

JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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It has been an exciting year at Old Jefferson Town. There have been many wonderful art shows, historic artifact displays, and events for the public to enjoy.

Displays

Art

The John S. Curry Boyhood Home and Museum was the location for five wonderful art displays. A big Thanks to Virginia Winsor for organizing the art shows. Thanks to the following artists and authors for displaying their talents this summer:

- Jefferson County High School art students
- Francesca Tafanelli
- Julie Blichmann
- Patty Boldridge
- Lynn Ledbetter
- Linda Jungling



Honoring Veterans

Mary Luse researched and developed a display in the Reynolds building honoring female veterans from Jefferson County. Mary had a challenging job locating veterans and getting stories about experiences during their military years. Mary documented the stories from each veteran she found.

Oskaloosa Independent

The Oskaloosa Independent had a wonderful display of the history of the newspaper. Rick Nichols spent considerable time researching the paper's history and had numerous photos and artifacts on display of past owners and employees as well as local ball teams.

Haying with Horses

During the Old Settlers' Reunion, the JCHS held a new event called "Haying with Horses" in our prairie field on the grounds of Old Jefferson Town. Four teams of mules and draft horses with their teamsters came to demonstrate how haying was done prior to the tractor. Old Jefferson Town had over 125 guests who came to view the demonstration and visit the buildings at OJT. Our heartfelt thanks go to the teamsters who spent three days working their animals and talking to the public about the process: Frank Burkdoll (Lyndon), Doyle Prawl

(Troy), Colin (Harveyville), Bev Meyers

Howard and gave wagons the grounds at Prairie Field. attendees had



Zirkel Howard and (Overbrook).

Bev Meyers rides around OJT and the Many of the never ridden

in a horse-drawn wagon.



After their hard work in the field, they enjoyed a little play in Oskaloosa visiting the nursing home and attending the parade the parade.



**Old Jefferson Town hats for sale!
Only \$10—get them while they last!**

Volunteers

Thanks to all the volunteer hours and hard work from the students at the John Dewey School in Ozawkie. These young men come nearly every week to help improve the grounds and move items around for displays. We could not have accomplished all the projects without their help.



Old Jefferson Town was also fortunate to have the Jolly Juniors 4-H club to come and spend time helping with projects. Jefferson County has wonderful youth. We are so fortunate to have all these youth come help improve OJT.

OJT is also very fortunate to have many adult volunteers to do displays, recording of donations, improving museum displays, etc. Progress cannot be made without the wonderful volunteers that spend a lot of time caring for the 10 acres and 10 buildings on the grounds. **THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE THAT HAVE HELPED IN 2015!**

Quilt and Clothing Display

Leanne Chapman and Marilyn Sharkey had a beautiful display of vintage quilts, wedding dresses and baby clothes during the last week of the season. The wedding dress display was so nice, we decided to leave it up for the annual meeting. Please plan to spend some time in the Tibbott building to enjoy the beautiful dresses.

Ninceheler Fundraiser

On Aug 29, 2015 JCHS hosted an event called "Drive Your Favorite Ride to Church." The event was a fundraiser for the Ninceheler home. Attendees drove their favorite mode of transportation to Old Jefferson Town. We had a wonderful church service with Rev. Alan Rosegrant officiating. After the church service, a delicious meal of fried chicken and pulled pork with all kinds of side dishes was served. A bountiful spread of desserts was also enjoyed!

This event was to raise funds to match a grant of \$2500 from Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial. Our goal was to raise enough money to replace the roof, fix the floor joists, fix the porch, and repair damaged places in the siding on our beautiful Victorian home! With contributions from many generous donors, we reached our goal and were able to do some extra repairs to keep this building in good condition.



Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held Nov. 1, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the Edmonds Chapel at Old Jefferson Town. We will have the election of officers for 2016 at the beginning of meeting. Then a Civil War interpreter from Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm Historic Site will present a program on life during the Civil War. Come explore life on the Kansas/Missouri border during the Civil War, including military actions, Jayhawkers, Bushwackers, and civilians caught in the

middle. Jennifer Binkley will also update us on some discoveries that she has made in eastern Jefferson County.

Jennifer Binkley will give a talk about information that has discovered about the “Forgotten Road” of Jefferson County. Come to annual meeting and learn what Jennifer has learned.

Refreshments will be served.

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Please Note: Our annual membership fee for JCHS is \$25 starting in 2016. The cost to publish *Yesteryears* has increased over the years. This is a flat fee for family (at one address) or single person.

Remember to mail your dues to Mary Luse at 16786 126th St., Winchester, KS 66097.