



Shenandoah
County
**Historical
Society**

Winter 2019

Newsletter

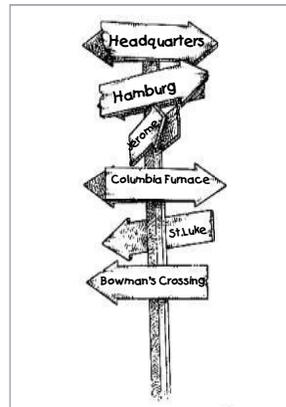
Highlights in this Issue:

- President's Message 2
- Archivist Column 2
- New Board Member
- Preservation Awards Open
- Shenandoah Iron Book
- Klaus Wust book available 3
- March Program meeting
- Barn Survey Update/Stats
- NY Passenger Lists Free 4
- Amazon Smile
- MSV - Valley Heritage Day
- SCHS on Facebook
- Historic Building Series 5
- Family History Records 6
- Bowman Family Update 7
- Upcoming Events 8

Heritage Day 2019 to feature

Forgotten Communities - What Used to Be

Have you, in your travels around Shenandoah County, seen road signs for towns that aren't there anymore? You whizz by Mt. Clifton and wonder, where did it go? Shenandoah County Heritage Day 2019 will introduce you to some of these "Forgotten Communities" that existed throughout the county. The automobile and modern road networks have changed the way we live. We no longer depend on small, scattered villages located near our homes to provide daily essentials. A church, old store or school building and a few homes may be the only visible reminders of these places.



to 3 PM at the Mt. Jackson Town Hall on Main Street.

The day will include a presentation by the VA Tech Community Design Assistance Center, which documented places in Virginia that mostly exist today only in memory. Their book, "Lost Communities of Virginia", included our own Jerome as one such place.

As always, we invite anyone who would like to bring an exhibit about another topic such as family history, history of a house, farm, church or other to participate.

There is no fee to be a part of Heritage Day. Call us at 540-459-1795 or email at schs.va@gmail.com to reserve a table. Deadline is April 1.



New Members

- Marleta Childs
- Michael J. Rohrbaugh
- Lucy G. Banks
- Michele Harmon
- Betsy Davison
- John Whittington

New Life Members

- Bonnie Painter
- Laurie Burgess & Bill Billeck
- Russell & Sarah Kohrs
- Peter & Kathleen Dalke

ATTENTION

ARE YOUR DUES DUE??

The date beside the name on your mailing label is the month and year your membership is due. Thanks for staying current.

Morrison Exhibit Opens at Historic Courthouse

Hugh Morrison Jr. photographed the people and places of Shenandoah County, Virginia, during the first half of the 1900s. The era counted two World Wars and the Great Depression among its defining moments. When Morrison's career began in 1898, few people had electricity, cars, or telephones. When it ended in 1950, few people lacked them. Hugh Morrison photographed through it all and compiled an immense body of work. The SCHS volunteers have processed over 31,000 glass plates and film negatives spanning Morrison's long career.

Copies of each photo are in the Shenandoah County Library and available for visitors to examine and hopefully identify the photos. Over 5,000 have been identified so far. This new exhibit at the Visitor Center at the Historic County Courthouse, at 103 N. Main St. in Woodstock, includes a sampling of the collection and it's vast array of subject matter. The Center is open year round, every Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 11 AM to 4 PM.

Genealogy Research Again Offered by SCHS

We're pleased to announce that a new volunteer has stepped forward to allow SCHS to again offer our popular genealogy research service. The service was suspended last winter due to a lack of volunteers. Kathy Rivers, a member of the Narrow Passage Chapter, DAR, has stepped up to offer her time and expertise to assist the many people throughout the US, with roots in Shenandoah County, who search for family history information. Learn more about the fee-based service at our website, www.schs1795.com.

The Society has offered this service for many years. An enormous amount of information is contained in the Shenandoah Room at the Shenandoah County Library and includes items from the Truban Archives, maps, books, valuable online resources and a large collection of family files from previous research. We're fortunate to have these resources available to us.

Thank you very much, Kathy!



From the County Archives

By Zach Hottel, Archivist

18-0507-0039, Court Square Gathering, George W. Smith Collection, Truban Archives, Shenandoah County Library, Edinburg, Virginia.



Analysis of A Photo

Sometime in the 1940s a photographer, likely Hugh Morrison, took this quick snapshot of a crowd gathered in front of the Historic Shenandoah County Courthouse. No contextual information was provided with the picture, so everything we know about it comes from the subjects shown in the image. Here are a few details we can pick up:

Based on the height of the speaker in the foreground and the size of the crowd between the photographer and the road, we can tell whoever took the picture was standing under the portico.

The tree on the left is still young and based on its position was part of a 1930s Courthouse Beautification project, hence the ca. 1940 date. This tree was one of the two removed in the 2007-2009 court square renovation project.

The Woodstock National Bank building (today the former Bank of America Building) stands across the street and is relatively new considering the lack of paint and original clock.

It was taken sometime in December since there is a decorated Christmas tree in the right front background and since most individuals are wearing warm clothes.
<https://bit.ly/2E0zC4O>.

To have a snap shot of a crowd in action facing out from the Courthouse is extremely rare since most photographers utilized the building as a backdrop. This image is one of those images and captures a crowd of people living life in 1940s Woodstock. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/2E0zC4O>.

Share historic items like this with the Shenandoah County Library's Truban Archives. Contact us at (540)984-8200 for more information.

This Newsletter can be sent to you electronically. Many photos will appear in color, and it saves postage! Notify us at: schs.va@gmail.com

The Shenandoah County Historical Society, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

President: Barbara Adamson
Vice-Pres: Janet Wagniere
Secretary: Ellen Markel
Treasurer: C.F. Wagniere

Board Members:

John Adamson
Bruce Alger
Dennis Atwood
Karen Cooper
Anne Dellinger
Rick Lytton
Margie Hisey Tackett
Meg Trott
Susan Walls

Newsletter Editor:
Janet Wagniere

Message from the President

Happy New Year! I hope that 2019 will be a good year for you and yours.

I want begin by thanking former board member, Dr. Charles Wood, who has retired from the SCHS board, for his service from 2015-2018 and wish him well in his recovery from recent surgery. We miss you, Charles. Welcome new board member, Susan Walls! You'll find more information about Susan elsewhere in the newsletter.

We appreciate all volunteers who help out with our activities, and enjoyed hosting them at our annual volunteer appreciation dinner on November 11 at St. Paul's Heritage Ctr. in Edinburg. Not everyone was able to attend, but we send our thanks to all. Our Historic Courthouse Volunteer Team members include Dennis Atwood, Billy & Gloria Boone, Anna Mae Ortgies, Kent Womack, Gerald Buttram, Kim & Jim Stevenson, Kevin Frazier, Meg Trott, Margie Tackett, Sallie Raynor, Larry Beazley, Nancy Stewart, Diane Pence, Robert Frye, John & Barbara Adamson, Janet & CF Wagniere, and Jenna French.

Those who assist with other projects and help in a variety of ways include Leigh Devier, Hank

Zimmerman, Liz Sollenberger, Janice Miller, Phyllis Wright, Susan Beazley, Zach Hottel, Sally Veach and board members Karen Cooper, Ellen Markel, Bruce Alger, Anne Dellinger, Rick Lytton, and Susan Walls.

Board member, Bruce Alger, chair of the Church Histories Committee, has been working on that project. There are 150 churches, or so, in Shenandoah County, and while we have a good number of them included in our database, we'd like to include every one of them. Bruce has recently sent out letters to 22 churches whose data (and pictures) we don't have, seeking information about their history. Bruce has also been collecting photos of churches from the *Northern Virginia Daily's* "Out of the Past" series – a good idea. To see if your church is already included in our database, go to our website, www.schs1795.com. Click on the Our Organization tab, and then Resources. You'll find a Churches button. If you can help us with contact information about any church not yet listed, it would be appreciated. You may contact us at 540-459-1795 or email, schs.va@gmail.com.



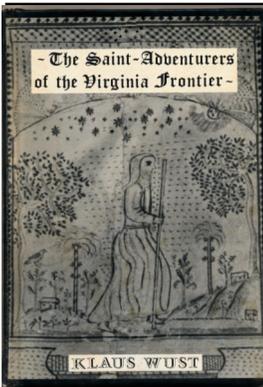
Susan Walls

New SCHS Board Member Appointed



Susan Walls

Susan Walls moved to Jerome with her husband, Bill, from Falls Church in July, 2007. They bought a farmhouse known locally as the Isaac Foltz house in 2002. She retired from the U.S. Agency for International Development after a 32 year career in the federal government. A native Washingtonian, Susan grew up in Falls Church, graduated from Madison College/James Madison University with a BA in history. Since moving to the Valley, she has joined the Narrow Passage Chapter of the DAR, the local chapter of NARFE, and ushers at the Schultz Theatre. Her Valley family connection is the Henckel family of New Market. She and her husband love living in Shenandoah County and appreciate the history that lies around every corner. Welcome to the Board, Susan.



Long Out-of- Print Book By Klaus Wust Now Available

The Saint-Adventurers of the Virginia Frontier: Southern Outposts of Ephrata

This book by Klaus Wust was published in 1977 with a hardback cover. It is the story of three immigrant brothers, Samuel, Israel and Gabriel Eckerlin who went to the Virginia frontier from the monastic community of Ephrata, Pennsylvania, in the spirit of German mysticism.

The soft cover edition is now available in the Historical Society book store in the historic Courthouse Visitor Center or by mail order. SCHS \$17 - Members: \$16

March Program to Feature Valley Cabinetmaking and Clocks

A. Nicholas Powers, Curator of Collections, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, will present our March Program, "Made of the Wright Stuff: Uncovering a Shenandoah County Cabinetmaking Family"

William Wright (d. 1829) and his son Thomas (d. 1825) were two of the most prominent cabinetmakers of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century Shenandoah County. Living in the Toms Brook-Saumsville-Maurertown triangle, the Wrights produced a variety of furniture forms, including tall clock cases with works by Jacob Frye and Caleb Davis, corner cupboards, and cases of drawers, among others. Using a tall case clock that dates to Thomas's 1816 marriage as a Rosetta stone, Nick Powers will reconstruct the lives, shop, and surviving pieces from this previously unidentified father-son duo.

Nick Powers is a native of the Shenandoah Valley, Powers graduated from James Madison University with a degree in History. At the MSV, he researches, exhibits, and lectures on the museum's collection of Valley fine, decorative, and folk art, as well as the comprehensive collection of museum benefactor Julian Wood Glass Jr. (1910-1992). He is the author of several articles on Shenandoah Valley and Southern decorative arts and material culture.

Shenandoah Iron



A History of Mining, Smelting and Transporting Iron in the Virginia Counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Rockingham, Shenandoah and Warren

By Norman H. Scott

Shenandoah Iron:

A History of Mining, Smelting and Transporting Iron in the Virginia Counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Rockingham, Shenandoah and Warren

By
Norman H. Scott

Most people know of the rich Civil War history of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia but few know that the Valley was also rich in iron smelting history. The first furnace west of the Blue Ridge Mountains was built in this region. For over 144 years the area produced iron ore and smelted ore into pig iron. The region's iron history covered the eras of the bloomery forge, charcoal cold-blast furnace and finally hot-blast coke furnace. *Shenandoah Iron* includes the transporting, mining and smelting activities of this industrial enterprise and explains in detail how iron ore is transformed into iron. Over 80 iron mines are identified, over 24 cold-blast furnaces are described and the two modern hot-blast furnaces are depicted. Contributions of German-Americans who settled the valley and dominated the iron business are highlighted. The practice of industrial slavery and

[Continued on Page 8]

Program Meeting

Tuesday, March 26th, 2019
7:00 PM

St. Paul's Heritage Center

106 S. High St., Edinburg, VA

Program:

**Made of the Wright Stuff:
Uncovering a Shenandoah County
Cabinetmaking Family**
By Nick Powers

2019 SCHS Preservation Awards Nominations Invited

In 2014 the Shenandoah County Historical Society established an Excellence in Historic Preservation Awards program to be given at the annual meeting and banquet in May of each year. The purpose of the program is to honor projects within Shenandoah County that deserve recognition for their preservation efforts. By doing so we hope to encourage others to follow the examples of those being recognized. These awards continue an earlier program that had been created by the former Shenandoah Preservation League.

The Excellence in Historic Preservation Awards are intended to recognize outstanding projects in the fields of history, architecture, scenic beauty, and material culture (this includes furniture, textiles, documents, folk art, photography, basketry, tools and more). The original, or source object (s) must be at least sixty (60) years old, and the preservation project must have been completed to be eligible for consideration.

"Each year we look forward to receiving a number of high quality applications," Committee Chairman, Leigh Devier said.

"Shenandoah County is rich in accomplished and potential historic preservation projects and we are pleased to be able to support this awards program. The Society believes that the quality of life in Shenandoah County is greatly enhanced by preserving evidence of our unique history, and that publically recognizing these achievements may bring about a greater awareness of the value of historic preservation

Application deadline is April 1 of each year. A Nomination Form is included with this newsletter and on the SCHS web site [www.schs1795.com]. They are also available in early winter throughout Shenandoah County at libraries and museums and by contacting the Society at 540-459-1795, or by e-mail at schs.va@gmail.com.

Barn Survey Update

By John Adamson

The last few months have been good ones for continuing the survey of Historic Barns of Shenandoah County. To date, I have completed surveys of 128 barns (see attached statistics). This work continues to be most rewarding as I drive around our beautiful county and meet nice people who are proud of their barns. Several SCHS members have helped me conduct surveys including Dennis Atwood, Hank Zimmerman and most frequently, Sharon Weatherholtz. With someone to help measure, it is possible to complete the on-site work in as little as 20 minutes.

Using Google Maps, I have created a map of all barns surveyed (and a few to be surveyed) in Shenandoah County. This map is available to anyone by going on line at the following link:

[https://drive.google.com/open?](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1P4euVVBVQjIKRXapvSCp4OTC7J49A0BS&usp=sharing)

[id=1P4euVVBVQjIKRXapvSCp4OTC7J49A0BS&usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1P4euVVBVQjIKRXapvSCp4OTC7J49A0BS&usp=sharing)

You can also find the map on the SCHS Facebook page thanks to Dennis Atwood. If you follow the above link you will find each barn located by a colored pin on the map. When you click on the pin you will find a brief description of each barn and a small photo. The different colors denote the following.

Dark red = Forebay bank barn
 Orange = Bank barn (no forebay)
 Yellow = Ground Barn
 Light brown = Log ground barn
 Dark brown = Log forebay bank barn
 Blue = Unsurveyed barn

Please remember that all barns are located on private property.

If you know of a barn that could be surveyed, please contact me with particulars. Every barn documented increases our knowledge of Shenandoah County History!

John Adamson
adamsons@shentel.net
 540 975-2240 cell

ALL New York Passenger Lists Now Free to Search on Ellis Island Website Family Search & the Statue of Liberty

The Ellis Island Foundation has announced that searchable New York passenger lists for the years 1820 to 1892 are now available free on the Ellis Island website. With this addition, the Ellis Island website now offers full coverage of New York's era as a major port of immigration, 1820 to 1957.

The joint project also has placed an index to the records on the free FamilySearch website. The index links to record images on the Ellis Island site. On either website, you'll need a free registration to view matches to your search results.

Search the Ellis Island Website: <https://www.libertyellisfoundation.org/passenger>

[Reprinted from the Michigan Geological Council from the Oct. 2018 newsletter.]



Visit SCHS on Facebook

By Dennis Atwood

Want to access additional information about Shenandoah County history in an interactive environment? Then visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SCHSVA or simply click on the Facebook icon at the bottom of our website main page. On our Facebook page you will find event announcements, videos like the May 8th, 2018 announcement by Preservation Virginia that our Historic Barns Program is included in their 2018 Ten most endangered historic places, postings by our Shenandoah County Library Archivist, Zach Hotel, plus comments and other information from folks like you.

Barn Survey Statistics

(as of December 16, 2018)



128 Shenandoah County barns surveyed

13 log barns, 115 timber frame barns

97 forebay bank barns (76% of all barns)

Average length = 58 feet (longest = 90 feet)

Average width = 36 feet (widest = 50 feet)

Average age = 136 years old (oldest = 1772, newest = 2018)

Barns in agricultural use = 54 (42% of the total)

Condition: 1 = 31, 2 = 47, 3 = 33, 4 = 17

1 = "good" (24%)

2 = "needs repair" (37%)

3 = "needs structural repair" (26%)

4 = "dangerous to enter" (13%)

Shenandoah Valley Heritage Day is March 2nd

Presented each year by the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley and Handley Library's Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, this FREE event includes information tables hosted by historical societies and research organizations, and lectures on genealogy/research at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The event is held at the MSV at 901 Amherst St., Winchester, VA.

For Info: www.themsv.org or Sally at 540-662-1473, X226

In a program that began a few years ago, customers who shop at Amazon.com can also donate to their favorite non-profit organization.

After a customer selects their non-profit group, Amazon will donate 5% of every purchase they make to the selected group.

All one must do to sign up is to go to: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1637605> and confirm your selection. Or, you can go to: smile.amazon.com and pick your non-profit from a list. In the future, one must sign in to smile.amazon.com instead of just directly to the amazon site (as in the past), and your organization will receive the credit.

If you are an Amazon Prime member, nothing will change as far as your account is concerned.

Several members have already signed up and made purchases and SCHS has received donations. The more people who sign up, the more the contributions to SCHS.



✦ Continuing Series on Historic Buildings in Shenandoah County ✦

GRANDSTAFF HOUSE ON STONY CREEK IN EDINBURG

Houses in Shenandoah County that get to be very old often show evidence of many changes as generations of owners expand and improve them to suit their needs. The Grandstaff house on Stony Creek in Edinburg is no exception, showing multiple expansions and improvements done by various generations of owners in its 230 year history. It is said to be the oldest house standing in Edinburg.

Family history says that Phillip Grandstaff built a two room log house on the north side of Stony Creek in 1787. Greatly enlarged by succeeding owners, the original house measuring 27 feet by 19 feet forms the core of the structure seen today. In 1804, Phillip purchased land on the south side of Stony Creek and built water powered mills including a grist mill, a wool carding mill and a boring mill.

Phillip had ten children including two gunsmith sons, George (b. 1787) and John (b. 1789). These two sons contracted to manufacture arms for the U.S. government during the war of 1812 and are well known among gun collectors for their production of graceful civilian longrifles during the early 1800s. George became the owner of the two room log house and made significant improvements greatly altering its appearance.

About 1820 or 1830, George enlarged the house by building log additions on each end and an entire log second floor. The addition on the west end became the kitchen with a large cooking fireplace that was later removed. The limestone and brick chimney on the east end of the house still stands. In my experience, limestone chimneys topped with brick were commonly built in Shenandoah County from about 1820 to about 1840.

The roof of the enlarged house is supported by rafters that show the saw marks



The rear of the enlarged house showing the limestone and brick chimney .



A close-up of an attic rafter showing the evenly spaced, straight marks of the sash saw

By: John Adamson



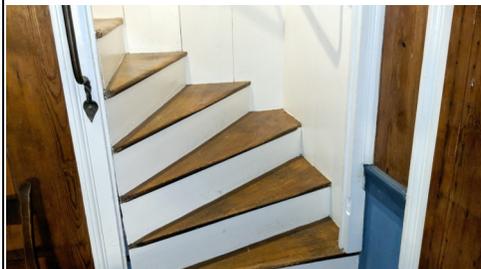
The Grandstaff House, front side facing Stony Creek



Yellow pine logs, exposed on second floor interior wall.



Detail of hinge in original portion of the house. Possibly dating to 1787 .



Interior stairway constructed for the addition of the second floor



A restored portion of the mantle placed in the kitchen addition about 1830 .

of a water-powered sash saw marks of a water-powered sash saw. These straight marks, evenly spaced, were made by the up and down motion of the sash saw blade. Sash saws were most common in the period before the Civil War. After the Civil War, steam powered circular saws became the preferred technology as they were able to produce sawed lumber at a much faster rate and did not rely on water power. The rafters in the Grandstaff house are individually numbered and show evidence of a fire that did significant damage at some point, perhaps when wood shingles were still in use.

George Grandstaff was a very prominent figure in Shenandoah County including service in the state legislature and as a justice of the peace. During his ownership of the property, George constructed the brick "law office" a short distance from the house. The office sits on a well-built limestone foundation that has served several generations as a root cellar.

The Grandstaff family sold the house to Laura Stoneburner in 1890. The Stoneburner family sold the house to Gary and Ann Laing in 1988. The Laings spent considerable energy rehabilitating the house while being respectful of its original fabric including yellow pine logs, raised panel doors, single panel walls, original pine floors and old fashioned corner stairways. The 1950s era shingles covering the exterior do not suggest the 19th century appearance of the interior.

The evolution of the Grandstaff house makes for some enjoyable house evolution detective work. I am thankful to live in a county where such homes can be found, and thankful to the generations of owners who have done their part to preserve this aspect of Shenandoah County history.



The brick law office built by George Grandstaff



The fireplace with its original mantle inside the Law Office

The Virginia Family History Records Project

by Katie Derby

[Reprinted from The Virginia Genealogical Society Newsletter - Nov./Dec. 2018]

The Virginia Family History Records Project (VFHRP) brings together local volunteers who love to work on genealogy with the resources of FamilySearch to work toward the preservation and accessibility of Virginia historical records.

Using a camera capture kit provided by FamilySearch, project volunteers can work onsite at churches, courthouses, funeral homes etc., to capture digital images of original records. Then a team of volunteers, working remotely from their homes, can process those digital images, index them, and prepare them for publication on FamilySearch which provides free access to the images online.

The cost of these digitization projects and the expense of the upkeep of the digital images afterward is often prohibitive for all but the largest record custodians. Using this model of pairing volunteer labor with FamilySearch technology and resources, the VFHRP allows even the smallest organizations to preserve their records without needing to donate the originals to a larger archive first.

Project volunteers were able to capture and preserve the records of the Gillfield Baptist Church in Petersburg, the second oldest African-American Church in Virginia. Church records going back to the 1700s were digitized, indexed, and published on FamilySearch for free.

The VFHRP also works on research tasks that build the collaborative family tree on FamilySearch. These tasks are designed to increase the usability and accuracy of the family tree for underrepresented groups in Virginia, such as African Americans. Key records are identified and preserved, then research tasks are completed by volunteers who add names and sources to the tree. This makes it much easier for individuals to find connections to their own ancestral lines once they begin using FamilySearch. Connecting to the collaborative tree is key to making progress in one's own family history research, and to have some of the "discovery experience" features work for a living individual.

Attendees at the recent Virginia Family History Day conference held at the Library of Virginia in September had a live demonstration of the impact of one of these features. Gathered at the wrap-up session, participants were asked to take out their phones, login to the [FamilySearch Family Tree App](#) and activate the "Relatives Near Me" feature. As the app scanned the nearby area and calculated the relationships of the participants logged into the app, excited chatter in the lecture hall grew. Participants shouted out names and greeted strangers with hugs after discovering that they were distant cousins.

Project volunteers participated in the recent "Day to Serve" event held in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington DC from 11 September to 11 October. During that time period, more than 14,000 research tasks were completed, nearly 4000 records were captured and indexed, and volunteers logged more than 1500 hours working on VFHRP projects.

If you are interested in becoming a project volunteer or know of records that need preservation, please contact Katie Derby at katiedcrby@gmail.com for more information. You can also join on their Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/VirginiaRecordsProject>

New to the VGS [Virginia Genealogical Society] Website?

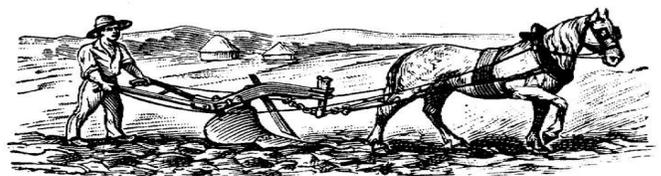
The New VGS website launched 1 October and many members have already logged on and begun to take advantage of the new content and members-only features. More additions to the website are planned and they welcome comments and feedback from members on what they like/don't like and what they'd like to see added in the future.

One of the exciting elements resurrected as a **Members-Only feature** is "Surname Research." As of 1 November, over 182 records had been added to the database with surnames from Adair to Young. "Surname Research" allows a member (through their "Member Profile") to enter surnames of interest over a time period and area (county, state/province and country). Other members can search for surnames of interest and if a match is identified, an inquiry form can be generated and sent to the member who originally posted the surname with additional information to see if additional collaboration is warranted between the two members. The inquiry forms are emailed but the email addresses of members posting to the "surname Research" list are kept confidential.

Join the Virginia Genealogical Society

Individual membership is \$40 per year; 2 family members is \$45. Members receive the quarterly newsletter and Genealogy Magazine, plus many discounts on related subjects.

Go to: www.vgs.org to sign up.



YDNA Provides Clarity About Bowman Families in Shenandoah County

By Bernie Bowman

The Four Families

Bowman (Bauman) was a fairly common surname among early settlers of Shenandoah County. The most prominent was George and Mary Hite Bowman. In fact research on this family has overshadowed other Bowmans with many other Bowmans attempting to shoehorn their ancestry into the George and Mary Hite Bowman line. YDNA results have now provided clarity about the relationships, or lack thereof, among four Bowman families. These four are George (1699-1768) and Mary Hite Bowman who owned land along Cedar Creek north of Strasburg; George (1712-1786) and Barbara Keller Bowman whose eldest son and grandsons lived in and around the Forestville and Mt. Clifton areas; Christian Bowman (1698-1763) who settled first at Sandy Hook and later relocated to the mouth of Narrow Passage Creek just south of Edinburg; and, Jacob (1722-1778) and Elizabeth Rueger Bowman who owned land along the North Fork of the Shenandoah River near Woodstock.

DNA Testing

The surprising result of YDNA testing is that none of these four early Bowman families in Shenandoah County were related to each other. What do we mean by unrelated? YDNA testing is a science of statistical probability. Depending on the number and quality of testees, YDNA results can provide the probability of individuals being related within a given generational span. We were able to find multiple male testees for each of the four Bowman families such that it can be asserted that there is no relationship probability within thirty or more generations.

One particular family

While we were not able to find testees for the George Adam Bowman line, yet another Bowman living in Shenandoah County in the late seventeen hundreds, we did find evidence that this George Adam changed his name from Baughman to Bowman while living in Pennsylvania. Additionally that this George Adam Bowman was in fact a son of John Baughman from Conestoga, PA who purchased a sizable tract of land in Shenandoah County but never actually moved there. In addition to his son, George Adam, several of John Baughman's daughters settled in Shenandoah County. George Adam Bowman, Christian Bowman and Jacob Bowman were of Mennonite heritage while George and Mary Hite Bowman and George and Barbara Keller Bowman were affiliated with the Lutheran church.

A new round of testing

A second and later round of YDNA testing focused on the George(1712) and Barbara Keller Bowman line. It has long been known that two of their grandsons, George III (1765) and Nicholas (1769) lived in Shenandoah County in the last quarter of the seventeen hundreds. While living in Shenandoah County George III married Elizabeth Roush and Nicholas married Catherine Derrick. We were able to show that George II (1742), married to Anna Maria Gottshaulk, who was a son of George (1712) and parents of George III (1765) and Nicholas (1769), also lived in Shenandoah County and had at least two additional sons, Henry (1773) who married Sabrina Pence and Johannes or John (1774) who married Margaret Ludwig. These Bowmans associated first with the Old Pine Church and later with Solomons in Forestville. George II owned land at Mt Clifton from 1780 to 1801 and died in Shenandoah County in about 1813. Son George III and Henry moved to southern Ohio while Nicholas relocated to Jefferson County, TN. John and Margaret remained in Shenandoah County, living at Garlic Hollow, directly southeast of the Conicsville/Cabin Hill area. A map prepared in connection with the Civil War shows a steam powered saw mill located on this property which was an original Northern Neck Land Grant to Peter Hoop. John Wayland in his book, *A History of Shenandoah County*, provides a quote from his mother's diary with a date of 31 May 1864 saying "Yankees burned the Steam Sawmill back here..." Wayland then adds "This sawmill was probably located near Conicsville in Sawmill Hollow." Wayland also quotes an A.J. Kagey who asserts that a John Bowman also known as "Smith" Bowman worshipped at the Zion Lutheran Church and this church is located just northeast of Garlic Hollow. It appears John Bowman was a blacksmith and farmer and that a sawmill operated on his property. Phillip Howard Bowman (1818) was a son of John and Margaret. Phillip's military record indicates he was born in "Sawmill (Garlic) Hollow." Many of John's and Margaret's descendants still call Shenandoah County home. Beth (Mrs. Robert) Bowman has maintained an extensive listing of these descendants.

More information available

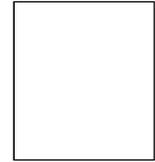
A much longer document with detailed supporting evidence to the assertions included in this article is available at the Shenandoah County Library Shenandoah Room. The Bowman descendant who handled the YDNA testing through the Bauman Surname YDNA Genetic Project was Marilyn Hering. She can be contacted at mheringtrees@gmail.com. For those descendants of John and Margaret Ludwig Bowman who wish to know more about their immigrant ancestors, George and Barbara Keller Bowman, the book *George and Barbara Keller Bowman: Immigrants and Bowman House Builders* is available from the author, Bernie Bowman at bowmanbernie@gmail.com





Shenandoah
County VA

Historical Society



P.O. Box 506
Edinburg VA 22824

Phone: 540-459-1795
E-Mail: SCHS.VA@Gmail.com

Join the SCHS

Individual: \$10 per year

Family: \$15 per year

Lifetime (Individual): \$200

Lifetime (Family): \$300

Send Fee to address above.

Renewal Date is beside name on
mailing label →

Shenandoah Iron -

[Continued from Page 3]

the impact of the Civil War on the iron industry are explored. This 350 page book includes 137 photographs, maps and drawings to illustrate the contributions that the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Rockingham, Shenandoah and Warren made to the iron smelting industry of the Shenandoah Valley. SCHS Price: \$20 - Members: \$19.

Shenandoah County History Council Educational Seminar scheduled for March 27th

It will feature professional speakers from the history field discussing Heritage Tourism, Museum Management, and Collection Management/Development. Members of local history organizations are welcome. Info and sign-up at <https://goo.gl/forms/GoBWUBi9OJr6pHsg1>

SCHS COMPLETE BOOK LIST

Is available on web site:

www.SCHS1795.com

A new shorter website address:

www.SCHS1795.com

Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 12 - 6 to 9:45 PM
4th Annual Preservation Ball, sponsored by the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, will be held in the Circa '31 Room at the Historic Mimslyn Inn in Luray, VA. Event will feature the Shenandoah Valley Civil War Era Dancers and music by Marshall & Company. Attire is period dress (1600's to 1800's) or modern formal. Social hour from 6-7 PM (cash bar available) Ball from 7 to 9:45 PM Tickets are limited and will include: Foundation membership, a complimentary portrait and refreshments. For tickets, call Kirsten Kauling of the Battlefield Foundation at 540-740-4545 or by e-mail at kkauling@svbf.net. Special rates at the Mimslyn Inn are also available.

Thursday, January 24th - 6:30 - 9 PM
New Market Historical Society Annual Dinner Meeting at the New Market Community Center with a dinner buffet starting at 6:30 PM followed by a viewing of the 1959 motion picture SHENANDOAH starring James Stewart.. Reservations required. Info: 540-740-2740 or nmhs@newmarkethistoricalsociety.org Members: \$20; Non-members: \$15 Popcorn included!

Tuesday, February 19th 6:30 PM - 8 PM
Bondage Biographies: Select Stories of Local Enslaved Persons and their Owners will be the subject of a special program honoring Black History Month at the Shenandoah County Library in Edinburg. Info: 540-984-8200,

Thursday, March 28th - 7:00 PM
Quarterly Program Meeting of the Woodstock Museum, held at the Town of Woodstock's Council Chambers at 135 North Main Street, Woodstock VA. Public is invited. Check website for program information: <http://www.woodstockmuseumva.org>

Thursday, March 28th at 7:00 PM
Eric Buckland will give a presentation entitled "Mosby and Special Operations Forces." His talk will focus on the many similarities that exist between the tactics, techniques and procedures used by the famed Mosby's Rangers during the Civil War and today's United States Special Operations Forces, especially the Army's Special Forces ("Green Berets"). The event is sponsored by the New Market Historical Society and is held at the New Market Town Hall at 9418 John Sevier Road in New Market, VA

MORE EVENTS ON WEB SITE