

Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc. B R O A D S I D E

AT THE JOB LANE FARM

Summer ~ the hot days of summer are here. We are experiencing a drought in the Northeast, and watering the Lillian Dutton herb gardens and other plants is keeping the garden ladies busy with moving hoses. The DPW mowed the lawn, and just about created a major sand storm. Please drive slowly as you exit the museum property. Do come and visit us, as we have much planned for the summer and into fall.

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

2016 Officers

President – Sharon McDonald

Vice President – Carol Hand

Secretary – Lee Yates

Treasurer – Betsey Anderson

Directors – Betsey Anderson, Judy Barber, Ralph Hammond, Pat Leiby, Pat Pellegrini, John Linz, Lee Yates, Don Corey, Bedford Historical Preservation Commission.

MEMBER NEWS: Would you like to be part of history? Come and be a Greeter, a Shop keeper or a Guide. Contact Sharon McDonald.

THE ANNUAL DIG ROCKS

The Dig this year July 11 – 15, was located on Sweetwater Avenue at Bedford Springs, where a grand hotel stood in the latter half of the Nineteenth Century.



Sharon writes the rock above is Andover granite in pegmatite form, which is made up of

mica (black), feldspar, (pink) and quartz (glassy white). Andover granite is one of the three rocks that form the bedrock under Bedford. The other two are schist and Shawsheen gneiss.

And, rocks were mostly what the diggers found. Sharon had a good time with the rocks! **!** A bucketful was cleaned of its iron stains on my back porch overnight!! They're so beautiful when the mud and iron stains come off!

Sharon McDonald

JOB LANE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG!

It's an event eagerly anticipated all year – the week that ten youngsters get to join Ralph Hammond in learning the principles of archaeological exploration. In this, its fourth year, it fell the second week of July. It all happened at a hillock overlooking Fawn Lake.

MONDAY: We got acquainted - kids, teen aides, and grownups – as Ralph and Don Corey showed how to mark out the ground so that the exact location of artifacts could be recorded. The kids went through their pail of supplies – trowel,

paintbrush, toothbrush, sieve, level. Then, they each claimed a 20cm x 20 cm square in one of the pits and set to. It was hard to get them to stop for a break! But after an hour, Don drew them in for a brief history of Bedford Springs., complete with old photographs from the Bedford Historical Society. (Perhaps you were at our Annual Meeting and heard his grown-up version?) We are actually digging in the front yard of Dr. Hayden's mansion house!

TUESDAY: Finds in the pits have been scarce, but there is lots of interest in the rocks the kids are finding. Sharon McDonald gave a brief sketch of the bedrock that lies below Bedford, and what rocks we would expect to find: gneiss, schist, and pegmatite granite. The kids tried to match their finds to three samples and identify which rock they had. (When in doubt, the glacier brought it in!) Completely unexpectedly, Lulu and Coco found a tiny bit of metallic rock that Ralph thinks might be a meteorite! (Stay tuned for more on that!)

WEDNESDAY: They dug dug dug – and at the break, Pat Pellegrini talked about the lake itself, and how it was filling up with sediment many feet deep. Then, Ralph led the whole group down a hundred-yard-long rope with significant events in the history of the Universe marked with stakes. Absolutely mind-blowing!

THURSDAY: Deeper and deeper in the dirt... this whole week they're finding little but old nails and the surprise of a nest of (hatched) turtle eggs! Teen Paris Stone supervised at the girls' pit, and Sophia Wilson and Victoria Hand the boys' pit. At the break, Don led us on a walk along the old path to the site of the spring house, and on up to the site of the long-vanished grand Sweetwater Hotel. John Linz continued to record the whole thing in photographs...

FRIDAY: Filling in the excavation, saying goodbye – the kids went home with a sample of our two billion year old bedrock and an inscribed copy of Lee Yates' book. Thank you to Ralph, Don and John for all their work, and for folded up the tents. It's over for another year!

We are grateful to the Bedford Recreation Department, who co-sponsored the program, and

to the Bedford Conservation Commission, who gave us permission to dig at Fawn Lake.

We will have photos of the young diggers and the crew in the next Broadside.

Sharon Mcdonald

A DUTTON FAMILY VISITOR:

On a hot Sunday afternoon, the small black convertible VW pulled up by backing up to the barn doors. Well, who was it, but Carol NolinSmith, Olive Dutton Nolin's daughter who sold the house to our own Louise K Brown. Carol enjoys coming to visit Grandmother Lillian's house.

Treasures come with Carol, and three small cardboard boxes revealed a number of interesting items, and 20 plus books. Some were Olive's when she taught elementary school, others she bought when living with her sister Elinor in Colorado, and still some had the name: Lillian French, which is before Lillian was married to Warren Dutton. One of the books was of great interest to me personally. A 1933 version of the Fanny Farmer Cookbook, with a cover that on the inside it was sewing thread



that kept the cover on. I worked for Fanny Farmer's corporate office when it was here in Bedford. Inside a few hand written recipes.

The 3 prong fork has a wooden handle, and the tines are very bent. Either food was tough, or the purpose of the fork was not always for use at the dinner table.

The other item that is of interest to us folks living



in Bedford where there was a shoe industry. I found that you can still buy these

for \$12.00. I'm thinking it would be great for my colonial shoes. *Jeannette Pothier*

MINI BARN RAISING-JULY 30

With Tom Musco and Deb D'Amico

We look forward to this year's barn raising, and so far seven (7) have signed up.

This was a photo of our first year, so please feel free to come and watch. It is a quarter size barn from ours.



MORNING STUDY GROUP FROM THE LEXINGTON FIELD & GARDEN CLUB

During Pole Capping early April, Barbara Mix recognized me with the Bedford Minutemen, and asked to have a tour of the Lillian Dutton Memorial Garden and the house. Of course we were thrilled to have such an interested group come and tour the garden and the house.

On June 7th, a clear sunny warm day, twelve (12) ladies came to see our garden, fully in bloom with the many different blooming sages, the cat mint, and the calendula. A few roses bloomed, and the rest of the roses are in bud and ready to burst out. These were Lillian's, and known as the *Herb Lady*.

They were impressed with the smell of the garden and how green and luscious it is. Jo Champney who personally helped Barbara Mix when they were establishing their garden at the Hancock-Clark House in Lexington was there to greet them.

Barbara Mix and Harriet Hathaway are co-chairs of the Herb Garden. Sharon McDonald gave a great tour of the house, barn and gift shop. We sent them off happy each with a write up of how our garden was established by Jo Champney

and the Garden ladies as the museum was moving forward to be opened to the public. We also gave them each a spring of Rosemary, well wintered over the winter by gardener Kathryn Rifkin.



We received a Thank You message from Barbara and Harriet, who extended their thanks for a delightful tour, and said Sharon was an exceptional guide! We have now been invited to tour their garden. *Jeannette Pothier*

VISITORS WITH TALENT

Laura Wallace and Sylvia Mallory from the Bedford Arts and Crafts Society (BACS) came by



the Job Lane Farm Museum on July 6th, a nice clear day, to sketch. We were there at the garden on a Wednesday, since the last two Tuesdays had been raining, and we were pleased that some of us were still there. DPW came to mow the lawn, and created a dust storm as the ladies were deciding on a place to sketch. Our fields are pretty dry now. They settled down, and above is the two pieces they did that day. Laura and Sylvia and

others from BACS are most welcome to come and sketch anytime. We website is www.bacsma.org.

AUGUST DAIRY EXHIBIT:

On August 14, Don Corey, President of the Bedford Historical Society, will set up a dairy exhibit as he did last year.

There's a cream separator. Some of us may remember after milking the cow coming in and separating the milk from the cream, with a whirling sound, it was like magic. Cream was then kept for daily use, and when enough cream was gathered, it went into the old wooden butter churn and another manual turn, the fat in the cream gathered, and right away, the best part was being able to drink that buttermilk.

Besides milk bottles from local dairies and farms, there will be milking pails and a stool, a butter churn, and a number of other tools. This will be during the 2 – 4 opening along with the Gift Shop, and tours. We may have a taste of buttermilk – the commercial type Kate's from Maine, and as the bottle states, "Farm Fresh".



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



Marsh Mallow
now in bloom

YARD SALE WAS HELD JUNE 4:

Fine summer weather and steady traffic along North Road made our second annual Community Yard Sale on June 4 a success. Five vendors, including Sharon with some of her puppets and the Bedford Historical Society with a variety of treasures (see photo), offered their wares to one and all. Bridget the Cow and her porky friend came out of the barn to greet the shoppers.



We plan to continue with the Yard Sale and hope that one day JLH will become known as "Brimfield East." *Lee Yates*

THANK YOU:

We acknowledge the donations of clothing for our use as guides and greeters. First Jane Puffer, a member and a Minuteman wife, donated petticoats, two gowns and a cap.

Marietta and Art Ellis, who have sold The Soap Factory donated both their clothes that they used for soap demonstration and guiding at the Job Lane House.

With little work, these pieces are being turned into useable clothing for Leah, a young lady who wants to dress up, and her dad, Joe, who will be one of our tour guides.

EVENTS:

July 30	Mini Barn Raising
August 14	Dairy Exhibit
Sept. 25	Ladies from <i>The Hive</i> , Sewing shirts for Colonial soldiers