

OBS News

Volume XII, Issue 4

August 5, 2010

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2010
Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the History and Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Vacant
Shirley Kankas Umolac, Lake Nebag 1st V. P.
Harry Wester, Bennett, 2nd V. P.
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Eddie Walman, Maple, Alternate
Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

THE OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, August 14, 2010, Noon, AMNICON FALLS STATE PARK Picnic area (not the Pavilion)

The meeting will begin with a picnic lunch. O-BHS will provide hot dogs, Polish, brats, buns and condiments, plates and utensils, and members are asked to bring a dish to pass.

Please contact Nancy Wiitala at 715-392-8317 who is coordinating the dishes to pass.

We will park at the Amnicon Town Hall & car pool to the park grounds as a vehicle sticker is needed. Meet at 11:50 a.m.

We will retreat to the town hall if weather does not cooperate.

PROGRAM: Dr. Ron Mershart will follow our lunch with a talk on his recent work in preparation for a book on the correspondence of James Bardon, an important figure in the history of Superior and of Douglas County, and donor of the lands that initially constituted the Bardon County and Town Park which eventually became Amnicon Falls State Park.

Our ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS MEETING will follow.

After a short meeting by the new Board to elect officers, we will host a hike to the ARCADIA BROWNSTONE QUARRY (on the park's "Thimbleberry" hiking trail.)

ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE WELCOME.

FROM OUR ACTING (and future) PRESIDENT:

Hi Everyone,

Continuing my recollections of the Brule Coop Park Summer Camp from the last issue:

Remember the excitement of what became the ritual drive up to the camp with the entire family? The settling in with your parents at your side, the meet and greet, the tour, the preview of the planned activities, lunch, and then the "Goodbye..." That's when the realization sank in that although all this was supposed to be...was going to be... and probably might be fun, now you were being "LEFT". But you toughed it out...and stayed...and got into the swing of camp life, having fun, meeting new people, and staying busy. The homesickness got much easier to bear.

The Brule Co-op Summer Camp was active:

Scavenger Hunts- as an icebreaker activity for the first day to get campers mingling, to get acquainted with every one, and to promote awareness of the area around them.

Crafts- Braiding lanyard strips to make bracelets and key chains; braiding dandelion necklaces for our hair.

Modeling clay objects.

Art- Water color pictures; paper mache projects.

Hikes- Hiking into the woods to identify different leaves, trees, bugs, birds, and the infamous, dreaded, 3 shiny leaf "Poison Ivy."

Sports- baseball games; voley ball games

Swimming and other beach activities

Tug- o- War, sack races and other relay races

Skits- Plays were made up and performed on the stage with homemade costumes.

Campfires every night with story telling and songs.

There were never any food fights as it was so good we ate it all up.

The final day was to exchange names and addresses of campers and to say "See you next year."

Shirley

FROM THE EDITOR:

There are two local town history books that are just now in their final stages of creation. The Town of Amnicon's Centennial History is at the printer, and the Town of Brule's history is now going through its final edit. Deadlines are set for the work of Lakeside's Jeannie Castleberry who has been called upon again to design the pages in preparation for publication later this year. Jeannie also worked with the Lakeside History Project in their widely praised volume, *Sisu and Sauna*, which came out in 2006. We in Old-Brule Heritage Society have fully supported all of these local history efforts, and have provided ISBN numbers for use in the volumes of these ad hoc writing and research teams, anticipating that these works will both be in demand for years to come and need to be fully documented. These history gathering and writing groups should be heartily applauded.

-Jim Pellman

2006 to 2010 OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY 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 very soon. Limited numbers of their 2005 calendar and earlier issues are still available. Please contact Janet Follis, P.O.Box 114, Brule, WI 54820, (715) 372-4948.

The 2009 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendars are still available at \$6.00 each. Other earlier calendars are also available at \$5.00 (2006, 2007, 2008) in limited numbers. The 2010 calendars are now available from O-BHS members and at limited local business outlets for \$7.00. 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. The 2011 Calendar is now in progress.

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 and interpreting 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 meeting: **Monday**, August 16, 2010, 1:00 p.m. Please call 714-363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

**Unapproved GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Lakeside Town Hall, June 16, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: Acting President Shirley Umolac called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

MINUTES: Secretary Lila Ronn noted a correction to the minutes of April 14, 2010. Under "Old Business – Next General Meeting", it was Paul Colby rather than Ron who would be confirming the availability of Dr. Ron Mershart for the following General Meeting. Jim made a motion to accept these corrected minutes, and Alice seconded this motion. The corrected minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ron reported the following balances effective June 16, 2010 at the National Bank of Commerce in Poplar: Checking -- \$ 2,276.91; Certificate of Deposit #1: \$ 5,632.03; and Certificate of Deposit #2: \$ 5,059.19. Jim made a motion to accept this report, with a second by Karin. The treasurer's report was approved.

OLD BUSINESS:**Davidson Windmill Committee Report:**

Sidewalk: 305 pavers have been ordered to date. It is anticipated that by tomorrow, all of them will be at the mill site. Sidewalk fencing was approved at the last Board meeting. Alice asked what type of fencing would be used. The Windmill Committee will be completing a formal plan, which will also include the awning. Preliminary discussion included fencing along the sidewalk and integration with the bridge project. The same type of rail fence would be used consistently.

Grounds: Motion lighting is completed. Harry and Ron have mowed the property recently.

Mill: Harry, Ron, and Jim have completed repairs and painting. Members noted, "The mill looks beautiful". Much cleaning was required inside the mill because of birds taking residence. Considerable vacuuming has been completed, but Jim noted that some clean-up remains to be done. He anticipated it would be done tomorrow. The brochure holder needs to be replaced; the plastic is cracked and decayed. Thanks to Alice for arranging purchase of the paint at a good price. Alice presented the invoice to Ron for payment.

Signage/Zoning: Ron reported that Douglas County has placed three orange stakes with white tops

marking where the signs will be installed. He recently called the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) and was informed that the signage is now in Douglas County's hands. The District 8 DOT representative said he would follow up.

Eskolin House: Many thanks were extended to the following persons and organizations: (1.) To Ron for installing the linoleum counter top and to Carlson Flooring for donating the materials; (2.) To Harry for installing the "antique" drain trough under the east eave; (3.) To Mary Ann and to Alice for the food they prepared for volunteers during their recent workdays and (4.) To Mary W. for food she brought for workers today.

Awning: Last month, the Board approved construction of a 10' x 24' awning on the north side of the Eskolin House. To submit a building permit requires development of a formal plan. The intended design of this structure would be similar to construction during the Civilian Conservation Corps era (palisades on the side with logs).

Taylor's Bridge: The Board has previously authorized moving this bridge to the Mill site. Ron reported he recently met with contractor Wes Johnson, both at Paul Brown's old farm and at the Mill site. Wes appeared interested in the project and thought it could be moved on a Saturday with some State Patrol assistance. Given that the wings add an additional eight feet to the 16-foot wide bridge, it is too big to put on a regular flat bed. Cross-members might be removed when lifted and railroad ties could be put in for a base. This project needs to be a part of the overall plan.

Mill Merchandise: Shirley reported that the new white-on-blue tee shirts would be available for purchase during the Midsummer weekend. Delores P. originated the idea for the slogan "I've Been Thru the Mill". Many thanks to Barb Granroth for her excellent design work. Alice moved that we sell these shirts for \$ 12.00. Following a second by Marion, the motion was approved.

Windmill History Booklet: These books are on sale for \$ 8.00 plus \$2.00 shipping charge, if needed.

Brochure Printing: Jim reported that the recent rain damaged our inventory of brochures stored in the Eskolin House. He ordered 100 copies in black and white, changing the design slightly for better display, from Office Max for use during the Midsummer weekend. Irene H. moved that we order 1,000 brochures. Second by Marion, the motion passed.

Committee Meeting: On call.

Archives Committee: The next meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m., June 21, 2010, at the Pellman residence.

Website Committee: Thanks to Earl for maintaining this site.

Publicity/Advertising Committee: Ina Erickson and Mary Ann head this dual committee. Members expressed support for Ina during her health and moving challenges. Audrey wrote an article about Nathan Nelson, recipient of the 2010 OBHS Scholarship, which was published in the *Superior Telegram*. She hopes this article will be published soon in *The Connection*.

Publications Committee: 2010 Calendars are still selling; Jim has begun work on the 2011 publication.

The Grimsrud/Pearson/Cloverland History book will be published by the family. OBHS will be ordering copies to sell once it is available.

The Amnicon Centennial history book, *Amnicon from the Beginning: A Window Into the Past*, should be ready for the publisher in July. The next, and final, meeting of the writing and development committee will be held on Tuesday, June 22, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at the Amnicon Town Hall. Jim moved that OBHS use one of the 10 ISBN numbers we have for this publication. After Mary Ann seconded the motion, it was passed. The Amnicon Fire Department and OBHS will split any proceeds. Price of the book will depend upon production costs.

Brule History Research Group: This committee has made good progress. Jeannie Castleberry will help them prepare for publication. Laila reported that Velma has been in Minneapolis recently because of her daughter's ill health.

Pollari Memorial Gift Committee: Randy Jones is working on the electronic transfer of railroad grades from Harry's historical map. There is a contrast between the styles of the two maps and the process takes time. It is hoped that the process will be completed by our October open house.

Membership Committee: Dues for 2010 continue to come in. Ron reported that we are caught up for the last two years. We are currently experiencing the largest membership total we have had. Some persons have paid for 2011 already! All members are reminded to record their volunteer hours on the blue forms (available from Jim).

Update of Officer Job Descriptions: This task is on hold.

Next Board Meeting: The next Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at the Eskolin House.

Annual Meeting Preparations: Our Annual Meeting will be held at the Amnicon Falls State Park Pavilion on Saturday, August 14, 2010. Dr. Ron Mershart will provide our program, including information about James Bardon, who donated the land for the park, and about the Arcadia Brownstone Quarry Trek. Everyone who is able to take the "little bit of the hike" on the Thimbleberry Trail will have an opportunity to see the quarry. PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR WALKING SHOES.

Nominating Committee: The committee responsible for nominating candidates for election as new board members at the Annual Meeting includes Nancy, Irene, Ron, Lila, and Harry. Irene has served two consecutive terms of two years and is ineligible for election in 2010. Nancy, Ron, Lila, Harry, Audrey, and Eddie (alternate) have completed the second year of a first term and are eligible for re-election for another term. This committee plans to meet immediately after the General Meeting.

Next General Meeting: The next general meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at the Amnicon Town Hall. Dennis will reserve the Hall. Herb Wagner, a local historian, will provide the program.

Other Old Business: Regarding preparation for the Midsummer dinner, Alice said that the Lakeside Town Hall would be open on Friday at 7:00 a.m. for cooking preparations. Workers are asked to report at 8:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, and to bring ice, if possible, to cool down the mojakka. Castleberry daughters will be contacted to help serve on Saturday. Shirley has purchased six stands (\$5 total cost) to display merchandise costs. One could be used to list the menu.

NEW BUSINESS:

Communications: OBHS receives issues of the *Port Wing's Heritage Hall Herald*. The latest issue, which describes Port Wing's Safe Harbor and other historical articles and photographs, was passed around.

Jim noted that he has voucher copies available for OBHS members for 20% off any visit to a Wisconsin Historical site or museum this calendar year.

Sympathy and Encouragement: Support and encouragement was expressed to Paul Marvin Hakkila; Barbra and Earl Granroth; Doug Seis; Jennie Rygg (Mary Ann's daughter-in-law); and Marcelle Williams (Velma's daughter); related to their health issues. Everyone was pleased that Earl was able to attend the latter part of this meeting and appeared to be feeling well.

Silkscreen Frames: The Roble-Bagley family has donated a stack of silkscreen frames to OBHS that have been stored in the attic of the Davidson House. Newspapers separating these screens were dated in the 1940s. A sign maker, possibly someone who made street signs, had designed them. Some of them include names such as Broadway and Hughitt. It was suggested that they be brought to the Annual meeting for everyone to see. Feedback from Gene is needed first.

Douglas County Homemaker's Association Meeting: Jim made a motion to allow the Douglas County Homemaker's Association to hold their August meeting in the Eskolin House. Followed by a second from Ron, the motion was approved.

Storage Building Tools: OBHS has been given permission to sell certain tools and other objects that have been kept in the storage building, some of which has been forged.

Appreciation for Hard-working Volunteers: Mary Ann commended all of the men, notably Harry, Jim, and Ron, who have recently worked many hours improving the condition and appearance of the Mill. Others noted that Mary Ann, herself, has been on the site providing appreciated nourishment to the workers and cleaning up the Eskolin House. Alice and Mary W. have also helped in this capacity.

Further discussion included the need for a communication system to insure that the responsibility for providing lunch be shared. Additional tour guides are needed; a script for both the house and the mill might be useful. Laila suggested that a videotaped presentation might be produced as a learning tool for potential guides. If necessary, this video could possibly be used in place of a guide. It was suggested that Alice could prepare a presentation on the Eskolin House.

Jim noted that we already have a DVD done by Gene Davidson. It was recommended as a potential future program.

Brochure Distribution: OBHS brochures allowed in State tourist/info centers because there is no request for donations.

ADJOURNMENT: Audrey moved to adjourn, with a second by Earl. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lila Ronn, Secretary

FUND-RAISING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

The Society has available regional history magnets, plus Davidson Windmill memorabilia: mugs, caps, 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, new stock caps, \$12.00, and tee shirts, any size, \$10, all proceeds going into the Windmill Fund. Sweat shirts, any size are \$25.00, still on sale at ½ price, taxes included. **SEE OUR WEB SITE (www.oldbrule.org) FOR CURRENT SALE ITEMS AND PRICES.** Our new vests are for sale for \$24.00.

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 also available for purchase at our meetings or by contacting an O-BHS member. O-BHS Calendars for 2006, 2007 & 2008 (\$5), and 2009 (\$6) are also available (\$3.50 shipping). See box on Page 2 above for more info. Our new book, *Davidson Windmill History* by Jim Pellman and Gene Davidson is now available for \$8.00 (\$2.00 shipping).

**Unapproved BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.
Eskolin House, Town of Lakeside, July 14, 2010**

Members Present: 1st Vice President Shirley Umolac, 2nd Vice President Harry Wester, Secretary Lila Ronn, Treasurer

Ron Hendrickson, Irene Brazill, Karin Colby, Jim Pellman, Eddie Walman, Nancy Wiitala.

CALL TO ORDER: Acting President Shirley Umolac called the meeting to order at 6:05p.m.

MINUTES: Karin moved to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2010 Board meeting as printed in the June 2010 *OBHS News*. Following a second by Nancy, the minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ron reported the following balances at the National Bank of Commerce in Poplar: Checking Account - \$2,696.63; Certificate of Deposit #1-\$5,632.03; and Certificate of Deposit #2 - \$5,084.50. Jim moved to approve this report. Irene seconded the motion; it was approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Davidson Windmill Committee Report:

Midsummer Report: Ron reported that overall sales were similar to last year. Receipts were as follows: Dinner - \$ 801 (\$725 in 2009); Merchandise - \$478.50 (\$ 467.75 in 2009); and Tours/Contributions/Miscellaneous: - \$196 (\$275.50 in 2009). Overall revenue totaled \$ 1,475.50 compared to \$1468.25 in 2009.

The dinner preparation proceeded well. Alice will be calling for a committee meeting shortly to review procedures, information to be used for next year's work.

Grounds: Paul has been working on providing added tree protection. Russ Tuura has mowed the lawn.

Taylor's Bridge project/Variance requests/Land Request: Ron reported that, after meeting with County Zoning staff to begin seeking necessary permits, he learned the bridge project would not be in compliance. The project just exceeds the current 66 foot setback requirement. Variance procedures would need to begin with the Town of Lakeside.

Ron also reported that we would need to apply for a variance of our full property. During a prior survey of our property, which is zoned A-1, it was found that we had less than the five acres required by County Zoning. One of our mitigating circumstances in requesting a variance is that we are landlocked. Again, such a request would need to begin with the Town of Lakeside.

Ron also stated that it would make sense for OBHS to have a strip of right of way land that is currently owned by the Town of Lakeside. This small piece of land is between the mill and the River Road and is property that we have maintained and is not used by the Town.

It was decided that we would pursue the variance options and the land request by beginning a discussion with the Town of Lakeside. Lila will call the Town Clerk, Pearl Swanstrom, for Jim and Ron to be placed on the agenda of an upcoming Lakeside Town Meeting. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, August 10, at 6:30 p.m.

Ron reported that he had heard from Wes who is still interested in proceeding with the project.

Sidewalk: 306 paver orders have been processed to date.

Biffy/Storage Building: Tools and artifacts which Gene Davidson previously donated to OBHS and which have been stored at Jim Erickson's, have been moved and will be stored in the mill. We will keep specimens, but have Gene's permission to use the materials as we wish. Duplicates could be sold.

Eskolin House: Another permit would be required to construct the awning/pavilion. Our plan, which is in the design phase, would utilize a CCC style with a cedar shingle roof.

Mill Merchandise: Shirley is working with Lila on a digitized merchandise inventory. Shirley has ordered additional new T-shirts with the "I've Been Thru the Mill" motif.

Next Mill Committee Meeting: On call.

Windmill Signage: The new signs have not been installed yet, but they are on the County's to-do list.

Sidewalk: Fencing/handrail is being planned in the design work for the awning/pavilion.

Fund-raising Committee: No active project at this time.

Archives Committee: Next meeting is on Monday, July 19, at 1:00 p.m.

The committee is still reviewing the Elmer Hermanson collection. The Wisconsin Historical Society offers mini-grant proposals that OBHS could use to buy more acid free folders and storage boxes. OBHS could apply for the next round of these mini-grant prospects.

An external hard drive has been purchased for the Archives Committee to provide for data security and fire safety. However, current software on our computer is not adequate; XP or newer software is required. A resolution of this problem is currently being worked on.

Shirley has old Co-op library books that were donated by Lois Heino.

Pollari Memorial Gift Committee: Randy continues to work on this huge project. Where there are discrepancies between the two different map bases, Randy will proceed with Harry's map and include a disclaimer.

Publicity/Advertising: Ina, who takes responsibility for publicity, has been slowed down recently because of her husband's passing, her own health issues, and her move to Superior. But she expects to come to the next Archive's meeting. Mary Ann completed the publicity for Midsummer. Audrey handled the OBHS Scholarship announcement. Thanks to Ina, Mary Ann, and Audrey.

Publications Committee: Work on the 2011 Calendar has begun. Nan Wisherd will sell OBHS publications at her shops in Waino and Lake Nebagamon. We need to bring our publications to her Lake Nebagamon site.

Membership Committee: Please record & turn in their volunteer hours (blue sheets) and submit to Jim July 31st.

Brule History Research Group: Jeannie Castleberry will help the group with their word processing and page design. They have received their OBHS ISBN number.

Walter Erkkila family Monticello School: Dennis Hill has expressed interest in OBHS pursuing possible restoration of this school. It was decided that we would seek permission from Ruth Erkkila to re-visit the school and do further probing to better determine the condition of the building. Placing tarpaper on the roof would give our organization more time to possibly pursue this project. Lila will contact Ruth to seek her consent to inspect the building again.

Jim reported that Jessie Burhans, Town of Cloverland, has talked to him about the old King School. Their Town Board wishes to preserve the building.

Clarification of Officer Job Description: On hold. We need to locate all the Board Member binders.

Next Board Meeting: The next Board Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 14th, immediately following the Annual Meeting, for the purpose of election of officers.

Next General Meeting/Annual Meeting: The next general meeting (Annual Meeting) will be held at Amnicon Falls State Park on Saturday, August 14th. A potluck lunch will start at 12:00 noon in the ~~pavilion~~ [now picnic area]. OBHS will provide dogs and buns. The program will follow. Dr. Ron Mershart has confirmed that he will speak on the topic of his new book that includes correspondence of the early Superior resident James Bardon. (Amnicon Falls State Park was formerly named Bardon Park.) Everyone is encouraged to tour the Bardon's Arcadia Brownstone Quarry on our Trek after the meeting. Wear good walking shoes! **A PARK STICKER IS REQUIRED TO ENTER AMNICON FALLS STATE PARK. THOSE WHO WISH TO GET A RIDE INTO THE PARK SHOULD MEET AT THE AMNICON TOWN HALL AT 11:50 P.M.**

Nominating Committee Report: Members of the nominating committee (Nancy, Irene, Ron, Lila, and Harry) met immediately following the June General Meeting. Thanks to Irene Brazill for completion of two terms as a Board member and to Paul Colby for his work and leadership as a Board member. The following candidates will be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting for election as Board Members for 2010-2012:

Harry Wester, Lila Ronn, Ron Hendrickson, Audrey Hakkila, Nancy Wiitala, and Eddie Walman (alternate) who have volunteered to serve a second term of two years. Earl Granroth and Alice Christensen have agreed to serve on the Board for a term of two years.

Other Old Business:

Budget: The budget needs to be ready for next month's meeting. Ron will develop a spreadsheet for next year's budget & review it with Board members prior to the Annual Meeting.

Mowing of grounds: Russell Tuura has agreed to mow the property. Lila made a motion to pay Russell \$50.00 for each mowing up to six times this summer. Following a second by Harry, the motion passed. He will be given a check for \$100 to pay for his previous mowing and one to be done prior to the next open house on July 18th.

Saturday Mill Tour: The tour hours are 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Ron, Jim, Harry, Irene, Shirley, and Nancy plan to be present.

NEW BUSINESS:

Refreshment Coordinator: Nancy Wiitala will be taking on the responsibility of coordinating refreshments for meetings and workdays. Contact her if you are willing to provide a simple one-dish lunch plus beverage for volunteers during workdays.

Donations: Donations were received from the Ronn (Ronkainen) and Winkka families for special tours of the Windmill and Eskolin House on July 2nd and 8th, respectively.

Maple Coop Flour Mill Prospect/Proposal: Arnold Johnson (Oulu berry grower) has contacted Jim, advising him that he has a flourmill that was located and used across from the former Coop Store in Maple in the early 1900s. He

will donate it to the first organization/person who will keep it. This structure is 16' high and was housed in a 14'x20' building. There are grind stones in it. Sieves in the mill filtered out weed seeds.

A discussion followed regarding possible locations for this mill and possible structures/construction to house it. Ron will check the status of surrounding land to the mill site, among possible sites.

News: Member Sigrid Levanpa celebrated with many friends at her 90th birthday party on July 11th.

Sympathy and Encouragement: OBHS extends sympathy to Velma Doby upon her daughter Marcelle's passing; to the family of Thomas Kubarek who died on July 6th; to the family of Elvie Perala who died on June 27th, and to the family of Darren Harvey upon his passing. Encouragement to Paul Marvin Hakkila as he continues dialysis treatment.

Communications: Orders for books and calendars keep coming in. A Minnesota Historical Society Annual Meeting brochure was passed around.

Other New Business:

Oulu Hotshots CDs : Laila has CDs that we could sell for \$12.00 during tours and other events. Our cost is \$10.00 Shirley has a boom box to play the CDs at any event where we would be selling them.

ADJOURNMENT: Ron moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Karin. The meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lila M. Ronn, Secretary

Area History:

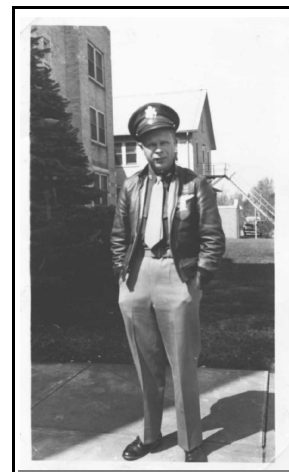
No. 74

The following is from August in our 2010 OBHS History Calendar.

8. Major Richard I. Bong on leave in 1944 (or 1945) visiting at the Middle River Sanatorium in Hawthorne.

Already a National hero at the time of this rare snapshot, Dick Bong's presence at the Douglas County Middle River facility would have buoyed the spirits of medical staff and the tuberculosis victims recovering there alike. Poplar native, Richard Ira Bong, was born on September 24, 1920 in Superior, the eldest of the nine children of Swedish born Carl and wife Dora (Bryce) Bong of Scots-English heritage. Carl, in America from the age of seven, served in World War I working with the 318th Army Corps of Engineers in France. He had road building experience with his father, Gust, Dick's grandfather, before the war, and would continue in that work upon his return. Carl employed other men and teams of horses in the area on projects like the US Highway 2 project, built through the area in the late 1920s. Son Dick would acquire the skills and strength associated with handling an F-12 Farmall tractor on the family farm south of Poplar, and later, in running a large Caterpillar Sixty for his father, and in custom plowing for neighboring farmers. In 1928 Coolidge's mail plane on its way toward Cedar Island on the Brule River had inspired him to fly. Ten years later he graduated 18th in a class of 422 at Superior Central High School after completing 11th Grade in Poplar. After induction and flight training he entered combat in World War II first at the end of 1942. From then until he permanently left combat late in 1944 he scored 40th air victories in the South Pacific, becoming, and remaining to this day, America's Ace of Aces. He died on August 6, 1945 in an experimental P-80 Shooting Star jet aircraft crash the day news came of the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima. This led shortly to the surrender of Japan and the end of World War II.

Middle River Health & Rehabilitation Center collection.



- NOTICES -

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS: To **Dean Baillie** of the Kro-Bar for a recent cash donation. To **Harold Jarvinen**, visiting recently from Florida, who updated his membership and donated to the cause. To the full **Midsummer Crew** who made the weekend again a success. To the **Roble-Bagley family** for the silk screen frames.

CONGRATULATIONS: To **Pat and Larry Luostari** on their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. To member **Sigrid Levanpa** on her 90th birthday.

ENCOURAGEMENTS: To **Barb Granroth, Doug Seis and Jennie Rygg**, all with health issues.

OUR SYMPATHY: To family and friends of **Thom Kubarek**, 60, a true friend of local history, who died July 6th in his Poplar home. To family and friends of **Elvie (Olson) Perala**, 96, who died June 27, wife of the late blind Assemblyman and attorney, **Reino Perala**. To family and friends of **Darren Harvey**, 44, of Lake Nebagamon who died in an ATV accident on July 14. To family and friends of **Albin D. "Fox" Olson**, 86, born in Oulu, who died February 18, 2010 and who was memorialized recently at the Amnicon Town Hall.

... and who have we missed or forgotten?

RETURN ADDRESS:

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.
Post Office Box 24
Maple, WI 54854

Anyone interested in joining the Old-Brule Heritage Society is encouraged to attend any of our meetings and programs. To join they may also contact any member or the Board at the return address below, or our Treasurer, Ron Hendrickson, at the same address. 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!

CALENDAR

August 14, Saturday. Noon. OBHS Annual Meeting (Amnicon Falls State Park "picnic area"). Board meets to elect officers.

August 16, Monday, 1 p.m. Archives Group at Pellmans'.

August 21, Saturday, 10-3 p.m. Windmill Tours.

September 6, Monday. Labor Day.

September 8, Wednesday, 6 p.m. OBHS Board Meeting at Eskolin House.

September 18, Saturday. 10-3 p.m. Final Saturday Summer Windmill Tours.

September 20, Monday. Deadline for submissions for October *OBHS News*.

October 1-3, Friday - Sunday. Bayfield Apple Festival. Windmill Tours Fri. 3-6, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 11-4. Bake sale Saturday.

October 11, Monday. Columbus Day.

October 13, Wednesday. OBHS General Meeting.

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY WEB SITE ON LINE

The Website Committee has been building up our Web site (www.oldbrule.org). Our thanks to **Earl Granroth** who continues to make regular updates, and to **Jon Winter** of **Winter Systems** in **Superior**, our Web host at no charge to us. Our contact button is now "hot." **Thanks to Earl and Jon.**