



April 26, 2017

### **TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting**

We'd been contacted by John Harrington who'd been a visitor to the museum last year. And in his exploration of the museum's artifacts he realized we had an extensive collection of bottles from various time frames of Sullivan County's history. But, what we didn't have was one that he had in his possession: a Schaad Rye Whiskey Decanter from Mildred. John then spent time doing research on his family's history: he, Paul John Harrington, Jr.'s, father was Paul J. Harrington (1908-1985) of Dushore and mother Rhea Schaad Harrington (1909-1990) of Mildred, John's grandfather was William J. of Mildred and grandmother Virginia Kinsley Schaad (1883-1990) of Colley and finally, great grandfather John Schaad (1834-1906) and great grandmother Elizabeth Mosier (1845-1939). As you can see; family connections throughout Sullivan County become entwined by way of marriages.

Now to the decanter: begun by great grandfather John Schaad, the distillery in Mildred was at first simply called Schaad Rye but was then changed to Schaad Brothers Rye after John leased the distillery and Schaad Hotel to his sons Frank, John and William in 1898 in order to retire. It was a marketing custom then that those who sold liquor to saloons and taverns would offer a product sample in a decorative decanter to potential wholesale customers or established clients. Bartenders would then display these decanters in step formation on the back of their bars to be visible to their customers and to entice customers to purchase.

John has unearthed much more information concerning his family, their business and the time of prohibition for you to see that is placed with the decanter. For this and more, come visit YOUR museum by phoning 570-946-5020 or email [museum@scpahistory.com](mailto:museum@scpahistory.com) or just stop in if you see the "open" sign in the window. Also, visit our web site at [www.scpahistory.com](http://www.scpahistory.com) and like us on Facebook.