



Shenandoah
County

Historical
Society

Summer 2020

Newsletter

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Annual Meeting and Quarterly Program is Scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 15th

7:00 PM

St. Paul's Heritage Center

106 High Street, Edinburg, VA

Program:

A Century Later: Shenandoah County Women Get The Vote

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, our Annual Meeting and Quarterly Program will take on a different format for 2020. Both events will take place on the same date.

The Annual Meeting, to include the presentation of the annual Preservation Awards, will take place at 6:30 PM, followed immediately by the Quarterly Program described below. Following the 3 events, refreshments will be available in the social hall.

Our program, "A Century Later: Shenandoah County Women Get The Vote" will be presented by the County Archivist, Zachary Hottel.

A celebration of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution in 1920, the program will focus on the women who registered and voted in the election that year, who they were and, how they registered to vote. He hopes to be able to share how they reacted to the suffrage movement and information about the election itself. Sources analyzed will include local voter registration books, newspapers, and other primary sources.

Museums Opening

The Shenandoah County Cultural Heritage Museum at The Edinburg Mill plans to reopen on Wednesday, July 1st and will be open 7 days per week thereafter. Call 540-984-8400

Virginia Museum of the Civil War and New Market Battlefield State Historical Park will also reopen July 1, 2020. Call for info: (540) 740-3101

Shenandoah County Historic Courthouse and Visitor Center remains closed until after the COVID-19 Pandemic allows or subsides .

Book orders will continue to be filled during this period.

SCHS voice mail will be checked regularly.

Check website for announcements.

Heritage Day 2020 Cancelled

Heritage Day 2020, originally scheduled for Saturday, April 18th, at the Strasburg Fire Hall in Strasburg, has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The event has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 17th, 2021 at the same place and time. The theme will remain the same.

New Forest Service Exhibit will be on Display at Historic Courthouse



Later this summer, the US Forest Service will be debuting a new display in the Visitor Center at the Historic Shenandoah County Courthouse on Main Street in Woodstock.

The upcoming US Forest Service display will highlight the rich history of the Lee Ranger District's Fire Warden's System, early firefighting activities on the George Washington National Forest and controlled burning activities today. Why was the Warden System so important in Shenandoah County? Do you remember the Jawbone Fire on the Massanutten Mountain? Why does the Forest Service conduct controlled burns? Come enjoy their exhibit from April – July and learn about the history of fire on your national forest.

New Members

Life Members

- Wilson & Cyndie Ryman
- Judith Powell
- John & Cheryl Truban
- Rick Lytton

ATTENTION

ARE YOUR DUES DUE??

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

SCHS COMPLETE BOOK LIST

Is available on web site:

www.SCHS1795.com



From the: Shenandoah County Archives

By Zach Hottel, Archivist

A 1940's Wedding at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Woodstock VA

This photograph shows a wedding party posing inside Emanuel Lutheran Church in Woodstock Virginia. It was produced by Woodstock's Morrison Studio. While the image is undated, contextual clues indicate it was taken in May, probably 1942.

Who the bride and groom are is unknown. Only the minister, John Perry Derrick and one of the wedding party are identified. To learn more and to share any identifications you can provide, visit archives.countylib.org

The Shenandoah County Library's Truban Archives is working to expand our collection, including identifications of current photographs. Visit countylib.org/local-history or the Archives (following reopening) to learn more.



Folder 1.1: Wedding, Emanuel Lutheran Church, Woodstock Virginia, ca. 1942, Susan Holsinger Collection, Truban Archives, Shenandoah County

How Shenandoah County Got Its Name

On November 30, 1776 the House of Delegates appointed Patrick Lockhart and John Bowyer of Botetourt County and Abraham Bird and John Tipton of Dunmore County as a small committee to recommend changes for the names of Dunmore County and the town of Fincastle in Botetourt County. These men likely came to the assembly with instructions to propose such changes. Nothing appears again in official records about this matter for more than a year. Then on December 12, 1777 the Committee of Propositions and

Grievances of the House was empowered by that body to receive suggestions for changing the name of Dunmore County. Two days before John Tipton had received permission to leave the assembly on December 10, but Abraham Bird, his co-delegate from Dunmore, remained to suggest an alternate name for the county. The new name "Shanando" (later Shenandoah) County was enacted into law by the end of the October-December 1777 session of the General Assembly and came into official use on February 1, 1778.

- 1: *Journal of the House of Delegates of Virginia*, 1776, 77.
 - 2: *Journal of the House of Delegates*, 1777, 71, 76 and Hening, Statutes, 9:424.
- "Shanando" (Shenandoah) County begins to appear in the county court records on April 30, 1778 and in the *Journal of the House of Delegates* on October 7, 1778. See SCVOB, 1774-1780, 42; Wayland, *History of Shenandoah County*, 118; and *Journal of the House of Delegates*, 1778, 3-4: Apparently the name Fincastle, being taken from Lord Fincastle, son of Lord Dunmore, was not changed because it persists today.

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

Message from the President

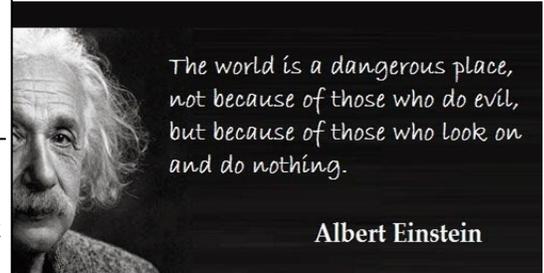
Strange times we're in. We're hopeful that we'll be able to hold our September program meeting, which has become the annual meeting, as scheduled. So much is unknown that that is not a certainty. We'll keep everyone informed via our website, social media and local publicity. We know that the 2020 Edinburg Ole Time Festival has been canceled. That's a shame since it was to be a celebration of their 40th year. We'll miss not seeing folks there. It has always been a favorite event of ours.

I regret to have to mark the passing of two supporters of local history. Woodstock Museum president, John Wall, died unexpectedly on March 29, 2020. He had been a volunteer and board member of the museum for over 10 years. We also report the passing of SCHS member and Historic Courthouse volunteer George Gould on April 6, 2020. George was a new volunteer at the Courthouse and will be missed. I extend our sympathy to his wife, Diane. The pandemic makes it difficult to properly mourn or note the passing of our friends and fellow citizens.

During this closure of the public to the Historic Courthouse, we've taken the time to revamp a couple of our exhibits. The Alms House exhibit has been refreshed and the bell exhibit is being retired. It will be replaced with historic photos of the Historic Courthouse itself. Be sure to visit us when we reopen!

Historic Buildings Series on Website

Nine of the historic homes featured in past newsletters are now on the SCHS web site. Click on either the Resources or History tab to access the series. www.schs1795.com



The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.

Albert Einstein

*The
Shenandoah County
Historical Society, Inc.*

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1918 Pandemic Recap

County Archivist, Zach Hottel, found the newspaper article (see article on right) about the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918.

On October 17, 1918 the *Edinburg Sentinel and Valley Advertiser* published this article about the ongoing Influenza outbreak. The article noted many were sick, including entire families. Local physicians were also sick and those healthy enough to work were being “worked to death...hardly stopping long enough to eat.”

The H1N1 Influenza or “Spanish Flu” outbreak of 1918-1919 had a dramatic impact on Shenandoah County. A first wave crippled communities in the fall of 1918, starting during the week of October 3-10th. A second less deadly wave returned in February & March of 1919. The total numbers of individuals who were sickened by the virus is unknown, as is the total dead since there was no test for the disease. However, the impact was significant. As the *Sentinel* noted “Coffins are unloaded at the depots nearly every day, and a gloom seems to rest on every one.”

Some of the other impacts of the pandemic were:

- Closure of public venues and gatherings including churches, theaters, pool halls, etc.
- Economic losses resulting from illnesses and closures
- Resistance to what was considered unnecessary precautions, including closures and the wearing of masks
- Education gaps as the county schools were closed for a significant period in the fall of 1918 and the spring of 1919
- Confusion and fear within a populace that had little understanding of how the disease spread or how it could be prevented
- Emotional scarring that had a negative impact on community members for decades

You can learn more about how the Influenza outbreak of 1918-1919 and other historic pandemics affected Shenandoah County at the Shenandoah County Library's Truban Archives at the County Library in Edinburg.

EDINBURG SENTINEL
AND VALLEY ADVERTISER
 PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
...HISEY & STONEBURNER...
 SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR
 Advertising rates furnished on application.
 Edinburg, Va., Oct. 17, 1918.

THE INFLUENZA.

The new disease that is working such havoc all over the country has struck Shenandoah county with full force. People are sick every where and in some cases whole families are affected. Many physicians are sick and those who are well enough to attend the sick are simply worked to death. They are doing everything that mortal man can do and are hardly stopping long enough to eat, sleeping being out of the question, still many persons are not getting the necessary attention, and many deaths occur. About one third the physicians in the United States are now in the army and at this time the shortage of medical men is severely felt. Our oldest people say they never saw a time like this. Doctors, Ministers, and Undertakers all have more than they can do. At present there seems to be no let up of the disease any where and in the various army camps it is especially prevalent. Coffins are unloaded at the depots nearly every day, and a gloom seems to rest on every one.

Belle Grove Opens

Belle Grove Plantation opened their grounds, and Welcome Center (which includes the Museum Shop, exhibits, and restrooms) on Thurs., June 11th and will offer free admission until the Manor House opens. They are closed Mondays and Tuesdays. They anticipate resuming Manor House tours on Friday, June 26. Tours will be limited to 10 guests and will be modified to accommodate physical distancing. Call for info: 540-869-2028

A Glossary of Barn Terms

By: John Adamson –
 SCHS Historic Barns Program Manager

As I have been surveying our barns for the last two years or so, I have discovered some words that relate to Shenandoah County barns. I thought it would be useful to share a few of these terms with our readers to expand the awareness of barn owners, visitors and observers. Here are a few terms and my definitions with photos to help. I will try to add a few more with each newsletter.

Bank Barn: Any two level barn typically with hay and agricultural products on the upper level and animal stalls in the lower level. Access for farm vehicles to the upper level is provided via a ramp or natural slope. In most Shenandoah County barns the ramp enters the center of the long side of the barn, not the gable end



Bent: The primary transverse structural element in the upper level of a timber frame barn. A typical bent is formed of timbers shaped like a large “H” often with additional cross members, flanking posts and diagonal braces.



Crib: The basic structural unit of log barns. A crib is formed by building a square of logs that are notched on their ends to hold the unit together.



Forebay: A cantilevered section of the upper level of a bank barn that overhangs the entrance to the animal stalls on the lower level. The overhang width of the forebay varies from 4 feet to about 10 feet, with 6 feet being common. The forebay may be supported on posts, but often is not. The forebay is on the opposite side of the bank entrance and is considered the front of a forebay bank barn.



✦ Continuing Series on Historic Buildings in Shenandoah County ✦

1010 SANDY HOOK ROAD, STRASBURG

The presence of Covid-19 has made it awkward to ask owners of interesting old houses to allow me to visit and document their homes. The converted one-room school house at 1010 Sandy Hook Road, near Strasburg, is an exception to this dilemma, because it is the home of SCHS President, Barbara Adamson and yours truly. I have been saving writing about our house for a time when I could not easily find another historic building and now is that time.

County deed records make it pretty easy to document the ownership history of our house.

May 18, 1896 – Jonathan Newell to Shenandoah County School Board (a small lot for a school, \$10) School house probably erected in 1896 (see photo in this article)
September 18, 1905 Newell repurchased lot and building from the county - \$275 (“reserve the stove and blackboard in said house”)

1907, Laura Newell Stover inherits the property from her deceased father
April 15, 1910, Laura Stover to Jerdon Lake - \$350 (Lake converts the school house to a residence)

February 11, 1918, Lake to Archibel and Laura Stickley Hoover - \$1100

The Hoover family lived here until the 1990s, the ownership of the house and property passing from Arch and Laura to their daughter, Frances Hoover, a well-remembered Strasburg 3rd grade teacher. During the Hoover ownership, the house was added to and several small parcels were incorporated into the property. Kelly Sager and Nick Racey bought the house in 1994 and thoroughly renovated it. Barbara and I were the lucky ones to buy it from Kelly and Nick in June, 1998.

The original school house was a one room building, 30 feet by 20 feet. The photo of the new school house was probably taken in 1896, the presumed year of construction. The building was typical of one room schools of the era. A simple frame structure on a rubble stone foundation, it is built with oak framing and has yellow pine floors and siding. In the old photo, the stove flue is visible. The people in the 1896 photo are all identified and listed in Reflections (p.215), a very complete history of

By: John Adamson



This 1896 photo shows the newly constructed school house along with 29 Sandy Hook folks. It must have been a nice celebration. Miss Lena Read, the teacher, is seen in the doorway.

the early schools of Shenandoah County published by SCHS in 1995. Twenty-nine people appear in the photo including members of the Newell, Stickley, Lake, Hinkins, Utterback, Funk and Carrier families then living on Sandy Hook. The school teacher, Miss Lena Read stands in the doorway.

Apparently unneeded as a school after 1905, the county sold the building and lot back to the original owner, but in the spirit of economy, kept the stove and blackboard to reuse in another school. Jerdon Lake bought the property in 1910 to convert it into a residence. He added a second floor, simply raising the existing roof (still intact) and created a

modest two-room over two-room house with a central stairway. The Hoovers bought the house in 1918 and added a front addition creating the footprint which the house still retains.

Though the house now looks like a typical farmhouse in many ways, it is actually quite different. The addition is on the front of the house, not to the rear as is typical, and the rooms connect directly with one another with minimal hall space. The crawl space under the house has been enlarged to accommodate modern plumbing, electrical and HVAC equipment, but retains its earthen floor and exposed bark-covered original floor joists. Today the house is configured with a master suite, office and guest bedroom upstairs and a living room, kitchen, dining room, front room and laundry room downstairs. A total of about 1800 square feet, perfect for Barbara and me – we use it all.

Old houses evoke wonder and speculation about the people who lived in them over the years. In Shenandoah County such history is often well known by families who have occupied the same house for multiple generations. That is a tradition not found everywhere but surely
 [Continued on Page 5]



Front of the house today. The rectangular rear section includes the original 1896 school house.



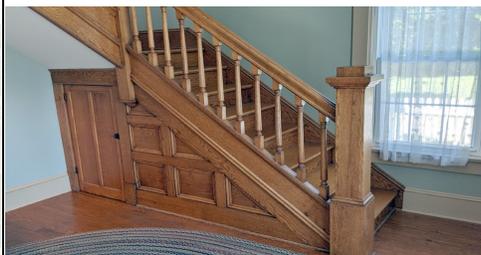
The house from the rear. The roof seen here is the original school house roof, retained when a second floor was added about 1910.



The lower window in this photo replaces the door in the 1896 photo.



The small ground barn where Hoover stabled his horses as seen today.



This stairway, made of oak, is in the front part of the house added about 1920.



This photo, probably from the 1920s, shows Arch Hoover with his draft horses, Bill and Belle in front of barn constructed in 1918. Arch Hoover, with his team, worked for years at nearby farms

From the Shenandoah County Library Newspapers Archive

By Dennis Atwood

From: *The Shenandoah Herald*

A man more than half-seas over was observed one day supporting the parapet of the North Bridge, Edinburg, shaking his head repeating to himself sadly:

'It must be done, it must be done.'

An old lady passing by thinking he contemplated Suicide, said to him:

'What must be done, my man?

"Must go home and face my wife," was the woeful answer.

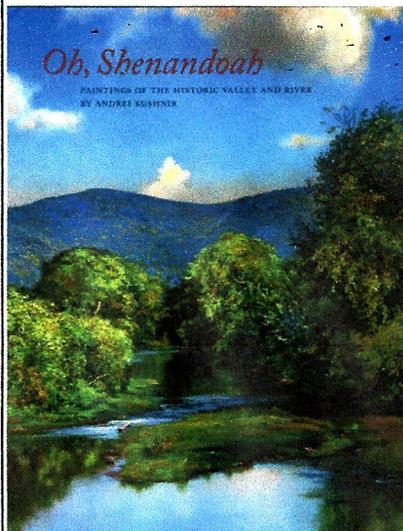
(Shenandoah Herald, July 3, 1878)

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Truly Timely

The grand excursions eastward announced for September by the Baltimore & Ohio are attracting widespread attention, and it is not strange that such should be the case, as no more attractive trip has been offered for years. In the way of rates the programme is particularly enticing, as it is very rarely indeed nowadays that a reduction on tickets is consented to, down so low a figure as half fare, or one regular fare for the round trip, thus taking in the enormous territory covered by the B. & O. system, of which Chicago, Columbus, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati, and Pittsburg are important centres. Every preparation is being made in the matter of cars, dining accommodations and the like, and the excursions will be remarkable for complete and thorough facilities to insure absence of crowding and the perfect comfort of all...

New Addition to Book List



Oh, Shenandoah is a beautiful coffee table book of paintings of the historic valley and river by Andrei Kushnir.

Kushnir is a well-known and highly regarded painter in the Washington, DC area who has spent nearly a decade traveling throughout every corner of the Shenandoah Valley, painting its myriad landscapes and architectural features with panache and an extraordinary appreciation for place. 264 paintings are featured in this book.

Last year, The Museum of the Shenandoah Valley showcased his paintings in a special exhibit. SCHS price: \$55 Members: \$50

House - [Continued from Page 4]

treasured by families who enjoy a long history in the same place. Fortunately for Barbara and me, we have been able to find the history of our little house through public records, a few carefully preserved photos and the oral history shared by our Sandy Hook neighbors, some of whom have passed away, but were kind enough to make sure we knew about the place we chose for our home 22 years ago.

MISS JANE MYERS,

announces to her customers that she has opened her SPRING AND SUMMER MILLINERY, consisting of the latest styles of HATS, BONNETS, FLOWERS, FEATHERS and all the shades of trimming material. She will give especial attention to fitting up her work in the best styles. Prices low. Ladies, please call. May 2-1m

Are you a Facebook User and Missing out on Shenandoah County History?

First, this article is for those who already have a Facebook account. It is not intended to offer the pros and cons of having a Facebook account and how to join Facebook.

Are you aware that there are eleven regional Facebook groups you can join that focus on local history? As of this writing, all of the groups mentioned herein are private, meaning you have to be a member of the group to see what is posted. However, all are set up so you can easily search to find the groups. The name for each of the Facebook groups ends in *Memories*. The example that follows is for *Edinburg Memories*. The example uses images and instructions for Facebook on a computer. The Facebook interface for smartphones is similar.

How to you find a Facebook group of interest to submit a membership request? Fill in the search field at the top left of your display as shown:



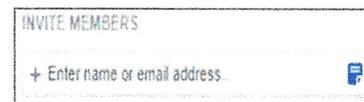
Afterwards you will see a list of matches to your search criteria. You should see your group of interest with an image of its current group image. In this case you see the match for *Edinburg Memories*. Select the blue text of the title of the group you wish to join. On the next display you should see the group's image and under that should be a box to join the group.



Select this and complete the process. You should be approved soon after you apply but it may be delayed if the group administrator or moderator are busy with life outside of Facebook.

Each Facebook *Memories* group is named for a principle area of the county. If you look at the *About* option for a group you will see surrounding communities that are recommended for that group. For *Edinburg Memories*, the surrounding communities are currently Bowman's Crossing, Columbia Furnace, Lantz Mill, Liberty Furnace, Millertown, and Readus (Bedford).

Once you are a member of a Facebook *Memories* group, you should be able to invite others to join. On a computer you will find this on the right side of your screen.



[Continued on Page 6]

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Shenandoah County Library in Edinburg Opens Monday, June 8 with limited Schedule

The Library plans to begin providing in-person services again beginning Phase 1 operations on Monday 6/8. Though they will be open limited days and hours, and for pickup of reserved items only, it marks the first step in being able to welcome people back into the buildings. Here are a few things to expect during phase:

- The Edinburg Library will be open on Mondays from 12-5pm and Thursday from 2-8pm.
- They will only be checking out arrived holds during those times. Please place holds on materials [online](#) or by phone (540-984-8200).
- Library Staff will be available by phone from 10am and 5pm on Mon, - Fri.
- All returned items will be quarantined for 72 hours; There may be significant delays in our ability to fill hold requests.
- Overdue fines will not accrue during Phase 1. Please be mindful that others may be waiting for items that you have checked out.
- Masks are required when you enter the library building.
- Enhanced cleaning procedures will be put in place for high-touch surfaces in our publicly available spaces.
- We cannot provide access to computers, shelving areas, or restrooms during Phase 1.
- Community Libraries will remain closed during Phase 1.

Please visit the County Website for information on how services will expand when it is time to enter Phase 2: www.countylib.org

Memories - [Continued from Page 5]

You can only invite your Facebook friends from your friends list or by using their email address.

As of July 2018, only two Shenandoah County Memories Facebook groups existed, Mount Jackson Memories and Orkney Springs Memories. In April 2020, Bill Wine, who is working to complete a historic map of Shenandoah County, observed that members of Mount Jackson Memories were eager to answer questions for him to complete a few details on his map. He realized that a Memories group is a great way to preserve county history by capturing images and posted information from individuals. He then created six new Memories groups for the county. The author, Edgar Lamma III, decided to assist Bill in his effort and created three additional Memories groups. Bill or Edgar are the administrators of ten of the eleven county Memories Facebook groups.

Here is a list of present *Memories* groups and number of members:

Basye [48]	Mt. Jackson [911]
Conicville [112]	New Market [458]
Edinburg [1,079]	Orkney Springs [213]
Fort Valley [267]	Strasburg [310]
Maurertown [178]	Toms Brook [143]
	Woodstock [1,982]

Be prepared to see a lot of daily postings from the above groups. You are encouraged to make posts.

By: Edgar Lamma III, SCHS Board Member