

JONATHAN CLARK HOUSE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER



Fall | September 2025

JCH Successful Preservation Projects

Thank you to our generous donors

With our mission to “collect, preserve, and share the history of the Jonathan Clark House and the early settlers of Mequon Thiensville” we developed a comprehensive preservation plan. In 2024 we started with our HVAC project and received funding from the Armond Koch Trust and from Cindy and Dave Bock



NW cornice and gutters, before restoration

Also in 2024 the foundation was skillfully re-mortored and we are planning to re-grade around the foundation. The Pieper Power Foundation funded a portion of the expense and we are awaiting further funding from another local granting agency for the remaining expense of \$5,500.



NW cornice, window and gutters, after restoration



SW cornice and gutters, before restoration

Our most recent projects have helped to further preserve the house for generations to come.

- Cornice and gutter repair and replacement - an anonymous group funded the majority of the expense with just \$1,000 remaining
- Exterior painting - This is a \$6,000 project for which we are seeking funding
- Window repair and replacement - We thank the Mequon Thiensville Community Foundation as well as Kim and Ann Harter for funding this important project.
- East and front entrances repair and replacement of sections - we are seeking a \$3,000 grant for this project.



SW cornice and gutters, after restoration

We are proud of our success with our Preservation Projects and hope you are amazed at the before and after photos. I invite you to stop over to take a walk around the house. Give me a call at 262-618-2051 and I will give you a personal tour!

Fred Derr,

JCH Preservation Manager



2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Daub, President
 Brady Seiberlich, Vice President
 Shaw Bridges, Treasurer
 Nicole Buerosse, Secretary
 Bill Kroyer, Board Member
 Christopher Osborne, Board Member
 Randy Trumbull-Holper, Board Member
 Kurt Zellmann, Board Member

2025 JCH STAFF

Dr. Nina Look, Executive Director
 Nicole Buerosse, Assistant Director
 Anne Bridges, Special Projects
 Margaret Bussone, Education Director
 Fred Derr, Preservation Manager
 & Museum Curator
 Reed Perkins, Historian

CONTACT INFORMATION

FRIENDS OF JONATHAN CLARK HOUSE
 P. O. Box 634
 Mequon, WI 53092

www.jonathanclarkhouse.org

[262-618-2051](tel:262-618-2051)

Note our new email address:
info@jonathanclarkhouse.org

JCH Fall Open House Oct. 18, 2025 9:00 - Noon

Our beautiful fall colors are right around the corner. And with them comes the fun of decorating pumpkins and playing outdoor games. Join us at our museum open house and decorate a mini pumpkin from Creekside Valley Farm in Mequon. Wear your favorite costume or try on one of our prairie costumes. Weather permitting, the fun will include outdoor games. This is a fee-free family event underwritten by the Optimist Club of Mequon Thiensville



Coming Events — Save the Dates!...

- Find **JCH at the Mequon Thiensville Community Foundation** tent at the **Taste of Mequon** on Saturday, **September 6**, from 11:00 to 8:00
- Gather with friends at **“Eats and Beats”** in Thiensville Village Park, Thursday, **September 11**, 5:00 - 9:00
- Make a date to enjoy **“Thiensville Blues Fest”** on Friday, **September 12** and **Saturday, September 13**
- Look for JCH Preservation Manager **Fred Derr** in the blacksmith shop at the Trinity Freistadt Historical Society’s **“Old Fashioned Games for Grownups”** on Sunday, **September 14** from 11:00 until 3:00
- Enjoy everything apple at **“Lions Apple Fest”** in Thiensville Park on Sunday, **October 5** from 11:00 until 5:00
- Watch for the **JCH “Year-End Fund Drive”** arriving in your mail in **mid-October**
- Look for our JCH exhibit at the **Mequon Thiensville Historical Society Annual Meeting**, **Sunday**, November 9, 1:00 to 3:00

Nominations for 2026 Board Membership

The JCH Board of Directors are soliciting nominations for board membership for one, two and three year terms to begin in January 2026. Nominations are due November 1, 2025. If you would like to request a nomination form, send a note to Nina Look at jchmuseum@gmail.com

Recent Donations – Thank You!

Would you like to honor or memorialize someone special in your life? Over the past few months we have received donations for special friends and family members who mean a lot to their families and to the Friends of the Jonathan Clark House. Your donation can be made by check or through the “Support Us/Donate” section of our website. Also in that section is the “JCH Artifact Project” that highlights artifacts available for sponsorship.

Thank you to our recent generous donors

Jane Boesch, Cindy and Dave Bock, Margaret Bussone, Fred Derr, Ed and LaVerne Foster, Nina Look, Marge Palleon, and the Trumbull-Holper family

Recent Honorarium

to JCH Education Director Margaret Bussone

Recent Memorials

for Patrick Curran, Barbara Dedrick, Jean Hill, Jeanne Bussone Holper and Mike Runde



Introducing our new Assistant Director Nicole Buerosse



Nicole Buerosse and
JCH Young Historian

Our Board of Directors is pleased to announce that we have hired Nicole Buerosse to serve as our Assistant Director. Of course, she needs no introduction because she was our 2025 spring semester intern. In her internship she worked with Fred Derr and Nina Look on the preservation project plan and grant applications, as well as recruiting family and friends to volunteer for our very successful summer events.

Here is a little trivia about Nicole that you may not know: She is a California native, and resides in Bayside with her husband Matthew and four children ages 8 through 20. She has worked as an abstract artist and educator for the past 15 years. Her background is in Fine Arts and Art History, with a minor in English. In August she completed her graduate degree in “Museum Studies and Curation” through the University of Oklahoma.

Nicole is excited to serve the mission of the Friends of the Jonathan Clark House because our mission matches her values of historic preservation and education. And, we are excited that she will be working with our board and staff for 20 hours per week. Her major projects will be event planning and fund development. Please join me in welcoming Nicole Buerosse to our JCH family!

– Tom Daub, JCH Board President

Special Thanks to JCH Historian Reed Perkins

Reed Perkins has been researching the Clark, Turck and Bonniwell families and their stories since 2006, and along the way learned that he had a great-great-great aunt named Mary Turck and she had married someone named Jonathan Clark. In mid-2012, Clark family descendant Liz Hickman contacted him and told him more about the Clark family and the pending sale of the 1848 house to a group of local history lovers. It wasn't long before he began to share his research with (and became a charter member of) the Friends of the Jonathan Clark House. He has been the volunteer JCH Historian ever since.

For the past year and one half we have enjoyed and been inspired by Reed's graphic arts talents. He has brought excitement and color to our newsletters, website and event posters. With the appointment of our new Assistant Director Nicole Buerosse, Reed will be taking off his “Media Guy” hat. Through the remainder of the year he will be advising Nicole as she moves forward.

For those who have been following his intriguing blog, [Clark House Historian](#), don't worry, Reed will continue his blogging for your reading and research enjoyment. Thank you, Reed, for your support of the Friends of the Jonathan Clark House!



JCH Historian Reed Perkins

– Nina Look, JCH Executive Director

JCH Young Historian Ambassador Katelyn Zellmann

The Friends of the Jonathan Clark House Board of Directors has named Katelyn Zellmann as the new JCH Young Historian Ambassador. The role of the ambassador is to serve as the lead of the organization's group of young volunteers. The youth volunteer throughout the year, but most recently at the annual Heritage Days and the Pie on the Patio celebration. Katelyn and her brother Kolby have volunteered at the Clark House for the past eight years. She is a Homestead High School class of 2028 honor student who excels in gymnastics, diving and in track and field. Her father Kurt is on the JCH Board of Directors and her mother Suzy is a JCH Youth Advisor. Youth ages 6 to 18 can contact Nina Look for information about becoming a JCH Young Historian.

L to R: Kolby, Kurt, Suzy and Katelyn Zellmann at the Jonathan Clark House



Family Fun – and History – at JCH Heritage Days 2025

The Jonathan Clark House was pleased to present two free, family-friendly, “Heritage Days” events this summer, Saturday, June 14 and Saturday, July 12. Here is sample of the activities at our July event.

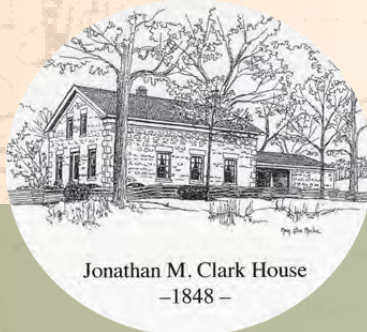


JONATHAN CLARK HOUSE MUSEUM

2025 Year-End Fund Drive



*This is your opportunity to support
a vibrant cultural asset and
vital educational resource in our community!*



**Our Mission: to collect, preserve and share the
history of the Jonathan Clark House and the
early settlers of Mequon and Thiensville.**



Our dynamic community impact in 2025:

- Completed significant historic preservation projects
- Offered customized interactive museum tours
 - Presented an intriguing map program and open house
 - Provided youth leadership opportunities through the Young Historian Program and the partnership with the Lindenwood 4-H
- Presented “Heritage Days” and “Pie on the Patio” family fun
 - Extended important community collaborations

*Your contribution today will be an investment for future generations.
A donation of any amount will include your 2026 JCH membership.*

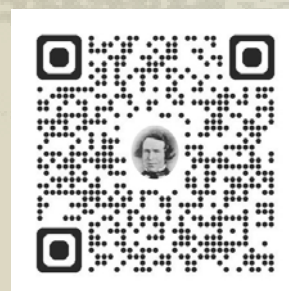
There are several ways to donate:

Mail a check to:
Friends of Jonathan Clark House
P. O. Box 634
Mequon, WI 53092

Or visit our website:
<https://jonathanclarkhouse.com/donate>



Or use this QR code:



For more information contact us at: info@jonathanclarkhouse.org

YOU ARE INVITED TO A ROPE CUTTING EVENT!

**Celebrating Historic Preservation at the 1848 Jonathan Clark House
located on the Corner of Bonniwell and Cedarburg Roads, in Mequon**



Saturday, September 27

**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Rain or Shine) Rope Cutting & Photos
at 11:00 AM**

**We're celebrating the completion of our exterior preservation projects,
and invite you to join us and local celebrities for a joyful and unique "Rope
Cutting" ceremony.**

Enjoy refreshments and take a tour of the exterior features.

Please RSVP by September 19 to: jchmuseum@gmail.com

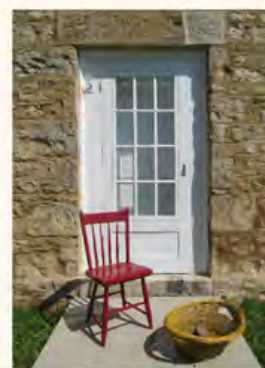
**Interested in supporting future preservation projects? Contact Assistant
Director Nicole Buerosse at 262-618-2051**

Our Mission

**To collect, preserve, and share the history of the Jonathan Clark House and
the early settlers of Mequon-Thiensville.**



BEFORE AND AFTER HIGHLIGHTS



SPONSORED BY THE MEQUON-THIENSVILLE OPTIMISTS CLUB