

Volume 27, Issue 1, Spring 2014

A PUBLICATION OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Jeffersonian is published in February, June, and October **Submissions are always** welcome and should be directed to Ken Burkett c/o the **History Center**

JCHS News

On April 2, 2014, the Brookville Area Chamber of Commerce awarded the 2014 Walter Dick Award to Kenneth Burkett with the deepest appreciation for his enthusiastic and tireless dedication to the identification, study, preservation, and interpretation of thousands of years of Jefferson County history. His research has illuminated local history from the time of Native American prehistoric occupation to the arrival of European settlers in the late eighteenth century. In addition, his professional and far-sighted leadership in



Dave Taylor and Ken Burkett

the administration of the Jefferson County History Center in Brookville has led the Center to become an award-winning institution whose exhibits portray the vast array of local history and whose collections offer researchers valuable primary source material to aid in the investigation and understanding of family and community history. His tireless leadership has made the Jefferson County History Center a recognized model for small-town historical organizations across the Commonwealth and beyond.

PHMC Restores Partial Funding

We are happy to announce that the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission has been able to restore partial funding for museums in 2014. Removed in 2009 as part of the states financial cuts, the JCHS along with all other designated official county historical societies, each lost up to \$10,000 in annual general operating support. This year, the JCHS will receive \$4,000 which we hope is the first step in the eventual full restoration of the state funding.

WANTED - Authors for JCHC Journal

We've had many positive comments on our first issue of the Jeffersonian Journal and are currently inviting your articles on any aspect of Jefferson County history for the upcoming 2nd annual issue. Submission deadline is August 31st; publication is scheduled for January 2015. For more information or publication guidelines contact Cara Stockdale at cstrockale-jchc@windstream.net, or call the JCHC.

Thank You! - We appreciate recent donations from the Brookville Firemen's Club, Fraternal Order of Eagles #983, and the American Legion McMillen-Snder Post #392 in Reynoldsville which permitted the JCHC to purchase 4 new computers and update our system server, windows and office software

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2014 Events Calendar

June Sat., Jun. 7 Bowdish Railroad 12–3 pm

Thur., June 19
Laurel Festival Family Day
Bowdish Railroad 5—8 pm
FREE ADMISSION

Sat., Jun. 28 Carnegie & Heinz Field Ticket info Page 10

July Sat., July 5 Bowdish Railroad 12–3 pm

August
Sat., Aug. 2
Bowdish Railroad 12–3 pm

Sat., Aug. 9 Shaker Woods Bus Trip Ticket info Page 11

> September Sat., Sept 6 Museum Closed

Sat., Sept. 6
Annual Antique Rifle &
Indian Artifact Show
Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds

Other Upcoming Events JCHS Annual Dinner 10/18 Brookville Hauntings 10/25 Wildcat Reg. Band 11/29

Check out the latest updates and more on our newly designed web site at jchconline.org

Putting Our Ducks in a Row

Writing grants is an ongoing process for most non-profits like the History Center. Most grants require matching funds and some require the documentation done from previous grants. For example, a year or two ago we applied for conservation funds to conserve twelve pieces of art in our collection. We did not get the grant because we lacked a conservation assessment.

That will change this year. During the summer, as part of the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP), we will work with a collections assessor and an architectural assessor, who will review our collections and what we do with them and our buildings and how we are maintaining them.

The Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) is supported through a cooperative agreement between the Institute of Museums and Library Services and Heritage Preservation. Through CAP, professional conservators will identify conservation priorities by spending two days at our location and three days writing a report about our museum's collection, environmental conditions, and site. The report will help us develop strategies for improving collections care and provide a tool for long-range planning and fund-raising.

When completed, the Jefferson County History Center will have all our ducks in a row and will be prepared to seek funding to do the work we want to do on behalf of the people of the county.

JCHS Annual Awards Nominations

The JCHS Board of Directors is seeking nominations for the 2014 annual awards that will be presented at the upcoming JCHS membership dinner on October 18th at the Heritage House. If you would like to suggest a nomination, please submit it in writing or email Ken Burkett at kburkett-jchc@windstream.net. A complete listing of past recipients is available in the Hodge Podge section of the JCHC web site.

- **Arthur Altman Award** is presented to a **JCHS member** who has contributed significantly in any way to preserving Jefferson County History.
- **Kate M. Scott Award** is presented to **any person** who has contributed significantly to the preservation of Jefferson County History.

JCHS Membership

The JCHS Board of Directors recently included the categories of Life - \$500, and student - \$15 as part of our membership options. We will continue with the new member sponsorship program with membership renewals.

Beginning with the summer renewals a membership card will be returned by mail which is good for free admission to the History Center and a 10% discount in the gift shop for all non-consignment items. Membership cards will be distributed with each new renewal. For a complete listing of membership benefits check out the JCHS website

Before You're History . . . Help preserve ours!

Please consider the JCHS as part of your estate and planned giving

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Paranormal Project Update

Earlier this year, the JCHC teamed up with Dr. Todd Pfannestiel, the newly appointed Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Clarion University, to investigate some of the homes and businesses in Brookville known for paranormal activity. After our investigating, the evidence that has presented itself has been intriguing and convincing. Spirit voices, shadow figures, and orb activity are among the evidence we have captured. During an investigation, a young woman faintly speaks "Don't forget me," sending chills up investigators' spines. Paranormal research allows investigators to connect with history in a new, fascinating way.

Many hours go into investigations. We spend time reviewing evidence, researching

historical events, people, and places in order to corroborate the evidence. We spend a lot of time interacting with our clients to help them understand what is happening in their homes and businesses.

Whether you are a believer or a skeptic, the evidence speaks for itself. Stay tuned for more updates and be sure to catch the public unveiling of the recorded evidence at the Haunted Brookville event a the Columbia Theater in October.



Evaluate this debatable evidence for yourself

We want to hear from you! What's the most haunted location in Brookville? Hoak's Insurance? Marlin Opera House? Or maybe it's an elaborate Victorian home in town... What are your thoughts? If you have any information on haunted locations in town or you'd like to help us investigate a location, please don't hesitate to contact Cara Stockdale at the History Center or email cstockdale-jchc@windstream.net.

Our Town

The Jefferson County History Center will be featured by WPSU –TV as the interview

filming location for the upcoming *Our Town* project featuring Brookville and the surrounding area. The program will feature interesting historical and modern stories from both longtime residents and those who recently joined the community.

The program is scheduled to air on Thursday, June 12 at 8 pm and will also be available for later viewing on the internet at wpsu.org. Other western Pennsylvania communities to be featured this season in-



clude Ebensburg, Winber, Smethport, and Tyrone.

Mark Your Calendar for Saturday evening October 25th for the Public Presentation of the Haunted Brookville Paranormal Project Findings

JCHC Board of Directors

President Dick Beck -2014 Vice-President Eric Armstrong-2015 Treasurer Tom Glover - 2015

Secretary Joni Kerr - 2016 Jeff Carrier - 2016

Melanie Darrin -2014

Cathy Dinger - 2016

Diana Farley - 2016

Ed Kaufman - 2015

Wayne Kocher - 2014

Jon Noonan - 2015

Pat Steele - 2014

STAFF

Kenneth Burkett **Executive Director** kburkett-jchc@windstream.net

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PATHSTONES

Research Mark Lussky jchc@windstream.net

> Helen Lockard **Judy Shirley** Alice Miller Merlena Collins

VOLUNTEERS

Ouinton Boroi Jack Burkett **Andrew Byerly** Bill McCracken George Miller Harry Neuhard Sandy Noonan Art Schreckengost Jo Schreckengost Pat Steele Vickie Storey

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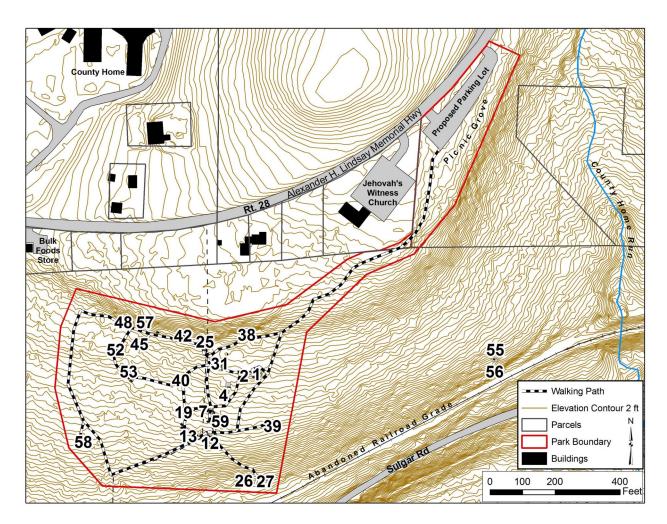
Scripture Rocks Park Update

The History Center has finalized a formal land use agreement with the Humphrey Trust that enables us to create and manage the proposed Scripture Rocks Park near Port Barnett. The approximate 4 acres of park encompasses 68 rocks that hold inscriptions and dedications created between 1911 and 1913by Douglas Stahlman.

We are working with the Winner Global Corporation who owns property along route 28 just past the Jehovah's Witness Church for an agreement to create a parking lot and access trail into the site.

When all of the agreements are finalized, we will plan a community program on the life of Douglas Stahlman, the Scripture Rocks mapping project and the expanded plans for the proposed park. This would be followed by a funding campaign, trail development by volunteers and various aspects of interpretative signage, rock markers, benches and literature describing the important features within the park. If all of the pieces come together in a timely manner, our goal is to have the site open sometime in the summer of 2015, but full development will probably continue over several years.

We especially appreciate the work by the North Fork Chapter 29 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology for their work on the mapping project, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for our initial mapping project grant, and Brian Fritz of Quemahoning LLC for his excellent work in surveying and preparing the final maps and report. Most of all we appreciate the Humphrey Trust for their interest in preserving and making this interesting piece of Jefferson County History available for everyone to enjoy.



New Exhibits

Cartoon Art of David L. Strohm

Weekly we take note of the art of David Strohm's talent in the local papers but rarely take note of who created it. A graduate of Bookville High School, David served with the U. S. Army's Airborne troops and used his G.I. Bill benefits to enter the Art Institute of Pittsburgh where he graduated in 1970. Since then, he has worked as a commercial artist for the H. J. Heinz company and an outdoor advertising company.

Now that he has retired, David concentrates mainly on contracted portraits and other works and has worked in many different art mediums including pastel, oil, pencil, charcoal and clay. Additionally he also pens the weekly cartoons for the *Jeffersonian Democrat*. "Cartoons are more than a bunch of squiggly lines," said Strohm. "I like to draw and poke fun at the establishment especially people who are not doing their job."



David is bringing some of his favorite cartoons and their stories along with some of his other art for display at the Jefferson County History Center beginning in July. The exhibit will be open through December 2914.

Other Museum Exhibits

In order to help showcase the history in other parts of the county, two new exhibits at the History Center will feature items and information from the Coolspring Power Museum and the Punxsutawney Historical and Genealogical Society.

We plan to change these cases annually inviting the other County Historical organizations to participate on a rotating schedule to display interesting items and stories from their collections.



Reunions and Remembrance

The end of the Civil War brought about much change in how communities looked at our veterans and remembered the dead. Returning men were no longer known as businessmen, lumbermen or farmers. The were now recognized as members of the units they fought and served with often being associated as being wounded in a particular battle such as Gettysburg. Organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic had representative chapters in almost every small town in the union and veterans converged for community events, battlefield reunions and placement of monuments and days of remembrance to those who were gone but not forgotten.

The upcoming JCHS exhibit *Reunions and Remembrance* embraces the memories of these individuals and will tell the story of how Jefferson County joined the post war nation in both mourning and celebrating the deeds of the individuals who had fought and served.





105th PA (Wildcat Monument) and Reunion Ribbon - Gettysburg, PA

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Curator's Corner

Carole Briggs

A BUSWOMAN'S HOLIDAY

Traveling during a holiday—even if a good part of it turns into a "buswoman's holiday"— is what I enjoy! That's one where you spend your time doing what you usually do, and for me that means visiting museums. This winter in Florida I visited the local museum in Jensen Beach, the Elliott Museum on Hutchinson Island, the Navy Seals Museum in Fort Pierce, and the Sanford city museum. Each had a story to show, and each in its own way, made me very proud of what we have in Jefferson County.

Jensen Beach, a former pineapple town, is a tourist town of about 11,000 on the Indian River Lagoon. I looked at a few photographs, several artifacts, and a book or two in the combination museum and chamber office. Then a volunteer showed me the sketch of their planned new building, reminding me of the big dreams we had in 2001! He raved about the spectacular Elliott Museum. Sterling Elliott was a problem-solving inventor, risk taker, politician, publisher, and social activist, and the introductory exhibit does a good job of showing some of his inventions, with just enough signage to explain the objects.

Next to catch my eye was a temporary exhibit of Guayabera shirts, so typical of Florida, Mexico, and Cuba. This exhibit had meaning, was lovely to look at, and made connections—all important in good exhibits.

Then on to the huge space for the cars, all dusted and shiny. Signs warned visitors not to honk the horn or touch. It's hard to prevent folks from doing that, so at the History Center we've provided wheels to turn and handles to pump along with "Please touch" signs! To me, good museums try to recognize all five senses when possible! The rest of the cars are stored on three levels behind glass, with an automated system to bring one front and center to an "exhibit case" with a revolving floor.

But I'm not really a car buff, so I headed upstairs. What I really wanted to see was the local history gallery. Described on the website as beginning with the story of the Paleo-Indians, the Spanish settlers, Spanish shipwrecks, etc. I expected to travel in time through the history of Martin County. Instead to the left was a long case of late 19th century objects, then shipwrecks followed by the Native Americans, bits of the pineapple culture, information about Frances Langford, and in the center, wedding regalia worn be several generations of brides. No signage indicating the periods of development and very little signage about the bridal attire.

However, when the Jefferson County History Center had been open just a year (the new Elliott facility opened in September of 2013), our exhibits were "minimalist" and not what they are today, so I look forward to future visits to see how the local history gallery grows.

Another area I'll visit again is an exhibit of ship models. Like our Bowdish Model Railroad, this one offers a wonderful opportunity to have a modeler or two building ships on-site!

The Navy Seals Museum was a hive of activity—school kids, retired sailors, and people like me. This museum has grown like Topsy and has large objects outside and both large and small objects inside. I was intrigued by the models of Osama Bin Laden's compound and his death at the hands of the Seals, and was pleased to view a good video about the Seals. This museum reminded me of the times when the History Center, too, is a hive of activity, and it reminded me, too, that something that interests one person may not interest another so it is important to provide visitors with varieties of objects and ways to show them.

We ended our Florida visit in Sanford and spent several hours in their beautiful museum building that sits in a park area along the lake. There was an interesting system of exhibit cases, a replicated library of Mr. Sanford, an exhibit featuring a black educator, and other odds and ends, but it took me a long time to figure out how they were all connected. To me, good museums help visitors know immediately what they can expect to see. We hope we do that at the History Center. And yes, I do plan to return to Florida next year for another buswoman's holiday!

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2014 JCHS Antique Rifle Raffle







1st Prize

This muzzleloader was custom made by Ron Luckenbill. The style is based largely on the work of John Sherry from nearby Clarion, PA. It is a full stock longrifle with a Green Mountain 42"/7/8" straight barrel in 50 caliber. The lock is a Jim Chambers large Siler configuration and is activated by a Davis #4 double set trigger. To key the gun to the Brookville rea, the usual Sherry star on the cheek piece was replaced with the iconic "Brookville Eye".

The rifle has been test fired and the sights adjusted.

Tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20 at the History Center or at the show Drawing at the show on Saturday September 6th - 4 pm

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A buffalo hide possibles bag and powder horn

3rd Prize

Custom made wooden drum canteen made by Eric Armstrong

4th Prize

Longrifles of Pennsylvania Volume 1, Jefferson, Clarion & Elk Counties by Russell Harriger

ANTIQUE FIREARMS & Indian Artifact Show

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2014

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS 1/4 MILE NORTH OF PA INTERSTATE 80, EXIT 81

A JOINT VENTURE OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & NORTH FORK CHAPER #29, SOCIETY FOR PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGY



FEATURING ALL TYPES OF ANTIQUE FIREARMS THROUGH 1898 A RAFFLE WILL BE HELD FOR A REPRODUCTION MUZZLELOADER

PREHISTOIC AND HISTORIC ARTIFACTS, ARTIFACT IDENTIFICATION, FLINT KNAPPING, PRIMITIVE GAMES AND WAA SANCTIONED ATLATL COMPETITION

Admission: Adults - \$5.00 Children under 12 - Free

FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT: EMAIL: kburkett-jchc@windstream.net Tele: (814) 849-0077 OR VISIT WWW.JCHCONLINE.ORG

Please join us for the 9th annual Antique Firearms show on Saturday, September 6th at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Whether you're interested in antique rifles, Indian Artifacts, throwing the atlatl or learning how to make an arrowhead, there is always something new and exciting at the show.

This is a Hazen Flea Market weekend so make a full day of it to browse, learn and enjoy something of the Native American and early pioneer history of this area.

We can always use help to run the event and have shifts from 8 am to noon and noon to 5 pm. Let us know if you are interested in taking tickets, helping with the vendors or working the food concession. This event is one of our annual major fund raisers for the History Center and our success depends on our friends helping to volunteer or just spread the word.

Below is a form to purchase raffle tickets. If you are willing to help sell some, please contact Ken Burkett at the History Center and we will get some to you.

Jefferson County History Center

I	Gun Ramie Ticket Order	\$5.00 each or	o for \$20.00
	raffle tickets or Books of Address: _	raffle tickets Total Enclosed \$	Payable To:
City:		State: Zip:	P. O. Box 51 Brookville, PA 15825
Telephone:	Email :		Credit Card Purchases

New Publication



KATE M. SCOTT DID SHE OR DIDN'T SHE? A Biography

Carole A. Briggs

Dark Union, the book by Ray Neff & Len Guttridge, claims Kate Scott did, and that after fathering her daughter, John Wilkes Booth fled to India. This new book, Kate M. Scott: Did She or Didn't She? by JCHS curator Carole A. Briggs documents the life and work of Jefferson County's eminent historian, as well as the life of Calvin A. Craig, rumored to have been a dear acquaintance, and the life of Osborn Oldroyd. Oldroyd was a collector of Lincoln memorabilia, and according to Dark Union, took a deposition from Kate on October 10, 1910 during which she claimed to be the mother of a daughter by John Wilkes Booth.

Kate's involvement in the reform movements of the 19th century, veterans' organizations, and the formation of the Pennsylvania Memorial Home are described, as is her voluminous writing.

Endnotes document the sources of information, so readers may draw their own conclusions about Neff & Guttridge's claim. The 300+ page book includes illustrations and an appendix, and is indexed.

Book reservations are now being accepted with expected delivery in September. Special Book signings will be available during the Wildcat Band Performance on Saturday November 29th, and during Victorian Christmas.

Contents

The Early Life of M. C. Scott
The Early Life of Calvin Craig
The Early Life of Osborn Hamiline Ingham Oldroyd
Calvin Craig and the Civil War
Kate M. Scott, Nursing, and the Civil War
Osborn Oldroyd and the Civil War
Civil War Conspiracies
The Post-War Life of Kate M. Scott

The Post -War Life of Osborn Oldroyd

Post-War Influence of Nineteenth Century Reformers

Kate M. Scott and Her Writing

Osborn Oldroyd and His Writing

Ray Neff and Len Guttridge and Their Writing

The Elusive Trail of Primary Sources

And Finally, "The Deposition"

Unanswered Questions

In Conclusion

Kate Scott: Did She or Didn't She			
Please Reserve	Copies @ \$30 Each + Postage \$ 5.00	Total Enclosed \$	
Name's		Will pick-up at JCHS	
Address		Return with your check	
City	Zip	Payable To: JCHS P. O. Box 51 Brookville, PA 15825	
Phone	Please Reserve by July 2	Credit Card Purchases Call 849-0077	

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Carnegie Science Center and Heinz Field Saturday, June 28, 2014

Package Includes

Round trip bus transportation Regular Admission Fees





8:00 am Depart from Heritage House, 14 Sylvania Street,

Brookville

10:00 am Arrive and explore the Carnegie Science Center

including the exhibits, Sportsworks, USS Requin

submarine and any of the live demonstration shows

Tour of Heinz Field with a behind-the-scenes look into

Pittsburgh's latest and greatest landmark.

4:00 pm Depart home

Name's

		Carnegie Science C	center & Heinz Field
751	-	T' 1 (TD (1 T) 1 1 A

Please Reserve _____ Tickets @ \$60 Each Total Enclosed \$_____

Address_

City _____ Zip ____

Phone _____ Please Reserve by June 14

Return with your check
Payable To:
JCHS
P. O. Box 51
Brookville, PA 15825
Credit Card Reservations
Call 849-0077



Saturday, August 9, 2014

8:00 am Depart from Heritage House, 14 Sylvania Street, Brookville

10:00 am Visit over 200 Crafters and Artisians in Shaker period

clothing demonstrating and selling their remarkable handmade ware including Brooms, Hand-Thrown Pottery, Blown Glass, Custom Jewelry, Florals, Hand made Furniture, Hand Dipped Candles, Custom Made Knives, Herbs and Spices, Hand Made Baskets and

Much, Much More

While on the grounds, bring your walking shoes for a journey down the rustic paths throughout the beautiful manicured woods, while enjoying the aroma of great country cooking over open fires and the sound of free entertainment located at two different stages

4:00 pm Depart home

Shaker Woods Festival			
Please Reserve	Tickets @ \$50 Each	Total Enclosed	\$
Name's			
Address			Return with your check Payable To: JCHS
City		Zip	P. O. Box 51 Brookville, PA 15825
Phone	Please Reser	ve by July 26	Credit Card Reservations Call 849-0077

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

Museum Hours

Tue. - Sat.

Noon - 5 pm

Closed Sunday, Monday and holidays

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

Exhibit Admission Fees

JCHS Members - Free

Non-members

Individual - \$ 5

Household - \$7

Students - \$1

Genealogy Contracted Research

\$25 /hr. (1 hr. minimum)

Assisted Research \$15/hr. (after 1st hr.)

If you would like to receive our Enewsletter and announcements of events and activities at the JCHC

SIGN UP AT

jchconline.org

NONPROFIT ORG. U.S.POSTAGE paid Permit No. 11 Falls Creek, PA 15840

Jefferson County Historical Society Annual Membership Application

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 a vision for the future.