



# Sheldon Family Association Inc.

~ ~ Quarterly ~ ~



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Front Row, Kneeling L to R: Peggy Jones, Marjorie Julian, Rose Sheldon Newton, Lane Dolly, Jeanne Sheldon, Elaine Ryan, Priscilla Neill, Ethan Francisco.  
Second Row, Seated: Jim Russell, Kathy Alevras, Debra Mohler, Ruth Watson, Jeanne Jeffries, Ruth Grace Fisher, Sally Fisher, Susan Russell, Wendy Black, Charlotte Smith Sheldon, Alberta Dunn.  
Back Rows, Standing: Ann Sheldon Riedel, David Harris, Frank Sheldon, Donald Pickett, Ron Alevras, Mike Mohler, Unidentified, Clara Sheldon Gutermuth, Beverly Sheldon, Roger Newman, Georgia Newman, Unidentified, Marvin Parsons, Charlie Fisher, Barbara Gomez, Sandra Gianni, Carol Halstead, Alberta Turner, Linda Williams, Unidentified, Pownall Jones, Esther Defreitas, Dan Sheldon, Francis Defreitas, Unidentified.  
Photo by Wayne E. Nelson

## Contents:

<b>PRESIDENT'S REPORT-JEANNIE JEFFERIES.....</b>	<b>965</b>
<b>DNA REPORT-PETER F. JEFFERIES, MD.....</b>	<b>966</b>
<b>LOOKING FOR RUFUS SHELDON.....</b>	<b>966</b>
<b>MEET THE BOARD-MARGARET (PEGGY ) JONES.....</b>	<b>967</b>
<b>GRAVESTONE RESTORATION.....</b>	<b>967</b>
<b>HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY-RUTH GRACE FISHER.....</b>	<b>968</b>
<b>SHELDONS HONORED-CITY OF NORTHAMPTON.....</b>	<b>969</b>
<b>MARIE SHELDON HINE MEMORIAL.....</b>	<b>970</b>
<b>CALL FOR PAPERS &amp; PROPOSALS.....</b>	<b>971</b>
<b>ENGLISH JOHN SHELDON.....</b>	<b>971</b>
<b>NORTHAMPTON REUNION PHOTOS.....</b>	<b>972/973</b>
<b>NORTHAMPTON REUNION ATTENDEES.....</b>	<b>973/974</b>



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As a general repository for Sheldon Family lineage in the U.S.A., SFA serves as a central source of information and study for Sheldon lineage researchers. By means of this publication, members are informed of discoveries in Sheldon lineage research, and dates and locale of the annual meeting.

Information in this publication is obtained by research in major libraries and repositories of public records; by correspondence with Sheldon descendants, and members and independent researchers submission of articles.

The editor reserves the right to edit or excerpt submitted articles to fit space requirements of each issue. Articles should be of general interest to members. Pieces too long for the quarterly may be serialized or considered by the publication sales department to make them available to members. Please use MSWord for text.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jeanne A Jeffries, October 2012

Good weather, pleasant surroundings and a busy schedule awaited the 64 attendees at the Sheldon Family Association Annual Meeting and Reunion. The importance of the Sheldon History and the development of the Association introduced the program preparing participants for the Board meeting. Past President Wayne Nelson introduced new Board member Priscilla Neill. Genealogist and Computer Committee Chair, Rose Sheldon Newton presented the recommendation that work converting the data base of Sheldon Genealogy continue under the supervision of Marvin Parsons. Mr Parsons has dedicated the past year to analyzing the database construction and preparing the data for use in Roots Magic. Mr Parsons gave a presentation describing the progress he made with this task. The Board approved.

Reporting for the Quarterly, Jim Russell, Editor, introduced the information that printing and mailing costs have risen and publication of the Quarterly in electronic form would be advantageous. The Computer Committee recommended and the Board approved the concept. Paper copies will still be available to those for who electronic format is not feasible.

Deborah Mohler, member from MI, brought a proposal for the 2013 Annual Meeting and Reunion. Deb and Rev. Brian Wilbert will host the event in Oberlin OH, location of Rev. H. O. Sheldon, publisher of the original Sheldon Magazine in 1855, 1857 The Reunion Committee and Wendy Black will work with them.. More information next issue. Plan now to attend.

Host David Harris led the group to Deerfield with immersion in the history of the massacre and capture of colonists in 1704. Many Sheldons were taken to Canada, some were rescued by John Sheldon, emissary of the US President. Attendees enjoyed a fine meal and reenactment by Potomtuck Valley Museum Association. Speaker Elise Bernier gave a thorough introduction to Sheldon History in Colonial Northampton at the Board Dinner. Dave presented information about the Canadian Captives at the Banquet. Interesting Short Talks occurred each day.

A highlight of the final day was presentation by Clara Sheldon Gutermuth and her family. Her sister Anne Sheldon Adriance Reidel and Clara brought 15 copies the book researched by their late sister Marie Sheldon Hine, *Beginnings Along Ye Greate River*. These were donated to be sold by SFA Publications. ( They went like hotcakes and will be available from Publications from Wayne Nelson.) Miagrations along the Connecticut River was described by Marie. In addition, Clara and Anne , joined by brother Frank Sheldon and his wife Beverly to presentethe Banner

with the Sheldon Crest painted by Marie, brought to annual reunions, now a part of the annual display.

The day continued with a Celebration at **Sheldon Field** in Northampton as Mayor David J. Narkewicz & Nancy Opalka Parks and Recreation Director and Marie Tomaso presented a 25 foot poster from the children who enjoy the field. The sports field, original S0005 Isaac Sheldon land, given by Theodore Sheldon, late banker of Chicago. Mayor Narkewicz read a Proclamation declaring August 7 2012 Sheldon Family History Day. Past President Wayne Nelson and Genealogist Rose Newton aided research insure the 99 year lease became Northampton's in perpetuity.

At the Banquet, Pres Jeanne Recognized a 100 year old member, Ruth Sheldon Fisher and her family. Ruth received a bouquet and Certificate read by Ruth Watson who discovered the birthday from local newspaper research.

All of the events are the result of much volunteer effort. It is what keeps our Sheldon Family Association working so well. What can you volunteer? Time? Topics? Committee participation? Genealogy? Our areas of focus are DNA Project, Genealogy, Quarterly, Reunion and Web site. There is opportunity for everyone to help.

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## DNA REPORT-October 2012

PETER F JEFFRIES MD  
PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR



In the Sheldon Family FTDNA project there are currently 36 participants of which 23 are Sheldon men. They carry a Y Chromosome which is inherited through the male line. Eleven of these men show a close genetic distance with a haplogroup r1b1b2. Six of these men have genealogy research connecting them to John (13) Sheldon of Kingston RI and five have genealogical research connections to Isaac of Windsor CT and Northampton MA. Is this evidence of a common ancestor for Isaac and John 13 who are Progenitors from Colonial New England of the 1600's?

What else could explain the fact that apparently these eleven men have inherited their Y Chromosome haplogroup from a common ancestor? Perhaps their research in the files of history has been inaccurate. Perhaps there is a different father than the one gleaned from Historical records. Could the research have been confused by a marriage of 2 descendants both from Sheldon ancestors?

Science says that men inherit the Y chromosome from the male parent and it passes intact from father to son (unless there is a mutation).

Research in all available repositories can shed light on the distant past. The DNA project needs the available genealogic research on each participant to clarify the information in the matches. More Sheldon men are needed to submit their cheek swabs for a DNA test (25 or 37 markers) to help further the studies.

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## LOOKING FOR RUFUS-October 2012

Jeanne A Jeffries



This series has demonstrated the use of census in untangling the nine Rufus Sheldons found on the census of 1850. In this article, a Rufus is followed found in Pompey NY (at the same time that another is seen in Brutus NY).

Using integrated censuses, in 1810 there are 2 Rufus Sheldons in western NY: one in Butus and the other in Pompey NY. Again in 1820 is the Pompey Rufus. A Rufus Sheldon (birthdate 1806) is in Pompey in 1850 and 1860 with a wife Betsey. An older woman named Betsey Millard is in the same household in 1850 leading to the suspicion that Betsey the wife was a Millard. This family can be found in Riley McHenry Illinois in 1870 in the household of William Sheldon born in NY in 1842. In the same household are Amanda (28), Wm (3), Millard (8 m) as well as Rufus (1806) and Betsey (1812) and Mary (1858).

This Rufus (birthdate 1806) is likely the son of Rufus born in 1768 in CT who moved to Pompey NY where he died in 1820 and is buried in the Delphi Falls Cemetery. (ref: Daniel H Weiskotten posted 1999 record of Delphi Falls Cemetery) In the same cemetery is Diadema Gott Sheldon, "wife of Rufus Sheldon". She died in 1856 and is noted to be 84 years old.

A Rufus Sheldon was the ancestor used by applicants to the Sons of the American Revolution showing a wife Diadema Gott Sheldon. Children Hiram, Salmon, Rufus and Orvilla are listed. In Family Search a file is found for Rufus Sheldon (8 Jan 1767-8 Dec 1820) and Diadema Gott (11 May 1772-15 Dec 1856). His birthplace is listed as CT and death in Pompey NY while her birth is listed as CT. In this file, there are children: Orvilla, Rufus, Salmon, Hiram, Harvey, Daniel and Lucinda. Diadema (Deodame) Sheldon is listed in the household of Daniel Sheldon in 1850 in Pompey NY. Daniel is probably a son of Rufus and Diadema Sheldon and is probably the Daniel buried in Delphi Falls in 1893.

Sheldon Family Association records show that Rufus (1768-1820) is the son of Amasa and Sarah (Bardwell) Sheldon. Amasa is a son of Ebenezer who is a son of John and

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grandson of Isaac of Northampton and Windsor CT.

This example uses census, cemetery records as well as data bases to draw inferences about a family genealogy.

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### HOLD THE DATE!



The 2013 SFA Reunion will be held in Oberlin, Ohio during the first weekend in August--Friday the 2nd through Sunday the 4th.

In addition to our usual fascinating Short Talks and Guest Speakers, the Lorain Co. Ohio Genealogy Society and the Historical Society will be helping to answer your questions about your families!

There are several Genealogy Research Libraries in the area. Additionally, lots of experiences will be available for the entire family including:

- Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio
- Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio
- Local Winery and Breweries to Visit
- Civil War and Underground Railroad History
- Gardens, Historical Tours, Nature Preserves
- Fishing, Boating, Swimming

There is easy access to Oberlin by Car, Plane, Train, and Bus.

Cousins Deborah Mohler and Brian Wilbert (hosts) and the entire Reunion Committee look forward to welcoming you to Ohio's Western Reserve, Firelands, and Oberlin "The Town that started the Civil War!" as well as the burial place of "our founder" the Rev. Henry O. Sheldon.

Wendy Black reports that a block of rooms at the Oberlin Inn has been saved at a cost of \$89.95 per night. More information will be forthcoming with January SFA Quarterly.

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### MEET THE BOARD

Margaret Brosius Jones



My life has been one of mother, farm wife, college professor, and local historian. Although genealogical research did not become an all-consuming interest until my retirement, from childhood, I have loved hearing and repeating family stories. About 20 years ago, in response to a letter from my mother's first cousin, Arthur Shelden, of Libby,

Montana, we attended our first SFA meeting. Art had written there was to be a Sheldon Family Association meeting in Philadelphia which was so near us, we must attend. That weekend we met many of the people who remain active in SFA, and received my Sheldon lineage from the genealogist.

Through the years we have attended as many SFA meetings as possible, enjoying the opportunities to network with those who were also interested in family research and developing friendships with many "cousins." My contribution to SFA has been researching the origins of the John of South Kingston line. Eventually, I wrote and shared a narrative about the first two generations of this family. Although of lesser interest to the wider membership, I have also researched my ten generations of Sheldon ancestry and have actually walked the land owned by each generation. This journey has taken us to New England, Ontario, Minnesota and west to Montana. Fortunately, my husband, Pownall, is intuitive when comparing modern and ancient maps; he has also been willing to spend days driving dusty roads and hours searching in regional libraries.

Currently I have two research projects: one is to learn about the "grandmother lines," about those women who married my Sheldon ancestors. The other is to put together a notebook for our grandchildren, a notebook which will contain genealogy, stories and pictures of their entire Jones lineage, both maternal and paternal.

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### GRAVESTONE RESTORATION

Contributed by Jim Russell



Susan & I had a unique Sheldon experience this year. Right before the reunion, we found Susan's GGG Grandparent's graves (Jonathan Sheldon S2519 and his two wives, Amy Briggs Sheldon and Sarah "Sally" Haxton Sheldon) at Odell Lake Cemetery in Harpersfield, Delaware Co., NY. We met DJ Paul, descendant of Uriah and Esther Sheldon Odell S2516, who are also buried there. Photo is of DJ cleaning the gravestone of Jonathan Sheldon. (By the way, DJ did not make the reunion in Northampton because he got married that Monday.)

DJ brought several gallon bottles of water and a soft cleaning brush, such as you would use in your toilet, to the cemetery. This is not the first time he has cleaned the gravestone of Jonathan (first cousin of his ancestor Esther (Sheldon) Odell (S2516)). The message he gave us is that cleaning a gravestone needs to be done very gradually and may take many attempts over time if you are not going to destroy the gravestone.

The following is from Connecticut Gravestones Network at <http://www.ctgravestones.com/Conservation/cleaning.htm>

#### Cleaning Basics...

"Enough with the wire brushes! Do you clean your teeth with a wire brush? Bleach? No!"

Wire brushes, metal instruments and abrasive pads may give you instant satisfaction but, if you clean with anything that is harder than the stone, you risk scratching the face of the stone and causing more damage in the long run. The same goes for acidic cleaners, which includes most household cleaners. Powerwashers are also NOT recommended. Anything that puts out greater than 60 psi is too much force to use on older fragile stones. A garden hose putting out a gentle soaking spray is enough to clean and flush the stone (garden type sprayers also work well). If you're talking about stones from the 20th century and not marble, that's a different story."

#### Cleaning a gravestone...

Stones are composed of minerals and salts. Adding chemicals to them can often cause chemical reactions that will erode the stone faster than if you just left it alone. This damage is not immediately evident, as in the case with bleach being used on marble. The stone is exposed on all sides to the elements. Using bleach will not only give you instant brightness but will cause the stone to change in pallor and most often become rough to the touch. This is because the sodium chloride in the bleach has dissolved the binding minerals and caused the quartz crystals to start to exfoliate. When this process is used on particularly soft marble and limestone, the lettering is the first to disappear. Something that is over 100 years old shouldn't look bright and new..!

For an excellent list of cleaning materials go to AGS <http://www.gravestonestudies.org> and look for Cleaning Gravestones in the Frequently Asked Questions section.

Remember, with all due respect to our monument dealers, many do not understand the concerns we have about OLD stones. They are mostly familiar with the dense granites that has been used for the past century. The techniques they use for modern stone is not safe for these fragile 200 yr.+ old markers. Each stone needs it's own diagnosis; what is good in one situation is not necessarily good for all.

CGN recommends that you use the following low tech method

and consult with us or professionals before using other methods. For marble, limestone and sandstone, use water and soft bristle brushes, natural or nylon. Granted it doesn't sound like a miracle cleaner and it doesn't happen quickly but with some patience and time this will clean most environmental soiling and lichens from stones. Keep the stone wet at all times; really wet. Where a garden hose is not available, be sure to bring plenty of jugs of water and keep dowsing the stone as you work and, most importantly, flush the stone well when done. Scrub the stone from the bottom up to avoid streaking and further staining. Household ammonia can be used if one can stand the aroma, but again be sure you flush the stone completely, more than one or two times, when you are done. Use a mix as you would for household cleaning, about 1 cup to a gallon of water. Don't buy ammonia with anything extra in it, such as scents and suds. Wearing proper eye protection is also a must. If lichen is a problem, you can soak it down with water and scrape with a wooden or plastic scraper. Tongue blades or craft sticks and inexpensive plastic putty scrapers from home stores work well. Remember, no metal. There are also poulticing techniques that can be used to soften lichen. Many lichens will, once removed, leave a scarring affect on the stone because the waste product they give off is an acid that works with the stone's own salts and chemistry to erode it or bleach out some of its mineral component.

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## HAPPY 100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY TO RUTH GRACE FISHER

Contributed by Wayne Nelson



Ruth Grace Fisher holds bouquet and Certificate of Recognition presented to her by the Sheldon Family Association in honor of her 100th birthday.

(Continued Next Page)

(Continued From p. 968)

Long-time Sheldon Family Association member, Ruth Grace Fisher, and members of her family were guests of SFA at the annual reunion dinner on Tuesday, August 7, 2012, at the Quality Inn in Northampton, Massachusetts. The occasion was to celebrate Mrs. Fisher's entrance into the centenarian club: she recently reached the age of 100 years, Mrs. Fisher was presented with a colorful bouquet by President Jeanne Jeffries. Ruth Watson presented her with a certificate recognizing her accomplishments and connection to Sheldons. Mrs. Fisher's children, Charles, Judy and Wayne accompanied her.

Ruth Grace Sheldon was born in February 1912 at Southampton, Massachusetts, the daughter of Charles A and Laura (Holstein) Sheldon. She married the late Morris B. Fisher in April 1928. They had four children; Barbara, Charles, Judith, and Wayne. Mrs. Fisher is from the Isaac line through S0044 Ebenezer.

**Note:** Ruth Fisher contributed a story about her son, Charles, who re-purchase the ancestral home after it had been out of the family for forty years. The story appeared in the *Sheldon Family Association Quarterly*, Vol. 24, No. 4, October 2010.

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## **SHELDONS HONORED BY CITY OF NORTHAMPTON**

**Contributed by Wayne Nelson**

On a warm, sunny Tuesday afternoon in August, Sheldons attending their annual reunion gathered at Sheldon Field in Northampton, Massachusetts. Northampton Mayor David

Narkewicz read a proclamation declaring Tuesday, August 7, 2012, as Sheldon Family Recognition Day. With other city officials in attendance including Ann-Marie Moggio, Director of Recreation; Maria Tymolzko, Meadow City Conservation Coalition; and Jerry Budgar, President, Ward 3 Neighborhood Association, Mayor Narkewicz read the proclamation ending with the words:

“I, David Narkewicz, Mayor of the City of Northampton, do hereby proclaim today, August 7, 2012, as Sheldon Family Recognition Day in Northampton to honor one of our community’s founding families.”

A bronze plaque at the entrance to the Field reads: In Memory of Isaac Sheldon, 1624 – 1708, an original settler of Northampton, these acres were purchased from the Nonotuck Indians in 1654.

Title has passed in direct line – by Will and by Deed for three hundred years – from father to son unto the seventh generation. Deep-rooted from such earth springs the ancient legend of steadfast faith and sturdy toil which have brought forth to new generations our cherished freedom and way of the good life.

Lent to the City of Northampton as a playfield by Theodore Sheldon of Chicago.

Dedicated as such in 1954 during Northampton’s Tercentennial Celebration.

Sheldon Field consists of a baseball field, three softball fields, soccer fields, basketball courts and a Park & Ride Lot. The field was sold by the heirs of Theodore Sheldon to the City of Northampton in 1999.



Sheldons gather at Sheldon Field in Northampton, MA to hear a Proclamation from Mayor David Narkewicz



SFA President Jeanne Jeffries receives the Proclamation from Mayor Narkewicz



Banner made by school children to thank Sheldon heirs for the sale of Sheldon Field to the City of Northampton..

Pictured (L to R) Jerry Budgar, President, Ward 3 Neighborhood Association; Maria Tymolzko, Meadow City Conservation Coalition and Mayor Narkewicz.

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## MARIE SHELDON HINE MEMORIAL

Contributed by Wayne Nelson

Marie Sheldon Hine and her sister, Clara Sheldon Gutermuth, hosted several successful Sheldon Family Association meetings in the Vermont area. Marie was a talented artist, writer, calligrapher, cartographer, and history buff. Before her death in 2006, Marie had spent several years writing, and drawing maps and other illustrations for a combination history/genealogy book as a legacy for her family and future generations to come. Unfortunately, Marie was not able to finish the book.

Clara, with the help of her daughter-in-law Betty Gutermuth, finished the book and had it published. Clara

donated 15 copies of the book and made a generous financial contribution to SFA as a memorial to Marie. It is Clara's wish that the memorial to Marie be used to help publish the Isaac lineage book.

All fifteen copies of Marie's book sold quickly. Clara has, however, authorized SFA to look into publishing additional copies.



Clara Sheldon Gutermuth presents SFA with fifteen copies of *Settlement Along Ye Grate River*, by her sister, Marie Sheldon Hine.



In addition, Clara, her sister Ann Riedel and brother Frank Sheldon donated a handsome Sheldon banner that Marie had made. The banner has been displayed at previous Sheldon meetings and now will become part of the permanent collection.

(L to R) Ann Riedel, Clara Gutermuth, and Beverly and Frank Sheldon

## CALL FOR PAPERS AND PROPOSALS

The Sheldon Family Association (SFA) is accepting manuscripts for presentations at the next annual SFA reunion in August 2013. The theme of the paper for short talk or presentation should be personal research about descendants or one of the four Sheldon progenitors: Godfrey, Isaac John of Providence, John of S. Kingston or Richard.. Papers concerning the lives of persons in the first three generations are of particular interest. An abstract or research summary should be submitted for consideration as a paper, poster, oral presentation or workshop presentation. Abstracts and summaries should be submitted to Margaret Brosius Jones via e-mail attachment for review. You may contact Dr. Jones for further information and details on the requirements for length or scope of research proposals. Her e-mail address is: [Marg251@gmail.com](mailto:Marg251@gmail.com).

**Deadline for all proposal submissions for this year is January 31, 2013.** Our objective is to inform all authors of the decision on their proposal by March 1, 2013. Final versions of the finished research will need to be submitted no later than April 1, 2013. Authors may be asked to revise and resubmit their research as necessary. Accepted research will be presented to the general membership in the annual meeting at the Oberlin reunion. Following acceptance, a paper will normally be published in the next SFA Quarterly following the annual reunion. All published articles are to remain forever in our site. We also give access to copies upon request.

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## ENGLISH JOHN SHELDON

Reported by Rose Newton

Manufacturer of Birmingham, England has descendants in USA These do not connect to USA progenitors, but add to the known USA Sheldon collection

**From:** Author Brian George December 20, 2011 to Rose Newton . *From the Book: John Sheldon of Birmingham Master of Manufacture and Innovation. Toymaker, Pencil Master and Silversmith.*

(Note: The family tree of John Sheldon showing his two wives and descendants down to the present day was also sent, but was too large to include in the SFA Quarterly.)

The connection between the UK and USA Sheldon's is quite clear cut and comes with Mary Woodman Sheldon who is the remaining direct descendent as shown on the third line from the bottom. Up to this point the direct descendants of John Sheldon had lived in England. In the late 1950's Mary Woodman Sheldon went to the USA, married an American and subsequently had the family shown so the US family are aware of their heritage.

Looking at the Forward to the book which is also attached you will see that Mary Woodman Sheldon wanted to return the pens

of her Gt Gt Grandfather to Birmingham as she felt they were

Birmingham's Heritage. It was whilst she was returning these pens in 2003 that I had the privilege of meeting her in Birmingham and where some examples of the pens are now displayed in the Pen Room Museum.

My research has really been centered on John Sheldon who made a contribution to Birmingham's greatness in manufacturing for the world in the 19th Century rather than subsequent family history. I had thought that other Sheldon's may have been interested in those who had distinguished themselves as has been the case in the UK

I have for many years had an interest in the English way of life from 1750 to 1900 and spent many hours researching and attending lectures. During this time I used to frequent the popular antique fairs and it was here that I first became aware of traveling inkwells. This was quite a revelation as my previous interest had been on desk inkwells. Soon afterwards I discovered early 181" and 19t" century penners and ultimately this led to small writing compendiums with their differing contents designed for the traveler. To me this last category was totally captivating.

About fifteen years ago, during one of my foraging visits to look for interesting items, an antique dealer in Richmond told me of the Writing Equipment Society and I joined without delay.

In 2002, attending one of the Society's meetings in Bath. I saw my first John Sheldon 'Escritoire' traveling compendium, and was immediately smitten. It contained so much more than any other compendium I had seen. John Sheldon was a new name to me but I decided from that moment to research him further and before long another 'Escritoire' appeared in the Portobello Market and my collecting fate was sealed.

Until then my wife Shirley and I had never been to Birmingham where John Sheldon lived and worked from 1802 to 1863. So my research became a journey, of discovery, in many ways, both of us. As we walked the same streets that John Sheldon had done one hundred and fifty years ago. the old buildings and canals came to life. When we searched the records in the Central Library, visited the sites of John Sheldon's manufactories and even his grave we became more and more conscious of the significance of this man's achievements. It was also great. fun meeting so many interesting and helpful people wanting to talk about Birmingham.

The highlight of my research came in 2003, when I met and accompanied John Sheldon's remaining direct descendant Mary Tiene (nee Sheldon), who had travelled from

United States to make a tour of 'Sheldon Birmingham'. This was followed two years later with a similar visit and tour with her son Guy, wife JoAnne and grandsons Philip and Charles.

By 2009, I had accumulated a wealth of researched detail on aspects of John Sheldon's life and I thought others may be interested to share in his story. I had for some time thought about a book and once again had this on my mind, when having a general chat with Jim Marshall about writing bits and pieces and the rest as they say is history.

In the forward Mary Sheldon Tiene (nee Sheldon) New Jersey, USA writes of meeting the author of this book:

In 1999, I was given by my brother, Dominique Sheldon, a collection of pens, most of them manufactured by John Sheldon, a pen maker from Birmingham, England. Since I was the only one of 'my brothers and sister to have children of my own, my brother thought the pens should go to me.

It was a pity in retrospect since I live in the United States, my husband and children American. I came to realize I had to get these pens back to England: I kept one with the name Sheldon on it for my oldest son, John K. Tiene. With my son, Guy C. Tiene, we met Jim Marshall, at a lien lair in Philadelphia, and with Jim's help the pens made their way back to their country of origin. I was by then keenly interested in my ancestor, John Sheldon, the pen maker. as we referred to him. We also referred to him as .is, the liar, as in most documents he gave different dates and we have not been able to this day to establish his date or place of birth. We do not know who his parents were either. A mysterious ancestor~

I was fascinated by John Sheldon, my recently found ancestor, I had heard of him of course in family conversations, I

was young and did not pay too much attention. I became aware that most of my Sheldon family members were Bermics' In my archives I found proof of their lives in Birmingham; addresses. birth, wedding and burial certificates, but it was the gift of this collection of pens which made me keenly interested in the Sheldons in Birmingham and most of all, John Sheldon.

In 2003 I went to England and with my sister-in-law, Jennifer Sheldon, on our visit to Birmingham, I was overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of the staff of The Pen Room on Frederick Street., at the Argent centre.

It was at the Pen Room that I finally met Brian George and his wife Shirley. I was so impressed by Brian's knowledge of John Sheldon's work, his pens, pencils, nibs, Escritoire, etc., the technical side of Sheldon's creations, of which I was totally ignorant.

I came to know so much, John Sheldon's last manufactory on Great Hampton Street which we visited, and the City of Birmingham where during the Industrial Revolution of the 1800s so many creative giants, including the pen makers, rose to change the course of manufacturing.

I am immensely grateful to Brian George for his knowledge, his ever inquiring mind, his respect for John Sheldon's achievements all of which have led me to appreciate John Sheldon not only as my great great grandfather but as one of the pen makers of Birmingham. I am proud to be a descendant of one of Birmingham's own and thank Brian George for this.

To purchase the book, you may write Author Brian George at: [george@bands232.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:george@bands232.fsnet.co.uk).



SFA Meeting Room-Northampton



Rose assists as Jeanne Reports



Reunion Dinner at Deerfield



Georgia & Roger Newman, Peter & Jeanne Jeffries  
At Sheldon Ice Cream Shop



Priscilla Neill at Sheldon Door PCMV

### Northampton Reunion Attendees:

- |                            |                                     |                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Aletras, Kathleen Lowry    | (S4423x1222),I spouse,Director,     | Washingtonville, NY |
| Aletras, Ronald            | (S4423x1222),I,                     | Washingtonville, NY |
| Black, Wendy Sheldon       | S10232x2421),W,Vice-President,      | Murpheys, CA        |
| Blodgett, Emma Katherine   | (S6448x2231),W,                     | Auburn, NY          |
| DeFreitas, Esther R        | (S4609x136),I,                      | Windsor, CT         |
| DeFreitas, Francis J       | (S4609x136),I spouse,               | Windsor, CT         |
| Dolly, Lane Calhoon        | (S7147x32),I,                       | Alexandria, VA      |
| Dunn, Alberta Sheldon      | (S8209x371),I,Director,             | Geneseo, NY         |
| Feely-Bernier, Elise       | (S8337x1112-Guest),,Speaker,        | Northampton, MA     |
| Fisher, Wayne E.           | (S1435x11634,I, DG ,                | Westford, MA        |
| Fisher, Ruth Sheldon       | (S1435x1163,I, Distiguated Guest,   |                     |
| Fisher, Charlie            | (S1435x1163 2,I, DG family,         |                     |
| Fisher, Judy               | (S1435x1163S1435x11633,I,DG family, |                     |
| Fisher, Sally              | (DG family,                         |                     |
| Fitch, Dwight              | (S D Fitch),walk-in,                | Townsend, MA        |
| Francisco, Ethen M         | (S2234x46113),J,                    | Salem, VA           |
| Fusco May, Carol Elizabeth | (S8589x21111),J,                    | San Antonio, TX     |
| Gianni, Sandra             | (S Gianni),I,                       | Niagara Falls, NY   |
| Gianni, Edward             | (S Gianni),I Spouse,                | Niagara Falls, NY   |
| Gomez, Barbara             | (S6798x11721),I,Treasurer,          | Ann Arbor, MI       |

## Northampton, Reunion Attendees Continued....

Hall, Gary	(S8337x1112-Guest),Guest,	Springfield, MA
Halstead, Robert L	(S2525x1(10)511),W,	Tipp City, OH
Halstead, Carol C	(S2525x1(10)511),W spouse,	Tipp City, OH
Harris, David	(S8337x1112),I,Host/Speaker,	Springfield, MA
Jeffries, Jeanne A.	(S5529x121),J,President,	Walpole, NH
Jeffries, Peter	(S5529x121),J spouse,DNA Chair,	Walpole, NH
Jones, Margaret Brosius	(S2525x1(10)121),W,Recording Secretary,	Toughkenamon, PA
Jones, G. Pownall	(S2525x1(10)121),W spouse,	Toughkenamon, PA
Julian, Marjorie Turrell	(S6448x2231),W,Director,	Fayetteville, NY
Kenyon, Josephine Turrell	(S6448x2231),W,	Fairport, NY
Kjellquist, Helen M Sheldon	(S4609x134),I,	Coventry, CT
Mohler, Deb	(S10203x51131),W,	Rapid River, MI
Mohler, Mike	(S10203x51131),W spouse,	Rapid River, MI
Morris, John	(S5529x121x),J,Computer Committee,	Marshfield, VT
Morris, Sue	(S5529x121x),J,	Marshfield, VT
Neill, Priscilla	(S9772x292),J, Director	Cincinnati, OH
Nelson, Wayne E.	(S4727x514),I,Past President, Publications	Chicago, IL
Newman, Georgia Sheldon	(S Newman ),J,	Otsego, MI
Newman, Roger H.	(S Newman ),J spouse,,	Otsego, MI
Newton, Rose Sheldon	(S4479x851),I, SFA Genealogist,	Ft. Wayne, IN
Parsons, Marvin	(S9192x712),I spouse,	Woodinville, WA
Petty, Louis J	(S0786x13136),J,	Wappingers Falls, NY
Pickett, Donald G.	(S7913x545),I,	Pittston, ME
Pickett, Patricia	(S7913x545),I spouse,,	Pittston, ME
Pinsonneault, Peter	(S5529x122x -Morris guest)	
Riedel, Ann Sheldon	(S4812x1322),I,	Key West, FL
Russell, James P	(S6058x6533),W spouse, SFA Quarterly Editor,	Casper, WY
Russell, Susan	(S6058x6533),W,	Casper, WY
Ryan, Elaine S. Joanis	(S2234x46113),J,	Blackstone, MA
Sheldon, Charlotte J (Smith)	(S10232x242),W spouse,	Newbury Park, CA
Sheldon, Robert	(S R Sheldon),W,	Windsor, CT
Sheldon, Mary	(S R Sheldon),W,	East Hartford, CT
Sheldon, Gregory M	(S G Sheldon),walk-in,,	Groton, MA
Sheldon, Albert	(S A Sheldon),walk-in,	Londonderry, NH
Sheldon, Hazel	(S A Sheldon),walk-in,	Londonderry, NH
Sheldon, Gwendolyn E	(S1333x1452322),W,	Schenectady, NY
Sheldon, Frank	(S4812x1322),I,	Petersburgh, NY
Sheldon, Beverly L.	(S4812x1322),I spouse,,	Petersburgh, NY
Sheldon, Daniel Neil	(S7295x6612),I,	Guilford, VT
Sheldon, Elizabeth (Jeanne)	(S9192x712),I,	Woodinville, WA
Szymanski, Donna	(S R Sheldon),W,	East Hartford, CT
Turner, Alberta C.	(S2234x46113),J,	Salem, VA
Watson, Ruth	(S7580x1114),I,Director	New York City, NY
Williams, Linda	(S6798x1178),I,Director,	Ann Arbor M, MI

**Sheldon Family Association, Inc.**

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Rev. H. O. SHELDON, OBERLIN OHIO  
Author, Sheldon Magazine 1855, 1857

Oberlin, Ohio is site of 2013 SFA Reunion  
August 2-4, 2013