

Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc.

B R O A D S I D E

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to spring! April and May have been busy months as we get ready to open on May 14. The Bedford Minutemen have been painting, the Tour Guides have been training, Behind the scenes, our Custodial Committee of One, Don Corey has been working with the Town on making our Barn American Disability Act accessible. Our hearty thanks go to all of these. Together we make a good team. Your part is to bring a friend and visit us this summer! We are looking forward to seeing you!

Sharon McDonald, 781-275-5643 or shar.mcd77@gmail.com

2017 Officers

President – Sharon McDonald

Vice President – Carol Hand

Secretary – Lee Yates

Treasurer – Betsey Anderson

Directors - Betsey Anderson, Judy Barber, Pat Pellegrini, John Linz, Ralph Hammond, Pat Leiby

Liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission - Don Corey

MEMBER NEWS

Welcome Bill Hanna, New Hampshire, a direct descendant of Job and Martha "Ruggles" Lane. Lucille and Andrew Wilson, and Nicholas and Sophia.

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

On March 26th, members and friends of our society assembled at the First Parish on the Common for the annual meeting of the Friends of Job Lane, Inc. Folks came from as far away as Londonderry, New Hampshire to hob-nob, eat yummy treats, do a little business and enjoy the afternoon's speaker. Two descendants of Deacon Job attended – long-time member Bill Lane, and new member Bill Hanna. There was one Dutton descendant – our friend Karen Petersen. (Of course, we're all descendants in spirit.) It was great to see everyone!

Annual reports were read and digested (copies are available from Sharon if you would

like to have them), and all of the incumbents were re-elected. Our speaker, Erin McCormack, talked about her experience searching for ancestors. (French Canadian roots are easy, she assured us, especially if you can trace back to "les Filles du Roi," the 17th Century "Daughters of the King." Irish sources, however, are another thing entirely!) Many of us share the hobby, and questions and discussion were lively. Thank you so much, Erin. A good time was had by all!

SPRING CLEANING DAY

Before the Job Lane House opens on Mother's Day, we have to give it a good cleaning! For the third year, a crew from Grace Chapel in Lexington came and cleaned the house. Thank you all. Pictures will be in the next Broadside.

DUES:

Single and Life member dues are due, \$10 single/\$100 Life, or \$15 Family/\$150 Life

HIDDEN TREASURES MAY 14, 2 – 4 P.M HOUSE TOURS

The Job Lane Farm Museum is joining "Freedom's Way," a partner of the National Park Service, to celebrate the "Hidden Treasures" of 45 historic towns in Eastern Massachusetts during the month of May. Our opening day House Tour, May 14, will be promoted in their publicity along with tours of the 200 year-old First Parish in Bedford by the church's docents on the same afternoon. On the day before, there will be tours of the Bedford Flag. We hope the trio of events will draw lots of folks to Bedford. To learn more about Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, look at www.discoverhiddentreasures.org

BOY SCOUTS -TROOP #194

Our great group of Scouts will again be helping us clean the property and the barn on Saturday May 13, which is Bedford Clean-Up Day. These young scouts and their families look forward to coming each year.

Ryan Lobo a member of this Troop has finalized plans to erect a new Concord grape arbor as an Eagle Scout project. Our member Carl Hanson prunes the vines for us every year. This Concord Grape was planted by Mrs. Lillian Dutton in front of the house on the left of the front door We moved it when the house was being changed into a museum house

Funding the arbor needs your help. Is there anyone who would like to fund it, or anyone who wants to donate? Contact Jeannette Pothier, 781-275-8794. The funds left after the Arbor is built, goes to the Friends.

HOUSE NOTES

The Bedford Minutemen came to work and on Saturday March 25 six of us painted the walls in the Great hall with Kilz. Let us not be remiss and mention the worker bees, Jeannette and Sharon, who used Shaklee Basic H to remove the wallpaper that had been stuck to the wall and come off it did. The walls had been painted prior to wallpaper being applied. The minutemen, Rick Manley, Roy Kring, Louis and Shelly

Orndorff, Jim Ringwood and Jeannette were the workers on Saturday. .

The color now being considered for the walls is a creamy beige color to complement the blue woodwork. The colors will come from the Benjamin Moore Historic collection.

On Tuesday, April 4, Roy Kring also a Life member single-handedly tackled the front entry and stairway to second floor. He prepped and painted one coat of Kilz. He said "*Ceilings look good with one coat but walls could use second coat*". When we paint Great Hall walls, we may want to decide to paint a color on the walls in the stairway rather than a second coat of Kilz. Roy will be glad to help with any more painting once we get the paint.

New curtains are being sewn for our first opening. We thank the Minutemen for their dedication.

~ Jeannette Pothier



TRIMMING CONCORD GRAPE VINES AND FUNDS FOR THE NEW ARBOR

Carl Hanson went to the Museum with his ladder and cutting tools. He did an amazing job



trimming both grape vines. The Concord grape was beside the front door where now we have our outside light, and we moved it to its present location, which now is in front of the barn. Carl showed me which canes can be cut out and which ones

will produce the grapes his year.

Last year's drought did not help the growth but we watered it every opportunity we had. It did give us a bit of grapes, but nothing like it used to.

Our Concord Grape Arbor has now seen better days, and it is broken, and too small for the vines. The vines have grown, and we need a slightly larger more solid arbor, to last longer. Ryan Lobo, the Eagle Scout, has a nice plan, and the approvals are now being sought. He has priced out the cost of the lumber, and we are looking for members to donate towards the cost. As soon as we have the design and approval, I will post it.

Carl has also volunteered to be there when the vines are brought back to be placed on the new arbor. We have left the clippings by the arbor, so if you have a charcoal grill, please feel free to pick up some as it really makes a good fire, and gives it taste.

In speaking with Jo Champney who put in the raised herb beds initially, she said the grape vine was on the front of the house, the 1820 side, and was planted there to go over the enclosed entryway. It was moved to its present location.

~Jeannette Pothier

YARD SALE

We hope you are gathering up all of your white elephants – and pink, purple and plaid ones! – to sell at the Job Lane Yard Sale on June 10 at the Job Lane Barn, 295 North Road, Bedford. Rent a space (a 10 x 10 foot space is only \$10!) and set up between 9:00 and 10:00 that morning. The sale itself begins at 10:00, and you are your own storekeeper. All of the profits are yours.

It's going to be a great day, we are sure, but if it should happen to storm, the rain date is the next Saturday, June 17. It promises to be an interesting sale, so even if you have no merchandise, come along and browse. The Bedford Historical Society and two other sellers have already reserved their spaces! You don't have to have a huge lot to sell – even a few items will relieve your attic and closets of STUFF. For questions and to reserve your table, call Lee Yates at 781-275-3294.

KITE-FLYING DAY

A windy day, thirty kids and parents, and a flurry of kites! What could be better on an April afternoon? For the seventh year in a row, Lee Yates organized a Job Lane kite-flying day. She provided "Frustrationless Flyer" kites at cost for the kids to decorate and assemble. The grownups provided kite expertise of varying degrees. Our spacious meadow provided plenty of room to run, and the kite-eating tree only ate two kites. What an afternoon!!!

~Sharon McDonald

GUIDES' WORKSHOP

As we open for another season, we will be



looking for volunteers. On April 30, we held a meeting for guides. We provide training and help with colonial period clothing.

Betty Slechta reading The Freedom's Way program.



L – R: Ellen Michaud, and Mary Hafer

Fourteen guides and guides-in-training were in attendance. We were especially happy to have veteran guides Betty Slechta, Mary Hafer and Ellen Michaud there to share their experience. They have been with the museum house since before it opened as I have been. These ladies told how the three of them painted the stairs, all with different stroke Mary added. In the end they

swirled the last of the darker stroke, and it all came out beautifully. It matches the one left to show how the Duttons left it.

Bill Hanna, a new member and a direct descendant of Martha Ruggles Lane, will be a guide and shows great enthusiasm for his new role in life. Also, Brook Sorensen and Sophia Wilson, both in high school are training as guides.

Our youngest guide, Leah Restino, will be working up a "mini-tour" of the East Bedchamber

We are so thankful to all of you for attending the Workshop, and sharing cider, tea and muffins and Monica Rogers' colonial almond cake with us in the Barn Café. For further information, please contact either of us, at Sharon McDonald shar.mcd77@gmail.com or Jeannette Pothier Jeannette@scotiaheath.com.

~ Jeannette Pothier

FROM THE CURATOR'S CORNER

"What's that?" queried a child recently, pointing to a wooden contraption. "It's a wool winder," we answered. In colonial times, to keep the yarn pouring off the spinning wheel from tangling, the wool had to be wrapped around a winder of some sort. This handsome wool winder is a gift of Brenda Colvin, a Billerica antiques dealer who is retiring. She visited us last fall, and decided we were just the place to donate the wool winder along with many fireplace and barn iron tools. We promise to take good care of them, Mrs. Colvin!

In an earlier *Broadside*, you saw an article about the dry sink that Karen Petersen gave to us last year. This year, we have used a small part of her recent monetary donation to purchase an antique copper dishpan and copper water bucket to place in it. Now Martha's presence can wash up after every meal.

~Sharon McDonald

Friends of the Job Lane House

P O Box 720, 295 North Rd, Bedford, MA 01730

May 2017

DONATIONS

We would like to recognize Karen Petersen, and Bill & Connie Lane for generous donations at the Annual Meeting. Thank you so much!

A MUCH-APPRECIATED PATRON – the Bedford UPS Store!

Over the past year or so, we have printed our *Broadside* at the UPS Store at 101 the Great Road. It's a tiny shop, but they have big hearts for Job Lane, and they do all of our printing accurately, quickly, and at a considerable discount. Thank you so much to Jeff, the owner and manager.

Work in the Great Hall Photos



Sharon McDonald,
Cleaning the wall



Louis Orndorff
Painting under the light



Roy Kring painted the ceiling and walls of the main entry.