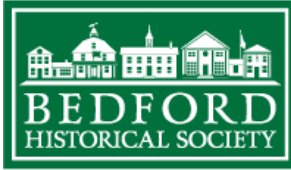


**From:** [Bedford Historical Society](#)  
**To:** [info@bedfordhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@bedfordhistoricalsociety.org)  
**Subject:** May Newsletter from the Bedford Historical Society  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2009 11:12:53 AM



## BEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY *e-Newsletter*

May, 2009

### In This Issue

Michael Kelley Presentation and Sign Up for Private Tour of Met's American Wing

Area Students Visit Bedford to Learn About the Past

Bedford Riding Lanes Exhibit at the Bedford General Store

Friends of John Jay Homestead Cocktail Party and House Tour to Benefit BHS

Martha Stewart Blogs About Bedford, Katonah...

BHS Featured on New Website

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

### Quick Links

<http://www.jmkelleyltd.com/main.html>

<http://www.bedfordweb.net/brla/>

<http://www.johnjayhomestead.org/>

<http://www.themarthablog.com/>

<http://www.encounter-america.org/EACH-Bedford-Main.html>

<http://www.bedfordhistoricalsociety.org/>

Spring is a time for new beginnings. The flowers and trees are blooming, the Village is bustling and the Historical Society is busier than ever. Currently, we have a new exhibit featuring the Bedford Riding Lanes at the Bedford General Store, a refreshed Court House museum - ready for visitors, and tours galore for area 4th graders learning about local history.

Also, you should mark your calendars for some wonderful upcoming events - We have a trip to the Met scheduled for **June 3rd** with Michael Kelley as our personal tour guide. He recently spoke at our Annual Meeting about his adventures installing a 1751 Dutch farm house into the Met's American Wing. Our trip will include a luncheon and a tour of the American Wing followed by free time to enjoy the rest of the museum. We're planning a special event to commemorate the 230th anniversary of the burning of Bedford on **July 11th**. A cocktail party and re-enactment on Guard Hill will be part of the festivities so save the date.

As always, we invite you to stop by our offices at the Bedford General Store to see our changing exhibits, interesting photos and documents. We also sell penny candy and Bedford memorabilia. We're open Monday - Friday from 9 - 4 and are here to answer all of your questions.

It's our history, preserve it...  
*Evelyne Ryan, Executive Director*

## Michael Kelley Explains How A Farm House Avoided Demolition and Became the Newest Exhibit in the Met's American Wing

Sign up for our exclusive June 3rd field trip to the American Wing. Email us at [info@bhsny.org](mailto:info@bhsny.org) or call 914-234-9751.



June 3rd.

Michael Kelley of J.M. Kelley, Ltd. presented a slide show lecture at our Annual Meeting on May 6th explaining how his company worked with the Met to move a farm house from Bethelam, NY into the Met's American Wing. The fascinating story provided insights into the intricacies and human drama involved in such a move.

You can see the exhibit at the Met and enjoy lunch in the private dining room at our upcoming field trip scheduled for Wednesday,

## West Patent 4th Graders Learn About Colonial Times

Students Visited the Bedford General Store, Experienced the School House from an 1800's Student's Eyes and Participated in a Trial at the Court House



Three 4th grade classes from West Patent Elementary participated in the BHS's program designed to complement New York State's Colonial Times social studies curriculum.

The students were greeted on the Village Green by a drummer summoning them to a meeting. From there, they split into groups and took turns experiencing three different aspects of Bedford's past. The students went to the Bedford General Store where they explored Bedford artifacts and learned how various tools and implements were used in earlier centuries. At the School House, the school mistress taught a lesson and the students learned what life was like for a child in the 1800s. The final stop was the Court House where the students participated in a trial, acted as witnesses and bailed out their "guilty" classmates from the oldest jail cell in Westchester.

To make this activity interesting, educational and authentic, we have volunteers who act as Tour Guides, the School Mistress, Constable and Justice of the Peace. This attention to details pays off as one of the teachers said on her way out, "This was one of the best field trips we've ever had."

Bedford Village and Mount Kisco elementary schools are also scheduled to visit soon. If you'd like to volunteer for any of the remaining visits, please contact us at 914-234-9751.

## Bedford Riding Lanes Association (BRLA) Exhibit at the Bedford General Store

Featuring the BRLA's Newest Map, Memorabilia and History



In April, the BRLA presented the Bedford Historical Society with the first copy of their latest map detailing the 160 miles of riding trails available in Bedford. That map along with newspaper clippings, photos, horse show memorabilia, ribbons, etc. are currently on display at the Bedford General Store. To see the exhibit, please stop by our office at 612 Old Post Road. You can read more about the BRLA in the April 12, 2009 New York Times story, "Putting 160 Miles of Trails On the Map, Again."

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/12/nyregion/westchester/12horsewe.html?\\_r=1&scp=1&sq=Bedford%20Riding%20Lanes&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/12/nyregion/westchester/12horsewe.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=Bedford%20Riding%20Lanes&st=cse)

## Join Us for A Cocktail Party and House & Garden Tour Hosted by Friends of John Jay Homestead

Proceeds of the Preview Cocktail Party Will Benefit the Bedford Historical Society, Bedford Hills Historical Society and Friends of John Jay Homestead

Please join us at a Gala Preview Cocktail Party at Stonecrest on Friday, May 15, 2009 at 6:30 pm. Honorary Co-chairs of this event are Jim and Twink Wood. Jim Wood will be giving a brief history of the "Woodpile" at 7:15 pm. The Historic House and Garden Tour is on Wednesday, May 20th from 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Sponsored by Friends of John Jay Homestead, this walking tour of the "Woodpile" is a once in a lifetime opportunity to see five historic houses built by members of one family between 1847 and 1910.

To sign up, please contact Friends of John Jay Homestead at 914-232-8119 or at [friends@johnjayhomestead.org](mailto:friends@johnjayhomestead.org).