

# Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc.

## B R O A D S I D E

### SPRING AT JOB LANE FARM

We had our Annual Meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and if you missed it, we have included some of Judy Barber's thoughts for the future of the museum.

We are preparing for the Spring Cleanup – Please come help! The first open house is Mother's Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>, from 2 to 4, and we hope you will stop and see us.

Sharon McDonald, 781-275-5643 or [shar.mcd77@gmail.com](mailto:shar.mcd77@gmail.com)

### 2016 Officers

President – Sharon McDonald

Secretary – Lee Yates

Directors – Betsey Anderson, Judy Barber, Ralph Hammond, Pat Leiby, Pat Pellegrini, John Linz, Lee Yates

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Vice President – Carol Hand

Treasurer – Betsey Anderson

### MEMBER NEWS:

We welcome Betsey Anderson who changed her membership to Life Membership.

We send our prayers to Mary Hafer and family upon the death of Mary's husband, Fred on April 15. More info will be in next Broadside issue.

### THE ANNUAL DIG:

At the Annual Meeting Don Corey presented information about Bedford Springs, and what the actual activities were that took place there. **The** Archaeological "Dig" will be located on Sweetwater Avenue at Bedford Springs, where a grand hotel stood in the latter half of the Nineteenth Century. Permission was granted from the Bedford Historical Preservation Commission, and from the Conservation Commission, and the project will be led by Ralph Hammond, who studied archaeology.

The date for the Dig is July 11 through July 15, rain or shine from 10 to 12 noon for ages 10 through 12. As of this date there are only 4 spots left out of 10. Contact the Bedford Recreation Dept. on the Town website.

### MINI BARN RAISING:

With Tom Musco and Deb D'Amico

The date for this our third mini barn raising is Saturday July 30, at 2 pm.

Since it takes a lot of patience to set the foundation on level ground, we will have a more level area this year. We asked for a spot, about 12 feet square to be leveled behind the Concord grape arbor, near the main barn. The Mini Barn is made to resemble our barn, out of post and beams, with small pegs, but with giant wooden mallets. The children sure like having those mallets in hand.

A short film on the history of early barns is shown before the barn is assembled. You, as members, can come and watch this magic happen, as the barn goes up, and the children all stand on a top beam inside, looking out, for the photo op. Tom Musco is the timber framer who made our timber frames. Tom's wife Deb narrates the film. Register through the Bedford Recreation Dept. on the Town website.

There are still spaces open for this, but it sold out last year.

## **SPRING CLEANING~ Beautify Bedford**

This year, like last year, we will have our friends from Grace Chapel in Lexington, and the Boy Scouts under the direction of Mark Maurice from Bedford. Both groups are coming the same day, on May 7<sup>th</sup>, because that is the day set aside as *Beautify Bedford Day*.

The work has been sorted out for what we believe is the best for each group, and Sharon McDonald will be in the house and barn, while Jeannette Pothier will be outdoors. Don Corey will be everywhere.

There is a lot of work to be done. The first day we set aside to move the Dry Sink, and a table with chairs, is April 30, at 9 am. There is other work that will be done, such as uncovering all the furniture as it winters over, and moving boxes back to the Gift Shop. We would like the Gift Shop shelves and floor to be cleaned up before the boxes arrive, so it can be set up during the week, to be ready for Open House on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, when we have the two groups there, all the other work such as cleaning brush, cleaning rooms, floors, windows, etc. can be done.

If any of our members would like to assist with any of this, you are, of course, welcomed. This is your house as members of the Friends.

We are saving work for a Rotary Club work day. Everyone gets to have a part of history.

### **NEW FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM:**

There's good news from the 2016 Bedford Town Meeting. In early April, the Town voted to use Community Preservation funds to install a Fire Suppression System in the Job Lane House! For many years, there has been a burglar/smoke alarm tuned to go off when it senses smoke particulates in the air. The response from Police and Fire is immediate (this we know because of one memorable Spring Cleaning Day when a vacuum cleaner bag burst and the dust set off the alarm!), but even the few moments it would take the fire engine to drive up North Road would be enough to give a fire a good foothold. Then, our dry old wooden museum would go up in a flash.

Both the Historical Preservation Commission and the Job Lane House Board of Directors consulted a company experienced in designing fire suppression systems for historic houses. When they came to give their analysis of the site they explained that a chemical system, should it ever be needed, would certainly ruin the antique furnishings and murals. A sprinkler system, however, might leak, also causing water damage even if there is no fire. They suggested a dry system. This would entail running small pipes along the ceiling throughout the house that would normally not contain water. The water, which would come from the street, would be held outside the house by a valve. Water would not enter the house unless the sensors within the house detected a fire. Then water would shoot through the pipes and spray into the room and – one hopes – hold back the fire until the Bedford Fire Department arrived.

The project design will begin soon, but installation will be done after the House is closed for the season in October. It is expected to cost some \$70,000. We are all so grateful to the voters of Bedford for making this possible!

By Sharon McDonald

### **DRY SINK:**



Karen Petersen donated this dry sink to us, and wanted us to have it as it seemed to her that it belonged in the house. This is a colored photo of it. It will be in the Kitchen in front of the double windows facing the North Side.

## **JOB LANE VISION 2016 AND BEYOND:**

These are remarks from Judy Barber at the Annual Meeting. "The Board is continuing their efforts to improve the facility and bring it into full compliance with building standards."

Also Judy thanked the Bedford Garden Club and all the guides and those who volunteer as these are the people who are critical to keeping the Museum functioning well. Join us.

## **PURITANS LEAVE ENGLAND:**

*April 7 1630:* Yes, in 1630, the last well-wishers stepped off the ship *Arabella* and returned to shore. More than a week after the vessel first set out, the winds were finally favorable. The ship weighed anchor and sailed for New England. Governor John Winthrop and approximately 300 English Puritans were on board. They were leaving their homes in England to settle in a fledgling colony — Massachusetts Bay — on the other side of the Atlantic. There they would work "to do more service to the Lord." Governor Winthrop shepherded the Puritans through 12 years of enormous hardship. Under his leadership, Massachusetts Bay Colony became the most populous English colony and Boston the largest city in North America.

Background: John Winthrop and the Puritans who followed him across the Atlantic in 1630 were not the first English colonists in Massachusetts. In 1626 a small group of Englishmen had abandoned a short-lived settlement on Cape Ann and moved south to an area they called Naumkeag, after the Native American people who had farmed there.

*Friends of the Job Lane House,  
P O Box 720, 295 North Rd, Bedford, MA 01730  
May 2016*

<http://www.massmoments.org/moment.cfm?mid=106>

Follow the website above to read more.

The Job Lane School, third grade visit to the Job Lane House in June presents a new way for us to look at early history. They are interested in the Puritans, and since we have John Winthrop to talk about, it is a good start. After all, the land on which the Job Lane House is built was obtained from John Winthrop.

## **FROM OLD BROADSIDES:**

1992: The Broadsides during this period are interesting if you look at the originals. The photos we used were just glued in, and if we changed a document, we just made new labels, and glued them in too. This was not the age of computer wizardry. Jim and Ann Boyd were co-presidents, and Jim always said, "Many hands make light the work". Jim further said: "The Job Lane house should be a source of pride to every person in Bedford and should be fully utilized as a resource for education and social activities. We need to have more activities to get the full range of our membership involved. "

In early April we opened the house to the Townsend Historical Society, and left at 3:30 to visit the Bedford Historical Society. Thanks to Lloyd and Cecile Walker, John Filios, Art and Marietta Ellis, Jim and Erin Boyd, Mark Magiera of the Bedford Minuteman Company. A suggestion was made to organize an organization of historical societies which have Rufus Porter Murals.

A suggestion was made by Carol Carlson to enhance the Broadside with articles as Curator's Corner, and Lillian's Garden patch.

OPEN: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 2 to 4 pm  
May 8, Decorate a Flower Pot for Mom  
May 22  
June 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Job Lane School  
Rain Date, June 3  
June 4, Rent a table at our Yard Sale  
June 12, and June 26,



## Second Annual Community Yard Sale ~ Saturday June 4, 2016 ~

Come one, come all to an event that will benefit both the community and Friends of the Job Lane House--a community yard sale on the grounds. Anyone who wishes to sell may get a space, then sell their own items and keep the proceeds. Not selling? Then come and buy! The Friends will have a table of our own as well. We'll provide light refreshments.

The Gift Shop will be open.

**TO BUY:** Come any time from 10 AM to 2 PM. Free admission.

Park where directed. No early birds.

**TO SELL:** Arrive between 9AM and 10AM. Pay \$20 fee for a 20'x20' space or \$10 for a half-size space. Bring your own tables, chairs, and whatever else you need. Sell your stuff from 10 AM-2PM and keep the money. At 2PM pack it all up. Please, **NO LEFTOVERS**. There is no trash collection at the Job Lane House.

We will need plenty of helpers. Can you sit at the reception table, direct people to parking spaces behind the house, work in the gift shop, or assist at the refreshment table? If you can give us just an hour or two of your time it will be a big help.

Saturday, June 4, 10 AM-2 PM (rain date Saturday, June 11).  
Please spread the word to all your friends in the greater Bedford area.  
For information please call Lee Yates at 781-275-3294 or  
Sharon McDonald at 781-275-5643.