

# OBS News

Volume VIII, Issue 5

October 5, 2006

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2006  
Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Earl Granroth, Lakeside, President  
Harry Wester, Bennett, 1<sup>st</sup> V.P.  
Alice Christensen, Amnicon, 2<sup>nd</sup> V. P.  
Karin Colby, Maple, Secretary  
Jackie Plunkett, Maple, Treasurer

Irene Brazill, Lakeside  
Marion Christensen, Superior  
Jack Pank, Parkland  
Irene Parenteau, Superior

Hope Swenson, Lakeside  
Paul Williams, Lakeside  
Mary Wester, Bennett, Alternate  
Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

## OCTOBER O-BHS REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>, 6:00 P. M., AT THE BRULE TOWN HALL.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN WITH OUR SPEAKER, JIM PELLMAN, WHO WILL INTRODUCE OUR 2007 OLD-BRULE HISTORICAL CALENDAR. HE WILL SHOW SLIDES OF THE CALENDAR'S CONTENTS. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A POT LUCK LUNCH. OUR REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING WILL CLOSE OUT THE EVENING.

**ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE WELCOME!**

**Thanks to Town of Brule for use of their Town Hall, and to all those who serve us in the kitchen, and to those who bring refreshments to share.**

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Greetings,

First, thank you for the sincere expressions of sympathy that you have all shown my wife and me with the loss of my brother, Edward, even though many of you did not know him. The comments that many of you made about what you remember about Edward and my parents have been uplifting, and very informative. It is part of our personal "Heritage." I encourage you to continue to write your Heritage for your families and friends.

Thank you, Paul Colby, for your years of service as President, and for your energy in getting things done, working both on Old-Brule Heritage Society items, and all the work that you did on *Sisu and Sauna*, our Lakeside history book.

Being that this is the first time that I have to write this section of the newsletter, and that many of you do not know my style of leadership, I will try to explain how I would like our organization to work (my background and employment was as mechanical engineer and engineering manager, and not as a writer, so please forgive me if I sound too matter of fact.)

The present concept of the Board and committees to manage our various projects is very good, yet I would like to see both a stronger Board and stronger committees. I know the leadership in most groups ends up doing a lot of the work, but I would hope to see broader participation by the whole group. It is not that we don't have participation now, but we really need a larger number to be involved. I would like and encourage all members, between meetings, to talk, write and/or call our Board members, committee members, and chairmen and chairwomen, sharing your concerns and suggestions. I would encourage that this be done to help shorten or streamline, and to make more effective, our general bi-monthly meetings. In the past it was necessary to have a very informal type of meeting, but I think this does not work as well with the size of many of the projects that we now are involved in. To Board Members, we want your input and involvement on the operation and projects that we have now and on any future projects. Your experience is needed in this volunteer organization. And our bi-monthly board meetings are open to anyone to come and express opinions and suggestion on the operation and/or on our projects.

We will provide a list of our various projects, and the committees that are responsible for them, along with chairpersons in the next newsletter, which will include all the many present functions that our group performs throughout the year.

It was great to have nine members attend the Northwestern Regional Convention in Ashland on September 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was very informative as was the presentation on the City of Ashland Mural Paintings process, and the mural tour was great.

On a personnel note, this is a very beautiful time of the year with all the color, and I think it is wonderful that God provided this bright season to prepare us for the winter with its bare trees and the white snow. Enjoy it while it lasts.

Thank you for the confidence you have shown in me in making me your president.

Respectfully yours,

Earl Granroth

### FROM THE EDITOR:

I viewed with great sadness the picture of my cousin, Ted Pellman, in a recent edition of the Duluth *News Tribune*, taken during his group's failed attempt to forestall the destruction of yet another of our county's cultural landmarks, Superior's Palace Theater. Ted and his partner, Kathy Laakso, have become an impassioned tandem in the struggle to save historically significant

local architectural structures. With Duluth's Kris Fisher and many others, they have faced seemingly hopeless odds in their efforts to stop the jack hammer and the wrecking ball, and to change the political dynamics, local and national, that are destroying too much of our local cultural heritage and roots.

The Superior Carnegie Library with its stately brownstone exterior is one success to mention, but other important buildings like Central High School have made way and will make way, for vacant lots and houses short on lasting character and empty of historical significance.

History is not a luxury. Public cultural treasures are not luxuries. They are standing history. They provide lasting evidence of the higher values that have shaped us and sustain us. As structures of substance they can enrich us, ennoble us, teach us. We are poorer for these lost structures than any dollar return of tainted Federal Community Development Block Grant monies, or State Shared Revenues for Education. Too often the glib use of the "blight" designation is the fullest expression of cultural blindness and leads to the permanent destruction of irreplaceable but often hidden local beauty. Most outrageous of all is that those who should know better, the highly educated, the wielders of the levers of power, are often in the front seats of the cultural bulldozers, serving narrow agendas. Institutions that fail us culturally, morally, and at the foundation of our values are the true blight.

-Jim Pellman

**2006 OLD-BRULE HISTORY PHOTO CALENDARS STILL AVAILABLE. 2007 ALMOST READY.**

The Brule History Research Group, organized in 1995, produced its eighth and final calendar in 2005 with more pictures of Brule's past. Proceeds of these annual calendar sales since 1998, when the first one was produced, are being used for the publication of the history of Brule, hopefully to be completed soon. Limited numbers of the 2005 calendar and earlier issues are still available. To order any of these calendars by mail, please write or call Janet Follis, P. O. Box 114, Brule, WI 54820 (715) 372-4948.

Continuing the BHRG calendar tradition, the first *Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendar* is still available in limited numbers. 400 copies were published and they are available this year only for \$5.00 from O-BHS members or at limited local business outlets. An e-mail address for more info: [musketeer6@cheqnet.net](mailto:musketeer6@cheqnet.net), and phone: 715-363-2549. Our 2007 calendar is now at the printer and should be available at \$6.00 for Apple Festival Weekend. Our thanks to our 44 advertisers and to the crew of Alice Christensen, Mary Ann Gronquist, Shirley Kankas-Rouleau and Laila Magnuson who made the many business contacts. Shipping and handling costs \$3.00.

**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 Archives Committee 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: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Please call 363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

**(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES, ANNUAL MEETING, OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.  
AUGUST 12, 2006, HOPE SWENSON RESIDENCE**

Attendance: 21 members

Time: 11:30 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at by Jim Pellman, a moment of silence was held in memory of those members and friends lost over the years, and for those in the military. Jim introduced our speaker, Joe Csomos who spoke about the Hungarian Revolution which his father and godfather experienced before emigrating to Canada. Following the speaker, a potluck lunch provided by members was enjoyed.

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the Sept. 18, 2005 Annual Meeting were read by the secretary. A motion to approve the minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting was made by Minerva Johnson, seconded by Karen Colby to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** As of 8/12/2006:

Checking Acct.	\$ 1,855.11
Windmill Acct.	\$ 10,389.29

Books sold – 558

Calendars sold – 131

From January, 2006 to the present, expenses totaled \$7,407 and income totaled \$4,358.11. A \$500 check was forwarded to the Town of Lakeside (History Group) which was part of a grant from Conoco-Phillips. O-BHS serves as their fiscal agent. A motion to accept the financial report was made by Jim Pellman, seconded by Irene Parenteau. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Reports followed on the prior year's activities:

**DAVIDSON WINDMILL:** Paul Colby reported that we had tours at the mill on Apple Festival weekend in 2005 and the Scandinavian Dinner and mill tours at Midsummer, 2006.

**BOOK PUBLISHING:** Jim reported that we need to order more *Wisconsin Far Northwest* books. He talked to the printer and the cost will be \$920 for 100 copies and they will have a perfect binding and will include Harry Wester's new maps bound in the book. They should be done by Apple Festival weekend. A motion to approve the printing of the books at a cost of \$920 was made by Jackie Plunkett, seconded by Shirley Kankas-Rouleau. Motion carried.

**2007 CALENDAR:** The committee has met and they are working on the calendar and procuring ads for the calendar. Jim has some pictures and Jackie Plunkett has some Cloverland pictures. Harry Wester will try to get some Bennett and Hawthorne pictures. The deadline is August 21 for calendar information. Community events can be listed in the calendar also. The Town of Lakeside History Group is tentatively giving 50% of their book proceeds to O-BHS. Hope announced the activities that will be going on at the Lakeside Centennial on Aug. 19 and tee shirts will be available also.

**FUND-RAISING:** A grant was received from Conoco-Phillips in the amount of \$2500, thanks to the efforts of Paul Colby. \$500 was received from Murphy Oil. Shirley Kankas-Rouleau has contacted Younkers about the Community Day coupon books and she distributed them to any members willing to sell them. The event will be on Sat., Nov. 11. We can also sell them at the store as long as we reserve a day.

**ARCHIVES Committee:** The committee meets every other Monday at the Pellman home. They are working on Co-op Services information and the Follis information. Written permission is needed to use the information received. More volunteers needed, especially typists. More information needed also.

**WEBSITE:** Jon Winter has a new prospective member who is a CPA who is willing to update our website every other month. Jon will still train members to update information. Bob Aho and Audrey Hakkila may be interested in doing this. Website address is [www.oldbrule.org](http://www.oldbrule.org).

**BRULE HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP BOOK:** They hope to get their book done this year.

**ELECTION:** Nominees for the Board positions being vacated are Jack Pank, Jackie Plunkett, Irene Brazill and Mary Wester as alternate. Jim Pellman made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the candidates. Seconded by Hope Swenson. Motion carried. The treasurer's tasks will be divided into a bookkeeper job and treasurer's job. The bookkeeper will keep track of the book sales and merchandise and calendar sales, under the ultimate direction of the Treasurer. Shirley has made a list of duties for the two positions. Board officers will be chosen at a Board meeting directly following the Annual meeting. Hope agreed to take the bookkeeper position.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Dues are being collected for the coming year. There are 130 adult members at present. Jim explained why some non-members are receiving the newsletter, some being former members we hope to get back, and some as service copies to archives, and other historical groups, and some for public relations reasons. Jim recognized Shirley for 253 volunteer hours, Audrey Hakkila for 120 hours, Mary Ann Gronquist for 101 hours, Earl Granroth for 84 hours, Barb Granroth for 61 hours, Jack Pank for 36 hours and Jim Pellman for 400 hours. Paul Colby and Harry Wester did not keep track of their hours, but have put in many, as have many other members. New volunteer hours should be recorded from Aug. 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**NORTHWEST REGIONAL CONVENTION:** The Northwestern Regional Convention will be held in Ashland on September 16, 2006. Cost is \$10, with registrations due on Sept. 5. A motion to have anyone interested in attending pay their own registration was made by Hope Swenson, seconded by Minerva Johnson. Motion carried. Those attending can car-pool.

**NWHS SCHOLARSHIP:** The 2006 Northwestern Scholarship recipient was Amanda Lustig. A motion to approve the 2007 scholarship and to increase the amount to \$250 was made by Alice Christensen, seconded by Marion Christensen. Motion carried.

**WINDMILL APPLE FESTIVAL OPEN HOUSE:** An open house will be held at the Mill on October 6, 7 and 8. There will also be a bake sale on Oct. 7. Times were not set up. Shingles for the log house were discussed. Obe Saari will donate used shingles and Dick Tuura has some cedar he will donate and would also saw them if necessary. The Windmill Committee will meet on August 22 at Alice Christensen's.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** The next Board Meeting will be at the home of Eddie Walman on Sept. 13 at 6:00 p.m.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** The next regular meeting will be on Oct. 11 at the Brule Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. Alexis Pogorelskin is a possible speaker.

**OTHER:** Minerva Johnson announced a fund-raising rummage sale to benefit the Waino Pioneer Chapel roofing fund to be held on Sunday, Aug. 13 at the Brule Town Hall. Hope announced that a dishwasher donated by Shirley Rouleau has been delivered to the Douglas County Historical Society.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A thank you was received from the Vintage Times Car Club for the use of the Windmill site for their mystery run activities. Approximately 100 vintage cars visited the Windmill.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Irene Parenteau, seconded by Mary Wester to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Gronquist

**(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES BOARD MEETING  
OLD BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, AUGUST 12, 2006, HOPE SWENSON RESIDENCE**

Present:, Jim Pellman, Hope Swenson, Harry Wester, Alice Christensen, Karin Colby, Jackie Plunkett, Irene Brazill, Marion Christensen, Jack Pank, Irene Parenteau, Mary Wester.

Meeting called to order by Harry Wester at 3:15 pm.

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

A. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

B. **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Four new members were elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting – Jackie Plunkett, Irene Brazill, Jack Pank, Mary Wester, replacing Shirley Rouleau, Mary Gronquist, Paul Colby and Robert Aho. Officers installed were Earl Granroth, President; Harry Wester, First Vice President; Alice Christensen, Second Vice President; Karin Colby, Secretary; Jackie Plunkett, Treasurer; Mary Wester, Alternate. Hope Swenson was named Treasurer's Assistant (Sales and Inventory Control Person). Jim Pellman moved that we cast a unanimous ballot for the different officers positions, seconded by Marion Christensen. Motion carried.

2. **CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:** Earl Granroth, President (starts second term), Harry Wester, First Vice President, Alice Christensen Second Vice President, Karin Colby, Secretary (Starts second term), Jackie Plunkett, Treasurer (New) Irene Brazill (New), Marion Christensen (Starts second term), Jack Pank, (New), Irene Parenteau (New), Hope Swenson, (Treasurers Assistant), Paul Williams, Mary Wester, Alternate, Jim Pellman, Emeritus.

3. **NEXT MEETING:** The next Board meeting will be September 13, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. Place: Eddie Walman's.

C. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn made by Alice Christensen, seconded by Karin Colby. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karin Colby

**FUND-RAISING 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 ½ 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 book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, and Nan Wisherd's books *Pathways* and *Echoes* are available for \$20.00 a copy + \$3.00 shipping. Wisconsin tax is included in all our prices. Shipping and handling for mugs, caps and tee shirts is a \$4.00 minimum. All items are available for purchase at our meetings or by contacting an O-BHS member. O-BHS Calendars for 2006 (\$5) and 2007 (\$6) are also available (\$3 shipping).

**(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES BOARD MEETING, OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2006 EDDIE WALMAN'S RESIDENCE**

PRESENT: Earl Granroth, Karin Colby, Jackie Plunkett, Jim Pellman, Harry and Mary Wester, Jack Pank, Irene Brazill, Alice Christensen, and Eddie Walman.

**I: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

**II: BUSINESS MEETING:**

Earl Granroth gave us a brief history of where he came from and the type of work he used to do, saying that he retired in 2001 from his job and moved back up here from Sarasota, Florida..

Business Meeting was called to order by Earl Granroth at 6:16 pm.

**A: Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2006 Board Meeting was made by Harry Wester and seconded by Jackie Plunkett and the motion carried.

**B: Financial Report:** Jackie handed out the report from the August 12 to September 13, 2006

Income:	
Dues:	\$45.00
Bank Interest:	4.78
Merchandise:	0.00
Calendar Sales:	0.00
Calendar Ads:	775.00
Younkers Coupons:	120.00
Windmill Tour Donation, Irene Brazill:	40.00
Echo Book sale:	20.00
Laila / Minerva:	100.00
Book Sales (Wisconsin Far Northwest):	60.00
Total Income:	\$1,164.78

Expenses:	
Ashland Historical Society: (to be repaid)	\$50.00
Joe Csomos ( Speaker, Annual Meeting):	25.00
Total Expenses:	\$75.00

Membership: 133 adults	
NBC- WINDMILL ACCT	\$10,434.07
CVB- CHECKING ACCT	<u>\$2,861.61</u>
Total:	\$13,295.68

Outstanding-----Calendar Ad (not deposited) \$25.00

Lakeside Books \$220.00

Expenses----- ( Jim Pellman/Printing) \$18.73

Motion was made to approve the financial report by Jim Pellman, second by Harry Wester (motion carried).

The Treasurer is waiting until after midsummer, and cabin expenses to check on the money market account.

### C: Old Business:

#### 1. Davidson Windmill:

There was a shingling bee at Obe Saari's. Harry W, Jack P, Paul W, Jim P, Mark Saari, and Obe Saari worked on pulling staples out of the shingles. We need bids for the lean-to materials. Out of the bids received two bids came back. They were Menards and H&H Lumber. Poplar Bldg Center didn't reply back. Earl asked at what point do we have to receive the bids. There was a discussion on the bids and Eddie said we should go ahead and make a choice tonight as to what bid we will go with being Poplar Building Center hadn't returned a bid because time is getting short. It was decided to go with H&H Lumber and they will also deliver it to us at the mill. Someone will have to be there when they deliver it to the mill. It was decided that next week we would go and start at the mill to get it ready for Applefest weekend being October 6,7, and 8.

#### 2. Fund raising:

Jim is trying to have windmill pins and magnets ready for Applefest weekend. 200 magnets were ordered from David Treveranus of Micro Tech. Design Pins are on order but no design has been returned as of yet. Younker's sale discounts in November. We will have a Bake sale on Saturday, October 7. We will be there Friday afternoon, all day Saturday, and Sunday afternoon. There will be no meeting before so we will have to contact people to bring baked goods there.

**3. Archives:** The next meeting will be at the Pellman's on September 25. We are making good progress with the Follis scans and Coop Services. There are more volunteers needed. Earl thanks Jim and Delores for always having the archive meetings. Harry is also doing some scanning at home for the archives.

**4. Website:** Jim said he hasn't heard anything more about the website. He said Jon is working on it. Earl and Jim were explaining about the website to all of us. Alice asked Jackie if she know anything about the website. Jackie said that she knows somewhat about it. Alice asked about buying our own website. Jack also asked how many sales we have lost when we don't have it. Jim said he wants a goal to have our website up and running by

the end of the year.

**5. Publicity:** Articles in the *Connection* paper and the *Daily Telegram* are being submitted by Audrey Hakkila. Mary Ann has contacts with the local tourist/chamber and calendars. There was also a discussion on maybe putting an ad in the *Northwoods Shopper*. Earl will be writing in his News Letter article about having more publicity.

**6. Publications:**

Heritage Map is on hold for now.

2007 calendars; 400 would cost \$2.49 each totaling \$996.00 which includes sepia tone, plus flap on bottom and 4 extra pages (28 total) instead of 24 pages. Printing ISBN No. would be another \$56.00 (a special screen). Jackie said we probably shouldn't use the ISBN No. at this time. Harry Wester moved to accept the bid and charge \$6.00 retail price without the ISBN No. Alice seconded the motion and motion carried.

Earl mentioned at the last meeting it was stated that we need to order 100 books with a perfect binder. The maps would be bound as pages into the books now. We have sold 561 *Wisconsin Far Northwest* books thus far.

There was discussion on need for a windmill pamphlet or book. It was decided that the Windmill Committee would take care of this.

There are 43 1/2 ads for the 2007 calendars, totaling \$1,087.50 so far. Earl said Paul Colby would write a letter on the profit split between Old Brule Heritage and Lakeside Fire Department on *Sisu & Sauna* expenses and sales. Earl told Jackie to hold on to the money collected for Lakeside books for now. Jim moved to hold on to the money for now and Jackie seconded it and motion carried.

**7. Lois Pollari Gift:** Northwestern Schools Historical prize fund in memory of Esther Pollari. Jim said there has been no progress on it so far. Jim explained to Jackie that we are trying to find a contact person to get in touch with to let them know that there is money available to stimulate local historical projects. Jackie said she would go to the school and talk to them. She said she knows the person who to contact and talk to. Jackie will check into it and let us know.

**8. Membership:**

Dues are being collected now. Jim handed out Blue slips for 2007. He said to please keep track of your hours as these are needed at times for reports supporting grant applications.

**9. David Maki Research Report:**

Jim said David would eventually give us a report on the Knuutila site in Lakeside.

**10. Centennial Farms:** 100 years. Contact Jim Pellman.

**11. Lake Nebagamon Centennial (Report):**

Shirley was going to put up stands for the Centennial but she didn't have any stands. We later had two stand donated; from Mary Ann and Lora Olson. We need portable stands to display our items. We need them for Lake Nebagamon and other events like Younkers.

**12. Upcoming Regular Meeting** will be Wednesday, October 11, 2006. Brule Town Hall 6:00pm. We still need a speaker.

**13. Next Board Meeting:** November 8, 2006, 6:00 p.m. at Jackie Plunkett's home.

**14. Bayfield Applefest Weekend Events:** October 6, 7, and 8. There is no meeting before so word should get out about setting up for it and get our items out for sale. Alice said she would call Hope Swenson about it. Baked goods are going to be needed also, on Saturday only. Please have it there by 9:00am Saturday.

**15. Other:**

**D. New Business:**

1. Earl asked about the grass being cut at the mill. Jim said that Paul Colby's daughter usually cuts the grass. Earl asked about cutting some of the weeds so that the mill could be seen better from the road. Harry said that he would get a hold of Paul. Harry said he could also take care of cutting the grass & weeds. Earl mentioned that we should buy the secretary a recorder and tapes. Earl asked about the gavel that was donated by Marvin Haukkala's widow, Doris, made by Marvin. Jim was going to look into having a brass plate put on it in memory of Marvin.

2. Northwest Regional Convention in Ashland on the weekend. Nine members are going: Jim Pellman, Delores Pellman, Earl and Barb Granroth, Nancy Wiittala, Alice Christensen, Irene Brazill, Jackie Plunkett, and Audrey Hakkila.

**E. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Alice to adjourn the meeting and Irene Brazill seconded the motion. Motion carried at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karin Colby

<p style="text-align: center;">Area History:</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">No. 52</p>
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Another excerpt (pages 91-95) from our book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, ©2004, 2005, 2006.

### THE TOWN OF HAWTHORNE

Hawthorne 1976 Bicentennial Committee, Lil Richter, Harry Wester

The place called Hawthorne was started when the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railroad (the "Omaha") was built through the area in 1881. It was named by D. E. Roberts, a Superior attorney and County Judge, for W. B. Hawthorne, the operator of the first logging camps in the vicinity. The first depot was a small 8 x 10 foot building. After the construction of the railroad, loggers and lumbermen moved in, including Alex and John Dunlap, (who were not related). Next was Mr. Phillips, who built a big sawmill north of the depot on the Middle River. He later sold the mill to Thomas and Bonnell. They constructed a dam north of the mill and made a millpond where their logs were kept. Bergman and Christensen followed and built a small mill south of the old Hawthorne cemetery. This later became the Duluth Log Company Mill which sawed logs and cedar shingles.

As early as 1886 the road that became County Trunk B was surveyed by James Bardon and J. J. Morrison. They were assisted by homesteaders John and Gust Bjur.

Mill houses were built along the west bank of the river to house some of the lumbermen. Other loggers to follow were Cross and Badger, Bergstrom Brothers, Hawthorne Log Company, Addington and Post, and Weyerhaeuser connected Musser-Sauntry Land, Logging & Manufacturing Company. Weyerhaeuser built a railroad from Hawthorne to Lake Nebagamon, over which his Nebagamon Lumber Company shipped its lumber to the Omaha Railroad from their huge mill at Lake Nebagamon. They constructed a turntable southeast of the depot (where the Eliason home now sits, some say a "Y") so their locomotives could be turned around for their return trip. A. C. Woodbury bought the land northeast of Hawthorne from the Nebagamon Lumber Company, who logged in the Hines area. The point from which they shipped their logs to Hawthorne is still called Hines.

In 1886 Swan Swanberg was named the first postmaster and opened his store and post office.

One of the highlights during Hawthorne's boom days was meeting the trains after the day's work was over. It was not an unusual sight to see three or four hundred lumberjacks on Sundays..

Town government under the name Hawthorne began on April 2, 1907 with the great division of the large old Town of Nebagamon (Nebagamain) which had been created with the old Town of Brule in 1887. The Towns

of Bennett, Highland, Solon Springs and the Village of Lake Nebagamon were formed in the same division. Bennett was the remnant of the Town of Nebagamon and changed its name in 1908. The first Chairman was John Dunlop, the first Secretary David Dobie, and the Clerk was W. S. Bartlett. First Treasurer was W. H. Bonnell and the Supervisors were, West Side, John Bjur, and East Side, Peter Bergstrom.

At a special meeting of the board on April 30, 1907, J. H. Mathews, Carl Johnson and Edward Thiede were granted their application to sell malt and spiritous liquors up to July 1, 1908. The request was granted by Louis Efaw and John Bjur.

The postmasters to follow Swan Swanberg were E. C. Johnson, John Erickson, Mr. Hinchliff and Mr. Louis Efaw who held the title until retirement in 1940 when Abe Siegel took over. He resigned in 1947 and was followed by Donald Johnson, in 1948 Fred Thoms, in 1955 Robley Evens until his retirement in 1970 when Mrs. Nell Heidemann took over.

Louis Efaw, Dunlop and Bethel started the second store which was located east of the tracks on what is now Highway B. Shortly after that Sam Addington and Post built a store directly across from Efaw's store, making three in Hawthorne at one time.

On May 4, 1910, ten minutes after noon a small wood burning locomotive came to a halt on a spur track alongside The Bonnell shingle mill. The fireman filled the firebox under the engine's boiler with large pieces of dry pine to keep the steam up during lunch. Then he and the engineer walked to the small depot to eat with Joe Ackerman the telegrapher and Louis Efaw the depot agent. According to the story Louis walked to the window, then exclaimed, "The Mill's On Fire!" The engineer quickly boarded the train and moved it out of harms way sounding the alarm for fire. A bucket brigade was formed at the waters edge but when they realized this was futile they tried to save some personal belongings. The fire engulfed everything from the mill on the east side of the tracks to and across Highway "B" including the big mill and twenty-two mill houses and the wooden bridge across the river. Sparks flew as far as a stand of white birch trees about where John Tenny's house is now. From here a piece of burning bark flew toward Ibsen and burned the Charlie Malm home.

*Part 1 of 2. To be continued.*

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### Notices:

#### THANK YOU'S & RECOGNITIONS:

To **all of our members** for their continuing loyalty to the cause of local history. To the **44 Area Businesses** who choose to place ads in our 2007 calendar. To **Everyone** caught up on their dues for 2006-2007. Congratulations to member **Hope Swenson** on her coming 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and party. We're all invited - see calendar below. To the **Work Crew** at the Finnish cabin at the mill. To our retired crew of officers who served us so well...**Bob Aho, Paul Colby, Mary Ann Gronquist, Shirley Kankas-Rouleau**...and who continue to serve us in active membership. To **Lois Pollari** and **Hope Swenson** for archive photos. To **Byron Little** of **Diamond Designs** for old Coop Store Records. To **Obe** and **Mark Saari**, and **Jack Pank** for their donations of shingle shakes and special efforts.

**ENCOURAGEMENTS:** Again to **Rita Ronchi** and her family as she continues to recover from the June accident. To member **Arnold Perala** as he faces oral surgery. To member **Jack Gronquist** with health concerns.

**OUR SYMPATHY:** To member, **Lois Pollari**, and her family on the loss of her daughter **Anne** to ALS. To the family of **Aili Beck Soyering** who died peacefully last week at 91. To the family of member **Delores Soyering Gunderson** who died September 14<sup>th</sup> at 69 at UofM Hospitals. . . . *and who have we missed or forgotten?*

### Calendar:

**October 6-8**, Apple Festival Weekend. Tours of the Davidson Windmill and our Finnish Log Cabin preview.

**Open 3-6, Friday, 9-5 Saturday with a bake sale, 10-3 Sunday.** New 2007 O-BHS History Calendar for sale.

**October 11**, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Next Regular Meeting of O-BHS. Jim Pellman slide talk on the 2007 O-BHS Calendar photos covering all the communities in the Old Brule Region. Brule Town Hall. Pot luck lunch.

**October 14**, Saturday, 1-4 p.m. **Hope Swenson's** 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, Lakeside Town Hall. Please bring a note of congratulations to be included in a memory book.

**October 21**, Saturday, 9 a.m. Joint O-BHS and Northern Lakes Archaeology Society Copper Creek Archaeology Trek near Pattison Park with **Paul Colby** as guide. Call Jim at 715-363-2453 for full details. Weather permitting.

**November 8**, Wednesday, 6 p.m. O-BHS Board Meeting, **Jackie Plunkett's** on Highway F in Maple.

**November 15**, Wednesday, deadline for December issue of *O-BHS News*.

**December 13**, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Christmas meeting of O-BHS.

### 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](http://www.oldbrule.org)). Thank you for your patience as we work to build up the site. Thanks to **Audrey Hakkila** for her many efforts. MS Web site software has been received permitting updates to the site!

**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) 364-2216, or our Treasurer, Jackie Plunkett at 363-2417. Her address is 4845 S. County Rd F, Maple, WI 54854. Our annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals, and \$25.00 for families, payable at the time of our annual meeting. Higher levels of support are always welcome.**

**New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!**

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.

Post Office Box 24

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