

# Johnston (Station) Historical Society

Volume 25, Issue 4

Newsletter

Winter 2017

## From the President

The winter season is upon us and the Johnston Historical Society would like to thank the members for a successful year. We have made some improvements around the museum that will ensure the safety of visitors and the community. Our Soup Lunch on November 12 featured many delicious soups and accompaniments. Thanks to all who joined us. Our mayor shared ideas that are in the works for Johnston's future.

As our year comes to a close, we hope to see many of you at our first community Christmas event on Sat., December 16, 2-4:00 p.m. The museum depends on your support to continue its function.

I want to extend a personal "thank you" to Deb Krambeck as she leaves the board. Her many years of service are greatly appreciated. Another huge thanks to Carla Johns for her dedication to the beautification of the flower beds around the house. She too will be missed. We need many helping hands to carry on her great work.

Please have a safe and happy holiday season. See you in the spring.

Michael B. Knight, President



## 2018 Annual Dues

This is a reminder that all members' annual dues are to be paid by January 15, 2018 for the 2018 calendar year. The price of membership has remained the same at \$20.00. We have enclosed an envelope for your convenience in mailing your dues to the museum.

If the number after your name on the mailing label is 18 or higher, your dues for 2018 are already paid.

We welcome any additional money or donations you wish to send. We will send a receipt for donations over and above the membership dues of \$20. We could not remain open and continue the work of preserving the history of Johnston if it were not for your generous donations. We thank you in advance for your continued support.

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## Ballot Enclosed

It is time to elect board members. There are two positions open this year and only one incumbent running for the board.

The ballot is enclosed. You may vote for two. Write-in's are welcome. If you write a name in, please provide a phone number or way for us to contact this person. Please place your ballot in the enclosed envelope and return no later than January 15, 2018

## **The Christmas Call**

*When winter snows  
Blow soft and cold  
Beneath the midnight sun,  
All reindeer wait  
For Santa's sleigh  
And Christmas Eve to come.*

*Old merry elves  
Pull off the shelves  
New toys for Santa's bag;  
Red candy canes  
Spark every name  
That winks on Christmas tags.*

*Sweet gumdrop days  
Will always stay  
When Christmas passes on  
Into the year  
We toast with cheer  
And prayers that linger long.*

*What hopes we dream  
When Angels sing  
The Promise Heaven gave:  
His Precious Birth  
For Peace on Earth...  
Rejoice on Christmas Day!*

*Ring bells my Soul!  
Sing loud my Heart!  
Call Angels to my side!  
For I have heard  
The Loving Word  
Of God at Christmas time!*

© Rita Whitmer

## **Christmas Event December 16**

We look forward to holding our first Christmas event at the museum on Saturday, December 16 from 2-4:00 p.m. We will open our doors to the public to join us in sharing some old-time holiday traditions, with activities for children. Refreshments will be served. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

## **Donations**

Below are the individuals/foundations who have donated to the work of preserving the history of Johnston since the last newsletter. We would like to recognize these individuals:

Weatherspoon Charitable Foundation  
Chuck Anderson  
Terri Holmgren  
Deb Krambeck  
Debbie Carmody

The Board of Directors would like to thank each of you for your generous donation.

## **Board Members Needed**

Please consider running for the board. If you or someone you know might be interested in serving on the board in any capacity, please submit a name and contact info to us. Since Deb Krambeck's time on the board is ending, we are looking for someone with secretarial skills. If you or someone you know is interested and has the necessary skills of organizing, typing, computer knowledge, with communication skills, please give us a call.

Volunteering time to continue the work of preserving Johnston archives at the museum is needed. If you have any questions, please contact us on 515 331-0687 and leave a message.

### **Reminder:**

The museum is closed for the winter from December 17, 2017 to the first of April 2018.

We will show the museum by appointment only. If you wish to take a tour, call the museum 515-331-0687 and leave a message. As Board members, we continue to hold meetings and carry out the necessary work of the museum.

**See you in the spring!**

## Fall Soup Lunch Results

On Sunday, November 12, we held our annual member's dinner. This year we had 4 delicious soups, plus many salads and desserts to share. Previously we have held this in the evening during the week. We decided to change to a daytime event, and will assess the success of this time for future dinners.

We had 20 members and guests attend. Although the numbers were low, those of us who attended, enjoyed the wonderful foods.

Our guest speaker was our mayor, Paula Dierenfield, who spoke on the changes currently taking place in Johnston with various developments, and what she sees happening in the future. We thank Paula for giving her time to share this information.

## SIMPSON BARN PATIO BRICK ADDITION



Fred Schuler, JSHS member and Johnston graduate, Class of 1961, had commemorative bricks placed in the barn patio in honor of and in memory of his family. Since Fred lives on the east coast, the bricks were placed by 3 of Jon's classmates in above design at Fred's request.

*Commemorative Bricks may still be ordered. Contact museum for further information or check our website for details.*



## New Acquisition in Museum -Green Family Rocker

The beautiful light oak platform rocker has been in the family since late 1800 or early 1900's. Started out in home of William and Ella Green in Des Moines. It became weathered and broken and ended up in a corner of basement. Son, Walter Green took it home and restored it. He then gave the rocker to his brother George.

George and Audrey Green became Johnston residents in 1953. Audrey still belongs to the Fruitland Brennan League of Johnston.

Rocker donated to the museum by the children of Walter and Gertrude Green.

## Letter from Past Johnston Resident

As a child, I lived in Johnston with my family from 1962 until moving to southern Iowa in 1969. I started kindergarten at Johnston Elementary and attended classes there through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. I have so many great memories of the people and places and all the happy times I had there while growing up.

Vindy Johnson, Bloomfield IA

*(We received the above email from our web page. We welcome others to share their memories.)*

## **Thank You Deb (Robinette) Krambeck**

**Deb Krambeck, board secretary the last six years is leaving. She has served two consecutive three-year terms and in accordance with society bylaws must step down for one year.**

**Deb, lifelong resident of Johnston, has been both our secretary and newsletter editor. Her talent can be seen in every article she wrote whether it was about the good old days or what is happening here and now in Johnston. We hope that you have enjoyed reading her articles.**

**You could also find her busy inside cleaning the museum or outside assisting Carla Johns with the flower beds. She willingly helped whenever needed (except in the winter) in all areas of the museum. Every November she left us without guilt to head for Arizona but faithfully returned each spring refreshed and ready to jump right back in.**

**THANK YOU, DEB, for all that you have done in helping the society for the past 6 years. We are hoping you will remain active as a volunteer. Your knowledge about the town and the its many citizens, past and present, is very important to us to keep the history alive for all generations.**

## **Obituaries**

Obituaries are compiled by Nancy Budrevich. If anyone knows of others, please let Nancy know. Nancy can be contacted by mail: 6161 Northglenn Dr., Johnston, IA, 50131; by email: [ishs@q.com](mailto:ishs@q.com); or by phone: 515-331-0687. Over 1,000 Johnston related obituaries are now on file at the museum.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Relationship to Johnston</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>
George Lee Young	Class of 1948	9-22-2017
Rochelle "Janean" Howe Schmitt	Class of 1965	11-6-2017
Robert Spellman	Teacher	10-21-2017
Jennifer Mumm	Teacher & Guidance Counselor	10-21-2017
Linda Ford Vermie	Johnston Resident	9-11-2017
William Mill	Johnston Resident	9-21-2017
Jerry Houser	Johnston Resident	9-23-2017
Marcia Lockard	Johnston Resident	9-28-2017
Stanley Lynch	Johnston Resident	10-3-2017
Lynn Bertelsen	Johnston Resident	10-7-2017
Richard Anderson	Johnston Resident	10-22-2017
Elizabeth G. Marshall	Johnston Resident	10-23-2017
Jean Stebbins	Johnston Resident	11-1-2017
Sister Mary Olear	Johnston Resident	11-6-2017
Carla Richards	Johnston Resident	11-7-2017
Kimberly Traylor	Johnston Resident	11-9-2017

# Johnston Historical Society



Childrens  
Holiday  
Crafts



Holiday  
Music

## Community Appreciation Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 16th  
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

1902 Simpson House Museum  
6161 Northglenn Dr. Johnston  
Next to Simpson Barn &  
Johnston Library



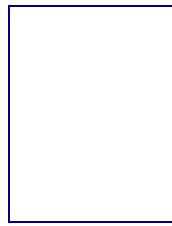
Museum  
Tours



Coffee,  
Cocoa &  
Cookies

For more information: [JohnstonIowaHistorical.org/](http://JohnstonIowaHistorical.org/) and on Facebook.

Johnston (Station) Historical Society  
6161 Northglenn Dr  
Johnston, IA 50131



### ***Mission Statement***

*The purpose of the Johnston (Station) Historical Society is to bring people together who are interested in the history and preservation of the Johnston area, which includes the early settlements of Johnston Station, Beaver Creek Settlement, Ridgedale, Huntsville, Herrold and Dodge City.*

*To this goal, we work to get the community engaged and involved in Johnston's rich history by providing a museum and events to the public.*

### **Johnston Historical Board Members**

Michael Knight, President  
Deb Krambeck, Secretary  
Jan Jensen, Archivist  
Alan Lathrum, Membership

Marilyn Coonley, Vice President  
Nancy Budrevich, Treasurer  
Elizabeth VanZomeren, Archivist  
John Brown, Membership

Museum phone: 515-331-0687  
Website: [www.johnstoniowahistorical.org](http://www.johnstoniowahistorical.org)

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
to our members from the Johnston Historical Society Board**