

A PUBLICATION OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In This Issue		
Events Calendar	2	
Historic Marker Dedication	2	
New Intern	2	,
Annual Giving Campaign	2	
Annual Members Dinner	3]
New Board Member	4	
Elk Expo Event	4	1
Classroom with History	4]
Scripture Rocks Park	5	,
JCHC News	6	•
New Acquisition	6	•
Annual Rifle Raffle	6	
Summerville Story Project	7	
New Awnings	7	i
Bowdish Schedule	7	1
New Exhibits	8	
Curator's Corner	9	



10, 11

Upcoming Events



JCHC to Receive PHMC State Historic Preservation Office Award



The Jefferson County Historical Society is proud to announce we are the recipient of a Community Initiative Award from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), a division of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission. The award will be presented at SHPO's Historic Preservation Awards Event at the State Museum in Harrisburg on September 27th, 2018.

JCHC is one of only three recipients to receive the award this year, The award is presented to organizations whose work embodies "# PreservationHappensHere." This plan focuses on identifying and creating preservation outcomes in PA. One way SHPO implements this plan is through the Community Initiative Awards. The Historic Preservation Awards honor individuals and organizations that exhibit excellence in the field of historic preservation.

"Community Connections: Planning for Preservation in Pennsylvania" is the theme for Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan, 2018–2023. This document lays out a five-year plan for action and collaboration to reframe the historic preservation conversation in Pennsylvania.

JCHC was selected for their archaeology—related outreach, education, and volunteerism in our local and regional community. JCHC has long partnered with North Fork Chapter 29, Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA), on our exhibits, preservation of archaeology sites in the Allegheny National Forest and, more recently, at Scripture Rocks Heritage Park.

Ken Burkett, as our Executive Director and as North Fork Chapter 29 President, will accept the award at the event in September. JCHS thanks Brian Fritz, Quemahoning, LLC and member of North Fork Chapter 29, for nominating JCHS.

The PA SHPO establishes guidelines for archaeological investigations in Pennsylvania and reviews and evaluates archaeological survey reports and their recommenda-

tions.



Page 2 The Jeffersonian

JCHS News

2018 Events Calendar

Saturday, September 1
9 am - 4 pm
Antique Rifles & Indian
Artifact Show at the Jefferson
County Fairgrounds

Sundays through September 2 pm Scripture Rocks Park Tours

Saturday, September 29 Cash Bash at Warsaw Fire Company, Hazen Doors Open 4:30 pm

October 5 - 20 Every Fri-Sat October 22 - 27 Nightly Hourly from 6 pm - 9 pm Escape Room, Jefferson St.

Friday, October 12
5:30 pm
Annual Dinner & McKnight
Historic Marker Dedication
Courthouse Pub & Grille

Saturday, October 27 6 pm at JCHC Eerie Tales

Friday, November 16 Special Event 6:30 - 8:30 pm Stones N' Bones Preview for Members and Invited Guests

> Friday, November 23 5pm - 9pm Light-Up Night Bowdish Railroad

TBD Victorian Christmas

Look for the JCHC and Scripture Rocks Ads in the PAGO GO! Fall Magazine

Paid for in Part and Thank You to the Jefferson County Hotel Tax Committee

William J. McKnight State Historic Marker Dedication

JCHS will host the dedication of a new state historical marker installation on Friday, October 12th, at 5:30 pm in front of the Courthouse Grille and Pub on Main Street. The JCHS Annual Membership Dinner and Meeting will follow at the same location.

Dignitaries from the state and county will be on hand for the dedication and everyone is invited to attend.

This marker is the 12th state marker installed in Jefferson County by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, which administers a program of historical markers to capture the memory of people, places, events, and innovations that have affected the lives of Pennsylvanians over the centuries.

This new marker was purchased through private donations.

William J. McKnight, M.D. (1836-1918)

A physician turned senator, in 1883 he co-authored an act that established a board to oversee the distribution of unclaimed bodies to medical schools for anatomical study. In effect, it made grave robbery illegal and promoted the advancement of medical science. Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission 2018.

McKnight Historic Marker Text

New Clarion University Intern

Beginning in September, our new intern will be **Abigail Beckwith.** Abby is a Sophomore at Clarion University, with a dual major in Geology and Environmental Geoscience. She is from Emlenton, Pennsylvania and will be helping with the installation of the Stones N' Bones Exhibit.



Annual Giving Campaign Coming Up

October is the month we mail out the Annual Giving request to our members and friends. Through your generosity, we can continue to preserve and present our local history at the highest level, as recently recognized by our multiple state and national awards.

We are forever implementing new ways to present our past cultural heritage, both within the museum and as outreach programs at our outdoor museum, Scripture Rocks Heritage Park.

We know that we are caretakers of our history for a brief period in time and we must pass it on to future stewards to ensure the museum is here in perpetuity. Please help ensure this by donating to our Annual Fund. We are grateful to have you as a supporter of Jefferson County history and a collaborator with us in JCHS's ongoing mission.



Jefferson County Historical Society's 2018 Annual Membership Dinner & Dedication of McKnight Historical Marker



Friday, October 12

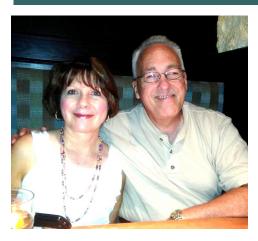
Courthouse Grille & Pub 209 Main Street, Brookville

- 5:30 PM—McKnight Historic Marker Dedication in Front of the Courthouse Grille & Pub
- 6:00 PM—Meet & Greet | Cash Bar | Hors d'oeuvres
- 6:30 PM—Dinner Choices: Chicken Marsala | Roast Beef | Vegetarian
- 7:30 PM—Business Meeting & Election of Board Members Presentation of JCHS Annual Awards & Recognitions

2018 ANNUAL DINNER RSVP Please RSVP by October 5th \$ 25 per Person		
Name/s:	# Attending	
Email	Return with Your Check Payable to: JCHS P.O. Box 51 Brookville, PA 15825 Credit Card: Call 814-849-0077	

Page 4 The Jeffersonian

In the News



New Board Member

Our newest member of the JCHS Board of Directors is **Dave McCracken** who is filling the term of a vacant seat. Dave is the oldest son of Bill McCracken, long-time member and Bowdish Train miniature diorama builder and volunteer.

Dave is a retired superintendent and engineer for Penelec. At our July board meeting, he was nominated and approved and will serve through the end of 2019 and then be eligible for

two full three-year terms. Dave is no stranger to non-profit fundraising. He and his wife Anita, a retired school teacher, are also busy with their Ethiopian project which raises funds for uniforms for Ethiopian schoolchildren.

Elk Expo Event

JCHC and North Fork Chapter 29, Society for PA Archaeology, teamed up at the Elk Expo to present Indian Artifacts & Antique Rifles, as well as an Atlatl Throw Event to 15,000+visitors who attend the expo. We sold a lot of rifle raffle tickets, too!



"Brookville Links Classroom with Community History"



Source: PA State Education Assoc. *The Voice*: July 2018.

Since 1993, Hickory Grove Elementary schoolteachers and JCHC have worked together to ensure students know their rural history and cultural roots. Carole Briggs, our curator and retired teacher, Diane Amsler, social studies/history teacher, and Karen Shriver, lead teacher, work together to arrange field trips to local historical sites and

on an educational scavenger hunt at the History Center. Students love the Bowdish train and miniature diorama exhibit. They also learn about this area's Native American cultures, and our historic industries of lumbering, mining and agriculture through the JCHC exhibits.

JCHS BOARD of DIRECTORS

President

Eric Armstrong—2018 earmst@windstream.net

Vice-President Larry Anthony—2020

Treasurer Vickie Storey—2019

Secretary TBD—2020

Randy Bartley—2019 Jon Noonan—2018 Dave McCracken—2019 Ray Puller—2018 Amy Salsgiver—2019 Jessica Weible—2018 Chuck Williams—2020 Tracy Zents—2020

STAFF

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

Carole Briggs, Curator cbriggs-jchc@windstream.net

Kat Lyons, Genealogy/Research/Grants klyons-jchc@windstream.net or jchc@windstream.net

PATHSTONES

Peggy Baughman. Shop & Projects
Janet Bucheit, Scripture Rock Park
Kris Scott, Projects
Fay Williams, Shop

VOLUNTEERS

Jade Egelhoff Jack Burkett **Tom Glover Austin Fields** Ray Hannold Carol Hollobaugh Mark Kerr **Pete Lindenmuth** Bill McCracken Jerry McGiffin Harry Neuhard **Fave Noonan** Sandy Noonan Art Schreckengost Jo Schreckengost **Judy Shirley** Pat Steele Mike Tattersall Jack Theisen

Scripture Rocks Heritage Park News

Kat Lyons

Scripture Rocks Heritage Park (SRHP) now has its very own Mission Statement as of August 9, 2018, written by SRHP Committee members Chuck Williams (Chair), Eric Armstrong, Ken Burkett and Kat Lyons, and approved at our August 9th Board of Directors meeting. The new SRHP Mission Statement reads as follows:



"To preserve and present a free, publiclyaccessible heritage park as an outdoor museum for all ages to explore and enjoy. It encompasses the unique legacy of Douglas Stahlman and provides an educational experience that includes historical, cultural and environmental aspects of the park."

Creating this statement will assist us in procuring successful grants for maintenance and stewardship of the park, and for our environmental education programs at the park.

SRHP "Jr. Ranger" Kids' Book: After a year's work, we have a new kids' publication, the Scripture Rocks Scavenger Hunt booklet, to be used at the park. This booklet is slated for middle school students, grades 6-8. The booklet is only \$3 at the JCHC Museum on Main St., and also at

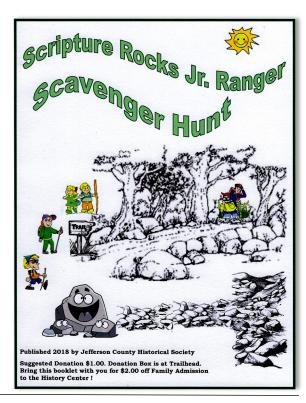
the SRHP kiosk on Sundays. Kat Lyons and Jade Egelhoff staged a fun scavenger hunt earlier this year in June, and plan to do another one using this new "Jr. Ranger" booklet, so watch for it!

Once again, we would like to extend a big thank you to all of the local businesses who generously donated items for our June Scavenger Hunt, which helped make it a huge success! In doing so, these businesses are giving back to their community in a big way. They are: Angelo's Pizza, Buff's, Burger King, Courthouse Grill & Pub, DeMan's, Devil's BBQ, Dirty Ehrrma's, Fusion Café, Giant Eagle, King Krunch, Loaf-In Bakery, Mike's Supermarket, Pizza Hut, Plyler's Restaurant, Sheetz, Subway, and Taco Bell. If any business would like to contribute items for our next Scavenger Hunt and/or raffles, just give us a shout!

SRHP Tours and Educational Programs:

This spring/summer we've had between a dozen to forty-five participants in the Sunday afternoon tours and educational programs that we offer. Ken Burkett, Executive Director, board members, and some of our volunteers lead the tours. In July, a busload of about forty visitors showed up unannounced, but that didn't stymie board Vice-President Larry Anthony, who took them all on tour! On July 29th, Rebecca M, Arthurs Library and JCHC, represented by board member Jess Weible, teamed up to bring elementary and middle school children to the park for an educational, cultural, and natural history experience, presented by our board President, Eric Armstrong. Other tour guide board members have been Chuck Williams, our very own in-house ecologist, and Ray Pullers, former Hickory Grove Elementary School principal. Vickie Storey, board Treasurer, and volunteer Jade Egelhoff helped staff the kiosk.

If your groups wishes to reserve the picnic pavilion or schedule a private guided tour, contact JCHC or email Ken Burkett at kburkett-jchc @windstream.net.



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Page 6 The Jeffersonian

JCHC News



New Scripture Rocks Documentary

A new mini-documentary on "The Scripture Rocks Story" and the life of Douglas Stahlman is in the works! On August 14th, 2018, Sean Montgomery, who is a videographer from Pittsburgh, arranged to interview our Executive Director and man behind the Scripture Rocks Heritage Park, as well as co-author with Brian Fritz of the book, Why Douglas Stahlman Carved His Legacy in Stone.

Ten years ago, Sean, who was a student in the Visual Arts Department at Clarion University, made a video with a colleague about the Scripture Rocks even before it was a park, which can be found on You Tube (LINK: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_phVEppzKk).

The video won two awards. Since then, he started his own business and is back to film a more extensive documentary of Scripture Rocks and Stahlman's life in the woods. Film footage was shot at a set at a log cabin in Clarington, featuring Ken's interpretation of the story based on Ken's and Brian's extensive research. Sean will return in October to shoot more footage of the inscribed rocks and complete this short documentary by the end of the year.

New Acquisition: Our 1st Sulky

We recently purchased this late 1800's horse-racing sulky at auction as a new addition to our *Living on the Land* exhibit. It has a documented racing provenance in Brookville.

A sulky is a lightweight cart having two wheels and a seat



for the driver only, but usually without a body. It is pulled by horses, and is used for harness racing.



JCHS Annual Rifle Raffle

Tickets are still available for our popular rifle raffle and are a deal at \$5 each or \$5 for \$20. Available at JCHC and at the Antique Firearms & Indian Artifact Show, September 1st, at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

Our rifle this year is a 50 caliber full-stock replica of a John Sherry, Sr. rifle custom built by Ron Luckenbill. John Sherry Sr. was born in 1773 and moved to what would become Clarion County in 1839 and made the best quality rifles in the region in the Westmoreland style until his death in 1859.







Summerville Story Project

Summerville Installs Historic Panels

If you happened through Summerville on Monday, June 18th, you may have wondered what all those people were doing digging in the heat. They were Summerville Story Project members installing fourteen panels that tell the history of sites and events in their town.

About a year ago, the Summerville Story Project, encouraged by the publishing success of their book *Troy/Summerville, Pennsylvania*, was looking for a new project. Ken Burkett, JCHC Executive Director had an idea. Burkett suggested a series of panels placed throughout Summerville that presented the town story in an interesting and unique way.

The panels are not a duplication of the book. They tell the history of specific locations with brief narrative and photos. Included are such places as The Opera House/



Summerville Story Project Group

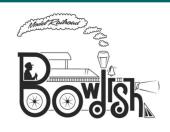
Telephone Company office, the original borough building/jail and fire hall, the mill dam that powered a chair factory as well as

carried log rafts on their way to Pittsburgh, Nannibel's Racket Store, and the well-worn path trod by the workers on their way to work at the Hanley Brick plant.

The project cost approximately \$6,000. Grants from the Lumber Heritage Region and the Jefferson County Hotel Tax funded about 70% of the cost and the Story Project Group funded the balance. The Summerville Story Project is a group dedicated to the accumulation, preservation, and presentation of the history of Summerville, Pennsylvania. In addition to the *Troy/Summerville*, *Pennsylvania* book available at the JCHC Gift Shop, the group maintains a Facebook group page, *Summerville*, *Pennsylvania Story Project*, which currently has 881 members.



New awnings recently added to the front of the façade of the History Center aid in protecting the windows from intruding rain and protecting exhibits from damaging sun rays.



Model Railroad Schedule

Saturday, September 29

12 - 3 pm

Saturday, October 27

12 - 3 pm

Saturday, November 24

12 - 3 pm

Saturday, December 29 12 - 3 pm Page 8 The Jeffersonian

New Exhibits

Stones N' Bones Grand Opening

The upcoming newest 3 gallery exhibit is now under construction and will be ready for a special preview opening for JCHS members and special guests on Friday, November 16, 2018, from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.

In the Geology Gallery, visitors will be able to explore the local geology and learn about how our rocks and minerals are commercially extracted and used.

The Paleontology Gallery will host a full size dimetrodon skeleton, various prehistoric trackways, and a wide selection of plant and animal fossils from Pennsylvania's Permian, Carboniferous and Devonian time periods. Of special note are a selection of fossils from the Red Hill site in North Bend, PA, recording in stone the time when sharks developed teeth and tetrapods first began leaving the water for a life on land.



Dimetrodon Skeleton



Our center piece of the Ice Age Gallery is a full size Wooly

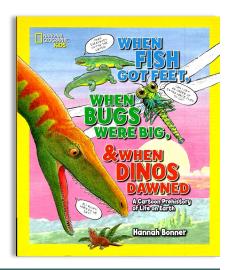
Mammoth skull with tusks. It is accompanied by a number of other now extinct animal species from Pennsylvania's past when early Paleo-Indian hunters first entered this region 14,000 years ago.

Our goal is to create an exciting and interactive exhibit for all ages. This is an exhibit that you will **NOT** want to miss.

Coming soon to our gift shop to compliment our upcoming new exhibit will be prehistoric critters, sharks' teeth and trilobites, as well as a collection of other fossils for sale. We'll also have educational new books for adults on geology, fossils and prehistoric animals as well as fun new books for kids, such as dinosaur activity books. and the popular *When Fish Got Feet, When Bugs Were Big, & When Dinos Dawned.*

We always welcome Financial Sponsorships to make it all happen and recognize our Sponsors on our exhibit materials.

Members, their families and special guests are invited to a grand preview opening on Friday, November 16th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.



Volunteers Wanted: To help with our upcoming exhibit and other projects, and folks with computer skills interested in helping with genealogy and databases

Transcriptions of Letters and Diaries



An urgent email that my "dropbox" was full led to a bit of database housecleaning this month. While moving files from there to here, I discovered that over my years at the History Center, I've done a good bit of transcribing. I've found those transcriptions interesting, so perhaps a bit of information about these letters and diaries of Jefferson County folks will stimulate interest and curiosity for some of our readers.

Many years ago member Bob McCullough allowed me to transcribe the diary of his relative, **Thomas McCullough Reynolds.** We've used that transcription to guide students in tracing Thomas' trek with his unit from Virginia to Gettysburg where he died in the battle, the bullet piercing the diary he carried.

Another member permitted us to photocopy letters written by three of the eight **Henderson brothers**. They'd all served in and survived the Civil War. Transcribing their letters helped me see how they viewed their lives as young Yankee soldiers.

Nathan Edelblute, of course, is the person who expanded the small store (the northeast section of the building) into the place known today as the Jefferson

County History Center. When working in that northeast section and most likely prior to his marriage, he stored a box of letters and other papers in the attic above. His letters to his brother and other young men provide us with some insights into their adventuresome lives more than 150 years ago.

Cyrus Blood was born during the Civil War and became fascinated with the game of baseball, the game that soldiers brought to their communities when the war was over. Leagues developed, and while waiting to begin college, Cyrus kept a diary and listed the standings along with what was happening in Europe and some comments about local life.

The diaries of Sarah Henry and Cora Cynthia Canning helped me see what the lives of single women were like. **Sarah Henry** was born in Gowanda, NY, lived and worked in the Midwest, and then retired and lived with a brother in Summerville, all the while supporting herself in various ways. JCHS member Nancy Schleshinger provided the transcription of Sarah's diaries.

Cora Cynthia Canning was the daughter of the man who ran the large grocery store in what is now Brookville's Goodwill Store. After graduating from Brookville High School, her father could afford to send her to Marshall College in Philadelphia, where she dutifully wrote almost daily in her diary. She returned to Brookville and married a dentist, and tragically died before her first wedding anniversary.

These transcriptions opened my eyes to many things about the people who once lived here. Perhaps some of you will find them interesting, too. The transcriptions, along with a history of the Western Pennsylvania Laurel Festival and a collection of "Neighbor" Kennedy's newspaper articles will soon be available in the History Center Shop and listed on our website. That's plenty of time to add them to your holiday shopping list for those older folks who "have everything!"

Genealogy & Research

The JCHC assists its Members with Genealogy and other Research. Our library contains many family histories, topical files, newspapers and online search capabilities.

Please contact us at 814-849-0077 or check our website, jchconline.org.

Page 10 The Jeffersonian

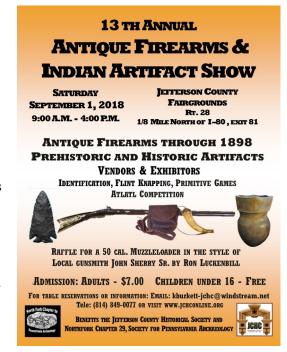
Upcoming Events

JCHC and North Fork Chapter 29 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology present the 13th Annual Antique Firearms and Indian Artifact Show

Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Saturday, September 1st 9 am - 4 pm \$7 for adults and free to children 16 and under.

- Two buildings with over 100 exhibitors from across the state.
- Firearms Bldg: 19th century western Pennsylvania gunsmiths, and accouterments, and modern replicas of both flint and percussion rifles, with many for sale.
- Archaeology Bldg: Prehistoric and historic Native American artifacts from this region.
- Items for display and sale will include flint tools and points, ground stone items, pipes, beadwork and pottery.
- Free evaluation and identification of rifles or artifacts brought in by the public.
- Chances to win a muzzleloader rifle hand-crafted by Ron Luckenbill.
- Children's activities, primitive games, flint-knapping demonstrations, tomahawk throwing event and atlatl competition sanctioned by the World Atlatl Association.

INFO: Call 814-849-0077 or email kburkett-jchc@windstream.net.



JCHS 1st Annual Cash Bash

The JCHS will be holding its 1st ever Cash Bash on Saturday, September 29th at the Warsaw Fire Company building in Hazen, off Rte. 28.

Come on out to this fun event and try your luck at winning one of our cash prizes that are given every 15 minutes starting at 6:00 PM.

\$50 every 15 minutes! \$100 every hour! \$500 Grand Prize given away at 9:00 pm!!!

There are also plenty of side raffles and 50-50 drawings to keep you entertained.

Doors open at 4:30 pm and dinner is served beginning at 5:00 pm. Dinner includes hot sausage, chicken, parsley potatoes, green beans and dessert. Beer and also non-alcoholic beverages will be included.

The drawings everyone will be waiting for begins at 6:00 pm. Don't miss it !!!

Tickets are \$20 and available at JCHC and from any Board or Staff member.. You can even call in a credit card! Get them now before they are sold out!!!

Info: Call us at 814-849-0077 or go to jchconline.org.





Escape Room



Friday & Saturdays, October 5-20, then Nightly October 22-27

Time: Hourly 6 pm - 9 pm Groups of 2 - 6 Adults \$20, Students \$10

Location: Brady-Craig Building, 236 Jefferson St., (one street behind the History Center)

Try to find the lost confederate gold hidden by Brookville's only confederate soldier who is buried in Old Brookville Cemetery. He was part of Jefferson Davis' unit detailed to hide confederate valuables from encroaching Union forces in 1865. He eventually married a woman from this area and raised his children here. He was given a soldier's burial by the Grand Army of the Republic who had become his Union neighbors after the end of the war. The *Gold Bars* have never been found!!!

Brookville's Eerie Tales Saturday, Oct. 27 6:00 pm

Join our historical-based eerie walking tour and discover strange but true eerie happenings in our town, if you dare to. Some of the eerie tales are even in our Jefferson County histories! The lighted lantern tours will be led by Jefferson County History Center guides to various venues along Main Street and adjacent dark, spooky alleyways.

Groups will meet at the Jefferson County History Center at 6:00 pm. Advance tickets are \$10 per person and available at the History Center at 172-176 Main St. Phone 814-849-0077 or jchconline.org.

Victorian Christmas: Watch the website, local newspapers and public service announcements for upcoming Christmas Events.



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 Tues. - Sat. 11 AM - 4 PM

Closed Sundays, Mondays, and Holidays

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

Exhibit Admission

JCHS Members - Free

Non-members:

Individual - \$ 5

Household - \$7

Students - \$1

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

Individual \$25/12 months	Family (Household) \$35/12 months	Life \$500.00
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.