

Afton Historian Monthly Report

By: Mel. Hager Mueller

MAY. 8, 2024

ADDRESS

204A County Road 39
Afton, NY 13730

TO:

JOHN LAWRENCE

Afton Town Supervisor

PATRICK DEDMAN

Afton Village Mayor

PHONE

607-242-8180

EMAIL

Aftonhistorian@yahoo.com

Dear John & Pat,

This month has been a sad, yet busy month for the Historian. The last remaining buildings of Bettsburg have come down, and after over a century of being in business, Horton Hardware is closing its doors.

Historian Hours

In the month of April, 2024, I have spent 14 hours in office with an additional 13 hours out of office and on location. For a total of 27 hours.

Additionally, on the side, but yet still pertaining to Afton's History, I have spent 25 hours at the Afton Historical Society preparing for Memorial Day weekend opening, and assisting with the yard sale.

Activities of the Historian this month.

1. The computer system is now completely set up, and I now have a large scanner/copier/printer that is wi-fi compatible to be able to preserve the larger documents that time is fading. The scanner/copier/printer arrived last week and is going to be a grand asset to ensuring preservation of historical documents.
2. More information has been learned regarding the steel bridge. Details will be put out once I feel all accuracy has been checked and more details to complete the story are found.
3. Research into Afton's Post Office's continues. Accuracy of old records being corrected for accuracy.
4. Extra large scanner/copier/printer arrived and is ready to preserve historical documents in complete without having to scan twice and piece together large documents. Actual full size copies can be made now.
5. Historian Website continues to be built
6. On site research of Bettsburg
7. Collaborations with Glenn Windsor to preserve historical aspects of Bettsburg, including, but not limited to: rebuilding the last remaining out house in Afton, with period exact lumber from Bettsburg buildings, which is time period ways of repurposing lumber that can be utilized, as at the time, everything was hand hewn and "waste not, want not" was the goal.
8. Research into preserving Horton Hardware history at this critical time.

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9. Historical and Historian Classes to improve my abilities in the job of Afton Historian Continue.
 10. America 250 is lacking in volunteers, but is still in forward motion.
 11. Research into Slic Chic, once located at 99 Main Street.
 12. Elders of Afton still being sought out to perhaps celebrate in the future.
 13. Stories from Afton elders are and will continue to be recorded.

Fun Fact: The home of Jay Hager was once owned by Harry Horton and used as his warehouse. The downstairs bathroom still shows signs of this.

Sincerely, Mel Hager, Afton Historian.
