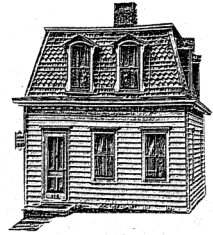


# THE JEFFERSON JOURNAL



THE GEORGE  
CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Summer 2011

Volume 3 Issue 2

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## Calendar of Events

### J.T. Historical Society/Museum:

#### July 9th - Saturday

Jefferson Day Society Breakfast

9:30 am–10:30 am

Held at the Museum

#### July 16th – Saturday

Gardens of Jefferson 10-4 pm

Presale tickets \$12

Tickets \$15 at the door

Contact Debbie Zweig 663-1033

#### July 31st - Sunday

Historical Society Pool Party

JTHS Picnic/Pool Party

(Williams' Home)

#### August 7th - Sunday

Museum Open 1-4 pm

"Evolution of Photography"

#### September 1st–Thursday

JT Historical Society Meeting

7:30 pm Camp Jefferson

#### September 11th–Sunday

Museum Open 1-4 pm

"Evolution of Photography"

#### October 6th–Thursday

Ghost of Jefferson Past–revisited

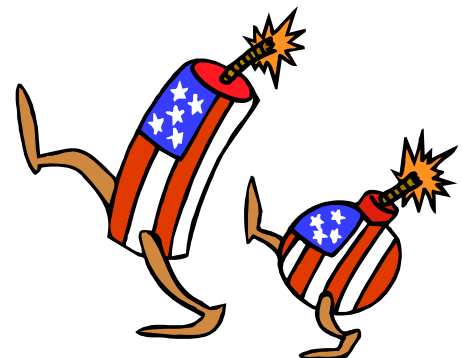
#### October 31st - Time TBA

## President's Message

On the first Sunday of each month dedicated Museum docents under the guidance of our Museum Director, dress in period costumes to give tours of the building. Our Society Curator selects themes and gathers wonderful pieces to display in the Museum. She tends to the Society's collections being mindful of our purpose to educate. Members go into the Museum to clean rugs, wash windows and polish furniture. Members keep our records, manage our funds, pay our bills and run every aspect of the organization. Other members are weeding and planting in the grounds around the building. Where does everyone who works in the Museum or the Museum gardens get inspiration and why do they do it? I would like to think it is because of Miss Elizabeth (Mrs. George Chamberlain). How many times have we sat in the building stuck for an idea? Someone says, "What would Elizabeth do?" We all laugh; but a great solution comes up. We thank Lizzie and go home with a myriad of ideas in our heads. Everyone who volunteers for the Museum does so with one purpose. That purpose is the continued success of the Jefferson Museum and Historical Society. It is a sweet thought that Miss Elizabeth is guiding us in our work at the Museum. It is actually the hard work and dedication of our members that keeps getting the job done. Volunteers don't get paid because we couldn't afford them! When was the last time you worked in the Museum?

*Christine Williams*

President



## Director's Highlights - Carol Keppel - Photography History

In the 1800's, people wanted to display images of their families and friends. Hiring a portrait painter was a very expensive proposal, so photography began to be a popular alternative. The process was still costly and nowhere near as easy as today however. Even the posing presented some difficulties.

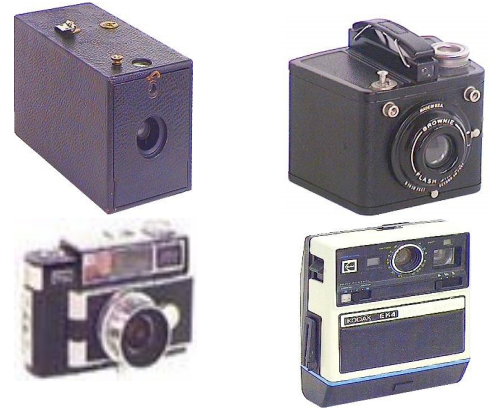
The first practical photographs were not paper like today's, but on a sheet of metal or glass. In 1839 a French artist named Louis Daguerre perfected the Daguerreotype, a photograph made on a silver covered copper sheet. The exquisite detail along with the silver-mirror quality gave these Daguerreotypes an almost magical appearance. However, the

poses are stoic; the people look grim. It took several minutes to expose the negative, meaning that the subjects had to sit or stand completely motionless for the duration or ruin the photograph. Many subjects were propped by a chair, table or special stand. There were even special neck clamps! It was not until the late 1800's that film exposure time was reduced so that snap shots or action shots could be taken.

In 1884 George Eastman, the founder of the Kodak company, introduced flexible film and four years later he introduced the box camera. Since the late 1800's the evo-

lution of the camera has been mostly improvements and changes to Eastman's design. You'll be able to see them and the photographs they produced at our museum display starting in August and running through November.

Some may be new to you, others a nostalgic reminder of those used by your own family. We invite you to add to our display with your own collections.



## Curators Corner - Lynda MacDonald

### Catching a Cache of Kin....

#### Clues from your Curator

As many of you know, my Mom passed away in May. She was an active vibrant woman, always busy doing something, and we will miss her. My sister and I have been going through the house sorting, as families must do. Thank goodness Mom was an organized woman. All the family photographs are in albums. Not necessarily in the right order, but carefully saved. What a cache of kin! Generations of cousins, aunts, uncles, grand and great-grand parents ... some people are identified, most are not. We had gone through the stack not long ago with her and she did identify what she could. Thank goodness. I cannot stress enough how important that is.

Some pictures also sparked Mom to tell some good stories. What a bonus! And she gave me a beautiful family bible with my Dad's family names in it. It is very special to me since my grandmother is my link to my Revolutionary ancestor. As our archivist, Jana-Lee, will tell you all information like that is golden. Please think about checking your family information. Get your relatives to help ID the photos. Write information for the current photos you take. Someday your families will say who in the world is THAT?

Come see our next exhibit. Perhaps it will inspire you to sit down and sort and laugh, cry, share, and preserve YOUR past.

## Archivist - Jana-Lee Bair - Picture Preservation

Our Curator has told you the importance of labeling your pictures, as your Archivist I am going to tell you it is also important to preserve them too. There are pictures in my house dating to the 1840's and these are very important and non-replaceable. There are several ways to preserve them today, putting them in an acid free album away from direct light is not enough. Your pictures need to be "backed up", that is duplicated and stored in another place other than your home. One way to do this is to scan all your really old pictures and burn several CDs, pass them to relatives and put one CD in a safety deposit box at the bank. Now you have offsite storage. Another way is to store them electronically at an online storage site, this is not free. This protects you if anything happens to the original photo. Yes, scanning does expose the photo to intense light and can cause some degradation of the photo. If scanning is an issue, another way to preserve is to use a high resolution digital camera with the flash off and take pictures of your pictures, upload them on a computer and save them as described as above. Many online genealogy programs allow you to upload and post photos, this also serves as a great place to keep them safe.

## Society News & Announcements

### Membership

**We want to make sure you receive your newsletter in a timely fashion, if your address is not correct, please contact Christine Williams at [www.president@jthistoricsociety.org](mailto:www.president@jthistoricsociety.org)**

All Historical Society, Museum & Garden Club updates are sent via email. If you wish to receive these updates, send your email address to Christine Williams at:

[www.president@jthistoricsociety.org](mailto:www.president@jthistoricsociety.org)

**Did you know that JTHS is a member of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey. To find out more visit their website at: [www.LHSNJ.org](http://www.LHSNJ.org)**

### Sally and Walter Harlacher Scholarship Award

**This award is given yearly to the graduating senior with the highest United States History average.**

**It is with great pleasure that we announce Sara Benjamin as the recipient of the 2011 JT Historical Society Sally and Walter Harlacher Scholarship Award. The award was by Kurt Harlacher, in honor of his parents, during the Senior Awards Night held at the Jefferson Township High School.**

### News

No news is good news, so they say! But we really would love to share your news with others.

Send all news to the editor!

### Appointments

Kathy Damerel has been appointed as Membership Chair.



## What's the Dirt? - Museum Garden Club - Roberta Shaw, Master Gardener - Silver Moon

New to our garden this year is Clematis 'Silver Moon', which will be winding it's way up both sides of the arbor. This is a group two clematis, which will bloom in June and July on old wood, and then again in August on new wood. The large flowers boast a silvery-mauve color and are long lasting. This particular

variety will do well in both full sun and partial shade.

Also new to our garden is a grouping of Lavandula angustifolia 'Blue Cushion' which will form a small hedge near our Miss Elizabeth statue. The dwarf cushioning habit of this English lavender grows to a height of 16". The beautiful grey-green foliage is smothered with

blue-lavender flowers that bloom over a long period in summer. The flowers are aromatic and attract butterflies.

Take some time for a relaxing stroll through the garden, sit on a bench, or enjoy your lunch on one of our bistro tables and take in the beauty of the many flowers in bloom.

### *Jefferson Township Historical Society 22nd annual Family picnic/pool party*

*When: Sunday, July 31, 2010*

*Where: Christine & Cliff's house  
309 Dover-Milton Road*

*Time: 3:00 P.M. - dark*

*Bring: covered dish or dessert*

*Bring your bathing suit and towel.*

*Please R.S.V.P. by July 15*

*Christine 974-697-8675*



**Have a wonder summer!**

**- Robin Trevor  
Editor**



### **Pay a visit to our Historical Neighbors!**

Pay a visit and checkout the upcoming events at other local historical societies. The Oscar Kincaid House in Boonton Township is open for tours or visit the King House and Store in Roxbury. To find out more, please visit their websites at: [www.historicalsocietyofbootontownship.org](http://www.historicalsocietyofbootontownship.org)

Or [www.roxburynewjersey.com](http://www.roxburynewjersey.com)

Please give them our best when you see them!

# Jefferson Township Historical Society

“Committee for ‘76”

315 Dover-Milton Road Jefferson Township, NJ 07438

## Museum Hours:

First Sunday of the Month  
1-4 pm or by Appointment  
973-697-0258

Visit our website:  
[www.jthistoricalsociety.org](http://www.jthistoricalsociety.org)

For additional information email us at  
[info@jthistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@jthistoricalsociety.org)

## Jefferson Township Historical Society

**President**  
Christine Williams

**First Vice President**  
Carol Keppel

**Second Vice President**  
Nancy Chamberlain

**Secretary**  
Mary Parr

**Treasurer**  
Donna West

**Webmaster**  
Richard West

**Museum Director**  
Carol Keppel

**Assistant to the Director**  
Marilyn Reitzel

**Curator**  
Lynda MacDonald

**Assistant to the Curator**  
Jana-Lee Bair

**Archivist/Genealogist**  
Jana-Lee Bair

**Membership Chair**  
Kathy Damerel

**Trustees**  
Greg Brown  
Georgeanna Lewis  
Roberta Shaw  
John Scheri  
Clifford Williams  
Keith Trevor

**Publicist**  
Pearlann Johnson

**JT School Liaison**  
Eileen Grady

**Editor**  
Robin Trevor

**Society Historian**  
Robert Keppel

Jefferson Township Historical Society  
315 Dover Milton Road  
Jefferson Township, NJ 07438

Affix Label Here

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## 2011 Membership Form

**I would like to become a member/renew my membership:**

Type of membership: (Circle Type requested)

Individual . . . . \$ 15.00	Business . . . . \$ 100.00
Family . . . . . \$ 25.00	Life . . . . . \$ 250.00
Sustaining . . . . \$ 75.00	Patron . . . . . \$ 500.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**I am a current member and would like to make an additional donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

To be used towards the following:

- ◇ General Fund
- ◇ Scholarship Fund
- ◇ In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to:**

Jefferson Township Historical Society  
315 Dover Milton Road  
Jefferson Township, NJ 07438