



Sheldon Family Association Inc.
Quarterly



Founded 1939

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The Gateway to the West!
The Home to the 2019 Sheldon Family Reunion!
Make your plans now!



Joshua-ness-322881-unsplash.jpg

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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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A Note from the Editor

Welcome, cousins, to the Spring edition of the SFAQ! The SFA is very glad that you have decided to read our Quarterly publication. We hope that you enjoy the information in this issue regarding our 2019 reunion and what to do in St. Louis. Please feel free to contact any of the above email addresses in order to ask any questions or submit any information for future articles. We would like very much to hear from you! I would like to thank the members who have sent information to me for review and publication.

Mayflower Ancestors of Sheldon Family

Michelle Masson

It has been with great interest that I research and share my findings regarding the Sheldon ancestors who are related to travelers on the Mayflower. In the year 2020 the General Society of Mayflower Descendants will carry out the 400-year anniversary celebration of that historical crossing. There are many activities planned for the entire year, including a parade and a commemorative stamp. Previously I have mentioned that one of the Sheldon ancestors, Susanna Potter, wife of Isaac Sheldon, was a Mayflower descendant. I am still searching the connection that Susanna Potter has to our Mayflower ancestors, but I have received information from member Cindi Whalen about Isaac Sheldon's connection to George Soule. His son Thomas married Harriet Winters and had several children. One of their sons was George Sheldon (born 1738 and died 1829); George married Content Soule. They had several children who gave the Sheldon Family many ancestors. Content was either the daughter of George Soule, who married Avis (Alice) Tibbitts or his great granddaughter. There are two conflicting stories that I have found at the time of this publication. One of the stories is that Content who married George Sheldon was the daughter of Timothy Soule and Elizabeth Allen. I hope to find more information to solidify the connection of the Content Soule who married George Sheldon.

President's Message

Betty Shelden Knopf, Ed.D.

Yes, I am experiencing spring. I was able to have a far-fetched dream come true and go to Holland to see the Keukenhof. It is a "garden park" of 80 acres of tulips and various spring bulbs, along with ponds, special flower exhibits, and rented swans. The bright colors, the beautiful setting, and the scents were amazing. When I returned home my dogwood tree started budding and now is covered with rose pink buds turning into flowers. Spring has come to me in California but maybe I have said enough for there are SFA members still experiencing "other weather." I have been told that North Carolina is experiencing their spring with the pollen wars, while the state of Michigan just got a snowstorm.

Now is the time to check your calendars to plan for fall. The 2019 SFA Reunion is set for St. Louis, Missouri, from September 18-22. The exciting Reunion plans include showing off the city and Sheldon contributions along with lots of fun options. Please check out the registration information in this *Quarterly*, keep reading Tidbits and check out our SFA website for more and more Reunion information. I am looking forward to seeing you in St. Louis.

P.S. Yes, I also have a special SFA lunch story and surprise for the Reunion that I have shared in the May Tidbits.

Extra Activities in St. Louis

Libby Wilson

For those who would like to do genealogy research while in St. Louis this summer, here is a list of libraries that you may find interesting. Their websites will give you more information on what types of materials they have along with their hours, and directions on how to get there.

St. Louis Public Library - (City) <http://www.slpl.org>

St. Louis County Library - <http://www.slcl.org>

Missouri Historical Museum, Library and Research Center - <http://mohistory.org/lrc-home>

Mercantile Library of the AMStL - <http://www.umsl.edu/mercantile>

State Historical Society of Missouri - <http://shs.umssystem.edu/index.shtml>

Also, in St. Louis are the National Archives and National Personnel Records Centers with millions of records on file.

To find out more about what they offer search :

<https://www.archives.gov/ST-LOUIS> and

<https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center>

Happy researching!

For those of you who would like to do something a little different while in St. Louis, I will recommend two of my family's favorite places.

Grant's Farm is a fun outing for all ages. In 1855, Ulysses S Grant built a four-room, two-story cabin on the property, naming it "Hardscrabble." The cabin was moved and reassembled approximately one mile from its original location, and in 1977, Anheuser-Busch restored it to its present condition. Now, a variety of exotic animal species from around the world, including bison, blackbuck, antelope, and zebra roam free in their natural setting. In the Tier Garten you can feed the goats and parakeets, ride a camel or the carousel, see an animal show, or just hang out with a variety of animals including tortoises, wallabies, lemurs, and elephants. And don't leave the park without trying a complimentary sample of Anheuser-Busch products in the hospitality room. German for "farmstead", The Bauernhof was built in 1913. It surrounds a beautiful courtyard typical of a 19th century Bavarian farm, complete with stables, a carriage house, and offices and quarters for those who lived and worked there. Today, it houses the Busch family's world-renowned carriage collection and stables. Friday thru Sunday in September from 9-5 (Parking is \$15, admission is free)

Across the street from the farm is the **Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site**. This is where General Grant lived off and on during his adult life, it is now open for tours daily from 9:30-5 pm. The grounds include 5 restored historic buildings and a Visitors Center.

I also recommend all the museums in **Forest Park**, just west of downtown St. Louis. There you will find great museums, all with free admission. Special exhibits may have an admission fee. The world-famous zoo is in Forest

Park and admission is free there as well, though the parking lots do charge a fee. Besides the Zoo, we have an Art Museum, History museum with both local and national themed exhibits, and Science Center with Omnimax theater and Planetarium.

So, go out and explore St. Louis!

An Ancestry Mystery

Michael Sheldon

I am still a novice at genealogical research. I pretty much just follow the leaves. However, I have spent time talking to my dad and my aunt. I have some records from my grandmother and great aunt. All was going pretty well until recently when a mystery surfaced.

I am very confident of the lineage going back to my dad, my grandfather, Wyatt, his father, Henry Clay (GG1) born in 1860, and his father Edgar (GG2) born in 1832. This lineage is based on eyes on accounts and personal experiences of his direct descendants. Edgar was born in Mantua, Portage County, Ohio. There are census records indicating that Edgar lists his father as coming from Connecticut.

My ancestry work has led to documents such as GG1 Henry Clay's obituary to reinforce these beliefs, but here comes the surprise. In the obituary of one of Edgar's sons, it refers that Edgar, aged in his 90's, is living with his oldest son Frank. This corresponds with other records, too. One other thing, it is important to note that Edgar moved from Ohio to the Ringgold County area in Iowa, then back to Ohio after his first wife's death to remarry a wife in Ohio then again returning to Iowa after her death. This is based on census records.

Frank is the one who signed the death certificate at his father's passing. I am, therefore assuming, that he is the one to provide the information on Edgar's death certificate about Edgar's father. There is no data provided regarding Edgar's mother.

The general acceptance is that Edgar is the son of Simeon Sheldon (GG3, born 1795) and Eunice Harmon. Simeon moved from the general area of Northampton, Massachusetts area to the Portage, Ohio area. H.O. Sheldon's records indicate that Simeon descends from Isaac (5) via the following line: Isaac, Thomas, Thomas, Simeon (Capt), Samuel (1766), Simeon (1795).

BUT... and here is the mystery, Frank lists another name as his father's father. The name is Cornulison from NC. I think the name to be possibly misspelled and could be Cornelius. But how does one misspell NC assuming it means North Carolina! Perhaps it means Not Certain? I find no record of this name, what-so-ever. There is a Cornelius P. Sheldon (1829) who descends from Isaac (5) to John (Ensign), Ebenezer, Caleb (1746), Caleb (1790). Was there another Edgar in Iowa?

One might think that Frank may have had memory lapses or just plain made a mistake (ha ha). But Frank was an educated man and an author of several historical documents. In one of his writings about the history of Edgar he alludes to Edgar's father as being Simeon.

In addition, my DNA testing puts me square in Isaac's camp so in the end does it really make a difference? I think so. More to learn and now I am reaching to ask some of the Sheldon experts out there to give me thoughts on where to concentrate and research. Perhaps a birth record of some kind in the Portage area?

The point here is that the intersection of eyes on information helps, realizing the uncertainty that exists within data beyond 5 generations, especially when the information intersects with DNA data. It is here that the Sheldon Family Association (SFA) can make its mark. When I reach out to the SFA the members share what they have learned. This cuts down my research time greatly and adds some interesting conversation between kinfolk. Lastly, my plan is to use this data to make an application to the SAR, so accuracy, I think, is imperative.

Let the fun begin! mbsheldonpac@gmail.com

Sheldon Family DNA Project on ftDNA

Michelle Masson

We have a tester from England whom we suspect is Group A. His Y Elite test has made it to the US for processing. That will take 4-6 months for completion and results. We are very excited about this information and anticipate some good information from the results.

There are now eight groups of DNA tested Sheldon relations in the Family Tree DNA Project.

Group A consists of those tested who are matches to John Sheldon of Providence, RI, Godfrey Sheldon of Maine and Massachusetts, and Richard Sheldon who we have found ancestors in Bakewell, Derby, England.

The SFA members always wondered why there were so few of the descendants of Richard in the Association. There are results from eleven testers in this group.

Group B1 consists of those descendants or suspected descendants of Isaac Sheldon of Windsor, CT. There are results from eight testers in this group.

Group B2 consists of those descendants or suspected descendants of John Sheldon of Kingston, RI. There are results from eleven testers in this group. Group B1 and Group B2 are very closely matched, so much so that one would be able to state that they are closely related.

Groups A and B are made up of the original five progenitors, men who first arrived in the US, that the SFA recorded from the papers of H. O. Sheldon: John (8), Godfrey (4), Richard (22), Isaac (5), and John (13). The Sheldon Family Association (SFA) did not know they were related by DNA until recently.

Group C consists of One test, that of Theodore Sheldon (born 1903 and died 1968). His numbers vary just slightly from the members in Group B2.

Group D has only two members tested, and they are possibly from Argyllshire, Scotland, we are still working on that one.

Number six out of the Groups are eight testers who are yet to be determined Sheldons not presently matched to a group. These are people with the name Sheldon whose DNA does not match closely with any of the aforementioned groups.

Number seven is a group of five people who tested who are not surnamed Sheldon, but are descendants of John Sheldon of Kingston, RI or Isaac Sheldon of Windsor, CT.

Number eight is an uncategorized group that are descendants of Sheldons. There are nine members in this group.

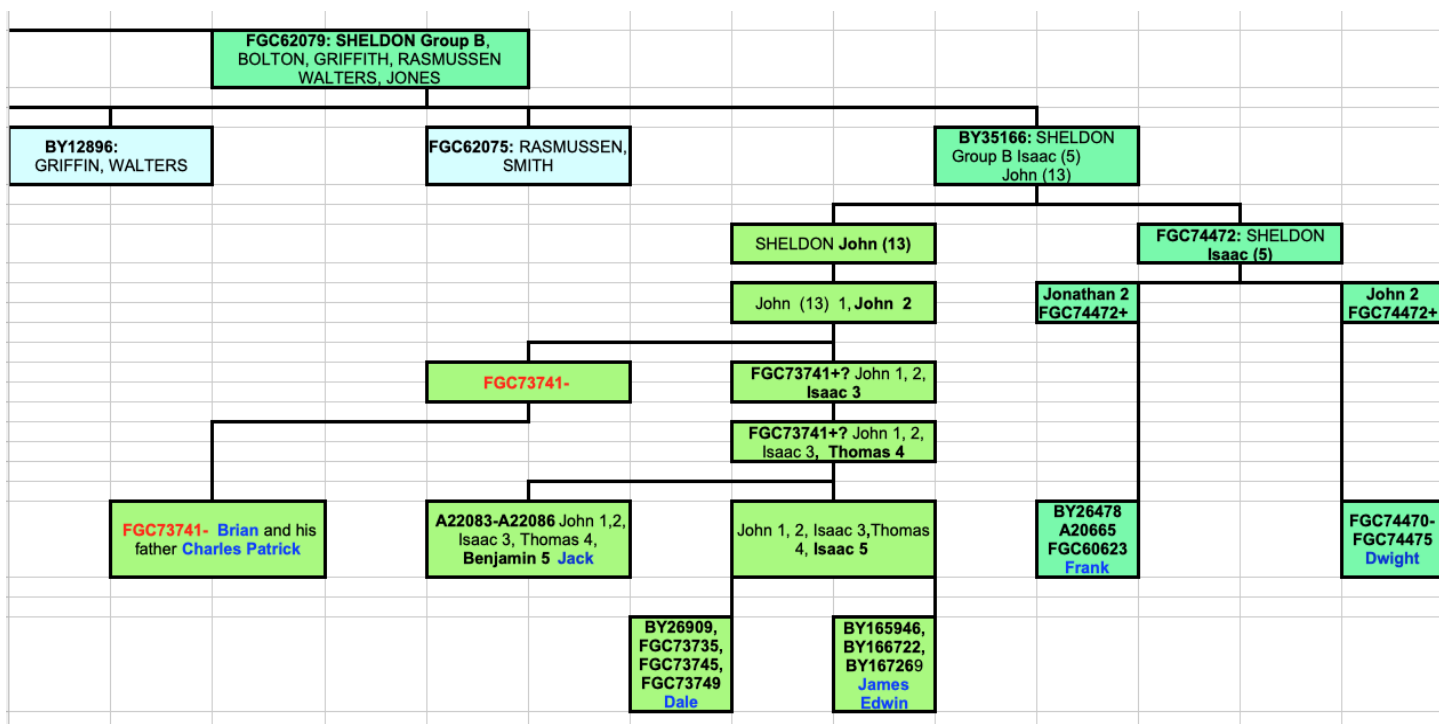
More DNA Statistics

Kelly Wheaton

The FTDNA Sheldon project began in July of 2006 with one member and has grown to 125 members in March of 2018. Now in 2019 at the close of March there are 155 Members!

We have 8 Big Y's, 49 Family Finders (atDNA), and 76 Y37 results. We have 4 distinct YDNA groups and Sub-groups B1 and B2 defining the Isaac (5) and John (13) lines. After a delay due to a family tragedy, our Group A tester (representing a current English resident matching the Group A line, Geoffrey SHELDON) Y Elite kit has been posted to the lab and should return results in 4-6 months. We also have one Big Y 700 upgrade ordered for a Group A participant (Dr. Roy Albert SHELDON). When both these results come in we should be able to sift through the results and determine which SNPs happened after the SHELDONS left England and which are shared from common ancestors going back to the 1300's.

In Group B we have made some progress including a recent tester (Brian SHELDON) who matches the Group B profile but was negative for both the Isaac (5) SNP and the John (13) SNP. The Isaac SNP (FGC74472) is shared by descendants of two different sons of Isaac (5): Jonathan and John so the SNP must have occurred in Isaac or his patrilineal ancestor. So, this is a definitive SNP for descendants of Isaac(5).



“From Handwritten Journals to Computer Genealogy”

S 9759x71 (J) Edward Mark Sheldon 1919 - 2008

Surrounded by his family, Tuesday 19 Feb 2008 at Westminster Woods, in Jacksonville, Florida, where he lived since 2002, E. Mark Sheldon, our beloved computer master, joined his beloved Betty and the ancestors he dearly loved. Reported by his son Ross Mark Sheldon. (Other son is Robert.) Mark was a Christian in word and deed and we shall meet again!

Following retirement, Mark telephoned (Rose) and said “Sis, what is it that Sheldon Family Association needs that a computer can do?” He had recently retired as teacher of the first computer school for Xerox in Hayward California. I replied, “there is no every name index for *The Sheldon Magazines* written by your great grand father Rev. Henry Olcott Sheldon. Only heads of families are indexed.”

From that conversation came the award winning *Sheldon Family Genealogy System* (SFGS). Frequent telephone conversations between then Genealogist Keith M. Sheldon, Wayne Nelson and me occurred discussing how to transform “The Sheldon Family Association Index cards” (made by earlier Genealogists Leland, Hortense, Betty, Shirley and Keith) into data fields in a database. (A national Genealogical Society later gave Mark an award of merit for the premier Family Association Genealogy Program. At least two other Family Associations have used this database layout pattern.)

Mark built the program on his MSDOS computer in programs of the day using: Database III, FoxBASE and Quicksilver.



Rose, Mark, Wayne “class”



“From Handwritten Journals To Computer Genealogy”
1987 Salem, MA Reunion Program

“Lessons” were held around the country in our homes where Mark and Betty traveled to teach us. At my house, we had delicious casseroles and we had “school”.

Upgrading from Marks Computer to 200 Megabyte Bernoulli Boxes was the next “latest” equipment addition. We kept busy! Data entry stations were at the homes of: Keith M. Sheldon in

OH, Rosemary and Al Hogan, PA, Wayne Nelson, IL., Lou Harney, MI and Rose Newton, IN. Such trials and tribulations he lead us through! We sent in our “work” to be combined into the master database.



Rosemary & Al Hogan, Jeanne Knowles, Eleanor Kern, Wayne Nelson

When Mark and Betty moved to Westminster Woods,

Mark’s nephew, Bret, son of John of Nevada (John was President before Mark.) updated SFGS by migrating the program into MS Access for Windows. We have since traversed through several versions of Access, and are now working with a gentleman in Chicago, since Bret became busy for us. Our goal is to finally bring the wonderful Sheldon genealogy into books for each progenitor. (Godfrey, John, John, Isaac, Richard.) This may require conversion to yet another program such as Legacy or Family Tree Maker. The problem is that Access report writer is not -currently nor do we know it ever will be - user friendly with

genealogy book writing page formats. The two mentioned programs already have the needed layouts...

Mark unveiled the computerized program in 1987 and thereafter brought his computer faithfully to reunions where he would be continually



Mark, Betty, Rose “Award of Excellence”

surrounded by cousins wanting “their search” and new print out sheets!
Continued at left p 798

Database Drawer

Sue Sheldon

At our Salt Lake City reunion last year, we had some exciting discussions about the SFA database. It was unanimous that we want to make it available to SFA members! This has been a dream for many years, and we are now actually making it a reality.

Currently, the tree is uploaded to Ancestry. You do not need to have an Ancestry subscription in order to view and edit your part of the tree, however, you will be able to “do more” if you do have one.

When you request to have access to the tree on Ancestry, you will be asked to agree to our “Ancestry Tree Policy”. You will be agreeing to edit only the records of seven (7) generations; up through your great- grandparents and down through your great-grandchildren. This includes all the siblings and spouses of each generation. You may add new individuals, add or correct facts, and add stories and photos. If you have an Ancestry subscription, then you will also be able to review hints.

Those members who have been testing out the system have found it to be a rewarding experience. With all the new descendant information we are getting, our tree is more accurate and current.

If you’d like more information about this project, please contact me at database@sheldonfamily.org

2019 Reunion Schedule!

Here are the tentative plans...

Wednesday, 9/18

4 pm Board meeting - open to all at the hotel

Dinner - on your own

7:30 - 9 pm welcome reception at the hotel with dessert/coffee (decaf!) and local wine

Thursday, 9/19

Free day to sightsee, shop, research – Dinner on your own or in groups.

Friday, 9/20

Group outing/carpooling to St. Louis, leave the hotel at 9 am 10:00 tour Sheldon Concert Hall

11:15 tour Central Library, see books by Walter Sheldon

12:15 - 3:00ish Gateway Arch/lunch/tour museum/ride to the top of the Arch (purchase your tickets online for the top of the Arch)

Afternoon plans may also include stopping at the Cathedral Basilica to see the wonderful mosaics or at Ted Drewes for St. Louis's favorite frozen custard treats

Dinner on your own

Saturday, 9/21

9 am -10:30 SFA Annual Meeting at the hotel (open to all)

Free day to sightsee, shop, research

6:00, Dinner at Tony's on Main.

Sunday, 9/22

Breakfast at the hotel – Safe journey home



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>

Publications for Sale

The Sheldon Family Association (SFA) encourages research and the collection of data that may contribute to the greater understanding of the extended SHELDON family. After careful consideration of such works, SFA may choose to publish selected materials and to make them available to its members. However, it is not possible for SFA to verify the accuracy of the content or opinion, the reader should understand that SFA in no way implies blanket verification and certification of these publications.

All prices US dollars.

These publications are provided in file download form through this 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>

80th Annual Sheldon Family Association Reunion

Wednesday, September 18 - Sunday, September 22, 2019

A block of rooms has been reserved at Best Western Plus, The Charles Hotel at 1425 South Fifth Street in St. Charles, Missouri. The special room rate is \$105+ tax. Call to make your own reservations at this number:

Hotel Direct: 636.946.6936. Be sure to say you are attending the Sheldon Reunion.

Cutoff date for reservations at this price is August 18, 2019.

A full continental breakfast is included with your room. All other meals will be self-pay on location. On Friday, lunch will average about \$6.50 - \$12.95 at the cafes by the Gateway Arch in St. Louis. The price for the farewell dinner at Tony's on Saturday night will be in the \$21+ range. Admissions for sites we will visit in St. Louis are free. If you want to visit the top of the Arch that costs \$13 for the tram ride up and back.

Due to the cost of insurance which we must now carry on reunions, the registration fee is \$15 PER PERSON. You may register online at Sheldonfamily.org or by completing this form and sending it with your check made out to Sheldon Family Association. Send to Sue Sheldon, Treasurer, PO Box 1575, Shelton, WA 98584.

SFA REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT (Name +phone#) _____

REGISTRATION FEE: \$15 Per Person

NUMBER ATTENDING _____

Sheldon Family Association, Inc.

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Celebrating 80 Years!

Sheldon Family Association

Dues Renewal/Membership Form

Indicate Category:

___ Annual Membership \$15.00 (before Aug 1, 2019)

___ Annual Membership \$20.00 (after Aug 1, 2019)

___ 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 join Sheldon Family Association at:
<https://sheldonfamily.org/membership/join-our-membership>

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**