

# Shearer Cottage Renovation

Michele Jones Galvin <mjgalvin07@gmail.com>

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To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>;

Dear Mr. Alex Elvin,

Thank you for accepting my message regarding the Shearer Cottage Renovation.

My family and I have made our annual trek to Oak Bluffs for 22 years from Syracuse, New York, except for COVID Summer 2020. Shearer Cottage has been our home away from home for so many years.

We leased another place this past summer. It was lovely, but it was not Shearer Cottage.

We anxiously look forward to our time each year at this historic landmark. It has become a family tradition that we plan to continue with our son and his family. We schedule the next year's visit the day we leave.

We always take the same rooms. My husband and I always take Number 2. Number 2's door faces the front veranda. From the days when we woke up to a warm greeting from Mrs. Doris Jackson, to our first cup of coffee on the veranda, to our barbecued dinners on the side yard to greeting and hosting our family and friends in the family room, to our lemon cookie porch parties, Shearer Cottage holds very special memories for us.

Again, our greatest wish is to have our son carry on this tradition with his family. Oak Bluffs and Shearer Cottage have become part of our family history.

As a descendant of Harriet Tubman, one special memory for me on the veranda was writing "The end" on the last page of our book, Beyond the Underground: Aunt Harriet, Moses of Her People.

I am certain that you will receive many such letters expressing love and appreciation for this very special place. Our family hopes to spend many, many more summers at Shearer.

We give our strong support for the Shearer Cottage Renovation.

Sincerely,

Michele Jones Galvin  
Great, Great, Great Grandniece of Harriet Tubman