

Ferguson Has A History Museum

Ferguson, indeed, does have a Historical Society and a History Museum and we are moving forward with the help of our readers of the past weeks. We encourage any of you reading this article to join in the conversation. Contact information is at the bottom of this article.

Last month's article was about good and bad news. The bad news first: we lost board members Sandy Hunter and Jeannie Boettcher and Ferguson Brewing was closing. The good news was that our cabooses were to be repaired by the City of Ferguson, that Lee-Hamilton School would have a 75th anniversary and that we were planning our 2nd Annual Fundraiser.

This month is only about good news! First, Lee-Hamilton School is still here and doing well for 75 years. Second, we have good news concerning the cabooses. They are in the process of being repaired



and hopefully will be ready for the public in the very near future. The cabooses are owned and maintained by the City of Ferguson, but the

operation and touring of them is done by your Ferguson Historical Society. Once they are back to "good health", we will prepare for a "Grand Re-opening" for all to come visit the cabooses. Third, the old Ferguson Brewing is re-opening – more on that next month. Finally, we held our 2nd Annual Fundraiser



ALL ABOARD!
for our
2nd Annual FUNDRAISER
Celebrating the History of Ferguson in an Historic Home

Fellowship, refreshments, silent auction, and raffle items!
Sunday, Nov 2, 2025 • 2:00-4:30pm • 100 S. Clay Ave

\$25 per person
Venmo, Cash App or contact ferghistoricalsociety@gmail.com for other options to pay.

Venmo
Cash App



You will recall that last year's Fundraiser was to help fund our up-and-coming website – and that is what it did. The money allowed us to enter into a contract with Blue's Arthouse Graphics and Web Design to design us a website. The goal of our 2nd Annual Fundraiser is to make the website a reality and available to the public. Our current goal is to have a beginning site early in 2026 – allowing the public to search our growing files as well as keep up with all that is happening at the History House. Keep tuned to future articles to get

more information on this.

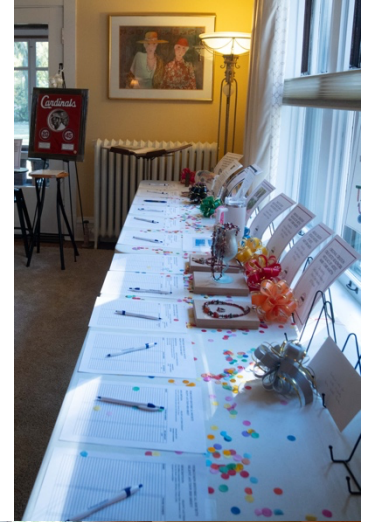
The fundraiser was a great success. This year, along with great food, drink and guests, we featured four ways our guests could have access to some great items



– some a part of history. New for this year, we added a silent auction table – reserved for items of higher value. Items featured a 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair Official Photographic Views Book, rounds of Golf at prestigious courses, hand crafted jewelry, game tickets among other things. This proved to be a popular event with plenty of last-minute tension.



We continued the raffle this year. Also, a popular event. The guest could buy any number of tickets – put the ticket or tickets in a box next to an item they may want. At the end of the evening a raffle ticket would be pulled and someone left happy.



All in all, we had 14 items for silent auction and 53 raffle items. In addition to these, we had our roving 50-50 person offering a chance at half the pot. With close to 100 guests, the pot was worth the fee.



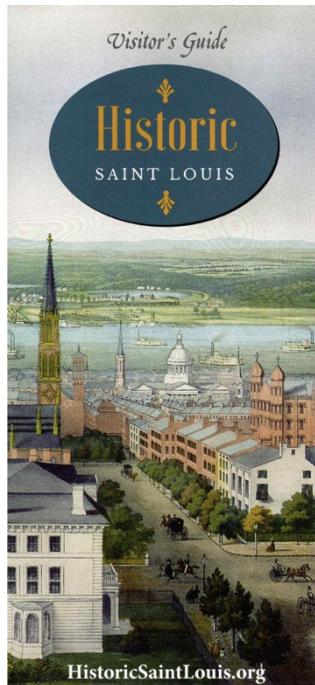
It was obvious that people were having fun dining, bidding and just meeting and greeting each other.



Here are a few photos.



Catering was provided by Abby Skees of “The Bite Club”. We also need to thank our many volunteers. Our 50-50 roving collector was Bec Hunter. Raffle sales were handled by Emily Benner. We also need to thank Jerry & Mary Whitley, Stephanie Becker and John Cross who provided the minute-to-minute duties necessary to keep things running smoothly. The beautiful house in which the event unfolded, both last year and this year, along with a large amount of additional work, was provided by Jill Holtrop. Thank you, Jill! The entire event was planned and carried out by the Board of Directors: Mary Haux (President), Jeannie Boettcher (VP), Suzann Cross (Secretary), John Knowles (Treasurer), Jerry Benner, Jill Holtrop, Kathy Noelker, Bev Proost and Maggie Sullivan.



Finally – we would like to announce an Open House at the History House, behind the Ferguson Community Center.

Saturday, December 4th from 10:00 AM to 4 PM.

You are welcome to drop by for light refreshment and to check out the History House. Our open house is part of a City/County-wide collection of historic sites and organizations holding an open house on this date and time. You are welcome to not only attend our open house, but any of the other being held, including several in North County. Ferguson Historical Society is a member of Historic Saint Lewis. Contact Historic St. Louis at HistoricSaintLouis.org for more information.

Look for our new website, fergusonhistoricalsociety.com, in the near future and thanks to all who attended our 2nd Annual Fundraiser!

That’s the good news for now. If you have any suggestions, questions, or items to donate to the Ferguson Historical Society, please contact **Jerry Benner** at fjbenner@mindspring.com. If you wish to become a member or make a money donation, you can send it to Ferguson Historical Society at 716. N. Elizabeth Ave, Ferguson, MO 63135. You are also welcome to visit the History Museum. Please email me at the address to set a date and time to visit. Board meetings are on the third Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Interested people are invited to addend the meetings.

“The Ferguson Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of Ferguson Missouri. Membership is open to all sharing our interest.”