

# Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc.

## B R O A D S I D E

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is time to wake our little house and pull off the dust covers, hang the bed canopy, and clean, clean, clean! Jeannette, Richard, June DeNadai and her husband, Alex, have begun the process, and Connie Matheson and Karen Peterson will continue on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Are you game to brush out a fireplace or wash a window? We sure could use your help! Please join us on Spring Cleaning Day, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, between 9:00 and 1:00. RSVP to me to assure yourself a coffee cup and a dust mop! Sharon McDonald, (781-275-5643 or s\_mcd\_bos@yahoo.com)

### 2009-2010 Officers

President & Curator- Sharon McDonald

Vice President - Carol Hand

Secretary - Pat Pellegrini

Treasurer - Rick Manley

Hostess, Membership Chair, Barn Director, and Tour Guide Director - Jeannette Pothier

June DeNadai, Co-Tour Guide Director

Directors: Pat Leiby, Bob Slechta, April McDaniel, Judy Barber, Julia Whiteneck, Don Corey

Lee Yates - *Historic Preservation Commission Representative*

### AGREAT LOSS TO US ALL



Olive F. (Dutton) Nolin, 91, died on April 7, at the home of her daughter, Carol L. Nolin Smith of North Attleboro. Olive was born at the family homestead, the historic Job Lane/Dutton home. A visit to us from Olive was always a

wonderful event, and we loved hearing her stories of growing up in the old house. From her, we learned of Saturday night baths in the creek, cold times washing dishes at the dry sink as the chill air blew in through the open drain, and – importantly! – where the privy stood. What a warm, funny, loving person Olive was! She had also been a talented musician, teacher, librarian and mother.

She attended one of my early Annual Meetings, and we filmed her in the house prior to it. Her obit may be found at [www.dyer-lakefuneralhome.com](http://www.dyer-lakefuneralhome.com), or you may contact Jeannette for it. Burial was Saturday, April 18, in North Attleboro. There will be a service held in the future at the First Parish in Bedford Unitarian-Universalist Church. The family, daughters Carol and Gail and son Peter have

decided that in lieu of flowers that donations in her memory are made to The Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc. - *Jeannette Pothier*

### ANNUAL MEETING

This year's Annual Meeting was held on Sunday afternoon, March 15<sup>th</sup>. About thirty members and friends of Job Lane gathered at the First Parish Church for coffee and dessert (none of that unpatriotic tea for us!!!) and to hold our yearly business meeting. We were pleased to elect our new officers: Pat Pellegrini, Secretary; and Don Corey and Julia Whiteneck, Directors.

Our speaker was Pamela Tomic, an expert in quilt history, who talked about the kind of quilts Job and Martha would have slept under back in the early 1700s. She also brought historic quilts and lots of textiles to pass around.

Special thanks are due to the official committee who worked to set up and take down the room: April McDaniel (thank you for the daffodils!), Julie Turner, and Carol Hand. But we also thank all of you who pitched in and made the job easy! ...and made the refreshments. Yum!

## THANKS TO OUR RETIRING OFFICERS

Our Annual Meeting marked the end of the terms of three of our officers, and we owe them huge thanks! Julia Whiteneck, secretary for the last year, has not only kept the minutes of our Executive Board meetings but has been ready to volunteer on any Job Lane project. She continues to offer her energy and enthusiasm to our Friends as she goes on to a three-year term on our Board of Directors.

Connie Matheson has served as a Director for several terms. Most recently, she has been the secretary of the Board and also served on this year's Nominating Committee. We will miss her wisdom and experience! Thank you, Connie, for all you have given us!

Bob Dorer is also ending a three-year term as a Director. A relatively new member of the Friends, he has brought a fresh point of view and strong dedication to our organization. Thank you, Bob!

## A VISITOR FROM RICKMANSWORTH

This month, we were delighted to host a tea for Jo Ann Young who visited with us on Easter Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. (Did you see the April 16<sup>th</sup> Bedford Minuteman's front page article about the tea?) Her home is Rickmansworth, England, the town where Job Lane, our Deacon Job's grandfather, was born and spent his childhood before immigrating to America in 1642. On her several visits to Bedford, Jo has become a good friend and taught us a lot about Job's home town.

"Ricky," as it is fondly known, is about the same size as Bedford. Also like Bedford, it's located some 20 miles northwest of a main city – in its case, London. What would have been an all-day

trek in Job's time is now a half-hour subway ride, and many of its residents commute to London.

Jo has volunteered at Rickmansworth's Three Rivers Museum where she first heard of the Lane Family. The Lane home, called Shepherd's Farm, belonged to the Lane family for more than 150 years during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It was once the richest farm in Rickmansworth. Sadly, it no longer stands. It was demolished as recently as 1961, and more than 800 houses have been built on the site of the 216 acre farm. The museum, however, has photographs of it. (The museum, parenthetically, stands in the heart of the town on the spot where William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, once had a house. Job predates Penn and, because he emigrated, never had the chance to meet him.) We have a link to the Three Rivers Museum on our website, and look forward to their mounting some information about Shepherd's Farm and the Lanes on their website soon.

*Note: My husband Tom and I visited Rickmansworth about ten years ago, and can report that besides having a friendly little museum, they have a nice pub on the High Street! – Sharon (Ed).*

Tour Guides:

May 10: Jeannette Pothier

June DeNadai

Betty Slechta

Greeter: Pat Pellegrini

Shop: Linda & Bob Johnene

CRAFT FAIRE SAT. SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc.  
P O Box 720, 295 North Road  
Bedford, MA 01730  
APRIL 2009

Cleaning: May 2, 9 to Finish time  
House Tours: May 10 & 24, 2~4 pm