

Jewell Historical Society

Newsletter

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Museum Adds QR Codes



The Jewell Historical Society has entered into a cooperative project with the South Hamilton 5th Grade class! South Hamilton educators Cathy Stakey and Julie Ullestad are coordinating a class project aimed at updating interpretive information for many of the displays in the Jewell History Museum. The project has begun with JHS Board members writing brief explanatory notes for some 40 museum displays. The 5th Graders will read and record these notes and attach the recordings to QR codes, like the one depicted above, and the codes will be attached to the appropriate displays. Museum patrons will then be able to scan the codes with their hand-held electronic devices and listen to the recordings. Provision will be made for those not having such devices. Stakey and Ullestad have been coordinating this project with museum Curator Dick Steffen and Associate Curator Jackie Frederick.

Exterior Improvements



In other news, the JHS Board has applied for grants to help defray costs associated with improving the external appearance of the museum building, some of which is experiencing serious peeling of the paint. A local contractor has been engaged to paint the north and south exterior walls, and it is hoped that this project can be completed before the end of this summer.



Recent Acquisitions

-Display Case-



The Museum has acquired a new, historic display case. It was donated by Ann and Fred Marcalus and had previously been used in the Family Pharmacy, 633 Main St., a business they owned from 1978 until their retirement in 2018. They “inherited” the fixture when they purchased the building from the previous owners, Ron Dorris and his wife, who had operated the pharmacy since 1967. And it may have predated them as well. The display case survived a fire in June, 1993 which destroyed the original pharmacy building as well as the adjacent Henry Law Office.

-Grandma June’s Quilt-



This quilt greeted many hungry customers at Grandma June’s Café, 608 Main St., in the building currently occupied by Hamilton Chiropractic.

-Lions Club Memorabilia-



When the Jewell Lions Club disbanded recently, many of their things were donated to the Jewell History Museum for safekeeping. The Jewell Historical Society is proud to help this organization, which has been generous in its support of the Society over the years.

These and many other items of interest and importance to the history and heritage of Jewell Junction can be viewed at the Jewell History Museum (501 Johnson St., in Jewell).



A Blast from the Past

We present here a brief excerpt from the Centennial Book (p. 99), published in 1981. This and the Quasquicentennial Book (published in 2006) are available for review in the Jewell History Museum. In addition, copies can be found at the Montgomery Memorial Library, from where they can also be checked out by Library cardholders.

Dutton Hotel



Mr. and Mrs. Dutton had a hotel east of the present building. It burned in 1894 or 1895. Mr. Dutton then started to build the brick building facing the main street west. He got it partially built and ran out of money. Several business men organized and took it over as a hotel was needed. Chas. Sidenstucker was working in Webster City and was hired as manager. The Duttons never lived in the new building, but it kept the name. The Duttons moved 3 1/2 miles southeast of Jewell where they lived when their son, Burton, was brought home sick from the Spanish American War and died September 7, 1898.

Others who have owned this hotel: Sidenstucker, -----, Leo DeWitt, Cleverly, Tjernagel, King, Tjernagel. At present the hotel is closed.

[NOTE: This is the site currently occupied by the Jewell Farm and Home parking lot.]

JHS Website News

The following pictures and descriptions have been excerpted and paraphrased from information included on the Jewell Historical Society's website.

Go to: www.JewellJunctionHistory.org to see the original entry as well as many other items of interest. The site was developed, is maintained and is frequently updated by the Society's Webmaster, JHS Board member Alan Spohnheimer.

Jewell Catholic Church



The Good Shepherd Catholic church was established in Jewell in 1898. The first church building was constructed in 1899 on Hoffman Street [now known as Collins St., near its intersection with Johnson St.]. This church was built under the supervision of Father H. C. Echart, the second resident priest of St. Peter and Paul's church of Gilbert, Iowa. However, prior to the construction of the church, Mass was celebrated in private homes in the Jewell area, and other services were held in a small Jewell store building. At that time, priests from State Center and Boone, Iowa, came and held Mass.

The first marriage at the church was Henry Roskrof and Anna Zeihan on December 28, 1900. The first baptism was Ida Zeihan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Zeihan. She was later known as Mrs. William Koop.

In 1935, the congregation bought the old Christian Church building which had closed because of its federation with the Methodist Church and Congregational Church. This church was an improvement for the members, as it was larger, had a basement, lights and water. There were 10 or 11 families at that time. May 31, 1936, Father William J. McGovern celebrated the first Mass in this newly remodeled church building.

Work on a new church building was started in October of 1971, and the new building was dedicated with special services held in February of 1972. From 1899, the pastorate has been supplied by St. Peter and Paul's church until it became a Mission of St. Mary's parish of Williams in August of 1976, with Father Clarence Kruse of Williams serving as its administrator.



The museum project has been partially funded by grants and donations from:

The Jewell Centennial Trust

The IMT Group

Jewell Lions

The Wal-Mart Community Grants Program

Hamilton County Development
Tourism Grants

The Enhance Hamilton County Foundation

and

Private Donors



The Jewell Historical Society is working to catalog, preserve and display items important to the history and heritage of Jewell Junction, Iowa. Please help the mission of your Society and of the Jewell History Museum by volunteering and/or becoming a member at one of the levels indicated. Your membership helps to maintain the operation of the Jewell History Museum. (Note: The "Utility Membership" will support the Museum's utility bills for a month.)

Annual Memberships

___ Individual	\$ 25.00
___ Family	\$ 45.00
___ Patron	\$ 100.00
___ Utility	\$ 250.00

Lifetime Membership

___ Lifetime	\$1,000.00
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Name _____

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