

Friends of the Job Lane House, Inc.

B R O A D S I D E

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Much is happening at the House this summer, as you will read below! I hope you will volunteer on Craft Faire Day, September 12th, as we all come together to help with the big money-maker of the year. It's always enjoyable! While you're volunteering for an hour or two, have a sniff of the herb garden, discover new artifacts in the House, hobnob with old friends and gather in some new ones. See you there! --

Sharon McDonald, (781-275-5643 or s_mcd_bos@yahoo.com)

2009 Officers

President & Curator- Sharon McDonald

Secretary - Pat Pellegrini

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*

Vice President - Carol Hand

Treasurer - Rick Manley

MEMBERS: Our dear friend, Mina Kimball passed away August 25, and our prayers are with her family.

Chair, it's not too late! Call her at 781-275-8794, and come have a wonderful time at the Faire!

~ Carol Carlson

THE CRAFT FAIRE NEARS!

The Job Lane Farm Museums' biggest event of the year, our Craft Faire, takes place on our grounds at 295 North Road, Bedford, on Saturday, September 12th, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. We've invited many skilled in colonial arts to come and demonstrate. We also have modern crafters, some who have never come to the Faire before. Please spread the word to all your friends and neighbors!!

Many of you have volunteered to help by taking a turn at showing a room of the House, sitting at the admissions table with the guest book, serving lunch, setting up or taking down, and we thank you and know this will be an enjoyable time meeting new people and showing off Job and Martha Lane's farm.

The schedule of volunteers is included on the back page of this newsletter. There are many blank spaces! We need help putting up posters too, and signs in your front yard. If you've been meaning to volunteer and haven't told Jeannette Pothier, Faire

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Now we know that there must be some younger men and women out there who could spare a few hours on occasion to help us ancients with various special chores that arise relative to taking care of the farm grounds. The Executive Board is pretty much tied up taking care of the house, giving tours and catering to groups and rarely ask very much of you. If you think you might enjoy a little such work when it arises now and then, we'd be happy to share the load with you and provide a little camaraderie --- please call Bob Slechta (781-275-7224) or Don Corey (781-275-6225)

~ Bob Slechta

SEE YOU AT THE FAIRE!

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

10 am to 3 pm

Notice of cancellation due to rain will be posted on our web site.

A WONDERFUL GIFT

Barbara and Don Marshall donated a large Afghan rug. It is beautiful; a rich crimson colored Bokara antique rug. You must come and see it! We hope to have it on the floor in the Parlor for our Faire. This alone will make your visit very worth while!

GOODBYE TO JUNE DENADAI

We are so sad to be losing one of our most enthusiastic tour guides, June DeNadai. She and her husband, Alex, moved to Tampa at the end of July where Alex, can take up a doctoral program at the University of South Florida. (Congrats on finding a house down there so easily!!) June sought us out two years ago and we were thrilled to meet her. Her degree in the theater has stood her well as she has guided visitors through the House. (We shared her with the Alcott House in Concord, where she also guided.) During the dark months of winter she improved her sewing skills as she made colonial clothing for herself. She'll be taking a little New England with her as she moves South, but June, you'll never find a museum as fine as ours! As the old hymn says:

"We will meet, but we will miss you. There will be one vacant chair..."

-Sharon McDonald

BEDFORD FARMER'S MARKET

Bedford has a thriving Farmer's Market that convenes every Monday from 2-6 pm during the summer months. Carol Hand and her daughters, Betty Slechta, Marietta Ellis, Pat Pellegrini and Julia Whiteneck were at the market on Monday, August 24, promoting our museum and our faire.

WHAT'S GOING ON BEHIND THE BARN?

Our day in July with the Bedford Rotary Club began with the idea of planting some blueberries, a native species, to replace some of the nasty invasives (Miscanthus, bittersweet, multiflora roses, etc.) that we eliminated when we cleared land for the meadow. We ordered the bushes, to be paid for by the Bedford Historic Preservation Commission, from New England Nursery at a generous discount and Nat Brown offered to plant them and ask the Rotary to join him in completing a number of other badly needed grounds projects.

On the Rotary day, Nat himself, armed with a rototiller and protective plastic sheeting, planted six Hybrid Highbush Ozarkblue Blueberry plants behind

the barn in an area cleared of brush by his fellow members. A crew of FJLH from the Board of Directors volunteered to keep the bushes watered until the root systems get established. Soaker hoses were contributed by FJLH and HPC member Chuck French. To date the plantings seem to be doing well – well enough to have been discovered by our hungry population of Job Lane birds and deer. We hope that netting, moth balls and smelly soap will encourage them to find other sources of nutrition! Any other ideas?

Now you know what really goes on behind the barn!!

~ Bob Slechta

A SECOND LOOK AT THE RUFUS PORTER MURALS

Recently, Linda Carter Lefko, a Historic Decorative Painter from New York who specialized in Rufus Porter's work, visited Bedford to look at all of the Rufus Porter murals in the town. (To our knowledge, there are five!) I waited in fear to hear her analysis – would she scoff at the restoration? Would she doubt that ours are truly by Porter himself? Should we have kept the Plexiglas over them after all?

But no! In talking with her afterward, Lee Yates (who showed her all of the murals) learned that Ms Lefko does not doubt that ours are truly Rufus Porter murals, says they are the best examples in town, and suggested strongly that we register them with the Rufus Porter Museum in Bridgton, Maine. She applauds the restoration, and says it was done so skillfully that one can still see Porter's brush strokes. Removing the Plexiglas was the right thing to do – the covering sealed in humidity and bugs, and was not good for them in the end. She also was very pleased at our keeping one section as is.

-Sharon McDonald

Note: We are grateful to Polly Forcier, another expert on Rufus Porter's style of painting, who spent time with us and agreed that the murals needed to be free of the Plexiglas. For our Holiday Open house in December 2005, the murals were uncovered.

www.rufusportermuseum.org

NOTICES:

House Tours: September 12, 10-3, Sept 27, October 11 and October 25.

CRAFT FAIRE SAT. SEPTEMBER 12, 2009
10 am to 3 pm



11th Annual Colonial Demonstration & Craft Faire

**Job Lane Farm Museum
295 North Rd, Bedford, MA**

**Sept 12, 2009, 10 – 3 pm
Admission Free, Tour \$2/pp**

American Textile History Museum
Basket maker, Blacksmith, Antique Chair
restoration, bobbin lace demonstration, quilting,
sewing, knitting, jewelry, pocketbooks, stuffed
animal dolls, and a surprise or more.

Proceeds go to the museum.

WORKERS FOR THE FAIRE

This is our 11th Faire. Granted our 10th Annual Faire with demonstrators to celebrate our 10th year was a rained out faire. To make up for it, we had a special open house later with demonstrators.

I have chaired along with Richard, all but the first faire that Marietta and Art Ellis did to show us how to run a faire. Thanks to them and their foresight, we have been able to hold the faire and bring in money for the Furniture Fund.

It is now Faire time again! We need folks to help us again with the following:

- Putting up flyers/A-frame and Plastic frames
- Cleaning and setting up before the Faire day
- Setting up the lunch tables and all that goes with serving lunch, i.e., tables, chairs and more. I will get the permit for serving our Crafty Lunch.
- Need Bakers for our “sweet” individually wrapped, such as a cake, or cookie.
- Setting up on the morning of the Faire includes moving people to their spots, helping them unload, put up their E-Z canopy, and seeing that their cars are moved to the back of the house.
- The house needs to be set up for demonstration of bobbin lace and possibly quilting. We move chairs to the attic to make room.
- Bringing in fresh flowers from the field

- Staffing the Greeter’s table for the Guest book
- A volunteer in each room, each hour.
- Serving lunch 11 to 1 pm.
- Cleaning up after the faire at 3 pm.
Look at the attached sheet, and call me with your time. We cannot hold a faire without you! It’s your Faire too! 781-275-8794.
~ Jeannette Pothier

WHO IS COMING?

We have: The American Textile History Museum from Lowell, Fred Lawson, the basket maker, Dean Rantz, the blacksmith and Linda Lane our bobbin lace lady. Our usual small (real) animals and we hope to have chickens this year.

Our friends the Bedford Historical Society, the Bedford Minuteman Company, many flag items.

And: Christopher Nassise, Green Wood Shop with a rocker of red oak and hickory bark seat, Art Veves, chair restoration demonstration, antique and contemporary chair seats, different mediums. Bring your old chairs. Handmade rosaries, Pocketbooks, tote bags, ceramics, jewelry, hats, scarves, year-round wreaths, recycled sari dresses, hand sewn silk dresses. Stuffed animal dolls, fully clothed, and hand made. There’s more. Sue Bourque of Tastefully Simple will donate almond cake for our lunch table.



Red oak rocker
by
Christopher Nassise.

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