

# MUSEUM MUSINGS

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE JEFFERSONTOWN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

10635 Watterson Trail, Jeffersontown, KY 40299 / Telephone, 502 261 8290 / City Web Site: [jeffersontownky.gov](http://jeffersontownky.gov)  
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**EXHIBITS:** Our current exhibit is titled *Working in the Light of the Kiln: Archaeological Discoveries at the Conrad Pottery*, and is the work of Kathryn McGrath, Vice President of Operations at Corn Island Archaeology. For those of you who may not be aware, Valentine Conrad operated a pottery at what is now referred to as the Conrad-Seaton House on the town square, just down from City Hall. Corn Island Archaeology currently occupies the building, and archaeologist Anne Bader has done some excavation on the property, locating the site of Conrad's kiln and quite a few small artifacts. Conrad's pottery was not limited to its sale in Jeffersontown, however; Bader is finding sherds of his red ware pottery all over Louisville, and Conrad is known to have shipped his wares as far south as New Orleans.

### **Opening Event: Conrad Pottery of Jeffersontown**

Friday, January 2, 2015 from 6-8 pm at Jeffersontown Museum

*Exhibit Unveiling, Art by Michael Ratterman, refreshments and door prizes*

Please come!

**ARTS:** Don't miss out! Email our Arts Program Manager, Rhonda Rowland, at [rrowland@jeffersontownky.gov](mailto:rrowland@jeffersontownky.gov) to get email notifications on Jtown Arts Events.

**WEB SITE:** A short film on the *History of Jeffersontown* is now available on the city web site. We welcome you to take a look at it by visiting [www.jeffersontownky.gov](http://www.jeffersontownky.gov).

**DONATIONS:** Barry Forman and Ratterman Funeral Home in Jeffersontown donated records from the Myers-Blankenbaker and Foreman Funeral Homes, dating from 1908-1974. Fred Deckmann donated Dr. Shacklette's optical lens testing kit -- in addition to providing regular medical services to Jeffersontown, Dr. Shacklette also acted as dentist and optometrist. Mr. Deckmann also donated several ribbons won at the 1953 Jefferson County Fair, along with a newspaper article about the prizes awarded. Steve Tipton, a local antiquarian, very generously cleaned up and donated two Henry Watterson portraits that actually hung in the Watterson mansion, Mansfield -- we cannot express our gratitude enough for these items, as Henry Watterson was such a major figure in Jeffersontown. Robert Miller donated for the Estate of Theresa R. Pate an 1886 book titled, "Perrin History of Kentucky." Jerry Durrett donated the 1970 groundbreaking shovel for the *J\*town 4 Theaters*, as well as several photos of the *J\*town Center* in the 1970s. Carole Davis donated a Victorian-era knife sharpener, a paper fan from Fanelli's Ice-Cream shop, and three 1950s tablecloths. Robert Bruckert donated a 1948 Jeffersontown High School *Tophatter* annual.

Brooks Bower, owner of Soldier's Retreat, was kind enough to loan the museum several sherds of Valentine Conrad pottery that was found on the property, as well as some elegant pottery fragments that were more than likely used as the fancy dinnerware of the Anderson family in the early 1800s.

# *Happy Holidays!*

