

Sheldon Schoolhouse
Museum

Sheldon Historical Society Schoolhouse Museum Newsletter



Blue Flax

An update on our progress as a Society and a Chartered Museum "A New Look at Old News From our Town"

Welcome to our August issue. There was no meeting this month, as we were busy with the Fair, so our next meetings will be Sept. 21 and Oct.19, at 7:00pm at the Schoolhouse Museum. Our meetings have been even more fun lately, as we kept the business meeting short and had guest speakers. In June, Ray Barber spoke about his uncle, Charles Barber, in the Civil War. In July, Taina Hoffman gave a talk about her ancestor, John Potter, a well known photographer born in Sheldon. Both were so interesting. We have a great bunch of fun people. So please join with us any time.

FLAX - FROM FIELD TO FIBER

This year there was a new display in the historic Griffith House at the Wyoming Co. Fair, created by the Sheldon Historical Society. It was inspired by a scrapbook we received from Elizabeth Gerhardt Love, our long-distance, folk artist member from NC. We had learned a great deal from this book, which showed the entire process of converting flax into linen, so we chose this theme for our presentation at the Fair.

The use of flax dates back to the earliest records. Flax and linen were so important to Egyptian culture, they were considered gifts of the gods and were mentioned in literature



(Continued From Page 1)

and songs. It was brought here to this country by our European ancestors, and was grown in Sheldon and Wyoming County. Everything from clothes to bed sheets and ship sails was made from linen spun on a rope spindle and woven by hand. Flax continued to be a major crop in WNY until the latter part of the 19th Century. Its decline was rapid, until it practically disappeared from our fields. The pioneer method of converting flax into cloth was indeed an arduous task and there is little wonder at its decline.



Even today, linen can be strong enough to make ropes or soft enough to make baby clothes. It requires virtually no pesticides or herbicides to grow successfully, resulting in very enticing yarns to those of us who are concerned about the environment.

It was quite a challenge to find all the items necessary to portray the whole process. Barbara Logel, our Curator, was determined to find them and she did. Some things, such as the Niddy Noddy, were loaned to us from Arcade Historical Society and others, and Sheldon's very own Earl Bartz shared one of the most important and rare parts with us, a flax brake. We appreciate everyone who helped with this endeavor. Thank you!

Sources:

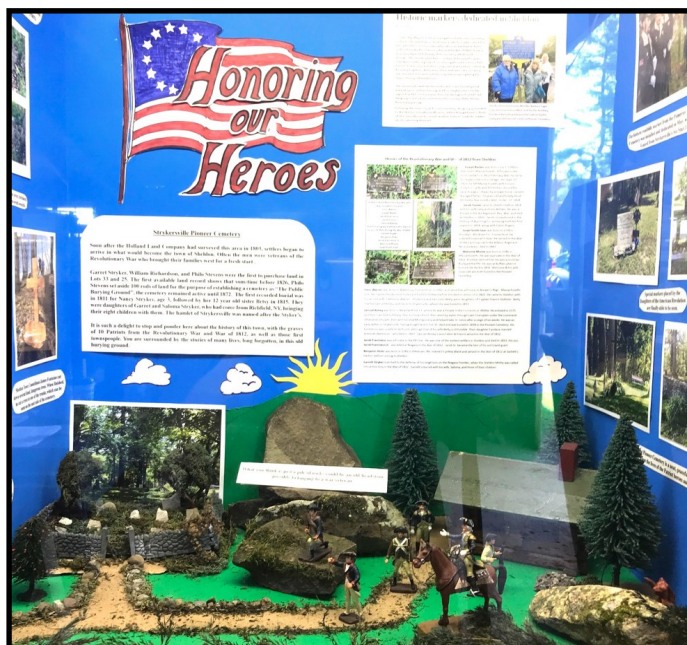
<https://sheeptoshawl.com/the-flax-of-egypt/>
Historical Wyoming, January 1999, The Pioneer Method of the Manufacture of Linen



Linen Sampler stitched with care by Teresa (George) Schiltz, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Romesser) George. Embroidery was an important skill for young girls to learn, and linen was treasured.



Flax Brake, Courtesy of Earl Bartz



“Honoring our Heroes”
Every year at the Pike Fair, each historical society in the county prepares a historical display in a wooden box that is displayed at the Federation Booth. Laury Lakas designed ours to depict Sheldon's restoration of the Strykersville Pioneer Cemetery and the 10 soldiers from the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 buried there who had been long forgotten. She used a photo for the background to create the cemetery. The pioneer cabin and a bear helped tell this story of the early days of our town.

**Sheldon Historical Society
\$250 Scholarship Winners:**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ATTICA</u>	<u>PIONEER</u>	<u>HOLLAND</u>
2016	James Zittel	Zachary Stewart	Trevor Perry
2017	Emily Bonner	Anna Brouse	Jessica Perry
2018	Amanda Conrad	Hannah Mogavero	Jacob Speyer
2019	Seth Kirsch	Morgan Sherlock	Alexandria Speyer
2020	Alyssa Wright	Thomas Kolasny	Madelyn Tavernier
2021	Alexis Dimick	Ty Zepp	No applicants
History Award of \$125 also given to Elizabeth Hirsekorn, Attica & McGuire Insley, Pioneer			
Scholarship Award Amount increased to \$500			
2022	Margot Sovocool	<small>(applicant did not complete semester)</small>	Ava Linder
2023	Jenison Wright	Joshua Chitty	Ella Szucs

This year the winners of our \$500 Scholarship were Jenison Wright, Attica; Joshua Chitty, Pioneer and Ella Szucs, Holland.

Jenison Wright is planning to attend the North American Lineman Training Center in Tennessee, after which he will be a lineman apprentice.

Joshua Chitty plans to attend St. Bonaventure College to become either a history teacher or a museum curator.

Ella Szucs will be entering the Licensed Practical Nursing Program at Erie BOCES Adult Education, to get certified as a LPN. Then she will go to Erie Community College for an Associates Degree in Sonography.

Thank you to everyone who donated so that we can keep this program going.

Federation News

The Spring Workshop of the Wyoming Co. Federation of Historical Societies was hosted by the Attica Historical Society on April 29. We had interesting speakers, a delicious luncheon, and a tour of the Attica Historical Society Museum. We had a planning meeting at Sheldon in June.

Members of all the historical societies in Wyoming Co. served at the Federation booth in the Rural Museum at the Wyo. Co. Fair in Pike, greeting visitors and showing off the historic boxes presented there by each society. Thank you all for your help.

Now it is time to start planning our Fall Federation Dinner Meeting. We have decided to change it up a little. We will have a Fall Luncheon instead, so we don't have to drive at night. The date is Saturday, October 14 at the Attica Hotel at 12:00pm.

Our speaker will be railroad buff Josh Czerwicz. Everyone is welcome to attend, but the number of tickets will be limited, due to the space. More details to follow soon, on Facebook and by mail.

A HISTORIC DAY IN STRYKERSVILLE

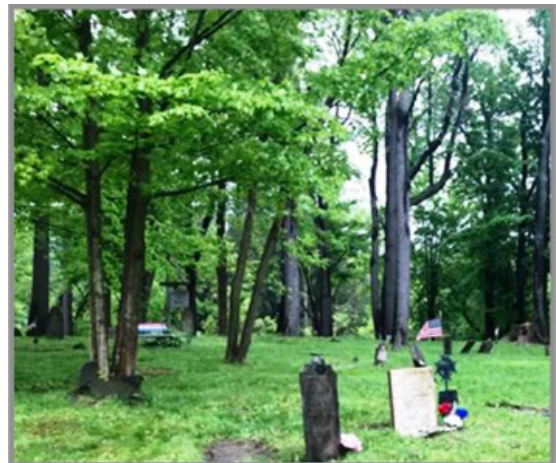
By Jeanne Mest

Over 200 years ago, pioneers began to arrive in the town of Sheldon and founded the village of Strykersville. These settlers were responsible for establishing the first farms, mills, stores, churches, schools and cemeteries. Members of this small community went to church together, then to school together and many of them went together to their final resting place in the same cemetery. The same names appear in the records from the churches, schools and cemeteries.

Sheldon School No.10 opened in 1844 and school was taught there until it closed in 1970. Shortly thereafter, the Sheldon Historical Society was formed and efforts began to preserve the old schoolhouse, which continue today. The Schoolhouse Museum was chartered in 1983, and its volunteers spent years establishing their collection of historic artifacts and records. It is well known and visitors come from near and far to see the restored 1890 classroom or to do their historical research. But this beautiful building never had a historic roadside marker.

Unlike the Schoolhouse, the Strykersville Pioneer Cemetery had been mostly forgotten for the last 150 years. No one seemed to remember the pioneers and soldiers of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 who were interred there, with their graves fallen and obscured by the overgrowth of weeds and brush.

Having been newly appointed as historian by the town board, their support encouraged me to take on the challenge of applying for some grants to fund some historic signs from the William G. Pomeroy





Foundation. That was a long process and in the meantime, I agonized over whether this cemetery could ever be cleaned up and made safe and attractive enough to restore it to the historic landmark it is today.

All that changed this spring, when the faithful members of the society and community banded together, and with the assistance of the town board, took on this huge task. Councilman Jim Fontaine brought his equipment and cleared out the dead trees. Volunteers from the Lions Club, the American Legion and the DAR showed up on cemetery cleanup day to help out the historical society. Our new Highway Supervisor Lucas Metz brought his workers and erected the poles for us, so they could be done correctly and last indefinitely. We planned a special day to unveil and dedicate these long-awaited historic markers.

The weather, however, had other plans, but despite the rain, a great number of people turned up and helped us observe this day. It began with the Honor Guard from the Strykersville Six Star American Legion Post #637, who took shelter across the street in Mark Metzger's garage until it was time for them to march over to the Pioneer Cemetery, where they did a lovely service to honor the Patriots and early settlers buried there. Not only that, but they told us that next year our Pioneer Cemetery would appear on the list of cemeteries where the Legionnaires will present their programs on Memorial Day!

By the time we reached the Schoolhouse to unveil the next sign, it was impossible and we headed inside where it was dry and refreshments awaited. This historic marker at the Sheldon Schoolhouse honors all those early teachers, scholars and historians throughout the town of Sheldon who made it possible for us to gather together on May 20 to commemorate these two historic landmarks.



The Old Country

(what was it really like)

By Mary Ann Metzger

From 1830 to 1839 the total of the Germans arriving to America amounted to 124,726. But even at this average of 12,000 per year, it was only the beginning of the mass of numbers that would follow. In the decade from 1845 to 1855, more than a million Germans fled to the United States. From 1851 to 1860 there were over 950,000 German immigrants. There were also immigrants from other parts of Europe who settled in the Sheldon Area, but the Germans seemed to be attracted here. Many of these were our very own ancestors, a part of our history to treasure and pass on to future generations.

Our ancestors came to escape economic hardship as well as the political unrest caused by riots, rebellion and eventually a revolution in 1848. America had the appeal of cheap land, the discovery of gold, the desire to be with friends and relatives who had come previously and most of all the new freedom to be found. Other factors in the homeland that spurred people to emigrate were military service, the feeling of the youth that there was no future for them there; the indifference of the government against a lot of the peasants and the dissatisfaction with religious conditions. In addition, the railroads and steamship companies did an excellent job of advertising the economic opportunities of America. Many of those that came here were craftsmen, such as weavers, tailors, shoemakers, bakers, carriage builders, glass blowers, etc., and most of them also farmed or at least had a garden to help feed their families. The best solution seemed to be to venture the turbulent waves of the Atlantic to avoid possibility of destitution. It was a hard decision to make, but their faith was strong.

Celia Firestein McCoy was born and grew up in Sheldon, and after moving to Ohio she wrote long letters to friends and family back home with vivid descriptions of her life and her ancestors. There are few first-hand accounts of stories from the places where people emigrated from. It is memories like Ceal's that must be recorded and cherished. We first published excerpts from her letters in our Nov. 2016 Issue. Here Ceal reminisces about her family roots from Gunstett in the Northeast corner of the Alsace Province. She describes her visit to "The Old Country" in 1981.

LETTERS FROM CEAL

To begin: **WE ARE NOT GERMAN!!!**

Our Laugel family came to this country before the Germans got involved. My Father said they were from Alsace-Lorraine. Alsace is the very North-East province of France, except they are now called departments. Alsace is now Bass-Rhin and Lorraine is Moselle. Gunstett would be about 30 miles from Strasbourg. The border of the countries is the Rhine River.

It was neat that both sides of my Father's family came from the same village. Their Laugel that became Logel in this country was pronounced nice in French. Nearest I can come to it is like La or LoShell (French talk funny).

Gunstett was a small village of about 120 homesteads when our family left there. Since they are so close to Germany, the people are a mixture of French-German ancestry and the area became German depending on who won the last war. Everyone lives in the villages, not on individual farms as we do in this country. One can drive from village to village with only war monuments along the roads. When I was there in 1981 a farmer down the street still brought his cattle to his barn behind his house for milking twice a day.

Most of the houses were quite small and very area-efficient. One has a sink in the kitchen, so why build another with the toilet? Each home was quite self-sufficient; the houses were quite close together with long lots behind them; they all had chickens, rabbits, a cow, big garden, fruit trees and berry bushes. Thinking back to our grandparents, they brought the same ideas to this country, except for the rabbits, I don't remember anyone of our families or others who raises rabbits for food.

Everyone remembers how our great-grandmother Stephan carried things on her head, which was common there. They had a pad they put on their head and the basket or whatever balanced on that.

Actually one can walk down the streets and except for the TV antennas and cars parked, imagine our family walking in the same steps as we do now.

There were benches along the roads where the people who were carrying the bundles on their heads could rest. Grandma Stephan used to carry things from Gunstett to Strasbourg to sell. She was supposed to be a sharp bargainer and she always sold all that she took there. She carried game and fish; the fish had to be kept in water or the Jewish women would not buy them.

Grandpa was supposed to be a poacher. Grandpa's "TROUBLE" has several versions; most added up to, if they had stayed in the old country, he would have been in jail. One was he was poaching and the other person almost died.

Another was that he and my Grandpa Feuerstein were running moonshine and caught (whether by rival moonshiners or the law I don't know.) My grandpa was younger and could run fast but Grandpa Stephan was caught and beaten very badly around his head, not recognizable and almost died; also his arm was crippled. He was very childish after that.

It was legal to make the whiskey, they rented the hood for the still from the mayor for like a week. They had big barrels of it and sold like water glasses of it in the cellar for about 5 cents.

On one of Grandma's walks to Strasbourg she took Louis with her to look for a job. She left him where he was to work and she went on. When she came back in the door back home she started to moan that mein poor Louis was no doubt working so hard and very tired. Finally a voice came from behind the stove "ICH BEN HERE MUDDER". So ended that career of Louis!

On the wall of the church facing the cemetery is a plaque. A LA MEOIRE DE SEPT HABITANTS DE GUNSTETT— In memory of the 7 residents of Gunstett—HERBURGER JEAN, DOROTHEE LEHMANN, WIRRMAN JOSEPH, KORNPORST JEAN-BAPTISTE, STEPHAN JOSEPH C., JUCKER ANTOINE, SPILL JOSEPH. They were taken hostage, tied to horses' tails and dragged until they were dead. Maybe they were shot first and then the bodies were dragged? I am sure they were civilians, not in the military. It was 6 August 1870.

The Alsace region is famous for storks. There are none left in Gunstett but some of the region still has them. The last nest in Gunstett was on the Cure's (priest) home. They make an awful mess leaving the bones from their food so the people were not sorry when they were gone.



Maria Anne Keem Stephan, 1822-1912 Great Grandma Stephan carrying flour on her head, from Sheldon

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**Gunstett is about
30 miles north of
Strasbourg.**



Alongside a village church and school in one of the neighboring villages there was a man working with scythe and handmade wooden rake putting the hay he was cutting on a 2-wheel cart. My Father had a cart just like it and used the scythe to cut the hay alongside the road and in corners by fences and buildings. People who had weeds growing by buildings were always regarded by my Father as SHIFTLESS, which was one step from dying in the poor house (the greatest disgrace of all). Thinking back on this, there are many of those ways of life that go back to the life in the home village. I think all of Europe is much less wasteful than we are in this country. They invented Recycling! Along the Railroad tracks there were men working with the same small carts or big baskets they carried on their backs with the hay in them.

The people wore wooden shoes to work in their gardens and yards when it was wet from rains or just the morning dew. The older people still had them when I was there. They washed clothes in the river. There were like small platforms they used to scrub them and then rinsed them in the water. Space is not wasted on lawns, there are gardens and many flowers but usually they are around the outside of the gardens.

There is a DISTILLERIE D'ALSACE there now where they make schnapps. Schnapps is still popular there so I am not sure if that was their whiskey? Mrs. Stephan's whiskey (or whatever) was considered the best. During the war she sold to the officers of both armies. They would leave it in a basket and go back for the money that was left in the basket. She nursed the wounded soldiers in the church. Some were tall negroes from Africa. She carried their dead bodies from the choir down the steps with their feet over her shoulders.

They had to bury their guns so they would not be found during the war, but they did a lot of poaching. They were not allowed to go out of their homes during the night.

My grandfather served in the French army during that war in 1870, I think for a total of 6 years. He was where it was very cold and was a prisoner then. They asked for those who could speak German & French. He volunteered and became an interpreter. He could then sleep behind the big ovens. Many froze to death, in the mornings they would carry the dead out and piled them like cord wood to bury them in the Spring when the ground would thaw. After being there he went to Africa where it was very hot, which was hard to make the change. He was a tailor and like a valet to an officers. After they were in this country he received a letter from the French government that he could homestead in ALGIERS, I think it was like 12 acres, mule and I think 2 cows — it was like a bonus to the soldiers.

When the war ended they had to change from speaking French in school to German. The Kaiser was a shrunken bent-over small man, he was brought to the edge of town in a carriage and then rode through the village on a horse but was old and barely able to ride.

I don't think WWI was in the Gunstett area. In WWII the Germans came 12 June 1940, they lived in homes in the village. The Americans came 12 December 1944, the Germans came back 24 January 1945, the Americans came 18-19 of March 1945 and the Germans were gone. About 30 homes in the village were destroyed in the village from shelling, windows were blown out of the church. Their bridge over the SAUER was blown up by the Germans, the Americans rebuilt it for them and they seemed to appreciate that. It was the American 7th Division that came. They could hear the tank battle in nearby RITTERSHOFFEN & KUHLENDORF.

Two of the Kim families lost everything in the war. Their homes were blown up by a German bomb. The one lived in the basement for 3 months. Two of her sons were in the German army, one died in Russia and the other was a POW there, came home ill and died when he was 31 years old. A daughter's foot was hurt when they were bombed, when the Americans came they took her to the American Army hospital in Strasbourg where her leg (I think almost to the knee) was amputated but they saved her life and she was very grateful to the Americans.

CHRISTOPHORE KUHN was from the village of MUCKENSTURM in Germany. It is close to RASTATT in BADE. He was a blacksmith - charron. Thru the years the KUHN was changed to KIM and in this country it became KEEM. He was married in Gunstett 17 January 1702 to Ursula Metzler. One of their 11 children was JEAN born 23 April 1716. Christophore died in Gunstett. Jean was married in Gunstett. He was also a blacksmith. He married Madeleine Barmann. They had three children; one was Laurent, who married Barbe Stephan 31 Jan 1803. He was a tisserand - a weaver. Laurent's son Martin was the 1st of our family to come to this country. He was one of the 1st German settlers in Sheldon. He worked on the Erie Canal. He broke his leg while blasting work was being done on the canal, he came to Sheldon to recuperate. So it seems logical he knew someone in Sheldon?? His wife's sister married one of my Logel family but they didn't come until 1835.

Martin was born in Gunstett, January 16, 1811. Catherine Kornprobst was born in SCHOENENBOURG in Alsace. She wouldn't marry him until she came and saw this country to see if she would like living here. Anyhow I guess she liked it, they were married 21 September 1835 in St. Louis Church in Buffalo and they had 8 children. All the Keems in Western N.Y. are descendants of theirs.

Uncle Louis came to this country when he was 17, he was one of the first to come, probably about the same time as my grandfather. He ran away to keep out the Army and served on the ship for his passage over. Uncle Tony came when he was 18, he hid on a train to get out of the country. He had been apprenticed to a tailor in Strasbourg when he was about 14, as a sewer which was not as good as a cutter. He arrived in New York City the same time as my Grandmother (November 1, 1881) and saw her trunk there. He came from a French port and she had to come from a German port, as my grandfather had sent the tickets to her.

The ones who came over were to send the money for the next to come. Mother was very upset by the disgraceful behavior of the children who did not send money, or said they did and they did not receive it.

Grandma wanted to get all her sons to America where they did not have war, before they would have to serve in the German army. She saved us all from the wars there, but the wars did follow her a bit to this country. Two of her grandsons were in WWI; Louis Stroh was a Wagoneer in a Supply Co. of 309th Infantry. Joe Firestein was in a Machine Gun Co. of the 311th Infantry. I am not sure how many were in WWII.

Excerpts from the writings of Celia McCoy, Compiled by Jeanne Mest

In our WWII Display, you can see Hobart McCoy's military album & memorabilia. We also have several photo albums and more of Ceal's memoirs in our collection.



Celia "Ceal" Firestone McCoy
1923 - 1920

FROM THE SHELDON SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM AND HISTORIAN, JEANNE MEST:

Thank you all who came out to help us with our Pioneer Cemetery Cleanup and then came to the dedication program on May 20 for the historic roadside markers we received from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. Your support means more than you can know.

Then we had a great turnout for our fundraiser, the Strykersville Townwide Yard Sale. All those helpers at the schoolhouse and raffle are very much appreciated, as well as our faithful volunteers who come on Tuesdays all summer. Thank you!

Also I would like to thank all those who continue to support us by sending in membership dues and donations. It helps very much to defray expenses, especially the newsletters and scholarships. We want to welcome several new members; Michael Carlson, Linda Schiltz, Madeline Weisenburg, William Fugle, and Brian Palmateer.

New Lifetime Members are Mr. & Mrs. James Tyczka, Rita Becker and Christopher Machiques. Carolyn Almeter changed her membership to Lifetime.

Thank you to Janet Kirsch for donating her WNYGS collection. There are very helpful articles in that publication. Mary Ann Metzger donated her collection of the beautiful WNY Heritage Magazines. We also have a current subscription to this magazine. All these magazines and journals, along with our collection of historic books, are available for members to sign out and read at home.

By now, most people probably know about the special year this is for St. John Neumann's St. Cecilia Worship Site. 2023 is the 175th Anniversary of the founding of the Sheldon parish in the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo. Its beautiful stone church was built in the years around 1890. We applied and received a grant for a historic roadside marker from the Pomeroy Foundation for St. Cecilia's. The sign is expected to arrive any day now, so we hope to install it very soon.

**Donations Received:**

Thank you to Joan Miles and Mary Feinstein for their generous donations.

Memberships, Memorials and Donations to the Sheldon

Historical Society may be sent to :

Michelle Fontaine, 770 Armbrust Rd., Strykersville, NY 14145



What a delight it is now to drive along the roads throughout the Town of Sheldon and see all the Hometown Heroes banners. Thank you to Noelle Pitkin, the American Legion, and everyone who contributed to this project. And as always, our gratitude to those who are honored on the signs.

We are now open on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 and have enjoyed having several visitors and interesting research projects. Please consider visiting us and letting us help you trace your family history in Sheldon. Records can often be found in local historical collections that you would not be able to find online or elsewhere.

Jeff & Mary Feinstein came from Virginia to learn more about her ancestors, Stephen and Susan Simons. They were able to have an extensive tour of St. Cecilia's Church, courtesy of P.J. Almeter, to see where they attended and were buried. Thank you, P.J. Since we knew about their visit ahead of time, we were able to make their visit more special. With the help of a little D2, we even managed to clean a little of the lichen and grime off the Simon headstone.

Barbara Jones and her daughter Chris came to the Schoolhouse Museum to do some research and then met Orangeville Historian, Laury Lakas, at the Johnsonburg Cemetery where she helped them locate the graves of her Coburn ancestors.

Especially interesting was our visit from Connie Luker, our friend and long distance member from Georgia. This was Connie's second trip here. In 2017 she visited and saw the farm and homestead of her Bauer ancestors, as well as finding their graves at St. Cecilia's and St. Joseph's Cemeteries, and also had one of P.J.'s famous tours. Then later she wrote a story for us about Frank Bauer, "My Mysterious Grandfather", which we featured in our newsletter.

Well, this time Connie was back with a new discovery. In a bizarre twist, she discovered that her husband also has roots in Sheldon! He is descended from the Humphrey, Holcomb and Case families who lived in Humphrey Hollow. Dan & Connie met and married in Georgia; neither of them have ever lived in Sheldon, but they both had ancestors here. In fact, the former Bauer homestead on Humphrey Rd. was only a few miles away from Humphrey Hollow!

Although it was a bit rainy, we managed to walk around and look at the stones at the Humphrey Hollow Cemetery. It was such a nice surprise to find the cemetery all mowed and taken good care of. Thank you to whoever cares for the Humphrey Cemetery, you are doing a great job. The headstones of Theophilus Humphrey and Orange Tozier were easy to find, but we would need a little more time on a day with better weather to identify more.

I can't wait to see what Connie discovers next!



BEFORE & AFTER

This is the Simons grave which we cleaned with D2, the safe biological solution recommended by the National Park System. It is amazing. We have been using it to clean and identify some graves at the Pioneer Cemetery.



Jeff and Mary Feinstein

*Sheldon Historical Society
 Schoolhouse Museum
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Newsletter printed by:
 ARC Hilltop Printshop
 Mount Morris, NY 14510
 (585)658-3311

Research assistance is available throughout the year.

For inquiries please contact Jeanne Mest, Town Historian, email: townofsheldonhistorian@gmail.com, 716-474-3156 or mail: 470 Rt. 20A, Strykersville, NY 14145.

Newsletter compiled and edited by Jeanne Mest, with the assistance of creator/consultant Mary Ann Metzger, Scott Barvian and many volunteers. Submissions welcome; please send articles or questions to Historian. Newsletters can be emailed. Large print versions are available. For previous newsletters, see website or contact Historian.

Sheldon Historical Society Officers:

- President - Laury Lakas
- Vice President - Carol Felski
- Secretary - Kate Meyer
- Treasurer - Michelle Fontaine
- Archival Curator - Jeanne Mest
- Board Members:
- P.J. Almeter, Chairman;
- Janet Kirsch, Barbara Logel,
- Elaine Almeter, Judie Coffey, Steve Lakas
- Museum Curator - Barbara Logel
- Classroom Curator & Town of Orangeville Historian - Laury Lakas
- laurylakas@gmail.com
- Town of Sheldon Historian and Newsletter Editor - Jeanne Mest
- townofsheldonhistorian@gmail.com

Sheldon Historical Society Membership

Being a member of the Sheldon Historical Society means being part of preserving history. Dues and donations support the maintenance of our museum and historical artifacts. As a member you have voting privileges, and newsletters are sent to you at no cost.

The membership year is from July 1 through the following June 30. Current membership status is shown on your mailing label. **Please remember to renew yearly, and let us know of any address changes.** If you are currently a member, thank you for your support!

2023-2024 Membership Application or Renewal

Please send a check payable to the Sheldon Historical Society
 To Michelle Fontaine, Treasurer, 770 Armbrust Rd., Strykersville, NY 14145

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

_____ New Member _____ Membership Renewal

_____ \$12 Annual Membership July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

_____ \$75 Lifetime Membership

_____ Would like to make a Donation In Memory/Honor of _____

_____ Complimentary - Current Members Only 80+