

Jewell Historical Society

Newsletter

Vol. 3, No. 4
Oct - Dec, 2022

The Year in Review



With the pandemic easing, this past year has seen the Jewell Historical Society, and the Jewell History Museum, returning to a state more closely resembling normalcy. We therefore take this end-of-year opportunity to thank our many supporters, to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season, and to recap a number of projects and activities from the past twelve months.

QR Code Project



Early in the year, the Jewell Historical Society began a joint project with South

Hamilton School District educators Cathy Stakey and Julie Ullestad, and their fifth-grade classes. The project updated interpretive information for many of the displays in the Jewell History Museum by installing “QR Codes” around the museum. JHS Board members wrote brief explanatory notes for around 50 museum displays, after which the 5th Graders read and recorded these notes. The recordings were linked to QR codes (see above) and the codes were

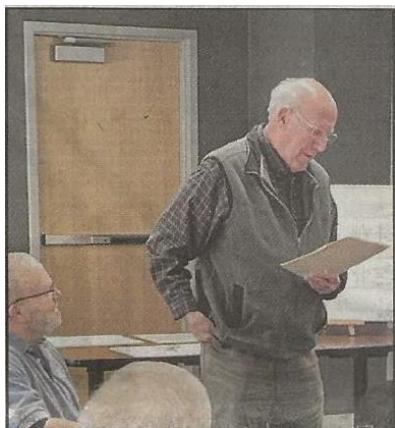
then attached to the appropriate displays.



When the project was completed, the fifth-graders and their teachers met at the library to view their handiwork, and were formally thanked by Museum Curator Dick Steffen and the members of the JHS Board of Directors.

Roundtable Event

In early spring, JHS Vice President and Museum Curator Dick Steffen attended a Community Roundtable event at Fuller Hall in Webster City. The event hosted representatives from many area non-profit organizations, who spoke about their missions, visions and goals. Businesses and individuals wishing to help such organizations with volunteers or monetary support had a chance to listen to the reports. The Enhance Hamilton County Foundation hopes to host more such events in the future.



Exterior Paint

Thanks in part to grants from Hamilton County Tourism and from Diamond Vogel Paint's "Paint Iowa Beautiful" program, the north and south faces of the Museum building, as well as the cupola, were repainted by local painting contractor Nancy Tjaden and her crew. Peeling paint was scraped, and surfaces were primed and painted, greatly improving the building's appearance.



Other Activities

With the onset of summer, the JHS again participated in the annual Jewell Jubilee celebration with an entry in the Parade. Later that day, the Museum was open to the public so that the many displays could be viewed and enjoyed. Open Hours then continued weekly throughout the summer until Labor Day.

In July, Dick Steffen presented a program on the Meskwaki legacy, both past and present. Visuals from the Meskwaki Museum, as well as Native American artifacts on loan to the Museum added to the presentation. Thanks to Al Teig and John Hays and family for their loan of the native artifacts, which

were housed in the museum through Labor Day.



Historical Alliance

In October, JHS Board members joined with representatives from Stanhope, Stratford and Webster City to reprise the Hamilton County Historical Alliance. This organization has not convened since before the pandemic, and all participants enjoyed the opportunity to update each other on themselves and their towns' activities during the past couple years. The Alliance plans to meet quarterly, and to serve as a forum for local Historical Societies to share information and ideas.

Historic Displays

Throughout the year, the Museum continued to add new and different articles to its collection of historic displays. Many individuals attending the Sunday Open Hours during the summer were able to view and enjoy these displays.

Membership News

And last, but not least, in an effort to simplify the process of monitoring Membership enrollments, the JHS Board decided during the fall to adjust membership terms to coincide with the calendar year. To this end, any new memberships purchased before the end of this year will be good through the end of 2023. Consider joining or renewing your membership in the Society to show your interest in preserving the history and heritage of Jewell Junction, Iowa. Use the convenient membership enrollment form below.

Members will continue to receive copies of this Newsletter which will help to keep them up to date on JHS activities.

Future Plans

The JHS Board continues to hold discussions about plans for the coming year. Stay tuned: Reports will be forthcoming as these plans are finalized. Teaser: during 2023, it is hoped that more presentations will be offered on a variety of topics of local historical interest. In addition, the Society hopes to partner with other local, non-profit service organizations to provide a wide range of programs of interest to the community. Also, the Board hopes to continue the painting project begun last spring, to include the east and west exterior walls.

Happy Holidays to All From the JHS Board!



Left to right: Bruce Johnson, Dick Steffen,
Alan Spohnheimer, Jackie Frederick, and Kenn
Outzen

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

*The Jewell Centennial Trust
The IMT Group
Diamond Vogel Paints
Jewell Lions
Walmart ® Community Grants Program
Hamilton County Tourism
and
The Enhance Hamilton County Foundation*



The Jewell Historical Society works 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 becoming a
member at one of the levels indicated. Your
membership helps to maintain the operation of
the Jewell History Museum.

Annual Memberships

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$ 45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$ 100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Utility	\$ 250.00

Lifetime Membership

Lifetime \$1,000.00

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please return to:

Jewell Historical Society
PO Box 2
Jewell IA 50130

And please consider volunteering your time to
help with the Museum and its operation.
Volunteers are the life blood of any community
organization. You can help organize displays,
help with housekeeping or maintenance, serve as
a volunteer docent during open hours, work on
any of our committees and/or volunteer to serve
on the Board of Directors when openings occur.
Contact Dick Steffen at (515) 310-0413 for more
information