

Jewell Historical Society

Newsletter

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Oct - Dec, 2023



The Year in Review



During this past year, the Jewell Historical Society, and the Jewell History Museum, have completed a number of projects and have been involved in a number of events. So, once again, we take this end-of-year opportunity to thank our many supporters, and to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season. Here is a brief recap of some of the projects and activities from the past twelve months.

First Quarter

The year began with a business meeting of the JHS Board of Directors, at which time two Board positions were filled, and officers were elected.

Later in January, Museum Curator Dick Steffen welcomed the “Tuesday Together” group, who met for lunch at the Jewell History Museum. He presented a brief

program explaining the Museum and the Jewell Historical Society.



Second Quarter

Lighting Improvements

In early spring, The Museum received an upgrade to its lighting system. Old ceiling fixtures were replaced with safer, energy-efficient new ones. A Community Impact Grant from POET Biofuels helped to defray the project's cost.



Spring Presentations

In June, as a part of Jewell Jubilee, Barb Homrighaus presented a program on the role of Erick Christian, DVM, a Jewell area veterinarian, in the breeding and development of the American Cream Horse, the only breed of draft horse developed solely in the United States. The Cream

Horse breed was developed in the Jewell-Ellsworth-Radcliffe area in the early 1900s. Goldie, one of the almost 450 remaining Creams in the United States also attended the event! ☺



That same weekend, Museum Curator Dick Steffen presented a video reprise of the 2006 Jewell Quasquicentennial Cemetery Walk. The event was attended by many interested patrons. Because of technical A-V problems, the presentation was repeated later in the year, once said problems were rectified.

Third Quarter

Hamilton County Historical Alliance

Late summer & early fall saw the JHS Board attending a gathering of the Hamilton County Historical Alliance, an organization consisting of representatives from Jewell, Stanhope, Stratford and Webster City.



The group was hosted by the Webster City contingent in the Jane Young House, a restored, historic residence adjacent to the Kendall Young Library, and in which the Youngs lived early in Webster City's history.



Fourth Quarter

Jewell history Walk

In late fall, JHS Board members Dick Steffen and Kenn Outzen participated as docents during the Downtown Jewell History Walk, sponsored by "*Jewell – A Main Street Community.*"



The "Surfinks" Return!

Also in fall, members of the "Surfinks" returned to Jewell and came to the Jewell History Museum to view the memorabilia displayed there. The "Surfinks" was a rock band active in the 1960s and beyond. In 2009, they were inducted into the Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The Jewell History Museum has a display of items and a video commemorating the group.



The "Surfinks," Then & Now

Acquisitions

Throughout the year, the Museum continued to add new and different articles to its collection of historic displays. Most recently, this included a historic Jewell street light.

The intention is to install this fixture outside the Museum building once the wiring and the fixture's foundation are readied.

**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

- ___ Individual \$ 25.00
- ___ Family \$ 45.00
- ___ Patron \$ 100.00
- ___ 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.