



Township of Sheldon Historical Society & Schoolhouse Museum Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 2

Feb. 2013

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

Sheldon Historical Society Officers Board Members & Curators

10/ 2011 - 10/2012

Pres.-Michael Szucs
Vice Pres.- Mary Ann Bartz
Secretary - Elizabeth Reisdorf
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Classroom Curator -Elizabeth Reisdorf
Archival Curator - Jeanne Mest
Museum Curator - Mariiyn Smithley
Email - Sheldonhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com
Museum Telephone - 1-585-457-7033
Alternate Email - mametzger@rochester.rr.com
Alternate telephone -716-474-3156
*Meetings are held the third Thurs. Feb.-Nov. Nonmembers are also welcome to attend. We are open from June through Sept., and anytime 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
Phone 585-535-7322 or email Sheldon Historian@aol.com

Welcome new members:
Grace Daniel, Clarence Conrad-lifetime member

From our President:
Spring is around the corner and as we begin a New Year at the Historical Society we will begin discussing and making plans for 2013. One event for certain is the town-wide yard sale the first weekend in June. This event is very popular with those that sell and and for the bargain hunters that fill the streets that weekend.
As we meet on Feb. 21, we welcome all to attend and look forward to seeing new faces, renewing past acquaintances and to talk Sheldon history. Read and enjoy this issue of our newsletter.
Historically yours, Michael Szucs

If you have something you would like to lend or donate, or perhaps an exhibition you would like to do yourself, however big or small, please contact:
Marilyn Smithley, Museum Curator
585 457 9484.

Newsletter compiled by Mary Ann Metzger and Jeanne Mest, with the help of several volunteers.
(Corrections and additions please email us or leave a message.)

Mark your Calendar:

Historical Society meeting on Feb. 21, 2013.

We need your help in planning for the coming season. It takes a lot of hands and ideas to get the museum displays ready. Please try to come and see where you can fit in. Every little bit helps. We are most fortunate to have this museum, and to have had it updated. Keeping it up is up to members and the town.

1852 Newspaper Clipping

JOHNSONSBURGH, March 11, '52
Mr. Holly :—Sir, I shall be under the necessity of discontinuing your paper unless we can get a mail from Warsaw to this place. For almost one third of the time this winter we have not got it till the next week, I have felt rather unpleasant about it, but concluded to hold still, hoping for better times. But alas! forbearance ceases to be a virtue; and I cannot stand it any longer. Tuesday the old black mare went up to Orangeville Centre and turned back—to day as far as this place and turned about. Please inform us what can be done under the circumstances.

Yours in haste,
PRICE MORSE.

We have heard more complaint of the failure of the mails on that line than any other. If we understand it, the contract is to carry the mails through there three times a week. We would advise those in Johnsonsburgh and other places, who are discommoded, and who know the facts, to make a statement, under oath perhaps, and send it to the Postmaster General. We imagine this will remedy the matter.

Elihu H. Parsons is Post Master of the North Sheldon Post Office, recently established in this county.

From 1833 Republican Advocate

*"Give me six hours to chop down a tree
and I will spend the first four sharpening the ax."
Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), U.S. President*

Obit from our collection:

John KLEIN, an energetic, industrious, and prosperous farmer, owning one hundred and eighty-five acres of land lying in District No. 13 in the town of Sheldon, Wyoming County, N.Y., was born on the other side of the broad Atlantic, being a native of the town of Dehachy, Belgium, six miles from the city of Arlon, where his birth occurred in 1833, on the 24th of March. His parents, Francis and Catherine (Leffering) Klein, came to this country with their two children, Charles and John, leaving Havre, France, in a sailing-vessel, and being forty-four days on the water. From New York City they came by canal to Buffalo, and thence to Sheldon, where the father bought thirty acres of woodland, paying six dollars per acre. Having but nine dollars in money when he reached Sheldon, he had to run in debt for the property; but with the assistance of his two sons he cleared and improved the land, paid off the indebtedness, and bought another thirty acres, for which he gave nine dollars an acre. On the farm which he redeemed from the wilderness Francis Klein lived until called to the brighter world, April 12 1859. His widow, Catherine Klein, who outlived him a quarter of a century, retained her faculties to the last, and died at the advanced age of ninety-one years.

John Klein, the second of the two sons named above, obtained a good practical education in the country of his nativity; and, after leaving the parental roof, he worked out as a farm laborer by the year, being four years in the employ of Ephraim Durfee, of Orangeville, receiving thirty-six dollars wages the first year, fifty dollars the second, seventy-five dollars the third, and the fourth year he was given one hundred dollars and a pair of boots. He afterward worked for his former employer's son, Burton Durfee, nine months, receiving nine dollars a month. He continued thus laboring until the death of his father, the highest compensation he ever received having been one hundred and forty dollars per year. Forty-five acres of the paternal homestead fell to his share. He paid his brother for one-half of it, and farmed on this for twelve years before buying the farm where he now resides, which forms a portion of his one hundred and eighty-five acres. This he bought in 1870, and the following year moved on to it with his family. Mr. Klein carries on mixed husbandry, raising the staple grains of the county, and keeping a dairy of twenty cows, sending the milk to the factory. Diligent in his calling, honorable and upright in his dealings with others, he is held in high respect throughout the entire community, and is one of the valued citizens of the town. In politics he is a staunch Democrat; and, religiously, he and his family are members of the Roman Catholic church.

Mr. John Klein was united in marriage in 1859 with Catherine Redding, a native of Belgium. Of the ten children born to them, one, Lucy, died October 26, 1889, at the age of eight years. The record of the others is as follows: Lany, the wife of Michael D. George, of Sheldon, has four children. Frank, a single man, resides in Batavia. Edward lives at home. Mary lives in Batavia. Eva is at home. Albert is a farm laborer. John resides on the home farm. Henry works in Batavia. Willis, a boy of fourteen, lives at home with his parents.

Source : *Biographical review : this volume contains biographical sketches of the leading citizens of Livingston and Wyoming Counties, New York; Boston: Biographical Review Pub. Co., 1895, 685 pgs.*

A Tribute to our military

Peter S. Jungers

Army #: 3,439,723

Registrant: yes, Morton county

Birth Place: Sheldon, N. Y.

Birth Date: 05 May 1888

Parent's Origin: of American parents

Occupation: lawyer

Comment: inducted at Mandan on June 14, 1918; sent to Agricultural College, N. Dak.; served in Company A, 210th Engineers, to Oct. 15, 1918; Company A, 28th Machine Gun Battalion, to discharge. Grade: Corporal, Oct. 18, 1918. Discharged at Camp Dodge, Iowa, on March 1, 1919, as a Corporal.

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.

Now that the holidays are over and winter will soon be a thing of the past, I am looking forward to resuming our meetings and getting back into the various activities at our Sheldon Schoolhouse Museum. I know I will be smiling the minute I push the brick out of the way (our doorstep) and walk through the doors. From the moment you enter, you know there is something very special about this place.

It reminds me a little of the library, which has always been one of my favorite places. As a child it was a treat to be able to go to the library, and I would come home with as big a pile of books as I could carry. Not much has really changed since then, as far as my love for books. So my family always knows what to get me for Christmas, and they do. As soon as Christmas day was over I was diving into my first new book. Only a child who grew up to be a history teacher would know how fascinating this one would be.

The Patriot War, Along the New York-Canada Border – Raiders and Rebels, by Shaun J. McLaughlin, recalls the stories, triumphs, and sacrifices of brave men in both New York and Canada, in a short war from 1837-1838 that most of us have never even heard of. This undeclared war was not so much a war between nations as it was a war of ideals, fought by like-minded people, against the greatest military power of that time.

During the Patriot War, hundreds of men on both sides of the New York Canada border took up arms to free Canada from British tyranny. The fighting raged along the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River from Michigan to Vermont. It had only been 23 years since the War of 1812, and many Americans still hated the British. So when a group of Canadians known as The Patriots began to stand up for their rights, many Americans were quick to join in to help with their cause.

These men fought bravely in battles, skirmishes and attacks, and many sacrificed their lives. Others were tried for treason and sent to the British prison in Tasmania where they became slave laborers.

Among their leaders was Bill Johnston, a Thousand Islands smuggler, river pirate and War of 1812 privateer. The author brings the stories of all these real historical characters to life in a book that was hard to put down.

At our Sheldon Schoolhouse Museum, we have a growing collection of historical books that are available for members to borrow. If you enjoy reading about history, come down and take a look! And if you have any historical books that you would like to pass on, we would love to put them on our bookshelves for others to enjoy. Hope to see you there!

Jeanne Mest, Archival Curator

Bridgework Complete and Dutch Hollow Rd. is Open

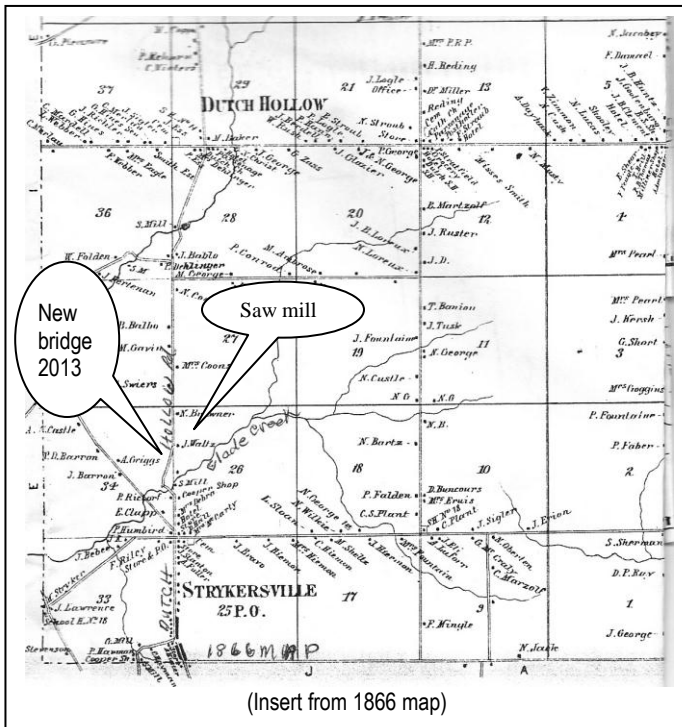
Dutch Hollow Bridge alert issued in July 2012:
This is an ACTUAL ROADWAY DISRUPTION OR DELAY ALERT...

Issued By: Wyoming County Emergency Management
Jurisdictions: Wyoming County
Headline: Dutch Hollow Road in the Town of Sheldon will be closed July 9th thru November 30th
Description:
 Dutch Hollow Road in the Town of Sheldon between Route 78 and Armbrust Road will be closed from July 9th through November 30th for a bridge replacement.
Instructions:
 Please plan on alternate routes of travel during this road closure.
 Carol Zittel, Sheldon Town Clerk

In a newsletter on Dec. 1, 2012, Carol Zittel stated that **"The Dutch Hollow Road bridge** is installed and the road is now open!" Just what is the history of this bridge with the quiet waters of Glade Creek flowing serenely underneath.



The picture above shows remnants of the old bridge, built before 1930. That stood on property adjacent to the new bridge ever since 1967 when the bridge that was just replaced was built. Dave Rickettson, highway commissioner, stated that the original bridge dates back to before the county did their bridge survey in 1930. Below shows the workmanship of the stone wall used to build the old bridge. A fine bit of craftsmanship that is rarely seen today. Notice the concrete formed wall and railing.



A creek is a small stream, often a shallow or intermittent tributary to a river. Early pioneers followed a creek. Dirt roads were formed from paths through wooded areas as they were traveled frequently by early settlers. In the days before automobiles it is likely that a wooden bridge of sorts was built to cross the creek. Logs were sent down stream for the sawmill. Note Reisdorf's saw mill on map. Settlements were often formed near creeks. As years passed transportation improved as did our bridges. However, the genius of the early bridges with hand formed stone walls are a marvel to admire.

One thing was sure; the Sheldon people were not going to be left up the creek without a paddle.

REPAIR AND COST RECORD			PLACE PHOTO OPPOSITE CARD IN FILE. ADDITIONAL PHOTOS IN DEAD FILE.	
YEAR	TYPE OF REPAIR	COST	LAYOUT SKETCHES, ARRANGEMENTS, FLOOR PLAN, TRUSS, BEAMS, W/STEEL BRG. INDICATE FLOW DIRECTION AND GIVE NAME OF CREEK IF ANY.	
ORIGINAL COST				
1	Prev. to 1945	421.09		
1955	Rep. Wingwalls	135.15		
1964	Railing & posts	283.96		
1965	Misc. repairs	777.84		
1969	Re-painting of piers & floor beams	39,868.44		
1968	Paint	364.50		
1975	Initial repairs	31,227.76		
1986	repairs to bridge railing, masonry	763.00		
TYPE OF FLOOR: <i>Truss</i>			ASSEMBLY: <i>C</i>	
SPAN: <i>27' 0"</i>			HOWLS: <i>C</i>	
PIERS: <i>2</i>			PIERS: <i>2</i>	
SAFE LOAD: TONS: <i>TRUSS</i>			STR. NO. <i>167 (Back)</i>	
TOWN NO. <i>8</i>			BUILT BY <i>Luten Bridge</i>	
RD. JCTN. NOS. <i>C 78th 27' 0"</i>			NO. ON NAME <i>SHL 8</i>	
TYPE <i>C</i>			PIERS: <i>H-15</i>	
SPAN <i>27' 0"</i>			PIETING <i>CP 35</i>	
LENGTH <i>23' 0"</i>				
WIDTH <i>12' 0"</i>				
HEIGHT				
PORTAL HT.				

Project: DUTCH HOLLOW BRIDGE
Engineer: Wyoming County Highway Department
Product Designation: Arch Bridge 32' Span 12' Rise
Project Highlights – Facts:

Location: Wyoming County over Glade Creek
Contractor: Hunting Valley Construction, Inc.
Manufacturer: Kistner Concrete Products Inc. – Lockport Plant

- # 1 - Installation of 16 Sections of 29 Ton Precast Concrete Arch 32' Span 12' Rise
- # 2 - Installation of 2 Headwalls each 22 Ton Precast Concrete

Very successful installation all Stakeholders: Hunting Valley Construction & Kistner were very pleased with project & product install.



29 TON ARCH BEING SET IN PLACE



VIEW OF ALL PIECES SET



VIEW OF FOOTER



LAST PIECE FITS PERFECTLY



HEAD WALL BEING SET

This new 2012 bridge replaced the one built in 1967; that one was built at a cost of \$37k. At that time the treacherous curve in the road was improved where many accidents had occurred throughout the years.

\$37,000.00 in 1967 had the same buying power as \$258,213.89 in 2013. Annual inflation over this period was 4.31%.

The new 2012 bridge cost of structure alone was over \$225,000.00.

The cost for the construction of the new Dutch Hollow Road bridge was \$1,023,906.48. (quite a difference from 1967 quote pg. 3)

Pictures and information above compliments of Clarence Conrad and Kistner Construction, And Dawn Luckenbach, Secretary to Highway Superintendent of Wyoming County Highway



Johnny Almeter

The Young Carpenters

(This is a collection of stories about the Almeter twins, Johnny & Francis, as told by Francis to his daughter Betty Reisdorf, with corrections and anecdotes by Johnny.)



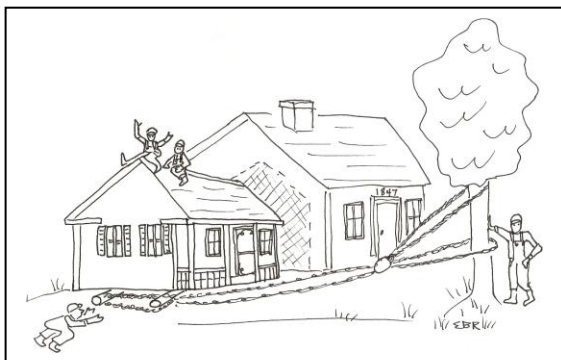
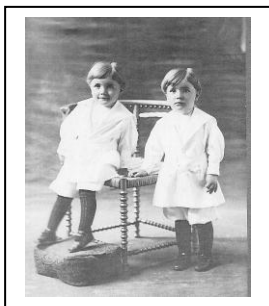
Francis Almeter

In form and feature, face and limb, I grew so like my brother
That folks got taking me for him, and each for one another
It puzzled all our kith and kin, it reached an awful pitch:
For one of us was born a twin, yet not a soul knew which.

Johnny and Francis Almeter were the twin sons of John F. Almeter b. 1863 and Barbara (Dominesy) Almeter b. 1866 of No. Sheldon Rd., Sheldon, NY. The twins had 8 older siblings: Martha b 1888, Cecilia b 1891, Carl b 1892, Rose b 1895 Henry b 1897, Catherine b 1902, Madelen b 1904, and John & Francis b 1906. The original house was built in 1847. The farm has been in the family since 1870, and is now owned by Roger and Debbie Almeter.

AS CHILDREN

"Before we (the twins) started first grade, the old kitchen with porch was removed from the main part of the house, because it was too small. Tackle blocks and rope were used to winch the house off its foundation and onto "rollers". These were logs from Kuchenbeizers Sawmill in East Aurora, that had been peeled and smoothed, nice and round. (In 1980 those rollers were still in the corner of the sugar shanty.) The blocks and tackle were fastened around a maple tree out by the road, and a long hemp rope was used. Mother Barbara commented "It will ruin that tree!" But it survived another 80 years before it was cut down, and still had a nice green crown."



"While they were moving the kitchen, Ma was inside cooking for the men who were doing the moving and would be there for dinner. At that time, the kitchen had a wooden dry sink with no drain. Madelen used to tie 2 foot strips of flour sacking onto a stick to shoo the flies out. After it was moved, the porch was boarded up, and the entire building was used for a Granary. Later on the Granary was used as an Ice house, but it didn't work good for that."

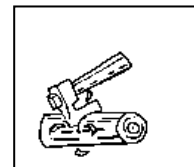
As children, we used to love to play in the granary, climbing around on the piles of wheat. It also had a wonderful smell, probably from all the delicious meals that had been cooked in it. We always wondered about the narrow room in the front, not knowing it was the porch. Betty Reisdorf

"Uncle Will Almeter from North Java built the new piece on. It consisted of a kitchen, porch and woodshed. Frank Perry, John Dominesy and brother Carl helped. When the wood



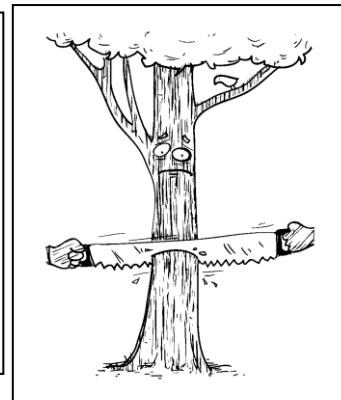
porch was going up, Uncle Will spilled a 50# box of nails. He said to the twins, "I'll give you 50 cents if you'll pick 'em up for me." We did." (That's a penny a lb.)

"I filled the woodbox in the woodshed and it came in the house. There were 2 doors, one on the outside and one on the inside. When we were small, we drove nails all around the top of the new sleigh. We got paddled for it." It wasn't long before we were able to handle an ax and split wood.



"We cut wood in the winter for the next year with a cross-cut saw." Johnny said "We were about 16 years old and we used to saw wood. I never liked to saw with Francis. He'd always bear down on the saw when he pulled it."

Johnny



"Dad was mad at us because we went berrying instead of drawing hay. The thimbleberries were at Toziers. We had 2 pails full but there were so many, we wanted to pick more, so we went to Josephine's on Humphrey Hollow Rd to get some more pails from her mother."

"Some kind of agent or dealer drove into the yard one day and wanted 2 rabbits. Dad said "Take 'em all." He said to shoot 'em, and the agent did, right on the front lawn. We were mad at Dad, and Ma didn't like it either."

RELATIVES

"Charles Conrad married Aunt Kate Almeter. They had no children of their own. They kept Clarence and Josephine Almeter when Uncle Nick's first wife died, until he remarried." "Uncle Will married Lucy Perry. Lucy couldn't see the altar at North Java church through the Christmas trees, so she took a scissors and cut the branches out of the way. Rev. Miller told her she'd go to hell for doing that. She told him she'd

shovel lots of coal on so as to have it good and hot for him when he got there."

GROWING UP

Johnny said, "Paul, Bill, Francis and I (all Almeter's) were at Gifford George's helping with hay, when a bad storm came up... We thought we better get out of the barn, so we went in the house. Gifford's wife, Clara (Schwab) was holding the baby. Lightning hit the chimney. When it hit we all landed on the floor. It pulled the hinges right out of the wood on the porch door, and that lay on the floor too. Ever since then I wasn't scared of lightning."

"In 1919, each farmer had to donate a log or two to help build the roof of St. Cecilia's church sheds. Mac and Jerry were used for carting them up to the corners. The logs were hard maple or beech. Uncle Nick had a hired man, Julius Veix, who helped. Us 3 boys, Johnny, Paul and me, were supposed to watch the horses so when the tree dropped they wouldn't run away. But when the tree cracked, the horses took off. They ran all the way home and fell over a 12 foot bank by the creek where the stone was quarried for St. Cecilia's. They fell on stones at the bottom and got all tangled up in their harness. They were bruised but alright. They were taken right back up to the woods to finish their work. Uncle Nick Almeter was a carpenter. He built his own house, part of this house and was in charge of building the sheds. After he married Mary Redding in 1888, they lived with John F. and Barbara Almeter until his house was built across the road."

"Pa used to call us in the morning, and we never was in much of a hurry to get up. All of a sudden Ma hollered "Get up; the Smoke House is on fire!" When we got out there, Gifford George was just throwing a pail of water on it. He must have seen it from his place and hurried down. There was a ham in it, but Pa saved it and it was unharmed."

COWS AND HORSES AND CHORES

"There was just one row of cows in a single gambel roofed barn and a 12'x28' silo, double boarded with wooden hoops. Pa and (probably) Mike Schiltz built the barn and silo. The barn was built in 1903. There had been a peaked roof barn from some other area on the farm which was changed and the gambel roof put on."

"Cows had to be gotten morning and night. We had chickens and pigs. The pig pen had a 3' stone wall so the pigs couldn't eat their way out. This was topped by a board wall and roof. There was a steel cooker in the middle that we cooked potatoes to feed the pigs in the winter. On the North end was a wood pen built inside the pig pen with a ramp so they could go up on top and stay dry instead of on the cement floor. The pigs stayed quite clean."

"Carl went to war in 1918. Henry was doing the chores then. Before we went to school our chores were quite small. At night we took turns pumping water for the cows. The well was stone lined and twelve feet deep. There was a 2 inch cast iron pipe about three feet down. That ran from the well to a storage tank on the corner way in the back of the barn,

with a box around it. There were two planks out of the floor so that the heat from the cows would keep the water from freezing. Then there was a box down below with a little float on it so when the cows drank it would release the water and keep their buckets full. It did freeze a few times."

"We had four horses, Dan & Doll; Duke and Rob. They were all used for farm work. Doll was used for going to Strykersville for 50 cent haircuts after chores. Ivan Richardson was the barber. Around 1919, Pa went to the Stockyards and got a new pair of horses, Jerry and Mac. Art Keem had a car and took Pa in to the Stockyards to get them. They were shipped in from the West just like the cattle were. We also had Old Florry. She was Doll's mother, but I don't remember much about her."

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

"The morning before Father Arnold died, he said mass and Charlie served. It was a week day mass. Father Fischer was there my first day of school. He and Sister Huberta were crying. He left shortly after that."

"Johnny and I served for First Communion. People went clear up on the altar and the cloth was held up instead of the tray. We held the cloth tight on the Communion rail while it was being served." It always bothered me that mass was in Latin. We'd say the prayers, not understanding what they were, and when one was done, we'd look at each other.

I played football. I kicked it right into the door catch and cut my knee. Sister patched it up."

TROUBLE

"Johnny and me mostly got into trouble together. Sometimes Paul Almeter or Norman Schiltz would be in it with us. "Johnny and I made a dam with the team, Jerry and Mac. We used a slipscraper on a small creek near where Jared Almeter lives now. We took the hand plow and plowed it together. Then slipscraped it down to the creek and dumped it. Then we'd to the other way and do the same thing until we got the dam about four feet high. The horses crowded and Mac fell into the water which was about 2 feet deep. We thought he was going to drown because the water was starting to rise. So one of us held the horse's head up while the other one untangled the harness so we could get it unhooked. He was all mud and so we tied him to the rail fence till he dried off so we could clean him up before we took him home, or Pa would have gave us hell. Ma and Pa were shopping that day. Later on we added a chute for the water to go out but a rainstorm washed it out. We didn't have any purpose in doing it. We just wanted to see a pond."

"Paul and William were with us when we built a couple more dams out of hardheads and the roots of an elm tree. We cut a tree a foot through and put it through the stones and roots on the other side. Then we set boards on one side on end between the logs. We packed rags between the boards with a knife and I cut my wrist. Ma bandaged it up."

"We saw in a book that we could make money on animal skins, so we trapped some fox and rabbits. We never got the price they had listed." ShingShang (Ginseng) root was always listed in that book, but I could never find any because I didn't know what to look for. It was always high priced."

DATING AND MARRIAGE

"There was a party at Mary Leonard's, north of Java Center. It was around Christmas holiday time. Johnny took Josephine. I was with Mary when we got there. It was stormy so we left for home pretty early. We came through Schwab Rd. and Humphrey's Hollow. Doll (the horse we used for dating) hit a fence post that was sticking out and we fell over in the cutter and broke the fills. The horse ran down the road a little ways. Johnny went and got the horse. Josephine and I waited. Josephine put a rope on it and I took her home. Johnny and Anna Redding got married June 3, 1929. Josephine and I got married June 4, 1930."

"The morning of the wedding I planted 3 acres of beans (for drying) with the drill and the team, while Pa did chores. We were married around 10 o'clock. Josephine's mother had died the year before. Josephine got up and baked pies for the wedding dinner. The tables were set up in two rooms. Father Weisbecker, or was it Father Bank married us. We went to Buffalo that night and stayed with her sister, Mary on East North St., and then headed for Canada.

"Charles Armbrust helped Pa when we went on our honeymoon to the 1000 islands. I put some oil in the car, and the little cap from the can went right into the motor. The service man gave me a pair of coveralls and I took the pan off and cleaned it, and then we went towards Quebec (St. Ann's)"

"I bought the home farm April 4, 1930. When I bought the farm, the first day, I took the team to the 4 acre lot down by the woods. Mac acted like he didn't want to pull so I turned the team around and headed for home. Just as I got through the gate, he fell. We unhitched them and Pa covered him up with blankets, but he died. Pa felt pretty bad. Pa died in 1935." Francis and Josephine worked the farm and raised their family of eight children.

"We built a piece on the barn after we were first married. Gus Daniel gave me a big hemlock. (Hemlock trees are some of the longest-lived trees, growing for 250 to 300 years before maturity and then living for more than 800 years under the right conditions. The Eastern Hemlock is the state tree of Pennsylvania and was used by pioneers as a building material for log cabins.) Laurence helped me cut it down. We took it to Hayden Tozier's farm to have it sawed and it sided most of the new piece. Hayden's brother was a lawyer. Josephine had to help

In carpentry, what is a "toenail"?

Toenailing—driving a nail at an angle through the end of a board to anchor it—can be frustrating to learn. But it's an essential carpentry skill, and once you master a few tricks for positioning and driving the nails and get some practice under your belt, it'll be as easy as regular nailing. Toenailing not only makes a strong joint but also is a great way to coax stubborn boards into position.

me cut some of the logs with a crosscut saw, but she didn't like it much."

"One day I was boiling sap and I heard a roar. It sounded like a train coming up through the woods. I was siphoning sap from one flat pan to the other. The wind blew the ashes and coals that I had shoveled out from the afternoon's boiling, halfway back up to the barn, a thousand feet or so. I got out too. All I had to do was lift my feet and the wind blew me home. Pa had two wood boxes. They sat on top of each other. He used them when he smoked hams. The next morning they were still sitting there and we couldn't figure out why it didn't blow them over."

"Gus Daniel bought a steam threshing machine and his son Laverne ran it. They also used the steam roller on the roads. They used to scrape both sides at once. There is a picture of it taken in front of Carl Dominesy's place. When Mike Schiltz died of a heart attack, dad took over the rest of his term as highway commissioner"

"Anna Reding was a substitute teacher at Dutch Hollow School when she met her future intended, Johnny Almeter. George Daniel and John were attending an impromptu dance at the Ess house across the road from that school. On some weekends Zittle or Conrad would play his old beat up accordion and the young folk would dance. Anna had a raccoon coat and John wore it when he walked her home after the dance. She graduated from St. Mary's Academy in Strykersville and was a substitute teacher. She went to Normal School at Buffalo for a 6 mo. period to get her teachers certificate. The superintendent of the Humphreys Hollow district school needed a teacher, so he signed her certificate. She also taught at Java Lake and Dutch Hollow." In 1936 they bought a farm in Rushford and raised their family of seven."



"After the young carpenters married, they had their farms to work which kept them pretty busy. Francis and Josephine continued to live on No. Sheldon Rd. all the years of their marriage, raising eight children. Johnny and Anna bought a farm in Rushford in 1936 and raised their family of seven in Rushford. But they always retained a close relationship and kept their interest in carpentry. In their later years they once again worked together remodeling and building houses locally, and doing woodworking as a hobby."

Elizabeth Reisdorf

Two young carpenters were working on a house. The one who was nailing down siding would reach into his nail pouch, pull out a nail and either toss it over his shoulder or nail it in. The other, figuring this was worth looking into, asked, "Why are you throwing those nails away?" "The first explained, "If I pull a nail out of my pouch and it's pointed toward me, I throw it away 'cause it's defective. If it's pointed toward the house, then I nail it in!" The second blonde got completely upset and yelled, "You moron! The nails pointed toward you aren't defective! They're for the other side of the house!"

Attention: Do you have an interesting story of your ancestor or a Sheldon tale you would like to tell or submit? We would really like to hear it. Submissions are always welcome.



**3859 Strykersville Rd.
PO Box 122,
Strykersville, NY 14145**

“Our country is not the only thing to which we owe our allegiance. It is also owed to justice and to humanity. Patriotism consists not in waving the flag, but in striving that our country shall be righteous as well as strong.”
~James Bryce

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.

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.

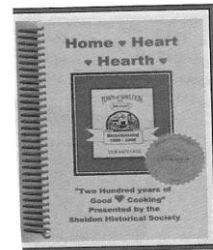
Attention:

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:

Dutch Hollow Bridge is complete, some history of old bridge.
"The Young Carpenters" Story of Sheldon twins.
Obit: John Klein biography.
Next meeting: Feb. 21, 2013 Please mark your calendar

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



*We still have some 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.

