



Vine and Fig Tree

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid. – Micah 4:3-4

December 2001

Next Meeting

**Sunday, January 13, 2002
7:00 p.m.**

Hopedale Unitarian Parish

Friends of Adin Ballou honors the life and legacy of Rev. Adin Ballou (1803-1890). Best known as the founder of the utopian community at Hopedale, Massachusetts, Ballou was a minister and theologian, a tireless reformer, and a leading nineteenth-century exponent of pacifism.

The goals of Friends of Adin Ballou are to research and study the words and deeds of Adin Ballou and the Hopedale Community, and to find ways to keep their legacy alive in the modern world.

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Welcome Friends

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter! Special greetings to the nine people who signed our mailing list at the Adin Ballou Peace Lecture in October. We hope to see you at more of our events in the coming year.

Elise Boulding Delivers Adin Ballou Peace Lecture

“Peacemaking begins at home” was the message of the second annual Adin Ballou Peace Lecture on October 14. Elise Boulding, a distinguished Quaker peace activist and scholar, spoke on “Breaking the Cycle of Violence: Building a Culture of Peace.”



Drawing on her experience of almost 50 years’ experience in peace and peace education organizations, Boulding brought a message patience and hope. “Peacemaking is hard work!” she said, encouraging us to think of it as a difficult task rather than an impossible dream. By nurturing peace in our own hearts, families, and communities, we can all contribute to building a sound foundation on which to build progressively larger structures of peace.

Blackstone River Valley Heritage Partnership Grants

Thanks to our superb grant-writing team, Elaine Malloy and Jeanne Kinney, the Blackstone River Valley Heritage Partnership Grants announced in September included three projects related to Adin Ballou and the Hopedale Community. These are:

- \$2400 for a Hopedale Community Walking Tour. This will pay for 5000 brochures and seven signposts designating locations on the self-directed tour route.
- \$1000 to place a stone marker at the site where the Hopedale Community gathered every August 1 between 1844 and 1855, to celebrate the abolition of slavery in the British West Indies and to gather inspiration for the struggle to end slavery in the United States. At present the Park Service is particularly interested in the abolitionist movement, and Hopedale was a part of that larger story.
- \$4800 to enhance the monument and park dedicated to Adin Ballou. Brass plaques on stone bases will be placed around the four sides of the statue, bearing the words carved on the base of the statue. This will make it possible to visitors to read the inscription, which has become illegible with age. In addition, two stone benches will provide places for sitting and meditating.



Founding Member Elaine Malloy Honored by Town of Hopedale

At a special town meeting on November 12, Elaine Malloy was honored by the citizens of Hopedale. The occasion was Elaine's retirement from the Bancroft Library after 12 years of community service.

Under her administration, the library became the first building in town to be placed on the National Register. The building was renovated to become ADA compliant, and the statue of Hope was restored to its original glory. The murals on the walls of the children's room are a Malloy original.

Most of all, as curator of the Hopedale Community collection, Elaine came to appreciate Adin Ballou and the folks who founded Hopedale. She suggested that we begin our society, and thought of the name for it. Elaine knows more about the early community than anyone in Hopedale, and we owe her a debt of gratitude for bringing us together and for hosting our little band in its earliest days.

Elaine embodies the spirit of community that existed in that fraternal communion that set out to live the kingdom of God on earth. We join with others in Hopedale in extending to Elaine our congratulations and best wishes for a peaceful and fruitful retirement.