March 2026

http://www.jacksonporthistoricalsociety.org
https://www.facebook.com/JacksonportHistoricalSociety

Greetings JHS members and friends!

We've had some pretty mild weather here in Door County, at times almost spring-like. As I write this, Mother Nature reared her beautiful head and sent us into a snow-covered deep freeze. Yes, I think we'll have winter for a while yet. As always, we hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying life wherever you are. This year, we're getting a bit of a head start and sending out our annual JHS Newsletter and Membership Form - so let's jump right into the latest happenings at JHS!

First, and foremost, we can't say thank you enough for your continued support of our organization. Your dedication truly makes a difference, and we're so grateful to have you as part of the JHS family.

NEWSLETTER/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Next year the Spring Newsletter and Renewal Membership/Donation form will come to you electronically by e-mail, not through the United States Postal Service. With the cost of printing, envelopes, labels and stamps, the JHS board made the decision to send this information via email. You'll also be able to pay your dues through the link that is on the JHS Website (jacksonporthistoricalsociety.org). Of course, you can still receive the Newsletter and Membership form by mail if you prefer. Please request that on your renewal membership form that you send back to us. You can also email us directly at jacksonporthistorical@gmail.com with questions.

DO YOU WANT TO HELP SHARE HISTORICAL STORIES?

JHS is seeking an individual to research topics and coordinate presenters for our meetings. If you have a passion for finding folks with interesting stories to tell, this is right up your alley! Organizing the presentations would be easy. We'll do all the promoting and provide you with the resources you need. This is a wonderful opportunity to be involved with JHS and share the historical lore of our community! Email jacksonporthistorical@gmail.com with your interest or questions.

YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS ARE NEEDED! (See letter with membership form)

Don't be shy! Step right up to serve on the JHS Board of Directors. Your skills can play a valuable role in maintaining and growing the Jacksonport Historical Society. Use your expertise to assist with the historical museum property, prepare news features, host commemorative activities, or collect historical memorabilia to preserve the past for future generations. Help us move forward! Just one monthly meeting from January through October. Then you're off to work on projects of interest! Reach out to one of our current board members or email jacksonporthistorical@gmail.com We are looking forward to having you on the team!

MAIFEST HELP REQUESTED

The Jacksonport Historical Society will once again have a booth at Jacksonport Maifest on Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24. You'll find us at the Erskine Rest Area, where we'll be selling books, posters, and CDs—right alongside the popular self-guided Root Cellar tours, which will be offered again this year. The Root Cellar tours drew large crowds at last year's Maifest and Cherry Fest, and we're expecting strong interest again this year. We could use a few extra hands to help staff the JHS booth—just 2–3 hours of your time would make a big difference. If you're available to help, please call and leave a message for Mary Kaye at 920-493-1511 or Kandie Skippon at 920-421-2411.

We could use some help when Cherry Fest (Saturday, Aug. 1) rolls around as well. If you're interested in working in the pie/kolache booth, the historical booth or the food booth, we'd be happy to have you. You can contact Mary or Kandie to volunteer for this as well. Thanks for supporting local history!

LORITZ CABIN

As part of our ongoing efforts to preserve and enhance our historic site, the JHS Board of Directors set a Saturday in August last year as a workday to help clean the Loritz Cabin. We would like to extend a special thank you to volunteer Kathy Butler, who was a tremendous help. The living room, inside porch area, and downstairs were swept and straightened out, and the inside of the cabin is looking very nice. The kitchen and dining room will be the next areas to be cleaned. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and Website for upcoming cleaning dates and if you can spare a few hours that would be a huge help.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH CEMETERY



Watch for the blue and white sign designating the turn-in for the cemetery on County A. Walk along the fenceline and then towards the right into the woods.

JHS has taken on the role of assisting the Holy Nativity/Christ the King Episcopal Church with cleanup efforts at the old cemetery. The church is located on the top of the hill heading west out of Jacksonport on County Road V. The cemetery is located in the wooded area between the church and County A. This historical sign along the road on County A marks the entrance to the location of the cemetery. Kandie and Mary visited the cemetery in August of last year to assess the site and scheduled a work day to address what could be done before winter. That work day took place in November and included cutting back weeds and raking the area. Watch our Facebook page for when the next work day(s) will be scheduled, possibly late spring or early/late summer. We have received a list from the church of known individuals buried in the cemetery. They are:

C: Wallace Coffin, death 1914, no headstone.

E: Byron Erskine, 1841-1925 (Veteran); Baby Boy Erskine, 1917, no headstone; Edward Eugene Erskine, 1888-1891; Louise Etta Erskine, 1892-1973; Otillia Klaus Erskine, 1860-1938 (given middle name Theresa).

I: Stephenie Nelson Isaacson, 1928-1981.

J: Agnes Winifred Johnson, 1911, 4 months old, no headstone; Annie Johnson (Mrs. Joseph), 1844-1918; Baby Boy Johnson, 1919, no headstone; Charles A. Johnson, 1869-1925; Geneve Johnson, (Gertrude Johnson, b/d 1907)? No headstone; George Johnson, 1896-1918 (Veteran); Joseph Johnson Jr., 1875-1901; Mearl Johnson, 1898-1921; Ottie (Otillia) Johnson, 1875-1958; Thomas J. Johnson, 1839-1918 (Veteran).

M: Sara A. McArthur, 1875-1915; Harry McNeely (lived with John and Elizabeth Sargent 1910), 1893-1916, no headstone; Charles William Paul Miller, d. 1907, no headstone; Child of Charles Miller, d. 1911, no headstone.

N: Beatrice Erskine Nelson, 1905, no headstone; Elizabeth Louise Nelson, d. 1925, (7 months, 2 days – Farwell?) John Erskine Nelson, d. 1927 (2 days, John Erskine?); Io Nelson, 1896-1989; Stephen E. Nelson, 1883-1937; James Nugent, 1842-1890.

P: Carrie Elizabeth Peronto, d. 1908, no headstone; Chester Nelson Peronto, d. 1905 (5 months, 28 days); Beulah Peterson, d. 1904; John Edward Place, 1868-1949; Lucinda Erskine Place, 1892-1937.

R: James Reynolds, 1883-1913; Jane Ann Reynolds (Mrs. James), 1845-1925; George D. Roberts, 853-1904; Joseph Robinson Jr., d. 1914; Margaret Robinson, d. 1926.

S: Charles Sargent, 1890-1910 (lived with Peronto), no headstone; Edward Sargent, 1835-1893; Eliza Smyth, 1818-1901; George Smyth, 1813-1902.
T: Isabella Maude Tsorone (nee Robinson), 1877-1913.

BEFORE



AFTER



The Jacksonport Historical Society is sustained through membership and donations from our members and friends. We sincerely appreciate your support.

GENERAL OPERATING FUND DONATIONS

Hugh and Joyce Bell
John and Ana Stoehr
Roy and Elizabeth Gill
Jeffrey Taylor
Nick and Rita Jung
D. Todd and Cynthia Ehlers
Toni Christenson
Jeffrey Krueger Family
Jim and Diane Sarosiek
Shaun Koulias
Virginia and Tom Maher
Hugh and Joyce Bell

MUSEUM DONATIONS

Roy and Elizabeth Gill

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Deborah Logerquist and Paul Schumacher in memory of Arnold and Lucietta Logerquist.
Jan Birnschein in memory of Bob Birnschein.
Kris Husby-Nelson and Ranny Nelson in memory of Pete Husby and Ruth Herlache-Nelson
Kevin and Deb Magno in memory of Marlene and Napoleon Magno and Joe and Lou Cote.
Kathleen Noel in memory of John W. Reynolds Sr.
Marjorie Branson in memory of Emanuel and Eleanor Mueller.
Barbara Ramm in memory of Lilly and William K. Robinson.
Henry Spille in memory of Henry J. and Martha Spille.
Linda Gramarossa and Nancy Burke in memory of Bruno Krause.
Eugene Junger in memory of Marge (Erskine) Junger.
Joe and Sue Jarosh in memory of George Kelly.
Mike and Barb Madden in memory of George Kelly.
Gerald Guth in memory of Mary Lou Guth.
Karen Sellars in memory of Edward and Kay Krueger.
Margaret and Danny Hayden in memory of Hayne Reese.
Cheryl Zima in memory of John Zima.
Joan Liss in memory of Daniel Liss.
Phoebe R. O'Connell in memory of David and Janice Reynolds.

CHERRY FEST

Last year's Cherry Fest was blessed with a warm, sunshine-filled day that seemed tailor-made for celebration. Large crowds strolled among the many vendors, browsing handmade crafts, baked goods, and unique gifts. The aroma of festival favorites filled the air, tempting everyone who passed by. Children enjoyed games and activities while neighbors caught up with one another in lawn chairs set up near the stage. There was truly something for all ages to enjoy.

A highlight of the day was the live music provided by the Modern Day Drifters, whose upbeat performance kept toes tapping and brought some to their feet to dance. Their mix of crowd-pleasing favorites and energetic stage presence created a festive backdrop that carried throughout the day.

Of course, one of the biggest draws of Cherry Fest continues to be the homemade cherry kolaches. Carefully prepared using time-honored recipes, these delicious pastries are a labor of love. Filled with sweet cherries, they have become a signature treat that visitors look forward to year after year. Many attendees make it a point to arrive early to be sure they don't miss out, and it's not uncommon to see guests leaving with extra boxes to share with family and friends.

All in all, last year's Cherry Fest was a wonderful success—an event that celebrated community spirit, local talent, and cherished traditions. It was a nice reminder of how much we value coming together, and it certainly set the stage for this year's Cherry Fest which will be held Saturday, Aug. 1

HERB MUELLER MEMORIAL CAR SHOW WINNERS









The ever-popular Herb Mueller Memorial Car Show, held in The Erskine Rest Area, was another success.

People's Choice awards went to: First Place, Terry Slack from Kewaunee, with his 1976 Triumph; Second Place was Steve Kramer from Egg Harbor, with his 1993 Cadillac; Third Place was Darrel Viste from Sturgeon Bay with his 1933 Chev and Fourth Place was Mike Williams from Sturgeon Bay with his 1955 Chevrolet.

The Car Show Committee included Bill Hebal, Beth Chafey-Hon, Char Mueller, Mike Orthober and Mike Skippon. We also appreciate the prize sponsors: Advance Auto, Kwik Trip, Culvers, Bleys Bar and Millie's Bar. **Join us for year 32!**

32ND ANNUAL CHERRY FEST JACKSONPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY







THE ART OF KOLACHE BAKING
By Lorie Orthober, Kolache Connoisseur



Volunteers in the Pie/Kolache Pavilion put finishing touches on the freshly baked Kolaches.

Making Kolaches is an enjoyable time commitment if you like baking! My morning starts at 4 a.m. along with another baking enthusiast. But first, before baking day arrives, I must make a trip to the grocery store to get ingredients. The list isn't long, but all are a must. Ingredients include powdered milk, eggs, yeast, sugar, Crisco, 25 pounds of flour, salt, vanilla and powdered sugar.

When we first get to the town hall, we start the ovens. Then onto making the dough. (Setting up all your ingredients the night before sure helps.)

We most often make 4 batches of which each one yields about 100 kolaches, so you need large stainless-steel bowls! After a batch is mixed, it's set aside to rise. Most of the mixing is done by hand.

By 6 a.m. the fourth batch is started and close to being mixed and two to three more people arrive to assist. Rolling dough, cutting, shaping and filling begins. Yeast dough is very forgiving, but humidity plays a part in how the dough acts. (How much flour needs to be added for just the right feel.)

Also, the cardboard flats (which carry a case of soda) are wax papered, and the pans have parchment paper put on them. This is a crucial time! So much needs to be done. All the dough needs to be processed before the dough rises too high in the bowls.

During this time, around 7 a.m., the rest of the crew arrives, usually another three or four people. After the Kolaches are filled with the cherry pie filling, they bake for 15-20 minutes, depending on the oven. (We have 2 convection ovens and 1 regular oven.) Each pan is watched closely so none burn. One person oversees just watching the ovens.

Once baked, pastries are placed in the cardboard boxes and cooled. Then the finishing touches of a powdered sugar glaze is drizzled on top. We then send them off with our courier (another dedicated volunteer) that transports them to the park pavilion (roughly 2 blocks away). The first ones are delivered around 8 a.m. for your enjoyment!

Meanwhile, as stations finish up, clean-up starts. We have a list that needs to be completed. And if all goes well, we are cleaned up and leaving between 10 and 11a.m.



FISH BOIL

The Annual Fish Boil will be held this year on **Wednesday, July 15**. Last year, we hoped that moving the event from July to August would make things less busy for those of us planning because Cherry Fest was over —but that wasn't the case. We found that wrapping up Cherry Fest while simultaneously planning the Fish Boil was even more demanding. As a result, we've decided to return to our traditional schedule and will once again hold the Annual Fish Boil on the third Wednesday in July. The menu will feature whitefish and/or brats, and we'll also have entertainment. So be sure to mark your calendars and keep an eye on the JHS Facebook page and Website for additional details.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

If you haven't checked out the Jacksonport Historical Society's new website please do as soon as possible! The updates have provided live features, like the weather and calendar, secure transactions, and have user friendly access. The website address is the same (jacksonporthistoricalsociety.org) and little tweaks continue to be made but it is pretty much finished. Don't forget you can also now go to the Website to fill out your membership form and pay dues or donate.

WANTED: We still need high quality historical photos to use on the website! Scan or share originals by emailing marywitteborg@gmail.com. Are you on Facebook? Follow us! We post fun features, upcoming events, and important resources. And it's another way to engage with your Jacksonport Community! Find us at facebook.com/JacksonportHistoricalSociety .

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN! Website Scavenger Hunt!

We would love to have you get to know our new website and the plethora of information it contains. To entice you to spend a little time visiting each of the pages, we are hosting a Scavenger Hunt contest! Below is a list of ten items to find on the website. We'll award prizes to three entries: a free Fish Boil ticket, a Cherry Fest Cherry Pie and Jacksonport Through the Generations book. Just find the answers the following questions on the JHS website to be in the drawing. Write your answers here and return with your Membership Form or email your answers to jacksonporthistorical@gmail.com. Deadline for entry is Monday, June 1st.

1. What is the first picture of on the Photo Gallery page?
2. What is the oldest Newsletter archived on the website?
3. On what page can you find the JHS Gifts and Donations Form PDF?
4. According to Jacksonport History, how many schools did Jacksonport have before consolidating with Sevastopol in the 50's?
5. What is the title of Volume 2 of the Jacksonport through the Generations book?
6. What year was the Loritz house open to the public for the first time?
7. Thanks to the generosity of neighbors and friends of the Jacksonport Historical Society we have accumulated a variety of items donated to us for future use. What is the last item pictured on the Donations page?
8. Who donated their log home, that was located on Loritz Road and built in 1925, to the Jacksonport Historical Society?
9. How many area businesses sponsored prizes for the Herb Mueller Memorial Car Show?
10. On the Home Page, how many pictures scroll by in the Home Page slideshow?

