

Interested in the Belcher House Restoration project?

Please contact
Belcher House Restoration Committee
Chairpersons:

Mary Fernandes at
tea728@verizon.net or
781-963-1623.

Jeannette Travaline at
jctravaline@gmail.com or
781-885-2555.

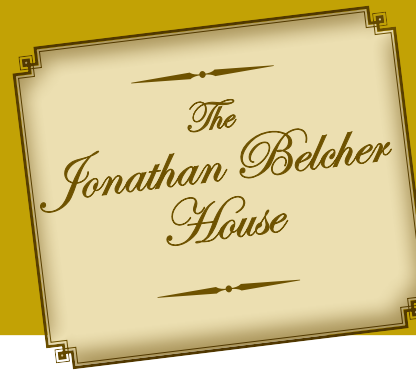
Our website can be viewed at
www.JonathanBelcherHouse.org.

You can help by becoming a Member

If you are interested in making an important contribution to the Randolph community, you can help by becoming a member of the Randolph Women's Club. You can volunteer your services for our many community projects, make new friends, and join our effort to restore and revitalize the historic Jonathan Belcher House. We welcome your participation and hope to increase membership to reflect our diverse community.

Vernell Rivers-Fisher
Randolph Women's Club President

Please contact Suzanne Williams,
Membership Chair, for more information.
suzannewilliams@comcast.net or
781-961-2269.



House Rental

The Jonathan Belcher House is available for rental and provides a beautiful setting for all types of occasions:

- Meetings, Wedding Receptions, Bridal and Baby Showers, Birthdays, Anniversaries and Special Gatherings
- Seating up to 50 people in a meal function and can accommodate 65 people for cocktail receptions
- A caterer-friendly kitchen is available
- Central heat and air conditioning
- Non-smoking facility

Please contact:

Ellen D'Isidoro, House Rental Chair.
edisidoro@verizon.net or
781-848-3769.



**Please join our effort to
restore and revitalize
the historic Jonathan Belcher House**



The Jonathan Belcher House has kept silent witness to two centuries of change on North Main Street in Randolph. It is Randolph's best-preserved example of Federal Period architecture, once the prevalent style along early 19th century North Main Street. The home was built and designed in 1806 by Jonathan Belcher, a builder and architect by trade for his wife Abigail and their family. Many of the Belcher descendants figured prominently in the development of the area of Braintree and Randolph for over 300 years.

Architectural Significance

The building is significant architecturally to Randolph because it is believed to be the only local Federal period house to retain its architectural integrity. Because the Belcher House was lived in by only one family and then cared for by the Ladies Library Association, it escaped destruction or alteration and remains as one of the last and best examples of the Federal Period in Randolph. It has the distinction of being the only Randolph residence listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

100th Year Anniversary of Club Ownership

The Jonathan Belcher House is significant also for its associations with the Belcher family, original settlers in what is now Randolph, and for its use by the Ladies' Library Association, founded in 1855. Many of the Belcher family had been members and officers of this literary group. The Belcher family lived in the house until 1911, when Annie Tower Tarbell, Jonathan's great granddaughter, gave the house and the furnishings to the Ladies' Library Association (now

the Randolph Women's Club). January 2011 marks the 100th year anniversary of the club's ownership of the Belcher House.

Community Contributions Over the Years

An important part of Randolph's history, the Ladies' Library Association raised money to purchase clothing for Civil War Soldiers, introduced sewing to the public schools, instituted school luncheons, and conducted a well-baby clinic well into the 20th century. Credit is due to the association for rural free delivery service, clean up days, public dumps, numbering of houses and the placing of signs on every street.

Our Vision for the Future

The stewardship of this Federal style wood framed residence is the responsibility of its owners, the Randolph Women's Club. It is the club's vision to undertake immediately an ambitious campaign to preserve and revitalize the Jonathan Belcher property so that it continues as an enduring reminder of Randolph's history and opens itself to new possibilities as an important community resource.

What We Hope to Accomplish

With Community Preservation Corporation (CPC) funding from the town, the club hired the architectural firm of Menders, Torrey & Spencer, Inc., specializing in historic preservation, to make recommendations and develop a master plan. Although the house has been well maintained over the years, the firm recommended that a comprehensive restoration needs to be undertaken as soon as possible to avoid accelerated deterioration of its historic materials, characteristic details and original structure.

However, in commissioning this study and seeking funding for much needed repairs, the current club leadership is seeking more than historic renovation. We extend an open invitation to the citizens of the Town of Randolph to be part of an exciting vision for the future where the Belcher House is open for community use, accessible to all, and where its unique heritage can be shared with all who live in the Randolph area.

*The home was built
and designed in 1806*