



MASKS REQUIRED FOR ALL VISITORS

JEFFERSONIAN

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A PUBLICATION OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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JCHS Annual Membership Meeting & ADA Accessible Pollinator Pond Garden Dedication

This has been one challenging year, demanding all manner of social adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our novel approach to this year's Annual Meeting/Dinner Event – always held in October – was no exception. We decided early fall to postpone a formal restaurant dinner, as restaurant allowable capacity was only at 25% then.

So where do folks go with few events to go to? The Great Outdoors, of course. So the venue we bravely chose for our 2020 Annual Meeting was a natural – the JCHS Scripture Rocks Heritage Park, complete with pavilion and picnic area. The dedication event showcasing our newly completed ADA accessible Pollinator Pond Garden and Environmental Education Site – along with hor'dourves – would be the program and in lieu of the Annual Dinner.

A little late in the year, perhaps... However, mother nature herself attended, and



didn't exactly co-operate that day with cloudy skies and a high of 55 degrees with a persistent breeze. Still, we had ~25 strong souls who braved the "brrrr" weather, many dressed in winter gear. However, Tracy Zents, Board President, braved it all with a suit and tie! [You might guess that the very next Sunday, it was 70 degrees out!]

Tracy and Ken Burkett, Executive Director, gave an overview of our 2020 activities in light of the pandemic.

The museum closed from March through September 7th, reopening on September 8th with the federally approved return of our Pathstone staff. With the exception of our early spring Harrisburg bus trip and Military Show, all other events for spring and summer were cancelled, including school group tours and fundraisers. We were able to hold our fall Family Bicycle Ride & Poker Run, which was a success.

Staff (Burkett and Lyons) worked through the year, applying for COVID-19 Cares Act relief grants, as well as other grants. Main expenses needing covered were a \$10,000 heating system for the archives building and on-going repairs to the failing porch of the Brady-Craig storage building on Jefferson St.

The Jeffersonian is published in February, June, and October. Submissions welcome. Mail to Kat Lyons, Editor c/o JCHC or email klyons-jchc@windstream.net

JCHC In the News

JCHS Annual Membership Meeting, continued from page 1...An hors' d'ourves feeding frenzy then ensued, with plenty of hot cider (compliments of Ken and Cheryl Burkett), and bakery cookies from Mike's!

Elections: Tracy Zents and Larry Anthony were unanimously re-elected and two new members, Arthur McKinley and Linda Benigni Barnes were also elected. We welcome all to the Board. Our election of officers for 2021 will occur at the November Board meeting on Nov. 12th, 2020.



Arthur is a native of Brookville and son of local surgeon William Mark McKinley, MD. After graduating from Brookville High School, he attended Allegheny College (BA History), University of London Int'l Studies, Fordham University (MBA), moved to major cities (New York, Sydney, Paris) and worked different careers, including Aviation, Publishing, Internet Software startups and Big Data. Since moving back to town, Arthur is restoring the Joseph E. Hall House, circa 1848 (and former Rebecca M. Arthurs Library), which reopens late fall as an Inn and future B&B. Arthur proposed and helped create our Map Exhibit, "You Are Here" and procured four 17th & 18th century original maps on loan from Arader Galleries, NYC.

Linda recently retired from 38 outstanding years of teaching in the Brookville Area School District. She taught all elementary grades, except kindergarten. Her most recent placement was as a differentiated instruction teacher, which is small group instruction in reading and math for students at their various skill levels. A lifelong resident of this town, she has been married to Jeff Barnes for 42 years and they live in one of Brookville's historic houses on Rebecca St.



Annual Awards: The 2020 Arthur Altman Award was given to Carole Briggs by President Tracy Zents for her 30+ years of service to the Society, and her authorship of numerous books and articles on Jefferson County history. The Kate Scott Award went to Britt Isenberg, in recognition of his book *"The Boys Fought Like Demons,"* a history of the local 105th "Wildcat" Regiment during the Civil War, and the more recently co-authored Gettysburg's *"Peach Orchard"* which again chronicles the 105th PA Regiment. Mr. Isenberg, a Gettysburg Battlefield Guide, who could not attend the meeting, was presented his award by Ken Burkett the previous weekend, suitably in front of the 105th Wildcat Monument at Gettysburg. We stock both books in our gift shop.



Above: Executive Director Ken Burkett presenting the Kate Scott Award to Britt Isenberg at Gettysburg.



President Tracy Zents presenting the Arthur Altman Award to Carole Briggs, prior Executive Director and Curator and Author.

JCHC In the News

Annual Giving Reminder

Don't forget our Annual Giving Campaign is now underway...Our "theme" this year due to the Covid19 shutdown, is **"NOW MORE THAN EVER WE NEED YOUR HELP."** The History Center was closed from March through the first week of September before we were able to reopen and staff the museum with our federally funded Pathstone staff who were given the green light to return on September 8th. However, we cannot preclude the chances of another shut-down. When that happens, we have no income from admissions (which is by donation) or research fees.

With loss of income from cancelled events, we are "not out of the woods" yet. Except for Covid19 relief grants, the grants that we have worked hard to get for our projects are "restricted funds," meaning they only can be used specifically for the purposes outlined in each grant. These funds do not cover operating costs—like office supplies, maintenance, salaries, etc.

The only grants that will help with operating costs are the Covid relief CARES grants which we've only received one to date. PA Humanities Council did not award any Covid relief funding to us. We still don't know how much we will receive from PA's Dept. of Community & Economic Development CARES grant and it's almost the end of the year! The Jefferson County CARES grant has awarded us \$2000 in relief for our revenue deficit this year through June 30th. (7% of this county fund went to non-profits). Our estimated deficit through July 31st was \$28,394.

**SO PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOU CAN THIS YEAR AND THANK YOU ALL IN ADVANCE !
HAPPY THANKS GIVING !**



PHMC Historical & Archival Records Care Grant Update



Our professional archivist consultant, Valerie Metzler from Altoona, began work with us on this grant in October. She is cleaning up data files and training staff on our museum software in the proper input of artifacts. We will be compiling an inventory list of our photo collections, including the Knapp, McCool and McMurray collections. The Knapp collection includes over 75 panoramic photos of reunions, businesses and their employees, and enlisted men 1898-1945. New Pathstone staff will also be trained in proper housing and storage of photographs using appropriate archival materials. The project will continue through May 2021. Grant funds will predominately pay for our consultant with a small amount used for archival supplies.

Clarion Univ. Student Shoots Archaeological Dig

Ken Burkett is at it again, digging up stone and bones, this time at a Native American site in a rockshelter near Mayport. Ben Fye, CUP student, is filming the dig as an educational video to become part of a series being produced by JCHC to promote interest in the museum and in our activities via virtual programming.

Ken has been working at the site intermittently over the summer months and has uncovered a number of prehistoric chipped stone and bone artifacts ranging from 3300 BC – 1000 AD. No easy task, as ten to eleven tons of rocky soil was moved to unearth 43 diagnostic artifacts.



JCHC Scripture Rocks Heritage Park In the News

Annual Meeting & ADA Accessible Pollinator Garden Dedication, continued from page 2...

Pre-Dedication Story: From Fall 2019 through Spring-Summer 2020, our team of 4 – Chuck and Kim Williams, Ken, and Kat – sourced and planted over 170 native plants in a 4-5” unforgiving rock/clay landfill with a cement-like sandstone bottom barrier. After tons of garden soil, topsoil and mulch, the plants began to thrive, even in the drought. Now, with the pollinator garden 75% done, we only had our interpretive panels to worry about. Would they get done in time for the Dedication Event?

As the cost was prohibitive to have any company design the panels, our team of 3 – Ken, Chuck and Kat – worked on developing the graphics for the panels all summer through mid-September. We were now down to the wire to get the finished panels back from Pannier Company in Gibsonia. On Tuesday, September 29th, Ken drove to Gibsonia to retrieve the panels. On Friday evening and Saturday, October 2nd - 3rd we finished installing the panels the day before our event!

A volunteer crew of 4-5 staff, board members and friends installed the panels, using post hole diggers and heavy steel spikes to dig through rock hard ground – No easy task! The cement they poured was still “fresh” on event day, but the panels all remained in place! This goes to show what a dedicated crew of volunteers can achieve. Kudos to all! The entire project has been 2 long years in the making.

Dedication: The dedication followed the meeting. Kat Lyons, Administrative Operations & Grants, announced we received a generous grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation in July to hard-surface the ADA accessible trail from the parking lot and the ADA accessible area. She explained why we felt this area was necessary due to lack of ADA accessible nature/cultural heritage sites in the region. We also received funding from the Jefferson County Hotel Tax, administered via the PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, and from American Hiking and L.L. Bean for the Native Plant-Pollinator Garden Exhibit, which funded the kiosk and interpretive panels and signage. Cypress Clocks & Gifts also obtained an ADA accessible outdoor table for us at a great price.



Board Secretary Eric Armstrong, Mike Benigni, and Ken Burkett installing the “Pond Life” panel.



Board member Chuck Williams, proprietor Williams Ecological, LLC, then presented an overview of plant-pollinator ecology and pond life, and the bird and other animal species the pollinator garden will attract. Most notably, the milkweed will draw monarch butterflies, as it is the ONLY plant the larvae feed on.

We welcome disabled individuals and everyone to come out and enjoy this special site. Spring 2021 will see the completion of the pollinator garden and the beginning of Ecology programming.

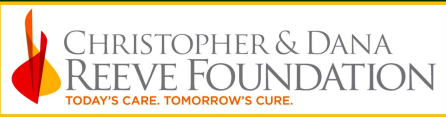
We will be featuring speakers who are professionals in their fields and an opportunity for everyone to participate in “citizen science” observations of pollinators and pond life attracted to the garden.

JCHC Scripture Rocks Heritage Park In the News


Installation of Interpretive Panels

**ADA Accessible
Native Plant-Pollinator
Pond Habitat
&
Environmental Education Area**


Fundors and Supporters:




CHRISTOPHER & DANA
REEVE FOUNDATION
TODAY'S CARE. TOMORROW'S CURE.




LLBean




American
Hiking
Society



Williams Ecological, LLC



PENNSYLVANIA
GREAT OUTDOORS
VISITORS BUREAU



JCHC
JACOBUS CHRISTOPHER HERITAGE CENTER



Interpretive Panels installed at the Pollinator Pond Garden along the ADA Accessible Area and Environmental Education Site. ADA accessible table in background.

Dr. Chuck and Dr. Kim Williams showing off "The Forest Floor" panel.

JCHS New Acquisition

by Kat Lyons & Mike Benigni

Pittsburg & Shawmut Steam Engine #200 Bell

JCHS has been donated a large train bell from a Colonel Larry Reid of Reed Auction Company (originally of DuBois, Clearfield County) who purchased it at the Gold Eagle Inn auction held recently in Brookville. Mr. Reid actually sold the bell to the Gold Eagle Inn many years ago. He knew the history of the bell's engine and felt it should stay in the county.

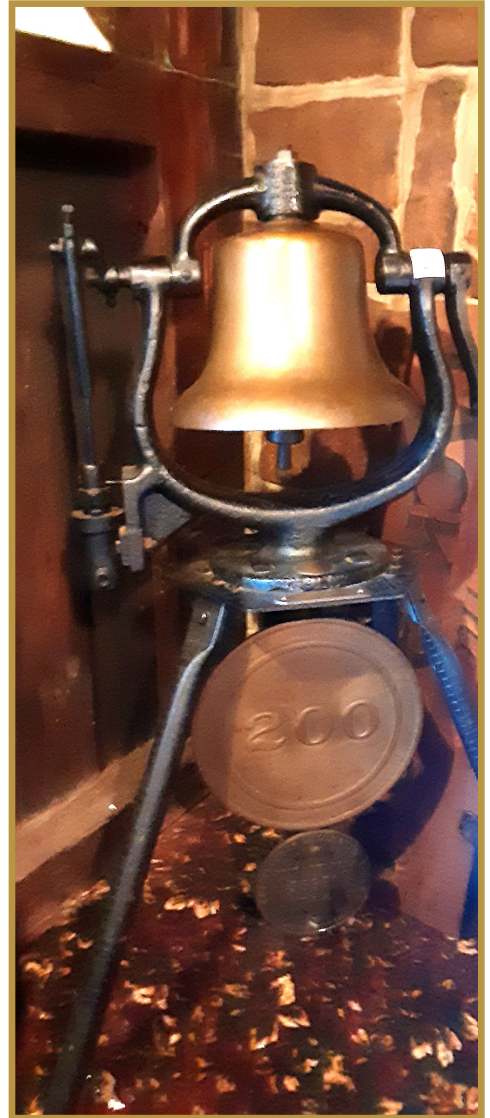


The steam locomotive engine #200, from which this bell was taken, was the first of a class (J) of 12 locomotives built starting in 1911 by Baldwin Locomotive Works, Philadelphia. Engine #200 was first leased from Allegheny River Mining in 1907 and then purchased by the Pittsburg & Shawmut (P&S) in 1933 and retired in 1950.

This class was the first to be owned and operated independently by P&S, also known as the Shawmut Line. Prior to this, P&S operated Pittsburg Shawmut & Northern (PS&N) engines. The P&S historically operated as an independent railroad that moved coal and other aggregates in west-central PA. Of course these steam engines were powered by coal.

The P&S, incorporated in 1909, was originally the Brookville & Mahoning Railroad (B&M) which originated in 1903 and was a subsidiary of the PS&N, with the same officers and management.

The B&M company was formed to build a standard gauge railroad connecting Brockwayville to Freeport where it would connect to The Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR), and extend the (PS&N) lines into the coalfields of Jefferson and surrounding counties. The first leg of this line to open in 1906 was 9 miles in length, reaching Knoxdale (along with a short branch to Ramsaytown that was later abandoned), and by 1907 the route was opened to Brockwayville, 20.9 miles.



Steam Engine Bell #200 at the Gold Eagle Inn auction, Brookville, now on display at JCHC.

Brookville became the company's base of maintenance operations with the main classification yard, scales, car shops, steam shops (it later served the diesels), and mechanical department offices all located there.

Thanks also to Bill Preston's article on the P&S RR in the 2018 Journal.

Steam Engine #207 and RR Crew with Engine #203 to the right.



JCHS New Acquisition

Bells were standard equipment on steam locomotives in North America from around 1840 onward. The bells were typically made of cast bronze or brass, between 11 and 17 inches in diameter, weighing hundreds of pounds. When a steam locomotive was scrapped, the locomotive bell was often one of the few items saved from the torch.

The cradle is the framework portion that attaches to the locomotive. The yoke holds the bell and allows it to swing in the cradle. When the bell swings the clapper inside the bell causes it to ring. A pull-arm is attached to the yoke and a rope is attached to the pull-arm so that the engineer or fireman can cause the bell to swing.

Unfortunately, it was not standard practice to have marks that easily identified the locomotive (like a serial or engine number) engraved on a bell. Instead, bell manufacturers had their own identifying marks on the yoke and the cradle. Most of the casting numbers were only meaningful to the foundries that cast them and all the information for those casting numbers were lost when the foundries closed.



**It's not my job to run the train,
The whistle I don't blow.
It's not my job to say how far
The train's supposed to go.
I'm not allowed to pull the brake,
Or even ring the bell.
But let the damn thing leave the track
And see who catches hell!**



Steam Engine #202

Brookville, June 13, 1948

Events

2nd Annual JCHC Rails to Trails Family Bicycle Ride and Poker Run a Big Hit

This year's Family Bicycle Ride & Poker Run from Brookville to Summerville on the Redbank Rails to Trails hosted 60 adult riders and 30 kids ages 1-17, all having a great time. We also had lots of food at the picnic at end of the ride in Summerville. The pulled pork sandwiches were more popular than the hotdogs!

Not only did we award prizes for best poker hand in the adult category and highest total number from 5 games played along the trail in the under 18 category, we also awarded prizes for worst hand and lowest number! This year we had a Teen Division (13-17), a Kids' Division (6-12) and a Tots Division (1-5).

Adult prizes for best hand was a \$125 Gift Certificate compliments of the new bicycle business in town, **Donut Bandit Bikes & Boards**, a free tune-up from Clarion Bicycle & Outdoor, also a free JCHC membership and a Scripture Rocks Park water bottle. Prizes for worst hand was a \$50 Walmart Gift Certificate, free tune-up from Clarion Bicycle & Outdoor, a free JCHC membership and a bicycle light set.

For "Winners and Losers:" See our website jchconline.org. We did have two winners from Brookville:

Adult Worst Poker Hand: Glenn McQuowen ("Dinger Dogs")

Tots Lowest Number: Sophie Kriner, Brookville

Major marketing sponsors were PA Environmental Council and Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Matson's, The Brookville Mirror and the Jefferson Democrat. Tri-County Rails to Trails posted our event on their social media. Picnic sponsors included Mike's and Giant Eagle; also Burger King and Angelo's Pizza for packaged condiments. Thanks to Redbank Valley Trails Association for use of the trail.

Volunteers included Board members & Staff (and wives!), past CUP intern Vic Stahlman, Pathstone volunteer Fay Williams, and Donut Bandit Bikes & Boards staff.

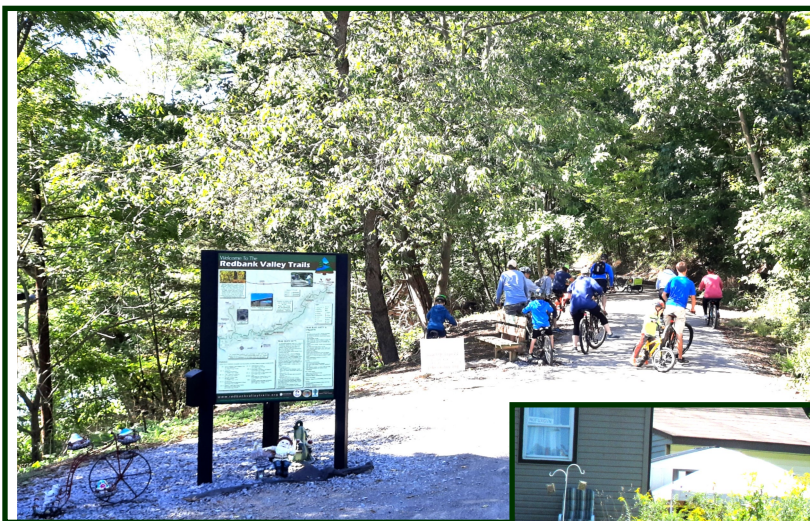
Thank you to All - Bicyclists, Volunteers & Sponsors – You all helped make this a fun event and a huge fundraising success for the History Center. You can look forward to an even bigger and better 3rd Annual Bicycle Ride & Poker Run next September!



Sponsored in part by the Pennsylvania Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau as a Jefferson County Hotel Tax Project.

The JCHC Family Bicycle Ride and Poker Run was sponsored in part by the Community Conservation Partnerships Program Environmental Stewardship Fund under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, and administered through the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's September Trails Celebration Mini Grant Program.

Events



Riders at the Brookville Depot St. Spur Trailhead



Riders converging on the final pit stop at the Summerville Trailhead.



Donut Bandit Bikes & Boards crew manning the final poker hand and kids games table at the end of the trail in Summerville. Bicycle shop owner Doug Hess (far left) and his kids volunteered for the event and sponsored best poker hand and gift cards to be used at his new shop at 229 Main St. in the Marlin Opera House building.



Young riders in the "Tots Division" try their luck at one of the Kids' Games at the final stop.

Upcoming Events

Board of Directors & Staff

2020 Events Calendar

Labor Day Show

15 TH ANNUAL
ANTIQUÉ FIREARMS & INDIAN ARTIFACT SHOW
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2020
JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
Rt. 28
9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. 1/8 Mile North of I-80, Exit 81
ANTIQUE FIREARMS THROUGH 1898
CANCELLED
PRE-SET UP FOR DISPLAY BY EXHIBITORS
ARTIFACT IDENTIFICATION, FLINT KNAPPING, PRIMITIVE GAMES
ADMISSION: ADULTS - \$7.00 CHILDREN UNDER 16 - FREE
FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION: EMAIL: kburkett-jchc@windstream.net
TELE: (814) 849-0077 OR VISIT WWW.JCHCONLINE.ORG
BENEFITS THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND
NORTHUMBRIA CHAPTER 29, SOCIETY FOR PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGY
JCHC

Sunday, September 20
Family Bicycle Poker Ride
Depot St Trailhead, Brookville
11 am– 5 pm

Sunday October 4th
Annual Member Meeting &
Dedication of ADA Accessible
Pollinator Pond Project
2 pm—5 pm

CANCELLED:

Escape Room TBA
Fridays & Saturdays October
Escape Room
301 Main St, Brookville
Hourly from 6 - 10 pm
Friday, November 27

TBD PENDING COVID19:

Light-Up Night
Bowdish Trains
5 - 8 pm

Friday December 4
Victorian Christmas
Bowdish Trains
5 - 8 pm

**Model Railroad Schedule**

Saturday, October 31st
Bowdish Trains Halloween
12 pm—3 pm

Saturday, November 28
Bowdish Trains Thanksgiving
12 pm—3 pm

Saturday, December 12
Bowdish Trains Christmas
12 pm—3 pm

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOR THE 2021 BOWDISH
BIRTHDAY BASH
FEBRUARY 27TH !**

CHANGING EXHIBITS

Parlor Redo
Living on the Land
Skylight Gallery

JCHS BOARD of DIRECTORS**President**

Tracy Zents—2023
tzents@jeffersoncountypa.com

Vice-President

Larry Anthony—2023

Treasurer

Vickie Storey—2022

Secretary

Eric Armstrong—2020

Zachary Ankeny—2022

Lance Carrier—2022

Colleen Cooney—2021

Doug Davis—2021

Dave Gilbert—2021

Amy Salsgiver—2022

Dave Taylor—2021

Chuck Williams—2020

January 2021

Linda Benigni Barnes—2023

Arthur McKinley—2023

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Kat Lyons, Administrative Operations
Grants | Research | Editor
klyons-jchc@windstream.net
or jchc@windstream.net

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Jack Neale, Genealogy Research
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Linda Heriger-Smith, Collections/Shop
Cyndi Morrison, Collections/Shop
Fay Williams, Projects/Shop

VOLUNTEERS

Peggy Baughman	Carole Briggs
Jack Burkett	Jade Egelhoff
Austin Fields	Tom Glover
Carol Hollobaugh	Pete Lindemuth
Bill McCracken	Jerry McGiffin
Joni Murray	Jon Noonan
Fay Noonan	Art Schrecongost
Jo Schrecongost	Eric Shugarts
Victor Stahlman	Pat Steele
Mike Tattersall	Jack Theisen

Exhibits

New & Redesigned Exhibits

First People: Native American Lifeways (right)

Showcases the prehistoric inhabitants of this area. This exhibit includes artifacts, dioramas (models), petroglyph castings and video production.

Map Exhibit



Maps of western Pennsylvania and Jefferson County from pre-settlement times to present day including 4 original rare 17th and 18th century maps on loan from Arader Gallery, NY, NY. Also on loan are 3 framed maps and a globe from Arthur McKinley. The exhibit illustrates how this area was discovered and depicted in maps, from the earliest 17th century French, Dutch and English maps of the region, down to the present day.

Please Note: The original maps are only on loan through December 31st, so see them now! These 4 original maps are also for sale, with a portion of the proceeds going to JCHS.

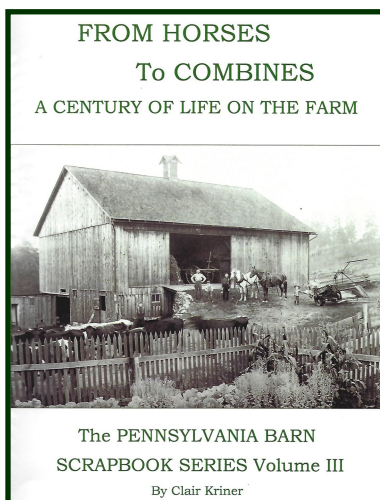


Stones N’ Bones Exhibit: A Three Gallery must see, award-winning exhibit: Geology, Paleontology and the Ice Age! This exhibit is the recipient of the 2020 Institutional Special Achievement Award from PA Museums. See it through 2021!



Allosaurus

Parlor Exhibit: What’s new in our Victorian-era Parlor? The painting at left is Civil War era and the story is that it used to hang in the American Hotel. We named it “Lady in Gray.” The woman and the little girl have the same intense blue-eyed gaze. If you know anything about who this might be, or who the artist may have been, we’d love to hear from you.



Gift Shop New & Restocked Books:

Clair Kriner’s Pennsylvania Barn Scrapbook Series includes three volumes in print with two more to come. Most recent is Vol. 3 “From Horses to Combines—A Century of Life on the Farm.” Others in the series are:

- Vol. 1 “The ABC’s of the Timber Framed Barn”
- Vol. 2 “From Log Barns to Pole Barns—A History of Change & Progress”
- Vol. 4 “From Milkcans to Plastic Jugs—A Tribute to the Dairy Farmer” (2021)
- Vol. 5 “Historic and Highlighted Barns of Clearfield & Jefferson Counties” (2021)

All of you farmers out there need these books!

We also have children's’ books, games and toys to help with your Christmas list, and women’s Peruvian jewelry to add to your own wish list.

The Jefferson County
Historical Society
172-176 Main St.
P.O. Box 51
Brookville, PA 15825

(814) 849-0077
jchc@windstream.net

<http://jchconline.org>
and scripturerocks.com

Museum Hours:
Wed - Sat
11 AM - 4 PM

Closed Sundays,
Mondays, Tuesdays and
Holidays

We typically close when
our schools close due to
weather, and urge you to
phone before traveling
any distance.

**CALL AHEAD FOR
COVID19
RESTRICTION
UPDATES**

Exhibit Admission

By Donation
JCHS Members - Free

Genealogy
Contracted Research
\$25 /Hour
(1 Hour minimum)

In-House Assisted
Research
\$25/Hour
(after 1st 1/2 hour)

If you would like to
receive our
E-newsletter
and announcements
of events and
activities at JCHC ,
Please SIGN UP at
jchconline.org

NONPROFIT ORG.

**U.S.POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 11**

**Jefferson County Historical Society
Annual Membership Application**

Student \$10/12 months

Individual \$30/12 months Family (Household) \$40/12 months Life \$600.00

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone: _____

Our Mission

Our purpose is to engage people of all ages in the history of Jefferson County. We collect and care for relevant objects, images and documents and invite county residents and visitors to research our materials, interact with our exhibits, take part in our programs and read our publications, in order to encourage an understanding of our past and present and afford a vision for the future.