

Historian Report

April 30, 2021

To

John Lawrence
Town Supervisor
Afton, NY

Janice Nickerson
Mayor
Afton, NY

Dear John and Janice,

The following is a report of my activities for April 2021.

- Office hours: 16 hours
- Museum hours: 12 hours
- **New activities:**
 - At the request of St. Matthew's Church in Unadilla, they will be the focus of Book #3 covering their graveyard. Many of their records were lost in several different floods through the years. I have already done the transcription and some research.
 - Research done for the Gould family.
 - Met with Kay VanValkenburg Archer Vail to accept donation of items.
 - Did research for descendant of Maggie O'Brien. Mailed copies to her.
 - Ordered a digital recorder to aid in getting old cassette tapes re-recorded on a digital medium.
 - Sent photo of Joseph Smith Pomeroy sign to CCHS for a display they are doing.
 - Interviewed by Allison Collins, Daily Star, for upcoming article (5/8) on genealogy.
 - Writing an article for CCHS Journal on Ansco plant in Afton.
 - Sent article to my DAR chapter in Schenectady on publishing a book.
 - Sent \$200 donation to Sand Hill Cemetery Association from my book sales.
- **Continuing:**
 - To maintain the website for the Historical Society & Facebook pages for Afton Town Historian, Afton Historical Society, Otsego Co. Genealogy & Evergreen Hill Cemetery.
 - Afton cemetery spreadsheet – continuing to update with obituaries.
 - Spreadsheet on the Afton vital records held by the Town Clerk. This sheet will eventually enable her ease of access to these old record books. Have completed through 2020 (births and deaths) and 1987 (marriages) thus far.
 - East Side Cemetery information is being assembled for upcoming book.
 - Assisting in the straightening up of the Town Court Records Room.
 - Received 100 copies of my book, "Sand Hill Cemetery" in March and have sold 97; donated a copy to Unadilla Public Library and The Fenimore Research Center, Cooperstown; 1 remaining copy.

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- Began cleaning gravestone in Chestnut Hill Cemetery in Unadilla. It is abandoned and will be my next book due by Christmas. We have located two stones so far that were down and buried. Have reset them. (26 hours)
- Deep cleaning and reorganizing displays at the Museum.
- Inventoried all the ACS materials that Dan DeVona had collected. The list was submitted to the Superintendent, Tim McNamara and then the Board of Education. They approved moving the items to the Museum. Items were picked up and moved to Museum (11 archival boxes, 18 scrapbooks, slides, newspapers)
- Mug sales have begun. Promotion of all 3 mugs for \$25 was well received and have sold out of our first mug.
- **Research:**
 - 5 email requests for information
 - 5 FB requests for information - stemming from my FB page posts.
 - 2 Face to Face meetings in Office
 - 1 Phone calls for information.
- **Attended:**
 - Afton Historical Society Meeting, April 7, 2021.
 - Webinar, NJ Genealogical Association, "All I Have Is this Photo", April 13, 2021.
 - Webinar, NYG&B, "The Rest of the Story: Finding Your Family in Online Newspapers", April 22, 2021.
 - Webinar, American Ancestors, "Out to Sea: Researching Mariner Ancestors in New England".
 - Evergreen Hill Cemetery Board Meeting, April 28, 2021.

Kathy Ouimet
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