

Afton Historian Monthly Report

By: Mel. Hager Mueller

DECEMBER 2024

ADDRESS

204A County Road 39
Afton, NY 13730

TO:

JOHN LAWRENCE

Afton Town Supervisor

PATRICK DEDMAN

Afton Village Mayor

PHONE

607-242-8180

Dear John & Pat,

EMAIL

Aftonhistorian@yahoo.com

Historian Hours

In the month of December, 2024, I have happily spent 9 hours back in the office after a large bookstore move, with an additional 19 hours out of office and on location. For a total of 28 hours.

Separate from the job of Historian, yet acting as the Historian as per the Historical Society By-Laws, I also spent 3 hours at the Afton Historical Society this month, note that I do not count the hours worked at home for the Afton Historical Society in my time counts.

Activities of the Historian this month.

1. The legal sized fire safe filing cabinet has arrived at the Historian's office this month. Sandy is working on getting the items within it sorted properly so that it can be utilized for larger historical documents.
2. It has been determined that Host Gator simply will not work for the desires of the Afton Historian. A website that would not tie into other websites is being sought out that does not include the need for Word Press. Pro's and Con's are being weighed, and the ability to hold all the content the future will add is a great consideration, preferably without needed incurred costs in the future.
3. Research into 3 homes for community members this month.
4. Research into 2 families for genealogy
5. Geographical data is being sought after in regards to the beginnings of our land and how it was deposited from the ice that once covered our land.
6. Began learning how to properly preserve old maps, as the 3 given to me are in dire need.
7. The thought occurred to me: Where did the Native American's bury their dead in our area..... This is something I definitely want to delve into in the future.
8. 5 hours were spent in Chenango County researching what they may have regarding Afton and learning more about how they keep the historical records for research purposes.

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9. Another source was found for additional Historian trainings to better be able to attend to my duties. The Society of American Archivists. Membership was completed.
 10. Completed “Archives Records 2018: Top 10 Tips for First Timers” to get my feet wet using this new membership of the SAA.
 11. Historical and Historian Classes to improve my abilities in the job of Afton Historian Continue.
 12. America 250 is lacking in volunteers, but is still in forward motion.
 13. Afton Enterprise Newspaper preservation has begun with getting the newspapers into a climate controlled area. Preservation is the next step.
 14. Contact to New York State Museums to learn how to become a Registered Historian. While this cannot possibly happen for at least another 2 years due to their guidelines, setting goals for ones self is the best way to achieve them.

Admittedly, December held more planning for the future than a typical month would, however, without planning, stumbles happen, and I prefer to stumble less in 2025.

1 email communications to inbox.

Sincerely, Mel. Hager, Afton Historian.
