

OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2014

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

Volume XVI, Issue 1

February 7, 2014

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Hill, Amnicon, President
Earl Granroth, Lakeside, 1st V. P.
Brian Paulson, Amnicon, 2nd V. P.
Jim Pellman, Maple, Secretary

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Doreen Swanson, Brule
Hope Swenson, Lakeside
Gary Luoma, Superior, Alternate

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2014, 6 p.m. at the Maple Community Center

We will start the evening with a moment of silence, followed by lunch and refreshments.

Program (6:40 PM): OBHS Members Brian Paulson and Jim Pellman will present “the History of the Superior to Ashland branch of the Northern Pacific Railway, now the Tri-County Corridor.” Brian is a Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railroad employee with keen interest in his employer’s local history, and is also our Davidson Windmill Committee Chairman, and Jim is a local historian, our Secretary and an OBHS Archivist. He will gather from our digital collection supporting images of old maps and photos of the communities along the line that ran parallel to US Highway 2 between Superior and Ashland. The two will discuss the images and available text sources. Please bring a covered dish to pass or goodies to share. Thanks to the Town of Maple for the use of their Community Center. The Hall is right on Highway 2 in Maple. There is never a charge for the programs in our lecture series.

A short Business Meeting will follow the program. Guests and New Members are always Welcome!

Thanks to the Town, to all who join us, and to all who serve and bring refreshments to share.

FROM THE EDITOR:

We have submitted a grant application for help with the Monticello School Museum & Archive to the Finlandia Foundation National headquarters in Pasadena, California. They asked for a description of and justification for our grant’s project. It was a good exercise in clarifying thought about what we are up to, and what follows is an extensive adaptation from that application.

The Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. (OBHS) is an all-volunteer local affiliate of the Wisconsin Historical Society. We meet once a month, every other month being a general meeting of our membership with meals and refreshments and program, most often a local expert in some aspect of our past. We operate a website at www.oldbrule.org. We were organized in 1998 and our charge is to preserve the history and heritage of the Old-Brule region and northern Douglas County. We are located near the Twin Ports of Duluth, Minnesota and Superior, Wisconsin, in an area that was heavily settled by Finnish and Swedish speaking [Scandinavian] immigrants and other groups who homesteaded as pioneers beginning in the 1880s. This area later became part of the most heavily settled dairy farming region in the state of Wisconsin, now down to only two dairying operations in our district. Our archive, currently housed in the Maple Community Center, and in private homes, is a priceless collection of local Finnish-American culture. When completed we will have a permanent home, an archiving work area, and a display venue, that will be conveniently located for school tours and student involvement. Our project will allow us to accomplish all of these goals.

Regarding this specific project, the OBHS members have saved the Monticello School, a typical old one-room school house, erected to serve a Lake Superior fronting neighborhood of Finnish speaking families and their children around 1890, and served in that role until 1914. The building has been strengthened and moved to the historic site of the Old-Brule town hall and old Maple School near the Northwestern High School in Maple, and the Northwestern Elementary and Middle Schools in the nearby Village of Poplar. Our group serves an area that includes the town of Old-Brule which over the years has been divided into five smaller towns and two villages of many ethnic backgrounds. The schoolhouse awaits the pivotal construction of its new foundation, a walk-out basement which, built to modern standards, will serve as our organization’s headquarters and archival storage and work space. The donated site is perfectly located on a high setting overlooking a distant Lake Superior to the North. It is on high-traffic U.S. Highway 2 with easy access after driveway construction this spring, and is on a one acre, park-like, maple and oak forested hillside lot, with a small running stream.

The volunteer skills of our talented membership will bring the school totally back to life, and it will serve as a sign of the sacrifices made by the early settlers toward the education of their children. It will be multiple use and serve as well as a gathering place for our group meetings, and become a venue for permanent and rotating exhibits not only for early education but for the general history of this region, which has a deep past. The nearby namesake Brule River once served as a canoe transportation corridor for the French and British and Chippewa Indians during the fur trade era beginning in the late 1600s; copper and iron exploration and mining went on over the next 200 years; the railroad building era followed,

overlapping the white pine logging years from 1870 to 1910, and finally the era of small dairy farms in our free and democratic, self-governing rural towns and villages.

The OBHS is the proud owner and caretaker of the Davidson Finnish Windmill, located also within Old-Bruele. The group moved in and restored to that site the Eskolin Finnish dovetailed log house, and historic Taylor's Bridge. Similar energy and attention to historical detail will make the school/archive site a destination site especially for children of old residents and their families. The archive will safely gather the work and collecting of the past 14 years of OBHS's service to the region. To commemorate this and to help with future costs, planning has started for a history of the Monticello School and of local education in general, both as a book and in a dramatic production. All of this will be benefitted tremendously by any help we get with our school basement and archive project.

The Old-Bruele Heritage Society has built a strong record of support for cultural programs and research activities beyond its own group as well. We were actively involved in the planning of Finnfest 2008 which was held in Duluth and our present secretary was involved as speaker there on Davidson Windmill History and introduced many of the presenters in the lecture programming. We also had a booth in the Tori which was visited by Finnish President Tarja Halonen. We are a publisher, and have several local history book titles and have helped the local communities create them. We have published our historical photo and text calendar annually since 2006. We served as fiscal agent for David Maki who was funded from Finland (Turku University) and did underground scans of early abandoned local homesteads and the Davidson Windmill grounds.

This latest project will give us our first permanent base under our own name and we are pleased by the steady progress of our group, despite steady losses from our membership of those pioneers in the last generation after long full productive lives. This effort is truly for the sake of the young who will be filling our shoes shortly. Thank you and your contributors for your help.

Jim Pellman

1998 to 2005, 2006 to 2014 LOCAL HISTORY PHOTO CALENDARS FOR SALE.

The Bruele History Research Group, organized in 1995, produced its eighth and final calendar in 2005 with pictures of Bruele's past. Proceeds from these annual calendar sales since 1998, when the first one was produced, are being used for the publication of the history of Bruele, to be completed very soon. Limited numbers of their 2005 calendar & earlier issues are available. Please contact Janet Follis, P.O. Box 114, Bruele, WI 54820, (715) 372-4948. The 2014 Old-Bruele Heritage Society History Photo Calendars are available at \$8.00 each. Other earlier OBHS calendars are also available at \$5.00 (2006 - 2011), 2012 at \$6.00, & 2013 at \$7.00 in limited numbers. Poplar Hardware, Poplar Village Market, Cable Publishing and Sharon's Restaurant in Lake Nebagamon, and Twin Gables Restaurant in Bruele are carrying the latest issue. An e-mail address for more info: musketeer6@cheqnet.net, and phone: 715-363-2549, or Laila at 715-372-4963, or please check our Website at www.oldbruele.org. Shipping & handling: \$3.00 each. Please contact us for larger quantities, or if you might be interested in selling them for us. We thank our donor businesses whose cards we list in the back of each calendar.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE OBHS NEWS ARE THOSE OF THE WRITERS ALONE & 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 our 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 go to our loyal committee members and donors, and to the Town of Maple for Archive storage space. If you enjoy exacting work and interesting conversation please join us at 1 p.m. at the Pellmans' on a Monday afternoon. Next meeting will be on February 17, 2014, and generally every other Monday thereafter. Please call Jim at 715-363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

**Unapproved MINUTES for the GENERAL MEETING
OLD-BRUELE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.
DECEMBER "CHRISTMAS" MEETING**

Wednesday, December 11, 2013, 6 p.m. at the Amnicon Town Hall

We started the evening with a moment of silence, followed by lunch and refreshments.

Program: OBHS Member Ron Hendrickson, who has a college degree in Geology, presented a slide talk on "The Douglas Fault in Douglas County." This fault is exposed in Amnicon Falls Park and accounts for much of the geology seen there, and which give clues to the processes that shaped profoundly all later history throughout our region. Thanks to the Town of Amnicon for the use of their hall, with their new facility currently under construction. A short Business Meeting followed lunch and the program. A voluntary gift exchange closed out the evening. We thanked all who came, and all who served and brought refreshments to share.

26 people signed the roster which was passed around.

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the meeting to order at 8 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion by Doreen Swanson to approve the minutes for the General Meeting held in the Amnicon Town Hall, Wednesday, October 9, 2013 as published in the December *OBHS News*, seconded by Jim Mattson. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul C. submitted his monthly (& to date) summary of our accounts through November 30, 2013 (December 11): Checkbook account balances: General: \$747.97(553.01); Windmill: \$218.25 (447.93); Monticello School: \$5842.15 (ditto). CD: \$5778.11 (ditto). Total cash assets: \$12,585.58 (12,621.20). Balance of the Pellman Family matching grant (\$2000-\$1320): \$680. Our CD is coming due. Discussed at our last Board meeting, and it was agreed to renew it. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Mary Ann, seconded by Audrey H. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Davidson Windmill/Eskolin House/Taylor's Bridge Committee:

Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report:

Signage is still needed for Taylor's Bridge, Jim has the sign text. Mill painting: Paint donation from Pat & Tom Higgins of \$250 with Murphy Oil matching grant. Total expected \$500.00 toward mill painting costs. A Jennifer (Sloan) Painting, Lake Nebagamon paver has been ordered for her many volunteer hours. We've given her \$100 for mileage, a free membership in OBHS, and she will get two books. Addition to Eskolin House has been painted by Ron H., Nancy W. & Brian P. Thanks to all. It was apparent during the Scout tours that lighting in the mill could be improved. We will check into higher wattage or LCD lighting in our current low voltage system. Brian mentioned the need somewhere down the line we will have to look at the prospect of re-skinning the mill as many spots are extremely thin, and there are many patches. This is somewhat controversial and it will have to be done in such a manner as not to change the character of the mill. Patching for now, and a protective membrane might be other options. The Eskolin house addition got a new coat of paint, thanks to Ron, Nancy, and Brian. It is expected that we will have the Town of Lakeside plow at the mill. We got a Town mailing, and the town will be contacted, hopefully at a reduced rate. Preservation of the logs, especially of the north wall of the house is now a focus. Work will begin early this summer to seal the logs. Sealants are costly. Looking for the best product for the price.

OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report: All work has been put on hold due to the early arrival of winter snow and cold. Phase II: Basement final plans and diagrams, getting of bids, and fund-raising brochures and grant writing are moving forward, grounds development, culvert and driveway access project planning, with basement Archive construction to start after the driveway and culverts are put in; We will be waiting for the spring thaw before we start on the driveway and culvert installation by Keith Olson & Olson Brothers. Dennis said that he had been in contact with Keith and they would be willing to accept \$5,000 up front toward those costs, expecting the balance later. We got approval from the State DNR for culvert/driveway project, for fee of \$303. Another firm bid is needed for basement. Phase III: Jim has created a "vision drawing" of the Monticello School facility which is being used in brochures and mailings. The Conleys are actively pursuing support in their circle. More brochure design is ahead incorporating a comprehensive cost estimate and income overview. Another brochure details the history of the school and teachers and overall plans for its new use. We also discussed an on-site sign which needs to be designed promoting & explaining the project visible from Highways 2 and F. Another slate blackboard has been offered by Audrey Hakkila and desk (from Bobby Salomaki originally).

Doreen has contacted Jessie Burhans as contact person for the Cloverland King School Community Club to request information on plans for their building. Full credit will be given to the Community Club for any help or items they lend us. We have received the Douglas County Land Conservation Committee grant of \$500 which was approved toward Phase II. Mini-Grant forms were received from the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Local History Council for help with filling the Archiving space. They were rejected for this year, but they asked for us to reapply; and an inquiry came back positive from the Finlandia Foundation National in California. That grant has to be in by February 1, 2014 with grants awarded after May 1, 2014. Jim will be working this. The grant they gave forms for is one with top amount of \$5,000. Most major grants demand a recent audit or the IRS 990 Long Form. We will file the long form this year early to have it available. Shortly with more final plans we will also submit a formal inquiry to the Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation with the later Phases all in mind, Phase III being the full restoration of the schoolhouse. A grant proposal will go to the Wisconsin Humanities Council for the final Phase IV which would cover the interpretation of the historical significance in every respect of the Monticello School, the historic site, with a book or booklet published, and a grand opening event, all of this for late in 2014 or after. Other grants are being considered, as well as our local capital campaign which kicked off with the Pellman family matching grant at our annual meeting in August. Donations have earlier been received from the Pellman family, Lois Pollari, Earl & Barbra Granroth, Paul, Trenton & Gabbie Colby, Geraldine Fechtelkotter, Ina Falk, Gary Luoma, Hope Swenson, Mary Ann, and a gift of \$1,000 from Laila Magnuson. Thanks, too, to everyone for their generous memorials in Delores' Pellman's name, and for rallying to the project.

Membership Committee: The Membership Drive general meetings held in Maple, Lake Nebagamon & Amnicon have been well attended, with several new people signing our guest list. As funds become available more community contact can be made. It was agreed that we should promote the "multi-faceted nature" of our group in all publicity, and on the website, mentioning the Mill and its historic features, including the mill, the Eskolin House and Taylor's Bridge, now the Monticello School Museum & Archive, and our historical publications, calendars, books, maps, magnets, buttons and so on.

Archives Committee: Report. Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., December 16 at Pellmans'. Please call to confirm. Thanks from Jim to Earl, Audrey, Betty, Irene & Nancy (our Group Historian) & Shirley for keeping us on track. We've been double & triple reading the old rural edition *Superior Telegrams* scouring them for Old-Brule regional content, 80%+ complete. Earl is making strides with our computer based scan index. More help is needed. DCHS has sent a photo for our collection showing the 1933 dedication event of the marker at the Brule River end of the ancient and historic St. Croix-Brule River Portage, all of which markers have been recently rejuvenated. Ashland Historical Society sent us a photo of the Coolidge's on the Brule & a copy of the original Jerrard history of the Brule. Paper work needed on these.

Publications Committee:

Pollari Memorial Map Project Report: Very slowly progressing. Writing text for map back. Checking ice road vs RR spurs. Disclaimer to be added. Committee to contact Randy Jones as time opens up. John Altshool's passing is a blow to logging history and railroad research. He did share his gathered work in copy form with our Old-Brule Archive.

2014 Calendars Report: In progress. Some problems with transferring programs to Jim's new computer. May have to invest in new 64 bit programs. Generous donations with ad incentives have come in. Hopefully the calendar will be ready for Christmas.

Books: *Sisu and Sauna* Reprint: Work is going on to revise the first edition. Decision needed on publisher and number. We hope the committee will be able to meet soon regarding changes to the new edition. *Looking for a New Frontier* (Pearson Family) Jerrard's *Brule River of Wisconsin* are selling. *Wisconsin Far Northwest* reprint will be needed fairly soon. Five were recently purchased by the book store at NGLVC. OBHS member and book publisher, Nan Wisherd, has been helping in securing bids for the WFNW reprint. Jim has corrected book files which are ready, but more set-up would be needed. About 15 copies remain. Nan has also encouraged the gathering and printing of the OBHS calendar images and texts in book form. Book sales have been steady at Poplar Hardware. Shirley Umolac has been handling sales. She also reordered mugs. Our thanks to all. Jane Grimsrud has been in touch with her first part of Cloverland's history available. Just over \$8 is our cost in small and large print format, similar costs. 10 have been ordered.

Merchandise Inventory: An inventory was done. Shirley has worked on this. As mentioned mugs have been ordered, but the price for them, even on-line, has really gone up. Earl has leads for some cheaper possibly.

New OBHS Logo T-Shirts: This project is moving but is begging for time.

Gene Davidson DVD proposal: still working this idea

Button Creation: Hope is working on this in support of the Monticello School project.

Vouchers for 20% off regular admissions have been digitally sent out by the Wisc. Council for Local History. See Jim for a copy if you need a certificate or we can send them in a digital version.

The local Cub Scout Troop 212 with parents and leaders got a tour of the mill from Jim the day after Bayfield Apple Festival Weekend Tours. They were impressed. Thanks to the troops and their leaders for their donation and for coming to visit us. In excess of fifty scouts in addition to leaders showed up.

Other Old Business: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sympathy/Encouragements: Families & friends of members **Elvie Agacki, Jack Gronquist & John Altshool.** Encouragement to **Laverne Colby Winter** now in assisted living. Doris Perala was again mentioned as in need of visits and encouragement. Word just came in that **Inez (Christensen) Esselstrom** had just passed away.

Recognitions. New Blue Sheets were available to hand out. See Jim if you need one.

2014 Budget proposals and adoption delayed. Paul will set up meeting.

Coming Meetings: January Board Meeting will be on Jan. 8, 2014 at 4:30 PM at Dan Bergsten's, County Road D, Poplar. Thanks to them for sharing their home.

Other New Business: The next General Meeting, February 12, came up with the choices of Maple, Lakeside and Amnicon coming up in that order as choice of location. Jim will make contact with Maple first. Topic of the program is yet to be developed but we have wanted a talk from Herb Wagner, who has a website called *At the Creation*. We would try to get him, with other prospects leaning toward a former South Shore teacher speaker, or in house.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Dan B., second by Jim P. to adjourn. Motion carried. The group retired to excellent conversation & remnants of lunch. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Pellman, Secretary

FUND-RAISING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

The Society has available regional history magnets, plus Davidson Windmill memorabilia: mugs, caps, tee shirts, sweat shirts, key chains, buttons and photos for sale. Early issue magnets are going for \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.00, proceeds to our general fund. The new Windmill mugs are \$8, new stock caps, \$12, and tee shirts, any size, \$10, all proceeds going into the Windmill Fund. **SEE OUR WEB SITE** (www.oldbrule.org) **FOR CURRENT SALE ITEMS AND PRICES.** Our new vests are for sale for \$24.00.

Our book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, and Nan Wisherd's books, *Pathways* and *Echoes*, Lakeside's *Sisu and Sauna*, and *Amnicon From the Beginning*, are available for \$20.00 a copy + \$3.50 shipping. Wisconsin sales tax is included in all of our prices. Shipping and handling for mugs, caps and tee shirts is a \$3.00 minimum. All items are also available for purchase at our meetings or by contacting an OBHS member. Our booklet, *Davidson Windmill History* by Jim Pellman and Gene Davidson is available for \$8.00 (+\$2.00 shipping). Leigh P. & Richard Jerrard's new expanded and revised edition of *The Brule River of Wisconsin* is now available at \$20.00 (+\$3.50 shipping). See our calendar ad above. Jane Pearson Grimsrud recently released small and large print versions of *Brule River Forest and Lake Superior Cloverland Anecdotes*. Both are available for \$20.00 (+\$3.50 shipping). Poplar Hardware also has an inventory of most of our titles. Please check ahead for current availability.

**Unapproved MINUTES for the BOARD MEETING
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Dan & Dorothy Bergsten Residence, Highway D., Poplar, WI
4:30 p.m., January 8, 2014

Thanks to Dan & Dorothy for hosting! They provided a full meal to the group. And thanks to others who brought food to share, and for coming out on a very cold night.

Attendance 8: Alice C., Hope S., Mary Ann G., Brian P., Doreen S., Dennis H., Jim P. Dan B.

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion for approval of the Minutes of the Board Meeting of November 13, 2013, held at Doreen & Jody Swansons' as published in the December 5, 2013 *OBHS News* made by Alice C., second by Mary Ann. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul C. is on a honeymoon, but submitted his monthly summary of our accounts through December 31, 2013: Checkbook account balances: General: **\$936.31**; Windmill: **\$417.55**; Monticello School: **\$6,042.15**. CD: **\$5778.11**. Total cash assets: **\$13,174.12**. Balance of the Pellman Family matching grant (**\$2000-\$1520**): **\$480**. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Brian P., was seconded by Dan B. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

**Davidson Windmill/Eskolin House/Taylor's Bridge Committee:
Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report:**

Signage is still needed for Taylor's Bridge, Jim has the sign text. Mill painting, more next summer. A Jennifer (Sloan) Painting, Lake Nebagamon paver has been ordered for her many volunteer hours. We've given her \$100 for mileage, a free membership in OBHS, and she still is promised two books. Addition to Eskolin House will get its second coat of paint, some talk about it needing to be darker heard. The flexible log chinking material is extremely expensive. We will be looking into all that's out there for the sake of sealing and preserving and restoring the Eskolin house exterior. Also we will be looking to flash the non-log portion of the gabled ends downward to keep the moisture moving along the outside of the building. All outside work is contingent on the arrival of summer weather. Brighter lights in mill to be investigated still using low voltage but LCD technology upgrades. The skin treatment will be getting more study.

OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report: Phase II: Jim P. offered this printed report as part of the agenda: Basement final plans and diagrams, getting of bids, and fund-raising brochures and grant writing are moving forward, grounds development, culvert and driveway access projects, with basement Archive construction yet to start; driveway postponed due to early winter. Another firm bid is needed for basement. Fundraising/grants/990 Form top priorities. **Phase III:** Another brochure details the history of the school and teachers and overall plans for its new use. An on-site sign has been discussed which needs to be designed promoting & explaining the project, as the weather breaks with spring we should have it ready.

Mini-Grant forms will be re-submitted to the **Wisconsin Historical Society and the Local History Council** for help with filling the Archiving space; and an inquiry came back positive from the **Finlandia Foundation National** in California. That grant has to be in by February 1, 2014 with grants awarded after May 1, 2014. The grant they gave forms for is one with top amount of \$5,000. Major grants demand a recent audit or the IRS 990 Long Form. We will also submit a formal inquiry to the **Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation** with the later Phases all in mind, **Phase III** being the full restoration of the schoolhouse. A grant proposal will go to the **Wisconsin Humanities Council** for the final **Phase IV** which would cover the interpretation of the historical significance in every respect of the Monticello School, the historic site, with a book or booklet published, and a grand opening event, all of this for late in 2014 or after. Other ideas: to create & hold an historical play using local talent & facilities. Other grants are being considered, as well as our local capital campaign which kicked off with the **Pellman family matching grant** at our annual meeting in August. Donations have earlier been received from the **Pellman family, Lois Pollari, Earl & Barbra Granroth, Paul, Trenton & Gabbie Colby, Geraldine Fechtelkötter, Ina Falk, Gary Luoma, Hope Swenson, and Mary Ann, and Laila Magnuson**. And thanks to everyone for their generous memorials in Delores Pellman's name, and for rallying to the project. Discussion developed on the prospect of creating and producing an historical play, securing "professional help" such as Pat Luostari, and/or Kathy Laakso. Hope suggested writing short historical scenes throughout. Motion was made by Alice C. with a second by Dan B. to go forward with planning for an historical dramatic performance seeking to use the Pat Luostari Auditorium and Northwestern High School if possible or toward Douglas County Historical Society if need be for the sake of fundraising and the building of community relations and support for local history and the Monticello School Museum & Archive. This motion carried.

Membership Committee: It was agreed that we should promote the "multi-faceted nature" of our group in all publicity, and on the website, mentioning the Mill site, Eskolin House & Taylor's Bridge, the Monticello School Museum & Archive, and our historical publications.

Archives Committee: Report. Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., January 13 at Pellmans'. Please call to confirm. Thanks from Jim to Earl, Audrey, Betty, Irene & Nancy (our Group Historian) & Shirley for keeping us on track. More help is needed. Ashland Historical Society sent a picture of President Coolidge & wife at Cedar Island. It was brought up

again how valuable the services Ina Erickson were to our archives and to the mission of our group, and motion was made by Alice C. with a second by Doreen Swanson that we install a paver at the mill in her memory.

Publications Committee:

Pollari Memorial Map Project Report: Slowly progressing. Writing text for map back. Checking ice road vs RR spurs. Disclaimer to be added. Committee to contact Randy Jones as time opens up. A spirited discussion developed around the need to get the Pollari Memorial Map finished, and how best to get this done. A motion was made by Dan B. with a second by Doreen that we make a two sided map, giving us two surfaces to develop, one dedicated to logging railroad infrastructure and communities, and the other side that which we have already considerably developed with more general themes, the idea to make a simpler surface by dividing the contents, confining the time covered from 1890 to about 1910. The railroad map would be smaller and on the back with the text descriptions already being developed. Motion carried to proceed with this understanding.

2014 Calendars Report: They are done and available. Generous donations supported the effort.

Books: *Sisu and Sauna Reprint (Lakeside History):* Work is going on to revise the first edition. Decision needed on publisher and number. We hope the committee will be able to meet soon regarding changes to the new edition. ***Looking for a New Frontier*** (Pearson Family) Jerrard's ***Brule River of Wisconsin*** are selling. ***Wisconsin Far Northwest*** reprint will be needed fairly soon. OBHS member and book publisher, Nan Wisherd, has been helping in securing bids for the WFNW reprint, and supports a table top book with reprints from our calendars. Book sales have been steady at Poplar Hardware. Jane Grimsrud has been in touch re her first part of Cloverland's history called ***Brule River Forest and Lake Superior: Cloverland Anecdotes*** now available through us at Poplar Hardware.

Merchandise Inventory: An inventory was done.

New OBHS Logo T-Shirts: This project is moving but is begging for time. Jim has image going for T-shirt.

Gene Davidson DVD proposal: still working this idea. Need to follow up on production leads provided by member D.Basil Edgette. (David Lee).

Button Creation: Hope is working on this in support of the Monticello School project.

Vouchers for 20% off regular admissions have been digitally sent out by the Wisc. Council for Local History. We need to print and distribute the certificates to our members or to send a digital version.

Other Old Business:

NEW BUSINESS:

Sympathy/Encouragements: Encouragement to **Doris Perala** & sympathy to the **Bongs & Peralas** in their recent losses (**Jim Bong, Elmer Perala**).

Recognitions. New Blue Sheets are available to hand out.

2014 Budget proposals and adoption delayed until next Board meeting at least. Paul will be setting up meeting.

Coming Meetings: Feb. 12th General Meeting, Maple. Next Board meeting: Dan & Dorothy B.'s March 12, 4:30 p.m.

Other New Business. None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Doreen Swanson, second by Jim Mattson to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Pellman, Secretary

**Area History:
No. 96**



This photo is the January entry in our 2013 OBHS History Calendar.

1. **Eino (Arnold) and Elvie Makela c 1920.** The children of Konsta & Maija (Mary Saari) Makela, Eino, father of Jerry, went on to serve his community with his electrical wiring skills, and Elvie, after marrying Eino "Buster" Lehtimaki, would have Rusty, Joyce and Ronnie, and go on to found the Maple business called Buster's Coffee Pot, which eventually grew into Sundown Truck Stop, idle for the moment. Their younger brother Kenneth would come along about seven years later. *Elvie Lehtimaki collection, copy in the Old-Brule Heritage Society Archive.*

-NOTICES -

Members, please check your newsletter mailing labels to see what we have in our records: The last day of the year date shown is when your membership expires. Dues collection for 2014 began at our Annual Meeting.

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS: To all of you who have donated your valuable time to make what we do throughout the year possible.

OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY: To family & friends of **Karl Robert Hildebrandt**, 63, of Lake Nebagamon, Wis., who passed away on Feb. 2, 2014, with his family by his side. He was born Feb. 5, 1950, in Superior to the late Eunice and Clifford Hildebrandt. **Also to families & friends of:**

LaVerne J (Colby) Winter was born Jan. 22, 1940, in Oulu, Wis. Died Feb. 4, Duluth. Mother of Jon.

Roger W. Kaarto, 83, Superior, died Jan. 30, at the Middle River Health and Rehab. Center.

Marylin Mae "Bird" (Prigge) Higgins, 83, of Superior, died Feb. 3, at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth, surrounded by her children.

Tamara J. Berg, 40, of Iron River, passed away on Jan. 22, at her home in Iron River, daughter of Harold "Skip" Anderson and Barb Lahti.

James A. Amundson, 74, longtime resident of Superior and Lake Nebagamon died on Jan. 21, after a brief but courageous battle with cancer.

Sue Ann Bruce, 66, of Lake Nebagamon passed away Jan. 23, at St. Luke's in Duluth, was Highland's Town Chairman.

Ely G. Bonet 77, Superior, Madison & Las Cruces NM, born in Cuba, entered eternal life on Jan. 18, of Alzheimer's.

Marina (Stolarow) Southwick, 86, born in Poland, formerly of South Range, died Jan. 17, at Solvay Hospice House, Duluth surrounded by her family. Knowing four languages - Polish, Russian, German and English - she worked overseas as an interpreter during World War II.

Andrew "Drew" Kovaleski, 43, Milwaukee, Wis., died peacefully in his sleep Jan. 14, at his residence in Milwaukee, the son of William Kovaleski, Sr. and Alesia Kathleen Tahtinen.

Kathryn Mary Karras passed peacefully into the light on Jan. 6 at Middle River Health and Rehab Center, Hawthorne after 95 years of sharing her wonderful spirit with all that knew her, daughter of Max and Augusta (Raschke) Ramel,

Beth A. Hancock, 59, Hanover Park, Ill., died Jan. 11, at Central DuPage Hospital, Winfield, Ill., after a lengthy illness, oldest daughter of Robert and Joanne (Williams) Kauther.

Doris A. Hill passed away at home at the age of 81, on Jan. 11, daughter of Irvin LeBel and Irene Maki

James Conrad Bong, 74, Lake Nebagamon, died Jan. 1, at Solvay Hospice House, Duluth, brother of Maj. Richard I. Bong, son of Clara (Bryce) and Carl Bong of Poplar. Survived by "Jerry" Fechtelkötter, Carl "Bud" Bong, Joyce Erickson, Barbara "Bobby" Peterman, wife Nancy, daughters Rissa Bong and Suzanne Scharff, and son James.

Elmer Thomas Perala, 71, of Maple & Ashwaubenon, Wis., died peacefully in his sleep at Bellin Hospital on Jan. 4, after surgery, grandson of Matt, son of Einard & Aino, nephew of Reino Perala & Lorraine Korhonen.

Larry A. Larson, 67, of Lake Nebagamon and formerly of Superior, died Jan. 4 at his residence. Larry was born in Superior on Aug. 2, 1946, the son of Leo and Margaret Larson.

Danielle F. Pooler, 39, passed away on Dec. 31, at home in Lake Nebagamon, Wis., had worked with Dave Pooler and husband Mark on the Windmill sidewalk project, daughter of Shelly and Jerry Amys,

Mary Johnson, 100, Superior, Lake Nebagamon, Rice Lake, was born in Burlington, Iowa, to William and Corrine Wesner on Oct. 28, 1913, and died at the Spring Valley Health Care Center in Spring Valley, Wis. on Nov. 15.

Theodore John Wuori, 84, longtime Maple, Wis. resident died Dec. 20, at St. Francis in the Park, Superior, Wis. Son Richard in Duluth, and sister Alice Walimaki in Middle River survive him.

Richard Daniel Schiff, 61, Town of Lakeside, finished a courageous battle against cancer at home on his farm looking out the window at the barn his family and he had rebuilt together.

Allan C. Johnson, 85, Town of Cloverland, & Superior died Dec. 19, at the Chris Jensen Health and Rehabilitation Center in Duluth, son of Hjalmer and Ailie (Luostari) Johnson.

Marjorie Mae Irons, 75, a lifelong resident of Iron River, passed away on Dec. 17 at the St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth, Minn. surrounded by her family, the daughter of Rudolph E. and Mae Elizabeth (Stephans) Mortenson.

Ronald J. Amys, 76, Poplar & Superior, passed away on Dec. 10, in Franklin, Wis. after a long battle with cancer, son of the late Caesar and Cecilia Marie Amys Ronchi.

Jack McKenna, 91, died peacefully on Dec. 8, the Duluth-Superior radio & TV personality.

Inez M. (Christensen) Esselstrom, 96, lifelong Town of Lakeside area resident, died Dec. 10 at the Middle River Health and Rehabilitation Center, survived locally by son Duane Esselstrom of Maple.

LaVerne Kurtz, 95, lifelong Superior resident, passed away peacefully at Villa-Marina Health and Rehabilitation Center in Superior on Monday, Dec. 9, a daughter holding each hand, born to Frank and Alice (Mason) Jolicoeur.

LeRoy Erick Isaksson, 92, of Herbster, Wis. & Mt. Pleasant, Mich., formerly of Saginaw and Alma, passed away suddenly of heart failure on Dec. 3, 2013, at McLaren Bay Region Hospital, son of Alfred & Esther O. (Olson) Isaksson.

May these, our dear friends and neighbors, rest in peace.

... and who have we missed or forgotten??

RETURN ADDRESS:**OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Post Office Box 24, 4808 S. County Road F
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, Paul Colby, at the same address. Our annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals, and \$25.00 for families, payable at the annual meeting in August. Higher levels of support are always welcome.

New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!

CALENDAR.

February 12, Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. OBHS General Meeting. Maple Community Center. Brian Paulson & Jim Pellman Slide Program on **the History of the Northern Pacific Railroad from Superior to Ashland.**

February 14, Friday. St. Valentine's Day.

February 17, Monday. Presidents' Day. 1:00 p.m. Archives Committee next meets at Pellmans in Maple. Please call to confirm.

March 5, Wednesday. Ash Wednesday.

March 9, Sunday. Daylight Saving Time Begins.

March 12, Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. OBHS Board meets at Dan & Dorothy Bergsten's.

March 16, Sunday. St. Urho's Day.

March 17, Monday. St. Patrick's Day.

March 20, Thursday. Deadline for contributions to the April *OBHS News*. First Day of Spring.

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY WEB SITE ON LINE

The Website Committee has been maintaining our Web site (www.oldbrule.org). **Earl Granroth** continues to make regular updates, and **Jon Winter** of **Winter Systems** in **Superior** is our Web host at no charge to us. **Thanks again to Earl G. and Jon.**