National Society Descendants of American Farmers

Western & Central New York News

Volume 2, No. 1 **Winter 2020**

Happy New Year!

What a mild winter we are having, so far, here in Western and Central, NY. Although, I don't want to speak too soon, as we all know how quick the weather can change in NY State.

In this issue, I am pleased to show case Josiah Harding, farming ancestor of member Jeanette Sheliga, of Lockport, NY.

Josiah Harding

Josiah Harding was born 25 July 1814 to Samuel and Love (Mayhew) Harding in Vermont. He was their fourteenth child and the last known that was born to them. His family migrated from Vermont to Tioga County, Pennsylvania when Josiah was two years old in 1816.

He remained in Tioga County, PA for the rest of his life and was called "Uncle Si" by all who knew him. He was very active with the Liberty Patriots (2nd Brigade, 13th Division) of the Pennsylvania Militia for some time. He was first commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1853 and then rose up the ranks to become Major General by 1859 and held that position when the Civil War broke out.

Josiah is listed as a farm laborer in the 1870 Census but was also known for being a gunsmith for most of his adult life. He married Eliza Provin in 1838 and they had thirteen children - six of whom lived to have children of their own.

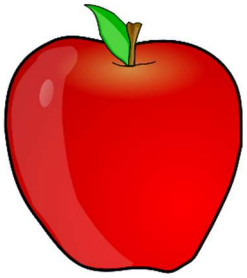
He lost his eyesight in the years before his death and the local community donated money to him to help him get by. He passed away at the age of 80 years old on 26 August 1894. His obituary said that he "was a genial and intelligent citizen who had the respect of all his neighbors."

Jeanette Sheliga

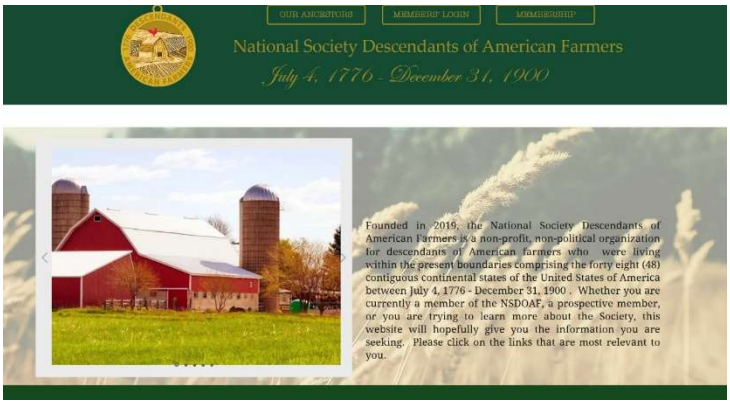
Jeanette is a Board Member and Society Vice President for the Niagara County Genealogical Society. On March 21, 2020, she will be presenting a program at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library on Genealogical Lineage Societies. The program will begin at 10:30 am. For further information, please visit http://www.wnygs.org/meeting-2020-03.html .

Faith, Family & Farm,

Jan Brooks Johnpier
NY Ambassador – Western & Central NY



VISIT THE NATIONAL WEBSITE:



Visit the National Society Website at: www.nsdoaf.com
The password to access the private members' only area is: **redrooster** (all one word and all lower case letters.)

Western & Central New York: Members:

Debra Bailor – Samuel London - PA
Dawn Berg - Nathaniel Bradle – NY
Frank Canfield – Henry Harrison Hand – NY
Shirley Canfield – Henry Harrison Hand – NY
Doreen Cesari - William Franklin Kiniston – NY
Meredith Chilson - Anson C. Hall – NY
Marliee Comerford - Matthew J. Stass – NY
Roberta Comerford - Lyman C. Comerford – NY
Kimberly Conroy, Manly N. Kilburn - NY
Robin Ettinger - William Day – NY
Jay Ibaugh – Henry Harrison Hand – NY
Phila Ibaugh – Henry Harrison Hand – NY
Brooke Johnpier – Henry Harrison Hand – NY
Jack Johnpier – Henry Harrison Hand – NY
Jan Johnpier – Henry Harrison Hand – NY
Jeanette Sheliga - Josiah Harding – PA
Susan Szewczyk - Noah H. Cobb – ME
Benjamin Webster - Benjamin Franklin Webster - NY

We are growing! Membership costs a one-time fee of $300.00, which includes a membership certificate and basic insignia. (No yearly dues) As of 2/3/20, the National Society has 19 founding members, 924 charter members, and 8 regular members totaling 951 members nationwide. Let's help increase that number! Share NSDOAF with your friends and family. A portion of each membership fee goes towards funding the NSDOAF Scholarship.

NSDOAF Scholarship Recipients for January 2020

One of the missions of the National Society Descendants of American Farmers, is to award higher education scholarships to students who will follow in our ancestor's footsteps. The Society just awarded $2,500.00 to each of the following Scholarship recipients, for the spring 2020 term:

- **Kristen Hollansworth** – Oklahoma State University, Major: Agriculture Communications
- **Marisa Phelps** – TN Tech University, Major: Agribusiness Management
- **Averi Cole,** TN Tech University, Major: Bachelors Ag Business
- **Emily Johnson**, TN tech University, Major: Animal Science
- **Alexandria Riddle** – Murray State University, Major: Ag Business Economics

NSDOAF Scholarships are funded by memberships, supplementals, sales, and donations.

For information on NSDOAF SCHOLARSHIPS, please visit the National Society website, www.nsdoaf.com and click on the Scholarship page.

Emily Johnson, NSDOAF Scholarship Recipient

The next scholarship deadline is August 1, 2020
Scholarship applications available on the Society's Website.

MEMBERS ATTEND the WNY FARM SHOW!

The Western NY Farm Show was held January 30 – February 1, 2020 at the Erie County Fairgrounds, in Hamburg, NY. Ambassador Jan Johnpier, her husband Jack and their daughter Brooke all attended and had a wonderful time. There was a hay bale throwing competition, a farmer's bazaar, pesticide recertification classes, lumberjack show, tons of venders, and more! The three members ran around passing out Society tri-fold brochures in hopes of generating interest in the Society. **SAVE THE DATE:** The WNY Farm Show will be held January 31- February 2, 2021 and we are hoping to reserve a booth/table to promote NSDOAF!

Members Brooke and Jack Johnpier at the WNY Farm Show, in Hamburg, NY

NSDOAF will be 1 year old on March 10, 2020!

Recognizing and Honoring our Western and Central NY Farmers!

On February 1, Frank Canfield of Canfield Farms located in Ransomville, NY was recognized by NSDOAF for over 40 years of farming in Niagara County, NY. Congratulations Frank! Your hard work and dedication to farming is appreciated! In addition to being a farmer, Frank is also a member of NSDOAF and we are thrilled to have him!

Do you know a farmer who should be recognized?

NEW PROJECT on Facebook! NSDOAF HEIRLOOM SEED EXCHANGE

For members only: To join or view the inventory, on facebook go to: NSDOAF Heirloom Seed Exchange and click "join group". Once an inventory is established, members will be able to check the Files section of the group for a list of seeds available. Send a SASE with a note indicating which seeds you are interested in. Send any seeds you would like to share and your request to: Cynthia Byxbee 3938 State Route 69 Hawesville KY 42348. Questions? Email Cynthia at: cynthiansdoaf@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

February 27-29, 2020

NEW YORK STATE FAIRGROUND SYRACUSE, NEW YORK. THE NORTHEAST'S PREMIER INDOOR FARM EVENT!

The New York Farm Show is the leading farm show in the Northeast since 1985. The show hosts more than 400 exhibitors displaying the latest in farm equipment, tractors, combines and farm implements; seed and crop protection products; farm supplies and services, dairy and beef production, woodlot and related industry supplies.

The New York Farm Show is the biggest technology showcase in the Northeast. Make plans now to attend this outstanding event.

Show Hours
February 27, 28 and 29, 2020
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission
$5 at the door
Under 18 are free.

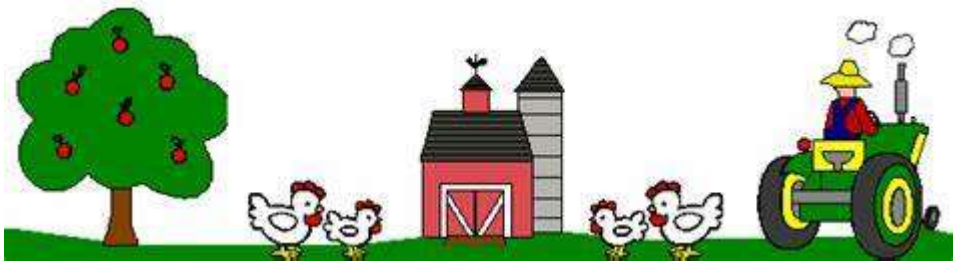
Tickets are available to you free from your Northeast Equipment Dealers or by writing to:

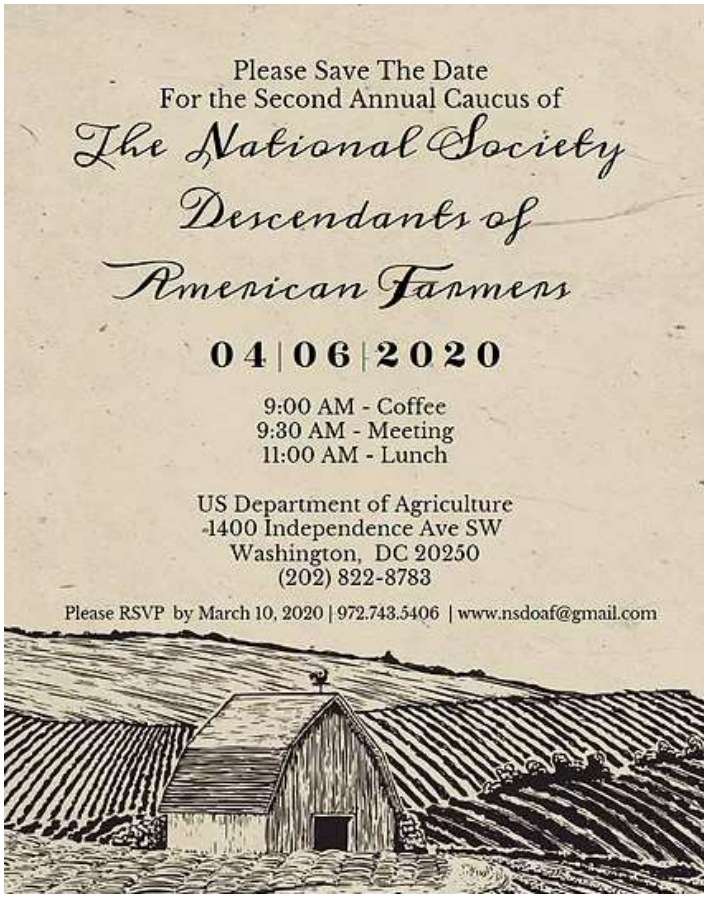
New York Farm show
P.O. Box 3470
Syracuse, NY 13220.
Include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your request received by February 15.

Parking
Free parking and shuttle buses run all day to all six of the farm show buildings.

New York Farm Show is co-sponsored by the ***Northeast Equipment Dealers Association*** *and* ***American Agriculturist*** *magazine.*

VISIT WWW.NEWYORKFARMSHOW.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.





National Society Caucus

Register now for the 2nd Annual Caucus of the NSDOAF! April 6, 2020, at the US Department of Agriculture! **RSVP by March 10, 2020.** Registration Form included in this newsletter, and it's also available on the members' only website.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

July 20-25, Allegany County Fair, Angelica NY

July 21-26, Saratoga County Fair, Ballston Spa, NY

July 25-August 1, Genesee County Fair, Batavia, NY

July 27-August 1, Orleans County 4H Fair, 12690 Route 31, Albion, NY

August 5-9 - Niagara County Fair, at the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Niagara County Fairgrounds, Lockport, NY

August 12-23, Erie County Fair, at the Erie County Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY

2020 Herkimer County Fair dates TBA, Frankfort, NY

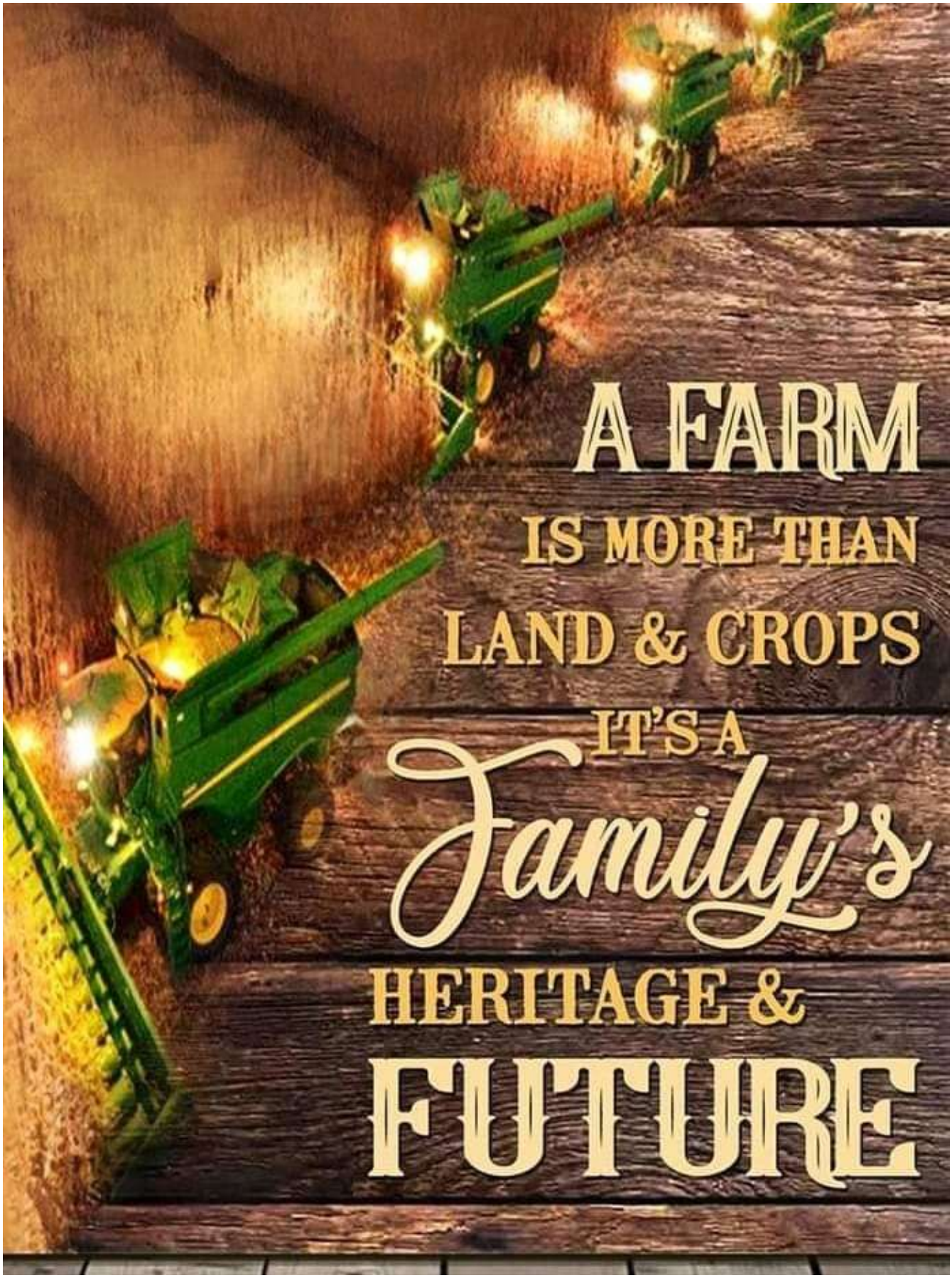
August 15-22 – Wyoming County Fair, Wyoming County Fairgrounds, Pike, NY

August 21-September 7 – The Great NY State Fair, NY State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY

2020 Columbia County Fair dates TBA, Chatham, NY

UPCOMING EVENTS at the Erie County Fairgrounds:

March 21-22 - EquiFest **April 9-11** - Empire State Beef Classic **April 16-19, 23-26 -** Spring Fling Quarter Horse Show **May 1-3 -** Yankee Reining Spring Slide Horse Show **May 9-10 -** Bigger than Banners Hog & Lamb Show **May 21-24-** WNY Morgan Horse Show **May 28-31 –** WNY Preview Classic – 20th Year! **June 5-7 –** Eastern Classic Arabian Horse Show	**June 11-13 –** Spring Dairy Preview **July 10-12 -** Candy Apple Classic Horse Show **July 24-26 –** Yankee Reining Summer Spectacular Horse Show **August 12-23 – Erie County Fair** **September 3-6 -** Silver Spur Horse Show **October 1-3 -** National Junior Swine Association (NJSA) Eastern Regional Hog Show.


A FARM
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