Dr. Nancy A. Johnson
Anne Jones
Hari Kirin Kalsa
Peggy Kocoras
Barbara Kohin
Elise Kreiger
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Laura Menides
Barbara Mercier
Linda Antoun Miller
Diane Mirick
Karen Board Moran
Michelle Nelsen
Audrey Nicholson
Gale Nigrosh
Mary E. Oroszko
Edward Osowski in
Honor of Louise Gleason
Mary Plummer
Dr. Phyllis Pollack
Mary Porter, Esq.
C.J. Posk
Marjorie Purves
Annette A. Rafferty in
Memory of my mother & aunts
Jeanne D. Rosenblatt
Linda Rosenlund
Edna Sexton
Ann Marie Shea
Katherine Shocas
Susan Simitis
Patricia A. Smith
Tess A. Sneesby
Hanna Solska
Edna P. Spencer
Donna Hamil Talman
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Constance Tuttle

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Kristin B. Waters, Ph.D.
Margaret Watson
Charlotte Wharton
Janice Wilbur
Kristen P. Williams, Ph.D.
Sheila Wilson
Susan Wobst
Jean Wood
Donna Wrenn
Shirley Wright
Linda M. Young
Kara Wilson Yuen
Charlotte & Manny Zax

Welcome new members!

Madelyn Anusbigian
Thea Aschkenase
Joan Bedard
Jennifer Davis Carey
Allison Chisolm
Marjorie Connelly &
Randy Ingham
Laurel Davis
Micki Davis
Catherine Doran
Ann Flynn
Hari Kirin Kahisa
Evelyn Lincourt
Audrey Nicholson
Missy Nicholson
Katherine Shocas
Charlotte Wharton
Janice Wilbur
Donna Wrenn

The Worcester Women's History Project was founded in 1994 by a small group of women who wanted to raise awareness of the importance of the first National Woman's Rights Convention, held in Worcester in 1850, and to highlight the City's role – as a center of radical abolitionist activity and social reform – in the women's rights movement. It was incorporated in 1995 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

WOMEN IN PRINT 2015
(Continued from Page 7)

Ms. Nicholson concluded her talk by reading an excerpt from the beginning of the book, where Lucy is at her granddaughter's wedding, thinking back on her life and reflecting on the reasons why her family wound up leaving Ireland for the United States and Australia.

After the audience had an opportunity to ask the authors a few questions, Dianne Bruce thanked each author with a parting gift and a complimentary membership to WWHP. She also thanked the WWHP Events Committee for organizing Women in Print, as well as many other events throughout the year, and for providing the evening's refreshments. As always, Women in Print proved to be a very interesting and informative event and an excellent opportunity to learn about local female authors and their published works.

EXPERIENCE AMHERST
(Continued from Page 8)

For the past 3 years, I've invited my granddaughters and daughters-in-law to join me. After their first experience, they were sold. They start asking right after Christmas for the next trip.

Come join us next Spring. Invite your daughters, your granddaughters, mothers, sisters, and friends. You will not be disappointed.

Here are my granddaughters' comments:

"I have gone to the WWHP annual bus trip for the past 3 years and the 2015 Emily Dickinson trip was a delight. Furthermore, as a UMASS-Amherst student, it was real interesting to learn about Amherst's rich culture." (Hayley Gleason, WWHP Member)

"I learned who Emily Dickinson was in high school, but really didn't know anything about her until I went on the WWHP trip this year. It was a very interesting and educational trip." (Josselyn Gleason Vinsh)

Try it—you'll like it—actually love it!

Louise

Bravo, Lynne!

Here are some comments made by Burncoat High School students after Lynne McKenney Lydick's performance in *Yours for Humanity*—Abby on May 5, 2015:

I felt transported back to the 1850's.

She was so passionate about her character.

I loved the personal connection to her daughter!!

Her performance was so real. You could really see the effects of Abby's life in the performance.

Her emotional connection to her character was great.

Her performance was extremely believable and emotional.

It was interesting to see the way women's lives were in the 1800's.

The performance on Friday was absolutely amazing. The woman playing Abby Kelly [sic] Foster did such an amazing job. I felt as if I was actually there listening to her speech. Overall it was really fantastic.

Mrs. McKenney-Lydick was totally in character. She gave us a vibe that we were in it. It was so intense, it made us not want to take our eyes off of her. The performance was very well developed.

I loved how she made the audience feel connected with eye contact.

Very informative on the life of Abby Kelly [sic] Foster. I probably learned more about this woman with this performance than a days worth of reading. Beautiful performance!

It seemed like Abby Kelly [sic] was standing in front of me.

Paulina Wright Davis

The following quote by Paulina Wright Davis from the Call to the first National Woman's Rights Convention, Worcester, can be found at <http://www.wwhp.org/Resources/WomansRights/call.html>:

The signs are encouraging; the time is opportune. Come, then, to this Convention. It is your duty, if you are worthy of your age and country. Give the help of your best thought to separate the light from the darkness. Wisely give the protection of your name and the benefit of your efforts to the great work of settling the principles, devising the method, and achieving the success of this high and holy movement.

ANSWERS TO DO YOU KNOW on Page 2:

Wyoming 1869, Colorado 1893, Utah 1895, Washington 1910, California 1911, Oregon 1912, Arizona 1912, Kansas 1912, Alaska 1913, New York 1917. Wyoming, Utah and Alaska were territories at the time.

Yours for Humanity—Abby

Internship Opportunity

The Worcester Women's History Project (WWHP) announces the availability of an unpaid internship related to one of its ongoing projects, "All Things Abby." This project focuses on the life and work of Abby Kelley Foster, Worcester's renowned 19th century women's rights activist and abolitionist. The WWHP is a vibrant organization dedicated to highlighting, celebrating, and sharing the accomplishments of contemporary Worcester area women as well as those with historical significance.

What the Internship Involves:

The primary goal of the internship is to help in the marketing and booking of performances for the one-woman play, *Yours for Humanity — Abby*, performed by Lynne McKenney Lydick. This play, which has been performed hundreds of times both locally and regionally, powerfully brings Abby Kelley Foster to life for diverse and highly appreciative audiences.

Specifically an intern will:

- ~ initiate contact with libraries, schools, colleges, historical societies and other organizations which might be interested in hosting a performance of *Yours for Humanity — Abby*
- ~ follow up with interested organizations with the goal of booking performances
- ~ engage in some promotional work, for example, producing flyers, adding a video clip of an aspect of the performance of the play to the WWHP website, and/or updating the section of the website focused on "All Things Abby"
- ~ attend meetings of and draft reports for the WWHP focused on the activities of the "All Things Abby" project
- ~ serve as a liaison between the "All Things Abby" project and the Steering Committee - the governing body of the WWHP
- ~ learn about and participate in the grant writing processes currently in place that help defray the costs of the play's performance for organizations with limited budgets
- ~ participate in the drafting of a budget for the "All Things Abby" project

In order to accomplish the activities outlined above, the intern will meet with Lynne McKenney Lydick to learn about the play and the process of selecting and contacting organizations which might be interested in hosting a performance of the play. In addition, the intern will be asked to read *Ahead of her Time*, the biography of Abby Kelley Foster. The intern will also attend selected performances of the play as a way of understanding the historical significance of Abby Kelley Foster, thus making the promotion of the play about her more skilled and effective.

Qualifications:

- ~ strong communication skills, both written and oral
- ~ ability to work independently and to take initiative
- ~ computer literacy involving skill in e-mail correspondence, maintenance of a booking calendar, effective management of leads for performance venues, skill in searching for potential organizations interested in the play
- ~ time available, one evening monthly, to attend meetings of the WWHP Steering Committee
- ~ transportation to attend performances and meetings as well as to meet with Lynne McKenney Lydick as needed throughout the internship period
- ~ access to a personal computer and telephone

For questions and more information, please contact Nancy Avila, WWHP Executive Assistant, 508-767-1852 or info@wwhp.org.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

76 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Showcasing great women...Inspiring all!

www.greatwomen.org

NATIONAL ABOLITION HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

5255 Pleasant Valley Road, Peterboro, NY 13134

"The National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum honors antislavery abolitionists, their work to end slavery, and the legacy of that struggle, and strives to complete the second and ongoing abolition – the moral conviction to end racism."

www.nationalabolitionhalloffameandmuseum.org

Note: Abby Kelley Foster of Worcester was inducted into both Halls of Fame in 2011.

To keep up to date, check us out on

facebook

www.wwhp.org



WORCESTER WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

30 ELM STREET - WORCESTER MA 01609

MARCH IS ...

**NATIONAL WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH**

And
WWHP

MEMBERSHIP MONTH

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To renew or join WWHP, you may use PayPal online with the form at <http://www.wwhp.org/support-wwhp>, or use this form.

Support Level

- Abby Kelleyite \$500 Reformer \$100-\$499 Activist \$50 Supporter \$35
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Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ payable to

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30 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

Mail to ➔

My employer will match my gift.

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WWHP is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Gifts are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. No goods or services are provided in exchange for donations.

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