

Jefferson County Historical Society Newsletter

Oskaloosa, Kansas

April 2021



At the annual meeting on Nov. 8, 2020, the membership voted to merge the Genealogical Society into the Historical Society. The functions of the Genealogical Society will be guided by a

Genealogy Committee, headed by Ardie Grimes, with participating members Deb Case in charge of all things dealing with the new Past Perfect software; Mary Luse and Margaret & Steve Dick working on a huge backlog of obituary and burial cards; Mary Karten working on an updated every name index to Yesteryears; Jane Hoskinson producing the twice yearly Yesteryears publication along with Lisa Leyva and legacy members Marilyn Sharkey, Tom Grose and Frank Shrimplin. The bylaws of the Historical Society were also revised to reflect the merger with the Genealogical Society.



JCHS received a grant from Kansas State Historical Records Advisory Board (KSHRAB) to purchase software and accessories to begin a digitization project. On January 10, volunteers began entering information into the new Past Perfect software. Efforts continue daily to add to the nearly 5500 objects and people that have already been entered into the system. This will be a long-term effort. At the current rate of entry, it could easily take 3-5 years to complete the initial effort. Your volunteer efforts are needed

in many areas: filing, scanning, data entry, cleaning, restoration, building & grounds maintenance and repair, etc.



May

Planning has begun for events for the 2021 season. Saturday, May 1 will be the opening day of the summer season. Proposed new hours are 10 a – 2 p on Saturday and 1 – 4 p on Sunday.

All events scheduled at OJT will be subject to the prevailing Covid safety parameters recommended by the Jefferson County Health Department at the time of the event. Please come prepared to wear a mask and establish social distancing to ensure that we all stay safe.



Special exhibit for the beginning weekend is Liam Bevitt's Eagle Scout project on the Lost Communities in Jefferson County. Liam has spent hours creating maps and gathering

Special displays planned for May (date to be determined) “Oh, Baby,” unidentified pictures from the collection of babies photos and baby items



June



The OJT Farmer’s Market will open on Saturday, June 5 from 9 a – 12 p. A free will donation is accepted for booth space.

For more information, email or call Mary Luse, mjluse@gmail.com, 913-683-0539.



Old

Settlers Weekend will be June 26 and 27. Special hours will be from 10 a – 4 p on Saturday and 1-4 p on Sunday. Displays will include Old Settlers memorabilia and a Display of Photos Past, along with featured military uniforms. Other activities may include a hands-on quilting display and other activities for children.

July

July will feature a display of Cornet Bands in the various Jefferson County communities.

August

August displays will include 4-H Clubs and Farm Organizations of the past.



August 28, 2021 will be the Tractor Drive Fundraiser. Mary Luse and Margaret Dick oversee this popular event.



History of Tornadoes in Jefferson County will be the focus of a June display.

