

Jenison Historical Association

JENISON HISTORY

July 2012

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www.jenisonhistory.org

JENISON HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION
PO Box 664
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Our mission is to learn about Jenison history, obtain artifacts relating to its history, and maintain the Jenison Historical Museum as a place to share and display our heritage.

1ST ANNUAL COLLECTABLE ORNAMENT

Order your 1st Annual collectable honoring Jenison History and support future JHA projects!

Cost is \$15 each

(Payment due at time of order)

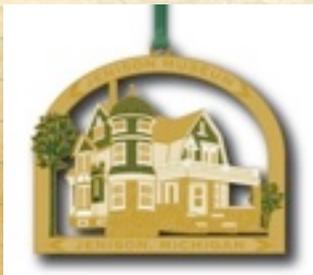
Shipping is \$5 or pick up your order at the museum during an open house.

These will make great gifts for family and friends!

Order form is on the web site, or pick yours up during any Open House!



President James Garfield and family. This portrait hangs in the Jenison Museum and is desperately in need of restoration. See page 5 for how you can help



2012 1st Annual Ornament

THE PRESIDENT GARFIELD CONNECTION

[The following is excerpts from a 2 1/2 hour program on C-Span2, August 17, 2000 about President James A. Garfield whose family photo is in the Jenison Museum. We focus on this at this time as we continue to raise money for restoration of that picture and many more that need attention. If you can help preserve these photo's of Jenison History, please send your donation to the Jenison Historical Association, PO Box 664, Jenison, MI 49429. Please note the Picture Restoration Fund with your donation.]

President Garfield came to our area to visit his brother, Thomas on several occasions, one account says his last visit was 3 years before he was assassinated in 1881. Thomas is buried in Hanley Cemetery in southern Georgetown Township. He lived in Jamestown. The photo in need of repair in our museum is of Garfield, his wife and family.]

President Garfield was born in a log cabin about 20 miles from Cleveland, Ohio. His father built the cabin. His father died when Garfield was two years old. They were very poor. His mother remarried but divorced, (to be divorced was quite a scandal at

that time). Garfield had an affair with a Mrs. Lucia Calhoun during 1863-4. He broke off the relationship in 1864 and confessed to his wife. Garfield didn't fall in love with his wife until they had been married for seven years.

Garfield's middle name is Abraham which was his father's name. His mother was Eliza and she lived with the Garfield's at the White House. Eliza was the first mother of an incoming president to attend a son's inauguration. Garfield's wife was Lucretia, called "Crete", who had a strong character, a well principled woman, but somewhat cold. Mrs Lucretia Garfield died in 1920. James and Lucretia had seven children; whoever, two died young. One, their first child, a a three year old daughter that Eliza called Trot, died of diphtheria. Garfield's descendants live in the Cleveland area and in the East. They are not greatly interested in the family history, but one hundred showed up at the family acreage which is now a museum.

He was 50 years old when he became our 20th president. He was nominated on the 36th ballot at the Republican Convention. They campaigned from their homes in those days. Politics were as dirty then as they are today. He was supported in his bid for President by the G.A.R. (the Grand Army of the Republic). Garfield didn't believe in slavery and consistently voted in favor of blacks.

Garfield had a big skull (head), was about six feet tall, robust, strong, charismatic, outgoing and wore his emotions on his sleeve. His emotions got him in trouble but everyone liked him and were drawn to him. He spoke slowly and was considered to be a great speaker, not an orator. He was left-handed and had a wonderful memory so never used notes. He was a member of the Masons even though previously he was against secret societies.

Some of Garfield's accomplishments were that he was very versatile, and college president, a 17 year congressman from Ohio, a general, a preacher

PRESIDENT GARFIELD (CONT)

(ordained thru Disciples of Christ), teacher, lawyer, politician who never lost an election. He did everything well and was a self-made man who came from poverty. The legend that Garfield could write Greek with one hand and Latin with the other is not true. No one ever saw him do this.

Garfield attended Hiram College which was founded in 1850 by the Disciples of Christ. He

taught Greek and Latin eventually. He was a head of faculty and a trustee at the college. He took his teaching very seriously; in fact, he did the best in everything he did.

President Garfield was shot in the spine on July 2, 1881 and lived to September 19, 1881. Queen Victoria sent a wreath when Garfield died. His papers are now in the Library of Congress. The man who shot him, Charles

Guitcau, was hung. Guitcau was a religious fanatic and said that God told him to do it. Vice president, Chester Arthur, became president after Garfield died, Garfield is buried in Lake View Cemetery in Cleveland, Ohio.

When a caller to the C-Span program asked about Garfield's brother, Thomas; Peskin avoided the question.

Museum Happenings

June 2012

Ken Williams, our historian gave a report at the last JHA board meeting of various things he has worked on.

Ken and several other members were able to put on a presentation for the Girl Scouts Day Camp to discuss how butter was churned, ice cream was made, etc. The girls then showed us how to make their own ice cream using resealable plastic bags. what fun the girls had squeezing and shaking their bags. And yes it did work! This may not be an exact recipe used, but one found on the internet for a fun science project with the kids this summer.

How to make ice cream in a bag (from www.allrecipes.com)

This no-cook recipe for vanilla ice cream makes about eight half-cup servings.

Ingredients:

2 cups heavy whipping cream	2 cups half-and-half cream
1/2 cup white sugar	2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 bag crushed ice	4 cups coarse salt

For each person you will need:

- 2 pint-size resealable plastic freezer bags
- 1 gallon-size resealable plastic freezer bag
- Gloves or towel to protect fingers

1. In a pitcher or large measuring cup, stir together the whipping cream, half-and-half, sugar, and vanilla extract until sugar has dissolved.
2. Pour about 1/2 cup of mixture into a pint-size plastic bag and seal carefully, squeezing out extra air. Place each sealed bag into a second pint-size bag, again squeezing out extra air. Seal carefully.
3. Fill each gallon-size plastic bag about halfway with ice and add 1/2 cup coarse salt. Place one sealed small bag into the large bag, squeeze out most of the air, and seal the large bag.
4. Wear mittens or thick gloves, or wrap the bag in a towel to protect hands against the extreme cold. Shake and massage the bag for about 5 minutes or until mixture thickens into ice cream. Add more salt and ice to the outer bag if ice cream hasn't formed after 10 minutes of continuous motion.
5. Remove the outer pint-size bag before you open the inner bag so you don't get any of the salty ice on your ice cream!

August

We take the month of August off from Our Saturday Open Houses, but you can catch us on the first Tuesday, August 7, from 10 AM to Noon.

September

We have planned a Jenison Public Schools memorabilia and yearbook party. More to come as plans emerge on this Open House.

Watch the calendar on the web for upcoming events. (www.jenisonhistory.org)

We look forward to seeing you, and if you would like to volunteer to help at any of these events, please contact the

museum at 457-4398 or email us at info@jenisonhistory.org.

Thank You:

Also, JHA would like to extend a big thank you to the Four Seasons Garden Club for the beautiful gardens at the Museum..

The garden club meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, except January at the Grandville Senior Center at 7 PM.

Are you a member??

If you are not a dues paying member, please consider joining to help support the Association. Dues are a bargain at only \$10 per year, you will receive monthly updates to the

happenings of the Association. Contact the JHA at info@jenisonhistory.org or calling the museum

616-457-4398

JHA Board Opportunities:

There are current openings on the JHA Board. Would you consider volunteering a few hours a month to maintenance of the museum and learning about and preserving our Jenison heritage? Please contact a board member or send an email to info@jenisonhistory.org.



Volunteer Opportunities!!

Museum Cleaning: This is a big job, as you can well imagine, that needs constant attention in order to have the museum look it's best during the open houses. Contact any board member if you can lend a few hours.

Tour Guides: The school tours are a great way of teaching the children about our history and is such a rewarding experience. You won't regret being a part of this experience for our local children. Joyce

Klawiter would love to hear from you.

Community Displays: An initiative is to get some displays out into the community, possible to local banks, schools and businesses. What better way to get awareness out into the community than to bring the museum to them. Grayce Lancaster is heading up this project. She would welcome any help you might be able to offer from finding the locations to

picking display material and setting up the displays.

And the list goes on... Monthly Open Houses, Theme's for Open Houses, Inventory, Museum Maintenance, board trustee.

You can come to a monthly meeting or reach out to any board member if you would like to volunteer in any particular area.

Restorations Needed

The picture shown is but one of the pictures that JHA is looking to restore. This picture is of President Garfield and his family. He came to our area to visit his brother, Thomas, who lived in Jamestown, one account says his last visit was 3 years before he was assassination in 1881. This picture of Garfield and his family, is showing signs of deterioration which can still be stopped, but the price is upwards of \$600 for just this one picture.



JHA is starting a drive to build a restoration fund with the donations earmarked for just such projects. Would you be willing to donate to help restore this picture and others in need of repair?

Come to the next open house to learn more, or you can send your donation to PO Box 664, Jenison MI 49429 and mark it for the Restoration Fund.

For Sale at the Museum

Jenison Museum Note Pads	\$ 1.50
Stationary with Envelopes	\$ 2.00
Book: Bend in the River	\$10.00
Book: At the Bend	\$ 3.00
Mill Print (unframed)	\$10.00
Jenison at the Bend CD	\$10.00
Historical Prints:	
Large	\$10.00
Small	\$ 7.50

**Coming soon our web Gift Store will be opening soon. Watch the web site.

Available during any open house, or call the Museum at 457-4398

JHA TRUSTEE'S

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Ruth Lowing (14)

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Tours/Co-Archivist

Joyce Klawiter (12)

Co-Archivist

Barb Semeyn (14)

Maintenance/Historian

Mike Timmer (13)

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Township Rep

Steve Sanders

(##) = year of re-election to the board

Contact Information: To reach any board member, leave a message at 457-4398 or info@jenisonhistory.org

Historical Association of Michigan

Find us on the registry of the Historical Society of Michigan
www.hsmichigan.org

We are now on Facebook, find us at Jenison History Association and become a friend.

