

OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2002
Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

Volume IV, Issue 1

February 1, 2002

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Pellman, Maple, President
Larry Luostari, Cloverland, 1st V.P.
Jerry Fechtelkottter, Poplar, 2nd V.P.
Hope Swenson, Lakeside, Secretary

Alice Christensen, Amnicon, Treasurer
Velma Doby, Iron River
Audrey Hakkila, Poplar
Paul Marvin Hakkila, Maple

Marvin Haukkala, Maple
Jackie Plunkett, Maple
Eddy Walman, Maple

NEXT MEETING/PROGRAM WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 7 PM, AT LAKESIDE TOWN HALL

"LAKESIDE HISTORICAL REMINISCENCES ROUND TABLE" WILL BE THE TOPIC FOR OUR MEETING.

Paul Colby has been working hard to collect material for a history of the Lakeside region. As part of that effort we have invited many people from the Lakeside area with long memories of its past to join us at our next meeting. Those who are willing will be encouraged to join a "round table" and we will have them reminisce and respond to questions about Lakeside's past. It is important for all of us to have thoughtful questions ready which might help reveal Lakeside's history. We would also like to record the session on tape for the sake of future generations of researchers. We invite all participants to bring photos and documents to share.

Following will be a refreshment break. We ask that you bring a few goodies to share. The evening will conclude with our regular business meeting.

WELCOME EVERYONE!

From the President:

One of the most interesting problems in local history is in trying to understand why local towns and villages were created in the first place. What drove the residents of the railroad hamlets of Amnicon, Poplar, Brule, Blueberry and Maple to join forces and separate themselves from the Town of Superior which once covered the whole of Douglas County? And then, what led them to separate themselves from one another into the pattern of villages and towns we see today? What threshold of population density was necessary before it was considered important to create a new focus of government, or was this a major factor? In today's environment could or would these separate governments even be formed?

As we move into what we now call the "tax season" I would like to look at what taxes might have had to do with town formation. The old complaint heard again and again when a local political division was being proposed was "taxation without representation." When people felt they were too far removed from the people and processes deciding upon how they were being taxed they were free to petition for a new town to be formed. It might be said that some towns were formed in part as the outcome of this type of peaceful tax revolt.

But "taxes" in those days meant property taxes, that is, taxes on the value of the land and the personal property one possessed. The "controversial" income tax, introduced

into the United States in 1913 with the passage of the XVIth amendment to the U.S. Constitution, had not yet been locally established. The social changes that led to the income tax were the outcome of enlargements: enlargements in the size of employers, in the size of the "unlanded" labor force, and in the size of governments. It represents an "urbanization" of the tax process. The self-employed, such as most early farmers in this region, were difficult to tax by this "new" method. An income tax makes no sense when most economic transactions are non-cash exchanges of services or the trading of goods, such as the bartering of services from farm to farm. An income tax is not effective in a family based economy. Income taxes arise when labor is abstracted from the worker as a monetary value, and the medium of pay is divorced from the type of labor or skill that was found to have monetary value, resulting in "pay." The income tax men reached into the process of reward for work rather than appraising the value of what one had already acquired and managed to save, as the property tax man did, which in now considered "regressive."

Except for our modern property tax on real estate, we have lost much of this sense of "local" or communal taxation. "Improvements" in the tax method can, however, come at hidden social costs, in this case much loss of local control of the tax process. The "taxation without representation" saw does not fit well the modern tax system, and thus, complaints

about taxes falls away then as a motive, or incentive, for the formation of new local governments. Instead we have proposals that are moving in the opposite direction, seeking to remove past local distinctions and the traditional town organization, and even abandonment of the property tax itself to support local services. The position of traditional towns in

this structure becomes more and more precarious, as does, one might argue, “old fashioned” local democratic process.

—Jim Pellman (715) 363-2453,
<musketeer6@juno.com>

Area History: No. 22

Karelian Fever Research: An Assessment

We in the Old-Brule Heritage Society were privileged in the past year to hear from two of the highest profile American researchers in the important study of what to both Finns and non-Finns is a mystifying, and to some, a troubling phenomenon: “Karelian Fever.” In April we heard first from Mayme Corgan Sevander, widely recognized for her books on the subject, built upon her first hand experiences of leaving America with her family for the Workers’ Paradise being built in 1930s Russian Karelia. In October we listened to a summary of some of the research by Dr. Alexis Pogorelskin, Chair of the History Department at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. In the audience we had Mayme Sevander and Dr. Richard Hudelson of the University of Wisconsin, Superior.

It became apparent by the end of Dr. Pogorelskin’s program that there is not universal agreement as to the dynamics nor the interpretation of this controversial phenomenon. Although Mayme has done extensive research in Soviet archives she disclaims being a professional “historian” and her methods seem to be more “experiential.” Her concerns seem to be to record the actual experiences and perceptions of those caught up in the “idealism” of a movement which carried about 6 thousand American Finns back to the old world, but past Finland and on to the new “Soviet Russian Workers’ Paradise.” That left about 294 thousand Americans of Finnish descent still making the effort to find a living in the Depression strained American economy. The percentage who departed, then, was small, two percent of American Finns.

On the other hand, Dr. Pogorelskin has been using her professional skills as a Russian historian to tackle the problem more from the standpoint of institutional formation, and along the lines of those who held leadership positions. Her primary subject of research is Edvard Gylling, a Finn who found himself on the losing “Red” side in the Finnish “Civil War.” Although a member of a middle class (if not upper middle class) family in Finland, he joined and became a leader in the Finnish Socialist Party. After escaping

Finland his skills as a social planner and statistician made him eventually useful to Communist leader Lenin who as part of a Five Year Plan sought to strengthen the Soviet economy by harvesting the forest resources of the Karelian region of Russia. The scheme apparently was to entice from abroad those with the skills, tools, and financial resources needed to exploit the region. This led to recruitment among American Finns. Gylling, using American agents, some from the Old-Brule region, led this only partially successful recruitment effort.

At this point a sharp, unsettling dispute arises as to what motivated those who were successfully drawn to this challenge, for it is not disputed that those leaving the relative prosperity of Depression America knew much of the rugged conditions they might have to face. Dr. Pogorelskin makes a convincing case that these conditions were initially tolerable, part of this due to the superior conditions and treatment the emigrants experienced during the early months and years after their arrival. With the camaraderie of hard work there was high hope for improvements in the quality of life along with the satisfaction of being part of the building of a workers’ socialist paradise. But this hope was built on false promises and expectations, and unstable circumstances. The most interesting fact of these early conditions was the tolerance, if not surprising encouragement, of the use of the Finnish language among the new arrivals.

I believe Mayme Sevander and Dr. Pogorelskin might both agree with all that has been said up to this point. But here they part abruptly. Dr. Pogorelskin has used the phrase “Finnish Nationalism” to describe the enticing motivating dynamic of Gylling and his American recruiters. Mrs. Sevander and Dr. Hudelson instead emphatically speak of the “Internationalism” and the “idealism” of those who departed. Are these two perceptions mutually exclusive? I think not. I harken back to a private conversation with Dr. Matti Kaups who had keen interest in this problem. The Finns in America had a word, *toiskielinen*, that they used among themselves to describe someone who was a non-Finnish speaker. This word

was not merely descriptive, but was loaded with the emotional history of a small people forever in the minority and potentially vulnerable to the whims of vast powers surrounding them. A long history of oppression had confirmed this attitude. The point here is that the Finnish language and collective experience was clearly understood as an inescapable and indispensable defining cultural identifier.

The Finnish experience in America was not uniform, but for some the word *toiskielinen* was reaffirmed in its negative emotional undertone. It is difficult to see how this would not have been appealed to by those seeking to entice some of the disillusioned or embittered Finnish speakers to leave for Russia. The Internationalism and idealism that Mayme Sevander talks about took on a transcending surrogate religious and class fervor, as she noted, that grew out of a common work and class experience. Finnishness was presupposed in these experiences. But is this Finnishness accurately portrayed as “nationalism.” Far better to see this contrast in the same light as we see Zionism as opposed to Jewishness. Zionists were interested in building a Jewish state. One can be Jewish without being a Zionist. Likewise, one can be incidentally an ethnic Finn and be an Internationalist without being a nationalist. It was this choice

of terms by Dr. Pogorelskin which seemed to trouble those in our audience the most.

I need not rehearse the dark tragedy that followed in the Stalinist purges, except to say that Gylling, Corgan and many others would be executed and the Russian language would be “pragmatically” imposed in the Autonomous Karelian Soviet Socialist Republic.

As a final thought, we must not overlook the 294,000 Finns who chose to remain in America, looking on in alarm as what they felt were overly idealistic or misled neighbors and family members packed their valuable possessions, liquidated their property and boarded trains to the east. What prevented those who stayed on from being open to the same appeals? In the Finnish Maple, Wisconsin, of my experience it was the freedom, classlessness, and love for neighbor, Finn and non-Finn alike, preached from the local pulpits. The social justice appealed to in these bodies transcended false economic “paradises.”

We thank both researchers for their priceless efforts and we hope both will continue to illuminate the experiences of Finns in this hemisphere.

—Jim Pellman

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE O-BHS NEWS ARE THOSE OF THE WRITERS ALONE AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO REPRESENT OFFICIAL POSITIONS OF THE O-BHS ORGANIZATION.

THANK YOU

Many thank yous are in order...To:

—Former O-BHS Board Member and Vice President **Chuck Zosel** of Lake Nebagamon. Chuck served us well for a full three year term and he was instrumental in giving direction in our founding year. The programs he presented gave us a richer picture of the history of the Brule River Valley. We wish him well in his very busy “retirement.”

—Member **Lois Pollari** of St. Paul, MN for her dues and separate \$100 gift which encourages us toward the founding of our “Heritage Park.”

—Members **Charlene Harms** of Duluth, MN and **Lora Olson** of Two Harbors, MN who again purchased a half page ad promoting the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc., in the 2001 issue of the *Kalevainen*, published annually by the Knights and Ladies of the Kaleva, a nationwide Finnish-American heritage service organization.

—Members **Lucille and Ronald Born** of Lincolnwood, Illinois for their \$50 membership.

—New member **Ms. Alvina M. Britz** of Lake Minnesuing for her \$100 contribution for membership and toward work on the History of Lakeside.

—Member **Mrs. Nan Wisher** of Northland Tax Service in Brule for her merchandise order and check for \$50.00.

—Members **Mr. Fred and Mrs. Ellen Wells** of Wayzata, MN for their \$500 contribution...Last issue we erroneously gave Mr. Wells the name Franklin...

—To **all members** who have renewed their memberships for 2002.

—To **Paul Colby** and his growing list of generous Lakeside History contributors: **Ruth Ristola** for pictures; **Martha & Gene Soyring** for pictures; **Ms. Fran Carlson** for her pictures, newspaper clippings, and the beginnings of her historical research of the town

of Lakeside (1976); **Ms. Alvina Britz** for sharing her “50th anniversary album” and for clippings (see her above); **Bernice & Howard Christensen** for clippings & donating a copy for the archives; **Attorney Rick Gondik and Mr. Bill Benson** of Benson Cabinets on Highway 35 who have donated several items to our collection, among them old law volumes, and some farm items.

Paul Colby has also donated a copy of the VHS tape on the *Winter War* in Finland.

—**and who have we forgotten?**

WE CANNOT THANK YOU ALL ENOUGH FOR YOUR MEASURES OF CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT.

FUNDRAISING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

The Society now has available regional history magnets, plus Davidson Windmill memorabilia: mugs, caps and tee shirts for sale. Magnets are going for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.00, proceeds to our general fund. The Windmill mugs are \$8.00, caps, \$9.00 and tee shirts, any size, \$10, all proceeds going into the Windmill Fund.

We also now have copies of a David Noah Seis photograph of the mill for sale. This improved image comes in three sizes: 4 by 5 inches, 5 by 7 inches, and 8 1/2 by 11 inches. The smaller reproductions can also be used as post cards as each has a brief historical description on half of its reverse side. Prices are \$1.00, \$2.00 and the largest one which has no printing on it \$3.00. All are laser reproductions on card stock suitable for framing. This same improved image is now available in our magnet series. Our thanks to Noah who donated the digital image to O-BHS.

Wisconsin tax is included in all our prices. Shipping and handling for mugs, caps and tee shirts is a \$4.00 minimum. All items will also be available for purchase at our meetings, or by contacting your President at 363-2453.

COMMITTEES ON HISTORIC SITES

The Davidson Windmill Committee has not met recently but should be meeting soon. We will need to paint the mill this summer and do some careful repairs, awaiting a formal plan for the full site. Members on this important committee are Bob Aho, Alice Christensen, Gene Davidson, .Paul Marvin Hakkila, Larry Luostari, Jim Pellman, and Jackie Plunkett.

The Heritage Park Site (the first Old-Brule Town Hall site, located in Maple) Committee will continue a quiet insistence on recognizing this corner lot site which is surrounded by private lands and is inaccessible from Highways 2 and F. Jackie Plunkett and Jim Pellman serve on this project's committee.

MAPLE COMMUNITY CENTER FIRE PROOF ARCHIVE ROOM

Construction of the fire proof room for storage of archives at the Maple Community Center is nearly complete. At our coming meeting we will organize a committee to handle and catalog the items in our growing archives which we will be placing in the files and on shelves there. Our thanks to the Town of Maple and to Chairman Gary Saari who has been putting in extra effort to bring the construction of the room to a close. Our thanks, too, to Maple Supervisor, Doug Montavon, Paul Hakkila, and Marvin Haukkala for their work, and to J. R. Jensen and Sons for use of their equipment for hanging gypsum board. Thanks to Jackie Plunkett and to Alice Christensen who have offered filing cabinets for the space. Finally, thanks to Douglas County and to Supervisor Tony Coletta for the program of financial support the County has provided. We also want to thank Audrey Hakkila who was first in line to offer to do archival work. We welcome other volunteers to help in this important part of our efforts.

Area History: No. 23

The East Cloverland Improvement and Co-operative Fair Association - Part II

In this summary and compilation I have extracted from the minutes significant events and activities, leaving spellings and wording close to the original. It is important to correlate these tragic events with the takeover of the Waino hall by the communist faction during the same period leading to the formation of the Brule Cooperative Park. Editor.

Early in 1926 the East Cloverland Improvement and Co-operative Fair Association began its activity, holding its sessions in Cloverland's King School. Apparently there was an even earlier community club named the “Cloverleaf Club” with dues of \$1.00/year (Oct. 7, 1927 minutes). It was proposed in their February 27, 1926 minutes “that names of the members of the

club be sent to the Telegram.” Matt O. Burhans acted as Secretary. Apparently a highlight of the early meetings were debates on topics of the day, the topic for the February 27, 1926, was the merits of “Pedigreed animals.” The meetings sometimes opened with a patriotic song and eventually entertainment was secured for every third meeting, with the debates to continue at each meeting. In August the club carefully divided expenses for a jointly owned hog. With a fair planned for September 3rd of that year the local 4-H club was invited to the planning meetings. At the December meeting motion carried to build a “community hall” near the King schoolhouse. This was on leased land.

Some memberships mentioned throughout the minutes (with some varied spellings):

S. E. Thoreen, Earl Thoreen, M. O. Burhans, Wm. O. Smith, Robert H. Rutledge, W. M. Fitz Gerald (Will Fitzgerald), E. R. Fitz Gerald, Wm. Nyquist, W. Meyers, Bachus, Martin Martensen (Martinson, [gave program on how a farm is in Denmark] [Ida and Viola Martinsen gave song]), Frank Saxe (Sacks), Gust A. Swensen [gave talk on the farming methods of North Dakota Oct. 1928], Wm. (Bill) Garz, Fred Bartholomew, Lyel Bartholomew, F. Hoefling, John Walz, George Dunlap, Pearson, Emerson, Charley Shultz (on the “McNarry Haugen Bill”), Carl Oberg, Carl Joseps (Josephs) [steps down from Fair board Oct. 1928], Sam Heuman (Human), Henry Olson, Stagemier, Chas. Ovis, V. (Vess) A. Martin, Saul M. Martin, Dick Shulitze (Shultz), Karl Garz, Mr. Walker, Mr. (Art) Brackett, Miss Junty [Juntti] to lunch committee, Sept. 27 1929, with Dutch (Dorothy) Linton [as helper], Bill Linton, Mr. Jones, Jack (J. C.) Hughes, Richard Garz, Mr. Louis Lambert, Mr. Sig Kritlow (Krietlow).

Gust A. Swensen took over as secretary in October 1926, Wm. Garz in January 1928.

The new hall building proposed was to be 30 X 50 feet.

Representative of the Iron River Packing Co. sought contracts for bean growers at Feb. 24th, 1928 meeting.

Lumber for the hall was to be from the Poplar lumber company it was decided, March 30, 1928.

Mr. Lustig gave a talk on basketball causing the group to make their hall plans even bigger, April 28, 1928.

W. O. Smith became Secretary June 29th, 1928.

On July 27, 1928 the speakers for the evening were Mr. Phil Nelson, Mr. MacPherson, Mr. Wm. Barton, and Mr. Turnbull. A harvest festival in place of the fair was held in 1928.

Signatories for the group upon incorporation: S. E. Thoreen, Dick Shultz, Gust A. Swenson, Frank Sack and Wm. O. Smith, Dec. 31, 1928.

A basket social dance was held June 21, 1929, the “players” receiving \$7.75. A second dance on July 19th left a debt of \$1.75 (“...\$1.75 in the red.”).

Cost of lumber for the hall, \$173.14. Insurance by Mr. Golder.

A board of six Directors was elected after legal incorporation.

On September 27, 1929 John Tura [Tuura] and Christ Lustig asked permission for membership and were approved.

Gust A. Swenson became Secretary again in October, 1929, and Bob Rutledge became president. After a term Thoreen was returned to office.

November 5, 1930, King School: “Special meeting of the East Cloverland farmers Club called by Mr. Rutledge. There was an delegation from Waino and vicinity for the purpose of finding out the feeling of the people of East Cloverland about the farmers club of Waino joining in with us, and also getting an estimate of what it would cost to complete our hall. At the end of the meeting the Representatives from Waino invited us to come to their meeting on Nov. 7. Pres. Rutledge appointed Mr. S. E. Thoreen and Gust Swenson to meet with the neighbor of Waino.”

December 22, 1930, King School: “...By law of farmers club at Waino read to members of this club and visitors. Vote was taken about making one bylaw to work for both the Cloverland & Waino clubs. Motion made and second to have a meeting to work out a by law for the 2 clubs. Motion made and second comity (committee) set a date for meeting. Motion made we meet at Waino on New Years Night of Dec. 31st. Lunch was served at 10 cents per lunch. Received for lunch \$4.35.”

On January 30, 1931 a box social and dance was planned for Feb. 20, 1931. [baskets purchased, Mr. Brackett named auctioneer of the boxes]. Debated that meeting: Affirmative: (Thoreen) Would higher wages to the labor classes help the present economical depression; Negative: (Swenson) Higher wages would not help unless all other things were adjusted accordingly.

On Feb 15, 1931 a Directors’ meeting was held at the Secretary’s house to decide where to get lumber for the roof of the hall building. Motion passed to buy 1000 board feet from John Tura [Tuura] for \$16.50 delivered.

On Apr. 14, 1931 a special meeting of members and workers to consider ways and means to control ownership of the hall in favor of the workers that built the hall building. An amendment to the bylaws was passed, mortgaging payment of 35 cents per hour for labor, and 50 cents per hour for leaders in construction, to be paid after the lumber was paid.

List of items gotten in Superior for prizes and s.o.f. for masquerade ball on October 31, 1931:

Roth Brothers, \$5.00 cash.	1 Silver belt buckle
1 Table cloth from the Evening Telegram	1 Safety Razor setl the Evening Telegram
1 Cream pitcher and sugar bowl	1 Camera from Prist Drug Co.
1 Flashlight Bingham Hardware Co.	1 Percolator. Johnson hardware
1 Jar Cold cream	1 Roll mulehide paper. Shearer Tomlinson lum co.
1 Table on stand	1 Roll heavy paper
Piano stool	

On November 6, 1931 the first recorded (membership) meeting was held at the new hall.

On December 4, 1931 a special meeting was called to settle the account from the last dance. It was also supposed to meet a delegation from Waino Club about making some arrangements about dance dates for the clubs.—But the Waino people did not show up. It was later decided a committee of 3 consisting of Thoreen, Kritlow and Dick Garz meet their committee at a later date. Edwin Pearson, Albert Vettelson and Chas. Croquet were accepted as members.

On December 18, 1931 the annual meeting was held. Roll call taken: Mr. & Mrs. Thoreen, Mr. & Mrs. Hoefling, Dick Garz, William Garz, Carl Garz, Earl Fitzgerald, J. C. Hughes, Lou Lambert, Vess Martin, Frank Sacks and Gust Swenson. Motion was made and passed to give Carl Garz a \$10 Christmas present (for janitorial work?). It was agreed that 4 teams and a few men get up some wood. The Chair appointed Lou Hoefling and J. C. Hughes to see Mr. Hall, manager of Lake Superior Lumber yards in Brule to make plans to raise the ceiling in the hall. New members accepted: Milton Anderson, Fred Milton, Ray Carlson, Rolland W. Mellon, A. W. Lundgren, Eric Pearson, Mike Loos, Jr., George Grandish, Jack Linton, Floyd Carlson, Fred Herzog, Sigfred Swanson, Dan Daly?, G. Bustrak, Ed. W. Peterson, Lyn Walker, Herbert Bysted, Dutch Linton.

On December 20, 1931: It was planned and agreed to hold a dance on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th. It was agreed to hold a masquerade ball and opening dance on April 9, 1932. It was also agreed to hold a dance on or about Decoration Day, dance to be on Sat. Ev. May 28. Also a July 4th dance was planned.

On April 22, 1932 a directors meeting was held at the hall regarding construction of entryway to hall. Also approved was payment for 1 baseball suit of the Brule ball club in exchange for their "ad" on the said suit.

On April 29, 1932 a directors meeting was held to discuss the lease for the hall property and new construction of stage and kitchen.

On May 27, 1932 at a regular monthly meeting more discussion took place on the additions. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm. Gust Swenson, Secretary.

On May 28, 1932 a special meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. in order to discuss the fire at the hall. "Statement by Mr. Thoreen: as he was passing the school house he seen 2 fellows on the kind of west end of school house and as he came they was walking toward the south side of school house, but it was too dark to see who they was. —so he just walked on and went home to bed. We 4 that was walking north Carl & Dick Garz got home, and was just going to bed when he happened to look out and see the fire. They got ready at once and went and jumped in the car and drove over there. Mr. Martinson they claim was there trying to put out the fire and Carl Garz claimed that the paper on the west end was burned off and it was burning in the wood on the west and southwest corner of the hall and it looked to them that it started in the west end from cause unknown. Frank Sack he did not get home before he heard some one call fire fire, with all the force they could. Well he looks around sees light up by the hall, and started to run back to the hall but when he got there the whole hall was ablaze and no one could tell where or how it got started. Gust Swenson, the 4th one that went north was also most home when I also heard the call fire fire and from where I was I could see a strong, bright flame, but as I was watching the fire seem to die down somewhat, but I made up my mind to take my record book home, and there out across the field so I did, and when I got where I could see I seen that the fire was gaining and what was burning was the hall building, but when I got to Mr. Martinson's place I stopped there as I seen that it was nothing I could do. I stopped to see if Martinson's needed any help. So seen nothing before the building was well burnt down. Bill Garz was over there also but he came later after his father and brother. Others that was there at the fire was Mr. & Mrs. Emmerson Bartholomew and a Mrs. Johnson I think the name was. The board am sending work to Allen T. Golder Insurance man in Superior, also to the town fire marshall." Gust Swenson, Secretary.

On June 8, 1934 at a meeting held at Swensons, Thoreen presiding, Gust Swenson, Secretary, requested the organization loan him \$200 for five years at 5 percent interest per year, loan secured by a mortgage on 17 acres adjacent to the three acres purchased for a new hall. No more meetings until August 1937.

On August 15, 1937 at a meeting called by the Secretary another request was made for a loan, this time \$200 by the

Secretary, with the same terms. This was approved. No more meetings until March 1939.

On March 12th, 1939 an annual meeting was called by the Secretary. All members were named directors. No more meetings until October 1947.

On October 1st, 1947 at a meeting with all members present, Thoreen presiding, Gust A. Swenson as Secretary, writing in a shakier hand, tells that there is \$314 in the treasury. His loan interest rate is reduced from 5 to 2 percent. It is thought that the three acres owned by the group could be traded with Willard Oberg in exchange for the School grounds. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

That same month a new club headed by Harold Bysted called the "Cloverland Community Club" was independently formed in the region organized around the King School which was being abandoned by the Cloverland School District. Early in their meetings merger with the "old club" was discussed and approved. In its new incarnation the old group would make it to the threshold of the Twenty-First Century. However, unless some local youth or organization renews the latter organization, its days, too, are numbered and the old King School is in danger of being lost. Editor.

O-BHS NWHS SCHOLARSHIP

We again are sponsoring the O-BHS Northwestern High School Scholarship. The amount to be given this year remains at \$250. If you know a soon to be graduating senior, please encourage them to apply through the guidance office at Northwestern High School.

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc., Christmas Meeting December 12, 2001, Brule Town Hall

6:30 p.m. pot luck supper and gift exchange-purchasing for fund raising

Meeting

I. Call to Order:

Welcome by the president, Jim Pellman, with a moment of silence in thankfulness and remembrance of Service men and women. Lunch was served.

II. Business meeting: Attendance: 36

- A. Minutes were taken at last meeting by Minerva Johnson. Minutes were printed in last issue of *O-BHS News*, voice approved.
- B. Financial Report: Checking: \$1,537; Windmill Account: \$3,313.65.

Delores Pellman moved we accept the Treasurer's Report with a further, detailed report to be given at the annual meeting in September. Motion carried.

C. Old Business:

No action taken on Heritage Park.

Davidson Mill permanent road signs yet to be ordered.

Site plan not finalized for flag pole and tree locations and fences.

Jim said it looks like the Town of Lakeside will contribute monies. Hopefully they will be able to help with the lawn surface too.

Regional history gathering committee reported. Paul Colby is actively conducting research on the Lakeside area.

Centennial Homes/Farms were discussed. No new candidates yet but Jim will contact the Town and Village boards with information once the new 2002 Centennial forms are sent to him.

D. New Business:

The Brule History Research Group Chair, Laila Magnuson, presented the O-BHS with it latest calendar.

The upcoming meeting will be Wednesday, February 13, which is Ash Wednesday so final plans are yet to be made. The location to be Lakeside Town Hall and the speaker if possible Patrick Labadie, Mae Johnson back up
Jim Pellman second back up.

Hospitality Committee yet to be determined. May be pot luck bars, cakes and coffee.

Cards for reporting volunteer hours in the name of O-BHS were passed out and discussed.

Report given on progress at the Maple Community Center Archives.

Audrey Hakkila will chair Archive Committee.

Suggestion for silent auction in February, as part of fund raising. Also, the magnets will be on sale at the next meeting.

Nancy Moreland cards were discussed. No action was taken. Judy Carlson cards also suggested by Alice Christensen.

Regional History Gathering Committee.

Future programs:

A summer program is suggested to be held at the Cloverland Community Club was proposed. Velma, Jerry, Jim, Laila, Paul and Emogene McGrath were named to a committee to study a program on Education.

Jim Martin presented the situation at the Cloverland Community Center which led to their donating their records to our archives. We will investigate how to help the remaining members of the Club with the King/Harvey School property.

Suggestion by Minerva Johnson to hold a history paper writing competition in the High School. \$50 savings bond as prize.

E. Adjournment:

Larry Luostari moved we adjourn and Delores Pellman seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

The program was Dr. Alexis Pogorelskin talking on her findings on the subject "Karelian Fever." A lively question and answer time was held after the presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

Hope Swenson, Secretary

Calendar:

February 3-17, Fairlawn, 2nd Flr., PBS 8's "Celebrate a Northland Treasure", annual High School Art & Essay Contest.

February 6, 7-9 pm, WITC, Douglas County Sesquicentennial Project "Brainstorming Session," for 2004 events.

February 9, First planning meeting of 6th Annual "Chequamegon Bay Rendezvous" held June 22 & 23 at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. Wanted: participants for reenactment of "Fur Trade Era." (715) 685-2646 for details.

February 10, Sunday, 2 p.m. Village of Superior, DCHS, History Sunday, Mary Robek on "the People of Czechoslovakia."

February 13, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Lakeside Town Hall. O-BHS bimonthly meeting. Program: Lakeside History Round Table. Everyone is invited to join in this history gathering event. Please bring a friend, and goodies to share!

March 25, Monday, deadline for contributions to the next issue of O-BHS News.

April 10, Wednesday, next regular bimonthly meeting. Location and speaker to be announced. ??Mae Johnson on Middle River??

October (December?), O-BHS meeting: Mr. C. Patrick Labadie accepted invitation to speak on maritime historical topic.

WEB SITE ON LINE

Again a reminder that computer volunteer, **Mr. Dave Short** of Poplar, has designed our web site and has kept it running. It's web address remains for now <http://discover-net.net/~dshort/>. Check it out! **Donna Bergsten** has been working on site changes which will lead eventually to a changed address and to our own independent site. **Thanks Dave, Audrey, Jackie & Donna.**

Anyone interested in joining the Old-Brule Heritage Society is encouraged to attend any of our meetings and programs. To join they may contact any member or the President at the return address below, or call him at (715) 363-2453, our Secretary, Hope Swenson, at 364-2296, or our Treasurer, Alice Christensen, at 364-2535. Our annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals, and \$25.00 for families, payable at the time of our annual meeting in September. Higher levels of support are also available.

New Members and Visitors are WELCOME!

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.

Post Office Box 24

Maple, WI 54854