

# Sharon Historical Society

## NEWSLETTER

Sandra Manko, Editor

November -December 2025

### Message from the President



Souvenir Mauchlin Ware Pin  
Cushion portraying Sulphur  
Spring & Bathhouse

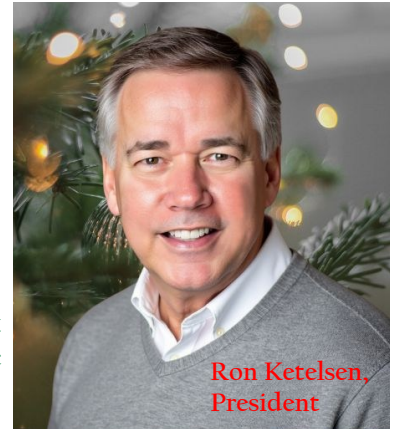
Happy Holidays, everyone! This year has just flown by! We had a great time at the Oktoberfest Dinner that was held at Sunnycrest on October 18<sup>th</sup>. (See photos inside.) every seat was filled. Special thanks to Amish auctioneer, Benueel Fisher, who made the evening so much fun. The dinner was amazing, and everyone went home with bottles from our bottle auction. Thanks to everyone who helped support the event.

Our "Mighty Men of Sharon" calendar will be for sale at NBT Bank and at the Fancy Farmer Restaurant in Sharon Springs. This is a fundraising project for the Sharon Historical Society. Thanks to the men who posed for the fun calendar. (See more on page 13).

This will make a great Christmas gift for that hard to buy for person on your Christmas list! But hurry! Quantities are limited and when they are gone, they are gone.

With Christmas just around the corner, another gift idea is to "Give Gift of History!" Give a Sharon Historical Society Membership as a gift this year to your friends and loved ones! Preserve the Past. Inspire the Future. A Gift Form is inside this newsletter.

The Sharon Historical Society invites you to our annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 14th at 5:00 PM in the Community Room at the Sharon Public Library. Come celebrate the season with friends, food, and festive fun! Please bring a potluck dish to share (your favorite holiday treat!) and a wrapped gift for our gift exchange (\$15 limit). We'll provide table service, drinks, and entertainment to keep the holiday spirit merry and bright! Don't miss this chance to gather, celebrate, and make memories with your fellow history lovers. See you there!



Ron Ketelsen,  
President

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Greetings from ARGUSVILLE, N. Y.

Newsletter—Copyright Sharon Historical Society 2025

# Sharon House—Famous Health and Pleasure Resort

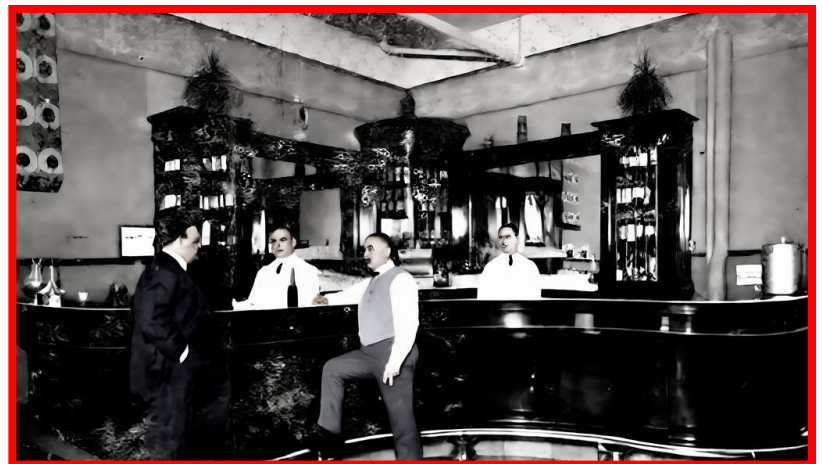


Built by Henry Moyer in the 1850s, the Sharon House was one of the more popular boardinghouses. Owned by H. B. Grossman when demolished by fire in 1926.

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By Coach, Bicycle, or Horseback—Visitors who bring their horses, coaches or automobiles may drive or ride to Sharon over beautiful roads. From Albany the distance is fifty-five miles, over the historic Cherry Valley Turn-

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In the early 1900's, the new Rathskeller & Grill Room was added to the Sharon House.



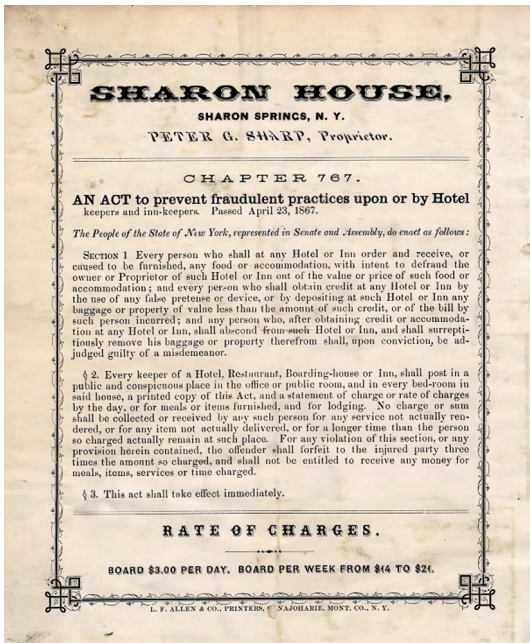
The Sharon House Garage—automobiles and electric carriages—the best in town. Guests and baggage were transported to and from the train station free.



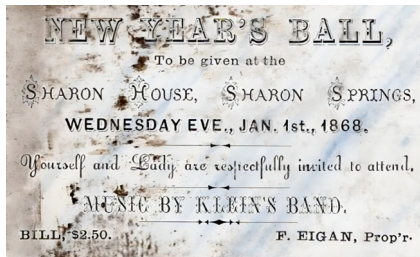
A lawn tennis grove and tennis court opposite the Sharon House entertained the guests.

# Sharon House (Continued)

Traveling directions to the Sharon House ca. 1860: Sharon Springs can be reached by the Albany & Susquehanna Railroad (Delaware & Hudson Canal Company) from the Union Station, Albany, N.Y. All the trains on the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad, Boston & Albany Railroad, West Shore Railroad, Boston & Maine Railroad, Rensselaer & Saratoga Railroad (Delaware & Hudson Canal Company), run this station. Trains also connect with the People's Line of night boats from New York. Through tickets and baggage checks can be obtained in New York, Philadelphia and Boston. The village is also accessible from Palatine Bridge on the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad and from Canajoharie on the West Shore Railroad. It is a drive of nine miles from these stations and carriages are sent to meet trains upon notification of the hour of arrival.



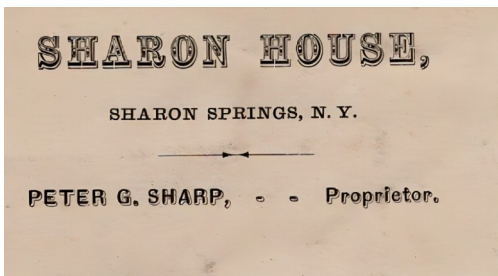
In 1867, room was \$3.00 per day—\$14 to \$24 for the week.



A New Year's Ball was held Jan 1, 1868 when F. Eigan was Proprietor. Tickets were \$2.50 for a couple.

| Sharon House Laundry.                      |           |         |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| No. Room.....                              |           |         |
| 1869.                                      |           |         |
| Mr. ....                                   |           |         |
| No Parcel received for less than 25 Cents. |           |         |
| No. of Pieces.                             | Cents.    | Amount. |
| Shirts with Bosoms.....                    | 15        |         |
| Shirts with Bosoms and Collars.....        | 17        |         |
| Shirts with Ruffled Bosoms.....            | 20        |         |
| Shirts not starched.....                   | 8 to 10   |         |
| Collars.....                               | 5         |         |
| Bosoms.....                                | 8         |         |
| Pairs Cuffs.....                           | 8         |         |
| Pairs Half Hose.....                       | 6         |         |
| Gents' Drawers.....                        | 10        |         |
| Gents' Under Shirts.....                   | 10        |         |
| Handkerchiefs.....                         | 6         |         |
| Cravats.....                               | 6         |         |
| Vests.....                                 | 20 to 35  |         |
| Summer Pants.....                          | 25 to 50  |         |
| Summer Coats.....                          | 35 to 75  |         |
| Ladies' Dresses.....                       | 35 to 500 |         |
| Ladies' Under Sleeves.....                 | 20 to 40  |         |
| Ladies' Under Vests.....                   | 8 to 20   |         |
| Chemise.....                               | 10 to 50  |         |
| Skirts.....                                | 20 to 300 |         |
| Corsets.....                               | 25        |         |
| Drawers.....                               | 10 to 30  |         |
| Night Dresses.....                         | 10 to 100 |         |
| Night Caps.....                            | 5 to 25   |         |
| Pairs Hose.....                            | 6         |         |
| Aprons.....                                | 12 to 25  |         |
| Sheets.....                                | 8         |         |
| Pillow Slips.....                          | 6 to 100  |         |
| Towels.....                                | 6         |         |
| Table Cloths.....                          | 15 to 100 |         |
| Window Shades.....                         | 35        |         |

In 1869, the Sharon House Laundry charged \$.15 for shirts with bosoms, \$.25 for a corset, cravats \$.06.



Some of the Proprietors over the years were Peter G. Sharp, Lewis H. Jackson, F. Eigan, and F. W. Robinson



# Sharon House (Continued)

## SHARON HOUSE,

OPPOSITE PARK, BATH HOUSES AND SPRINGS.

P. G. SHARP, - Proprietor.

Sharon Springs, N. Y., July 31<sup>st</sup> 1882.

My Dear Sawyer,

Yours of the 28<sup>th</sup> inst., enclosing Mrs. Thomas' letters, is rec'd. I have answered her letter. The money is not payable until after the decree is made final, which will not be until later next Fall. I am not entirely well, but very much improved. I am improving slowly, and surely. When I came here I could neither dress nor undress without assistance, but I can do both now. I walked over two miles last Sat. and did it with ease, and felt no worse for it yesterday. My ~~wrists~~ wrists and hands improve very slowly indeed; still, they are better than when I

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came here. The pains in my shoulders are so nearly gone, that I sleep very well indeed, & during the day am seldom conscious of any pain there at all. During the last four or five days, I am entirely free from all pains and aches. Precisely what to do, whether to stay here a week or so longer, or go home, I am in doubt. When the system becomes thoroughly saturated with Sulphur, I don't believe remaining here does any good. I shall be saturated soon & then I shall start for Lowell. As (So) I feel now. I have taken 24 baths. I may go to L. next Friday or Sat. If however, I am certain of continuous improvement, I shall stay awhile longer. I am glad you are at the office. I suppose you'll be going away soon. If you desire a cool, healthy retreat, with beautiful scenery & fine drives, come here. The heat is seldom up to 90°. The highest this year since I came is 87° in the shade & this only on one day. The air is very clean, cool & bracing. In fact, on the whole, it has been too cold for me. I haven't time or space to give particulars of persons who have been here since I came & have been entirely cured, or at least apparently so. They have left for their homes with joyful hearts. My case doesn't yield so readily. With kind regards, I am, sincerely yours,  
I. N. Marshall

Transcript of the letter above to Alfred P. Sawyer, Esq. from I. N. Marshall dated July 31, 1882:

My Dear Sawyer:

Yours of the 28th inst., enclosing Mrs. Thomas' letters is rec'd. I have answered her letters. The money is not payable until after the decree is made final, which will not be until later next fall. I am not entirely well but very much improved. I am improving slowly and surely. When I came here I could neither dress nor undress without assistance, but I can do both now. I walked over two miles last Sat. and did it with ease, and felt no worse for it yesterday. My wrists and hands improve very slowly; still they are better than when I came here. The pains in my shoulders are so nearly gone, that I sleep very well indeed, & during the day am seldom conscious of any pain there at all. During the last four or five days, I am entirely free from all pains and aches. Precisely what to do, whether to stay here a week or so longer or go home, I am in doubt. When the system becomes thoroughly saturated with Sulphur, I don't believe remaining here does any good. I shall be saturated soon & then I shall start for Lowell. As (So) I feel now. I have taken 24 baths. I may go to L. next Friday or Sat. If however, I am certain of continuous improvement, I shall stay awhile longer. I am glad you are at the office. I suppose you'll be going away soon. If you desire a cool, healthy retreat, with beautiful scenery and fine drives, come here. The heat is seldom up to 90°. The highest this year since I came is 87° in the shade & this only on one day. The air is very clean, cool and bracing. In fact, on the whole it has been too cold for me. I haven't time or space to give particulars of persons who have been here since I came & have been entirely cured, or at least apparently so. They have left for their homes with joyful hearts. My case doesn't yield so readily.

With kind regards, I am sincerely yours,  
I. N. Marshall

## Sharon House (Continued)

Promotional material for the Sharon House reads, "The Sharon House enjoys the finest location in the village, being situated on the main street, and the only one directly opposite the Great Springs—The White Sulphur, Magnesia and Chalybeate; its Sulphur, Magnesia and Pine Needle Baths, Inhalation treatment and Sanatorium, attract thousands of visitors every year—the best of Table Waters.

The healing, bracing waters of Sharon cure rheumatism, gout, sciatica, malaria, insomnia, hay fever, nervousness, affections of the liver and kidneys, and all non-contagious diseases."

Sharon Springs is the leading water cure—the only Aix-les-Bains, in this country. The waters flow incessantly and in abundance from the earth midst the most delightful surrounds. Commodious buildings with all

the modern apparatus for water applications, the very latest European paraphernalia imported from Europe within two years, afford the visitor every means of relief to body and limb which comes from the laving waters. Currents of the precious liquid springing up along shady promenades in the park invite the summer guest to pause and drink.

Thomas K. Sharp served as proprietor of the Sharon House for several years and sold out in order to devote his entire time and attention to the hop business. His wide acquaintance with the hop growers in Schoharie and adjacent counties gives him unexceptionable facilities for making the most favorable transactions in the interest of both the producer and the consumer. He brings the two closer

together by devoting his personal time to the business. Mr. Sharp was born in the hop-growing country, and while he has spent much of his time in New York, where he enjoys a wide circle of acquaintances, he has been a resident of Sharon Springs many years. He was active in the movement which culminated in a fine public school with advanced courses in learning; in affording the village adequate protection against fires, and in securing fine macadamized streets. With his retirement from the hotel business he does not intend to move from the place.

Proprietor Mr. B. P. Sharp, as proprietor of the Sharon House opens a new era for that popular hotel. He brings to Sharon Springs that spirit of enterprise which builds up and increases the business. As a hotel man, Mr. Sharp has much experience. As the agent of Mr. Charles M. Warner, of Syracuse, one of the largest maltsters in the United States, he is very widely known. In taking over the Sharon House he does not change his business connections. Mr. Sharp was born in Sharon Springs, March 13, 1850. In 1865 he went to Michigan and subsequently spent a year in Ohio. In the summer of 1868 he engaged with Marvin (now Worden) House at Saratoga Springs, where his popularity as a hotel man was established. In the fall of that year he went to New York, where he built up a large business in hops and malt. The maltster he represents, Mr. Charles M. Warner, produces two million bushels of malt a year. Mr. Sharp is recognized as one of the best hop and malt men in the country. Brought up in the hop section and having practical experience for twenty-eight years in buying and selling, he has been able to establish large and lucrative dealings with all the principal brewers in New York and vicinity. He is able to buy at close figures and give the brewers unexceptionable advantages.

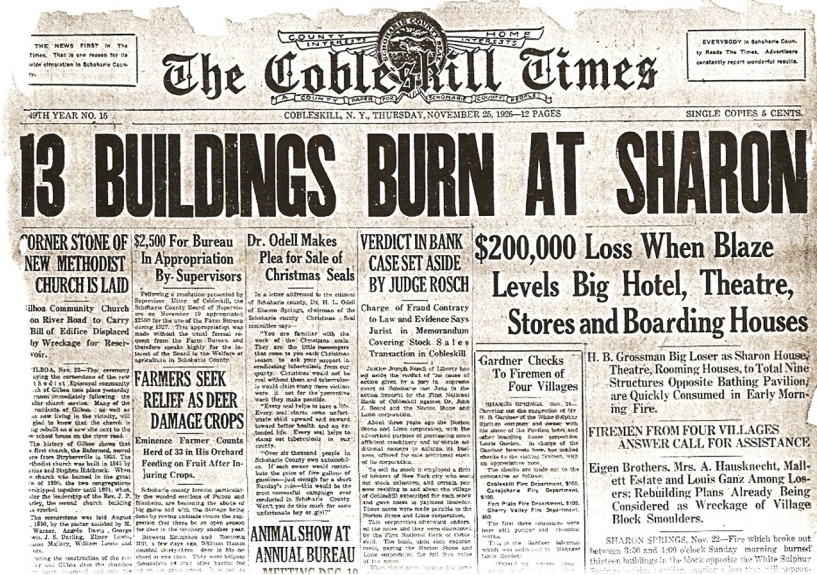


Thomas K. Sharp, Proprietor



Mr. B. P. Sharp, Proprietor

# Sharon House (Continued)



The newly constructed Imperial Baths, not yet open to the public, can be seen in the background. The Casino Hotel is at the left.

The fire department installed a new siren in February of 1926. Although the siren was used many times during the year, on November 21, 1926 it was given the ultimate test. The sounding of the siren over and over became the sound of despair as the wailing alarm warned residents of what was to be the worst fire in Sharon's history. The fire broke out between 3:30 and 4:00 a.m. Sunday morning and was believed to have started from a defective chimney in the Sharon House, and then quickly spread to adjoining buildings. The fire destroyed 13 buildings including everything on Main Street from the present Historical Society Museum up to South Street, including the Spring House, Eigen Block, the Telegraph Office, the Mallet Block, Dockstader's building, and the Sharon House.

The fire then headed up South Street where it destroyed the Sharon Academy Theater, and then continued down Center Street destroying six more buildings. Local firemen, unable to contain the spread of the flames, sent out calls for aid to Cherry Valley, Cobleskill, Canajoharie, and Fort Plain who arrived with motorized pumpers and chemical engines. The whole Village was in danger.

As reported in the *Cobleskill Times* on Thursday, November 25, 1926, first to arrive on the scene was the Cobleskill unit. With the covering of snow on the macadam that led down the steep hill into the lower Village, firemen of Cobleskill's pumper heard Earl Tinkelpaugh, the driver say, "Every man for himself now."

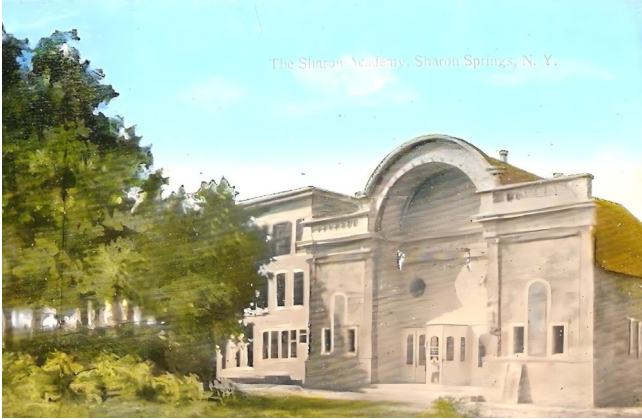
The pumper had covered 14 miles in 18 minutes. Then came Cherry Valley firemen. Canajoharie and Fort Plain firefighters soon followed, each with modern equipment, and began the battle to control the flames.



View of Main Street. Structure in background is the building which housed Sticht's Drug Store. Imperial Bathhouse is at far left.

# Sharon House (Continued)

One big danger point was the corner of Main and South Street where the Lincoln Hotel stood across the street from the burning Sharon House. Cobleskill firemen directed their effort here to stop the spread. The Lincoln, with many windows out and scorched by the flames, showed results of the grim battle and the fight of the firemen. "He knows his business," was the remark of a bystander who was listening to Chief Finn of Cobleskill give orders,



The Sharon Academy Theater on South Street was adjacent to the Sharon House and guests could use the enclosed corridors that connected the two buildings to walk from the hotel to the theater.



The Academy Theater after the 1926 fire.

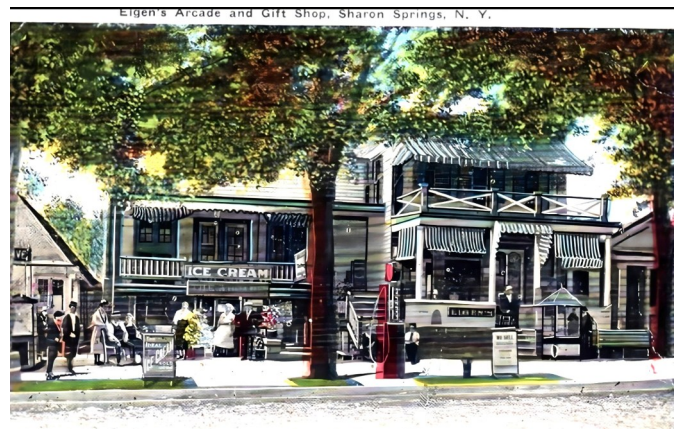
The Wilbur house opposite the Academy on South Street was also saved by the heroic effort of firemen. Canajoharie firemen were guarding the spread of flames to the Adler House

and Hotel Washington at the South and Center Street corner. Fort Plain's pumper outfit drew the line at the 15 foot driveway between the Bee Hive Gift Shop and E. M. Sticht Drug Store. The un-scorched surface of the two-story drug store building indicated the courageous work of the firemen. The buildings in ruins were: 3-story 100 room Sharon House; store and apartment house adjoining the 40 room Sharon House annex; the Academy Theater; power house and garage; Mallett Estate residence occupied by Dr. L. O. White as offices; the Telegraph Office; Eigen's Arcade & Gift Shop with connected stores and living quarters on second floor; the Bee Hive fancy goods store owned by Mrs. A. Hausknecht; three-story Ganz Boarding House with accommodations for 30 people; Eigen Brothers' garage and sheds.



Sticht's Drug Store at left in photo survived the 1926 disaster but was damaged in the 1949 Casino Hotel fire and was later torn down around 1960. The Bee Hive store at right was consumed in the 1926 fire.

Everything was carried out of Sticht's Drug Store when it appeared that its destruction was certain. Many items like cigars were stolen. Linemen worked all day Sunday and Monday to restore broken wires that supplied the Village with light, power, and telephone service.



The post card above shows Eigen's Arcade destroyed in the fire, which includes gas station, gift shop, and ice cream parlor.

# Sharon House (Continued)

The White Sulphur Springs Imperial Bathhouse on Main Street, nearly completed and ready for their grand opening, was in constant danger from the flames, but stood, unharmed. Bernstein's Prospect Hotel (also known as the Sulphur Springs Hotel), on Main Street, was gutted by the fire, but was later rebuilt as a bakery, jewelry store, and Schiller's Restaurant. The Catholic Church on Center Street, just escaped the flames. The church stood alone on the Center Street side of the wrecked block. Dr. L. O. White grieved the loss of his records which along with all of his office equipment, were consumed in the fire. No doubt that the sprinkling of snow on the roofs of buildings prevented sparks from starting fires on the top of many of the surrounding structures. All day Sunday, Main Street, in the fire section, was filled with automobiles and people who came to witness



Lincoln Hotel at the corner of Main & South St. as it looked before it was damaged in the fire and then later remodeled.



The 3 1/2 store Ganz House is located on Center Street. It was badly damaged in the 1926 fire was remodeled and operated for many years.



the destruction. It was only with difficulty that one could pass the block where fires still burned in the wreckage of the fallen buildings.

Later that morning on the day of the fire, Caniff R. Winnie, President of the Village Board, and owner of the Mansion House, threw open the doors of the Mansion House where hot coffee and lunches were served to firemen and helpers, without charge.



St. Mary's Catholic Church, Center Street

Mr. Grossman, proprietor of the Sharon House was in town overseeing building operations and was asleep when the fire broke out and had just enough time to escape. He stated his loss was \$175,000 with insurance on his building of \$85,000.

Dr. H. B. Gardner, owner of White Sulphur Springs Company and owner with his sister of the Pavilion Hotel and other boarding house properties, instructed Louis Gordon, Manager, who was in charge of the Gardner interest to mail checks to the visiting firemen with an appreciative note. The telegram which was sent to Louis Gordon read: "Extend my sincere sympathy to all those who lost property in

Sunday morning's fire. If there is anything I can do to help, financially, or in any other way, will gladly do so. Also express my thanks to the Sharon Springs Fire Department and outside firemen who volunteered their service in a time of peril. Suggest you sent checks to show in a measure, our appreciation of the firemen's effort for saving property." Checks were sent to the Cobleskill Fire Department for \$100, Canajoharie Fire Department \$100, Fort Plain Fire Department \$100, and Cherry Valley Fire Department for \$50. The first three companies came with pumper and chemical outfits.

# Looking Back . . .



Stanley & Sylvia Lane are teaching on-lookers how to cane chairs and make baskets at a craft show by the museum ca. 1975.



Image from Miss Health Contest held on the steps of the Imperial Bathhouse in 1939.



MAIN STREET, SHARON SPRINGS, N. Y.

Early street view of the lower Village before the streets were paved.



SOUTH STREET LOOKING WEST, SHARON SPRINGS, N. Y.

View of South Street looking West. Casino Hotel is at the bottom of the hill.



*Answers: 1. Bradley House-Willow St. 2. United States Hotel-Main St. 3. Wolfson Cottage-Washington St. 4. Empire Hotel-Willow St. 5. Casino Hotel-Main St. 6. Bernstein's Prospect House aka Sulphur Springs Hotel-Main St. 7. Union Hotel-Main St. 8. North Italian Hotel-Chestnut St.*

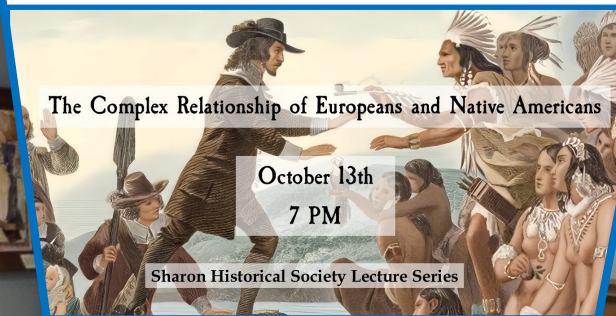
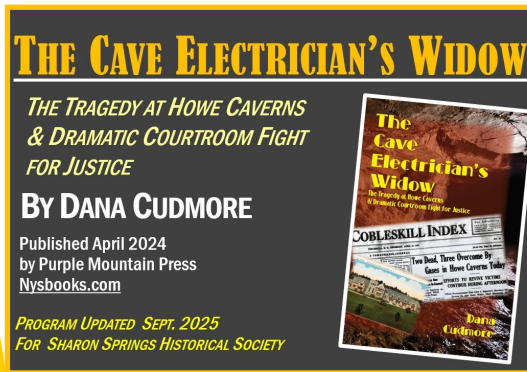
# Photo Quiz

How many of these boarding establishments can you identify?



Answers  
on Page 9

# Sharon Historical Society Programs



Our fall program got off to a successful start with good attendance from our "Zoom" audience. Above clockwise: On September 8th, 2025, Dana Cudmore told us about the 1930 tragedy at Howe Caverns when two people were killed and three more hospitalized when overcome with gas fumes. If you missed the presentation, Mr. Cudmore also has a book available, "The Tragedy at Howe Caverns & Dramatic Courtroom Fight For Justice."

On October 13, 2025, Heather Johnson informed us of the complex relationship and conflict between Europeans and Native Americans as settlers took over land and control during the colonial period. Heather also has a book available, "Danascara Place" which is the history of a Mohawk Valley Farm. Heather grew up on the farm surrounding Danascara Place and still holds great affection and awe for its history.

None of these Zoom programs would be possible without the patience and expertise of our President, Ron Ketelsen. Thanks Ron!

All of our past programs are available for viewing by going to our website under the "Events" tab.



# From Barbershop to Museum: Vintage Cash Register's Journey to Sharon's Barbershop Exhibit

The Sharon Historical Society recently received a call from retired Fort Plain teacher Blake Smith. Blake said he and his wife recently had visited the Sharon Historical Society's Village. They were very impressed with the historic village. Blake came across the Barbershop building and immediately knew he had something that would enhance the display. His grandfather's vintage NCR cash register from his barbershop!

The Sharon Historical Society is very grateful to Blake for donating the cash register. Below is what Blake wrote about his grandfather and the cash register.

*My grandfather, F. Clyde Funderburk, from South Carolina, was preparing to go to war in Europe during WWI when he got in a fight and broke his arm. Clyde, still a soldier, assumed duties that he could handle with a broken arm, including playing the bugle and cutting hair.*

*Clyde Funderburk became a gentleman farmer and barber who was known to drive not a pickup truck but a white Cadillac Eldorado, sometimes with a calf in the back seat.*



*As a child living in NY, we visited my grandparents fairly regularly, and I always loved to go to his barbershop in the little town of Lancaster (pronounced Lanka stir).*

*His shop was a classic. Massive mirrors covering the walls. A tall jar with blue smelly stuff that supposedly disinfected the reused combs. A leather strop, not a strap, hung waiting for the straight razor to be pulled across the belt to sharpen it before shaving the next customer.*

*One of my favorite parts of visiting my granddaddy's shop was the soda machine that dispensed returnable glass bottles horizontally for only one thin dime.*

*Dr. Pepper and Mountain Dew were not always available nationally, and it was such a treat to taste the super sweet soda that at that time we could only get in the South.*

*My other favorite part of my annual visit was a special gumball machine that greeted you when you walked through the door. You placed pennies into a toy gun and shot at ducks, and if you knocked one down, you got gum. I think it was my favorite because Granddaddy gave us endless pennies and dimes to use in the machines, getting us all sugared up to the dismay of my mother.*

*My brothers and I would also get a typical page boy haircut, kind of Clark Kent, short on the sides and parted on the side. This continued until times changed, and we no longer*

*cut our hair. As long hair became the norm for us in Ithaca, I remember that Clyde looked disappointed when he saw our long manes but couldn't put some of our hair on the floor. We did let him comb our hair, even moving our part from the middle to the sides of our heads.*

*When he died and all the barbershop memorabilia went away, I somehow kept his cash register. An old NCR hand crank that still works and until recently had someone's hair still in the money drawer. The relic sat unused in both my basement and garage.*

*I donated this machine that measured the daily success of my grandfather's work, to the Sharon Springs Historical Society, where it will be placed in the recently restored historical village. The little village, which harkens back to earlier times, has a general store, dress shop, print shop, doctor's office, synagogue, cobbler shop, soda shoppe and yes....a barbershop where the cash register will now be a permanent fixture and tribute to my namesake.*

*If you happen to be passing through Sharon Springs take time to visit this remarkable little settlement and stop in at the barbershop and turn the cash register's hand crank one more time.*



# Need A Christmas Present for that Special Someone?



## *The Mighty Men of Sharon* **2026 CALENDAR**



Twelve brave men from Sharon are showing off their personalities in a calendar for a good cause. The ‘dad bod’ is becoming a more popular kind of body shape, with reports suggesting a bit of cushioning is more attractive to women than chiseled abs. We wanted to shake up tradition and what better way to do that than celebrate dads and their bods with a charity calendar? Think *Sports Illustrated*, swimsuit addition, but with a bunch of “mature men”.

The photos make for a good laugh, but they are for a good cause, too. All the money raised is helping raise money for New Museum Building Fund.

Our “Mighty Men of Sharon” calendars are on sale for \$12 each at NBT Bank and at the Fancy Farmer Restaurant in Sharon Springs. Thanks to the men who posed for the fun calendar. This will make a great Christmas gift for that hard to buy for person on your Christmas list! But hurry! Quantities are limited and when they are gone, they are gone.

# The Progress and Ferman Boarding Houses



Progress House on Willow Street

Two prominent Jewish boarding houses stood on Willow Street in Sharon Springs during the early twentieth century: the Progress House and the Furman Boarding House. Built in the early 1900s, the Progress House sat directly across from the Empire Hotel and accommodated up to 100 guests under the proprietorship of A. M. Fanaroff. The establishment operated successfully until fire destroyed it in 1940. Anna Fanaroff, who also ran the Progress Restaurant and Grill in the village, served as a founding director of the Hotel Men's Association of Sharon Springs—an organization created to promote the village's advancement, protect hotel owners' mutual interests, and regulate the solicitation of guests at train stations. She was the sole woman on the board, joining fellow hoteliers Harry Wasserman, Caniff R. Winne, Joseph Garson, Isaac Meyer, Hyman Pollock, Samuel Wilson, Louis Pally, and Barnett C. Richter.

Following the Progress House fire, Yudel and Paul Furman purchased the adjacent property, establishing the Furman House directly next to where the Progress House had stood and across from the Bradley House. While the Sharon Historical Society lacks photographs of the Furman House, lifetime member Beverly Rems Katzman, granddaughter of Yudel Furman, preserves cherished memories of summers spent there. She will share some of these recollections in the Historical Society's forthcoming book, *"I Remember Sharon."*

The Furman House gained distinction as a summer retreat for Rabbi Joel Teitelbaum (1887-1979), one of the twentieth century's most influential Orthodox Jewish leaders. A Holocaust survivor who escaped on the controversial Kastner train in 1944, Rabbi Teitelbaum later settled in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, where he established the Satmar community in 1947—now one of the world's largest and most strictly observant Hasidic groups. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Teitelbaum would spend his summer months at The Furman House. In his later years, the rabbi shifted his Sharon Springs visits to the Central Hotel on Union Street.



Rabbi Joel Teitelbaum



# Packed House for Sharon Historical Society's



## And Bottle Auction

A sold-out crowd attended the Sharon Historical Society's Oktoberfest Dinner and Bottle Auction on October 18th at Sunnycrest Restaurant in Sharon Springs. Sam and Rhoda Kaufman, owners of Sunnycrest Restaurant, surprised the crowd with a magnificent buffet meal featuring both German and Amish food. After dinner, Amish auctioneer Ben Fisher entertained attendees with his lively commentary as he sold mystery bottles—each one wrapped, leaving bidders guessing at their contents. Fisher, who also works in real estate, joked with the crowd about his fondness for buying sight unseen, suggesting he might apply the same approach to selling properties.

The Historical Society extends its thanks to all who attended and bid on items. Proceeds from the evening will support the Sharon Historical Society Building Fund.





# Give the Gift of History!

***Give a Sharon Historical Society  
Membership as a gift this year to your  
friends and loved ones!***

## *Gift Membership Level*

- ☐ 1. **Individual member**, any person interested in the purposes of the Society is eligible. Annual dues for an individual member is twenty five dollars (\$25.00).
- ☐ 2. **Lifetime member**; individuals only. Dues for a life member is a one-time fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

**PLEASE NOTE:** Individual Membership renew on your anniversary date - your membership is good for one year from the date you join. Membership dues are non-refundable.

Gift Recipient Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Gift Recipient Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Gift Recipient Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Gift Recipient Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send directly to the recipient. ☐ Please send the gift membership to me.

### **Purchaser Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **Method of Payment** *(Please make all checks payable to the Sharon Historical Society)*

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit code on back \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Please mail this form and payment to the Sharon Historical Society, P.O. Box 363, Sharon Springs, NY 13459***