



# News from the Stow Historical Society

*A newsletter for all friends of Stow history.  
Please feel free to pass it along to others who might be interested!*

March 07, 2022

## In this issue:

### Women's History Month

Stow TV and the SHS wrote and produced a documentary, paying tribute to Stow's Women of 1920.

<https://youtu.be/0gfaaz6Ttb4>

Many thanks to Jonathan Daisy, Executive Producer Stow TV, and the narrators, Linda Hathaway, Bruce Fletcher, Dorothy Sonnichsen, Ellen Sturgis, and Marilyn Zavorski.

In the documentary:



**Susan Ann Gates Peck** is the great grandmother of John H. Peck, now of Nevada.

**Carrie Warren Smith** is a distant relative of Skip Warren  
Linda Hathaway.



**Louisa Taylor McCarthy** is the grandmother of Bill Byron.

**Marion Brown Wetherbee**, is the grandmother of Bruce, Barry,  
and Wayne Fletcher.



*Young Women at Lake Boon – far right*

**Dora Dudley Tatler** is the grandmother of Frederick, Stephen, Timothy, and  
Rhoda Gray, and Pamela Trefry.

October 28, 2017, the SHS hosted a program held at the Town Hall, *Exploring Women's History Through Folk Songs*. The guest performer was Diane Taraz, a New England folk and traditional singer and songwriter. The display tables along the Town Hall's north wall featured eighteen Stow women.

Louisa Patch Fletcher	1808-1884
Eliza Stow	1821-1884
Belinda Lull Randall	1816-1897
<u>Lillian Lewis Peck</u>	1874-1902
Josephine Newhall	1874-1915
Mable Hall	1885-1973
<u>Dora Isabelle Dudley Tatler</u>	1895-1964
<u>Edith May Davidson Thompson</u>	1897-1969
Marion F. Barnes Townsend	1896-1983
Elma Belle Conant Lund	1896-1972
<u>Marion Goding Barnes</u>	1893-1970
Emily Gleason Perkins	1895-1993
Dr. Willena Peck	1873-1959
Dorothy Emerson Strong	1895-1982
Ethel (Ellie) B. Jones Childs	1906-1990
Mary Frances Coburn Warren	1907-1994
Anne Derby Porcella	1929-2007
Barbara Putscher Sipler	1932-2016

The photos were gathered from the Stow archives.

Stow's women registering to vote in 1920 were not part of the society's research at this time.

Nonetheless, one of the two prominent photos featured in the documentary was placed in the poster: *Young Women at Lake Boon*.

Lillian Lewis Peck, the daughter-in-law of Susan Gates Peck, taught at West School.

The women, whose names are underlined on the left, registered to vote in Stow between August 14-October 23, 1920. Others on this list registered shortly thereafter.

# Women of Stow

Stow Historical Society



Louisa Patch Fletcher



Eliza Stow



Belinda Lull Randall



Lillian Lewis Peck



Josephine Newhall



Mabel Hale



Young women at Lake Boon



Emily Gleason Perkins



Dr. Willena Peck



Dorothy Emerson Strong



Ethel (Ellie) B. Jones Childs



Mary Coburn Warren



Anne Derby Porcella



Barbara Putscher Sipler

With spring in the air, the wreath at West School on Harvard Road has changed.



The Stow Historical Society encourages residents to share their photos and memories. Stow has such a rich history. History evolves daily.

Few references about Stow's Black History have been recorded and saved. In the John Gates diaries, which he kept between 1755-1790, he recorded the following.

Yesterday Died a Negro Girl of Nathan Whitney,

April 5, 1761  
Yesterday Died a Negro girl of Nathan Whitney

my new Day this Day Died Nathan Whitney of the small pox

April 12, 1761  
this Day Died Nathan Whitney of the small pox

John Gates diaries are now housed at the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston. He lived in Stow between 1713-1790.