



Township of Sheldon Historical Society & Schoolhouse Museum Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

May 2012

"An update on our progress as a Society and a Chartered Museum & "A new look at old news from our town."

"A nostalgic tabloid for and mailed to all Members"

Sheldon Historical Society Officers Board Members & Curators

10/ 2011 - 10/2012

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*Meetings are held the third Thurs. of the month through Oct. Non members are also welcome to attend. We will be open from 1:00 to 4:00 on Tues. June through Sept., by appointment, or by chance when we are working at the museum. Watch for the **OPEN** sign on the porch railing.*

Town of Sheldon Historian- Barb Durfee

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A Few words from our President:

Again, at this time of the year the Society is preparing for the annual "Town wide Yard Sale". Read about the beginnings of both, The Township of Sheldon Historical Society and the yardsale. Remember your first TV, read about an early local business that sold and serviced them. You will also enjoy the stories in this issue of other past inhabitants of our area. Read this issue and enjoy. Mike Szucs

Reminder to attend meeting on **May 17, 2012.** at the School House Museum. Last minute plans for the townwide sale will be discussed.



God Bless America, Land that I love

Memorial Day this year is especially important as we are reminded almost daily of the great sacrifices that the men and women of the Armed Services make to defend our way of life.

Robin Hayes

WELCOME to the third issue of our quarterly newsletter. April showers bring May flowers and then long awaited for summer will arrive. We have been busy working together to get the museum displays in order for the Townwide sale and new season. We sincerely hope you stop and take a look at what's new. Newsletter: Compiled by Mary Ann Metzger and Jeanne Mest with the help of various members of the Town & Society. (For submissions, corrections, and additions please email us or leave a message.)

Welcome new members for 2012:

New members since 2012:

David Metzger, Warren Zahler, Ceal McCoy, Luella LeMieux, Mary Hulton, Helen Dunn, Edward Kuster. Margaret George, St. Paul, Mn.

New Lifetime members:

Nina Fountain, Carol Felski, Carol Gawronski, & Sally Woods.

One -Hundred Fifty Years ago

On **May 20, 1862**, President Lincoln signed the "**Homestead Act**" into law. It provided citizens, and those becoming citizens, 160 acres of public land at no cost beyond a minimal filing fee. Filers had to agree to improve the land by building a dwelling at least 12 by 14 feet, plant crops, and remain on the site for at least five years. It would be interesting to know just how many pioneering farmers involved in this population of the Westerns Plains states were from the Sheldon area. We would appreciate any stories and facts that could be submitted.

Attention Members

We are busy finishing up displays for this current year. Our Museum displays for 2012 will be:
School class room in the 1918 era.
Herrmann Philco radio and T.V. display
Depression glassware compliments of Carol Kehl
Civil War display in commemoration of 150 Anniversary
Local farm related displays & History
Sheldon band display.
Play ball with Lawrence Lefort - baseball memorabilia.
George Immigrant trunk with history, new picture added to our reunion collection.
Strykersville Baptist Church display.

Federation holds Workshop

The Wyoming Co. Federation of Historical Societies held their annual Spring workshop on April 28 of this year and was hosted by the Town of Java Historical Society. All were welcomed by a table of coffee, donuts, coffee cake and cookies. The program was well attended and the presentations were very informative.

Jeff Mason, Arcade Town and Village Historian, gave the morning part of the program. Mr. Mason spoke on how a simple medicine bottle with an Arcade, NY name on it escalated into a story of a Doctor in Arcade and a medicine he apparently sold. The moral of the story was how a simple artifact or piece of archives can spiral to be an important part of history.

Preston E. Pierce, Ed D, from the Rochester Regional Library Council, gave the afternoon presentation on "Bounties, Bonds, Banknotes and Taxes "How the Union financed victory in the Civil War." Paper money was issued, Demand Notes were used and new coins were issued for the war. There was a 5 cent coin made of nickel, 2 cent coin 95% copper+tin+zinc and a 3 cent coin (new design,) copper+nickel. The "First Federal income tax was in Aug. 1861.

A sit down meal was served in the Java Congregational Church and all left with an enriched spirit of our history. It was an enjoyable time, as usual.

Origin of Buffalo Hill Jam In the Valley

Jam in the Valley started as a simple 4th of July fireworks show for the entertainment of our campers at Buffalo Hill Village. Every 4th of July, a "backyard style" fireworks show was put on, much to the delight of "maybe" a couple of hundred people.

Never one to rest on his laurels, Buffalo Hill Village owner, Sonny Attea would add a little more excitement to his show each year.

Patriotic music, light shows, fountains, waterfall displays, pyrotechnic animations, firework waterfalls and of course, our staple Statue of Liberty were all added throughout the years. As time went on, the "couple of hundred" original spectators more than doubled in size.

Concerns for public safety, or a stray firework accidentally setting the surrounding woods on fire prompted Sonny Attea to ask one of the local volunteer fire departments to bring a fire tanker to the show... just in case!

Fortunately, we never had to put out any fires; but something happened that day that led to the birth of Jam in the Valley... We passed a hat! Believe it or not, that was our original fundraising effort and it came on a whim. After the campers from Buffalo Hill Village gave so generously, an idea was born! Why not give our guests a bigger show, with better fireworks, at a reasonable price and raise money for our local volunteer fire departments and other charitable organizations.

That's when Sonny Attea decided it was time to take a chance... and Jam in the Valley was born! First, crowds of 2,500... then 5,000! Bigger and better fireworks shows! Then... 6,000 to 8,000 spectators.

Fireworks shows that became fireworks experiences! Now... two days of concerts, sellout crowds of 10,000. Thousands of Jam in the Valley campers.... Legendary country artists... and Sonny Attea's personal promise to give you the very best 4th of July country concert and fireworks event at a reasonable price.

So come join us this year on July 6 & 7 and see performers Miranda Lambert and Lynyrd Skynyrd and start a new 4th of July weekend tradition with us! Isn't it about time that you experience what it's like to Jam in the Valley?

From web site- permission from Jim Attea

Excitement is Building at the Museum

New displays are prepared for the annual town-wide yard sale, and we are updating our archives so we can help people with questions during that weekend. Several new additions to our files have been received. Recently we were sent a wonderful PowerPoint presentation on the Wooster family, which we plan to show on the laptop, along with our other displays. "The Story of the Old Family Photo Album" starts out with the author's tale of how a precious old photo album was almost discarded, because no one knew who the people were. Realizing she had a piece of history in her hands, but with no time to pursue it then, she tucked it away on a closet shelf where it remained for many years. When the time came that she found herself tracing her genealogy, she remembered the album & found it to be a gold mine. She was able to read and identify most of the names from her research, and it helped her piece together the story of her family. One of her ancestors was one of the first pioneers in Java, arriving in 1808. His son was said to have been the first white child born in Java. You will see names like Stryker, Wooster, Schang and Mason. During the 1800's, the family spread to Iowa, Wisconsin & Tennessee, and included a physician and five Baptist ministers. One, Dr. Mason, spent 50 years as a missionary in Tura, Assam; others went to mission fields in China & India. This remarkable family had its roots here in our town, yet their influence was felt around the world.

Each of us has our own unique family history, yet so often the stories are lost. My own family history was also packed away in a box for years, and when I found myself wanting to know more, that old box of photos led me to discover many things I never knew about my ancestors. I've been able to trace them now from Germany, Ireland & Scotland; to learn I lost two great-great grandfathers & several great grand uncles in the Civil War, along with some Revolutionary War and War of 1812 ancestors that I never knew existed. One of my first stops along this journey of discovery was at the Sheldon Historical Schoolhouse Museum, where Mary Ann & Marilyn helped me with research on my husband's family. I never expected to find a couple that came here with a new-born baby, traveling from Talheim, Germany, on the Ship Marmion; from Albany via the Erie Canal, arriving in Nov. 1846, settling in Sheldon & raising 10 children, only to be almost forgotten. It turned out that several others from Talheim also came here; many were on the same ship. Names like Möst, Kohler, Kreutter; they settled in a cluster, as did so many immigrants; they married Meyers, Zahlers, Fischers & Strobls. Learning about all these different families has been absolutely fascinating.

Please bring us your family pictures or stories; we would love to add them to our family history collection. You never know when your descendants may come here to research **your** story!

Jeanne Mest, Archival Curator

Bi Centennial of War of 1812

American Declaration of War:

The United States, under President James Madison, declared war on Britain on 18 June 1812. Officially, the American declaration was a response to the Royal Navy's repeated violations of the "freedom of the seas." The occupation of Canada would also stop the flow of arms and ammunition to the Shawnee Confederacy. Deprived of its major source of weapons, the Native alliance would be unable to resist American expansion to the west. Battles raged throughout the continent for over two years before peace was negotiated.

Sheldon is Affected

Not only did Sheldon participate in the American Revolution, but also the **War of 1812**. Almost every household in Sheldon was affected during this War. Residents were scared the Indians would come and kill them, Church services were suspended and many men left their wives and families to fight for a cause they felt was of vital importance.

Israel Read killed when Buffalo burned, wife buried in Strykersville

Israel Read came to "Willink", now Wales, with his family in 1811, settling on the head waters of the Buffalo Creek.

Near the close of the War of 1812, on the 29th and of Dec., 1813, the British invaded the Niagara frontier, with an army of about 1,000 men, mostly regular soldiers. They were followed by about 100 lawless Indians, who, it was known, would kill every American that fell into their hands. Hence our men were more afraid of the Indians, than the British. To meet this invasion the local militia were called out. Benjamin Read, being over 16, was "ordered out" with his regiment. He was not well, and so his father, Israel, volunteered to go in his stead, although he, himself, had what was then called "Tyler's Grip," a disease that produced a trouble in the side that prevented one from running fast. He also had Asthma, or as it was then called "Phthisis." He evidently did not expect to run, but he shouldered his gun and set out for the defense of his country. It was bitter cold weather, and the snow lay deep on the fields. As he left home his wife gave him a pair of woolen mittens she had knit for him.

His regiment was stationed at Black Rock, just below Buffalo. He was ordered out to meet the enemy, and a battle was expected. Israel Read was just then on detached guard duty and might have kept out of danger by staying where he was, but chose to go with his neighbors to the fight, and he got another to take his place on guard.

With one of his neighbors and a close friend, Josiah Emery, they met the enemy, and the battle began. It is a matter of history that through the mismanagement of our officers and the fact that our men saw themselves outnumbered, and knew that the Indians were not far behind, that our lines gradually gave way, and our men were on the run. Among the last to run were Col. Emery and Israel Read. For a time Emery accommodated his pace to Israel's gait. At last Israel gave out entirely and said he could run no farther. Then Emery spoke about staying with him and fighting it out there, but Israel would not let him. He bade him go on and save himself, and pulled off one of the mittens and gave it to Col. Emery to hand his wife when he got back to Willink. They also left Israel an extra musket. The Indians were then so close upon them that, as Col. Emery used to say he could hear them panting. He looked back once more and saw Read standing against a tree and waving them to go on. That was the last seen of Israel Read alive. Two or three days later they found his body where they had left him alive, on the frozen ground, entirely stripped of clothing, scalped, twice thrust through with a bayonet, and arms badly hacked. There were indications that two or three other bodies had been taken away, and it is almost certain that he killed two or three, and perhaps more of his foes, and then clubbed them with his guns, one of which was found broken and cut with tomahawks.

The precise place where this took place was almost exactly where the famous "Pan American Exhibition," at Buffalo, was held. As soon as the news reached Willink and the family, the oldest son, Benjamin, aged 18, went after his father's body and brought it home with the ox-team on an ox sled, covered with a blanket. At the funeral, the boy, Charles, then 12 years old, not having, just then, shoes to wear; his feet were wrapped in other garments. A quaint old tombstone was erected, in what was then regarded as unusually fine style. Israel Read was 45 years old. He was married to a German lady, Margaret Timmerman (Zimmerman), who was mentioned as very intelligent and noble. She stayed in Wales for some time but later moved to Strykersville, where she is buried in the Pioneer Cemetery.

(From the Buffalo Express and Read Genealogy this story is made possible)

Pathetic side of Israel Read from an article in the Buffalo Express: "Not the least pathetic part of the death of Israel Read, was the farewell message he sent his wife. We read of lovers breaking six-pence's, each keeping a share, in sign of true love and truth. Was there not an idea akin to this in the last act of the middle-aged, asthmatic, Israel Read, when about to give up his life for his country, he took off one mitten--one only--and sent it back to her, while kept the other, and bravely waited for death?"

Attention: Did someone in your family serve in the military or are currently in active duty? Please submit their story, picture and where and when they served, our military history will not be complete without it. Any information however small is welcome.

Farm History



Otto Barvian farm on Perry Rd. was purchased about 1934-35 from the Sloand family. Otto's family operated the farm after his death in 1945. The farm was sold to Robert Pingrey in 1963, consisting of 97.59 acres per 1956 map. They started out with 27 head of cattle and a 300 gallon bulk tank. It is now owned by Daniel and Patty Pingrey and consists of approximately 280 acres, milk prices are 17.80 per cwt. and their milk tank is 6,000 gallon. Dan and Patty now have 250 cows. This is a typical trend of today's farming; small farms have been consolidated into larger ones. Agriculture is now big business and very technical; in fact Dan and Patty's farm is in today's standards one of the smaller in the County.

The Historical Society is collecting pictures of aerial views.

Unidentified Picture

This is third in a series of unidentified pictures that we will post. Can you help? We have a scrapbook of unidentified pictures, feel free to add any town pictures you would like to have identified.



Obituary:

Historians study the past for insight into the future.

We are working on an extensive collection of obituaries from the mid 1800's to the present. They are a link to our past. If you have any to share, please contact us.

This issue's Obit:

"In Memoriam" newspaper article, John Schiltz June 11, 1924

At a special meeting of the St. Mary's Catholic Club of Strykersville a resolution was adopted on the recent death of one of these members, John Schiltz, of Sheldon.

The deceased was a trustee of St. Mary's Church for nearly nineteen years a leader in all worthy undertakings of the Church and civic affairs and organizations. He was elected road superintendent for two terms. Mr. Schiltz was held in genuine respect by all classes of people because of his sterling qualities, his modesty and geniality. He was well prepared for death having received the last Sacraments. His death came as a shock to the Sheldon and Strykersville parishes. At the solemn High Mass for the repose of his soul his pastor and friend, Father John Marencovick, was celebrant, Father Max Muller of No. Java, deacon and Father Francis Wanemacher, of Sheldon, sub-deacon, both being neighboring pastors.

The funeral of Mr. Schiltz was the largest in the history of Strykersville. It was deemed only due to his services to have the solemn funeral, because he was faithful to his religious duties and parish affairs as he was conscientiously faithful to his other duties. A monthly communicant and a member of the Holy Name Society, his was the most powerful example for good in St. Mary's parish. Mr. Schiltz was in his fifty-sixth year and leaves to mourn his departure his widow Anna (nee Stamper) and two sons and one daughter, besides many relatives and a host of friends.

The following resolution was adopted by the Catholic Club: Resolved, that since in the all wise Providence of Almighty God, our esteemed member and vice-president of St. Mary's Catholic club, John Schiltz, has been removed from our midst by his death on June 11, 1924, to receive the eternal reward for his many good deeds so well known to us especially; we hereby express our sincere sorrow at his departure, praying Almighty God to grant him speedy entrance into heaven, his eternal home, and we also, by this resolution extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Anna Schiltz, his widow, and family' and that these resolutions be spread on our minutes and be published' also that a copy these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family.

Frank E. Suttell, President

Rollin Reisdorf, Secretary

A like resolution was adopted by "St. Mary's Branch of the Holy Name Society."

Clippings from Sheldon Democrat:

Did you know? It was the War of 1812 and not the American Revolution when Francis Scott Key penned the "**Star Spangled Banner**," our National anthem.



Herrmann's Radio Service
Strykersville man introduced television to the local communities in the Town of Sheldon

In later years Leon was quoted as saying "I brought television to the Strykersville but now wonder if that had been such a good idea.."



The **Philco Predicta**, on display in museum, is an American television made in several models by the Philco company in the late 1950s.

It is arguably the most iconic television set in existence and is to many people the "classic" 1950s TV set—although with its trademark detached picture tube, it could not be more atypical of an early television set.

Herrmann's Radio Service had its beginnings in the late 1930s and, for the next twenty years or so, brought new, cutting edge 20th Century technology and conveniences to the hamlet of Strykersville and the surrounding Wyoming Co. countryside. But how did such a business arise from the rural farm country in a corner of the Town of Sheldon? Call it the vision of a man who not only embraced the modern world, but who looked forward to the future and to sharing it with others.

Leon G. Herrmann was born in 1920 in the family homestead on Dutch Hollow Rd. in Strykersville. Leon shared life on the small family farm with his twin sister, Leona (who died in 1940), his older sister, Bernadette, his mother, Anna, and his father, George, who was also a cider mill operator in town and a Sheldon justice of the peace. Leon grew up helping with family and farm chores, but it seemed his mind would frequently take him beyond the humdrum daily existence of a small town boy.

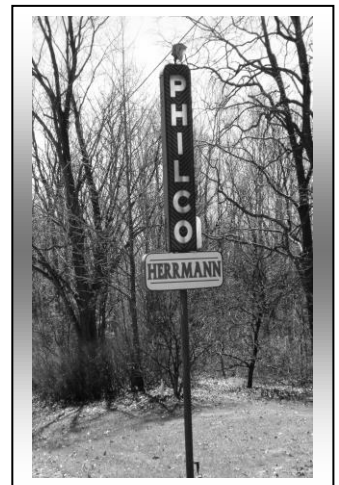
Some of the drawings done in his childhood showed that Leon was fascinated with the future world of Buck Rogers. Another interesting drawing depicted an enormous skyscraper that Leon envisioned as housing the entire population of Strykersville! However, once Leon began high school in Arcade

,he knew he would need more pragmatic plans for the future. At Arcade High School, Leon excelled in math, chemistry and physics. While studying physics, he became very interested in electronics and, on one occasion, found himself correcting his teacher during a discussion on electrical circuits!

Leon graduated early from Arcade High School and, having decided he did not want to get into farming, started a correspondence course through National Radio Institute. Now, with his family's support, 18-year-old Leon found himself learning about electronics formally. Leon completed the course and, perhaps as a way of testing himself, offered to fix the radio of a family in town. Not fully confident in his skills, Leon worried he wouldn't be up to the task. However, he did fix the radio, and Herrmann's Radio Service was born in 1938.

Leon credited the postmistress in North Java with helping him spread the word that Herrmann Radio—which specialized in Philco products-- was ready to serve the area. Soon, Leon found himself with lots of business as people from the area purchased radios and appliances and, later, came to him for repairs. Leon traveled to Buffalo weekly in the family's Erskine automobile in order to pick up parts for the business. His sister, Bernadette, helped out with the bookkeeping side of the business and even helped him build a garage attached to his shop. The garage was used as an installation area for automobile radios and antennas.

The end of World War II saw the advent of commercial television, and Leon was quick to recognize how it could transform people's lives. Leon described his experience of TV as "magic", and took a course in this new medium at Bergman & Co, In Buffalo. In 1948, He then set up a demonstration of this "magic" for the **community at St. Mary's School in Strykersville. The event was a success and, as Leon noted, business "took off" after that.** The television business included sales, delivery and set-up, and the rooftop installation of the necessary antenna. By 1950 a Philco appliance showroom was opened on the corner of Main St and Perry Rd in town, with the repair shop remaining up on Dutch Hollow Rd (Ray Brzecki handled the sales and Leon took care of repairs.) In 1953, Leon traveled to a Philco convention in Atlantic City, where he learned about the new technology of UHF. He always kept abreast of the latest advances in the field. Unfortunately, over time, the convenience of the automobile made it easy for people to travel to Buffalo to purchase their TVs. Leon found he was being undersold by businesses in the city. Herrmann's Radio Service was still available for repairs, of course, but the big money was in sales. By the time Leon married his wife, Grace, in 1957 and started to raise a family, he realized Herrmann Radio would not be able to provide the support they all needed. By 1958, Leon sadly closed up shop, and an end of an era was marked. However, if you're ever traveling on Dutch Hollow Rd. in Strykersville, be sure to keep an eye out for Leon's original sign at the edge of the road. You won't be able to miss the **tall Philco - Herrmann sign!**



Submitted by Herrmann family

The Last Lone Inventor, about Philo T. Farnsworth, inventor of television.

Philo began laying out his vision for what television could become. Above all else... television would become the world's greatest teaching tool. Illiteracy would be wiped out. The immediacy of television was the key. As news happened viewers would watch it unfold live; no longer would we have to rely on people interpreting and distorting the news for us. We would be watching sporting events and symphony orchestras. Instead of going to the movies, the movies would come to us. Television would also bring about world peace. If we were able to see people in other countries and learn about our differences, why would there be any misunderstandings? War would be a thing of the past. ~Evan I. Schwartz,

History of Township of Sheldon Historical Society and School House Museum



History of the Schoolhouse

In 1844, land was purchased from Daniel and Elizabeth Hall, and deeded to Charles Richardson, Darus Baker and Ardin Woodruff, as the first trustees for Sheldon-Java School District #20. A one room school was built. It was later moved and then replaced in 1891 with the present 2-room Queen Anne style School House pictured above. **In 1904 the bell** was added and in **1906 porch steps** and a wooden railing were built.

Originally all elementary grades 1-8 were taught in this school. In 1909 a Catholic school was built across the road to accommodate the parochial school children in the area, and the numbers here decreased significantly.

The Holland School district centralized with Sheldon #10 in 1967. When **the School closed in 1971**, only Kindergarten attended. The last teacher was Miss *Dorotha E. Kirsch who is still a resident of the area. She began teaching at the school in 1942.

Shortly after the School closed it was given to the Town of Sheldon for \$1.00. A Teen Club used it for meetings, the Coachmen Drum Corps held their practices and stored their equipment here, and the Town of Sheldon used it as a Polling place. Because no certain group took care of it, the structure became run down. The building had been left vacant except for newspapers from a paper drive and the miscellaneous debris left to absorb water from the leaking roof. .
Was there any hope for this historic building?

School takes on a New Meaning

In 1976 the Bi-Centennial year, people all over America got excited about doing things. A group of people got together to form "**The Township of Sheldon Historical Society**", with the desire to preserve Historic sites and the school was their first consideration. Many thought it was worth saving, but some thought it should be sold or torn down.

It was agreed upon that the Town would continue the ownership and the Historical Society would maintain the building to be used as a museum. The Society completed the original restoration, but since that time the Town has provided major funding. This combined effort has worked well and will continue to provide an appreciation of local history for future generations.

The members and Community put many hours of work into getting the School back in good condition.

In 1976 this School was listed on the Bicentennial National Historic Landmark Survey.

In 1981 an old millstone was brought from Varysburg, and placed between the steps of the porch and remains there today.

in 1982 the "I Love NY" travel guide featured a picture of the School.

In 1983 NY State granted the Society a NY State Charter.

In 1985 there was a dedication Ceremony of the Schoolhouse Museum.

In 1991 we held a 100th Birthday Party on the lawn, with cake & ice cream for all.

This schoolhouse was built by people who wanted their children to have a good education. Buildings have changed, but the desire to learn remains the same. We have seen a new interest in those interested in preserving the history of Sheldon, thus our society is quite active. However, we are in need of volunteers in many aspects. Our Historical archival collection continues to escalate. Please consider being a part of this venture, the challenge is very rewarding.

This year in 2012 the School is 121 years old.

**An Auto-biography book of Dorotha E. Kirsch's life is for sale in the museum. It is an amazing story of a dedicated teacher.*



Dedication of Schoolhouse 1985 Sen. Volker, Dorotha Kirsch, teacher, and Assemblyman Paxon

(Printed in Historical Wyoming January 1980)

Sheldon Historical Society and School House Museum

In September of 1978, we held our first regularly scheduled meeting of the Township of Sheldon Historical Society. At that meeting a board of Trustees was elected, namely Jack Roberts, Jean Dominisey, Darwin Almeter, Betty Reisdorf, Terry Martin, and Lawrence Victor.

The officers elected were President Ray Caryl; Vice Pres. Curtis Wheeler; Sec't Barbara Logel; and Treas. Mary Lou Roberts. After the elections were completed, the meeting continued with the presentation of a gavel in memory of Mrs. Ethel West by the members of the West family.

At the 1978 October meeting considerable discussion took place on what we could do to preserve the two room school house in Strykersville. The Sheldon Town Board had asked for our consideration in accepting the building for the use as a museum. For so young an organization, such a large project caused great concern as to our ability to handle it. By the March 1979 Meeting an agreement had been reached with the Town Board on the care and use of

the school house. A general clean up brought out several members and served notice that our program was under way. Edward Logel was elected trustee in place of Lawrence Victor who had resigned. Our first flea market was held in August and was a great success, financially and in calling attention to the program of the society.

On Sept 2, 1979 an Old Thyme Picnic was held at the Firemen's grounds in Strykersville; it was a time of fun and excitement. There were games for young and old. Music by the Strykersville Town Band, displays of antiques and crafts, a bazaar booth and dancing in the evening.

Our Provisional Charter was received Sept. 25, 1979. This was a fitting conclusion to our first year. Remember- become involved. Help preserve the history around us. let us all enjoy it and record it so future generations may enjoy this wonderful heritage we share.

(Anita Ripstein Hayes was Town Historian and a great help in organizing the society, setting up the Museum, and in getting the Charter. She has researched and documented much of Sheldon's History, including a book on the Revolutionary War, which is in the Museum and may be purchased from her.)

21st Annual Townwide YARD SALE STRYKERSVILLE, NY

Sponsored by the **SHELDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

JUNE 4 & 5 2011

Saturday & Sunday from 9am to 3pm

Vendors & Inquiries, call Barb @ 585-457-3061 or Judy @ 585-457-3444

At the SCHOOLHOUSE:

Makeover of the Museum complete
New displays: Civil War, Sheldon Band,
Ladies Fashions early 20th century

**Sunday 3-4 PM * Singing group
Folk O'the Road**

Community Cookbook Sale

Theme Baskets

BoyScouts HOTDOG Stand

Limited flea spaces available

Antiques..Bargains..Prime Junque Good Food..Great Fun

I will participate in the Townwide yard sale. I am enclosing \$7.00 per set-up. Please make check payable to the Sheldon Historical Society. Mail to Barb Logel, POBox 150, Strykersville, NY 14145. Non-Resident Lawn spaces @ \$12.00. Call Barb@ 585-457-3061 or Judy @ 585-457-3444 to reserve a spot. **Commercial vendor spaces available. Call for prices.**

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Location of sale _____

Around the Town:

Kiwanis Roast Beef Stand

Mason's Sausage Stand

**St. John Neumann Bake Sale
and **Ice Cream Stand****

**Local Restaurant Specials
Music & pig roast at Flip Side
Scratch & Dent SALE @ Logel Appliance
Buffalo Creek Llamas**

**Sunday Only: American Legion
Chicken Bar-B-Que 12-??**

Brief History of the Town Wide Sale sponsored by the Sheldon Historical Society

Our history of the townwide sale goes back to 1976 when the Java Historical Society planned a Bicentennial Celebration and asked the Sheldon Historical Society to help. it became a joint affair, eventually called the Olde Tyme Picnic. it was held at the Strykersville Fire hall and grounds, which is in the town of Java, and right in Strykersville's midst. This Olde Tyme Picnic was held for six years, until 1984, usually on Labor Day weekend. It was a very enjoyable family day, however due to lack of enough volunteers it was halted.

Some of the members of the Sheldon Historical Society felt that some type of Community Activity was welcome and it was decided to have a craft show/sale in the schoolhouse grounds. This eventually changed into a Townwide (really Hamlet wide) Yard Sale. It was originally held on Sunday, but has developed into a two day celebration, held the first full weekend of June. *It gives us a chance to show off the beautiful building.* In 2012 the date will be June 2 and 3, and it will be our **22nd Annual Sale.**

A raffle was included in the event as a money maker, since the income from spaces barely covered expenses. At first quilts were the main raffle but later various items were raffled. Since 2009 we have held a basket raffle. Please come and join in the fun. You'll likely find a treasure to take home.

(Information from Elizabeth Reisdorf, Sec'y)

(We appreciate any donations of baskets for the raffle)



"And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free.
 And I won't forget the men who died ,who gave that right to me."~Lee Greenwood

The Historical Society welcomes new members! If you find local History interesting, we hope that you make a membership contribution and join us. It is open to anyone with an interest in the history of Sheldon, or a desire to volunteer services without restriction to age or place of residence. We maintain a School House Museum that is state chartered. There is always work to do to maintain this structure and to continue our research of data and archives and preserve treasured artifacts.

(Atten: If you are not a member and wish to receive your copy please join)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DATE: _____

Make check payable to The Town of Sheldon Historical Society.
 Mail To:
 Donna Kirsch, financial secretary.
 4458 Richardson Rd.,
 Arcade, NY 14009

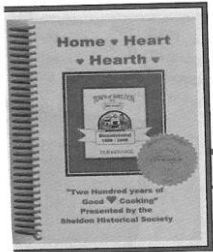


A nostalgic tabloid; you won't want to miss it.

Attention:
 The date on the address label signifies the due date of your membership. Don't let your subscription lapse. Dues are \$5.00 a year and \$50.00 per person for lifetime membership. This helps us continue Historical research of the Town of Sheldon.

Highlights inside this issue include :
 Interesting display on Herrmann Radio and TV, come and view the nostalgic era.
 Next Meeting **May 17, 2012 @ 7:00** at School house Museum; Also mark your calendar for meetings on **June 21 and July 19**, we really want your attendance.

Queries are welcome. We are here to help you with your genealogy or facts of past history in Sheldon.
 Email us at Sheldonhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com



*We still have award winning **Bicentennial Cookbooks** for sale. \$16.00
 Do you have one for members of your family, they are very nostalgic.*

The contribution of your time, sharing your artifacts and archival material along with monetary donations are deeply appreciated.

