

Johnston (Station) Historical Society
Post Office Box 109
Johnston, Iowa 50131

NEWSLETTER

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Secretaries: Marlys Seibert & Pat Wallerstedt

Treasurer: Donald Zarley

Membership: Garland Seibert

Newsletter: Selma Duvick

✎ Renewal Notice ✎

Thus far we have received more than 40 membership renewals! But there are many more folk out there who have not yet responded to our letter!

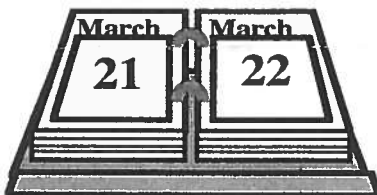
If you received a renewal notice, please respond soon; we want you to continue to be a part of the JSHS.

February 1 (Wednesday)
March 23 (Sunday)
April 23 (Wednesday)
May 28 (Wednesday)
June 25 (Wednesday)
July 27 (Sunday)
August 27 (Wednesday)
September 28 (Sunday)
October 22 (Wednesday)
November 23 (Sunday)

JANUARY MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26
4:00 P.M. CROWN POINT
MEETING ROOM

We'll have a Potluck meal
Bring table service & a dish to share



Looking ahead:

Meeting dates for 2003

Put these dates on your calendar:

Meetings will be at Crown Point meeting room, until weather moderates and we can meet at the Simpson House.



From the President.....

The younger generation likes to think that they have invented new words, like "download" or "interface". Frequently their words are acronyms like, "MP3" or ".com's". Many times the words have taken on new meanings, like "rave" or "hack". Slang words come and go and sometimes you show your age by using a word that is not "in", like "groovy".

I was recently visiting my daughter and her family. My daughter was reading out loud to my granddaughters, 7 and 9, from a book that told about a family in the 1920's.

Sometimes during the reading, she would end a sentence with a question mark when there wasn't any. This was because there were words that she didn't understand. I

was able to explain what a rain barrel was for and why a buttonhook could be used for pitting cherries. After numerous explanations, my 9 year old granddaughter asked, "Grandma, do you know these words because you read a lot or because you're old?" I told her, "Both!"

We all really enjoyed the book but we didn't finish it while we were there. Allison promised to tell me how it turned out. I received her 5-page letter with a blow by blow account of each chapter. At the end of her letter was a list of words that no one knew at their house. They were: cuspidor, whist party, sieve, stile, bedstead, mackinaw, and mucilage. After I gave a detailed story about each word, including chewing tobacco, gateless fences and horses going to glue factories, Allison's response was "Cool!"

Mary Jane Paez



HOUSE AND BARN PROGRESS UPDATE

Since the last newsletter, we have been slowly chipping away at the list of "to do" tasks at the house and barn. The last vestiges of kitchen and baths have been removed from the house. We had to tear down some walls that were damaged and we are down to the studs in a few places.

The last of the linoleum has been striped from the floors. We are still removing nails, screws and staples from the floors to prepare them for sanding. The Michaels have worked on vacuuming and cleaning up after the dusty mess. This really helps to show what needs to be done next.

The electric, gas, water and sewer lines have all been laid. The house and barn have the rough plumbing pipes in place. We have an estimate for plumbing fixtures of about \$2100.

The radiators have been freed from piping so that they can be moved to appropriate locations in the house.

We were going to have the house basement concrete floor poured but found that we can save \$3500 if we wait until spring and have all our concrete work done at the same time (cellar steps and barn floor). The barn deck will be built this winter with in-kind labor.

Salvaged lumber from the old barn stalls and knotty pine from the house has been sorted and stored for future use. We were able to obtain salvaged steel doors for the barn, restroom dividers for both restrooms in the barn, and 37 light fixtures for the barn. This was all free!

Bricks mortared into the spaces between the joists in the periphery of the basement were painstakingly chiseled out by Garland Seibert. He did this while standing on a ladder balanced on a bed of loose gravel!

Bob Finney has been researching the windmill. The head has been removed and stored in the loft. Missing or broken parts are being ordered. It should be ready to go this spring.

Bob Thomas and Mary Jane Paez have worked on the antique light fixtures. Bob had something called Crud Remover that really cleaned the brass and glass. It also went through gloves and skin. Wounds are healing nicely.

Grant applications are being prepared in hopes of more funding to finish the project.

It is hoped that we can get the electrical rewiring done in the house. With some walls open, it is a logical step. We have the money to do this. Once the wiring is done, we can work on insulation and drywalling. We will have to wait until spring for plaster patching and painting.



Progress has been remarkable! AND YOU CAN HELP!

See the volunteer form on the back page of this Newsletter!!

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new member!

Elizabeth Reed
Everett, WA

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE HOUSE AND BARN

Trailblazer: \$50,00 or more

Patriot: \$25,000 to \$49,999

Dragoon: \$10,000 to \$24,999

Sodbuster: \$5,000 to \$9,999

Wagonmaster: \$1,000 to \$4,999

Donald & Marilyn Zarley
Des Moines, IA

Harry & Hazel Elder
Urbandale, IA

Scout: \$100 to \$999

Robert & Margaret Thomas
Des Moines, IA
Richard & Jacquelyn Seibert
Urbandale, IA

Jerilyn Denman
Urbandale, IA
In memory of Donald Denman

Francine & Jim Melas
Poway, CA

Ron & Francine Canfield
Johnston, IA

Caretaker: under \$99
Shirley & Charles Burkett
Johnston, IA

John & Joanne Thiesen
Ankeny, IA

Margaret Sharp
Johnston, IA



Memorial Gifts:

Ferne Michael
Windsor Heights, IA
In memory of
Raymond Orlich
Richard (Dick) Dewey

In Memoriam

Raymond Orlich

Raymond Orlich, former member of the JSHS, died on December 8 in Humble Texas. He was a graduate of Johnston High School, and during his teen years, he caddied at Hyperion Golf Club.

The JSHS extends sympathy to members of his family: to Vi Robinson of Des Moines, Helen Smith of Fresno, CA, Mike Orlich of Johnston, Steve Orlich of Pensacola, Fl. Eli Orlich of Tucson, AZ, and Nick Orlich of Kingwood, TX, all of whom are or have been members of the JSHS; and to sister Mildred Bernard and brother Gary Orlich.

Richard (Dick) Dewey

We have received word that Dick Dewey died on January 1, 2003, in California. The JSHS sends sympathy to his sister, JSHS member Karen Miltenberger, and the rest of his family.



WEBSITE UP-DATE

Our webmaster, Kathy Wallerstedt has added new photos of the house, barn, and the location at Johnston Commons, to the website at:

www.johnstonhistoricalsociety.org

Please visit!!



BRICK ENGRAVING

The century-old bricks which members salvaged from the foundation of the Simpson house, have been shipped to the firm which will do the inscribing. We want to be sure that the wording is accurate, and exactly what those of you who have ordered a brick are expecting to see. And so we will be verifying this information with you.

If there are some who have not as yet ordered a brick, we have put an order form on the last page of this newsletter. The

bricks will be used to construct a patio next to the Barn.

It's not too late to order!

PIONEER, HENRY WALLACE & BEN DEWEY FEATURED IN DISPLAY

Local members will want to visit City Hall to see old photos, newspaper clippings and memorabilia on the lives and contributions of Henry Wallace and Pioneer Hi-Bred, and of Ben Dewey.

The display contains numerous photos of Pioneer's early days and employees in Johnston, and of Wallace's subsequent career in Washington, D.C.

Ben Dewey, resident of Johnston, was for 36 years a member of the Polk County Board of Supervisors, and was involved with the Polk County Home. Born in Dakota Territory in 1886, he raised his family in Johnston. One interesting photo shows Dewey with Frederick Remmington, famous artist and sculptor of the Old West.

This display, set up by Ferne Michael with help from Dan Johns, is worth a special visit to City Hall. Special thanks to Karen Dewey Miltenberger for materials and information!



We sold the car!

The 1990 Cadillac which Harry Elder donated to the JSHS was sold at auction. The Society netted \$1160 from the sale.

Thank you, Harry.

(The JSHS is an IRS code 501(c)(3) organization)



YES, I CAN HELP WITH RENOVATION WORK ON THE HOUSE AND BARN!

I have skills in: _____
(plumbing, carpentry, electrical work, painting, drywall, floor finishing, other.)

I have no specific skills, but would like to help where I can _____.

I have time during the week _____

I have time on week-ends _____

Name: _____

Address, phone _____

Send to: Johnston Historical Society, P.O. Box 109, Johnston, IA 50131

Or

Call Bob Thomas, 277-3882



Commemorative Brick Order Form:

Engraved Brick (\$85 each)

Please fill in the name (s) to be engraved (a maximum of 14 characters per line for 2 lines)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

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Your Name and address: _____

• Check payable to Johnston (Station) Historical Society

• Mail to the Johnston Historical Society, P.O. Box 109, Johnston, IA 50131