



Sheldon Family Association Inc.
Quarterly



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Reunion 2018

Salt Lake City, Utah

Family History Library

https://www.lds.org/bc/content/locations/temple-square-family-history-library/images/FHLEterior2_Detail.jpg

Address

35 North West Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

Contact:

1-801-240-6996 (Main)
fhl@familysearch.org

Schedule:

Monday: 8:00am-5:00pm
Tue-Fri: 8:00am-9:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm
Closed most holidays.



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Published quarterly by the Sheldon Family Association, Inc. (hereinafter SFA), and distributed by Michelle Masson. 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 reunion and 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' submissions 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.

Since it is not possible for SFA to vouch for the accuracy of the content or opinion, the reader should understand that SFA in no way implies blanket verification and certification.

Libraries do not have permission to place SFA Quarterlies on the internet without prior approval of the SFA.

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A Note from the Editor

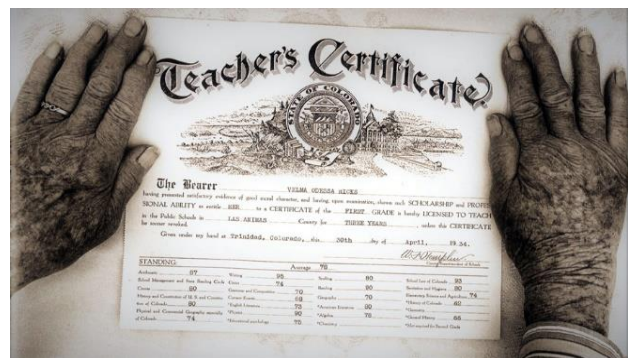
Thank you for reading our Quarterly, the SFA does appreciate all comments we receive regarding articles and information you have gleaned from doing so. This issue has many details of the annual reunion and meeting being held in August; please contact us if you have any questions.

Our current President, Betty Shelden Knopf, has written the following article for the Quarterly. This article will be in three parts, so you will want to dedicate some reading time to the next two issues, as well.
Michelle Masson

A Tribute to American Teachers: Thank You Odessa Hicks Shelden

Betty Shelden Knopf, Ed. D.

One of the enjoyable side benefits of researching my family history is being able to take interesting and educational “bird walks.” While doing research on my relative, Eli Willard Shelden (1861-1923), I found a couple of sources claiming that a picture of his daughter-in-law’s hands was in the Smithsonian Institute. This bit of trivia seemed unusual and sparked my interest. Further research on Eli’s daughter-in-law Odessa Hicks Shelden gave me the opportunity for a historical “bird walk” on American teachers.



1 Odessa Hicks Shelden holding her Certificate, photo used with permission

Formal education or schooling in the United States has changed as our country developed. According to Jon Wiles and Joseph Boni in their book Curriculum Development: A Guide to Practice (1989), in the earliest days of this nation, schools were established in religious institutions to develop a literate membership capable of reading the Bible and withstanding the temptations of the devil. The earliest schools were known as Latin Grammar Schools, established in 1647, only twenty-seven years after the landing of the Mayflower.



2 Odessa Hicks Shelden, photo courtesy of author

According to Gail Collins in her book America’s Women (2003), girls generally didn’t receive much schooling in the colonial period. A comment attributed to Abigail Adams, the wife of the second President, was that female education in the best families went no farther than writing and arithmetic and in some few rare instances, music and dancing. Few towns permitted girls to be educated past the “dames schools,” which, according to Collins (2003) were closer to day care centers than actual institutions of learning. The women who ran dame’s schools were the only female teachers in America during the pre-Revolutionary period and their exceedingly low pay reflected

the community’s estimate of the value of education imparted by a female.

Collins (2003) states that some families, especially those in the North, the Puritans and the Quakers wanted their daughters to learn their letters well enough to read the Bible, but not necessarily be able to write. In the South, most women were totally illiterate in the seventeenth century. Wealthier women were prepared for a good marriage, and too much learning was regarded as a defect in an attractive woman.

Catherine Beecher, daughter of famous preacher Lyman Beecher and sister of author Harriet Beecher Stowe, as a girl had been denied the academic opportunities to study classical languages, higher level mathematics, and to participate in contemporary political thought. Beecher was exposed to philosophy and logic, and with the help of her younger brother, was able to grasp the challenging materials quickly. Beecher came to believe that women were likely to be the most effective teachers not only for girls, but of boys as well. A middle-class lady like herself, without immediate marriage prospects, faced limited opportunities. She could not enroll in college, nor study for the ministry, nor train to be a doctor or lawyer, or develop a business on her own. According to Dana Goldstein in her book The Teacher Wars: A History of America's Most Embattled Profession (2014), Beecher saw the home and the school as intertwined, two naturally feminine realms in which women could nurture the next generation.

In 1823, Beecher established the Hartford Female Seminary which attracted hundreds of women throughout the eastern United States and Canada. Students studied Latin, Greek, algebra, chemistry and philosophy. The Hartford Female Seminary was controversial, and Beecher became America's first media darling. According to Goldstein (2014), Beecher in her speeches she would cite U.S. Census figures showing far more unmarried women and unmarried men in the northeast. Beecher argued these women might want to become "missionary teachers," migrating west to educate the two million "ignorant and neglected American children" of the frontier whose parents presumably lacked the educational commitment of the New England elite and needed to be prodded into establishing village schools.

Beecher imagined a way for elite young women to go west not as wives or mothers, but with a patriotic duty to their young, expanding nation--to educate the masses for democracy. Beecher argued women could choose to marry only if they fell in love, not because marriage was the only socially acceptable role. She even made the radical suggestion for women to teach in co-ed schools. In addition, she argued women would make better teacher than the men in classrooms and suggested that hiring female workers would be a potential money-saving strategy as a woman needed to support only herself, but a man needed to support himself and his family.

According to Goldstein (2014), in 1847, Beecher had raised enough funds to recruit seventy volunteer teachers. Beecher conducted a month-long training program where women learned some basic pedagogy, were warned about the primitive living condition in the West, and, most of all, were encouraged to act as "as new source of moral power" in frontier communities. If no Protestant Sunday school existed in their settlement, they were expected to establish one, in addition to teaching school during the week. The young women were dispatched to Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Conditions were difficult and during the next ten years of this work, twenty-one of the teachers died. Recruits boarded with local families and shared bedrooms with their students. There was little privacy, and sometimes not even candlelight or basic sanitation. Some

recruits found despite their best intentions, communities were too poor to build schoolhouses or heat them in the winter.

For early pioneer children, the prairie wilderness offered the young few opportunities for traditional learning. According to Joanna L. Stratton in her book Pioneer Women: Voices from the Kansas Frontier (1982), hard work and deprivation seemed to be the land's own harsh instructors, and any child who desired schooling in the three R's found the prospects dim.

According to Mary H. Cordier in her book School Women of the Prairie and Plains (1997), the population explosion in the West and the feminization of teaching after the Civil War brought about a demand for teachers that could not be filled by the eastern schoolmarm nor by the dwindling number of men teachers. The social atmosphere of the prairie frontier, its growing population, and the desire for schools with teachers necessitated the social approval of women working outside of the house as teachers. Further, the role of female teachers in the settling, developing, and educating the expanding population of the West is underappreciated. Cordier (1997) states by the 1870s, two-thirds of the teachers in the United States were women; the majority being white and from lower-middle-class families of farmers, shopkeepers and artisans but Southern women, who had been taught to regard any sort of paid work was unladylike, seldom became teachers except under extreme circumstances. To be continued.

79th SFA Reunion in Salt Lake City

Alberta Dunn

Excitement is building for our reunion September 30 – October 5, 2018. Many rooms have already been booked at the Plaza Hotel by SFA members. Your room must be booked by August 30 to get SFA rates. Most folks will be arriving on Sunday, September 30th with the first official gathering in the hotel lobby at 5:30 PM to go to a restaurant for dinner (self- pay). An open Board Meeting will follow at the hotel at 7:30 PM. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

All breakfasts, lunches and most dinners will be on your own. Information on nearby restaurants and other sites will be available to you in your welcome packet.

We begin our first full day together on Monday with a free seminar at 8:30 AM at the hotel. It is titled "Getting the most out of your research." You will want to attend to take advantage of the help provided before heading across the street to the library. You may attend even if you are not going to spend the day at the library. Those who wish to do sight-seeing or shopping instead of research will meet in the hotel lobby at 9:30 AM to make large or small group plans for the day. A list of things to see and do will be in your welcome packet.

Since the library closes early on Monday, we have chosen to hold our banquet/annual meeting on Monday night. This meal (pay ahead on registration form) will be held in the Lion House which is the former home of pioneer leader Brigham Young who led the Mormons to Utah and established what is now Salt Lake City. The Lion House is in walking distance from the hotel so be there before 6:30 PM.

Tuesday morning will again begin with a seminar (included in your registration fees) at the hotel at 8:30 AM. This seminar is "Obscure and little used resources" which should give some clues for more sources to use. All are welcome to attend. At 9:30 AM those who are not researching on this day meet in the lobby to plan for the day alone or with others as you choose. If you wish to walk around Temple Square with others in the evening meet in the lobby at 7:30 PM.

Wednesday morning at 8:30 AM we offer one more seminar (included in your fees). This one will be "Using the Internet to help find an elusive ancestor." We hope you will want to attend as it is something you will be able to use at home or at the library. The remainder of the day will be spent as the other days above. If you would like to tour the LDS Conference Center with a group, please join us in the lobby at 7:00 PM.

Guess what? No seminar on Thursday so you can start your research early if you wish to or you can sleep in a few minutes longer. Meet in lobby at 9:30 AM to connect with others for group touring or shopping. At 7:30 PM there is a rehearsal of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. It is open and free, so you are welcome to attend either with the group or on your own. Check in the lobby at 7 PM to find others.

Friday morning is check out time unless you have made special arrangements to stay longer. Evaluation comments and remarks are welcome and may be emailed to Alberta Dunn at bertd02@rochester.rr.com. Suggestions for future reunions are always welcome.

Preparation for Visit to Family Search Library-Salt Lake City

Jim Russell, Wyoming Society SAR Secretary/Treasurer
Susan Haines, Regent, Fort Caspar Chapter DAR and former Wyoming DAR Regent

When you visit the Family Search Library, they will provide a 15-minute information session concerning where to find what you are looking for, and how to make paper copies. I am not going into detail on this.

What you probably want to bring is a laptop, a cable to secure it while you are in the stacks, and a thumb drive to save info you find in PDF files. None are required but suggested.

Prior to your visit, it is advised you access the website: <https://www.familysearch.org>. You will be asked the first time to establish a login and password. If you do, it places you on a genealogy newsletter that can be very helpful. You will not be contacted by the Church regarding religious matters, they just want to know who is accessing their site. The site will permit the researcher to determine the collection content, what is digitalized, what is available at home and only available through a Family History Library (FHL), and what is only on microfilm or hard copy in the library.

Once you access <https://www.familysearch.org> you then need to enter search. This is where different options open. A primary one before you visit is to search "catalog" for surnames or places.

Another important place is to access "search" and drop down to the right and find "Browse all Published Collections." "Browse Images" says that this record is already online. You can access this from home. Why bother with it in Salt Lake? A number lists a microfilm that has not been entered on the internet. Note

that all microfilm is available online. LDS Family Search does not provide it in local LDS Family Search. For example, if I search my home town, it is there only on microfilm that now is only accessible in Salt Lake City. You need to find what you want by researching the catalog and then eliminate what you can access from home.

The same applies if you access "books". For example, Allen County Public Library has submitted digital books that may not be in their search.

Cell phones should be on vibrate, conversations kept to a low level and respect for the LDS philosophies maintained (i.e. no coffee, smoking, inappropriate dress). Dress in layers as sometimes the library is cold, sometimes it is warm.

There are many excellent restaurants in the area - check with the hotel. There are many small, hidden places that are reasonably priced! There is also a snack room in the FHL but no coffee, coke etc. (AND NO WINE!! 🍷)

Where to Begin at SLC Library

Wayne Nelson

I have found that I need to make a detailed list of what I want to accomplish before I step foot on the airplane. Otherwise, I am all over the place. A good place to start is with the Family Search online catalog. There is a good introduction at:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Introduction to the FamilySearch Catalog](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Introduction_to_the_FamilySearch_Catalog)

Most of the old microfilm rolls have been converted to digital files. And the library has extensive subscriptions to many/most Internet sources. A list of the available subscription websites is here:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Subscription websites available at the Family History Library#FHL Subscription Websites](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Subscription_websites_available_at_the_Family_History_Library#FHL_Subscription_Websites)

Guest resources can be found here:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Guest Resources at the Family History Library](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Guest_Resources_at_the_Family_History_Library)

The library Wiki site has a ton of information:

<https://www.familysearch.org/wiki>

The building has 5 floors:

B2 – British floor;

B1 – International floor;

Main floor – Computer lab, classrooms, snack room and 8 different experiences that a person can use to learn more about their family;

2nd floor – U.S./Canada;

3rd floor – U.S./Canada Books.

One of my goals (to the extent possible) is to find birth, marriage and death records on all my ancestors.

Important Reunion Reminders

Save for reference

Plaza Hotel
122 West South Temple
(800) 366-3684 or (801) 521-0130

Rate for standard room is \$91 + 12.60% tax. Rate for deluxe room is \$101 + 12.60% tax. Say you are with the Sheldon group. Cutoff date for rooms to be booked at this price is August 30.

You must also send in your registration form and payment no later than September 15. Send paper forms to Alberta Dunn, 18 Oak St., Geneseo, NY 14454. You may also register on our website at sheldonfamily.org.

It is important to note these dates as we must turn in numbers for the banquet at least a week before the date scheduled. Thanks for your cooperation.

400th Anniversary of the Mayflower Landing

Michelle Masson

In the last issue we discussed the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower crossing and how some of the original passengers are Sheldon ancestors. It turns out that the Sheldon's have several ancestors who arrived in America on board the Mayflower. The list I have been given includes: Thomas Rogers (article by Michael Youmans in the January 2018 issue), Richard Warren, John Howland, John Tilley, William Bradford and William Brewster.

One of our cousins, Gregg Bodell, has shared that he has twenty-three family connections to Mayflower passengers. Sixteen of them are through his mother's side of the family tree. Seven of them are also related to Sheldon family members. Gregg's research shows the above listed men, including Richard Warren who is his 10th great grandfather. Thank you, Gregg, for sharing!

Another cousin, Kelly Woodward, wrote to say that she is a direct descendant of Richard Warren. Her great-great-grandmother was Florence H. Church-Stanley and a member of the Mayflower Society. Richard Warren is the maternal ancestor of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. There are four passengers that I found whose ancestry includes Franklin Delano Roosevelt. FDR ancestors trace back to Isaac Sheldon; his mother, Sarah Ann Delano, has a Sheldon number. Two of these passengers go through his mother: Richard Warren and Isaac Allerton. The other two are ascendants of his father, James Roosevelt: John Howland and John Tilley.

This is just the beginning! I am looking forward to hearing from all of you regarding your thoughts on what you have read here, and what you already know. Please share your thoughts and findings with me through email, USPS, or the SFA website.

Please visit the General Society of Mayflower Descendants website for more information:

<https://www.themayflowersociety.org/members-only/2020-commemoration>

SFA Members, Prospective Members and Friends

Are you thinking about joining us for the fun, fellowship, and great research opportunities at the Sheldon Family Association Reunion 2018 in Salt Lake City from September 30 – October 5? If so, it is not too early to book your room at the Plaza Hotel at our special Sheldon association price. According to the response to our surveys sent to members, interest is high, so a good attendance is expected.

To book your room, call the Plaza Hotel at either of these numbers and tell them you are with the Sheldon group. Call: 1-800-366-3684 or 1-801-521-0130.

Room prices are: \$91+ (12.60% tax) for a single/double room
\$101+ (12.60% tax) for a deluxe room

There is a free shuttle between hotel and airport. If you drive, parking is \$8.00 per day.

We will be within walking distance to all planned activities, so a car is not a necessity.

Two Important SFA Changes!

These changes are currently taking effect within the SFA. We published notice of them last issue, however, we felt the need to publish them again in case they had been missed.

We are now using the Stripe application:

The SFA Board of Directors has voted to discontinue our two PayPal accounts for paying membership dues and ordering from our store. Effective immediately, please do NOT use the PayPal address previously published. SFA membership dues and store purchases now can be made using Stripe.

The paper copy of the SFAQ will cost you:

The SFA Board has also voted that effective August 2018, to discontinue the mailing of paper copies of our Quarterly at no charge to members. Members who want to receive a paper copy will need to pay an additional fee of \$5.00 per year. This fee can be paid along with dues.

Genealogy/Database Team

By Michelle Masson & Sue Sheldon

We've heard from several members who love doing research. If this describes you, we need you on our Genealogy/Database Team! If you enjoy solving mysteries and would like to help our database become an even richer treasure, please contact us – genealogist@sheldonfamily.org. Please don't feel like you must be a professional to join, all you need is time and an interest in research. This is going to be especially interesting since we now accept ALL Sheldons/Sheldens into our association. Also, many of our members may be trying to prove a Mayflower connection to get ready for the 2020 400-year commemoration. Be sure to check out this issue for the article on the Mayflower anniversary. There are some interesting facts we can share. In either case, we need your help!

79th Annual Sheldon Family Association Reunion – Registration Form

Sunday, September 30 through Thursday, October 4, 2018 at Salt Lake City

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Plaza Hotel in Temple Square in Salt Lake City, Utah. The special reunion rate is \$91.00 + 12.60% tax for a standard room and \$101+ 12.60% tax for a deluxe room. Please make your own reservation by calling (800) 366-3684 or (801) 521-0130. Say you are with the Sheldon reunion group. **Deadline for reservations at this rate is August 30, 2018.**

A hotel shuttle is available to pick you up at the airport before 10 PM. Call hotel desk to make arrangements. No shuttle to the train station but several cabs are available at the station. If you drive, hotel parking is \$8.00 per day.

Our banquet will be a buffet including both steak and salmon, two salads, potato, vegetable, rolls/butter, and 2 dessert choices. Beverages: sparkling white grape juice and water. **
Mormons do not serve (or consume) tea, coffee or alcohol.

You may register online at sheldonfamily.org or by completing this form and sending it with your check to Alberta Dunn, 18 Oak Street, Geneseo, NY 14454. The form accommodates two people, but you may make extra copies for additional people. Please indicate number of persons attending each activity.

- Complete Form
- Enclose check made out to Sheldon Family Association to cover activities as indicated
- Supply contact information as requested so we can contact you quickly if necessary.
- SFA Refund Policy is posted on sheldonfamily.org. Hotel refund policy is cancellation 72 hours before arrival date.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____

NUMBER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	COST	TOTAL AMOUNT
	Monday seminar	Hotel	None	
	Monday Banquet	Lion House	\$45.00 each	
	Tuesday Seminar	Hotel	none	
	Wednesday Seminar	Hotel	None	
	Registration Fee	One per family	\$15.00	\$15.00
	Grand Total included			

Webmaster Position Available

SFA Board of Directors

For several years and for many instances the Sheldon Family Association has appreciated the wisdom, knowledge, and technology skills of Bob Halstead. Often working behind the scenes, Bob has been responsible for being webmaster, working on our recent surveys, and “figuring out” challenges that we so often find in the rapidly expanding world of technology. Bob has asked that a replacement be found for him. Thankfully, Bob in his gracious manner, is willing to mentor and “be available” if needed by his replacement.

Please take a moment and send a message of appreciation to Bob.

Membership Musings

By Sue Sheldon

We are eager to have some volunteer help with the Membership Team. If you have skills working in Microsoft Excel and/or Access, or if you would enjoy being part of our “Welcome Wagon” efforts, we would love your help on our team. If so, contact Sue Sheldon – membership@sheldonfamily.org.

Finally, a reminder that dues for all annual members are due each August. We are sending out a reminder email to anyone whose dues have lapsed.

Please make a note of the Membership policy below. In years past the Sheldon Family Association was geared more towards being a Heritage Society, the SFA Board of Directors have listened to requests, and as a group voted on a change in the requirements for membership.

Membership Policy

SFA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Sheldon Family Association adopts the following membership policies:

1. Membership in the Sheldon Family Association shall be open to all persons interested in Sheldon family genealogy and history (this includes Sheldon spelling variations);
2. Members of the corporation shall be divided into two options as follows:
 - a. Annual – persons who pay dues annually;
 - b. Life – persons who pay a single Life payment.

For the Board: Betty Shelden Knopf, Ed.D.
President

Dated: 21 April 2018

Sheldon Family Association, Inc.

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Please Check Address Label

If dues are not current
Please mail dues
to the Membership Chair

Celebrating 78 Years!

Sheldon Family Association

Dues Renewal/Membership Form

Indicate Category:

___ Annual Membership \$15.00

___ Life Membership \$300.00 once

Sheldon No.: (if known) S# _____

Email _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Membership term renews in August each year

Send Dues and Address Changes to:

Sue Sheldon, PO Box 1575

Shelton, WA 98584

*New Members please access Sheldon Family
Association at:*

<http://sheldonfamily.org/membership.htm>

Five Colonial Sheldons

**S0004 Godfrey Sheldon
Scarborough, ME**

**S0005 Isaac Sheldon
Windsor, CT**

**S0008 John Sheldon
Providence, RI**

**S0013 John Sheldon
South Kingstown, RI**

**S0022 Richard Sheldon,
NJ & NY City**