



Times Past

Shrewsbury Historical Society
Newsletter

History of Museum Building

Building's Roots

The roots of the Cuttingsville church building began in 1842 when the Baptists and Congregationalists constructed the first building in Greek Revival style on "40 square rods of land" given by Calvin Robinson.

The Methodists leased the building in 1859, and in 1890, the building was renovated.

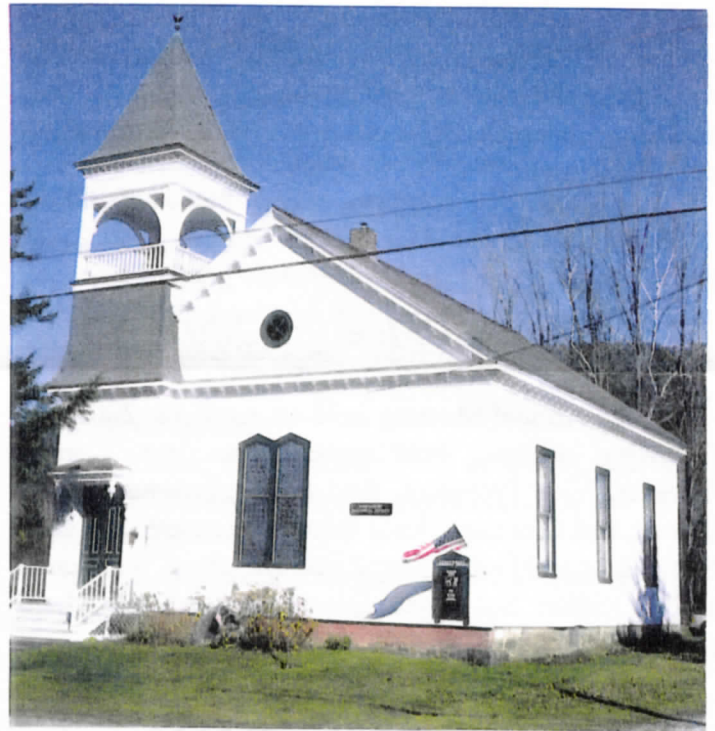
In 1950, the Northam Church, Shrewsbury Center Church and Cuttingsville Church joined to form the Shrewsbury Community Church.

Museum Building Make-Over

When the Historical Society was given the deed to the Cuttingsville church building in 1998, plans were already underway for the big transfer from the second floor of the library to the church building. Spring of 1999 found the Museum Committee and volunteers preparing the museum for a grand opening. In November, a leak in the steeple was repaired.

March of 2000, a new oil-fired furnace was installed, which necessitated the installation of new electrical wiring, and a stainless steel liner in a rebuilt chimney. In May, a museum sign was erected in front of the building, and in June, the Shrewsbury Ladies Club planted a flowering crab apple tree. New exhibits were planned and built and the museum had a brand new look.

After much planning and through the help of its members, the Fund Raising Committee, and our townspeople, the museum building received a make-over this year, 2001, starting in March: new mylar-covered storage shelves were erected in the storage area, with easy access by a donated library ladder; in June, the insulation of the side walls of the building was completed, plus a circuit breaker installed to replace the



THE SHS MUSEUM BUILDING, FALL 2001.

old fuse box in the basement; in August the entire outside of the building was repainted white with dark green trim through the generosity of a member who donated monies for the paint. The basement was prepared for a moisture barrier which necessitated the removal of an old boiler, and several truckloads of boulders and other debris, plus the installation of new cement footings and posts to shore up the flooring of the museum. The insulation of the museum's ceiling was installed in the fall.

The Shrewsbury Historical Society is very proud of our once-again beautiful museum building.

President's Note:

This has been a busy year for all committee members. I want to thank the House Committee for overseeing the insulation and painting of the museum building, the installation of a moisture barrier in the basement, and also outside, with the removal of snow and the cutting of the lawn. The Fund Raising Committee for working so hard on a plant and bake sale in May and the tag sale in October, and the Publicity Chairman for informing the public. The Museum Committee for the new center exhibit and the upkeep of the museum proper. The Program Committee for their two interesting presentations held at the museum. A special thank you to the officers and trustees who took care of business while I was recuperating from surgery. And to all the members who staffed the museum on weekends, and who helped in a myriad of ways, from genealogy research to protecting everything that doesn't move with mylar!

It's been a great year. Thank you.

Conrad Winkler

Annual Meeting 2001

At the Annual Meeting held on April 12, 2001, the following officers were named: President, Conrad Winkler; Vice President, Bud Clark; Treasurer, John Elwert; and Secretary, Ruth Winkler. Trustees: 3 years, Fran Patten and Don Butler; 2 years, Richard Wiedmann and Al Ridlon, Sr.; 1 year, Gloria Benson and Richard Bettelli.

New Life Members, 2001

Lloyd Potter, Terry Woods and Dale West, all of Shrewsbury. Also, John C. Stewart of Jericho Center and Ellen B. Russell of Rutland.

New Annual Members, 2001

Joseph Aebischer of Florida, Dan and Ginny Buckley, Carol Fiedler, Peter and Pam Grace, Tom Mitchell and Ann Vanneman, Martha Petrisky, John Poore of Rutland, Patricia Pratico, Richard and Lillian Rohe, Thomas and Janice Sheehan, Bob and Sally Snarski, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Tinker of Rutland, Todd and Gail Westbay, and Mark and Connie Youngstrom.

SHS Celebrates 30 Years

In March of 1971, then Temporary Chairman Arthur Patten sent Shrewsbury residents an invitation which began: "Are you interested in the old days and the old ways in the Town of Shrewsbury? Do you care about old books and letters, or antiques of the kitchen or barn, or stories of 'the old days' as told by our elder neighbors? Are you concerned that, in the rush and bustle of today, the traditions and values of yesterday should not be lost and forgotten?"

Forty-five enthusiastic townspeople gathered at the Town Hall on March 22nd, 1971, and voted unanimously to organize a historical society.

On April 19, 1971, the by-laws were adopted and the following officers were elected: President, Arthur Patten; Vice-President, Margaret Adams; Secretary, Nancy Spencer; Treasurer, Fred Gressler. Directors: Sadie Hamilton, George Richards and Dorothy Turnbeau.

Committee chairmen and some of the other members at that time were: Peg Patten, Phyllis Wells, Frances and George Brigham, Ann (Monte) Coffin, Jim McCullough, Ed Cook, Mitch Spencer, Tom Mitchell, Eloise Barber, Emily and Gloria (Benson) Korngiebel, Donna Smith, Cornelia Biddle, Mary Stapleton and Don Moore.

In the years to follow, the Society went from storing articles in boxes under beds in members' homes, to a museum first located upstairs in the former one-room school house, now the Shrewsbury Library, to the fine church building on Route 103 where you can be sure that in the "rush and bustle of today" – and in a new century and a new millennium – you can step back in time to visit "the old days and the old ways in the Town of Shrewsbury."

Coming Events

Annual Meeting, Thursday, April 11, 2002.

Plant & Bake Sale, date to be set in May, 2002.

Museum Opens, Sunday, June 30, 2002.

Did You Know?

That the Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum can be found on two Web sites? Click on:

www.vmga.org/rutland/shrewhs.html - and -

www.state.vt.us/vhs/lhs/rutland.htm

Calendar Notes

December 31, 2000

Once again at the stroke of midnight, several Society members had the honor of ringing in the year 2001 by pulling the bell rope to the tower of the museum.

January 2001

The SHS applied to the Town of Shrewsbury with a request of \$2000 for help in maintaining and operating the museum. Request was approved in March by Shrewsbury voters.

An informal meeting was held in Lucille Fiske's home at which time plans for the year were discussed as far as fund raising and programs to be held in the museum.

Requested information on our museum was sent to Swordsmith Productions for inclusion in their new book, "The New England Museum Guide."

Updated information on our Society was sent to Vermont Historical Society for inclusion in Postings section of their spring issue of newsletter, "InContext."

March 2001

New shelving completed in the storage area, and will have a base coat plus 2 coats of latex. Mylar will then be used between articles stored.

New video tape added to collection taken from VPT, "Rural Free Delivery" about homesteading, featuring Art Krueger, Trish Norton and family.

Many thanks went to Al Ridlon and John Elwert for plowing and shoveling of snow in front of the museum.

April 2001

April 13, 2001 – Annual Meeting of the SHS. New officers named. Retiring past Treasurer for 17 years, Bud Clark, was honored with a banner and a gift in appreciation of all his years of service.

The Shrewsbury Historical Society celebrated its 30th Anniversary on April 19, 2001.

May 2001

On May 19, the Fund Raising Committee held a Plant and Bake Sale on the lawn in front of the museum. Moneys realized from sale and raffle came to \$716.25. Winners of the raffle were: homemade afghan made by Lucille Fiske, won by Regina Stewart; basket of goodies from Gloria's Pantry, won by Robert Aronson; two sets of wrought iron plant holders donated by Vermont Industries, won by Don Butler and Sue Solari. The Committee also received donations of plants from P.J. Bushey, Okemo Valley Gardens, Joe's Nursery, Rutland

Agway, Mike's Country Store, Garden Time Inc., and Mr. Twitter's.

June, 2001

Insulation of the side walls of the building was completed by Accel. The ceiling will be done in the fall. A new circuit breaker was installed in the basement along with a fire extinguisher, and another extinguisher placed in the museum proper. An American flag was presented for hanging on the corner of the building when the museum is open.

House members Al Ridlon, Richard Bettelli, Bud Clark and John Elwert formed a committee to keep the lawns of the museum cut all summer.

The Society sponsored a program with the Shelburne Museum at the Mountain School, 5th and 6th grades, with a visit from costumed Betsy Weber, depicting a teacher of the early 1900's. The children learned about discipline of those days, plus using a quill and ink and slates instead of paper and ballpoint pens.

The Museum Committee prepared a new center exhibit dedicated to pre-appliance "Wash Day" early 1900's. A woman bends over her laundry basket preparing to hang clothes on a line. She is outside in the backyard with flora and fauna. Surrounding her on the grass, are various wash day implements such as a copper wash tub, wool stocking stretchers, scrubbing boards, and irons of all sizes.

Lynn Ladder & Scaffolding Co. of West Lynn, MA, donated a "library" ladder to the Society for use in the storage room.

The museum opened for the season on Saturday, June 30th and Sunday, July 1, 2001.

July, 2001

Several members of the Black River Historical Society visited the SHS museum.

August, 2001

The SHS museum building was painted a fresh bright white with dark green trim, by Mountain View Painters. The front door is now beautifully detailed above the painted front steps and bannisters..

On August 12, member Lucille Fiske, held a program on quilts at the museum. Many Shrewsbury ladies and folks from neighboring communities came to admire the quilts Lucille had shown and also brought theirs to share. Lucille was asked to host another next season.

House Committee members John Elwert, his son Nathaniel and Marty Pinkowski, cleaned up basement
(Continued on Page Four)

in preparation for a moisture barrier shield. The work included cutting up and hauling away an old boiler, plus other debris. The floor had to be raked and cleared of rocks.

Vermont Public Radio donated a CD of the four-minute tribute to Marjorie Pierce, hosted by member John Van Hoesen, following Marjorie's passing in February. Visitors to the museum can enjoy this program simply by pressing a button on the CD player.

Updated information on our Society was sent to Vermont Historical Society for inclusion in Postings section of their Winter, 2002 issue of newsletter, "InContext."

September, 2001

On September 11, 2001, the United States was attacked by acts of terrorism. On Friday, Sept. 14, 2001, the Day of Remembrance, member Fred Sargeant raised the American flag on the museum building, and prepared a light in order that the flag could fly both day and night while members Don and Lois Butler rang the bell in the tower at 12 noon.

On Sept. 16, 2001, Michael Barbieri of Wallingford gave a program at the museum on logging and a slide show on the logging village of Aldrichville in S. Wallingford, in particular. It was well attended by interested people and several loggers. Program Committee member Fran Patten presented all folks present with red, white and blue ribbons.

October 2001

Regina Stewart donated a copy of the video she took of the program "The History of John C. Stewart and Sons, and the Stewart Family of Cuttingsville," as told by B-J, C-J and John Stewart, on July 18, 2001 at the Town Hall. This video is added to our collection for viewing by townspeople.

The Fund Raising Committee joined the Town-Wide Tag Sale held by the Library on Oct. 6th. It was a wild and woolly day with wind, rain and snow -- however -- the Society made just over \$1000 profit.

November 2001

The moisture barrier for the basement was completed. A very special thanks to John Elwert.

On Nov. 11, the ceiling insulation was put down.

The Museum Committee put the museum to bed.

December 2001

On Dec. 5, Al and Ann Ridlon hosted an informal meeting to discuss plans for year 2002.

In Memoriam

Marjorie A. Pierce, 97, died on February 21, 2001. Marjorie was one of the founders of the SHS and a Life Member. During the last few years, Marjorie was an Honorary Trustee, and still active with her memories of Shrewsbury. The museum has been the recipient of many of her wonderful artifacts, and visitors can now enjoy hearing her rendition of a song her mother used to sing to her. She was a wonderful friend and teacher.

George Brigham, Sr., 90, died on August 30, 2001. George was one of the first members of the Society and a dear friend and neighbor to us all. Dapper George would look like a country gentleman dressed in shirt, tie and jacket when he attended meetings. He would always have something to say, and he was known to put an end to a boring program with a loud snore!

Florence G. Kaempf, 85, died on September 16, 2001. Florence, a summer resident, was a member for many years. She enjoyed antiques and donated several wonderful items to the museum.

Gifts to SHS, Oct. 2000 to Oct. 2001

John Van Hoesen & Fred Sargeant, Cuttingsville: color photo of Bd. of Directors of SHS; china cover to sugar bowl (?) 1940's, from the Huntoon house (Knight period); copy of 1914 Sanborn map of Cuttingsville; Thanksgiving Ball, Nov. 29, 1888 dance card for Union House; book, "Aunt Hattie's Library", belonged to Bertie Aldrich, Cuttingsville, 1868; dance card, Valentine's Ball, Feb. 14, 1894 at Union House; post cards showing interior, exterior and children's play area of Tip Top Inn; Railroad Magazine, July 1973; CD player and CD of Marjorie Pierce.

Joan Sibley, Shrewsbury: Part I and II of autobiography of Emily Benjamin Richards Korngiebel; xerox of clipping from American Agriculture, March 1963, "They Raise Scotch Border Collies," by Dan and Emily Korngiebel.

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Renee Thomas, Shrewsbury: "At the Level of the Knob," autobiography of the late Emily Lee de Camp Thomas.

Shirley M. Bingham, Shrewsbury: "Beginners Sunday School Book" for Gordon Pierce; small wood-covered tin container marked "W.C. Landon & Co."; large circular metal grate (?) with "woman's friend" lettering; black beaded cape; black velvet hat marked "London, England"; 2 and a half foot tall wooden tool (shingle maker?); WWI or II khaki map case (?) w/photo supplies inside; wood plaque displaying several barbed wires; pair horse blinders; old metal pulley; maple tap (?); ice cream maker, 5 pieces; silk sash or curtain pulls; wood-handled corn scythe; two metal ox muzzles (?); two metal sap containers; a metal clasp (?).

Luisa Spencer Finberg, Richford, Vermont: Announcement of Dedication Ball, White & Maynard's Hall, July 3, 1850, Ludlow, (2 Cuttingsville and 2 Shrewsbury sponsors); stereoscopic slide of Laurel Glen Mausoleum (Bowman); secretary's notebook "Pico Lodge #32 L00F" (Loyal Order of Odd Fellows), Cuttingsville, VT., Sept. 14, 1871-Aug. 8, 1872; article from "Harper's New Monthly Magazine," April 1881, entitled "The Green Mountains in Sugartime" re: Cuttingsville.

Terry Martin, Shrewsbury: 34 one-sided 33 1/3 rpm 16" recordings of various subjects for broadcasting over radio, such as WW II, 1945, steel and cotton industries.

Janet Whitney Flenner, Delaware: leather bound trunk - brass studs "M.C." (Moses Colburn?), lined with "Rutland Herald" of Nov. 24, 1840; copies of old Northam photographs.

C.J. Stewart, Cuttingsville: framed photo (approx. 3' wide) showing Cuttingsville after 1927 flood, taken from west side of Mill River.

Marga Skelly, Shrewsbury: Program "Graduation Exercises Shrewsbury Town Hall, June 10, 1959, 8 PM," Shrewsbury Elementary Schools; a CD, "Diverse Light," which contains a recording of her composition String Quartet No. 2.

Edna Earl (Noyes) Martyn, Cuttingsville: water

canteen from Revolutionary War; photo of Stephen Martyn's mother, Mary Parker, in her wedding gown; photo of Edna's mother, Minnie Sargeant, and a photo of Edna's father, Arzy Noyes.

Robert C. Teachout, Rutland: two copies of Anna Crossman Osborne "Kilburn Genealogy"; copies of photo of Shrewsbury Center School. Brochures as follows: Rutland Weather Emergency Communication; Barbershop Harmony Concert, Rutland, Vt. 1964; Allen Farm, Adams St., Rutland, Vt.; Descendants of King William of Holland; USS Vammen, Ship's Log and Related Events, WW II, 1944-45; German Radio-Controlled Bomb & U.S. Countermeasure, WW II; G.H. Grimm Co., Rutland, Vt., 1934-40; Grimm Business; 1943-45 Naval Duty of Robt. C. Teachout, Radioman; Early Rutland Police Women of the 1950's; Amateur Radio 1930's-40's and The Green Mt. Amateur Radio Club; and Descendants of Robert Carr, Early History of Toddsville, NY.

Olive Haley, Shrewsbury: five old photographs of Shrewsbury.

Conrad K. Winkler, Cuttingsville: a watchmaker's leather case w/tools, that belonged to Fred Janssen of Cuttingsville.

A BUSY SEASON

During the season of 2001, the SHS museum had 271 visitors, from all parts of our country, from opening day of June 30th to closing day of October 28th.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the Society extends over the calendar year. Year 2002 dues are payable in Jan.

Membership dues are:

Individual \$10 Contributing \$30
Family \$15 Life, Individual/Couple \$125

Please remit to:

Shrewsbury Historical Society, Inc.
c/o John Elwert
499 Shunpike Road
Cuttingsville, VT 05738

Shrewsbury Historical Society, Inc.

A Non - Profit Organization.

5419 Route 103

Cuttingsville, Vermont 05738

SHREWSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS 2001

Individual, Family

Aebischer, Joseph
Aleshire, Joan
Barclay, George & Laura
Besseney, Francis
Buckley, Dan and Ginny
Butler, Don & Lois
Clark, Bud & Edie
Doerfel, Everett & Kathryn
Elwert, John & Pamela
Fiedler, Carole
Grace, Peter & Pam
Hance, Dawn
Jeffords, Jim & Liz
Kaempf, Florence
Lees, Rick & Anne
Lustgarten, Richard & Ann
Martyn, Edna
Mitchell, Tom & Ann Vanneman
O'Hara, Janis
Oresman, Mr. & Mrs. Donald
Patten, Fran & Richard Bettelli
Petrisky, Martha
Poore, John
Pratico, Patricia
Ridlon, Jr., Alan & Kim
Rohe, Richard & Lillian
Ryffel, DeLoris
Sanders, John P.
Sheehan, Thomas & Janice
Smith, Phyllis
Snarski, Bob & Sally
Swain, Jean
Tinker, Mr. & Mrs. Neil
Tomlinson, Tom & Marie
Tucker, Morris & Martha
Tufano, Albert & Eleanor
Westbay, Todd & Gail
Wiedmann, Richard & Chris
Youngstrom, Mark & Connie

Contributing

Bennett, Bob & Betsy
Izzi, Theodore & Martha
Mendes, Richard & Laurie Bauman
Oresman, Roger
Pollock, James & Rene
Spencer, Nancy
Winkler, Conrad & Ruth
Wise, Hildegard & Helen Draper

Life Membership

Allan, Angelica
Anthony, Paul & Liesbeth van der Heijden
Badenhausen, Carl (Deceased)
Benson, Mike & Gloria (Korngiebel)
Egelston, Vera (Deceased)
Fiske, Clint (Deceased) & Lucille
Fitzpatrick, Jack & Jane
Hooper, Claire
Jesser, Betsy
Klein, Stirling & Edna
Korngiebel, Emily (Deceased)
Korngiebel, Harry
Pierce, Marjorie (Deceased)
Pinkowski, Marty & Lori
Potter, Lloyd
Richards, Caroline
Ridlon, Sr., Al & Ann
Russell, Ellen B.
Schiermeyer, Sarah
Stewart, John C.
Van Hoesen, John & Fred Sargeant
Woods, Terry J. & Dale G. West

IN MEMORY OF:

Reuben James Ross, m/Nancy Mann,
requested by Dorothy MacKay, 1998
Parents Freda & Clayton J. Stewart, Sr.
and Nephew Tim Stewart
requested by John C. Stewart, 1999
Peggy Patten,
requested by friend, Joan Aleshire, 2000

SHREWSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S 2002 Annual Dues Request

This year the Shrewsbury Historical Society celebrated its 30th year of preserving the past and recording the present history and heritage of our very special town.

The Society pursues its goals through informational programs, the acquisition of artifacts to display at the museum, and through the maintenance and care of the Historical Society Museum building, which was formerly the Cuttingsville Church.

Obviously the Society cannot achieve its goals without the support of a large number of townspeople and friends. Please be part of the Society by becoming a member. If you are unable to attend the meetings, your financial support would be most appreciated.

Your dues will not only be used for the upkeep and care of the museum building, but will also help in the preservation of our town's history for the future generations.

The Annual Meeting and election of officers will take place on Thursday evening, April 11, 2002 at 7 P.M. at the museum on Route 103 in Cuttingsville.

Thank you for your support.

2002 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please fill out this form and mail it with your check payable to the Shrewsbury Historical Society, Inc., c/o John Elwert, 499 Shunpike Rd., Cuttingsville, VT 05738.

Name _____

Individual \$ 10

Family \$ 15

Contributing \$ 30

Address _____

Life (Individual/Couple) \$125

Phone _____

Dues and donations are tax deductible.



MUSEUM CENTER EXHIBIT 2001

In the spring, the museum committee designed and set up the center exhibit featuring a pre-appliance "wash day" in the early 1900s. Bending over her laundry basket, is a mannequin sporting a cotton bonnet, blouse and long skirt. Hanging overhead is a wash line of split drawers and other unmentionables, worn by the ladies and gentlemen of those days. Ah, the good old days?

REVOLUTIONARY WAR CANTEEN

The SHS museum is proud to exhibit the Revolutionary War water canteen, donated by Edna (Noyes) Martyn of Cuttingsville. The history of the canteen is as follows: the canteen belonged to Abram (or Abraham) Eaton, born Jan. 1, 1755 in Reading, MA. Eaton married Mary Barrett (or Butler) on Feb. 5, 1782. He died on May 20, 1842 in Shrewsbury.

Eaton's daughter, Polly, married Nathaniel Russell. Their son, Isaiah, married Naomi Pierce. Their daughter, Sarah Angelia, married Stephen Gleason Parker. Their daughter, Mary, married Herbert S. Martyn. Their son, Stephen, married Edna Earl Noyes.

ANOTHER ANNIVERSARY

It has been 15 years since Bullwinkle (Josh), the famous moose, visited Jessica, the famous cow on Larry and Lila Cararra's farm in Shrewsbury.

The Historical Society museum has a copy of Cararra's book, "A Moose for Jessica"; a video tape; and a scrapbook of clippings gleaned from magazines and newspapers from around the world, all about this romantic pair.

Shrewsbury Historical Society, Inc.
5419 Route 103
Cuttingsville, Vermont 05738