



THE JEFFERSON JOURNAL

A PUBLICATION OF THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY
"COMMITTEE FOR '76"

Fall 2008

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Calendar of Events

J.T. Historical Society/Museum:

October 2nd
General Membership Meeting
7:30 pm at Camp Jefferson

October 5th
Museum Open
Autumn Tea (Garden Club)
1-4 pm

October 31st
Halloween at the Museum
6 pm

November 2nd
Museum Open
1-4 pm

November 13th
Harvest Dinner—speaker Bonnie-Lynn Nadzelka
"Morris County in the Civil War" (see flyer)

December 6 & 7th
Museum Christmas
Sat. 12-4pm Sun. 1-4pm

Around the County:

September 17th
Rose Tidbits for the Home Garden
1 pm Acorn Hall 973-267-3465

September 27th
Victorian House Tour 11-4 pm
Mount Tabor Hist. Society 973-586-1564

October 4th
Harvest Tea at Acorn Hall 2:30-4:30 pm
973-267-3465

October 11th
League of Historical Societies 9 am
Fall Meeting (Boonton) 973-316-0967
Boontonhistory@yahoo.com

President's Message - Christine Williams

Welcome to the first Jefferson Township Historical Society newsletter. It will come out quarterly with information and news about the Museum, Garden Club and the Society.

You will notice the many articles written by different members.

Each describes the important work being done for the Historical Society and Museum. Our by-laws state we have two purposes: One is the maintenance of the Jefferson Museum and the second is to preserve and promote the history of the Township. We are accomplishing both of

those purposes on an almost daily basis with the hard work of the membership.

Special thanks to Robin Trevor who worked tirelessly to put out this first newsletter.

"Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude" ~ Thomas Jefferson

Director's Highlights - Carol Keppel

Reaching out to members with a professional newsletter is much like reaching out to our Museum's guests: we invite you to examine our many elements and functions.

Our current ambition

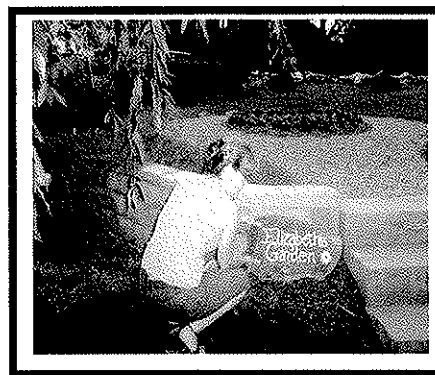
is to restore the kitchen. Even decades before its library usage, the lower level had ceased to be the kitchen. The walls now glow again in 1870's yellow with anticipation of rediscovered pine floors and period fur-

nishings. Many thanks to Mary Parr and Marilyn Rietzel for countless hours invested in the first and dirtiest parts of the project. Our cast iron stove, donated by Sue Ellen Mikowski, will be proudly displayed when we near completion.

What's the Dirt? - Museum Garden Club

The Museum Garden Club of Jefferson dedicated Elizabeth's gardens at an evening reception this past July 28. The newest addition to the grounds, a statue of a Victorian lady with a parasol, was also dedicated and affectionately named Elizabeth. Ruth Elizabeth Chamberlain was the first bride of house. Garden club members research and maintain the Museum grounds. Membership to the garden club is open to all interested gardeners. On August 3, the Garden Club held its first garden tour with the Museum gardens being one of ten

uniquely different and magnificent local gardens open to the public. Historical Society members Jim and Joan DeYoung, John and Patti Otto, Greg and Sheila Brown opened their beautiful home gardens for the tour. Joan, Patti and Sheila are also Garden Club members.



"Gardening is about enjoying the smell of things growing in the soil, getting dirty without feeling guilty, and generally taking the time to soak up a little peace and serenity". ~ Lindley Karstens

Butterflies Are Free to Fly!

On Sunday, June 7th the weather was sunny and warm, just perfect for the first Monarch butterfly release at the JTHS Museum's garden. Eileen Grady, a first grade teacher, town resident, member of Monarch Teachers Network and member of the historical society, set free Monarch butterflies she raised from eggs found on the Museum's milkweed. The Museum gardens have been registered as a Way Station for Monarch butterflies with Monarch Watch and provide the migrating

butterfly with nectar and host plants along their 2,500 mile highway to the Oyamel forests of the Central region of Mexico where they will spend the winter. Children, grandparents and guests watched as the Monarchs were released. Mrs. Grady showed them the life cycle with the help of posters and caterpillars from the garden's milkweed patch.



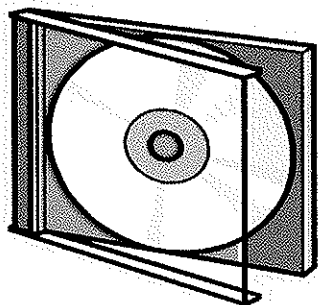
Archivist - Jana-Lee Bair

Records for several cemeteries were found during the Museum basement clean up. These index cards contain genealogical and burial information from several local cemeteries including Milton Road Cemetery, Oak Ridge Presbyterian Cemetery, Berkshire Valley Presbyterian Cemetery,

Norman Cemetery and Long Cemetery. The index cards have been separated by cemetery and alphabetized by surname. A template has been created in Word to input all the information contained on the cards. The Word file can then be printed and saved to CD-ROM.

"If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday" ~ Pearl Buck

Curator's Corner - Lynda MacDonald



The current contents of the Museum have been photographed (with the exception of the drawer contents), along with a written description accompanying each item. These photos have been uploaded into a computer and several CD-ROMS were burned. Each photo has been imported into a Word document. Each item is on a single page which contains a photo, description, date acquired (if known), status as to whether it was

purchased or donated (if known), and if donated, name of donor (if known). This document has been copied to several CD-ROMS that can be distributed to members so that we can fill in as much missing information as possible. When compiled, this information can then be printed and placed in the Museum. The intent of this document is to replace a ledger.

Society News & Announcements

Membership

Membership has increased both in amount and in categories. Congratulations to all new life members and returning members. Welcome to all new members. We have over 50 on our membership roll with over 30 life members. Membership runs on a calendar year and is due January 1, 2009. Checks payable to the JT Historical Society can be sent to the Jefferson Township Museum, 315 Dover-Milton Road, Jefferson Township, NJ 07438

Giving

The society always welcomes donations. Checks to JT Historical Society can be sent to the Jefferson Township Museum, 315 Dover-Milton Road, Jefferson Township, NJ 07438

Donations are tax exempt

All Historical Society, Museum and Garden Club updates are sent via email. If you wish to receive these updates, send your email address to Christine Williams, cwms12@msn.com

Nomination of officers

Nominations of officers for 2009 can be sent to Richard West, r.west@westphotoimaging.com

Nominations will also be accepted at the October 2, 2009 meeting. Elections will take place at that meeting as well.

Museum Christmas Weekend

The holiday season will soon be amongst us and in keeping with that spirit the Museum will once again be decorated to reflect the season's splendor as well. This year's theme ... a Gingerbread Christmas. The Museum Christmas will be held Saturday December 6th 2008 from 12-4 pm and on Sunday December 7th 2008 from 1-4 pm. There will be outdoor activities,

entertainment and refreshments. Anyone interested in planning, decorating and assisting the days of the event can email Carol Keppel at

carolkeppel@optonline.net



Past Times - Keith Trevor

My first knowledge of Jefferson comes from my early days of fishing with my dad. Back in the mid 60's my dad and I took up the hobby having first being exposed to the sport during a cub scout outing. We became "hooked" immediately and set our sights on where to find "The Perfect Fishin' Hole". One day my dad came home excited that he had heard about a great fishing spot called Lake Hopatcong. Being from south Bergen County we had to dig out our map that was always stored in the trusty glove box of the family Buick to find it. We were told we could rent a wooden rowboat in an area called Woodport. So we loaded up the Buick for our first trip to the lake not knowing it was in Jefferson Township. Back then we traveled on RTE 46 and eventually parts of RT 80 as it was being built. In an 8 year old's eyes it seemed like forever but we finally came over the hill on RTE 181 and got

the first sighting of the lake. We found our way to the little wooden shack that rented rowboats and sold worms (now Prospect Boat Sales) at the far end of the lake. We rowed between the two islands and caught fish all morning. At the end of the day went under the RTE 181 bridge to catch sunnies. We did this many many times over the years, and I always smiled when I first saw the lake each morning. Eventually we bought a 6hp outboard that allowed us to venture as far as the Lake Forest Yacht club and even once we made it to the Brady Bridge but it was much too rough for us on the other side. On every trip we dreamed of having our own boat. In 1975, we bought a 15 ft runabout that allowed us to finally see everything the lake had to offer. As

time went on, the region around the lake grew. Our boat and the houses got bigger. My dreams of living in the area finally came true when my wife Robin and I moved into the township 7 years ago. Though much has changed in our township over the years, there will always be many stories like mine that will bring us from the past to the present with plenty of smiles to share.

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
(currently under construction)

For additional information email us at
info@jthistoricalsociety.org

Jefferson Township Historical Society

President
Christine Williams

Vice President
Carol Keppel

Second Vice President
Nancy Chamberlain

Treasurer
Donna West

Secretary
Mary Parr

Publisher
Robin Trevor

Trustees

Greg Brown
Georgeanna Lewis
Gloria Mikowski
John Scheri
Clifford Williams
R. Richard Willis

Museum Director
Carol Keppel

Assistant to the Director
Marilyn Reitzel

Curator
Lynda MacDonald

Assistant to the Curator
Jana-Lee Bair

Archivist
Jana-Lee Bair

Anyone interested in joining the editorial
staff, please contact Robin Trevor at
trevor30@optonline.net

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

Affix Label Here

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Membership Form

I would like to become a member:

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