

**Jefferson County Historical Society
703 Walnut, Oskaloosa, KS 66066
April 2025 Newsletter**

Officers for 2025 are:

Greg Noll – President
Leanne Chapman – Past President
Lisa Leyva – Vice President
Bev Schuler – Secretary
Cliff Burk – Treasurer

Board Members include:

Jeanette Waters
Eileen Young
Nelda Rathert
Denise Spainhower
Ardie Grimes
Bill Manville
Chris Hotchkiss

With new leadership, the new officers and board members are navigating the learning curve regarding their new responsibilities. Many new ideas are being presented and considered. The best place to learn about the latest events is the Facebook group page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/255368121254017> or the Event Calendar at <https://www.jchsk.com/calendar>.

The building and grounds of Old Jefferson Town will officially open on Saturday, May 3. The summer season runs through September 28, with the buildings open on Saturdays from 9am – 1pm and Sundays from 1 – 4 pm. A volunteer will be available in the Reynolds building for assistance throughout the museum as well as in the library for assistance with genealogical and historical research. Please join us as we kick off the season with refreshed exhibits and improved signage.

The Jolly Juniors 4-H Club assisted with building and grounds cleanup on Saturday, April 12. They picked up many trailer loads of branches that were removed in the major tree removal project that has been ongoing. The vast majority of those formidable cottonwood trees were rotten in the middle and presented the possible danger of falling onto the buildings. On April 19, the Lions Club sponsored the Easter egg hunt on the grounds, which is always well attended. April 20th was the sunrise service in the Edmonds Chapel sponsored by the ministerial alliance.



The buildings will receive spring cleaning between April 21 and May 2 by volunteers. Extra hands are always appreciated in this effort. You may contact past

president, Leanne Chapman, 785-691-6751 or current president, Greg Noll, 785-633-5587 if you would like to assist with cleaning or maintenance projects.

Look for a car show on the museum grounds on Sunday May 4th from 1-3 pm.

Sunday, May 25, a Memorial Day service is scheduled. Mary Luse has organized this event for the last several years and will continue this year. Watch the web site for time & details as we honor those from Jefferson County who have served their country.

During the month of June, bridal gowns will be displayed in the Edmonds Chapel. A musical event will be held in the Band Stand, along with an ice cream social for a fun summer evening.

During July, some of our collection of military uniforms will be on display along with military quilts and their history. Also in July, plans are being prepared for a couple of day camps for kids ages 8-13.



Saturday, August 23 will bring the Tractor Drive, the society's annual major fundraiser. Plan for a day of fun browsing through the vintage tractors, enjoying an excellent meal with a meat dish, side dishes and yummy pies and desserts. Get to know new Jefferson County friends who enjoy learning about our history and ancestors.

September will bring a quilt display with the quilts draped over the pews in the Edmonds Chapel, along with a "turning quilts" event where the entire community is invited to participate.

The annual membership meeting will be held in November where officers are elected followed by a program highlighting some aspect of Jefferson County history.

Volunteers continue to work at Old Jefferson Town year around in a variety of areas including maintenance, data entry, accessioning, exhibit creation and updating, signage, and many other areas. If you would like to join us, please use one of the avenues of contact listed below.

Ways to contact us:

View our website and events: oldjeffersontown.com

View our online collection of artifacts: www.jchs.com/jchs-online-access

Follow us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/OldJeffersonTownKS](https://www.facebook.com/OldJeffersonTownKS) or

[Facebook.com/JCHSKS](https://www.facebook.com/JCHSKS)

Facebook group page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/jchsk>

Send us an email: oldjefftown@gmail.com

Ardie Grimes – Newsletter Editor