

O-BHS News

Volume VI, Issue 2

April 1, 2004

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2004

Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

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NEXT MEETING/PROGRAM WED., APR. 14, 2004, 6:00 PM AT THE MAPLE COMMUNITY CENTER

FOR OUR PROGRAM JIM PELLMAN WILL SHOW HISTORICAL SLIDES.

The next regular meeting of the Old-Brule Heritage Society will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2004, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Maple Community Center. Jim Pellman will give a brief history of the Old-Brule region, and he will show recently made slides, including some of copper mining sites and of logging in the area.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! PLEASE BRING A FRIEND. OUR THANKS TO THE TOWN OF MAPLE FOR THE USE OF THEIR COMMUNITY CENTER, AND THANKS TO THE MAPLE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello Everyone,

Wow! I will say it again, WOW! I have to commend the volunteers who wrote short histories of the towns and villages that were divided out of Old Brule. These articles should start appearing in the *Daily Telegram* in April. We're also placing fuller versions of all the compiled town and village histories into a book, which should be for sale at our June O-BHS meeting at the Town of Lakeside Hall. If it's not ready then, it will be for sale on June 19, at the *Juhannus Juhla* or Midsummer Celebration at the Lakeside Town Hall and Davidson Windmill grounds.

One more time, WOW! Harry Wester is now the expert on Douglas County plat books. He made maps of all the towns of old Brule and added known home occupancies from the years 1900 to 2002. He made them on 2' x 3' poster board, which we will shrink down and place into the book too. They will fold out of the book so they can be read with ease. This was a valuable contribution to our group and he deserves a round of applause. If we had hired someone to do this job it would have cost much more than we could afford. A job well done Harry! And, I'm sure his wife doesn't want to see another plat book. He's probably even dreamt about those plat books. Oh yeah, since Harry is a retired teacher he threw in histories of the towns of Bennett and Hawthorne for the newspaper and our book.

The Douglas County Sesquicentennial has really added to this project. It has given us the push we needed to finish our projects within their deadlines. Keep in mind our O-BHS book will permit more space for our town and village histories as compared with the limited space in the paper. We must also give Ron Mershart a round of applause for his books and efforts in organizing this celebration. I have enjoyed reading his book on Superior and others articles.

I was also inspired to do a Lakeside calendar this year. I really needed more time. However, I'm glad I did complete it. It was trial and error. I learned not to watch the Packers while working on it. I also had to fire my production crew, my son Trent, who is six, and skipped some months while placing the calendar together. I have started gathering pictures for next year's calendar; if any one out there has any historical pictures of Lakeside please keep our group in mind.

I actually made a computer spread sheet to keep track of the time I'm donating into the projects and other Windmill issues. Guess what? I owe my family a little trip somewhere.

Speaking of donating, I have been working with Bill Anderson of Corner Post Surveying, who's been straightening out the property lines at the Davidson windmill. We will need to address a few zoning issues before we attempt to move the donated log house to the site. Bill's donated time is valued at \$2,400 so far, and he will be wrapping the project up so we can move forward in our vision of creating an early log home site.

This past month I've been keeping my eye on all the wasted time people are spending on trying to remove the Ten Commandments from everywhere they can find it. Even if these people (ACLU & friends) don't like these monuments they should look the other way. Maybe it's their subconscious bothering them. If these people are atheists I hope they realize these are good principals to teach man to live by (obey), which does create a healthy society.

My friend in the nursing home, which I wrote about in the last newsletter, told me he gets to come home in April. I hope they're not giving him false hopes.

I'm reading a book called, "Our Homestead Story", written and published by the Castleberry's on Highway 13 (the old Astaguard-Ahola place). It's about their experiences learning to farm in Lakeside after coming from an urban lifestyle. If you want a good laugh I would recommend you read it.

Good bye, and have a safe and happy two months.

Yours truly,
Paul Colby

FROM THE EDITOR:

Yesterday evening I attended a meeting where an attempt was made, with the hindsight of four or five years, to understand what had happened at Douglas County Historical Society at the time the Society lost its lease at Fairlawn Mansion in Superior. It was a quiet, painful review, yet really a nightmare, and it did not lead to a good night's rest. The meeting was prompted by the present reluctance of the City of Superior to want to fund DCHS at all in the coming year. That reluctance seems to be a hangover from the complicated events of that painful time, even though Superior has had two mayors since.

The mission of DCHS is to preserve the history of all of Douglas County, and a tremendous part of that effort has to include the history of the City of Superior. Respecting this, through thick and thin, the City Councilors have been willing to help with the funding of DCHS for generations, even within the past few years, though at a much reduced level. But every dollar has been appreciated, and has been poured back into the community through the educational programs, and archival guardianship of the Society. Hopefully, cool minded negotiations can soon be held between DCHS, the City, and Superior Public Museums, to fully and completely resolve lingering issues generated by the dynamics and stresses of the recent past. It is going to take vision, clear mindedness, honesty, and mutual respectfulness to build a fair solution.

I offered a couple of suggestions that were intended to help clear the historical air for the long run: Superior should have a free standing non-profit organization called the "Superior Historical Society," and that new society should have its own site,

independent of the City and of the three historical properties owned and controlled by the City. This new society should be broadly concerned with the full history of the City (not with historical site management or heritage tourism) conceived independently of any other governmental region in the county. Just as each community in our Old-Brule region has its own cast of characters and story, Superior has had its own large cast. And its story is larger, much larger, and it needs to be broadly told. The outcome of the creation of such a group might be clarification of the roles of each of the history preserving entities in this county. With a clarification of roles might come a clarified, impartial systems of funding which will go a long way toward preventing the clash of personalities we have seen. The problems of the past in my estimation were problems of system, blurred and confused lines of responsibility, which invited misunderstanding and mistrust, issues of personality. The City is not the County, and the County is not the City. They are parallel communities, share much, but are distinct. We, especially, living outside of the City boundaries can clearly see this.

I would hope that in the near future we might see a league of independent historical groups within Douglas County, each working independently at its own tasks, and partnering with each other and Douglas County Historical Society when appropriate to save our separate and shared pasts skillfully, economically and harmoniously.

– Jim Pellman

ARCHIVES/COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE RETURNS TO WORK.

The archives room in the Maple Community Center is slowly filling with archive material. The group would welcome other volunteers to help us in this important part of the O-BHS mission. Our current project is learning to use the computer in support of our work, scanning documents and photos and storing records and data bases. Our thanks to our loyal committee members and contributors, and to the Town of Maple for archive space. If you enjoy exacting work please join us at 1 p.m. at the Pellmans some Monday afternoon.

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.

A REMINDER: OUR NEW TREASURER, SHIRLEY KANKAS ROULEAU, IS STILL COLLECTING DUES FOR 2004. THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT!

2004 BRULE HISTORY PHOTO CALENDAR AVAILABLE.

The Brule History Research Group, organized in 1995, has produced its seventh calendar with more pictures of Brule's past. Proceeds of their annual calendar sales since 1998, when the first one was produced, will be used for the publication of the history of Brule.

To order a calendar by mail, please write or call Janet Follis, P. O. Box 114, Brule, WI 54820 (715) 372-4948 (\$7.50 postpaid), or pick them up locally for \$6 from a BHRG member or at Twin Gables, Lori's Store, River House and Round Up North. An e-mail address: knmo@baysat.net.

(Unapproved) MINUTES OF THE O-BHS MAR. 3, 2004, BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE PELLMAN HOME IN MAPLE.

Present: Karin Colby, Eddie Walman, Jim Pellman, Paul Colby, Janine Seis, Shirley Kankas-Rouleau, Norma Lind, Mary Ann Gronquist, and Harry Wester.

- The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Paul Colby. Minutes were read from the previous Board Meeting. One correction was made regarding our income tax status – should have been the Federal IRS, not the State. Motion by Jim, seconded by Janine to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

- Financial Report – income for March was \$30.00 in memberships, a donation from Lois Pollari for \$1000, which was put into the Mill fund so that it would draw more interest, \$10.00 memorial for Ailie Makela, and interest of \$2.44. Expenses were \$65.31 for color and black and white map copies, and \$42.95 to LaVerne LaPole for poster boards for Sesquicentennial town and village exhibits. Balances were \$6,124.53 in the Mill Fund and \$2,121.66 in checking. Motion made by Jim, seconded by Janine to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.
- Old Business: Paul reported that the Mill site was surveyed by Bill Anderson (at no charge) and it was found that there is an error in the zoning of the property. It is zoned A-1, which requires at least 5 acres for subdivision. There is only 1.35 acres, and it needs to be rezoned as C-7 (Commercial) to comply, or a variance could be applied for. The parcel is in violation of State and County subdivision ordinances. Mr. Anderson has provided at least \$2,400 worth of services, so it was suggested to provide him with a free membership to O-BHS and newsletter acknowledgment of his services. A motion to that effect was made by Janine, seconded by Eddie. Motion carried.
- Tabled matter of *Wisconsin Trails Magazine* was raised. Lacking time we will not sell subscriptions.
- Paul has access to an old photo owned by Elmer Hermanson which he will take a picture of for the archives.
- The laptop computer is not in yet, but the digital camera is at Jon Winter's place of business, available for use by OBHS.
- Audrey Hakkila has received forms from General Mills' website regarding grants available. An audit of our organization would be required in order to apply.
- Discussed putting an article in the Daily Telegram asking for pictures of Taylor's Bridge for use in our magnet series, when it was in place and in use. Alice may have a lead on descendants of the Taylor family. Jim will write the article if needed. The DCHS has some pictures of the bridge if we cannot find any others.
- The Archives Committee has met. They are scanning and inventorying the Follis papers and other papers and pictures. Ten archival boxes have been ordered.
- The Sesquicentennial Committee will meet at LaVerne and Bud LaPole's on Mar. 27th at 1 p.m. to work on plans for the Midsummer festivities. Kathy Laakso of the DCHS will be invited to explain the plan for a time capsule to be placed at the Windmill site. A motion to take part in this time capsule placing with the DCHS was made by Norma, seconded by Karin; Motion carried.
- Pioneer families are invited to register their family information during the Sesquicentennial Year at the DCHS. Must have documents to prove their existence at least 100 years ago.
- All town and village histories in the Old-Brule region for the press and our book have been secured with the exception of Cloverland, Amnicon and Highland. Janine and Karin will contact the owners of Gopher Hole to get some Highland history. Alice Christensen is working on Amnicon. Jim will further investigate Cloverland, trying to locate Ed Pearson's article.
- Jamie Erickson has volunteered to help with work on the website.
- Shirley delivered OBHS flyers to the Bong Center and Chamber of Commerce Info Desk. The Chamber would need 500 for one season. Could be copied on the computer as needed.
- Harry Wester's maps have been copied at ShelDon printers. We discussed the publishing of the book containing the histories of all the towns and villages in the Old-Brule region.
- Shirley reported on memberships that have been renewed or paid. A reminder letter to be sent to some, and same placed in newsletter.
- We discussed the tour of the Percival Mine in Waino, possibly May 16th at 1:00 p.m. with May 23rd as a rain date. Dickie Tuura would be contacted to confirm these dates.
- New Business: Jim will show slides of historical places in the area at the April meeting at the Maple Community Center. Karin Colby reported that the Maple Town Hall reservation is secure.
- Jim replied to two letters from the DOT regarding information on historical sites along Highway 27, including schools, a church and Indian sites.
- A rebate check was received in the amount of \$15.00 for members of OBHS who have paid membership to the State Historical Society.
- A history of the Kaarto family of Lakeside has been received, and will go into our next newsletter.
- Jim received a list of upcoming Historical Society workshops in Madison and Sheboygan. He passed around publications he has received, including Badger History Bulletin, Exchange, Minnesota History Interpreter, Now and Then, Forward in Flight, and Wisconsin in Print.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Ann Gronquist, Secy.

A CALL FOR LOCAL SESQUICENTENNIAL HISTORIES

The Book Writing Committee of the OBHS Sesquicentennial Committee working to commemorate the Sesquicentennial or 150th birthday celebration of the founding of Douglas County and its County Seat in Superior is asking for historical articles, photos and materials from anyone on any topic which will help illuminate our past. These materials will be integrated into our book on regional history.

Submissions can be sent immediately to Jim Pellman, 11221 E. U.S. Highway 2, Maple, WI 54854 or via email to musketeer6@juno.com Please let the Committee hear from you !

**(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES
 OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. REGULAR MEETING
 FEBRUARY 11, 2004, BRULE TOWN HALL**

6:00 p.m.

Attendance: 22

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by 2nd Vice President, Janine Seis, who presided briefly until President Paul Colby arrived.

II. BUSINESS MEETING:

A. MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes as printed in the newsletter was made by Jim Pellman, seconded by Norma Lind. Motion carried.

B. FINANCIAL REPORT: Treasurer Shirley Kankas –Rouleau reported that there is \$2,033.14 in checking and \$5,112.55 in the Windmill account. Receipts included \$45.00 in memberships, and expenses totaled \$122.55. There are still members with dues unpaid. Motion by Laila Magnuson and seconded by Irene Parenteau to approve the Treasurer's reports. Motion carried.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. DAVIDSON WINDMILL: SITE STATUS: President Paul Colby reported that the survey of the mill site will be done at no cost by Bill Anderson. If he has not completed it by the end of February, Paul will contact Hugh McDonald. The next workday at the mill will be May 15th. There will be free tee-shirts for volunteers. The Windmill Committee will meet on April 3 at the Mill at 10:00 to determine what materials are necessary for repairs, followed by a meeting at noon at Delores Pellman's home. Scaffolding will be needed. The workday rain date is May 22nd.

2. FUNDRAISING: Jim asked if anyone has pictures of Taylor's Bridge when it was in place to be used for magnets. There was a discussion of what grants might be available, including Wisconsin Humanities Council and Conoco-Philips. Also discussed contacting Mr. Tony Richards at the Taco Plant in Poplar. The Board will pursue it.

3. ARCHIVES COMMITTEE: This committee will meet again 1 p.m. on Feb. 16th at Delores Pellman's home. Jim suggested the purchase of archival storage boxes. A motion to purchase ten acid-free archival storage boxes before our next meeting in April was made by Jim. Janine Seis seconded. Motion carried.

4. BRULE HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP: Laila Magnuson reported that she had calendars available for purchase at the meeting, and that the group would be working on a 2005 calendar. is planned, featuring old Webster's Store in Brule.

5. SESQUICENTENNIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

MIDSUMMER EVENT: The Committee will meet at LaVerne LaPole's home on March 27th to plan the midsummer activities at the Lakeside Town Hall and Mill. Meeting is at 1:00 p.m.

PUBLICATIONS: Some town histories have been completed to be submitted to Dr. Ron Mershart for publication in the *Daily Telegram*. Jim has done Maple's, Paul has done Lakeside's, Audrey Hakkila had done Poplar's. Cloverland history done by Edwin Pearson may be available at the Iron River Historical Society where he was a member; also Oscar Anderson has a copy of a later Cloverland history. Jim will check on these and also contact Larry Luostari. Alice Christensen will be contacted about the Amnicon history. Harry Wester possibly will do the Bennett history and will contact someone regarding Hawthorne's. Need someone for Highland. Minerva Johnson will be doing Brule's, and Shirley will do Lake Nebagamon's using the existing history already done. Articles can be 750 words or 3 double-spaced pages, plus one picture for the Telegram articles. Those used in our book will be longer as they are available. The articles can be sent to Jim Pellman. Harry Wester has completed his town plat maps and will leave them to be copied, etc. The copies will eventually be stored in the Archive Room.

TIME CAPSULE: Jim reported that the Douglas County Historical Society has tentatively planned for a time capsule headed up by Jackie Plunkett, and would like our organization to join them and bury it at the Windmill. Paul has Schedule 40 plastic materials that could be used for the capsule.

6. COMPUTER / SOFTWARE / WEB SITE: Paul reported that the laptop computer that was ordered is on back order. The camera is at Jon Winter's home. The web site is being worked on. New web address: www.oldbrule.org.

7. NEWSLETTER: The deadline is March 15th for the April issue.

8. PUBLICITY: Jim Pellman will distribute our brochures to the Bong Center and the Chamber of Commerce in Superior.

9. MEMBERSHIP: Letters have been sent to encourage members in arrears with dues.

10. OTHER: None.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. COMING MEETINGS: The next meeting will be held at the Maple Community Center on April 14th at 6:00 p.m. An open house of the Archives will take place. Jim will be in charge of the program (historical slides and talk). Harry Wester offered the Bennett Town Hall as a meeting place in the future. Karin Colby turned in the agreement for the use of the NW Elementary School for the annual meeting on Sept. 11th.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

F. COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Jim read a letter from the Wisconsin DOT concerning road construction on Highway 27 in 2006. Studies will include archaeological and historical site surveys. He will respond for OBHS.

2. Treasurer Shirley K. Rouleau reported that she received a letter from the IRS regarding our tax exempt status. A review is pending which will determine if we are a publicly supported organization or a private foundation.

3. A letter was received from Francis and Colleen Orval giving more Maple history. A suggestion was made to try to get him to speak at a later time if possible.

4. Laila Magnuson reported on information from Ruth Guhl concerning a website that has information on homesteads.

5. NEXT BOARD MEETING: Will be held on May 12th at the home of Paul Colby, 2479 S. Middle River Road north of Highway 13 in Lakeside, at 6:00 p.m.

G. ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Shirley, seconded by Audrey, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Lunch was served by the Brule Area Hospitality Committee. Many thanks to them.

III. PROGRAM: The Archives Committee had tape recorders available for anyone wishing to record history. A computer was ready to scan photographs and documents. Histories were taken and photos copied. Thanks to LaVerne LaPole for her photos, Arnold Saari for his oral history contribution. Other valuable contacts were made. Thanks everyone!

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Gronquist, Secretary

FUNDRAISING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

The Society 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. A new order of shirts has a new enlarged design thanks to Bob Aho and was popular at our Midsummer and Bayfield Apple Festival Weekend Windmill Tours.

Available also are copies of a David Noah Seis photograph of the mill for sale. This 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 image is 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 and at the Lakeside Town Hall and Windmill at the Sesquicentennial Event, June 19th.

Area History: No. 37

EDWARD KAARTO FAMILY HISTORY IN LAKESIDE 1900.

By Margaret Kaarto (Mrs. Fred) Johnson
with editorial footnotes by Jim Pellman.

In the early spring of 1900, the Kaarto family, consisting of Edward and his wife Emma, and small son William, arrived in Lakeside, which at that time was still a part of the town of Brule.

They had lived in Massachusetts with other friends, and had moved to Maple and other parts of the area¹.

The Kaartos arrived in Duluth by train, then came across the Lake by boat to the mouth of the Poplar River where they were met by friends, one of which was William Antilla² from Maple, who carried little William to the Peter Heikkurainen place.

Mr. Kaarto purchased 40 acres of land from the Heikkurainens, which they had homesteaded earlier³.

The Kaarto's stayed with the Heikkurainens until they had cleared a piece of land and built a log cabin. When they first moved into the cabin there was no floor, so it was covered with home woven rugs, which Mrs. Kaarto had made.

The 8th of April 1900, their daughter Marie was born.

For beds, they had ticking filled which they put on the floor at night to sleep on. Quilts were made of wool batting, which was hand carded and the covering was made from dyed flour sacks.

¹ Two of the families were John and Maria Pollari, and Frank and Josephine Lavia who settled in one of Maple's cutover sections, Section 24, in locally known "Kaskenperä," or "burn-beaten area."

² The Antilla spelling initially was "Anttila." Henry William "Bill" Antilla was the first child born within the Maple Finnish colony in 1889. If this is the same person he was only 11 years old at the time. More likely it was his father, Henry Antilla.

³ c. 1885. Heikkurainen's homestead claim was perfected July 11, 1892.

One of the families that came from Massachusetts about the same time as Kaarto's was the Rev. John Pollari⁴ [family]. At that time they did not have a church for him, so meetings were held in homes. Some families would attend from quite a distance and would spend the night at home where the meeting was held, some sleeping in hay barns or anywhere convenient, and go home the following day. Sometimes they would continue the services for two or three days. Larger supplies were brought by boat from Duluth, such as 100 pound sacks of flour or feed for chickens or whatever animals they had.

For other groceries and smaller items, the men would walk to Superior, spend the night there and carry the items home the next day in a packsack on their backs. Later there was a store in Poplar where they could get much of their provisions. That was not so far to walk⁵.

Mr. Kaarto walked to Cloquet, Minnesota, where he bought a horse and walked home with it. That was the first horse in the immediate area. From then on the neighbors all made their grocery lists and had them all brought on the same trip, which made getting supplies much easier.

The people living in the western part of the town of Brule became very upset because they were paying taxes but getting no help in building roads or schools. Edward Kaarto and Axel Dahlin got together and decided to do something about it. So they had petitions made and walked many miles, to get people to sign. When they had enough signers they took the petitions to the court house, and with John Lake as interpreter the town of Lakeside was born⁶.

⁴ Rev. Juho Pollari came to Maple in 1898 or 99 from Lanesville, Massachusetts, on Cape Anne, where he had worked in the rock quarries with other Finns. He had built a two story boarding house there but lost it when, as a Laestadian believer and speaker, he was pressured out of the community by Finnish Lutheran traditionalists. (see Waino Ray [Rajaniemi] *A Young Finn on Cape Ann*, 1998). Pollari had arrived in America in 1893, coming from Veteli, just south of Kaustinen, his wife Maria (Järvelä) from Toholampi. Pollari's mother was the daughter of well known Finnish folk church builder, Jaakko Kuorikoski.

⁵ Poplar had a general store owned by Mr. Hart and later by Thomas Doherty as early as 1885 just after the Northern Pacific was built. Finnish settlers to the north used the South Shore streams and Lake Superior to bring in supplies in the earliest days. One day, hearing a train whistle, they blazed their way to the south and "found a railroad."

⁶ The author has combined two separate efforts at town formation. Old Amnicon was first carved from old Brule in 1906. Four years later, in 1910, "Midland" separated from Old Amnicon. It appears that the name "Amnicon" initially went with the Lakeside area to the north but when this town chose Lakeside for its name Midland took back the name "Amnicon," and the name Midland disappeared. The effort which the author seems to be referring to above is this second confusing effort. See "Record of the [Douglas County] Board of Supervisors 1909-10, p. 55, entry 4, and p. 35, entry 4; and Jess M. Schuldt, Wisconsin State Planning Board, "Douglas County Historical

The neighbors built a school on the Isaac Rautio place, where William Kaarto and his brother and three sisters all went through eight grades and graduated⁷. The younger brother graduated from the Cedar Grove School.

The first year of school in that little school was in 1904, when William Kaarto started with any other children of school age in Section Six.

There were several families living on the west side of Middle River, one of which was the Matthew Hendrickson family. They had a log house there where all of their children were born including Sophia, who later became Mrs. Jacob Rautio.

In those early days there was plenty of game and fish. Venison and fish were preserved by salt putting the meat or fish in kegs or large crocks. A layer of meat and a layer of salt alternately. Potatoes were planted around old stumps. That was about the only vegetable they raised at that time.

Erosion had not begun on the South Shore of Lake Superior, so it was possible to drive with horse and wagon north from Section Six to the lakeshore⁸. Families would get together with wash tubs, boilers and wash boards and drive down to the lake, where they would build fires to heat water and wash clothes. The clothes were hung on bushes to dry. While waiting for the clothes to dry, the people would have picnic lunch, and swim or just enjoy the beach.

By the early 1930s some families purchased washing machines run by gas motors. Then in 1937 Dahlberg Light and Power in Solon Springs ran power lines from Poplar down into Section Six which changed and improved the life style considerably.

Mr. J. B. Johnson bought a piece of land south of Highway 13 and on the west side of Road D. He bought and moved a log house from the west side of Middle River onto his land, where he moved his family from Superior, May 14th, 1908⁹.

The Johnson children attended the Snowbound School in the Town of Amnicon.

Their grandson Ronald and family still live on the old home place.

Mrs. Heikkurainen was mid-wife for most babies born in Lakeside before 1910¹⁰.

Sketch," 1942, p. 11.

⁷ According to Olga Lintula, daughter of Isaac Rautio, the school was already built in 1887.

⁸ Erosion has been active geologically since Lake Superior formed. Water levels have fluctuated due to rainfall variations, slowing or accelerating erosion in cycles.

⁹ J. B. Johnson appears as owner of land at this site already in the 1906 Doenitz & Rettinghouse plat book.

¹⁰ Tilda Pellinen of Maple and her daughter, Mary (Mrs. John) Saari, were active as a mid-wives at the same time.

~ Sesquicentennial Committee Meeting Summary ~

March 27, 2004, 1 pm. LaVerne and Bud LaPole's, Amnicon.

Members Present: (11) (c) Alice Christensen, (c) LaVerne LaPole, Harry and Mary Wester, Audrey Hakkila, Jim Pellman, Paul Colby, Shirley K. Rouleau, Karin Colby, Mary Ann Gronquist, Norma Lind.

Initially discussed the articles that had been submitted to the Sesquicentennial committee/ Dr. Ron Mershart, for inclusion in the Superior *Daily Telegram*. We will be using the full text and additional materials in our book on Old-Brule regional towns and villages. Hawthorne article has not yet been published.

Planned Sesquicentennial Activities:

June 19th Midsummer Celebration (Juhannus Juhlat) Old-Brule component of the Douglas County Sesquicentennial – Davidson Windmill, Lakeside Town Hall.

1. Dignitaries? Invitations? Jim P. will write a letter to town chairmen and village presidents and City Mayor inviting their participation, requesting three items of limited volume for the capsule, and separate town, village, and city historical exhibits. Description to be given of exhibits welcomed and events planned, and DCHS partnership. Letters will go out with President Paul Colby's signature. A follow-up letter will also go out.

2. Time Capsule (Old-Brule and Douglas Countywide, including City of Superior.)

Partnership, DCHS, with participation of Gordon-Wascott, Solon Springs, City of Superior, etc.

3. Cement work and plastic pipes (two?) The Windmill committee will be charged with preparation of the concrete form and the two plastic capsules. These will be 6 inch well casing with caps, 1 permanent and 1 removable each. Windmill Committee will meet at 10:00 am at Mill and later 12:00 noon at Pellmans' on Saturday, April 3rd, to assess repairs and make plans for ordering materials.

4. Dinner menu: Mojakka (Stew), leipää (bread), etc. Created separate Food committee. Alice, Karin, LaVerne, Shirley, Mary W.,? The Food Committee will meet again on April 3rd to plan, at Alice Christensen's. Time, 1 p.m.

5. Windmill Tours: Guide duty: Jim P.: 9-12, Harry W. : 11-2, Paul C.: 2-4, Eddie W. (Spot relief man).

6. Merchandise: New magnet? Taylor's Bridge? An attempt should be made to get an image from the Peterson home movie or video of the Taylor's bridge. Alice will also contact the Lackson girls who were related.

Merchandise will be sold on mill grounds and at the Town Hall? Need to order more Windmill pictures in different sizes.

7. Exhibits (DCHS and O-BHS at Lakeside Town Hall) plus towns and villages from throughout Douglas County.

8. Publicity: Audrey will submit to regional papers, and coordinate with Kathy Laakso at DCHS.

9. Preparation of Grounds and Repair of the Mill: Set up: Windmill Committee.

Work day, Saturday, May 15th (with Rain day of May 22nd)

Schedule of Events (June 19th): Midsummer Celebration/DC Sesquicentennial

9:00 am - 4:00 pm : Tours of Windmill.

11:00 am. - Filling and Sealing of Douglas County Time Capsule.

11:00 am – 3:00 p.m.: Mojakka Dinner served at Lakeside Town Hall.

Old-Brule Region History Book (June 19th publication deadline)

1. Maps (Wester) – reduced, no color in book?

2. Publisher, Costs? Jim will investigate costs. Contents: articles on each town (our expanded versions) More research?

Cloverland article expansion. Research is underway.

Lake Nebagamon (Kay Coletta? Shirley K-R. is attempting to make contact.)

3. Photographs from each community. Photos used in displays as a base and others, plus maps.

4. Deadlines? Deadline for all submitted materials is May 1st.

Superior July 4th parade participation - Recommendation to be made at our next meeting April 14 to participate again.

1. Float? Windmill model, trailer? The same routine as last year, but with new carpet.

2. Participants. Will invite all to participate. Ernie Ronn accordion?

3. Costumes/dress? Candy?

4. Application (to Paul for agenda and presentation at May 14th General Meeting)

Sesquicentennial Committee will meet again to follow up on May 15th, the work day, or the 22nd if rain day is needed.

LaVerne served a Wonderful dessert. Thanks to her, and to all for coming.

-- Jim P. for Mary Ann G.

Notices:

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS

Thanks to all of you who have renewed your memberships for 2004.

Thanks to **Khalar** family members, **Alice Wincek** and **Marty O'Brien**, and to **Emmett Swanson, Eddie Walman, Karin Colby**, and **Janine Seis** for their efforts in gathering the interesting history of Highland. Our sympathy to the Highland community in the recent loss of **Art Khalar**.

Thanks to **Ray Sundet, Ruth and Ken Lintemann, Howard Gronquist** and **Cash and Alice Christensen** for their help in gathering material for the Amnicon History.

Thanks to **Audrey Hakkila** for her efforts on behalf of Poplar's history, and the efforts of **Laila Magnuson** and **Minerva Johnson** for the Brule history. Thanks to **Harry Wester** for his work in reporting on Bennett's and Hawthorne's pasts.

Thanks to **Paul Colby** for his work on Lakeside's history and for his calendar.

Thanks to **Gene Davidson** for more historical materials regarding his own life, his family and the Windmill.

Thanks to **Hope Swenson** for old pictures from her brother in law, **Jim (Hjalmer) Swenson's** collection.

Thanks to **Pastor Gullicksrud** and the **Congregation of Peace Lutheran Church** in Poplar and to **LaVerne LaPole** for the time capsule and contents from the abandoned **Grace English Lutheran Church in Wentworth**. These materials will be accessioned and go into the Old-Brule Archives.

Thanks to Surveyor **Gary Anderson** of **Corner Post Surveying** of Superior for his donated work at the Davidson Windmill site.

Thanks to **Gene and Martha Soyring** for many old family pictures.

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

We continue to wish Archive Committee members **Doris** and **Arnold Perala** improved health. Likewise wishes for improved health go out to **LaVerne LaPole** and to her sister **Marlene LaPole**.

-and who have we missed or forgotten?

Calendar:

April 3, 1 p.m., Saturday : Davidson Windmill, Midsummer Event, Food Committee meeting, Alice and Cash Christensen's in Lakeside.

April 3, 10 a.m., Saturday : Davidson Windmill Committee maintenance assessment at Mill. Meeting 12 noon at Pellmans to follow.

April 5, 10 - 2, Saturday: DCHS Rummage Sale.

April 12, 1 p.m., Monday : Archives Committee meeting. Pellmans. (meetings thereafter every other Monday)

April 14, 6 p.m., Wednesday : Regular bimonthly O-BHS membership meeting. Maple Comm. Center. Jim Pellman slides. Archive Tour.

May 1 : Deadline for submissions to *Old-Brule Regional History*.

May 1 - 9 : Wisconsin Historic Preservation and Archaeology Week. Northern Lakes Archaeological Society Programs at Superior Public Library and elsewhere to be announced.

May 15 : Deadline for contributions to the June issue of *O-BHS News*.

May 15, 9 a.m. Saturday : Work Day at Davidson Windmill (Rain date May 22)

May 15, Saturday : Deadline for June issue, *O-BHS News*.

May 16, 1 p.m., Sunday : Tour of Percival Mine site with Dickie Tuura, Clevedon Road. (Rain date May 23rd)

June 6, 2 p.m., Sunday : DCHS History Sunday. 1101 John Avenue. Swedish Music and History. \$2 non-members.

June 19, Saturday: Midsummer Celebration (*Juhannus Juhla*) (Tours 9 - 4 and Ethnic Dinner 11-3), Davidson Windmill and Lakeside Town Hall. Douglas County Sesquicentennial Event. Time Capsule Placing 11a.m.

September 11, Saturday, noon: O-BHS Annual Meeting, Northwestern Elementary School, Poplar.

WEB SITE ON LINE

The Website Committee has been working with member **Jon Winter** of **Winter Systems** in **Superior** on our own independent site (www.oldbrule.org). Thank you for your patience as we work to build up the site. Thanks to **Audrey Hakkila**, **Jackie Plunkett**, **Donna Bergsten**, **Jamie Erickson** and **Jon Winter**.

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) 364-2500, or our Treasurer, Shirley Kankas Rouleau, at 374-2413. 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 always welcome.

New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.

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