**Prominent Women from the Worcester Area**

Diane P. Addesso - first woman Supervisor of Town of Worcester 2013; Library President

Ruth S. All (d. 2012) – genealogist; writer; historian

Clarice Hughson Babcock – Taught at East Worcester for 20 years; last and only teacher at that school when it closed, anticipating her retirement (1958).

Harriet Babcock (1924-2009) – Cadet Nurse Corps pioneer; wrote *A Brief* *History of the Methodist Church* *of* *East Worcester* (1999)

Helen S. Bevington (1906-2001) – author, including of *Charley Smith's Girl* (1965) Pulitzer Prize finalist

Helen Bruce – South Worcester genealogist and historian

Elizabeth Champion (1770-1845) – founder of East Worcester Methodist Church (1823)

Catherine O. Clark (d. 1999) – Town Clerk 1965-1991

Genevieve Myrtle Cooper (Navy), Agnes M. Tauzel (Army), Madaline Travis (Army) and Marjorie E. Truax (Army) – Members of armed forces nurse corps, WW II

Caroline Winslow Crippen (1871-1937) – wrote *Silas Crippen and Descendants* (1924)

Elizabeth Waterman Crippen (1759-1845) – pioneer settler in Tuscan (1787)

Marilyn E. Dufresne – prolific author and editor; Town Historian 2002-present

Ella M. Daily Fox (1867-1949) – wrote the history of the Multer family (1932)

Nan J. Gerling – Women's Reserve, U.S. Marine Corps, World War II

Lela M. Gibbs (1895-1940) – author; wrote *South Worcester 1894-1940*

Nancy Hage – fostered establishment of Worcester Historic District(1975)

Niela Goodelle Hartz (1910-1988) – internationally-acclaimed singer and pianist

Nancy Crapser Hunt – author of *Love Lifts the Heart* and sequel

Frances C. Johnson (1904-1994) – wrote *Education in Worcester, N.Y.*

Madame Jumel (Eliza Betsey Bowen; 1775-1865) – early landholder; first woman art collector, political advisor, wife of Aaron Burr

Edith M. Atkins Mereness (1874-1962) – author of *Select Schools and District Schools*

*of Old Worcester* (1932)

Nancy S. Milavec – editor; Otsego County Historian; first woman elected to Town Board (1978-1997); Successors have been Susan B. Collis, Bernice VanBuren, Terri J. White, Lynda L. Clark, Diane P. Addesso and Lori L. Lehenbauer

Elizabeth Miller (1869-1941) – last woman telegrapher for D&H Railroad

Teresa Millias – author of *Lone Moon Creek* series of books

Ellen I. Mooney – Navy storekeeper, World War II

Virginia C. O'Connor – President of Worcester Historical Society 33 years

Irene A. Olmstead (d. 1972) – first woman postmaster in town (South Worcester, 1941)

Erva M. Rock (d. 1993) – long-serving school and community nurse

Diantha Dow Schull – writer; author of *Landmarks of Otsego County* (1980)

Ida Flint Shafer (1869-1961) – genealogist; first Town Historian (1929)

Agnes E. Smith (1831-1898) – select school proprietor; *Worcester Times* editor 1877- 1898; early feminist and advocate; said to be the first woman in the state to vote

Charlotte Snyder Smith (1916-2002) – historian; wrote *Here's To You, Worcester Schools* (1989 )  Rose and Elmina M. (1875-1949) Snyder – first women to hold public office in the Town of Worcester (Inspectors of Election, District 4; 1919)

Mary Ella VanDeusen (1854-1925) – first woman elected to town public office (School Director, 1921)

Beatrice Vrooman – compiled *First Baptist Church of Worcester* (1986)

Mildred M. Whitcomb (d. 1977) – influential vocal music teacher

Hellen Wilder Wieting (1846-1933) – built *Wieting Opera House* (1910); benefactor

Julia Ann Hoag Wilcox – Author of poetry, 1906