

Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc.

B R O A D S I D E

COME TO THE JOB LANE TEA and ANNUAL MEETING!

Sunday, March 7, 2010, 2:00 - 4:00

First Church of Christ (Congregational) Vestry

25 The Great Road, Bedford

Our social event of the year! Bring a friend!

Program: *Don Corey will present his fascinating research and conclusions
on the location of the original Job Lane Homestead*

Please bring a plate of finger sandwiches and sweets to share.

We will provide the teapots full of good hot tea!

Proposed 2010-11 Officers

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Judith Barber, Pat Leiby and Carol Hand, has proposed the following slate. Nominations from the floor are also welcome!

President - Sharon McDonald

Vice President - Carol Hand

Secretary - Pat Pellegrini

Treasurer - Rick Manley

DIRECTORS: Pat Leiby and Angelo Coleo

NEW MEMBERS: Mary and Hugh Shepley, Bedford

THE HISTORY OF A TEA:

Prior to the introduction of tea into Britain, the English had two main meals, breakfast and dinner. Breakfast was ale, bread, and beef. During the middle of the eighteenth century, dinner for the upper and middle classes had shifted from noontime to an evening meal that was served at a fashionable late hour. Dinner was a long, massive meal at the end of the day.

Anna, the Duchess of Bedford (1788-1861) is credited as the creator of teatime. Because the noon meal had become skimpier, the Duchess suffered from "a sinking feeling" at about four o'clock in the afternoon. At first the Duchess had her servants sneak her pot of tea and a few breadstuffs. Adopting the European tea service format, she invited friends to join her for an additional afternoon meal at five o'clock in her rooms at Belvoir Castle. The menu centered around small cakes, bread and butter sandwiches, assorted sweets, and, of course, tea. This summer practice proved so popular, the Duchess continued it when she returned to London, sending cards to her friends asking them to join her for "tea and a walking the fields." The practice of inviting friends to come for tea in the afternoon was quickly picked up by other social hostesses.

PROPOSED BYLAW REVISIONS

The Board of Directors submit these changes to the Friends of the Job Lane House bylaws. To be voted on by the membership, these must be sent in writing two weeks before the Annual Meeting. Article VI deals with who has access to the alarm codes. XIII reflect the Historical Preservation Commission's legal responsibilities for the property, and the role Bedford Town Facilities has in its care. Article XIV reduces the quorum from 30 to 20 members.

ARTICLE VI. (DUTIES OF OFFICERS)

Section 1. Delete all after "The President reports and is responsible to the Board of Directors." and insert the following:

"The President will coordinate with the Bedford HPC representative on the Board and with the Bedford Facilities Department to control access codes to the House and Barn. Authorized representatives of the HPC and Facilities Department and members of the Friends authorized at the discretion of the President shall be given the security access codes. The access codes may be changed with the mutual agreement of the President, HPC representative on the Board and Facilities Department Director. The Facilities Department shall control notification to the Police Department and Alarm Company and shall maintain the call list."

ARTICLE XIII. (STANDING COMMITTEES)

Section 2. Replace the Custodial Services Committee portion with the following:

"Custodial Services Committee

The duties of the Custodial Services Committee shall include the following:

- a. maintain the cleanliness and neatness of all areas within the house (rooms, closets, bathroom, attic, basement) and the potting shed;
- b. maintain to cleanliness and neatness of all areas within the barn (rooms, lofts, bathroom, kitchen and gift shop);
- c. refer needs for laundering of draperies, bedding, etc., cleaning of rugs and other articles, painting of rooms, etc., to the individual organizations which installed or donated them, whenever possible.

Needs for property work such as mowing, clipping, pruning, eliminating poison ivy, debris, etc., (excepting care of the herb garden and flowerbeds overseen by the Bedford Garden Club) shall be referred by any officer or director to the HPC representative on the Board, who shall coordinate with the Bedford Department of Public Works.

Needs for repairs to the heating system, lighting, water, sewer and electrical service, plumbing fixtures and pipes, roofs, and all other parts of the House and Barn shall be referred by any officer or director to the HPC representative on the Board, who shall coordinate with the Bedford Facilities Department. After notice from the Friends, the Facilities Department will shut off water and set thermostat temperatures down after the end of each season and will turn the water back on again each spring."

ARTICLE XIV. (ANNUAL MEETING)

Section 2. Change to:

"A quorum for the meeting shall be twenty (20) members."

Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc.
P O Box 720, 295 North Road
Bedford, MA 01730

BROADSIDE, February, 2010