

OBHS News

Volume VII, Issue 1

February 1, 2005

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2005
Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

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NEXT MEETING/PROGRAM

WED., FEBRUARY 9, 2005, 6 P. M., AT THE MAPLE COMMUNITY CENTER

PROGRAM: Archaeophysicist, Mr. David Maki, will present information on his recent research on old Finnish settlement sites in the Old-Brule region.

Based in the Twin Cities, Dave has roots among the Finns of Oulu. His family has connection with NASA and the Mars Rovers. Come for an interesting session that ties our history with the physical heavens.

A BUSINESS MEETING WILL FOLLOW.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! PLEASE BRING A FRIEND.

Thanks to the Maple area members who are our main refreshment hosts for the evening.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello Everyone,

I hope your holiday season was filled with many special moments around your family and with friends. I'm sure some of you spent some extra time putting together toys and gadgets, or trying to learn some new technology, like me.

This year our society has some work ahead of us preparing the windmill site for relocating Eskolin log house. If anyone would like to volunteer or knows someone who has house moving experience that may want to help, feel free to call a board member in our group. We have a goal of relocating the log house to the windmill site by June 22.

In early December Jon Winter and I took a nice afternoon walk behind my house with Jon operating his GPS. We were looking for property line and had an easy time locating the section line due to ribbons left from past and current logging of popple. We came across a few small gut piles, remnants of the deer season, while we meandered through alder swamps and followed deer trails. We determined the section lines for Dave Maki, who will be conducting a land survey of two early homesteaders and will map out all the buildings they erected. The work Jon and I did will help Mr. Maki compose a proposal for a grant from the University of Turku, Finland. Also our group will be relating information gathered on these early settlers of Finnish descent to assist Mr. Maki in his efforts.

Our book *Wisconsin Far Northwest* has been placed for sale at Poplar Hardware, Amnicon Outdoors, R Place (Highway 13 in Parkland) and for some time, has been at the Douglas County Historical society, located in the old Vasa Temple on the corner of 11th and John Avenue. Also, we appreciate Kathy Laakso for mentioning our book in their historical society's write ups in the *Daily Telegram* and in the DCHS Newsletter. While at Amnicon Outdoors, I saw the many pictures of the two bucks with their antlers locked together. Steve Johnson locked his business' doors to search the spot the deer were last seen so he could capture his magnificent images. Two locals were quite lucky to fill their tags before the animals went to waste. My mailman told me the story how he had witnessed the deer also.

Last news letter I forgot to mention how disappointed I was that our town picnic was not scheduled. I hope one is planned this year; after all we must be saving tax dollars due to not much snow the first half of this winter. Maybe that's

why I had a three percent decrease last year, which is common when locals run the budget. And for the picnic next year we in Town can all be of assistance; I can at least flip burgers. Also, I will gather some neighbors down my road. I can bring the new couple past me; they just put up a 130 foot windmill, which could be quite the discussion at the picnic. They also have solar power. Sometimes I'm afraid to leave my outside lights on when they arrive for a visit; it makes me feel guilty after all the natural energy they're producing.

There's an individual in Lakeside who should receive recognition in our town for his past loyal service. Tim Johnson, past Chairman and Fire Chief, applied for a grant from FEMA for purchasing fire equipment. Our town received \$80,000, with the town adding ten percent of that, for his efforts. That's great, especially when I heard someone suggest a few years ago, during a town meeting, to dissolve our fire department and pay Amnicon for fire protection. It was over a heated meeting on the purchase of a new fire engine. We received a great purchase price on our new diesel fire engine due to Mr. Johnson's diligent research. And while I'm mentioning the fire department, I heard, Mr. Castleberry, is currently applying for another grant; I'm optimistic he'll come through for the town.

And while I am thanking people of Lakeside, I need to recognize Fran Carlson for gathering family histories during the 70's when she was in the Homemakers group. Her appreciated efforts have been a valuable source for historical data in *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, and for a future book of Lakeside which may be a result of her good works.

Since I mentioned a past town meeting, I will mention another of interest to me. At the 2002 Annual Meeting, we were addressing concerns about a deteriorating historical bridge in our town. After throwing around a few ideas, Robin Berglund said, "Let's repair the decking ourselves." I thought that would be a great project for our town to tackle; I know we have the people for the job. But, with all the bureaucracy and the liability issues, I knew it wasn't an option. What forces caused this to happen to us?

The Grey owls (a.k.a. the Spruce or Lapland Owl) have begun to migrate through our town in search of food. With all the snow we just received, I hope they can find their next meal.

Take care everyone, especially with thoughts of those who might need support in times of need.

Sincerely,

Paul

P.S. The new Douglas County plat book is out, and boy did the person(s) who contributed and worked on it do an awesome job (Randy Jones of Poplar?)!

FROM THE EDITOR:

I have been reflecting, as I so often do these days, this time about the strides our group has made within the biblical fullness of seven years. From the days when the Corner School All Class Reunion Committee in 1998 was gathering photographs of all the Eighth Grade Corner School graduating classes, to the failed struggle to convince the public that the soon to be abandoned Corner School building might serve the interests of history in our area. I could not foresee where this setback would lead, but I knew from the work I had already done on Maple's history, that there was a huge task ahead, if we were going to save an important amount of the fast disappearing local past, and I was only thinking of Maple. I could scarcely foresee how large a force and effort would be needed just to cover what might be considered only our "local" region. I had only dimly foreseen the full degree to which our homes, "out in the county," had been stirred into one group and shared a unique tradition.

The School District of Maple, and its "Northwestern" schools, has played a profound role in this process of mixing and group building. The flotilla of buses leaving their docks at the Northwestern bus garage each morning goes out to gather in the eager and not so eager young and brings them together, day after day, year after year, in a process that shapes not just their lives, but the lives of everyone within the range of their travels. Schools in planned and not so planned fashion, through their social mixing, produce not individual products leaving on aimless paths through the nation's vast economy, but ambassadors of our way of life, representatives of our uniqueness, fine young people, and often couples, who know and will call this area "home" for the rest of their lives, even when chasing their dreams from coast to coast.

We are just beginning. The understandings we are generating with our local work will serve those young people as they grapple with the responsibilities of freedom, something we in our small places have intimately known and loved. I was surprised the other day that the *Encyclopedia Britannica* did not have a main entry on that word, "freedom." Yet it is for this very word that some of these same young will soon be asked to risk and sacrifice their lives in Iraq and elsewhere. It was the same word that our nation's founders risked life and fortune for. Local freedom. That is the heart and soul of our task as "local historians." We must preserve and protect traditions where prestigious encyclopedias with their broad visions fall short. Local freedom and its responsibilities is our ultimate goal.

- Jim Pellman

2005 BRULE HISTORY PHOTO CALENDAR AVAILABLE.

The Brule History Research Group, organized in 1995, has produced its eighth 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.

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.

ARCHIVES/COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE.

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, storing records and creating 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. Next meeting: February 7, 2005. Please call 363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES BOARD MEETING

OLD BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC., JAN. 17, 2005, EDDIE WALMAN HOME

Present: Paul Colby, Karin Colby, Shirley Kankas-Rouleau, Eddie Walman, Harry Wester, Irene Parenteau, Marion Christensen, Jim Pellman, Earl Granroth, Alice Christensen, and Mary Ann Gronquist.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS.

II. BUSINESS MEETING: The meeting was called to order by Pres. Paul Colby at 6:15 p.m.

A. MINUTES. A motion to approve the minutes of the Nov. 17, 2004 Board minutes was made by Earl Granroth, seconded by Shirley Kankas-Rouleau. Motion carried.

B. FINANCIAL REPORT: (Nov. 17, 2004 to Jan. 19, 2005.)

Checking	\$2151.20
Mill Fund	\$7675.35
Book Sales	\$3389.36 (profit to date)

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Earl Granroth, seconded by Jim Pellman. Motion carried.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. DAVIDSON WINDMILL: Site status: We now have the deed to the land where the Mill is located. It must be used for public purposes. Regarding cedar needed for shingles to reroof the Mill, Earl Granroth has some cedar he is willing to donate. Gerald Tutor has offered to cut saw the shingles needed at no cost. The roofing job will be hired out to a contractor. There is \$100 in the roofing fund which was donated by Gene Davidson, but monies from the Mill fund can also be used. We discussed sending a letter to CheqTel regarding the problem with the fiberoptic line at the Mill site. Alice Christensen offered to talk to Bill Follis who is on the CheqTel Board of Directors about the problem. There was a discussion on signs which will need approval from the County. The Mill committee will meet on February 2 at 4:00 at Jim Pellman's to try to draw up a plan for moving the log building and putting in electricity and handicapped accessibility.

2. FUNDRAISING: Shirley received a letter from Younkers asking if we are interested in doing another fundraiser in February. The group decided to pass up this one but possibly take part in the November fundraiser. The old cars belonging to Elmer Hermanson are no longer available. No new grant will be applied for until the money from the last one is used up. Jim received a call from Reader's Digest regarding fundraising. There was no interest in

participating in this. We discussed whether to have a Midsummer dinner this year. Will bring it up at the regular meeting.

3. ARCHIVES: They are done working on the Winkka/Eric Johnson papers. Volunteers are needed to transcribe video tapes. Janine volunteered to do some of the typing. Next meeting January 24 at 1:00 p.m.

4. BRULE HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP: No report.

5. LOIS POLLARI GIFT: Need to work on plans for the scholarship well in advance of the next school year with school officials. Jim will work on getting a meeting set up.

6. COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE/WEB SITE: No progress. Paul will contact Jamie Erickson to see if she is interested in helping with it. We discussed asking the high school about helping to set up our website in their computer class. Paul will contact Jon Winter about it.

7. PUBLICITY: Bob Aho is working on the new brochures. We will be on the front page of the February issue of *The Connection* and our book is reviewed in it also and a historical article.

8. NEWSLETTER: Articles due now.

9. PUBLICATIONS: J. W. Beecroft has purchased 12 of our books, and they are also for sale at Amnicon Outdoors, Our Place Bar on Hy. 13, Poplar Hardware, and DCHS, and Shirley said the Rock Stone Gift Shop in Lake Nebagamon will take them on consignment when they open. Jim suggested making a historical map showing the cultural points of interest, such as old schools, mines, halls, parks, railroad spurs, logging camps, etc. to be included in a future book. Jim asked for a committee to work on this. It will be on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

10. MEMBERSHIPS: There are 76 paid memberships, individual, family and businesses. For those who are receiving the newsletter and have not paid their memberships, it was suggested that a notification should be sent to them that this will be their last newsletter unless membership fees are received.

11. DAVID MAKI RESEARCH: Paul Colby has heard from David Maki via E-mail. He will be here between Jan 28 and Feb. 14 to gather data to write a proposal for a grant from the University of Turku in Finland.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. COMING MEETING: The next meeting will be on Feb. 9th at Maple Community Center at 6:00 p.m.

Archaeophysicist David Maki was suggested as a speaker if he is in the area at that time. Jim will be the backup speaker. Paul will contact David Maki.

2. CENTURY FARMS AND HOMES, WISCONSIN STATE FAIR: Jim asked if there are any candidates for Century Farm award. Elsie Olson (Kirkas farm) qualifies for it.

3. OTHER: The annual report is due Jan. 31. Cards were sent to Bernice Christensen and Ernie Ronn. Will send to LaVerne LaPole, the Rinnets and Delores Pellman.

E. COMMUNICATIONS: Paul wrote a letter to DCHS thanking them for allowing us to sell our book there, and to Kathy Laakso promoting our book in her articles in the *Daily Telegram*, and congratulating them for their work with the Sesquicentennial. A letter was received from Nan Wisherd with her dues and a donation. Her book should be ready for printing in early January.

F. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Irene Parenteau, seconded by Marion Christensen to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Gronquist

FUNDRAISING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

The Society has available regional history magnets, plus Davidson Windmill memorabilia: mugs, caps and tee shirts and sweat 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. Sweat shirts, any size are \$25.00, taxes included.

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.

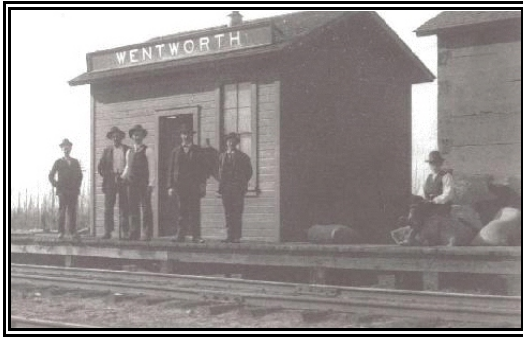
Our new book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, is available for \$20.00 a copy. \$3.00 shipping. A great gift.

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 an OBHS member.

Area History:
No. 42

Another excerpt (pages 47-51) from our new book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, “the Towns of Amnicon,” Part 3 of 3:

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*Wentworth Depot. c. 1910.
Geraldine Fechtelkötter Collection*

Besides the Finn Hall, recreational activities included target shooting and turkey shoots. Turkeys (sometimes geese) would be placed behind a board fence about two feet high, and men would buy chances to shoot at heads that appeared over the fence.

After World War II, a baseball team was formed in Amnicon which competed with teams from other communities in the area. Some of the players were Ed Seiria, Pat McDermott, Leslie, Ray and Ralph Hendrickson, Tony and Howard Christensen, Ray Tollers and Arnie Anderson. Cal Pollari would catch and pitch.

Amnicon is also the location of the beautiful Amnicon river and waterfall. The James Bardon family donated 65 acres of this land to the County in 1932 and with a matching amount from the County the James Bardon County Park was created. Unable to keep it up, the County gave it to the Town of Amnicon. Eugene David was a caretaker of Bardon Town Park, and many school picnics were held there. In 1940, Alvin E. O’Konski, who was running for Congress, held a picnic there for the local farmers. Eventually the park became too great a burden for the Town as well, and Bob Carnes, among others, pushed to make it a State park. In 1961 the park once described as “the Grand Canyon of Douglas County” became Amnicon Falls State Park. Today it has grown to 825 acres.

Wentworth is a “town within a town,” and most of the businesses in Amnicon were concentrated there, located around Wentworth Road and U.S. Highway 2. Two versions of the source for the name “Wentworth” emerge. One is that it comes from the home of Mr. Howard’s home in the British Isles. The other is that it is named for a logging and lumbering baron named Wentworth. Two stores were built in the early days. Ben Anderson’s General Store (originally Krogstead’s) was the first, on the north side of Highway 2. Mr. Anderson was also the postmaster, the post office being located in the back of his store, where Mrs. Neils Christensen (Martha) was a postal clerk around 1910. The Northern Pacific train station and depot were on the south side of the highway, and supplies for the store came in by train at first. The railroad employees, who unloaded the train, had a key to the warehouse. As roads improved, supplies came by truck.

Logistics were similar for the Co-op Store, located about 75 feet south of Ben Anderson’s Store. The first one was built in the 1920s, and the second one, built on the same location, still stands and has now become the Amnicon Town Hall and Senior Center. When groceries stopped arriving by train they were brought by returning milk trucks from Central Co-op Wholesale (CCW) at Winter Street and Tower Avenue in Superior.

In the early 1900s, Charlie Meskonas had a blacksmith shop in the same area, on the west side

of Wentworth Road. His work included sharpening plowshares and repairing farm machinery. On the other side was Jock Miller's garage, where Co-op milk trucks were parked in later years. Wentworth also had a vinery for a time, where peas were shelled for Lange and Norman LaPole's cannery in Poplar (they also owned the vinery, one of several in the area). Farmers would feed the pea vines to their cows in the winter.

Gas stations began appearing in the 1930s. One of the first was Charlie Bergren's Standard Oil Station, near the Grace English Lutheran Church (the chimney still stands). He operated it through World War II, when he did a good business selling gas to the many men who drove to the shipyards in Superior to work. Another gas station from the same era was built by R. J. Ellenson at the junction of Highways 2 and 53. This gas station also had a little store which sold candy and cigarettes. Mr. Ellenson sold the station to his daughter and son-in-law, Duane and Doris Linden and in the Fifties and Sixties it was owned by a man named Matthison. Spencer Kittelson and his brother Sanford built a gas station across the road from Ellenson's. Another gas station came to Amnicon in 1950, when Billy Barsness moved the Riverside Restaurant from Brule and converted it into what is now the Spur Station on Highway 2.

In 1945 Burt Lackson and his son George opened a garage at the corner of Lackson Road and Highway 2. George developed a reputation as an excellent welder, thanks to his vocational school training and his work in the shipyards. He used carbide and water to generate acetylene for welding, which was dangerous because a leak could cause an explosion. George worked on farm machinery and trucks, as well as endless odd jobs. It was said that he could weld or braze anything.

There were also two restaurants in Amnicon. One started out in Mae Sibila's (Johnson) yard in Rockmont in the 1950s, then was moved around 1960 by John across from what is now Rapid's Riverside. The first restaurant, however, was built in the early 1920s by Mr. Thompson. When he died his wife married Dean Moore, and they operated it for many years under the name Dean Moore's Tavern. In the 1960s it was known as Freda's, named after the woman who was the current owner, and it is still in business today as Rapid's Riverside, at the corner of Highway 2 and County Road U.

Wentworth Lumber, at the intersection of Highway 2 and Twenty-Two Road, was started in the 1950s by John Ronchi, whose sons still operate it as a pallet factory. Some locals, including Olaf Sundet and his son Ray, cut pulp wood for him at six cents a stick. He also built several houses in the area. John's father, Antoine Ronchi, came from Italy and started a farm in Berg Park, at the south end of Lackson Road, which is still in the family after three generations. Art Amys, Jr., who is a great-grandson of the original Ronchi family, is the present owner.

Three churches were built in Amnicon. The non-denominational Union Church, built in 1921, stood at the corner of Highway 2 and Lackson Road. The first minister was Rev. Taylor, and a Sunday School was organized by Mrs. T. B. Jones and Mrs. Kellogg. A woman named Alta Atwater came up from Chicago in the summer to hold Vacation Bible School. In later years, Dr. Braman, a professor from the Superior State Teachers' College (now UWS) conducted services. The church did not operate during World War II due to gas shortages, and in 1946 it was moved to Seeley, Wisconsin (near Hayward) where it still stands.

Grace English Lutheran Church was built in 1928 on land donated by Neils and Martha Christensen on Highway 2 near Wentworth Road. It was organized by Ben Anderson, Archie Johnson, Ernest Neelund, Tony Christensen and Marinas Christensen. One of the early ministers was Reverend Juviland, and another was Rev. Fiskerbeck. This church closed in the 1970s. It has since been converted to a home. There was also a Seventh-Day Adventist Church and school, located on Middle River Road. Carl Peek was the minister at one time, and about ten families worshiped there, among them the Glanvilles and the Magnusons.

An old family cemetery, enclosed by an iron fence, is located across from the Wentworth School. It belonged to the Nisslys, a Quaker family from Iowa, who traveled to the area in the 1920s to buy cattle. They often stayed at the Neils Christensen farm, and bought cattle from Neils and his

brothers Tony and Marinas, as well as from Henry Hendrickson. In the early years of their business they shipped the cattle on the train from Wentworth, and later used cattle trucks.

The original Wentworth School burned down in the spring of 1932, and a new one was built that summer on the same location. This building still stands on Schools Road. Teachers boarded at Charlie Bergland's and Marinas Christensen's.

Today both the NP (1985) and the DSS&A (1935) railroads and their depots are gone, as are all the dairy farms, the post office and the blacksmith shop of early memory. The NP grade has become part of the Tri-County Corridor which serves a growing tourist economy. The Middle River Health and Rehabilitation Center, once the county run Middle River Sanitarium, and later Health Center, now functions under private management. The Wentworth School is now a private home, and gone are the much earlier one room school houses with colorful names like Monticello, Rockmont, Snow Bound, and Riverside. Gone, too, are the two churches, and the stills that gave Moonshine Road its name, as are the Finnish idealists who left for Soviet Karelia in the Depression of the 1930s. Yet Amnicon still remains the cherished home of many and a vital local place in a vastly changed world.

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Notices:

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS:

To **All of You** who have renewed your memberships or who have recently joined OBHS (Some will receive their membership cards with this issue.)

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

CONGRATULATIONS:

To **Nan Wisherd**, on the publication of her book, *Pathways: the Earliest History of Northern Wisconsin's Brule Region*. She has offered to let us print portions of the text which should be an interesting and colorful study.

ENCOURAGEMENTS:

To Member, **LaVerne LaPole** as she continues her regimen of healing.

To Members, **Doris and Arnold Perala** as they continue to support each other in health matters.

To **Ernie Ronn**, Brule History Research Group Secretary, who created wonderful accordion music the past two Fourth's of July on our float, and wife **Leona**, as he faces health issues.

To Members, **Mary Ann and Jack Gronquist**, who are on the mend.

To Member, **Delores Pellman**, as she recovers from vitreal eye surgery.

BEST WISHES:

To past Vice President, **Lois Pollari, and her family**, as they hold a benefit for her daughter **Anne** with ALS.

To Treasurer, **Shirley Kankas-Rouleau**, for a safe flight and happy winter visit with family in the Boston area this month.

-and who have we missed or forgotten?

Calendar:

February 2: Ground Hog Day. Wednesday, 4 p.m. Windmill Committee at Pellman's

February 7, 1 pm., Monday, Next Archive Meeting, Pellman's in Maple.

February 8: Mardi Gras.

February 9, 6 p.m., Next Regular O-BHS Meeting, Maple Community Center. Program: David Maki, "Archaeophysics and Early Regional Finnish Sites." **Ash Wednesday.**

February 14: Valentine's Day.

February 21: Presidents' Day.

March 9, Wednesday: Next O-BHS Board Meeting..

March 16: St. Urho's Day, Wednesday. Deadline for next issue of *O-BHS News*.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day.

March 27: Easter Sunday.

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 **Mr. Robin Berglund** who has recently offered to help with our site and especially **Audrey Hakkila** for her efforts..

LAKESIDE HISTORY TO BE GATHERED AND WRITTEN

President Paul Colby has asked us to post a message announcing that there will be a meeting at the Lakeside Town Hall at 1 pm on Sunday, February 20, 2005, to begin the process of gathering the Town of Lakeside’s history in preparation for writing and publishing a book on the Town. Discussion will also include the issues of publication. Everyone with interest, insights, and historical materials is asked to attend.

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.
Post Office Box 24
Maple, WI 54854

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Addendum to the February 1, 2005, O-BHS News, Vol. VII, Issue 1.

(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.
DEC. 8, 2004, MAPLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Attendance: 26
Time: 6:00 p.m.

This being our Christmas meeting a great potluck dinner was enjoyed by all.

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Paul Colby. A moment of silence was held for those we have lost in the past year. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Norman LaPole for his service to 0BHS.

II. PROGRAM: Audrey Hakkila presented the second half of a VCR tape of the Clifford Peterson home movies, followed by a talk and photo display by LaVerne LaPole on her recent trip to Finland.

III. BUSINESS MEETING:

A. MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of the October 13th regular and Nov. 17 Board meetings was made by Jim Pellman, seconded by Margie Koskie. Motion carried.

B. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Checking Account Balance: \$1439.30

Mill Fund Balance: \$7618.62

Treasurer Shirley Kankas reported that \$235 additional money has come in from the Younkers sale. Irene Parenteau, Minerva Johnson and Hope Swenson were thanked for their work at the sale. Another sale is planned for February

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. DAVIDSON WINDMILL: Paul Colby reported that work on the mill site is done for this year. He reported that there is some mouse damage on some of the trees that were planted. About 55 yards of gravel have been removed from the site, but work was halted due to the problem with the fiber optic line and the fact that the DOT deed is not in our hands yet. Paul missed a call from Kenneth Thimm from the DOT and he will call him back. He will check with Bill Anderson to see if he will make a site map of the area to show the plan for the site. Hopefully we can get the building moved before Midsummer 2005 (June 21). Del Carlson will do the dozing. Regarding the signs, Michael Bowker of the DOT has not returned Paul's call. The signs were not purchased through the DOT, rather from Mobil Image. Still no permission for putting up the signs from the DOT. The lot must be commercially zoned to put up signs.

2. FUNDRAISING: The Bob Jauch Windmill photo cards are now available. A new fund for a new roof has been started with a donation of \$100 from Gene Davidson. It will probably have to be done professionally. It needs to be done with sawn shingles. Several sources were discussed. The matter was tabled. Taylor's Bridge colored magnets are available for \$1.00. The Town of Lakeside has again donated \$250. Paul has taken pictures of Elmer Hermanson's cars but there may be competition as others are interested. Paul will check further with him.

3. ARCHIVES COMMITTEE: The committee meets every other week at the Pellman home on Mondays. Additional volunteers are welcome. Follis and Winkka papers are still being worked on.

4. BRULE HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP: Laila Magnuson reported that the first book about Brule will be entirely Nan Wisherd's project. The second book will include family histories and information on businesses. Laila told us that her brother Ernie Ronn has been diagnosed with lymphoma. Our best wishes for his recovery. A card has been sent to him.

5. WEBSITE: No change. Paul will contact Jon Winter again.

6. PUBLICITY: Jim reported that J. W. Beecroft has sold several copies of our book and may be requesting more. Jim asked if anyone would be interested in going with him there for a book-signing and promotion of the book. Harry Wester was suggested. The *Connection* will have a review of our book. Paul will resubmit an article to the *Daily Telegram* along with a picture. The new brochures have been edited and should be ready in January. Deadline for the newsletter is January 15. Jim will finish the Amnicon history in this issue. Northwestern High School and staff has purchased 6 or 7 books.

7. LOIS POLLARI /ESTHER POLLARI MEMORIAL GIFT: Minerva Johnson and Hope Swenson were asked to contact the schools about a scholarship competition. Dollar amount to be decided.

8. MEMBERSHIP: Volunteer cards should be turned in and go from Sept. 1 to August 30.

9. DAVID MAKI ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES: David Maki of Minneapolis will set up a proposal for a grant for research of Finnish settlements in the area from Turku University in Finland. Jon Winter will try to plot out a homestead in Lakeside using plotting software on the computer. He was suggested as a speaker at a future meeting.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. NEXT MEETING: The next Board meeting will be at Eddie Walman's in Maple on Jan. 12 at 6:00. Next regular meeting at Maple Community Center on February 9 at 6:00 p.m. Karin Colby will check into the Hall availability.

E. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Gronquist