



# Freedom's Way Heritage Association

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FREEDOM'S WAY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR REGION'S SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC, CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH THE DESIGNATION OF A NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

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- *Annie Harris, Exec. Dir. Essex Nat'l Heritage Area Speaks to FWHA*
- *Freedom's Way Scholars Grant Program Begun*
- *Dr. Sibyl Brownlee to Write the Hazard Story*

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Freedom's Way Heritage Association and Zelda Moore, board member of FWHA are honored guests at the Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce Leadership Awards presentation. Moore and Freedom's Way recipients of Awards given for outstanding contributions to the Nashoba Valley Region.

At a gala celebration held at the banquet hall of the Devens Conference Center on November 20th, the Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce honored nine individuals and organizations for their community service and leadership. The ceremony was sponsored by MassDevelopment.

Congressman Martin Meehan, having just concluded a longer than 12-hour marathon congressional hearing in Washington, showed no sign of fatigue as he enthusiastically gave the keynote address. Meehan spoke of the values of volunteerism and community service to a packed audience at the Chamber's first Annual Leadership awards presentation.

Freedom's Way Heritage Association, along with Nashoba Publications and the North Middlesex Savings Bank, received an award for outstanding companies and organizations. Jackie Esielonis, Chamber President, praised Freedom's Way for "exceptional leadership and community involvement." In accepting the award, Chandler and Darby were able to introduce Richard Canale, the new president of Freedom's Way.

Our very own, Zelda Moore was awarded the Robert W. Lewis Award for individuals who had "advanced the community through their contributions of talent, time, and effort."

In her smiling and humble way, Zelda gratefully acknowledged the wonderful honor of having the award bestowed upon her, commenting that she is a "private person" and only did what was necessary as a personal commitment. The other individuals honored were: Jerrilyn Bozicas of Pepperell, Liz Nichols of Harvard, Ziggy Wesolowski of Shirley, Daniel Asquino, President of Montachusett Community College, and Stephen Gervais, President of Gervais Ford in Ayer.

Heritage development is: Education, Economic Development and Preservation

## *Letter from the President: Richard Canale*

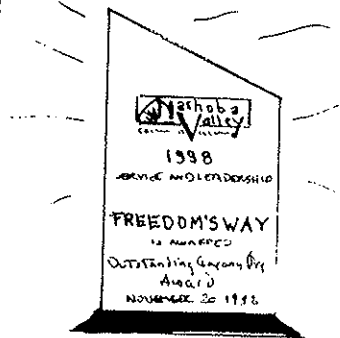
Dear Friends:

It isn't often that an organization in its infancy is honored as we have been by the Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce. The most striking aspect of the awards ceremony on November 20th was the number of years of service attributable to each of the other individuals and organizations so honored: eighteen years for one; a lifetime for another. As members of the youngest organization to receive an award from the Chamber, you are all to be honored.

Each of you must take credit for your contributions to the growing success of the Freedom's Way Heritage Association and the future possibilities of a National Heritage Designation. Our growing strength as an organization has put us in the forefront as having significantly contributed to the region.

When we began, in 1993, we were a small group of individuals, representing town officials, environmental interests, planners, and others intent upon addressing the issue most compelling to all our towns: how to have a positive affect on the future of our communities.

We were a small group then, but the concept of a Nation Heritage Area is a big idea. Ideas have power. Preserving our heritage is the idea that has become a national trend. I salute you for having the wisdom to see that and to offer your support. Thank you, keep up the good work!



*Don't Forget to Honor the  
Women in Your Town  
Whose Personal  
Commitments Make a  
Difference.*

## *Update on the Legislative Effort*

Congressman John Olver has become your standard bearer by agreeing to submit the Freedom's Way Heritage Area Legislation. Along with Congressman Olver, the rest of your congressional delegation is behind us, most particularly, Congressman Marty Meehan and Kate Dempsey, his economic development assistant. We value the advice and assistance from the offices of the Senators Kennedy and Kerry. You may count on support from your local legislators, most particularly our advisor, Sen. Robert A. Durand.

In September, at his request, we submitted legislation to Congressman Olver, through his aide Tricia Paulson. The proposed legislation was scrutinized by our steering committee members and the North Central Chamber of Commerce.

We will be meeting soon, with the Congressman's Legislative Aide to discuss what additional information the Congressman would need if hearings are held. We expect that Olver needs letters of support from the Selectmen or Mayors, Conservation Commissions, Planning Boards, Economic Developers, Historic Commissions, local business associations, educators, cultural institutions and environmental groups.

You must see to it that we have these letters. Please call the office to see how your town is doing.

**Your town needs you to help  
get out those letters!**

# *Corrections and Letters*

## *With Apologies to Arlington and Mason, New Hampshire*

Samuel Morison once wrote that: "America was discovered accidentally by a great seaman who was looking for something else; when discovered it was not wanted; and most of the exploration for the next fifty years was done in the hope of getting through or around it. America was named after a man who discovered no part of the New World. History is like that, very chancy."

Getting historical facts straight can be chancy too. Every time we uncover a story, we know there is usually someone who has researched and recorded the story -- and knows more than we do about it. The process of identifying historic sites is time consuming and difficult. Our task is not easy, and we do not claim to have all the knowledge. We welcome information and corrections whenever we are wrong. We received a wonderful letter from Elizabeth Orton Jones, children's book author and Mason, New Hampshire historian chastising us for identifying Uncle Sam's birthplace as Mason. Many of you, and certainly Arlington residents undoubtedly know, that Uncle Sam was born in Menotomy as it was called first (then West Cambridge, now Arlington). Oh, how Arlington historians must have giggled when they read our gaff, since there is a memorial statue to him there. Jones enlightens us about the "fascinating background of the Wilson family and their association with other early families who moved from Menotomy to Mason (the family of Jason Russell who was murdered on April 19th 1775, for instance)."

Jones has "spent many years researching the Uncle Sam story, tracing the ancestors all the way back to Scotland, finding very interesting connections and analyzing the significances of how and why this boy

should happen to become the symbol of our country."

We continue with her letter: "Edward Wilson, Sam's father, was not exactly a veteran of the Revolutionary War -- which suggests being a soldier. He was not. He was one of the 'old men' of Menotomy who ganged together to capture the British supply wagon on Massachusetts Avenue not far from the Wilsons' house. Edward Wilson was forty-one years of age at the time. His son was nine. Can it be truly said that Edward, the father, 'answered the call' and 'served' at Menotomy on that day?

"Sam's older brothers served in the Army. His brother Edward and his brother Joseph were soldiers. Next-older than Sam was Ebenezer who evidently served at Ticonderoga, and, at the end of the War, on his long walk home, came upon the beginning of a new town which was later called Troy, on the Hudson. It had been called Van der Heyden's Ferry, one of the old Dutch patroon settlements. Back home to Mason came Ebenezer to tell his brother Sam (then 23 years of age) about this great opportunity. Theirs was an inheritance of bricklaying prowess from their mother's family. And so the two brothers went to the place on the Hudson and played an important part in the building of America's first industrial city: Troy. They were well loved and respected and so were called 'Uncle', a term of fellowship and esteem in those days....

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Orton Jones"

For those wishing further information, Jones tells us the National Society of Realtors produced a video about the Uncle Sam story, with E. B. Marshall as narrator. Another video is "New Hampshire Crossroads" with Fritz Wetherbee, and last, the Today Show filmed a short report a few years ago on the Fourth of July.

We are deeply indebted to Elizabeth Orton Jones for correcting our mistake and providing additional information.

We welcome letters and corrections.

***Mystery Solved: The Missing Paragraph from the Last Issue has Been found!***

The computer ate it, but we coaxed it back. Here it is: Donna DeBoever, Acton, will be guiding the work identifying the Paths of the Patriots. Bedford, Bolton, Harvard, Lexington, Shirley, Townsend and Westford have reported about taverns still standing. Acton, Arlington, Bolton, Carlisle, Groton, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Sterling, and Sudbury have begun undertaking the Paths of the Patriots Project.

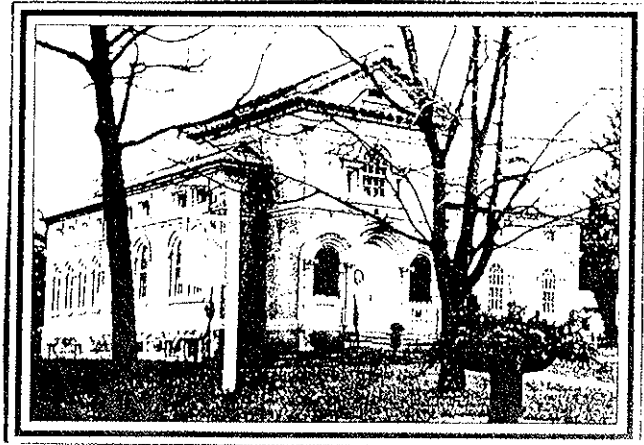
Since the previous newsletter, new material has been supplied by Carol Kowalski for Arlington; Historian Sarah Brophy for Carlisle, and Lincoln Historian Jack MacLean sent extensive material. Also working are Bruce and Carlene Clements in Groton; Minute Man Elwyn Bagley of Westford; Richard Packard of Littleton and Palmer True in Sudbury. Barbara Sipler of Stow referred us to The Minute Man : published in 1975 for extensive details we might have missed.

We are still looking for historians to provide information on the survey form in the following towns: Ashburnham, Ashby, Boxborough, Clinton, Dunstable, Fitchburg, Gardner, Harvard, Hudson, Leominster, Lunenburg, Maynard, Pepperell, Princeton, Sterling, Townsend, Westminster and New Ipswich. The product will be a comprehensive map of the route of the Alarm and the Response in April 1775 with accompanying material of local history. We are happy to have photocopied material. Completing survey forms does not qualify for the Scholars Program. If you're a historian or a Minute Man in one of these towns call us to get appropriate forms.

We are applying for grant money to complete the mapping project. If we do

not get material from your town, it will not be on the Patriots map.

***Where Did You Go? Out!  
What Did You Do? Plenty!***



The Littleton Historical Society is open Wednesday afternoons from 1-4pm and the second Sunday of every month from 2-4pm, for visitors and for the society members to socialize and work on the various collections. Fine displays in a bright attractive interior of Nashoban Artifacts, commemorative dinnerware, miniature cars and vehicles, tin soldiers (recent display), 18th Century clothing, furniture, and the doors of a Tory house with visible bullet holes, a bright quilt, enviable postcard collection. Carolyn Mueller and Richard F. Packard Sr., welcomed me. Richard is undertaking the Paths of the Patriots historical survey work for Littleton.

At the recent annual meeting of the Nashua River Watershed Association, held at the Fitchburg Art Museum, dinner guests were treated to two rooms devoted to the display of an 18th century faience tureen along with an expanded educational display. Exploring "what is real?" in one room, the exhibit uses multiple computer images which manipulate a photograph of the tureen to show the unlimited creative power through technology.

(Continued on page 10)

## Scholars Program Initiated

The directors of Freedom's Way Heritage Association announce the initiation of a program to develop educational materials in connection with the National Heritage Area designation project.

The Association has embarked on an ambitious program to develop a collection of regional maps noting the sites and stories of people and historical events. From this data, materials will be developed to help celebrate the region's uniqueness, promote public stewardship and recognize its contributions to the history of America. Funding for this program has been generously provided by the Bruce J. Anderson Foundation.

Bruce J. Anderson, a serious and idealistic young man, cared deeply about the problems he saw around him. In his memory, the Association will award ten grants for research projects related to one of the following towns:

Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Bolton, Brookline NH, Clinton, Dunstable, Fitchburg, Gardner, Greenville NH, Groton, Harvard, Hollis NH, Lancaster, Leominster, Lunenburg, Mason NH, New Ipswich NH, Pepperell, Princeton, Shirley, Sterling, Townsend, Westminster.

Research must document historical events relating to the four Freedom's Way themes:

- I. The Native Landscape
- II. Inventing the New England Landscape
- III. The Landscape of Democracy
- IV. The Land Rediscovered.

Such rich heritage requires focusing and establishing priorities for research projects. The focus for this funding cycle will be on the sub-themes of:

1. Paths of the Patriots;
2. African American heritage;
3. Native American heritage;
4. Women of Independence and
5. Special or notable geological or natural formations, views and open areas suitable for visitors.

Subjects for study should be small and discrete leading to:

- A paper to be presented, or;

- A curriculum piece for a specific age/class level, or;
- A description and historical perspective of a distinctive view of major open space such as Mt. Wachusett, The Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge, Bolton Flats, or;
- Local historic places to visit connected to one of the five projects listed below, including town centers, cemeteries, 18th century architecture, Underground Railroad, etc.

1. Paths of the Patriots project, will tell the stories of the local towns' reactions to the Alarm of April 19th and the paths of the responders. Several towns have already documented and marked their Revolutionary War history, but some have not.

2. The African American heritage effort includes documentation of area settlements, the work and stories of those residents, the role played by the African American community during the Revolutionary War, individuals, abolitionism, and the Underground Railroad, especially documentation about "passengers," "conductors," or sites.

3. The Native American history would include the original land, Native American settlements, agricultural practices and trails, the role played by Native Americans in the establishment of our American form of Democracy, and their contributions to the Revolutionary War and after.

4. Women of Independence will celebrate the contributions of notable women in the area.

5. Special or notable geological, or natural formations, views and major open space areas, existing and proposed recreational trails suitable for visitors. Eligibility: Teachers, historical societies, and graduate students.

If you are interested in applying, send letter of inquiry describing which town/s and subject you intend to research, your suggested focus, and brief resume to: Freedom's Way Heritage Assoc., 43 Buena Vista St., Devens MA 01432. Deadline for applications will be December 15, 1998. Previously published materials will not be eligible for Scholar Awards.

## *More Scholarship* *Dr. Sibyl Brownlee,* *Fitchburg State College, to* *Research the Hazard Family*

We are delighted to announce that Dr. Sibyl Brownlee, Historian, and faculty member of Fitchburg State College has agreed to conduct research on the Hazards. The Hazard Family of Massachusetts has a rich history of contributions to the local community, the Commonwealth and the United States. Family members have participated in the War of Independence, the Civil War, and more recent wars. The Hazards have African American, Native American and European American heritage. The project will tie together information about the family history with the history of the communities in which they lived. Oral histories will be recorded from older members of the family. Photos will be collected. A narrative history of the family will be the final outcome of this project.

### *Fitchburg Historical Society* *Exhibit:* *Fitchburg Women in* *History*

A new exhibit at the Fitchburg Historical Society offers a look at notable women in the city's history from its founding days to the 1980s.

Thirteen women are featured in the exhibit which pays tribute to those who made important contributions to the city's cultural and economic advancement. Barbara Edsall, the society's new curator of collections considers Fitchburg to be a microcosm that reflects general national trends. The women's achievements provides a picture of the historic, social, cultural trends shaping the nation during their lives. The stories of Fitchburg's notable women span the history of the city: from Susannah Fitch, wife of John Fitch an early settler, and Hannah Cowdin, another early settler who managed a tavern for years after her husband's death.



The Fay Club, donated by Lucy Fay Wilson

Continuing through the years in Fitchburg, the exhibit includes: Martha Goodrich, Sarah Burbank, Lucy Fay Griffeth, Susan Cushing Dickinson, Sybil Augusta Fairbanks, Caroline Mason, Eleanor Norcross, Mary Lowe Dickinson, Fay Bigelow Crocker, Barbara Cushing Crocker and Doris Kirkpatrick.

The women's achievements were: in nursing; as philanthropists who  
(continued on page 10)

### *Preservation* *Devens Historical* *Collection: A New Museum?*

Freedom's Way has been very interested in the history of Devens during its 75 years as an army base as well as the area's previous history. There was a time when some of it was known as Shabikin (in Harvard), and the Nonacoicus farm property (in Ayer) of Major Simon Willard. The latter property was a gift of the Massachusetts Bay Colony to Major Willard for payment of a debt owed him by a Native American.

Prior to the establishment of the military base, a considerable industry in ice and lumber found access to larger markets by shipping over local rail lines. Eventually, when the lumber supply dwindled and other forms of refrigeration slowed ice shipments, the military saw the opportunities provided by access to the under-used rail lines.

When the Fort Devens base closed, the contents of the Army-operated Devens Museum located in the  
(continued on next page)

*A New Museum? continued*  
old stables near the Verbeck entrance on Antietam Street were shipped to Army storage.

Returning veterans and their families accustomed to visiting the museum have missed its presence as have residents of Ayer and elsewhere who contributed memorabilia to the museum.

In an attempt to revive a place to receive gifts of items relating to Devens and the lands known as Nonacoicus and Shabikin, Freedom's Way is assisting the MassDevelopment to locate some buildings and return the Army's collection to the area.

What is urgently needed is a group of Ayer, Harvard, Lancaster and Shirley residents who would like to comprise a new non-profit organization to receive gifts and open the buildings soon to be provided near the Robbins Pond area. Call Freedom's Way at 772-3654 or Gayle Padula, of MassDevelopment at 772-6340, to offer assistance, contributions of time, money or items. We will be looking for all the things to be found in portraying the multi-faceted life of this land now known as Devens during its long history as ice source, woodland, farmland and fort -- but no firearms. Please respond promptly so we can get the organization established to be responsible for this multi-community venture.

## **Books**

Lew Haprin of Stow and Alan Katelle of Hudson have collaborated in publishing a picture book on Lake Boon, a lake which is in both Hudson and Stow, and was a popular summer resort in the early 1900s for city folk from Boston.

The 96-page book, part of the "Images of America" series of paperbacks by Arcadia Publishing, features a treasure trove of old photographs and postcards from area collectors. Two rail lines with connections to Boston crisscrossed the area bringing summer vacationers who boarded a small steam boat to their retreats. The lake is now

surrounded by summer homes converted to year-round dwellings.

Many of the photographs were taken in early 1900s by local photographer Alexander Berry with a 5x7 plate camera. The lake was named for Matthew Boon, first known white settler in the mid-1600s. Boon built a cabin for himself and his family on what is now Boon Hill. He was killed during King Philips war. A monument, erected in 1883, marks the site.

Both Halprin and Kattelle are members of the Stow Historical Society and the Lake Boon Association. Halprin and the Stow Historical Society have begun work on a picture book of Stow, part of this series. Copies of the Lake Boon book are available in the area or by calling 978-897-5996, for \$16.99.

## **Networking**

### ***Harris, Exec. Dir. Of Essex National Heritage Area and Salem Partnership Speaks to Business Leaders***

Annie Harris, Executive Director of the Essex National Heritage Area (ENHA) and the Salem Partnership was our speaker for the first Freedom's Way Stakeholder's Breakfast, held in Ken's American Cafe in Littleton on November 12. (See more about Freedom's Way Stakeholder's Breakfasts elsewhere.)

Ms. Harris spoke to a small, but select group of invitees about her experiences as director of the Essex National Heritage Area, which covers all of Essex County.

A Heritage Area, she pointed out, is nothing like a historic district -- there is no power, not much government control other than local. While some states look upon heritage areas as educational tools, others consider them to be economic tools, and they can be both. Essex developed three goals:

1. Education for local people, children and visitors.

(Continued next page.)

### *Harris continued*

2. Economic development highlighting amenities, pride and benefits. To have visitors say, "I wish I'd planned to stay longer."
3. Heritage Preservation

The ENHA feasibility study looked at three themes and decided these themes would be stronger if presented using hundreds of resources. The historic boundaries of Essex which comprise the designated area include 34 towns and cities. The North Shore and Merrimac Valley have two different kinds of heritage. By pooling their efforts together as a region, people who have never communicated before have found new and exciting ways to link their sites making the visitor experiences more powerful. In some instances the museums experienced such a surge of visitors that they found themselves somewhat unprepared to handle the numbers. Visitors want to know: where to stay overnight? where to eat? and where to find other services? A very positive byproduct of the effort has been the bringing together of people who manage visitor facilities only a short distance from each other, yet had never talked to their counterparts prior to the Heritage Area designation.

The ENHA has acquired highway and local signs, and produced three theme-trail brochures and a passport program for school children. There are maps for people motoring and identifying local sites.

Annie Harris' descriptions of the plans for the County exactly parallel ours, as Richard Canale, President of Freedom's Way and professor of Continuing Education at Northeastern University, pointed out. The proposed Freedom's Way National Heritage legislation has been modeled after the ENHA's. Ms. Harris describes this legislation as "all carrots and no sticks."

There are currently sixteen designated areas in the United States, with hundreds of others in various stages from the conceptual to those preparing, as we are, for designation.

Congressman John Olver will submit the legislation for Freedom's Way. The strong support we enjoy from

our entire congressional delegation, gives us hope that a Freedom's Way National Heritage Area designation will occur.



### *Freedom's Way Stakeholders' Breakfasts*

A National Heritage Area cannot survive without the support of the communities within the designated area. In turn, that support will not occur without forging strong links between the various interest groups who claim a "stake" in the future of the area. To bring people together to learn about Freedom's Way, and its plans for the proposed area, we have begun to hold stakeholders' breakfasts. Our goal is to bring people together in the hope of facilitating the creation of those links which will work to everyone's benefit. In time the breakfasts will help us to identify key leaders who would stand for the broadest range of concerns and ensure that the management entity for the Area is truly representative.

In order to encourage cooperation and provide a level of comfort, these breakfasts will be small. We watched with satisfaction as the attendees at the first breakfast "networked" with each other. ( See "Harris")

Our next stakeholders' breakfast will be at Fruitlands Museums, date to be announced, and it will be for museums, historical societies, and other local cultural institutions. If you wish to be included, please let the office know: 772-3654



## *Nashua River Watershed Land Trust Conference*



The Nashua River Watershed Land Trust Conference, on Sept. 19 at Tower Hill Botanic Garden presented a vision of "land without borders." As water flows from one town to the next, so a town's concerns spill over beyond its borders and we find ourselves connected to our neighbors. What we do in each of our own towns includes responsibility to the larger community. Massachusetts has shown tremendous growth recently, as much as a 200% increase in some communities. Realizing the difficulties in managing such growth the State has endorsed regional growth planning using watersheds as the basis for environmental base maps, economic development, water supply and water use. We have literally become "communities connected by water."

The value of stewardship through land trusts and trails connecting towns were presented by over fifteen trust representatives to the conference.

The Nashua River Watershed Association (NRWA) has an intriguing video program "Completing the Vision" showing the value of protecting greenways along both sides of the Nashua

River. Call NRWA 448-0298 for rent or purchase of this video, or Freedom's Way 772-3654.

## *Friends of the Oxbow*

The friends of the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge is a group of private citizens that formed in April of 1998 as a non-profit organization to work with and support, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to preserve and protect the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge.

The Oxbow currently consists of 711 acres of bottomland forest adjacent to the Nashua River. It derives its name from the oxbows which are formed by river meanderings over the course of centuries. These meanderings often take the shape of an oxen's yoke or oxbow. The river, its oxbows, wetlands and uplands provide excellent wildlife habitat for a variety of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians.

The primary short term objective of the Friends of the Oxbow is to secure an additional 890 acres of wildlife habitat located at the former Fort Devens. Congress has mandated this land be transferred to the Refuge but the actual transfer has not yet occurred. This is a cause for concern because this is a major migratory bird corridor, significant water fowl breeding site, and home to many rare and endangered species.

Signs will soon be posted showing the way to the Refuge from Bolton, Harvard and Lancaster. The Friends are developing plans with the Fish and Wildlife Service to open walking and cross-country ski trails.

The Friends is seeking to form alliances with area organizations to form a network of people with an interest in the future of the Refuge. Rona Balco, president of the Friends, says "One of our long-term goals is to have an environmental educational center at Devens. We look forward to meeting people so that many more individuals, families and business partners can become more aware of the hidden treasures of the Oxbow." For more information call: Rona Balco 978-779-2259

## ***Where Did You Go? Continued***

The second room features social history of the period, home furnishings, clothing, display hand outs including recipes. Entertaining! Great for school children.

**Where have you been recently within the Freedom's Way Heritage area? Tell us about it, and we'll print it here.**

***Save March 7, 1999***

*FWHA Annual Meeting*

at

***Fitchburg Historical  
Society.***

More details in our next issue.

## ***Fitchburg Women in History, continued***

donated buildings and accommodations for affordable housing, family aid, and hospitals; as painters; writers; renowned educators; and benefactors -- what their city needed they helped to provide.

Freedom's Way applauds the Fitchburg Historical Society and encourages you to explore the legacy of the notable women of your town. Society open Mon. -Thurs. 10-4. Exhibit will be on view for 6 months. 50 Grove Street.

## ***Welcome to New and Renewing Members***

Town of Acton; Jay De Geronimo, Pres. Victory Supermarket, Leominster; Sarah Brophy, Carlisle; Mary S. Collins, Shirley; Betty Eddison, Lexington; Barbara S. Heudorfer, BankBoston, Boston; Myla Kabat-Zinn, Lexington; Ruth Rhonemus, Ayer; Angela Peters Shwom, Pres. Wampanoag Productions, Pepperell; Betsi Tennessee, Ayer; Alan and Lynne Wilson, Lexington.

## ***Why We Don't Ask You for Money Every Month***

Fund raising conferences we have attended advise us to send you letters and requests for money every month! We know what that's like -- we get those letters too. It's annoying!

Contrary to the advice of experts, we have opted not to write monthly letters to you asking for additional money. Bobbi Atkinson will remind you to renew your membership, that's it!

Talk about fund raising and grants and support from various levels of government confuses most people who assume the Freedom's Way Heritage Association must be recipients of government dollars. Unfortunately, no. The feasibility study, was funded entirely by the Department of Environmental Management, we never received a cent from that appropriation, although you/we received the benefit of the results.

When we receive grants for specific projects, that money cannot be siphoned off to pay office expenses. So we rely on you, your donations and your membership dollars to keep the office working.

The Freedom's Way office is staffed entirely by volunteers. All the office equipment has come from donations. We rely on memberships and other donations to pay for paper clips to telephones. The office space is courtesy of Mass Development. Our monthly phone bill equals three new memberships, which means we must grow by three members per month just to pay that bill alone. So please, if you ever think we're doing a good job, consider a donation to help us continue the work. Or bring in three new members. It would be a shame if we got this close to designation and had to close up shop!

**We have a new FAX number  
978-772-9807.**

**Send us your messages. News  
about our new Web Site next.**

## Activities

- Children's Hands-On Art Museum** Get a print of that precious little hand, Ages 3+ Tuesday , December 8 from 10:30-11:30 AM, and Fimo Jewelry Ages 5+ Tuesday, December 8, from 4:00-5:00 PM. Fee for materials. Museum is at 19 Sanderson Road, Littleton. Contact: GERALYN MILLER at 978-952-2555
- Concord Museum** Candlelight Evenings: Friday, December 11th, 18th, 6:30-8:30 PM, "*Tidings of Comfort and Joy*" holiday exhibit. Monday- Friday December 14th - 18th 9:00 - 5:00 guided tours of *Tidings* with advance reservations. December 29th, Tuesday 2:00-3:30 "*I Spy Door Bells, Sleigh Bells & Warm Woolen Mittens*" children's tour for ages 4-8, reservations required. December 30, Wednesday "*The Write Stuff*" for ages 8+ hands-on program making and printing paper, reservations required. Saturday & Sunday, January 2&3 final days of *Tidings* Call for details 978-369-9763.
- Fitchburg Historical Society** Hours: Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. New hours: Saturday morning from 10:00 am to 1:00 PM. when Curator Barbara Edsall will be available for researchers and visitors who cannot visit during weekday hours. Sunday, December 13, at 2:00 PM "*Feliz Navidad*" Christmas in the Caribbean. Caribbean for Kids from Northhampton, Mass. will perform holiday songs to a Caribbean calypso. Steel drums, limbo!
- Fruitlands Museums, Harvard** Holiday Craft Activity for Children in grades K-4. Saturday, December 12, and Saturday, December 19, 1- 3 PM. Drop-in activity to make holiday ornaments. Parents can shop in the Holiday Store in the Library at Prospect House. Fee for materials \$3. Museum Store Hours through December 23, Wednesday-Sunday from 10-3 PM.
- Harvard Historical Society** Still River Meeting House, Warner Free Lecture Series. "From Pets to People" Friday January 22, 1999 - 8 PM Dr. Timothy Foster
- Indian Hill Arts** Performing Arts Center, Rte 119, Groton India Hill Symphony, Bruce Hangen conducting, with guest soloist Berit Strong, guitar. Mozart: *Serenade No 9 in D major "Posthorn"*, Rodrigo: *Concierto de Aranjuez*, Brahms: *Variations on a Theme of Haydn* 978-486-9844
- Leominster Historical Society** Sunday, December 6 at 1:30 PM *Christmas at the Turn of the Century*; Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 PM, Michael Tougas, author and lecturer on King Philip's War
- Lunenburg Historical Society** Thursdays, at 7:30 PM. On March 4, 1999, Old Tools, Shop and Home, Jerry Hyde; Hoosac Tunnel, Carl R. Byron, April 1 1999.
- Minute Man National Historical Park Winter Schedule** The Minute Man Visitor Center, Lexington, off Route 2A: new interpretive exhibits; two 22 minute audio/visual presentations *Keep Our Liberty* and *Road to Revolution*. Admission free. North Bridge Visitor Center , 174 Liberty St., Concord, mannequins, dioramas, bookstore, slide presentations, close walk to North Bridge. Call Park Headquarters for specifics: 978-369-6993, Extension 22. *Minute Man Visitor Center*. Open Daily 9 AM-5 PM. *North Bridge Visitor Center* Open Daily 9 AM-5 PM
- Orchard House** "*Welcome to Our Home*" - A living History Tour. Saturday & Sunday, December 26th and 27th from 2:00-3:00 PM or 4:45-5:45 PM; Tuesday-Friday, February 16th-19th from 1:00-2:00 PM. Inquire about reservations and pre-payment (suggested) Phone 978-369-5617. Also inquire about February Valentine Party "*Love Knows No Age*" for ages 6-106.
- SPNEA Pass** Some Libraries and Historical Societies have free passes from The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities for two to visit any of the SPNEA's 24 house museums throughout New England. Call your local library or society and inquire -- some of these houses will be decorated for the holidays.
- Townsend Harbor** New hours at the Reed Homestead: Tours of the Homestead 11 AM - 12:30 PM Tuesday -Friday. The Museum Store, 11 AM-2 PM Thursday and Friday during events. Office hours Tuesday - Friday, 9 AM-2 PM.
- Tsongas Industrial History Center** Making History Come Alive. Wednesday, January 27, 4:30-7:30 PM. Judith Black, storyteller, "*Pray for the Dead and Fight Like Hell for the Living.*" \$24 dollars includes performance, super, suggested curriculum materials, colleagues. Call 978-970-5080

# Membership is the best way to Participate in the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area

If you are not yet a member, or you would like to give a gift membership or a donation, you may send us this form:

*I would like to become a member:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send a gift membership to:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Circle your choice of membership level:

Individual \$30

Senior/Student \$25

Non-profit or Public Agency \$50

Corporate \$100

## *Commemorative and Year-End Gifts*

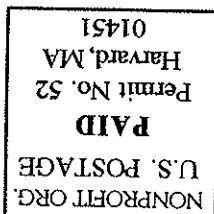
I/We hereby contribute to Freedom's Way Heritage Association as gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of gift: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Freedom's Way Heritage Association, 43 Buena Vista St., Devens MA 01432



Seasons Greetings !



Freedom's Way Heritage Association  
43 Buena Vista St.  
Devens MA 01432