

THE JEFFERSON JOURNAL

HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDENS



THE GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Newsletter of the Jefferson Township Historical Society

www.jthistoricalsociety.org

Summer/Fall 2012

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President's Message – Research

Research is one of the most important aspects of any historical society. Today a lot of research is just a click away. A new website has been constructed to enable an exciting way to research the geographical regions of historical significance in Morris County.

Jefferson Township has several historic areas according to the Cultural Resource Inventory presented by the Historic Preservation Trust. Jefferson also has two sites listed in the state and national registry of historic sites - the Jefferson Township Museum (George Chamberlain House) and Ringling Manor. The new website showing Jefferson Township's historic areas, as well as those of the other communities in Morris County, has recently been launched.

The Society will partner with the Jefferson Township Library to present this website. Seth Stephens, library director, will show how to maneuver through this intriguing website. It will be interesting to find areas in the township which are of historic significance. We have been encouraged to study the website and make any additions or corrections.

You need not have any computer skills to enjoy this program which will take place at the Jefferson Library, September 6 at 7:30 PM. (This is our regular meeting night.) Feel free to bring your personal computer.

Calendar of Events

Sep 6	JT Historical Society Program Library 7:30 PM (see President's Message)
Sep 9	JT Museum Open House, 1-4 PM
Oct 4	JT Historical Society meeting Camp Jefferson 7:30 PM
Oct 7	JT Museum Open House, 1-4 PM
Oct 20-21	Pathways of History (see pg. 3)
Oct 31	Museum Haunting time TBA
Nov 1	JT Historical Society meeting Camp Jefferson 7:30 PM
Nov 4	JT Museum Open House 1-4 PM
Nov 17	Outdoor Museum Christmas decorating 11 AM
Dec 1-2	Museum "Woodland" Christmas Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM Sun. 12 PM - 4 PM

Christine Williams, President
president@jthistoricalsociety.org

Director's Highlights

By Carol Keppel - Costuming

A group of our museum docents met informally one open house Sunday not long ago, and among the many topics we discussed was costuming. We all agreed that a guest is more easily transported to the period of our house when greeted by a guide in Victorian clothing. To that end, starting in September, we'll all be dressed in garments of the last quarter of the 19th century. Exactly what we'll wear, which decade it will represent, what the color, fabric, and added embellishments will be worn will be up to each member. Our sources for these items will vary, too. Some of our costumes are authentic pieces – true antiques – worn with pride and panache. Others are equally authentic, but created with modern fabrics, easy closures, and sensible price tags, found in online catalogs or sewn by clever fingers. Yet others are an assembly of contemporary pieces that evoke a sense of the Victorian past, chosen right off the rack in modern stores. Whatever the source, the common factor that counts the most, we all agree, is that *it's fun!*

Our wider membership can join in this fun too. Ladies, at our open events, why not show up in a fancy blouse and long skirt? Gentlemen, a vest, a bow tie, ordinary men's pants, and maybe a boater hat puts you right in the center of style. The greater benefit, however, is one of unity of purpose: portraying our delightful museum and our Society as a vibrant reflection of Jefferson's history. **It lives!**

Contact me at museumdirector@jthistoricalsociety.org for information about when you could participate and also easy ways to dress the part. Give yourself a chance to relish the life and times of Victorian Jefferson.



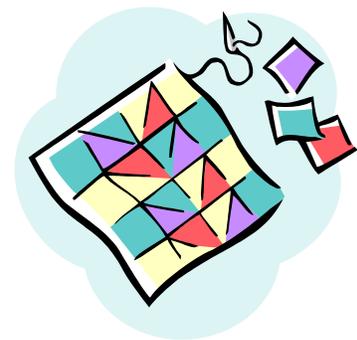
Find us on Facebook
Search for
"Jefferson Township Historical Society"

Curator's Corner - Samplers

By Lynda MacDonald

Some of our members took a trip to Washington D.C in June to attend the Continental Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). While there, we visited the DAR Museum. I was especially interested in some samplers that were on display. In the early days of our country, young ladies were taught their stitchery skills by making samplers of the alphabet, often adding flowers, trees, animals and sometimes memorials to deceased loved ones. The addition of a weeping willow tree was a memorial. There were examples made by girls as young as 4 or 5 years of age. The more intricate the work, the more valuable the sampler. In October, our museum will be open as part of the Pathways tour in northern Morris County. We will feature a showing of quilts of various ages and other needlework. We will also be demonstrating some sewing skills. I am pleased to tell you that there will be a few samplers on display also.

Hope to see you there reading the old alphabets!



Prefer to receive your newsletters

ELECTRONICALLY?

Just send an email to: editor@jthistoricalsociety.org

Subject: electronic newsletter

and we'll add you to our new electronic newsletter

1812 War Soldiers

By Jana-Lee Bair, Archivist

Many of us do not realize that when the British came knocking again in 1812, there were still many veterans of the American Revolution still alive.

The Revolution saw children serving as young as 7 years old as drummers and buglers. There were many teens also serving too. If you do the math these veterans were not that old when the War of 1812 occurred. It would not be unusual to find you had a young Revolutionary War ancestor that also fought in the War of 1812. "Can you imagine!"



Museum Christmas

Saturday, December 1, 10 am – 4 pm

Sunday, December 2, 12 pm – 4 pm

Please join us this year for our
"Woodland Christmas"

Volunteers are always needed to help decorate inside or out.

Please contact one of our co-chairs to get involved:

Robert Shaw 973-697-9176 or Pat Cincotta 973-697-1605 or

Email Roberta at gardener1@jthistoricalsociety.org

PRESERVE JEFFERSON!

The Preserve Jefferson History campaign has, to date, received donations from 70 residents and businesses in support of our efforts to purchase the Old Norman Store. We sincerely hope that more residents and businesses will come forward in support of our cause. **INVEST IN A SHARE OF HISTORY FOR \$25 OR WHATEVER YOU ARE ABLE TO SPARE** is the new motto. 5000 donations at \$25 a share will net us sufficient funds to accomplish our goal.

The committee has interviewed four of our long time seniors, thoroughly enjoying listening to the stories that they recall. We hope that we will be able to get back to interviews as we do have several more to schedule. We are also looking for suggestions for some fundraisers to help raise more money for our cause. Should any of the recipients of this newsletter know of any senior residents that might like to be interviewed, kindly let us know.

Thank You - Mary Parr

The Pathways of History – A Museum Tour

By Donna West, Treasurer

Small museums continually search for innovative ideas to promote community history and to entice the public to visit their museums and historic places. In 2010 five enthusiastic Morris County groups conceived an idea designed to highlight their distinctive museums and historical properties.

Now in its third year, *The Pathways of History Museum Tour* has grown to include 13 historic locations. The two-day 2012 tour will take place on Saturday, October 20, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and Sunday, October 21, from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm. The original five museums in Boonton, Boonton Township, Butler, Kinnelon and Montville Township, are honored to be joined by Denville, Dover, Jefferson Township, Lake Hopatcong, Pequannock Township and Riverdale's Glenburn. The museums and historic sites will simultaneously open their doors in welcome.

Admission to this two-day event is free. Visitors may start the tour at any location. Detailed maps and an event brochure will guide you to the next stop. Refreshments will be served at various locations along the route. Each participant on the tour has planned something extra special for this extraordinary event honoring history, community and friendship.

At our Museum we'll have our costumed docents giving tours, quilters will be on hand and a local craftsman will demonstrate how woodworking tools of the late 1880's were used. We'll also be treated to music being played on the harmonium, and of course Miss Elizabeth's Shoppe will be open.

We'll be looking for Society and Garden Club volunteers to help make this event a success. Watch for emails, and check out our website for a sneak preview of what other museums are doing.

Miss Elizabeth's Shoppe Now Open Once A Month!

Miss Elizabeth's Shoppe is located in the Jefferson Museum's restored kitchen. The Shoppe features specialty foods such as organic maple syrup, Maine blueberries and pancake mix along with local honey. We are currently looking for hand crafted, vintage or antique items to stock the shelves for Pathways as well as Museum Christmas.

The Shoppe is located in the Jefferson Museum, 315 Dover-Milton Road. It is open during Museum hours which are the first Sunday of each month from 1-4 pm. The Shoppe will also be open during our two-day Pathways event in October. For more information contact Shoppe Manager Pat Cincotta at: shoppemanager@jthistoricalsociety.org

What's the Dirt? – It's Green

By Pat Cincotta, Shoppe Manager

You are probably familiar with the black weed-stop fabric that is so popular in the garden centers. Working in the garden can sometimes be difficult when this landscape fabric is present, especially if you are trying to plant after the fabric has been laid under the mulch. I found a "Green" and "Organic" way to rid the garden of unwanted weeds. Place 3-4 layers of newspapers and cover it with 2 or 3 inches of mulch over any area where you want to prevent any grass or weed seeds from germinating. When planting or redesigning, the newspaper is easy to cut through with a shovel. After 18 months, the seeds in the soil will no longer be viable and the newspaper will decompose. It's easy, affordable and very effective. It's Green!

Jefferson Day 2012 – Parade and Booth



President Christine Williams, 2nd VP Nancy Chamberlain, and Trustee Keith Trevor

Riding in the back were Dianna Filan, Robin Trevor, Lynda MacDonald and Ellen Fuchs



We looked so grand!



You can always count on Marilyn Rietzel to lend a hand!

See more photos on our website.



It will soon be that time again, so sisters mark your calendars and dust off those broomsticks! Once again we will be dressed and handing out candy in conjunction with Fire Company No. 1 children's Halloween party.

Society News & Announcements

Membership - Updated By-Laws

MEMBERS ACCESS CODE

The By-Laws revision has been completed.

Please access the revised and adopted By-Laws online at jthistoricalsociety.org. Go to membership code and type in

315DMR

**For additional information email us at
info@jthistoricalsociety.org**

Want to begin or continue receiving e-mail updates?

Send your email address to:

president@jthistoricalsociety.org

Member News

SOCIETY MEMBER NAMED "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR"

The JT Historical Society is honored to have life member, Eileen Grady, named Jefferson Township "Citizen of the Year" for 2012.

Eileen has been a member of the society for several years. She offers an annual Monarch Butterfly program culminating in a release of butterflies from eggs which she personally gathers and tends. She is part of the group which presents Museum Christmas each year, is a long-standing member of the Museum Garden Club and is always available to help. She continues with a successful career as a teacher in the Township. She has most recently been a guiding member of the Pierson Project to help a local paralyzed high school student. As Mayor Felter stated when giving her award, "If you need help, ask Eileen".

Please visit us at jthistoricalsociety.org

Check out the "News and Events" section.

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2012 Membership Application

I would like to renew my membership. Dues are annual and are due in the month of January for the coming year.

Please check type of membership:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| <input type="radio"/> Individual | \$ 15.00 | <input type="radio"/> Business | \$ 100.00 |
| <input type="radio"/> Family | \$ 25.00 | <input type="radio"/> Life | \$ 250.00 |
| <input type="radio"/> Sustaining | \$ 75.00 | <input type="radio"/> Patron | \$ 500.00 |

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to:

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

I would like to make an additional donation in the amount of \$ _____

To be used towards the following:

- Preserve Jefferson Fund
- General Fund
- In memory of: _____

Board of Trustees

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

Officers

President
Christine Williams
First Vice President
Carol Keppel
Second Vice President
Nancy Chamberlain
Secretary
Mary Parr
Treasurer
Donna West

Museum Hours:

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

Appointed Positions

Museum Director Carol Keppel	Publicist Pearlann Johnson
Assistant to the Director Marilyn Rietzel	JT School Liaison Eileen Grady
Curator Lynda MacDonald	Shoppe Manager Pat Cincotta
Assistant to the Curator Jana-Lee Bair	Society Historian Robert Keppel
Archivist/Genealogist Jana-Lee Bair	Webmaster Richard West
Editor Robin Trevor	Membership Chair Kathy Damerel

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

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

