



Volume 52

Winter Newsletter

March 2020

PORTUGUESE ON YOUR RADIO

Saturday, April 18, 2020, 1:30-4:45 p.m.
Events Center, Boott Cotton Mills Museum
115 John St, Lowell, MA

Co-sponsored by the Lowell Historical Society, Lowell National Historical Park, and UMass Lowell's Saab Center for Portuguese Studies, the program "Portuguese on your Radio: A Brief History and Panel Discussion" will be held Saturday, April 18, 2020, 1:30-4:45 p.m. in the Events Center at the Boott Cotton Mills Museum. It will feature presentations on the history of Portuguese-American radio in Massachusetts and a roundtable discussion on Portuguese-American radio in the Greater Lowell Area with four hosts of programs from the early 1970s to the present. The event will conclude with the launching of two books related to the Portuguese-American experience—*News from the American Dream: A History of the Portuguese-American Press* by Alberto Pena Rodriguez and *The Final Report: A History of the Portuguese-American Citizenship Project, 1999-2016* by James Martin McGlinchey.



HOUSE HISTORY WORKSHOP

March 28, 2020, 10am-12pm
Pollard Memorial Library
401 Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA

Do you know when your house was built? Have you ever wondered who once lived in your home? Or when the addition was added? Or why the ghost likes the back hallway so much?

The Lowell Historical Society welcomes you to its House History workshop on March 28th where you will learn how to uncover the mysteries of your home or property using public records and other resources. This two hour workshop will go over what records are available, how to access them, and how to put the information together to form a complete history of your property. After the workshop you are welcome to stay for an overview of the records found within the Pollard Library. This workshop can aid more than Lowellians, as the resources discussed can be found in most Massachusetts towns and cities.

This workshop is also great for Real Estate professionals, business owners, or anyone who wants to create a one-of-a-kind housewarming gift for loved ones! This workshop will be led by Society Vice-President Kim Zunino who has researched historical properties in her former position as the Assistant Administrator of the Lowell Historic Board.



Radio Comes to Lowell

Albert S. Moffat and the Early Years of WLLH
Gray Fitzsimons, December 2019

The rise of commercial radio in America occurred during the “Roaring Twenties,” an era associated with the “flapper,” bootlegging, and a loosening of social mores, along with a booming economy notably in many of the nation’s cities and growing suburban communities. While this prosperity lagged in a number of New England’s older industrial centers such as Lowell, where wage earners, especially in textiles, struggled, the region boasted of one of the earliest commercial stations, WBZ, licensed in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1921. As at other fledgling radio stations, WBZ’s programming of live music, news, sporting events, political speeches, and educational lectures, attracted growing numbers of households. Over the decade, as transmission technology improved WBZ broadcasts, as well as those of the venerable KDKA of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the much smaller WGI of Medford, Massachusetts, more clearly reached listeners in the Greater Boston Area.

By 1930, when the federal census included radio ownership as an item in its lengthy questionnaire, over 60 percent of Bay State households claimed to possess one, ranking Massachusetts as one of the highest in the nation. But despite radio’s growing popularity, ownership of “wireless” receivers was markedly lower in Lowell compared to other locales. This was especially so in the city’s ethnic, working-class neighborhoods such as Little Canada, Portuguese Back Central, and the Greek Acre, where many residents toiled in factories and most were renters living in tenements or multifamily dwellings. Here, in 1930, less than five percent of households claimed to have a radio. By contrast, the more affluent areas, notably Belvidere

and the Highlands, had a high percentage—above 80 percent—of households with radios. Prices for radios sold in Prince-Walters Bungalow Shop, which, in the 1920s, was one of Lowell’s most popular stores for purchasing wireless receivers, ranged from \$18 to \$350, the least expensive being more than a week’s pay for a textile worker.

Although radio ownership was commonplace among the city’s wealthier residents during the 1920s, Lowellians who did not possess one in their home were able to listen to this new media in various public settings. One of the most popular locales was the Prince Arcade that extended between Merrimack and Middle streets. The Prince-Walters company not only sold radios but also established Lowell’s first commercial station, with call letters WQAS. Operating at only 100 watts of power, this short-lived venture generated some advertising revenue from local department stores, including the popular Chalifoux’s. One of the first major Lowell businesses to capitalize on the new media, Chalifoux’s used the radio as well as radio imagery in its graphics to advertise its merchandise. A series of ads in 1922 attempted to lure male shoppers (who were far outnumbered by females) by trading on the prevailing culturally masculine character of tinkering with the radio. “Boys!”—blared one ad—“Get out your receiving apparatus and listen in on these values. You can get a dandy suit for \$5.00.”

Locally, nowhere was the outsized involvement of males in radio technology so pronounced as in the Lowell Radio Club. A branch of a national organization that rose to prominence in the 1920s, the Lowell Radio Club had a membership of a few hundred and, although there were a handful of females, it was composed almost entirely of teenage boys and young men. The organization’s president in 1922, Everett E. Taylor, was, in many ways, an archetypal club member. Born in Lowell in 1896, Taylor, the youngest of five children, grew up in the middle-class Highlands neighborhood. His father worked in a supervisory position for the



Chalifoux’s department store capitalized on the popularity of radio in Lowell with a series of advertisements in 1922.

Boston & Maine railroad. Everett graduated from Lowell High School and subsequently became a draftsman for a textile machinery maker. As club president he led an initiative to receive and send police broadcasts of criminal activity, primarily alerts of stolen motor vehicles, in the Greater Lowell Area, to aid local police in apprehending suspects. By the mid-1920s Taylor was one of twelve Lowell amateur radio operators, all males between the ages of 19 and 32, who maintained radio stations. Registered with the U.S. Department of Commerce, each station had a call number and, as was typical of most amateur radio stations throughout the nation, each operated at anywhere between five and 500 watts of power.

While amateur radio grew in popularity, commercial radio dominated the airwaves and quickly rivaled newspapers and magazines as a chief source of popular entertainment and news. Improvements in manufacturing and an increase in the number of radio manufacturers resulted in less expensive receivers for consumers. Despite the financial hardship of many during the Great Depression, radio ownership mushroomed. By 1940 almost 90 percent of American households possessed one. As historian Bruce Lenthall noted, "more families had radios than had cars, telephones, electricity, or plumbing."

As recorded in the housing survey of the U.S. Census in 1940, radio ownership in Lowell followed this national pattern. With nearly 94 percent of households having radios, the sharp class division seen one decade earlier had receded although pronounced class distinctions in other household amenities remained striking. In the area of heating, over half the city's tenements and residential dwellings continued to rely on wood or coal-fired heating stoves. Similarly with refrigeration, only 30 percent of homes had mechanical refrigerators, while nearly 70 percent used ice. With the exception of the radio, this lack of modern home appliances in Lowell during the 1930s was not surprising for the city had one of the highest unemployment rates among the nation's urban centers throughout much of the decade.

While many businesses in Lowell and the Bay State continued to face tough times, commercial radio, notably stations owned by large broadcast corporations, including NBC, CBS, or affiliates of the Boston-based



Everett Taylor, a Lowell High School graduate, served as one of the early presidents of the Lowell Radio Club. Taylor, a draftsman for a Lowell textile machine maker, was typical of the club's members; young men between the ages of 15 and 30. (Image from the *Lowell Sun*, June 9, 1921)

Yankee Network, proved profitable primarily through rising advertising revenues. Success in the region's larger markets fostered a growth in radio stations in mid-sized cities and even smaller towns. Lexington, Massachusetts, was one the towns in eastern Massachusetts that had a commercial radio station and operated with the call letters WLEY. Its owner, Albert Shaw Moffat, had acquired a station from the *Boston Evening Transcript* newspaper and moved it to Lexington in 1929.

An energetic entrepreneur and inventor, Moffat was born in Forfar, Scotland, a small town north of Dundee, in 1887 and at the age of seven he immigrated with his mother, sailing from Glasgow to New York City. They joined his father, William, who had left Scotland for the United States a year earlier and eventually settled in Newton, Massachusetts, where William engaged in a plumbing business. It is not clear where young Albert, the eldest of four children, received his schooling. But when, in 1906, he married Ethel Alice Bent, originally from Nova Scotia, in Everett, Massachusetts, he was employed as a traveling salesman. Perhaps using the proceeds from his earnings in sales to study engineering, About a decade later, Moffat, was working as a research engineer in x-ray and radio technology. By 1932 Moffat had amassed enough capital to buy a radio station in Springfield, Massachusetts, (call letters WMAS) and the following year he purchased WLEY. In addition to his radio interests, he owned a company in Boston that sold and distributed water coolers. Beginning in the early 1930s he resided with his wife (they had no children) in a wealthy section of Watertown.

After a few years at the helm of WLEY, Moffat began looking for a larger market to relocate his radio station. In 1934 he approached a group of Lowell businessmen and city officials and in his negotiations he committed to a series of regular broadcasts that would include local performers and musical bands along with local civic, cultural, and educational programs. That summer Moffat filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission, which approved his station's move to Lowell. He chose for his station's home part of the popular Rex Center, which featured a restaurant, bar, dance hall, bowling alleys, a skating rink, and Turkish baths, and was located in a former factory building of the Massachusetts Mills. (A disastrous fire in 1961 destroyed the Rex Center; Wang



Scottish-born Albert Shaw Moffat, established WLLH, Lowell's first commercial radio station. Photo dates from the 1930s when he was in his fifties. (Photo from *WLLH: Voice of the Merrimack Valley*, published in 1940)

eventually acquired the property constructing a building that the company used as its training center. It is now the centerpiece of Middlesex Community College's downtown campus.) The studios occupied the building that extended along the Eastern Canal, off Merrimack Street, and the towering antenna that Moffat constructed stood on the building's east side.

Moffat changed the station call letters from WLEY to WLLH, signifying his intention to join Lowell with Lawrence and Haverhill in his radio programming and business operations. To run the station he hired Robert F. Donahue, who had grown up in Minnesota and completed college prior to moving to New England in the early 1930s. Before he joined WLLH and settled in the Highlands neighborhood with his wife and three sons, Donahue worked in sales for the Yankee Network. Upon assuming the reins at WLLH Donahue not only managed the staff, but also served frequently as a news announcer and program host. His responsibilities expanded in 1937 when Moffat built a studio and transmission tower in Lawrence. The signals of the transmitters in the two cities were synchronized thereby permitting simultaneous broadcasts of programs from the two studios. The strengthened signal also aided WLLH in reaching larger audiences in the Merrimack Valley.

Several of the most popular programs each week originated with WLLH's affiliated Yankee Network and the New York-based Mutual Network and included national and international news, sports, and weather, as well as much of the music and dramatic, comedic, and educational productions. The Yankee Network furnished regional news and weather, but also aired most of the college and professional sporting events. The Network's musical programs featured popular tunes performed by various male and female singers, as well as big bands. A well-known Boston baritone, Walter Kidder, presented a series of classical music programs and operas. One especially popular program among women was Imogene Wolcott's "First National Food News," which provided cooking recipes and domestic tips for homemakers. Beginning in the late 1930s a combination quiz show and comedy that drew large numbers of WLLH listeners via the Mutual Network was Kay Kaiser's "Kollege of Musical Knowledge" with the famous deadpan comedian "Ish Kabibble."

In addition to these network-affiliated broadcasts, WLLH devoted an extensive amount of time each week to local programs. For the many sporting events, Donahue hired George A. Gagan, a well-known Lowell sports writer and cartoonist for the *Sunday Telegraph* newspaper, and Lawrence's Ernest "Ernie" LaBranche,



The broadcast center of WLLH occupied an old factory building of the Massachusetts Mills, along the Eastern Canal, off Merrimack Street. It was part of the Rex Center which was destroyed by a fire in the summer of 1960. (Photo from *WLLH: Voice of the Merrimack Valley*, published in 1940)

who announced many wrestling matches at the Rex Center, and boxing contests in the Merrimack Valley. For local news and a variety of programs in the Greater Lowell area, the station's most popular announcer was the peripatetic Thomas "Tom" Clayton. From newscasts in the studio, to his live broadcasts on the streets of Lowell and Lawrence, Clayton, originally from Manchester, New Hampshire, the son of a policeman and a burly, talented high-school football player, was prized for his versatility and spontaneity. One of his most heavily listened-to programs, the "Lowell Question Box," was part quiz show and part man or woman "on-the-street" interview. Clayton had a similar program, "Voice of Lawrence," broadcast live from the entrance to the Cregg Building, in Lawrence's downtown. In addition to seeking public opinion about local or national issues, Clayton frequently interviewed residents reeling from the Great Depression, notably struggling factory workers and those who were unemployed, and in many instances his broadcasts helped them receive either public or charitable assistance.

Moffat's commitment to broadcasts tied to local cultural and civic organizations resulted in some of the earliest "ethnic" musical, news, and entertainment programs on commercial radio in the United States. In November 1934, a few weeks after WLLH's initial broadcast, "L'Heure Canadienne Francaise" aired, the first French-Canadian radio program in the nation. The host, Conrad D. Grégoire, born in Lowell in 1911, was the son of French-Canadian parents—his father, who worked as a baker, then in retail sales and insurance, had been born in the village of Wotton, north of Sherbrooke, settling in Lowell in 1899. Grégoire grew up in the Centralville section of the city and completed one year of high school before entering the workforce as a salesman. In the early 1930s, he directed the choir of his neighborhood church, St. Louis de France, and was a member of a musical quartet known as the "Hi-Hat Boys," composed of Grégoire, Roland Poulin, Arthur J. Malo, and George A. Ayotte who, in



Conrad D. Grégoire: Born in Lowell he was a choir director of St. Louis de France and one of the early hosts of WLLH's "L'Heure Canadienne Francaise." (Photo courtesy of the Grégoire family)

1948, would become the second Lowell mayor of French-Canadian descent.

Grégoire and program director Louis A. Voisard, born in Lowell in 1903 of French-Canadian parents (his father, a butcher, worked in various local French-owned groceries) created a variety show format for "L'Heure Canadienne Francaise," which featured popular tunes, comedic skits, and light drama. During its two decades of broadcasts on WLLH, George Ayotte also served as program host. In addition to "L'Heure Canadienne Francaise," WLLH, under the direction of Moffat and Donahue, drew from members of Lowell's Portuguese and Greek communities, and Lawrence's Italian community, to broadcast weekly, hour-long programs for residents in their native languages. Typically, WLLH ran these programs on weekends for several months each year, following this schedule until 1956 when the station ceased broadcasting them.

In 1946, she married fellow broadcaster Tom Clayton, following his divorce of his wife Marguerite Clifford. (A decade earlier, Clayton had married Clifford in Laconia, New Hampshire, where she had grown up and where Clayton was a radio announcer at WLNH.) The two popular radio personalities subsequently moved to nearby Westford and while Tom Clayton continued at WLLH into the 1960s. He was best-known for announcing local sports events, especially Lowell High School football games. Chalmers left her career in radio following the birth of her son in the early 1950s.

Of WLLH's local programs that appealed to a broad audience, it was the dramatic arts where women had the largest presence on the radio. A Lowell theater group, named "The Players," was afforded a regular slot to perform not only well-known plays, but also some original works. Two women in particular, Dorothy B.

Mignault and Isabell Doyle (who went by the stage name "Ann Morgan"), had prominent roles in "The Players." Born in Lowell in 1908 and a graduate of the Rogers Hall School, Mignault attended a small college in Virginia, studied law, and by the mid-1930s was a practicing Lowell attorney as well as acting in and directing a number of "The Player's" performances. Doyle, six years younger than Mignault, was also born in Lowell, graduated from Lowell High School and then Boston University, and taught for a number of years in Lowell's public schools. In addition to her writing for "The Players," Doyle served as the group's president while teaching English at Lowell High School.

In his many enthusiastic columns on the city's cultural scene, Lowell Sun writer Charles Sampas occasionally highlighted the activities of "The Players" on stage and radio, commenting on the talents and contributions of Mignault and Doyle. A few of Sampas' columns

also included tidbits on their social lives and travels. Perhaps owing to the customs of the times, however, Sampas, did not note that Mignault was quite likely the first openly gay person to appear on Lowell radio. In 1932 she had been embroiled in a minor scandal in Lowell, having been sued by Constantine Rhangos, a Greek émigré and dentist, who charged her with "alienation" of his wife's affection. This legal action did not prevent Rhangos' young wife, who was from France, from living with her lover, Mignault, for a number of years in Mignault's residence on Merrimack Street. Both Doyle and Mignault left Lowell and their radio work in the early 1940s, with Doyle marrying and settling in Virginia, and Mignault moving to Kennebunk, Maine, while spending time in New York City, before eventually relocating to Detroit, Michigan, where she became a highly regarded, politically active director of the city's YWCA.



The French Program is heard Sunday afternoons from WLLH in Lowell. Directed and announced by Maxime J. Cornellier, seated at the table microphone, its regular arrangement comprises Paul Langis, saxophonist, William Bilodeau, violinist, Georgianna Desrosier, pianist, and a guest artist (far left).

IN THEIR "HOME" TONGUE

WLLH regularly broadcast live performances of local talent in its studios. This included some of the earliest "ethnic" programs on commercial radio and featured members from the area's French-Canadian, Portuguese, Greek, and Polish communities. The program in this photograph is "L'Heure Canadienne Francaise," which included Québécois music, singing, and light comedic skits. (Photo from *WLLH: Voice of the Merrimack Valley*, published in 1940)

Whether it was the salaried announcers, WLLH technicians, or radio management, WLLH's staff was almost entirely male. Among the exceptions in the late 1930s, however, was Elizabeth "Betty" Chalmers. Born in Lowell in 1915 to parents from Scotland (her father worked as a newspaper typesetter), Chalmers grew up in Chelmsford and graduated from Chelmsford High School in 1932. From an early age, she was a talented singer and pianist who performed on stage, occasionally with her older sister. Initially hired as a secretary, Chalmers soon had an expanded role at the station. She served as a continuity writer and announcer for various entertainment and musical broadcasts. She played piano for a weekly, Saturday morning children's program, as well as for a Friday night amateur talent show at the Rialto Theater. For a number of years Chalmers was the host of a daily women's program, which she broadcast under the name "Anne Bradford."

Two other members of “The Players,” brothers Philip and Raymond Goulding, would spend their careers in radio. The eldest son of an Irish father and Irish-American mother, Philip was born in 1914 in Clinton, Massachusetts, where his father, Thomas worked as an overseer in the dyeing department of a textile mill. By 1917 the family had moved to Lowell and lived in the Highlands neighborhood. Thomas secured a job as an overseer in the Bay State Mills along the Concord River.



A popular local troupe, “The Players,” performed numerous times on WLLH. Members included Isabell Doyle (on the far left), a writer and president of the group, Dorothy B. Mignault (seated next to Doyle), producer, as well as Raymond Goulding (center, wearing a vest and white shirt), who later gained fame as part of the duo “Bob and Ray,” along with his older brother Phillip (on the right, reading from a script). (Photo from *WLLH: Voice of the Merrimack Valley*, published in 1940).

Raymond Goulding was born in 1922 and both brothers attended Lowell public schools, graduating from Lowell High School. Philip joined “The Players,” performing with, among others, Chelmsford’s Thelma Hansen, whom he married in 1943. Prior to his marriage he worked for a few years as an announcer at WLLH, before moving to New York City with his young bride to work on the staff of CBS. In the 1950s he became a popular disc jockey on station WMGM and his daily program, “Music with a Beat,” was among the early rock-and-roll radio shows. Philip Goulding, however, never achieved the media stature of his younger brother for he died in 1957 at the relatively young age of 39 after an illness of several months.

Soon after finishing high school, Raymond followed in his brother’s footsteps by joining “The Players,” and then accepted a job as an announcer at WLLH. To distinguish himself from his older brother he took the stage name “Denis Howard.” In 1941 he moved to Boston, becoming an announcer at WEEL, and resumed using his name Ray Goulding. The following year he entered the military serving as an army instructor at Fort Knox, Kentucky. At Fort Knox Goulding met and married Elizabeth Mary Leader, a dietician on the military base. In 1946 he and his wife returned to Boston where he accepted an announcing job at station WHDH. It was there that he and Winchester-native Robert “Bob” Elliot became a duo, known as “Bob and Ray,” and their often improvisational and deadpan humor gained a wide following in Lowell and

throughout New England. The two moved to New York City in 1951, achieving renown not only on radio, first at NBC and then CBS, but also on TV and stage.

Ray Goulding was not the only WLLH radio announcer from the station’s early years who went on to become nationally known. Ed McMahon, Johnny Carson’s popular sidekick on the “Tonight Show” also got his start at WLLH. Son of a vaudevillian, McMahon was born in Detroit in 1923 and moved constantly in his boyhood before settling in with his grandmother in Lowell. In 1941 he graduated from Lowell High School and prior to enlisting in the Marine Corps, McMahon got his first taste of broadcast entertainment by joining WLLH. McMahon’s time in Lowell and on WLLH was short, but he remembered the city quite fondly, visiting relatives (notably his father’s sister, whom he alluded to in his well-known sign-off at the end of his coverage of the annual Macy’s Day Parade in the 1970s and 1980s, exclaiming “I’ll see you for dinner, Aunt Mary”). He, even appeared on WLLH in 1994 as part of a promotional tour for his TV program “Star Search.”

Until 1951, when Israel Cohen established rival WCAP, WLLH was Lowell’s only major commercial radio station. This “golden age” of radio, however, was coming to an end with the growing popularity of television. More than a decade earlier Albert Moffat was among those who had seen the commercial potential of this new technology. Under the aegis of his Merrimack Broadcasting Company, Moffat began exploring television broadcasting with the aim of bringing it to households in the Merrimack Valley. But leaving behind no children to assume control of his various enterprises, his death in 1947 brought an end to the Moffat media ventures. Despite his significant role in Lowell’s early radio days, Moffat is today a largely forgotten figure.

LHS Corporate Memberships

The Lowell Historical Society proudly acknowledges our 2020 Corporate members who demonstrated their organization’s commitment to the preservation of Lowell’s past and the dissemination of information to keep Lowell’s heritage alive in the future. The following organizations have made this commitment:

Bonnie Melsaac
Enterprise Bank & Trust Co.
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Lowell Sun Charities, Inc
Washington Savings Bank

We would like to add the listing of your company here in the future. Join on-line at:

lowellhistoricalsociety.org

For information contact the Historical Society at 978-319-4631 or by email at:

contact@lowellhistoricalsociety.org

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

by Pauline M. Golec

The Lowell Historical Society recently acquired the book **HARMONY** by George Whitefield Chadwick. Born in 1834 in Lowell, where his father had an insurance business, Chadwick had early organ lessons from his brother. Chadwick later advanced to study music at the New England Conservatory and in Europe. Although he was a noted organist and conductor, his forte was composing and he was part of a group acknowledged as responsible for the first significant music by American composers. In 1897, Chadwick was appointed the Director of the New England Conservatory and also launched his work **HARMONY**, an original and important addition to music theory.

Almost a hundred years later, the book **FACE THE MUSIC** by Paul D. Pearsall was published in 1985. Turn the blue cover illustrated by Janet Lambert Moore and be treated to a story of Lowell's big band era, packed with interviews, photos, articles, and related items (I was pleasantly surprised to see some caricatures of Lowell musicians drawn by my uncle, Ed Golec, as well as a page from his detailed records of "gigs" he played at the time).

Those of you who remember this time of the big bands in Lowell (its heyday approximately 1936-1946) would find in this book either a story or photo of your favorite band and savor a memory of the venues played - the Commodore, Lakeview Ballroom, Rex Ballroom, and others. I found much of interest in this book including references to an earlier period of music in Lowell; the photo of the Laurier Club, then reputed to be the largest rising dance floor in the world; the interview with handsome Billy Note, who as Mr. Notini was the bandmaster at Lowell High when I was a student; the early amazing musicality of Dr. Warren Hookway, known to me as a local chiroprapist.

The cultural diversity of leaders and members of bands rings so true as representative of Lowell.

One final observation about **FACE THE MUSIC** - its publication was funded in part by the Massachusetts Arts Council as administered by the Lowell Arts Council and the former Lowell Historic Preservation Commission.

Lowell Trivia

By Martha Mayo

1. Who was the number one #2 man on Television?
2. What was the name of the artists studios at the Market Mills?
3. What are the falls just below the city?

Answers on page 6.



The Hellenic Culture and Heritage Society presents

Quaint Bits of Lowell Greek History

By Lewis T. Karabatsos

Rescheduled for the Fall (TBD)

Lowell National Park Visitors Center

(Co-sponsored by the Lowell Historical Society)

The Greek community in Lowell was one of the largest in the country. The sons, daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren of the early immigrants settlers have gone on to contribute greatly to the corporate, academic, entertainment and political fabric of our city, state and country. But, who were the first Lowell Greek settlers? Who was the first Greek buried in Lowell? Where was the Greek Cemetery in Lowell? (no, it's not Edson/Westlawn). What really happened in those Greek coffeehouses? Come and learn some interesting and fun facts about the early inhabitants of the "Acropolis of America."

EBAY Auctions of Lowell Interest

Cosgrove, Lowell (sic), Mass., Stoneware Jug With Cobalt Design. Few chips, 11 3/4" tall and 6 3/4" base measurement. Lowell is missing the second "l". Sold for \$585 including shipping.



Cast Iron Sundial 12 inches in diameter made by Cushing & Mack, Lowell, MA, Circa 1850. Sold for \$700 including shipping



Lowell Historical Society
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The preservation of Lowell history depends heavily on your membership. If you have not yet sent in your membership renewal, please do so as soon as possible.

Lowell Historical Society

The Lowell Historical Society's Mission is to collect, preserve and publish materials related to Lowell and to promote the study of the City's history. We have recently moved the Historical Society's collection out of the Boott Mill as requested by the National Park Service. A permanent home is yet to be determined. We can be reached via phone at 978-319-4631 or by email at:

contact@lowellhistoricalsociety.org

or visit our web site:

<http://www.lowellhistoricalsociety.org>

Center for Lowell History

The Center for Lowell History, 40 French Street, currently is open Monday through Friday 9-5 and the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10-3.

The contact point for information is Janine Whitcomb, 978-934-4997. The Center's web address is: <http://library.uml.edu/clh/>.

Calendar of Events

- Program:** House History Workshop
Time: Sat. March 28, 2020 @ 10:00am to 12pm
Location: Memorial Hall, Pollard Library
401 Merrimack St., Lowell, MA
- Program:** Portuguese on Your Radio
Time: Sat., April 18, 2020, 1:30-4:45 p.m.
Location: Events Center, Boott Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John St,
- Program:** Quaint Bits of Lowell Greek History
Time: Postponed (Date TBD)
Location: Lowell National Park Visitors Center

Answers to Trivia Questions

1) Ed McMahan, 2) Brush with History, 3) Hunt's Falls.