



# WORCESTER WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

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

VOLUME 16, NO. 2

FALL 2016

## WWHP PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY AUGUST 26, 2016, NOON CITY HALL PLAZA, WORCESTER



Good afternoon.

As president of Worcester Women's History Project, I am honored to welcome all of you to this celebration of the 96<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, recognizing the right of American women to vote.

For those of you who are not familiar with the Worcester Women's History Project website, I'd like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with the organization. Worcester Women's History Project seeks 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.

Although the 1848 Seneca Falls conference is often mentioned in regard to 19<sup>th</sup> century feminism, the first NATIONAL Woman's Rights Convention took place right here in Worcester in 1850.

Slavery was, of course, at that time legal in many states of the Union, and the cause of abolitionism was in 1850 in Worcester inseparable from women's rights.

Although this organization—and this celebration—is free of partisan politics, may I take the liberty to quote from a current candidate for a very high office. In her acceptance speech for her party's nomination, this female politician said, "When a barrier falls in America, it clears the way for everyone."

So we are here today, not only to celebrate the freedom of women to vote, but also to recognize what freedoms have been won by everyone, men and women. Just as slavery tied both master and slave by the same chains, the denial of full citizenship to women diminished men of the time as well. Full suffrage freed men to benefit from the talents, intelligence and power of all fellow citizens, many of whom just happened to be female.

In that spirit I encourage everyone here—women and men—to take up membership in Worcester Women's History Project, remembering our past, to better shape our future.

*Ann Marie Shea, WWHP President*

## NOTICE OF

### 21st Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 27, 2016  
5:30 p.m.  
Worcester Historical Museum

followed by

"The History and Culture of  
Northeast Native American Women"

by

Christine M. DeLucia,  
Assistant Professor of History,  
Mount Holyoke College

Light Refreshments

ALL WELCOME

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## WORCESTER WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

30 Elm Street • Worcester, MA 01609  
Telephone: 508-767-1852  
Website: wwhp.org • Email: info@wwhp.org

### 2015—2016 STEERING COMMITTEE

Ann Marie Shea  
Barbara Ingrassia  
Barbara Kohin  
Barbara Mercier  
Heather-Lyn Haley  
Holly Nylander  
Kathleen Comer  
Louise Gleason  
Margaret Watson  
Mary E. Oroszko  
Micki Davis  
Nancy A. Johnson  
Pamela Bobay  
Patricia L. Jones

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ann Marie Shea, President  
Heather-Lyn Haley, Vice President  
Barbara Ingrassia, Clerk  
Patricia L. Jones, Treasurer

**Executive Assistant:** Nancy Avila  
wwhp.office@gmail.com

**Newsletter Committee:** Barbara Mercier,  
Kara Wilson Yuen, Margaret Watson,  
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**

## Snippets



Concord's Colonial Inn

Saturday, June 25, was a beautiful day for a ride out to Concord for lunch at the Colonial Inn. Sixteen of us enjoyed getting to know each other.



The Gleasons

### LET US KNOW

Where should we take a bus trip in 2017 in the spring? Shall we do an overnigher to Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site in Hyde Park, NY? We would tour the Stone Cottage at Val-Kill, the home of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, and its surrounding property of 181 acres, and more. Email [wwhp.office@gmail.com](mailto:wwhp.office@gmail.com) or call 508.767.1852 by November 1.

### PHOTOGRAPHER WANTED

WWHP needs a volunteer photographer for events. Email [wwhp.office@gmail.com](mailto:wwhp.office@gmail.com) or call 508.767.1852.

### WWHP PARTICIPATED

- ...March 6, International Women’s Day at the YWCA.
- ...March 17, Worcester Women’s Symposium at Clark University.
- ...September, stART on the STREET

### NEW WWHP BANNER

...unveiled at August meeting of Steering Committee.



### NEW TREASURER

Patricia L. Jones was elected as a member of the Steering Committee and as Treasurer by the Steering Committee to fill a vacancy.

### HISTORY QUIZ

**Question #1:** Who was arrested in 1872 for voting illegally in Rochester, New York for violating the Fourteenth Amendment?

**Question #2:** This very gentle lady was the daughter of an English noble who fought and died fighting in the Greek Revolution of 1821 against the Turks. She is regarded as the world's first computer programmer. Who is she?

**THANK YOU** to those who helped with this newsletter:

*Ann Marie Shea, Barbara Mercier, Charlene Martin,  
Heather-Lyn Haley, Kara Wilson Yuen, Louise Gleason,  
Lynne McKenney Lydick, Margaret Watson, Mary Plummer,  
Maureen Ryan Doyle, Nancy Avila, Pam Bobay*

## WORCESTER WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

### 21st ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, October 27, 2016

Worcester Historical Museum  
30 Elm Street, Worcester

**5:30 pm** Hear a review of what we have been doing the past year and help plan for the future. Elect new Officers, Steering Committee members & Nominating Committee members.

**6:15 pm** Networking and Refreshments

**6:30 pm** "The History and Culture of Northeast Native American Women" with Christine M. DeLucia,  
Assistant Professor of History at  
Mount Holyoke College



Prof. DeLucia teaches courses on *The American Peoples to 1865*; *Native American History*; *Violence in Early North America*; *Homelands and New Worlds*; *Cartography and Exploration in North America*; and *The Atlantic World*. Education: Ph.D. in American Studies (2012), M.Phil. in American Studies (2010), M.A. in History (2009), Yale University; M.Litt. in Environmental History (2007), University of St. Andrews, Scotland; A.B. in History and Literature (2006), Harvard College.

DeLucia has published articles in *The Journal of American History*; *Studies in American Indian Literatures*; *Re-thinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice*; and *Common-place*. Her first book, *The Memory Frontier: Memorializing King Philip's War in the Native Northeast* is under contract with Yale University Press.

Prof. DeLucia's research has received support from the John Carter Brown Library, American Antiquarian Society, Massachusetts Historical Society and others.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**





Cj Posk, Mick Caouette, Ann Marie Shea

## “Frances Perkins: Fire and Ice”

By Fran Langille

Last spring, WWHP President Ann Marie Shea and members Mary Oroszko, CJ Posk, and Fran Langille traveled to Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley, MA to view recently discovered rare footage of Frances Perkins and hear film maker Mick Caouette discuss plans for an APT/PBS documentary in process with the working title “Frances Perkins: Fire and Ice.”

Mt. Holyoke President Lynn Pasquerella introduced Mr. Caouette and his exciting project, which has gained support from Mt. Holyoke in recognition of the college’s outstanding alumna who graduated in 1902 and went on to become the first woman Secretary of Labor (1933-1945) under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Of course, the documentary is of interest to WWHP as well since Frances Perkins grew up in Worcester and graduated from Classical High School before attending Mt. Holyoke. This was a wonderful opportunity to hear of Mr. Caouette’s progress and to meet Tomlin Coggshall, Ms. Perkins’ grandson (for those who had not met him when he participated in the WWHP event honoring her in May, 2015). Mr. Christopher Breiseth was also introduced and spoke of his first-hand experiences with Ms. Perkins. He was a student at Cornell University in 1960 and President of Telluride House when he invited her to live at Telluride while she was teaching at Cornell’s School Industrial and Labor Relations. He shared some interesting and humorous personal stories of times he shared with this special woman.

Frances Perkins championed several causes that improved the welfare of the American people, including the New Deal, which reduced work week hours, introduced minimum wage and unemployment insurance, and

initiated the Civilian Conservation Corps. This documentary is intended to “provide historical context for the debate over the myriad of labor and social welfare issues that are pervasive in our contemporary conversation,” according to Caouette’s website. The film will combine Perkins’ own voice with that of her biographers and those who knew her or knew of her, including Senator Nancy Pelosi, Journalist David Brooks, Lawrence O’ Donnell of MSNBC and Senator George Mitchell of Maine.

According to the Mt. Holyoke website, Mr. Caouette also stated that “the film also is intended to shed light on pertinent contemporary issues such as the Affordable Care Act, workplace fire safety rules, unemployment insurance, and Federal Employee Compensation legislation, all of which stem from policies that Perkins fought for.”

More information about “Frances Perkins: Fire and Ice” is available at: <http://www.southhillfilms.com/frances-perkins-fire-and-ice/>

This event was part of the fundraising campaign to raise funds to complete the film, finish editing, and to conduct several more interviews, including activist, Gloria Steinem.

If you are interested in funding the film, you will find more information at: <http://www.southhillfilms.com.customers.tigertech./support/>

Caouette has created other notable documentaries, including films on Vice President Hubert Humphrey and Thurgood Marshall, the first African American Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court.

“Worcester Women’s Heritage Trail” is a 46-page booklet which identifies sites, individuals, organizations and events vital to understanding the major role that Worcester and Central Massachusetts played in the historic struggle for women’s rights and racial equality. Cost: \$10



**Voices of Worcester Women: 160 Years after the First National Woman’s Rights Convention** – by Maureen Ryan Doyle and Charlene L. Martin, gives compelling excerpts from the over 250 oral histories collected and edited as part of the Worcester Women’s Oral History Project. Available online at <http://wwhp.org/support-wwhp>.



**In Her Shoes** by Maureen Ryan Doyle and Charlene L. Martin, co-chairs of Worcester Women’s Oral History Project, contains excerpts from the stories of women from different generations, ethnicities, religions, and socioeconomic backgrounds who participated in the first decade of the Oral History Project. Available online at <http://wwhp.org/support-wwhp>.



## THE SPEAKERS' BUREAU:

### Plans for 2017-2018

By Margaret Watson

In 2014 the Worcester Women's History Project established the Speakers' Bureau for community groups who wished to host presentations of interest to their audiences. A flyer was developed at that time listing thirteen topics from which to choose, all of them to be presented by WWHP members.

School classes, senior centers, and women's clubs have responded in the past two years. In the coming flyer we hope to propose topics that include information regarding diversity in America and elsewhere; for example, one member has offered to give a presentation on the role of Muslim women in various Middle Eastern cultures

The flyer describes the presentation briefly and gives the contact information of the WWHP. The interested group then contacts the office, which in turn contacts the speaker who then agrees to a date and honorarium. According to policy, fifteen per cent (15%) of the honorarium is donated to the WWHP which is acting as the agent.

At this time, plans are being made for the flyer of 2017-2019. If any member of the WWHP is interested in participating and wishes to give presentations for community groups, please contact the WWHP office or Steering Committee members Margaret Watson or Barbara Mercier.

## WWHP Lending Library!

By Mary Plummer

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 on loan. Contact Nancy Avila ([info@wwhp.org](mailto:info@wwhp.org) or 508.767.1852) 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. We hope you take advantage of this wonderful resource.

Thank you to Regina Edmonds for recently donating the following books: *The Life of Ellen H. Richards* by Caroline L. Hunt; *The Roman Years of Margaret Fuller* by Joseph Jay Deiss; *A Woman Making History: Mary Ritter Beard Through Her Letters* edited by Nancy E. Cott; *The Lady and the President: The Letters of Dorothea Dix & Millard Fillmore* by Charles M. Snyder; and more.



Join us for

## WWOHP Annual Event on December 7

By Maureen Ryan Doyle

Please join us for WWOHP's annual event on Wednesday, December 7, at 5:30 p.m. at the Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square, for a presentation entitled, "**Women Unheard...No Longer! Hearing**



**the Voices of Deaf Women in the Community,"** by Judy Freedman Fask. Ms. Freedman Fask's talk will focus on the incredible efforts and the complex process to record and present the lives of Deaf women, in their own words and in their own language of American Sign Language (ASL). This project highlights the true spirit of collaboration, involving

several institutions of higher education and members of the Deaf community during her tenure at Holy Cross from 1994-2012. Learn how authentic stories of Deaf women are expressed, interpreted, and recorded so they can be shared with others. The narratives include personal stories of artists, homemakers, students, actors, community leaders, and others.

Judy Freedman Fask is a recognized leader in the field of community and civic engagement, especially through Community Based Learning programming. Ms. Freedman Fask assisted in the establishment and development of the Deaf Studies program at the College of the Holy Cross. Her experiences provide perspective from the classroom as faculty affiliated with higher education, as well as on the ground as the joint community partner. Her expertise emphasizes the mutual benefits of building successful collaborations. She has been honored with numerous awards for her role in the community as leader, advocate, and ally. Ms. Freedman Fask currently works with Transition Age Youth who have a variety of disabilities. She holds a Master's Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Springfield College and a Master's Degree in Education of the Deaf from Smith College. She has worked as a freelance Certified American Sign Language interpreter for over 30 years.

For more information on this program, you may contact Maureen Ryan Doyle, [mryandoyle@aol.com](mailto:mryandoyle@aol.com), or Charlene L. Martin, [chmartin@townisp.com](mailto:chmartin@townisp.com).

*The following is reprinted by permission from the Telegram & Gazette, 9/2/16.*

## AS I SEE IT

Rights and rewards of equality

*By Margaret Watson*

The clerk in the convenience store was rejoicing. She confided that she was celebrating her twenty-first birthday that very day. I gave her my congratulations and asked her if she had registered to vote. She stopped smiling then, shrugged, and said that she did not think her vote counted for very much.

In the nineteenth century, thousands of women of all ages and from all over the world desired the franchise, the right to cast their votes at the ballot box. Suffragists endured physical abuse in England, procrastination and broken promises in many countries, ridicule, hostility, and contempt here in United States. Yet they persevered, and with good reasons for so doing.

For centuries women were known socially as someone's wife or daughter or were simply "old maids" if they lacked a husband. Their identity, status, and their roles were very limited. They could not manage their own financial affairs; only a very few were able to attend men's colleges or enter the medical or legal professions. Women did not run successfully for government offices.

The delegates to the first National Woman's Rights Convention held in Worcester in 1850 were well aware of the limitations imposed upon women. The attendees included Lucretia Mott, Abby Kelley Foster, and Lucy Stone. Speakers demanded equal rights for women, including the right to vote, own property, and be admitted to higher education, the legal and medical professions and the ministry. Sojourner Truth spoke of the conditions of slave women, advocating emancipation of slaves and giving them equal rights.

The struggle for the franchise to which many women devoted their entire lives promised enormous rewards, not only for themselves, but also for the generations to follow. The vote gives an individual some measure of control over his or her own life. One can choose from among the candidates those who will best represent the needs of self and community. In America we have embraced a representative form of government: our elected representatives make the laws that affect us all — in economics, education, health, and personal protection. Our vote, therefore, will help to elect the candidates who function officially on our behalf.

No one should infer, however, that there is a "woman's point of view," or that women as a group necessarily disagree with the "men's point of view." Women have differing opinions, just as men do, and so belong to different political parties and express a variety of opinions. The point here is that at the ballot box one can choose that candidate whose stated policies best agree with one's own interests and whose plans seem best in addressing the problems in the community or nation.

My Dutch grandmother understood this well. She came to this country in 1907 and became a naturalized citizen. In 1920 she was able to vote in the national election, for it was in that year that the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution granted all women the right to vote:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." Thereafter, my grandmother, devoted to her new country, voted in every election and prided herself on doing so. In her eighties, after an early snowstorm nearly paralyzed western Michigan, she placed my grandfather in a wheelchair and pushed him through the snow drifts to the polling place so they could both vote in the November elections.

The perseverance of women engaged in the magnificent struggle for the franchise has yielded us rewards in our quest for equality in many other areas. Today more women than men attend college and receive bachelor's degrees, and more women than before are admitted to graduate schools and achieve professional status. We manage our own financial affairs, own land, operate a business, or run for a government office.

Much work is yet to be done, however. Equal pay for equal work is slowly becoming a reality. Many women are still underpaid, many with families to support. Economic inequalities must still be addressed, and young women should be encouraged to take advantage of educational opportunities as a stepping stone to greater financial stability for themselves and their families. While we celebrated Women's Equality Day on August 26 last weekend, we must advocate our beliefs every day and take full advantage of those rights so dearly won, especially in voting, including this Thursday in the September 8 primary elections and on Tuesday November 8 in the national elections.

So to my young friend, the convenience store clerk, I offer happy birthday wishes but wish to assure her that her vote does count, for together our votes will make a difference. The progress of humanity is made in small degrees, and the effort has been made by many who have gone before us. What we enjoy today is the result of their labors, and for future generations we can do no less than persevere and continue the struggle for equality in every area — health, employment, compensation, legal rights — not only for ourselves, but also for our children, their children, and the communities in which we live. — *Margaret Watson of Holden is a member of the Steering Committee of the Worcester Women's History Project, which sponsored the August 26 celebration, and a member of the Greater Worcester League of Women Voters.*





Lyn Lincourt, Jeannine Atkins,  
Susan McDaniel Ceccacci

## WOMEN IN PRINT 2016

A review by  
Kara Wilson Yuen

I was pleased to discover a mostly full audience when I arrived at the Worcester Public Library's Saxe Room for the 13th

Annual WOMEN IN PRINT on March 30, 2016. I imagine the beautiful weather and ample daylight of the spring evening helped to draw people out to enjoy this annual event, showcasing three local women authors: Susan McDaniel Ceccacci, Jeannine Atkins, and Lyn Lincourt.

Worcester Women's History Project President, Ann Marie Shea, welcomed the audience and introduced the three authors, beginning with **Susan McDaniel Ceccacci**. Ms. Ceccacci is the Education Director of Preservation Worcester and the author of *Living at the City's Green Edge*, which chronicles the history of Worcester's Bancroft Heights neighborhood, also known as Massachusetts Avenue Historic District. The subdivision was built on Johnson's Farmland and was called Bancroft Heights because the birthplace of George Bancroft was located across the street and part of Johnson's Farmland belonged to his father, Aaron Bancroft. The plan for the neighborhood was laid out in 1898 by **Stephen Salisbury III** as a green space, including a park, the Bancroft Tower monument, and a housing development adjacent to the green space. There was a need for this neighborhood to be built because of the sharp rise in Worcester's population between 1890-1900 due to the city's booming industry.



The building of the neighborhood started in 1899 and the first house was sold in 1900 to Worcester's Mayor Dodge. Shortly thereafter, many of the city's leading citizens occupied the homes of **Bancroft Heights**. Ms. Ceccacci remarked that she had the most fun writing the book when she learned about the residents of the houses and also about the changes in technology over the years, including lighting fixtures, bathrooms, and kitchens. She described the book as "looking at architecture in the twentieth century style, examining the neighborhood house by house." Ms. Ceccacci included a slideshow of photos from Bancroft Heights, both from the present and the past. She also included photos of Stephen Salisbury III and many of the people who inhabited the houses. She closed her talk by commenting that the book "teaches about history and about the people and the lives they led."

Ann Marie Shea next introduced **Jeannine Atkins**, author of *Little Woman in Blue*, a fiction novel about **May Alcott**, the sister of famous Concord author, Louisa May Alcott. Ms. Atkins claims that she "totally relies on wonderful researchers" to create her works of fiction. She loves to show the amazing things women can do and has previously written about Madame C.J. Walker, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Madame Curie, and their daughters. Growing up in Sterling, Massachusetts, Ms. Atkins loved reading *Little Women* and was fascinated with Louisa May Alcott. But she also became fascinated with Louisa's younger and often overlooked sister, May. It occurred to Ms. Atkins that *Little Women* was written from Louisa May Alcott's point of view, but there were points of view from the other sisters as well, which were not mentioned in Louisa's writing. For example, May Alcott took on a large role as a caregiver to the Alcott family and she helped the Civil War effort by sewing uniforms for the Union soldiers. May also was the illustrator of the first edition of *Little Women*. She had a small studio at **Orchard House**, the Alcott family's home in Concord, and many of her drawings can be viewed there. May later went to France and experienced success as an artist. Before that, she taught art in Concord. She was acclaimed sculptor Daniel Chester French's first sculpting teacher and she was also a contemporary and friend to fellow artist, **Mary Cassatt**. Ms. Atkins supplemented her talk with a slideshow of May Alcott's art as well as pictures of Orchard House and other places May visited throughout her life.

(Continued on p10)



# Celebrating Together at Liberty Farm

By Judy Freedman Fask

Since 1999 Rick and I have been the proud owners of Liberty Farm, the home of Abby Kelley Foster and Stephen Foster. Over the years we've had the opportunity to open the home to many people: school groups, college classes, scholars, actors, historians, activists, Red Hat Society groups, Girl Scout troops and even a Japanese PBS station. It's been awesome meeting so many diverse and wonderful people.

The most recent event was held on May 21, 2016. All were invited to Liberty Farm to celebrate Abby Kelley Foster's legacy and 40 years of Abby's House. It was a festive afternoon where visitors engaged in activities of the period: writing with a quill pen, stitching quilt squares, creating beautiful paper pieces through the art of quilling and playing with the 19<sup>th</sup> century toys.

People came to celebrate Abby's legacy and the shelter that so proudly carries her name. For guests, walking on the grounds was like stepping back in time and feeling the spirit and strength of Abby. Visitors even got to meet "Abby" and her husband Stephen, portrayed by Lynne McKenney Lydick and Tom Lydick. Ranger Chuck Arning captivated the group with stories that connected Abby's goals and ambitions, her place in history and the fortunate coincidence that this piece of history (HERstory) happens to be in Worcester, MA. Ann Marie Shea represented the WWHP and welcomed guests with her remarks. Annette Rafferty spoke about the establishment and importance of Abby's House, a shelter that offers safe housing and advocacy for those in need. Stephanie Page, Executive Director of Abby's House, spoke also. My friends- whenever you are here at Liberty Farm my heart fills with joy and love – for that is what radiates from you and fills the space around us.

Heartfelt thanks to all those who made this celebration possible: organizers of the event from Abby's House and WWHP, volunteers, those who were at the activity stations, and tour guides. Thank you, Jean Anger, for coordinating the many volunteers who helped us prepare and beautify the yard in advance including Deb Gagnon from Country Bank, who coordinated some of yard crew. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the worker bees! And of course, thank you to all who came and enjoyed.



CJ Posk, Lynne McKenney Lydick, Eli Freedman, Ranger Chuck Arning, Tom Lydick, Judy Freedman Fask



Louise Gleason demonstrating rug hooking to Fran Langille



Dave Cohen holding Jacob's Ladder



Suzanne Howatt, Judy Freedman Fask, Annette Rafferty



Letters to Abby

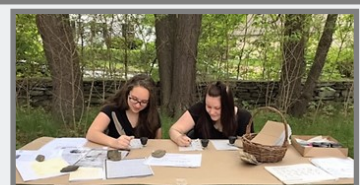
**Liberty Farm is for sale.**



Quilting with Heather-Lyn Haley & Glen Harris



Quilting with Shauna Delaney & Driscoll McKenney-Lydick



Calligraphy with Olivia Lachapelle & Mary Lopriore



*Thank you*  
to  
*our members*  
*and supporters*  
as of Sep. 10

Victoria Aberhart  
Kristina Allen  
Hildegard Armstrong  
Jeannine Atkins  
Nancy Avila  
Linda Barringer  
Patricia Bizzell  
Paulette Bluemel  
Pamela Bobay  
Marilynn Borst  
Alta-Mae Butler  
Cynthia F. Carruthers  
Linda Cavaioli  
Susan McDaniel Ceccacci  
Senator Harriette L. Chandler  
Marjorie Merakian Cohen  
Kathleen Comer  
Marjorie Connelly &  
Randy Ingham  
Lisa Connelly Cook  
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Catherine Doran  
Maureen Ryan Doyle  
Susan Durham  
Regina M. Edmonds  
Phyllis Estus  
Patricia M. Faron  
Judy Freedman Fask  
Judy Finkel  
Allen W. Fletcher  
Mary Fletcher  
Patricia Fletcher  
Ann Flynn  
Hayley Gleason  
Louise Gleason  
Patricia A. Glodis  
Dorista Goldsberry

Yvonne P. Goldsberry &  
Cherie A. Holmes  
Lizbeth Gustavson  
Linda Haddad  
Heather-Lyn Haley  
Beth Harding  
Marjorie Hastings O'Connell  
Honee Hess  
Katherine Hessel  
Carolyn Howe  
Jayne M. Hughes  
Barbara Combes Ingrassia  
Wendy Howard Innis  
Mary E. Johnson  
Nancy A. Johnson  
Anne Jones  
Patricia L. Jones  
Peggy Kocoras  
Barbara Kohin  
Elise Kreiger  
Elaine Lamoureux  
Frances Langille  
Barbara A. LaPlant  
Nancy A. Lemerise  
Suzanne Yerdon Lewandowski  
Evelyn Lincourt  
Charlene Martin  
Linda Maykel  
Donna L. McDaniel  
Barbara Mercier  
Linda Antoun Miller  
Diane Mirick  
Karen Board Moran  
Beverly Mulcahy  
Michele Nelsen  
Gale H. Nigrosh  
Holly Nylander  
David & Joanne O'Brien  
Mary E. Oroszko  
Edward Osowski  
Mary Plummer  
Phyllis Pollack  
Mary Porter  
C.J. Posk  
Marjorie Purves  
Annette A. Rafferty in honor of the  
women and children of Abby's House  
on our 40th year  
Phyllis Rickter  
Jeanne D. Rosenblatt  
Edna Sexton  
Ann Marie Shea  
Mary Sieminski  
Asima Silva

Susan Simitis  
Dorothea R. Simmons  
Lowerre Simsarian  
Bonnie Hurd Smith  
Patricia A. Smith  
Hanna Solska  
Mary Stepanski  
Susan Elizabeth Sweeney  
Donna Hamil Talman  
Mary Tanona  
Constance Tuttle  
Helen G. Vassallo  
Virginia M. Vaughan  
Doreen Velnich  
Sharon Smith Viles  
Susan R. Vogel  
Margaret Watson  
Charlotte Wharton  
Sheila Wilson  
Jean Wood  
Donna Wrenn  
Kara Wilson Yuen  
Charlotte & Manny Zax

≈  
*Welcome new members!*

Jeannine Atkins  
Susan McDaniel Ceccacci  
Maureen Daley  
Allen W. Fletcher  
Patricia L. Jones  
Elaine Lamoureux  
Evelyn Lincourt  
Beverly Mulcahy  
Asima Silva  
≈

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.

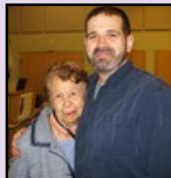
## WOMEN IN PRINT 2016

(Continued from Page 7)

The final speaker of the evening was **Lyn Lincourt**, author of *Mansions of Magnates: America in the Mad 20th Century*. Ms. Lincourt, at age 94, has led a long, interesting life. She began her talk by sharing stories about her life in New York City, where she worked in the theatre and then graduated from college after age 30. After spending some time looking for a job, she moved to Washington, DC where she ended up working as a **Child Labor Specialist**, a career which required a great deal of writing. But it was not until moving to the Worcester area in 2008 that Ms. Lincourt fully realized her passion for writing, first by starting a column called “**Lyn’s Spin**” and then by taking on a project through the **Shrewsbury Historic Commission** in 2009 to write about the mansions of Shrewsbury, built at the turn of the twentieth century. This project, which Ms. Lincourt co-researched with Chris Kirk, resulted in the book *Mansions of Magnates*. Ms. Lincourt commented that she was fascinated by the research process while writing her book, particularly learning about the people who lived in the mansions and where they came from. She said, “All of these people took a chance, just like all our ancestors.” She closed by praising WWHP, particularly Abby Kelley Foster, and the work WWHP does “on making the country a better place.”

WWHP President Ann Marie Shea closed the evening by thanking the Events Committee, particularly Pam Bobay and CJ Posk, for organizing WOMEN IN PRINT. Ms. Shea also presented the authors with small gifts and honorary memberships to WWHP. We then were invited to enjoy refreshments provided by the Events Committee while viewing the wonderful nature photography collection “America the Beautiful” displayed around the Saxe Room.

**Photo:** Lyn Lincourt & Mark Serra of Shrewsbury Cablevision.



## Women’s Equality Day Friday, August 26, 2016 Worcester City Hall Plaza

City Councilor Toomey read the Mayor’s Proclamation. City Manager Augustus gave remarks. See WWHP President’s address on page one.



Many organizations supported this celebration of the 96th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. *Read further.*

Oak Hill Community Development Corp., LWV, Abby’s House, Women’s Initiative, Worcester Community Connection, Worcester Youth Center, YWCA



*2020 will be the 100th Anniversary of the passing of the 19 Amendment giving women the right to vote.*

### ANSWERS TO HISTORY QUIZ on Page 2:

**Answer to #1:** Susan B. Anthony

**Answer to #2:** Ada Lovelace was born on December 10, 1815. She was the only child of Byron and his wife. All his other children were out of wedlock. She married William King-Noel, Earl Lovelace. She is acknowledged as the first computer programmer because of her help for Charles Babbage in his efforts to design a device that could carry out algorithms and solve problems. She died on Nov. 27, 1852.



This article was published in the 2005 Spring issue of the WWHP Newsletter and is reprinted here with permission.

## “A GIANT OF A WOMAN”: REMEMBERING PRINCESS WINONA

By Karen Board Moran

**Princess Winona P. Harmon Baroni** (1911-2003), member of the Wyandotte, Androscoggin, and Passamaquoddy tribes of Maine, and honorary member of the Penobscot tribe, was also Clan Mother of the Wollomonopougg Indian Council, Clan Mother of the Worcester Inter-Tribal Center, and Sachem (Chief) of the American Indian Federation of Lafayette, RI. Born in Lisbon Falls, ME, the daughter of Purlie E. and Helena A. Maines Harmon, she first came to Worcester at age 18 to earn her living as a seamstress at the West End Thread Mill, in Millbury, and the former Paul Hats Company, from which she retired.

Native American women have always played a major role in their communities. When other American women in the nineteenth century were fighting for property and legal rights, they already held authority over their children, homes, and furnishings. Economically, they were entitled to use the clan's land and managed its food distribution. They influenced the tribe's political decisions and could even forbid their brothers and their sons from going to war. The clan mother—usually the oldest woman—wielded the most power. She oversaw the clan's welfare, counseled its members, and was responsible for nominating, installing, monitoring, and removing the male chief.

As a leader and teacher, Princess Winona guided members of her clan as well as other Native Americans and people from around the world. She helped found many important organizations, including the Indian Cultural Art Lodge of Worcester and the American Indianist Society. She was an active member of the Walking Bear Singers, Dighton Inter-Tribal Indian Council Oak, New England Native American Institute, United Native American Cultural Center, Laconia Indian Historical Association, Order of the Preservation of Indian Culture, and Greater Lowell Indian Cultural Association.

Princess Winona was remarkable, as well, for her ability to share her love of Native American culture with others. In 1979, she started the Sterling Springs Powwow, which is still held on Father's Day weekend each year [Note: This article was written in 2005.]. One of four women honored as members of the Helushka War Dance Society, she had the title of Gourd Dance Lady and was known for performing the Shawl Dance at many of the powwows she attended during her long, active life. Princess Winona also published an annual calendar of Indian social events and gave presentations at local high schools. Some students who learned about Native American culture from her, twenty years ago, are now teachers themselves and pass on that knowledge to another generation. Multiply that effect by the many such encounters that Princess Winona facilitated throughout her life, and you can see the power of sharing one's heritage with others.

Princess Winona also supported the Quinsigamond Village Community Center in Worcester, where she taught Native American culture, beadwork, and other crafts for 25 years, up until the week before her death at age 91. On April 15, 2003, the Lower Hall of the Community Center was dedicated to her. This year, on April 23 [2005], she will also be commemorated by a Princess Winona Memorial Dance at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Holden. Princess Winona made a difference in the lives of everyone who knew her, whether they called her Mother, Grandmother, Winona, or Auntie Jo. In Worcester County, her legacy lives on—even for those who never met her personally.



## Yours for Humanity-Abby

By Lynne McKenney Lydick

Since April, *Yours for Humanity—Abby* has been performed before audiences of all ages at venues including the Boys and Girls Club, Union Hill Elementary School, South High Advanced Placement History Class, all in Worcester. There have also been performances at retirement communities in Worcester, Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard and Orono, Maine, to name a few.

### Audience comments:

“This is the first time I envisioned my children – each child to be torn from my arms to never see again! So well acted it brought it home.” - *Oak Bluffs resident*

“... I didn't even know about Abby Kelley Foster but now I consider her a hero.” - *AP History Student*

### You can catch a performance of *Yours for Humanity—Abby* at these locations on:

**Sept 28, 7:00pm** - Shrewsbury Historical Society, 17 Church Road, Shrewsbury, MA

**Oct 6, 3:00pm** - Avalon Village Retirement Community, Hampden, ME

**Oct 9, 2:00pm** - Sunbury Village, Bangor ME

**Oct 11, 1:00pm** - Malden Senior Center, Malden, MA

**Oct 21, 7:30pm** - Warner Free Lecture Series, Harvard Public Library 4 Pond Road, Harvard, MA\*

**Nov 14, 7:00pm** - Framingham State University's McCarthy Center as part of *Change the Conversation, Change the World*, Arts and Ideas Series\*\*

\* Established in 1890 in accordance with the wishes of Henry Warner. The Warner Free Lecture Series provides residents of Harvard with free educational lectures and programs.

\*\* *Change the Conversation, Change the World*, Arts and Ideas Series is FSU's year-long series of engaging speakers, performances, exhibitions and films.

# The Right to Vote

By Lyn Lincourt

When WWHP chose me as the third woman for the annual WOMEN IN PRINT program last March, I found a home and a mentor in Abby Kelley Foster who fought for fourteen years for the right to vote regardless of gender or race. Abby knew the vote was the voice of the people and that the people could safeguard the integrity and strength of the nation. And, we still can.

Could I inspire non-voters to register? In mid-June, I began posting on *Lyn Lincourt, Author of 'Mansions of Magnates...,' Timeline* the need to know the state of the nation and what the candidates have done/will do to conserve the earth, restore basic structures while providing jobs and skills for unemployed workers in the new economy, restore values of a democracy, etc.

People are doing marvelous things in many towns and cities. Our Government needs to hear and heed the People. *Abby would agree.*

## Upcoming...

Oct. 27, Thursday, 5:30pm,  
at the Worcester Historical Museum.  
Annual Meeting and Program.  
See page 3.

Dec. 7, Wednesday, 5:30pm,  
at the Worcester Public Library.  
Annual WWOHP event. See page 5.

Jan. 15, 2017, Sunday,  
is the 206th anniversary of  
Abby Kelley Foster's birth.

March is  
National Women's History Month.  
March 8, Wednesday, is  
International Women's Day.  
March is WWHP Membership Month.

2009-2016 issues of the Newsletter are on website in .pdf. Go to [www.wwhp.org](http://www.wwhp.org) and click on the tab NEWS AND EVENTS.

To keep up to date, check us out on **facebook**



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MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS MARCH TO MARCH.

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

### Support Level

- Abby Kelleyite \$500     Reformer \$100-\$499     Activist \$50     Supporter \$35  
 Family membership \$50

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to

Worcester Women's History Project  
30 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

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## MARCH IS ...

NATIONAL WOMEN'S  
HISTORY MONTH

and  
WWHP

## MEMBERSHIP MONTH

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