

OBHS News

Volume X, Issue 2

April 3, 2008

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2008
Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

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APRIL OBHS REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2008, 6:00 P. M. AT THE AMNICON TOWN HALL. WE WILL BEGIN OUR MEETING WITH A TALK GIVEN BY **DR. RICHARD HUDELSON**, AUTHOR WITH CARL ROSS OF *BY THE ORE DOCKS: A WORKING PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF DULUTH*, ON THE THEME **"ETHNIC ROOTS AND GLOBAL VISIONS."**

AFTER A REFRESHMENT BREAK WE WILL HOLD OUR BUSINESS MEETING.

ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE WELCOME!

Thanks to the Town of Amnicon for the use of their town hall, and to those serving.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

This is the time of the year when we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Though some may not feel that this is important, many of our forefathers felt that it was very important and worked very hard to build the small country churches that dotted the landscape. Many of these small country churches did not have full time pastors, but laymen filled in at the pulpit and during the summer months many had seminary students as their pastors. Such was the case with the Lakeside Baptist Church. These churches, and also many of the small country schools that dotted the countryside, were built by the same men, who showed a real concern for their communities. Also many of the schools were built so that the kids could walk or ride wagons and or sleighs in the winter time to school. This is another area of the heritage that we in the Old-Brule Heritage Society need to focus on before all the resources of this history are gone. We are trying to find and preserve as much of the history and heritage about our area as we are able to.

This too is the time of year when our gravel roads become a muddy mess, and our cars show it. The picture for the month of April in the 2008 Old-Brule Historical Calendar, available from the Old-Brule Heritage Society, shows the conditions of the early roads built on the red clay in this part of the county, and what the people had to deal with in the spring (Robin Berglund collection). The picture shows a portion of Highway 13 in 1930, but Highway 13 was not much better in the early 1950s, as I remember. This portion is now known as Sleepy Valley Loop, in the Town of Lakeside. This all is history and we need to preserve this history, to realize what some of us, our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents went through to make a new life for themselves, and for us.

The Spring and early Summer will be a busy one completing the projects at the Davidson Windmill and the Eskolin Log House in time for the Finnfest 2008 Convention and our Mid-Summer Festival in June. We would appreciate any volunteer help when we have our work days, and we have many committees that also can use additional help.

The 2008 Old-Brule Historical Calendar is available from the Old-Brule Heritage Society at P.O. Box 24, Maple, WI 54854, or by contacting any board member, or by using the order form on our web site "www.oldbrule.org".

Please check out "www.oldbrule.org". The Web site is being updated on a regular basis. (Note: if the Web site looks like it has not changed please push the refresh button on your browser.)

A point to remember, at the last Annual Meeting the group voted that "We will only have coffee, cookies and/or bars at the regular and board meetings." The Annual Meeting and the Christmas Party Meeting would be the only times we would have additional meal items.

Respectfully,
Earl Granroth

2006, 2007 and now 2008 OLD-BRULE HISTORY PHOTO CALENDARS FOR SALE.

The Brule History Research Group, organized in 1995, produced its eighth and final calendar in 2005 with 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 their 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 in the BHRG calendar tradition, the *2008 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendar* is now available at \$7.00 each. Our earlier calendars are also available at \$5.00 (2006) and \$6.00 (2007) in limited numbers. The 2008 calendar is available from O-BHS members or at limited local business outlets. An e-mail address for more info: musketeer6@cheqnet.net, and phone: 715-363-2549, or check our Web site at www.oldbrule.org. Shipping and handling costs are \$3.50 each.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE *OBHS 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 OBHS mission. Our continuing project is learning to use the computer in support of our work, scanning documents and photos, storing records and creating databases. 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 meetings: February 18th, 2008, 1:00 p.m. Please call 363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

UNAPPROVED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Maple Community Center, February 13, 2008, 6:30 P.M.

Attendance: 34

Call to order: President Earl Granroth called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Program: Earl introduced guest speakers, Gail Saari and Mary Jane Sedin, speaking on their recent trip to Russia and Finland who showed slides of the trip. It was very interesting to see how it looked in Finland and Russia and also to hear what they had to say about it. Earl thanked them for their presentation. We then broke for refreshment's before the Business Meeting. Our thanks to those who served.

Business Meeting: Pres. Earl Granroth called the Business Meeting to order at 8:15 pm.

Minutes: Earl asked for approval of the December 12, 2007, Regular Business Meeting Minutes. Hope Swenson moved to approve and Alice seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jackie read the report:

Checking Account:	\$ 2,699.66	Mill Account:	\$ 2,842.88
Certificates Total:	\$ 7,779.62		

Earl mentioned that there would be some questions on the finances at the upcoming Windmill Committee Meeting. Irene Parenteau moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, and Marion Christensen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Davidson Windmill Committee Report: Construction of Phase 1 of the sidewalks has started and will be completed this spring. Pooler Construction has the contract, with a bid of \$ 3,500. We have paid Dave & son up front \$ 2,500, the balance upon completion, plus costs for added cement for a Memorial Monolith and for hay for insulation & adjustments. We received \$2,000 in 2007 from ConocoPhillips which is going toward the project. Earl said at the very end of the sidewalk will be an octagon pad about 10 feet across, with a square of memorial bricks in the center and names on the bricks, and that will be actually within 20 ft of the windmill where the sidewalk will start, and then end down at the Eskolin house. Paul Colby has secured a new \$1,500.00 grant from ConocoPhillips for 2008 for materials in Phase 2, completion slated before Midsummer 2008 events in June and Finnfest 2008 which will be in July 2008 in Duluth. Paul has done a great job for us. He wasn't able to be at the meeting due to his daughter's birthday. Hope asked the president if the secretary couldn't be instructed to send a thank you to Paul, with a copy sent to ConocoPhillips. Shirley moved to send a thank you Paul to and to ConocoPhillips. Hope seconded the motion. It carried.

We have sold about 80 brick pavers so far at \$ 10.00 each. Forms are available here and on the Website. Approval has been granted for construction of a small storage building next to the biffy on the new slab The Westside of the biffy we will be discussing of putting Lattice and Ivy to be added. Some of our 2007 grant will go toward Tee shirts that Paul will be ordering to give to the volunteers who work at the Mill Site. We purchased 1000 brick pavers for the project and still have 900 available for engraving. there is a lot of things to do sidewalks, benches, road signage, caulking, custom outside door, chimney, and etc., will have to complete In Eskolin house lights, and security lights and a old light for the ceiling. A Memorial Boulder from Ron Hendrickson has been delivered and installed, and a Thank You Ron. Some of our volunteers have done some tree protection as a lot have had damage done to them. thank you to all who help to protect the trees. Jackie is going to see about getting 2 first aid kits. It was talk about getting a plaque to put on the biffy privacy wall it should state that the logs are from the Davidson Homestead site. Parking for Finnfest to be addressed . Earl said he would be writing a letter to the Town of Lakeside about the parking for Finnfest, concerning where the old Riverside School was. Earl said he had talked to Tom Shera today and he said they would need a formal letter. We also need to designate one side of the River Road to use for parking and not both. He will mention it to the Town; also inquire if the neighbors have to be notified about Finnfest and the parking situation.

Fund Raising Committee: Discussion on getting our letters out to businesses for donations; more sales of merchandise from our Website.

Archives Committee: Next meeting, Monday, February 18, 2008, 1:00 pm at Pellmans'. Davidson Windmill photo, and receipt book from Ronald Colby's sawmill donated by Paul Colby. Thank you, Paul.

Website Committee: Site faithfully kept up by Earl. Our thanks to him for all he does on it. Paul is checking whether host Jon Winters will let us have a piece of website so we could receive public contact there instead of using our private Email addresses. Earl is making change to our Website as he finds time.

Pollari Memorial Gift Committee: What was to be originally done has changed and now we are working on a Historical Map. Harry said that all who are on the committee should meet on this project. The map will have historical sites, the Old Brule area highlighted. Randy Gabrys-Alexson has been helping us. Lois has donated \$500.

Publicity/Advertising Committee: Audrey Hakkila is making press announcements. Our thanks to her.

Publications Committee: Heritage maps in progress now under Pollari Memorial above. *Wisconsin Far Northwest* printing is in now. Calendars for 2008 were available at the meeting, & at one of our outlets: Gopher Hole Lounge, Round Up North, Poplar Market, Sharon's Café in Lake Nebagamon, and looking for other outlets. Colored maps requested. Please get maps lists to Jim.

Membership Committee: Please turn in last year's blue volunteers slips to Jim if you haven't already done so. 2008 membership renewals are well along. 136 adult members.

Brule History Research Group: OBHS has ISBN number reserved. They are making progress despite severe personal losses. They have not determined a publisher yet. The history will include mainly family histories.

Finnfest Duluth-2008: Jim & Paul have attended planning sessions. The next meeting will be February 14, 2008, at Embers in West Duluth. Finnfest will be hosting 7,000 people in Duluth in July 2008. We will be ready to do our tours. We need an approval to partner with DCHS for the Tori booth, minimum size is \$300.00. ½ size is \$150.00. Jim is scheduled to do a presentation at one of the sessions on the Davidson Windmill. Earl mentioned having merchandise at Tori booth for sale and also at the mill site and advertise when the Mill is open and the times. Kathy Laakso said that they are waiting on us to make our decision for the full booth or a shared booth. The booth would run from Wednesday-Sunday. Jackie questioned the price to get in if we only have two passes. Jim would have his own pass and would be there every day (making three). It was stated we probably should make some more magnets for the time Finnfest is going on. Sunday would be a partial day. There was a lot of discussion. Jim said he would like to have someone there to explain what our group is all about and booklets on Mill history. Mill Committee will work on it. Barb Granroth made a motion to approve the \$150.00 and \$300.00 if we somehow had to go alone. Mary Ann seconded the motion, which carried with 1 nay. There will be more discussion on it with the whole group, Board and committees later.

Taylor's Bridge: Internal sign damage replacement with other than paper is proposed. Kathy Laakso at DCHS is seeking response from Lakehead Sign Co. and is taking pictures of damage.

Other Old Business: Shirley brought up about she has tickets for Younkers for \$ 5.00 each which is worth \$ 10.00 at the sale on March 1, 2008. She said she requested our table to be in the service center in the back of the store. We made \$250.00 on the November sale. Shirley was available after the meeting for those wanting tickets. Thanks to Shirley & Hope for spending their day at Yonkers and for everyone else who takes part in selling coupons. Hope mentioned that there is a percentage that we get at the end after they group all organizations.

New Business: None.

Sympathy & Encouragements: Earl mentioned that our hearts go out to Laila in the loss of her husband, Ken. Laila continues to be a real asset to our group. Encouragement to Laura Tyykila, Dale Tuura & Swen Tyykila. Sympathy card to Elsie Maki Family, grandmother of David Maki.

Communications: Newsletters from other societies: Barron Historical Society, and from the Wisconsin Historical Society. Our annual report is due by the 15th of February. Earl will submit this on line with an e-mail. John Vogel, Heritage Research Firm regarding the Highway F DOT project. He had interest in Maple Corner School & Apostolic Lutheran Church. A letter came from the DOT about possible historical sites in the coming Hwy27 reconstruction.

Next Regular Meeting: April 9, 2008, Amnicon Town Hall, 6:00 p.m. Program Speaker: Dr. Richard Hudelson, Pres. St. Louis County Hist. Soc., UWS Phil. Prof. Author: *By the Ore Docks*.

Next Board Meeting: March 12, 2008, 6:00 pm, Eddie Walman's home.

Next Windmill Committee Meeting: March 10, 2008, 6:00 pm, Paul Colby's home.

Other New Business: Shirley came up with a special sheet for inventory. Broke it down as to size, color and item. We will need to tag items routinely.

Earl thanked Hope for doing the selling and keeping track of the inventory she sold.

Adjournment: Alice moved to adjourn. Mary Ann seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully, Karin Colby, Secretary

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. Early issue magnets are going for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.00, proceeds to our general fund. The Windmill mugs are \$4.00, caps, \$5.00, and tee shirts, any size, \$10, all proceeds going into the Windmill Fund. Sweat shirts, any size are \$25.00, taxes included. **SEE OUR WEB SITE (www.oldbrule.org) FOR CURRENT SALE ITEMS AND PRICES.**

Available also are copies of a David Noah Seis photograph of the mill. 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*, and Lakeside's *Sisu and Sauna* are available for \$20.00 a copy + \$4.00 shipping. Wisconsin tax is included in all of 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, 2007(\$5) and 2008 (\$7) are also available (\$3.50 shipping). Our 2008 Calendar is available to buy at our meetings or from any member by request.

UNAPPROVED BOARD MEETING MINUTES, OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY

March 12, 2008, 6:00 p.m, Eddie Walman Home, Maple

Members present: 10: Earl Granroth, Alice Christensen, Karin Colby, Jack Pank, Marion Christensen, Hope Swenson, Irene Brazil, Shirley Kankas, Jim Pellman, Eddie Walman.

Call to Order: Earl called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Minutes: Earl asked for approval of the January 9, 2008, Board Meeting Minutes. Alice moved to approve and Shirley seconded. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Due to the Treasurer's absence Earl relayed her report:

	<u>Prev. Amount</u>	<u>Current</u>
Checking Account: CVB:	\$2,893.70	\$ 2,174.00
Certificate 1:	\$ 5,199.68	Certificate 2: <u>\$ 2,599.84</u> (Turn in June)
Total both certificates	\$ 7,799.52	Interest rate on both 3.8200%

Mill Fund: \$ 2,822.88 (\$4,322.88 with ConocoPhillips grant) Paver Sales: (80) \$ 800.00
Marion C. moved to approve the Treasurer's Report & Mary Ann seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Davidson Windmill Committee Report: Earl said sidewalks are on hold until Spring. Dave Pooler Construction is doing **Phase I**; down payment made of \$ 2,500.00, the balance when finished: \$1,000.00, and adjustments. Total estimate: \$ 3,500.00. Existing apron moved and replaced.

Phase 2: Jim explained Phase 2: From the end of Phase 1, just east of the biffy 130 feet of sidewalk eastward to an octagon island near the mill, and in the middle there would also be pavers. Paul had submitted another employee volunteer grant for \$1,500 from ConocoPhillips for Phase 2 and it has been approved. Hope asked about the pavers. You can print the order forms off the Website www.oldbrule.org. Paul is also working on a zoning change to "commercial" since our lot is undersized, and getting a county building permit for our storage shed next to the biffy, (\$40) which our

group has approved. There was paperwork on this for approval at the Lakeside Town Meeting the night of our meeting

Memorial Stone: Ron Hendrickson delivered and installed the Memorial Monolith. ($\frac{3}{4}$ yd cement added to the sidewalk concrete order for the stone base.) There is a small memorial plaque ready to be mounted on it in the spring.

Eskolin House: Coming projects this spring: Alice to go forward soon on cabinets. Alice said Marilyn and she would look into that next week. We are looking for a 30" steel door, a ceiling light that would represent the 1920s or 1930s. Jackie said she might have a 3 light fixture. Shelving, main door, second story flooring: The flooring is going to be donated by Alice in memory of Cassius.

Chimney: Paul's dad to lay the bricks. Earl has some brick and tile that he thinks should be enough, and a clean out door. We have the old half chimney base and will adapt it.

Road Signage: Earl will call the DOT about signage regulations.

Other Topics: Outdoor benches. Memorial walk to be done first so it will be ready in time for Midsummer in June and Finnfest in July. There was a question on new items to sell: Jim brought up selling vests. He will investigate costs for next meeting. Murphy Oil has donated another \$250 for the mill. Thanks to Mr. Tom Higgins.

Windmill History Booklet: This booklet is a high priority, would be sold at Midsummer and Finnfest. Jim explained the booklet: about 7-8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11" sheets saddle stitched for about 28 pages. Earl would like to put a whole lot of this windmill information on the website. There was a discussion on what the booklet should sell for. Gene Davidson has sent a lot of information on the mill in the form of a written tour which will be heavily used. Hope moved that we proceed on the windmill history booklet. Alice seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jim said once the booklet is designed we would have Gene Davidson review it.

Next Windmill Committee Meeting: April 8, 2008, 6:00 p.m. at Alice's.

Fund Raising Committee: Younkers Report: We made \$225 Shirley said. We should plan on doing it again in the fall. Earl said we need a list of Projects & Priorities, where we are going with our projects. Paul is very interested in a Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation grant.

Archives Committee: They meet every other Monday at Pellmans' at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be Monday, March 17, 2008. They are currently working on scans of Maple Farmers' Coop records and scanning Town of Maple photos & Faymie Laakso's Pellinen photos.

Website Committee: Jon Winter met with us on Monday night at the Windmill Committee Meeting at Paul's. We requested a push button on the Website main page where a visitor would be able to bring up an e-mail address to type in comments or requests, to which we could reply, and for which we would have record. Jim explained that people want to interact with us to find out more about their heritage and families when they have seen our Website. Right now we only have forms for ordering merchandise or applying for membership. Jon will help us set this up.

Pollari Memorial: Lois sent an additional \$500 for the historical Douglas County map project.. Old Brule will be highlighted. It will have every cemetery in the county on it and other historical features. Randy Jones, Harry, Jim, and Audrey are working on it.

Publicity/ Advertising: For this coming season we will be redesigning and distributing our pamphlets for stand display at State and non-State locations. Thanks to Mary Ann for making contacts. Paul is seeking a new ad better placed for free in the *Telegram*. Earl is going to put information about Finnfest on our Website. Thanks to Audrey for press releases.

Publications Committee: Heritage Maps now in progress under Pollari Memorial: see above. *Wisconsin Far Northwest* printing is in now. 2008 calendars are selling well. We have under 100 left. Our calendars are on sale at Poplar Market, Gopher Hole in Highland, Round Up

North in Brule. Laila Magnuson has done a nice job of selling. We would like to thank all involved with calendar sales.

Membership Committee: Dues collection for 2008 are well in progress.

Brule History Research Group: The group is getting ready to publish their book.

Finnfest 2008: Paul & Jim have attended planning sessions, to host around 7,000 people in Duluth from July 22-27. There was a discussion on our plans to have a *tori* booth at the DECC during Finnfest to sell our merchandise and publicize our group. We will discuss it more at our next meeting. Duluth is supposed to be planting blue and white flowers in honoring the Finns.

Taylor's Bridge: Kathy Laakso has been in contact with Lakehead Sign regarding sign repair.

Next Regular Meeting: April 9, 2008, Amnicon Town Hall, 6:00 p.m. Dr. Hudelson to speak?.

Other Old Business: Shirley got her new software to create a spread sheet for our inventory.

Next Board Meeting: May 14, 2008, at Earl & Barb Granroth home in Lakeside, 6:00 p.m.

New Business:

Windmill Sign: A sign is needed for the Windmill showing our Website address. Alice moved that we pursue looking into what the cost of a sign would be and who we could have make one. Shirley seconded. Motion carried. It was suggested we talk to Bob Aho about it.

Other: Midsummer Activities: Mary Ann asked about Midsummer. We will be having our Midsummer Activities June 20 - 22, 2008. Tour hours are Friday, June 20, 3:00-6:00 p.m.; Saturday, June 21, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., and Sunday, June 22, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Midsummer Dinner: Saturday, June 21, 2008, Lakeside Town Hall. Serving time: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Dinner Price Adults--\$ 7.00 Children 12 & under \$4.00

Sympathy: in the loss of Swen Tyykila (& Laura Tyykila) this month.

Encouragements: Paul Williams of Lakeside; Margie Koski, Villa Marina; Margaret Carlson, Villa Marina, & Dale Tuura of Oulu.

Communications: Jim mentioned there will be a Genealogical Society meeting in Superior on Saturday, May 3, 2008, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Superior Public Library, with a speaker. They will permit us to put up a table to sell items. Finnfest will be having a Fair & Rummage Sale at the Copper Top Church, April 12, 2008, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Douglas County Historical Society is having Rummage Sale on Saturday, March 29, 2008, Peter Rich Center in the a.m.

Adjournment: Alice moved to adjourn, and Mary Ann seconded. Motion carried.

A special Thank You to all who brought treats for the evening.

Respectfully, Karin Colby, Secretary

Area History: No. 61

A Preview of the Northern Wisconsin Finnfest 2008 Historical Tour

(Reprinted with some changes in the Superior *Daily Telegram*)

Jim Pellman © 2008

This July an estimated 7,000 people will gather at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center and in other regional locations to enjoy their Finnish connections at Finnfest 2008. Many from northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan of Finnish heritage will join in these events, which for most will be a highlight of their summer. Even the President of Finland, Tarja Halonen, (the Conan O'Brien look-alike), is expected to join the crowd.

On Tuesday morning, July 22, 2008, on the day before the official opening, a motor coach with fifty-five guests and their leader will leave Superior and head out into the countryside of northern Douglas and Bayfield counties on a daylong historical expedition. This tour will offer an overview of the natural setting, and the cultural experience of the people who have lived in our region through the several millennia after the last ice age up to the present time. The Finnish connection in all of this past will be given special emphasis. The tour will be a blend of the past and the fast moving changes of the present.

The group will travel east on U.S. Highway 2, running parallel with the old grade of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and stop first at Amnicon Falls State Park, which encompasses a brownstone quarry once owned by the Superior Bardon family. This beautiful natural setting in the presence of the covered bridge and the falls will provide an opportunity to explain some of the natural history of northern Wisconsin, especially some of its glacial history and how this has shaped human activity right up to the present. The tour will then continue east on Highway 2 past the Amnicon Town Hall, formerly the Wentworth Farmers' Cooperative Store, and on to the Village of Poplar where American Ace of Aces, Richard Bong grew up. Bong's

roots on his father's side go back to the integrated Sweden-Finland of the 18th Century. After a brief stop the bus will continue east past the large regional employer, the Poplar Pancho Villa taco making facility. Sadly this has been in the news with an announced closing planned for August of this year.

Further east the group will see the modern Northwestern Elementary and Middle Schools in the area of Wiehe, an old Northern Pacific logging era station. Entering Maple the bus will pass the Maple Community Center, town garage and fire hall, and will then turn north on County Highway F with the former Maple Finnish Farmers' Cooperative store on the corner, now Diamond Design. Diagonally across the intersection of 2 and F is the site of the first Town of Brule town hall and earliest Maple school. A block north on F near the present post office the group will be able to see the almost twenty million dollar reconstruction of Northwestern High School now in progress. Not much remains of the school which was built on the site in 1949 on lands donated to the consolidated school district by the adjacent Maple Finnish Farmer's Cooperative and Feed Mill.

As Highway F descends toward Lake Superior, the rising bluffs and lands on the North Shore thirty miles away are clearly visible. The group will be reminded at this point that they are descending from the shore line of Glacial Lake Duluth at the F and 2 intersection down onto the heavily farmed red clays of the old lake bottom. They will notice the many road signs with Finnish names, and the farms, and the remnants of dairy farms, that indicate a region amidst great cultural and economic change.

Two miles north they will pass the old solidly built Corner School, abandoned in 1998 in the consolidation of

local elementary school facilities. The school had been constructed with great sacrifice by the surrounding farmers on grounds first dedicated to education in 1898 with a student body almost totally Finnish speaking in their homes. The brick school was the result of an initial consolidation in 1922 of three smaller neighborhood schools, the Pellinen School, the Pollari School, and the first Corner School. In 1938 with further consolidation of facilities in the Town of Maple the Corner School absorbed the much newer Blueberry School and the Maple School, mixing in the process the community's distinct French and English Canadian and Finnish cultures.

Not quite a mile further north the group will see the Independent Apostolic Lutheran Church. This building was constructed across Highway F and a short distance south in the early 1900s and was moved to its present site in the 1920s when the three tiered front tower and back kitchen were added. A leading figure in this still active local Finnish Apostolic Congregation was active Maple town resident Rev. John Pollari from Veteli, Finland. Pollari and his group were part of the Laestadian movement, an Awakenist offshoot that began in the 1840s in far northern Sweden. Just north of the church across the valley of the Bardon Creek tributary the church of the Finnish National Evangelical Lutheran Congregation once stood between two cemeteries. That cemetery to the south is the Apostolic Lutheran Cemetery, and the National Lutheran Cemetery lies to the north. It is immediately evident from their grave markers that the remains in these cemeteries are the area's early Finnish settlers and their descendants.

The tour will then proceed north and then east on County Highway FF (locally known as "Finlander Freeway"). Road signs again suggest the density of the Finnish speaking settlers. On the left at the Clevedon Road the bus will pass what remains of the old N. P. Johnson school in the part of the modern Town of Brule traditionally called Riverside. N. P. Johnson came from Finnish stock who had left Finland to fish the northern coasts of Norway in the 1830s, and immigrated to America in the 1880s. Riverside ends at the Brule River. Now known for its trout fishing, the portage linked Brule-St. Croix river valleys were once a major Indian trading and canoe corridor into the Mississippi River system. Sieur Duluth passed this way with his hardy *voyageurs*, Indians, and canoes in 1680. At the time of Glacial Lake Duluth 10,000 years ago glacial meltwater drained southward toward the Mississippi River through this valley, opposite the direction of today.

Traveling north on Douglas County Highway H we will pass the site of the old Waino School which burned in 1947, as well as the site of the Waino Round Hall. Until the Brule Coop Park located about two miles south on the Brule River was founded and a pavilion built there in 1932 the Round Hall was the major cultural hub in the Waino community. Although never legally recognized as a

Wisconsin town, Waino, from 1898 to 1911 had its own U.S. Post Office. We will turn east on Tuura Road and stop for coffee at the Waino Pioneer Chapel, built in 1900 as the Evangelical Lutheran Church but abandoned for weekly services after 1968. A little further on we will visit the Ever Rest Cemetery which served the Finnish families in the Waino area and permanently commemorates the heavy Finnish presence.

Returning to Highway FF we will turn east and proceed to Bayfield County Highway B. At this intersection we will see the building that served the Oulu Cooperative Store. Continuing east we will be traveling again in a corridor filled with roads named for Finnish families. We will go by the last Oulu School, converted now into senior apartments and continue on to Muskeg Road where we will find the Palo Homestead, on the National Register, faithfully restored by family member, Duane Lahti. Lunch will follow our tour there at Deep Lake Lodge.

Picking up our journey after lunch we will head west on Highway 2 to Sznaider Road, better known as the Oulu Rock Road. After a brief stop at the rock we will continue north to Colby Road and turn right to visit briefly the Oulu Town Hall. From there we will head back west along the Colby Road to the Oulu Glass Works, where Jim and Sue (Granlund) Vojacek produce and sell their hand blown and cut glass works of art. After our stop there we will continue west until we reach Highway H again where we will travel north over the Brule or Douglas Range which from the 1870s to the 1900s saw the digging of many exploratory copper mines, one the Percival Junior located just to our east in the vicinity of the Olson pit or rock quarry. We will turn again west on FF and retrace our path back to Maple, and then north on Highway F to State Highway 13.

Traveling east on 13 we will pass again many road signs with Finnish and Finn-Swede names. We will pass the modern combined Lakeside Town Hall and Fire Hall. In continuing west the group will have crossed the many south shore streams, Pearson Creek, Poplar, Amnicon, and Middle rivers, Bardon Creek, and the Brule itself, many of which were dammed up in the earlier industrial white pine logging era of the 1880s and 90s. In spring the dams were opened and the floods moved millions of board feet of white pine logs down to Lake Superior where they were gathered and towed west to mills in Duluth and Superior, or east to Ashland. The hamlets of Brule and Poplar and Maple had sawmills, as did Lake Nebagamon with its large Weyerhaeuser Mill, and Iron River with its Edward Hines mill further from the lake. A dense network of railroad spurs served the latter operations.

Our final stop will be at the Davidson Windmill grounds overlooking the beautiful Amnicon River Valley. Built by Jacob (Tapola) Davidson early in the Twentieth Century, the unique mill ground flour for human use, and cracked grain for cattle. It ran for only about twenty years

before changes in transportation and the technology of the modern world caught up with it. The tour group will also visit the Eskolin Finnish Log House, which was moved onto the windmill grounds as an interpretive facility in 2006, and was partially restored last year. The building shows the

complex dovetailed joints typical of the early Finnish homes in the region. Coffee and exhibits will also greet our visitors. The tired crew will then head back to the Twin Ports to prepare for the many events of the next five days.

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Notices:

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS: To all those who continue to donate toward **paver memorials**. To **all members** caught up on their dues for 2008. To **Colleen (Martin) Orval (& Lorraine Korhonen)** for donating the book, *Haven in the Woods*.

CONGRATULATIONS: To our many **local office candidates**, win or lose, for their public service.

ENCOURAGEMENTS: To **Margie Koskie, Arnold & Doris Perala, Dale Tuura, and Paul Williams**.

OUR SYMPATHY: To the family and friends of **Swen and Laura Tyykila**, of Maple and recently of Poplar who died this past month. To the family and friends of **George R. Pellman** of Brule who died suddenly at 80 at home on Sunday, Mar. 30th. To the family and friends of **Titus Pluntz** of Cloverland who died at 95 on March 20, 2008, and of **Arne Heikkila** of Oulu who died at 88 on March 11, and of **Donald Lundeen** of South Range who died at 71 on Feb. 12, 2008 in a vehicle accident, and of **Josephine Sznaider**, 100, sister-in-law of Isadore Sznaider of Iron River, and of **Elsie Maki**, grandmother of David Maki...
... *and who have we missed or forgotten?*

CALENDAR

April 8, Tuesday, 6 p.m. Windmill Committee Meets at Alice Christensen's in Wentworth.

April 9, Wednesday, 6 p.m. OBHS Regular Meeting. Amnicon Town Hall. Dr. Richard Hudelson speaks on his new book, and the theme: "Ethnic Roots and Global Visions." Business meeting to follow.

April 14, Monday, 1 p.m. Next Archive Meeting at Pellmans.

April 19, Saturday. Passover begins at Sundown.

May 3, Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Genealogical Society meeting. Superior Public Library.

May 11, Sunday. Mother's Day.

May 14, Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting, Earl & Barb Granroth's home, Lakeside.

May 15, Friday. Contributions to June OBHS News are due. Articles are encouraged!

OLD BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY WEB SITE ON LINE

The Website Committee has been building up our Web site (www.oldbrule.org). President Earl Granroth has been making regular updates. Thank you all for your patience as we continue our improvements. Thanks to **Audrey Hakkila** for her many efforts. **Microsoft** has donated Web site software permitting updates. Thanks to all for your gifts and contributions of skill. **Jon Winter** of **Winter Systems** in **Superior** is our Web host at no charge to us.

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 in August. 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