



Sheldon Family Association Inc.
Quarterly



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A young Wayne Nelson is standing, E. Mark Sheldon in front of PC and H.O. Sheldon on the easel!

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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 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.

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Letter from the Editor

Hello Sheldon Family!

Well, this is surely remarkably interesting and trying times we are experiencing. My first concern is that all of you are experiencing health, happiness, and stability during this COVID-19 pandemic. Although the crisis we are facing is terrible, I have found some things to be glad about. One of those things is the ability to contact family near and far through the internet and be able to see them. One gets to share so much in that way, it is not the same as a physical visit, but one can see each other and walk around the house to show each other items of interest. Working on craft and home clean-out projects is another great thing that has happened during this time. If one could just empty one closet and remove all the items not used or needed any longer, then that is an exceptionally good thing to be glad about!

Please see our President's update on the SFA! There are many items of interest in there, especially...mark your calendar for September 20, 2020. At 3:00pm Eastern Time the SFA will be hosting our Annual Meeting. All members are welcome to attend. There will be an email notice of how to attend and the exact information to review at that time. The SFA has been busy at work on our current bylaws and will need a vote from many of our members to move forward.

The other articles in this Quarterly are submitted items from current members regarding their family history and interesting finds they have made. I hope you enjoy this issue and consider submitting some information from your life history!

President's Update

August 2020

First, let me hope that all our members and their families are safe and healthy. One of the more painful decisions the current Board has had to make was to postpone the September 2020 Annual Reunion. It is critical to have the chance to see Sheldon Historical sites and to meet with "cousins" from around the US.

I am thrilled to say we have chosen the dates for next year. We are scheduled to meet in Quincy from September 15th to September 19, 2021. We will hold the conference at the same Best Western Adams Hotel. The Hotel has agreed to keep rates to our 2020 agreement. More specific details to follow.

Attention Attention!!

Our on-line General Membership Annual Business Meeting will be held over Zoom and the date and time has been set for Sunday, **September 20th, 2020**. Following the business meeting we are having a number of educational activities regarding our DNA research, the status of our databases and a Q&A session with the SFA President. An email with an updated agenda, rules for the meeting and last year's meeting minutes will go out on Tuesday the 15th or Wednesday the 16th for those who have already signed up for the meeting. As with every Membership meeting we need a quorum to conduct SFA's business. Please make your plans to attend! We are planning for the meeting to take about an hour. The educational session to follow are open ended to make sure everyone has time to ask questions.

The Board met online on July 19th. It was a very stimulating meeting. We covered our usual business of committee reports, set some definitive dates for upcoming meetings, voted on Bylaw amendments that now go to you the membership for your approval. All these changes help to move the Association forward with plans and growth activities and the Board recommends that you vote affirmatively on them. I am very pleased to say there seems to be a resurgence in faith in SFA, in no short part due to the actions of your Officers and Directors. We are becoming an excellent team. As an example, I have to say that the response to have volunteers join the Board has been amazing. I am hoping

to see that enthusiasm continue with more of you wanting to join our committees. If genealogy or organizational structure are your things then we will take all the help we can get!

Here are some examples:

Library research to find articles and books written by and about Sheldons

Data research and review to improve our databases

Meeting planning for reunions; 2021 (Quincy) and 2022 (TBD)

Writing updates to our current publications with addendums because of the new data we have discovered

Marketing initiatives to help gain new membership and to reach out to other Historical Societies and organizations not familiar with our organization

Web page management to help our current webmaster and Social Media Chairman keep our SFA page and SFA Facebook page current.

To conclude the actions about our last Board meeting, I am pleased to say that we will add two more names to our SFA Memorial plaque. This project was renewed last year and was created in the name of Marie Sheldon Hine S4812x1321 whose family donated a plaque to her memory. The Board has the prerogative to add names as does the membership with a donation. This year the Board recognizes two very familiar names:

Henry Olcott Sheldon

E. Mark Sheldon

In the next edition of SFAQ I hope to have remarks from their descendants about these two gentlemen along with a listing of the great accomplishments they did for the Sheldon Family Association.

To close out a few more items:

You will see a rewritten refreshed section in the About Us part of the SFA web page. Check it out. We get views of this page almost every day of the year by someone. It was a team effort to get it done. It is the first several sections that will be updated

President

Michael B. Sheldon

Reverend Henry Olcott Sheldon

S5124

The Sheldon Family Association traces its database back to the initial work of the Rev. Henry Olcott Sheldon. His seminal work has over the many years been elaborated on, yet his initial findings were very prophetic. He detailed for us the earliest of Sheldons who came to the colonies during very turbulent times in England. He traced the movement of pioneer Sheldons westward as the colonies formed to be a country and expanded into what we now call the Midwest. He even spent energy trying to specifically ascertain where our English roots lay. That endeavor was not successful, but it pointed to the calling the Sheldon Family Association still pursues today. "Where did we come from?"

The Reverend Henry Olcott Sheldon or H.O. Sheldon was born in Hartford, Connecticut on 15 Sep 1799 to Joseph Sheldon and Catherine (Olcott) Sheldon. H.O.'s roots trace back to John (8). At the age of 19 in 1818, H.O had travelled to Ohio to purchase farmland. He purchased land in Peru Township, Huron County, Ohio. He married Ruth Bradley on 15 Mar 1820. Together they had 12 children.

In 1823 H.O joined the Methodist Church and within a year he became a circuit preacher ascending to Deacon and Elder. From the years 1824 thru the 1830s he travelled by horseback, stagecoach, and other types of conveyance thru central and northern Ohio and into southwest Michigan as the circuit minister. His lecturing work for the Norwalk Seminary also took him into eastern states. In 1836 he moved himself and the family to Middleburg Township, Cuyahoga County, forming a religious community that later becoming Berea, Ohio. His first wife Ruth died in 15 Mar 1859.

He next married Eleanor Hueston Robertson in Sidney, Ohio on 22 Apr 1860 and with her moved to her father's farm in Hamilton, Ohio. Given the distance from northeastern Ohio to southwestern Ohio, one has to imagine it is someone he met in his travels. It also has to have been an area he was familiar with because his Sheldon Family notes were first printed in 1855-1857 in Sidney. During this time, he helped with the farm and he worked for the Missouri State Board of Immigration all along the way trying to get folks to start Methodist religious colonies. Eleanor Sheldon died on 25 Jan 1867.

01 Aug 1867, H.O. marries Permelia Tower in Oberlin, Ohio which is back across the state, very close to his original roots in northeastern Ohio. It must have been here he started his efforts toward the founding of numerous colleges in the area; Baldwin Institute, Oberlin College and Wesleyan College. All of these educational institutions had strong Methodist ties in their creation. H.O. died on 21 Dec 1882 at the age of 83. He is buried in Westwood (formerly known as College) Cemetery, Oberlin, Lorain, Ohio.

It is easy to see why H.O. might have been very interested in research. He kept copious notes as he met Sheldons along his travels. SFA has a list of many of his visits. You can find it under the Publication section on the SFA website. The key thing is that H.O.'s notes served as the basis of the Sheldon Magazine first published in 1855- 1857 in Sidney, Ohio.

So today 20 Sep 2020, we honor his immense contribution to the Sheldon Family Association.

Edward Mark Sheldon

S9759x71

Edward Mark Sheldon is also known as known as E. Mark Sheldon but better known as Mark Sheldon is the Great Great Grandson of the Rev. Henry Olcott Sheldon. Mark was born 23 Nov 1919 to Frank Hobbs Sheldon and Dorothy Elizabeth Skinner in Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado. His family moved to the southern California for his early years and then to the Reno, NV area for his high school. It was there he met his wife to be.

He married Betty Rose 25 Dec 1939 in Oakland, Alameda County, California. They had two children. He graduated college from San Francisco State College in 1941. A draft card lists him at age 21 as a music teacher in an Elementary School system in the Kingsburg, CA. He joined the Navy in 1941 Radioman 2nd Class. His talents as a teacher were quickly realized so he became an instructor in the school. He was commissioned with the rank of Ensign in 1943. In 1944, he served in the South Pacific establishing radio bases in the region of the Philippines. He was released from active duty in 1946 yet remained in the Naval Reserves. He achieved the rank of Lieutenant in 1949 and Commander in 1973. He retired in 1979.

After leaving active service he taught electronics at the City College of San Francisco. In 1959 he joined Ampex Corporation; a company involved in sophisticated electronics. He joined them to establish a corporate training program. In 1965, he joined Control Data Corporation and helped establish the curriculum for the Control Data Institute. Control Data was very instrumental in the development of computer software. His career clearly exhibits his love for teaching and cutting-edge technologies

The Minnesota cold where he lived during his Control Data days eventually drove him and Betty back to California in 1969. He worked for a number of different companies, eventually joining the Xerox Corporation in 1974. He retired from Xerox in 1984 as a corporate trainer.

An active boatsman for much of his life (are we surprised) and a family man had him relocate to Jacksonville to a place on the St. Johns River that was not far from family.

We are most fortunate and thankful that he brought all these skills with him to the Sheldon Family Association. His passion for genealogy was a lifelong one because in the 50s and 60s he was an organizer of family gatherings in the Reno and northern California areas.

The 80's saw Mark get very active in the SFA

1981 He is Chairman of the Conference Committee

1983 He becomes SFA President

1985 He is identified as SFA's computer guy and as Past President, a member of the Board

1988 He is awarded special recognition by the Federation of Genealogical Societies for his efforts in computerizing and categorizing SFA genealogic records.

1989 He is involved in the SFAQ layout

By 1990, the Sheldon Family Genealogy system had grown in capability to include four remote computer stations and a master station. This facilitated the production of genealogical publications. In years to follow he remains active with the annual meetings, his role as past president, at one point even Editor of the SFAQ. It appears that in around 1997, he puts his efforts to rest.

Betty, his companion of 63 years with whom he celebrated their anniversary on the 25th of every month (they called it their Month-Aversary) passed away in 2004.

Mark, himself passed away 19 Feb 2008 in his 89th year. Both he and Betty are buried in Orange Park, a suburb of Jacksonville in Jacksonville's Memory Gardens under St. Mark's Tower.

Like his great-great-grandfather, we honor Mark Sheldon for his tremendous contributions moving the Sheldon Family Association forward. From data management to SFAQ publication and annual meetings.... virtually everything we do he touched in some way.

Respecting History

Geoff Sheldon

It is difficult to know where to start. Life has been full of surprises, none more so than, in Family History (FH). I am a DNA tested Sheldon (1942)- - born in Nottinghamshire, England – (Robin Hood Country), ...and rated as an A1 SHELDON, of Bakewell stock.

My first encounter, with FH was, when I travelled northwards, out of Hucknall- bound for Mansfield, Nott's. I was 14 years of age. Within a mile and a half, the bus passed the grounds of Annesley Hall, set in luscious green pastures, and formerly the home of the "Charworth Muster's Family, for over 500 years. It was here, that the poet Lord Byron, courted Mary Charworth Musters. He walked over the fields, from his home in Newstead Abbey, some mile and a half distant, to do his wooing.

Seeing the "Hall", in its setting, made me wonder what my Ancestry was like? What little I knew was gleaned from my Father, who was born here in 1899. All I really fastened on to was the fact that my Grandfather William Francis Sheldon 1861, was born in Ashford in-the-Water, Derbyshire, and that grandfather, had walked thirty miles to Hucknall to find work...(Which he did) and brought himself, wife Mary, and Baby son -Francis Arthur 1890...to stay, in the place where I am now.

Family History is full of surprises! None more so, than along my journeying. As I was close to leaving school at 15, I discovered that I had failed to get an apprenticeship with Hucknall Rolls Royce. I was then immediately leaving for a School camping trip, in Cornwall, South West of England. Whilst away, my father saw an advertisement for a trainee Motor Engineer-in Hucknall. He made inquiries and was told to get me to visit the company, upon my return, which I did, and was offered the job. This job began with initial training for Car Servicing, associated duties, fuel sales, and four nights each week of further education.

Within four weeks, my first surprise. I noticed a Large Ford Salon Motor car enter the front of the premises one morning. Out got a straight-backed Lord of the Manor "Look-a-like" wearing Country "gear", it was Lt Col. J.N. Charworth Musters, so I was told!

Five feet six, smartly dressed, accompanied by a lively Spaniel Dog. The Lt Col introduced himself to me. So, each time he, or any member of his family came, it was a constant reminder of "The Hall" and I had admired his "home".

I had only gleaned from my Father, that Grandfather had been employed in building-Dry Stone Walling, and the like. I finished with the Company, and was soon heading for British Coal, just 2 miles distant.

The only Family History I knew, was that my Line went back to Ashford-in-the-Water. Many years elapsed before FH, reared its head again. By 1987, I was beginning to think about it. To move progress, I decided to visit the County Records office in Matlock, Derbyshire.

Meanwhile our son Philip thought that it would be useful to ask the Office for some help, and he requested Birth Certificate information. Shortly afterwards, we had a reply. It stated that they had found Grandfather's Birth Certificate – 1861 – and his sibling, Edward's born 1864. We were delighted, but shocked, when, three weeks later, a letter from the lady researcher in Matlock told us that she had found nine further children of that family! The first child was born in 1837 and the rest at intervals.

Again, we were elated, and quickly set about finding information about Marriages. This was something to get our teeth into. We requested all the certificates!

With itchy fingers, I wanted to go over to Ashford-in-the-Water. I had never been there before, so on Easter Monday, with a clear blue sky and warm inviting weather, off we went. My plan was to look around the village to see what we could find. We soon found long traffic jams, but our destination was found at 1:00 pm.

Ashford is charming! A pretty village with a Chocolate box appeal. We stopped outside the Local Post office. On the opposite pavement, two elderly ladies were chatting, after some 30 seconds, I turned to my son, Phil, and said, "You see those two ladies? The one on the right? She is a Sheldon born woman. "

He replied, "Dad, how can you know that? We have only just landed." I had insisted!

Watching, within two minutes the ladies separated and went their own ways. I got out of the car, and followed the lady I had indicated, at a discreet distance, and within 30 seconds, she had turned a blind corner. Following with quickening pace, I came to that corner, she was nowhere to be seen, so guessing, I knocked at the first house, (The Former MINERS ARM'S). "She" opened the door...I told her my name, and the reason for my visit, and that my Grandfather "Francis William" had been born in the Village – in 1861.

She was taken by this surprise. But, she suggested, that we should meet, in the afternoon, at the Ashford Hotel, near the post Office. "I know the landlord very well, and he'll let us have his back room to meet."

Phil and I had lunch at the Hotel, and then we were joined by DAISY McCRINDLE. Daisy (Her nickname) was clutching a large brown envelope, in it were many B&W photographs. As she emptied them on a table, Phil caught sight of the images. "Look!" he exclaimed. "That man there, he looks like Uncle Wilf." (My Father's Brother) In fact, he could have been taken for an identical Twin.

We surprised Daisy, because, within the group of Birth Certificates we had taken with us, was her Grandfather's certificate...she was amazed. So, we began to see, that we were related, especially, from viewing all the pictures.

Daisy passed to us, some A4 documents, carrying the Sheldon Family Association (SFA) logo. They were taken into Ashford by the Group of American Sheldons, on their visit to England some years previous.

From this point, we were making a lot of progress. I visited, again, and took my Video Camera.

Was it possible to turn back the clock? I would have asked so many FH questions. And it is obvious, that I say, if you have children, of whatever age, feed them, as much information as you can, for future reference.

I had, and treasure, the A4 print out of the genealogy, of Sheldons back to Sir Richard de Scheladon, in 1385. It is fascinating!

Returning to the present, and the link with the SFA, I have been helped by Sue, Kelly, Dale, and Frank to name but four. Here in Britain, I have help from Many Butler, Neale Sheldon, and Daisy McCrindle (who is no longer with us). Also, I have had much consolation from JOHN PALMER'S immense WEB SITE, on Wirksworth. If you never have, give it a visit.

I am in no doubt that history harnesses our learning. For over 400 years now the colonisation in the US continues to stretch the fibre of humanity with new lives, new jobs, new technology, new relationships, new adventures, tourism, and a heritage to treasure.

The thoughts of the first visit to Ashford linger. It became the FH shop window, a key to understanding, a place to almost experience the aura of the ancestors, as though, like Daisy, they will come round the corner to meet us.

Another close encounter, I am certain, was experienced in Matlock. Earlier, I have stated that I visited the Matlock County Records office. When there that afternoon I sat at the Microfiche viewer. I had taken an A4 note pad, but I was a little daunted to see so many records before me. The stillness of that room was only broken by the sound of the Micro-viewer's winding-on handle. I noticed an elderly lady also working one of the other viewers. After about a silent hour, the lady said to me, "There's a lot to see."

“Yes.” I replied. Her image stayed with me, and only some 4 years later, did I realise, that the lady, was in fact, DAISY!

Going to Ashford was because my Wife’s Uncle Bob lived in Derbyshire, so we asked him for a photocopy, of the Derbyshire - Sheldon Listings. * Daisy’s mother had been born Hannah SHELDON and Daisy – became Winifred Hannah Barnes- -when she was born. (It was like finding the Haystack’s Needle, finding Daisy)

People, places, and events are, for the FH enthusiast, the stuff – of dreams. For me, it has been a curve learned, a page turned, - history opened that is riveting, unexpected and fulfilling.

The research through these “times” has yielded *The History of Deerfield*. A very weighty book, in more ways than one. A fascinating history of the struggles, adventures, and heartbreak of new people, trying to “settle”, and progress their lives - often against all odds. Homesteads, staking of territory, the account of the Indians, and the struggle to co-survive... over 600 pages of life lived - lives snuffed-out - that period of the Civil War, an epic tome of History played out like a mammoth film script, relentless, but it happened, and the History indelibly marks the page.

From my findings, I know that the greatest source of Human learning is via the pages of History, and along the way, even, here in England, I have refreshed the many facets of the accoutrements of my connection with History. I have renewed the everyday bric-a-brac of General Labourers, Gardeners, Journeymen, framework knitters, Cotton Weavers, Marble Polishers, Game Keepers, Mill Hands, Stone Masons, Warehousemen, Lead Miners, Power loom workers, Over-looker’s, Grave Diggers, Bobbin Doffer’s, Cattle Hands...the list goes on. But, how many of these terms/Descriptions, have passed out of memory?

When the “Mayflower” sailed from Plymouth, on the South Coast of England, it was the beginning of a New Life, a new experience, for those who made out the “Stake” for a huge change, in humanity...”travel”

I have been re awakened, by the Sheldon Family Association (SFA) and all their expertise, collections of documents and data, and helpfulness.

**For those patiently exploring their own History, here are my results, and as I am composing this, I have just learned that I am related to the Florence nightingale line from Derbyshire.

Me, GEOFF SHELDON, born 1942...ALBERT L., born 1899...FRANCIS WILLIAM, born 1861...JOSEPH, born 1816...JOHN-WIRKSWORTH DEBY’S, born 1771...JAMES, born 1716... WILLIAM BONSAL, born 1681...WILLIAM BONSAL, born 1655/60...now awaiting the next male back! Kelly, from the SFA, has identified my DNA connection to John Sheldon, born 1630, Godfrey and Richard.

The SHELDONS have a good, long back History. Many descendants who are shown in documentation, identify so many notable people through History, Politics, Film, TV, The World of Science, Sport, Writing and more.

There has never been a better time to start, if you have not already, the internet has made Family History research, so much easier, and accessible, by a factor of perhaps a thousand-fold. It is quicker, and saves the work, that had to be done, when you were doing it by physical presence and the postal system.

Finding out, here in England, the facts of so many SHELDONS has been mind blowing and their History writes its own story. SHELDON is a name to be proud of.

Ancestry.co.uk is doing fantastic work in adding Millions of records to what we have already, and it makes it so much easier to press buttons, rather than having to travel hundreds of miles on cold wet days.

If anyone wishes to Share Information with me, please do. geoff.sheldon@yahoo.co.uk

Best Wishes, to all Sheldon Cousins, members of the SFA and those who are still thinking about beginning the delightful search for their Family History.

August 10, 2017



"It Happened Right Here"

By Ruth Page Jones

"A Family On the Move"

Based upon a real family that homesteaded in Firesteel Township, a new children's book, "Elfie," by Mary Nelson Keithahn, tells the story of an extended family on the move across the Midwest, arriving in

Aurora County in the mid-1880s. While some family members, including Elfie's younger sister Edith Loverin Weller, settled here permanently, others moved back from where they came or further on to a new place. Elfie's story depicts the experiences of many such

pioneer families who made their way from the East, through the upper Midwest, and on to the Dakota prairie, only to scatter during hard times.

Written from a child's perspective, the story starts with seven-year-old Elfie, born in 1866, listening to her mother's stories about the family migrating from eastern states to the Midwest. She learns that her paternal grandparents, the Loverins, moved from New Hampshire to Illinois, while her maternal grandparents, the Sheldons, relocated from New York to Illinois, where Elfie's father Edwin met and married her mother Francis. Elfie's mother tells her about relatives that took part in significant historical events. For example, grandfather Loverin unsuccessfully sought his fortune in the Gold Rush in California, and four

(Continued on Page 11)



Edith Weller

On the Move

(Continued from Page 1)

family members served in the Civil War. One of the soldiers died and another was captured. Released after six weeks in prison, that relative later helped search for President Lincoln's assassin.

Soon after Edwin and Francis married, the newlyweds, along with Edwin's parents and siblings, moved to Iowa, welcoming their first born, Elfie, the following year. Because Edwin's two sisters married Francis' two brothers, Elfie called her eight cousins "double cousins." One summer, her father and Uncle Will left to seek opportunities in Nebraska, leaving Elfie and her mother in Iowa, sharing a home with Aunt Sarah, Will's wife. Upon returning, Will moved his family to Nebraska, while Edwin and his family ran a cattle ranch and shared a home with Uncle Samuel, Aunt Melissa, and their children in Iowa.

Keithahn tells charming stories from Elfie's viewpoint; Elfie getting into 'double trouble' with the cousins, celebrating the Fourth of July, visiting neighbors, and even keeping a white crane for a pet. Soon after Elfie's sixteenth birthday, in 1882, her mother gave birth to Edith, Elfie's only sibling. Less than two years later, Elfie married Sam Minard, a hired hand from Illinois working on her father's farm.

By this time, Elfie and Edith's Loverin grandparents and their Uncle Sam and Aunt Melissa had filed homestead claims in Firesteel Township, Aurora County, Dakota Territory. A year after marrying, Elfie and her husband and newborn baby Guy, along with her parents and sister, decided to join them, while the Loverin grandparents and Will and Sarah Sheldon, back from Nebraska, remained in Iowa. The two migrating families took the train that spring as far as Plankinton, "a town with a hotel, three saloons, a blacksmith shop, and one grocery store that carried a few dry goods and plenty of wormy dried apples and prunes."

Soon after arriving, the newcomers experienced a terrible three-day blizzard. Later that year, Elfie and her small family moved onto their own farm. Elfie remembered having to haul all their water from a nearby creek, "It was hardly worth the effort, though: the water was so full of sulfur and salt that it tasted awful." The book, based on Elfie's memoirs, relates several intriguing stories about her experiences living on the prairie. Only a year later, and now the mother of another little boy, farm conditions had worsened. The wheat crop yielded enough for seed, but barely any to grind into flour. Discouraged, her husband lamented, "We planted corn to feed the hogs, but didn't get enough to fatten the animals before we had to sell them. The only fuel we have to cook and heat the house is dried cow chips and flax straw." With rabbits eating the garden, and weasels and wolves attacking the chickens, the couple had few resources left to help them survive the coming winter. That fall, Elsie and her husband packed up their belongings, returned to Iowa, and permanently ended their migrations.

Unnerved by the harsh winters, Sam and Melissa Sheldon soon moved their family to Missouri, making that their final destination. Edwin, Francis, their child Edith, and Francis' parents, though, remained to build their lives in Aurora County. Edith grew to adulthood, graduated from high school, and worked as Deputy Register of Deeds, marrying Leroy Weller, a Plankinton merchant, in 1905. Although their three daughters married, and

moved to Iowa, Virginia, and Arizona, their only son, Lex Weller, made his home in Plankinton, ran the local grocery store, and raised a family of nine children, all graduates of Plankinton High School. Some people today may remember Leroy, who died in 1960, and Edith, who died at age 84, six years later. Judith Weller Nickles fondly recalls Edith, "My grandmother had a wonderful sense of humor. She was a small, sweet lady who worked hard most of her life." Most of those who attended school with the Weller children in the 1950-1970s will remember buying candy at Weller's IGA store.

Much like Edith's extended family, many of her grandchildren also moved onward. Those nine Weller's today are: Russell (Jean) in Yankton, Barbara Miller in Iowa, Judith (Robert) Nickles in Plankinton, Patrick (Marlene) in Colorado, Kathleen (Doug) Janzen and William (Margaret) in Rapid City, Helen (Brad) in Mitchell, Teresa (Curt) Venekamp in Colorado, and Lisa (Terry) Muhs in California. Typical of many families in those homesteading years, the Sheldon and Loverin families came out West hoping to stay together, but not all of them found the land hospitable. And like so many today, those families scattered, hoping to bridge the distance by maintaining close ties.

Keithahn writes in an engaging manner, telling short stories that are easily read and enjoyed by children in elementary school. Each chapter ends with a couple thought-provoking questions. In addition, her granddaughter, Katie Kangas, created the delightful illustrations. The author, great-granddaughter of "Uncle Will and Aunt Sarah," weaves together a number of adventures in this book of "Historical Fiction," meaning, some stories may not match historical facts. The book, published by Lilja Press in 2016, can be purchased via the Internet. "Elfie: Adventures on the Midwest Frontier," makes a lovely gift for a young child or grandchild, telling stories that can open discussions about those 'olden days,' and let children know how they are part of longer history.

Sheldon Family Association Lapel Pin



The attractive SFA lapel pin is approximately 3/4-inch-wide and 1 inch long. The background is teal blue. The top says, "Sheldon Family Association", the Sheldon logo is in the center and the ribbon at the bottom carries the letters SFA. Show off your heritage and wear this pin with pride!

The cost of this pin is \$10.00 (including postage).

<https://sheldonfamily.org/marketplace/merchandise/99-sheldon-family-association-lapel-pin>

Publications for Sale

Publications are provided in file download form on our website. After completing checkout, you will be emailed a download token and link to retrieve your purchased downloadable file(s). Please be sure your email address has been entered correctly. If you have not received your email shortly (check your spam folder just in case) please contact us regarding your order. Thank you. Here is the link to 38 publications we have on our website:

<https://sheldonfamily.org/marketplace/publications>

Sheldon Family Association, Inc.

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Celebrating 81 Years!

Sheldon Family Association

Dues Renewal/Membership Form

Online: [Renew here](#) Or by mail

Indicate Category:

___ Annual Membership - \$20.00

___ 5-Year Annual Membership - \$80.00

___ 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

membership@sheldonfamily.org

New Members please [join us here!](#)

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**