

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 3

June 11, 2014

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Paul Colby, Lakeside, Treasurer
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Danny Bergsten, Poplar
One Board Vacancy

Mary Ann Gronquist, Parkland
Doreen Swanson, Brule
Hope Swenson, Lakeside
Gary Luoma, Superior, Alternate

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY WORK DAY & JUNE GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, June 19, 2014, 6 p.m. at the Lakeside Town Hall

After a busy day of preparation for our Midsummer Celebration (*Juhannus Juhlat*), both on the Windmill grounds, and at the Lakeside Town Hall, we will start the evening with a moment of silence, followed by lunch and refreshments. Please bring a covered dish to pass or goodies to share.

Thanks to the Town of Lakeside for the use of their Hall.

The Hall is at the junction of County Road D (and State Highway 13.

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

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

FROM THE EDITOR:

I had completed my letter from the editor last night and most of the rest of the newsletter when my computer locked up. I had rehashed the story of the otters in the Windmill that kept the mill closed to visitors on Saturday, May 18th, one of our Summer Third Saturday of the Month tours. The otters disappeared overnight as the mother moved them to a safer and quieter spot that doesn't have a screaming vacuum cleaner. It was a close encounter with a frightened but fearless creature ready to defend her pups. The story was posted on Facebook and can be found there.

Instead I'll take this "opportunity" to say a few things about the computer lock up and the loss of many hours of work in pulling this newsletter together. Computers don't need another story to make a bad name for themselves when it comes to their extreme acute failures. It's hard to imagine, though, life without them. I wonder what Old-Brule Heritage Society would look like without them. We take for granted email, and the social media. Our base of computer savvy followers is slowly growing, but is that what we are about? There is another part of that thought, "pulling this newsletter together," that speaks directly to our activities. Our charter says that our task is the collection, preservation and sharing of the history and heritage of the Old-Brule region. I noticed the Wisconsin Historical Society is now modestly calling itself the collector of the stories of the State. Would that be suitable as a description for what we are doing, but on a local stage? Just what are we gathering? And why?

I read with interest the lead article in the latest *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. It dealt with the question of how it happens the State Historical Society became a principal repository of the records of the National Civil Rights Movement, and the story of the daring efforts in the deep South of that time by a handful of young Society employees to gather the paper and verbal record of the dissent from racial injustice, and their shipping cartons of materials back to Madison. What are we doing that might compare in any way with these actions and sacrifices in the name of some major historical cause?

We are copying very old church records which includes in its rosters the name of the Windmill builder and his neighbors. We are screening old newspapers from the 1960s and 70s for local history articles, scanning and indexing them. We are gathering and indexing scrapbooks of clippings, high school yearbooks, town records of proceedings, Town of *old* Brule Treasurers' notes and correspondence, old albums and photographs, some extending back into the Scandinavia and Finland of their contributors' parents. We are gathering the old articles found in scans of the newspapers from the 1890s to the 1920s that speak of who motored where, and of which trains were carrying people from Superior out into "the County" to pick blueberries, or to deer hunt, or to fish. We are gathering articles on rural election results, and reports on petitions for the formation of new towns or villages, which always meant the "threat" of subdivision of a larger town. We are keeping track through these articles of the history of our schools, and the assignments by the County Superintendents of the young teenaged female teachers, right out of the Normal School in Superior.

We are also gathering diaries, loose sheets of notes, marked calendars showing the births of calves. There are Master's Theses on our region, and State Academy reports on the Brule River, and copper mining prospectuses, and John Altshool's and Howard Peddle's correspondence on log marks and the railroad spurs of the HN&S. We are gathering local evidence of larger enterprises, and national trends, all with a local voice; the erasure of the family dairy farms from our region, and the ethnic cultures, the cooperatives and small businesses, and families and individuals that sustained them, the saddest chapter of all. We look forward to the completion of the Monticello School Museum and Archive on the beautiful site of the Old-Brule Town Hall and first Maple School to provide our work and collection a fitting setting in our profoundly important preserving and sharing of local community and neighborhood lives. —Jim Pellman

1998 to 2005, 2006 to 2014 LOCAL 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 from these annual calendar sales since 1998, when the first one was produced, are being used for the publication of the history of Brule, to be completed very soon. Limited numbers of their 2005 calendar & earlier issues are available. Please contact Janet Follis, P.O. Box 114, Brule, WI 54820, (715) 372-4948. The 2014 Old-Brule 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 Brule have been 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.oldbrule.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 June 23, 2014, and generally every other Monday thereafter. Please call Jim at 715-363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

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

Wednesday, April 9, 2014, at the Maple Community Center

We will started the evening with a moment of silence, followed by a light lunch and refreshments. President Dennis welcomed guests and new members and thanked all who came, and all who served and who brought refreshments to share. 26 signed the roster passed around. Thanks went out to the Town of Maple for the use of their community center, and to Doreen Swanson who brought and shared logging related family artifacts and photos.

Program: OBHS Members Dennis Hill & Jim Pellman gave a talk with logging artifacts and a slide program entitled "How Did They Clear the Forest So Quickly." Our short Business Meeting followed lunch and the program.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the meeting to order at 8:20 p.m.

MINUTES: Approval of the Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Maple Community Center, Wednesday, February 12, 2014, as published in the April *OBHS News*, followed. Motion was made by Doreen S. with a second by Arlene Hill. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul C. submitted his summary of our accounts, for March 12, 2014 and (to date April 9, 2014): Beginning: \$7593.81 (\$7596.53); Income: \$100.00 (\$0.00); Expenses: \$123.77 (\$353.70); Ending: \$7570.04 (\$7242.83). Checkbook account balances: General: \$531.03 (436.31); Windmill: \$292.18 (266.38); Monticello School: \$6512.15 (\$6512.15); CD: \$5783.14 (ditto). Total cash assets: \$13,353.18 (13,025.97). Balance of the Pellman Family matching grant (\$2000-\$1890): \$110. Motion by Lila Ronn, seconded by Gary Luoma, for approval of the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report: With summer coming we look forward to Jennifer Sloan finishing the painting on the mill, doing the blades this year. With the ground hardening up we look forward to the new arms being installed by Pat Grube. The Eskolin House addition will get a final coat of paint bringing its color back to a darker hue, and there will be more research done to solve the problem of leakage through the logs on the north side of the building, possibly flashing and sealant. Also the rot of all the exterior on the logs will be addressed with flexible caulking and sealant. Prices for these materials are proving to be pricey. Someday the deterioration of the metal skin on the mill will have to be addressed. We might have to write for a major grant for help with that project. More work and

research ahead. Net funds from the Midsummer Dinner and mill merchandise sales all go to the Windmill Account which should help balances.

OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report: 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 projects, with basement Archive construction yet to start; Winter stopped progress on driveway and culvert installation by Keith Olson & Olson Brothers. 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. An on-site sign needs to be designed promoting & explaining the project, and this should be installed when driveway construction excavations are complete.

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 past year, but they asked for us to reapply; Our application for a grant from the Finlandia Foundation National in California has come in at half of what we requested, \$2,500.00 Motion was made by Lila Ronn, seconded by Doreen Swanson, that we accept that amount in lieu of the \$5,000 we requested. The motion carried with no dissent. Grant monies were to be sent after May 1, 2014. An inquiry has been sent to the Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation for a grant with the later Phases all in mind, Phase III being the full restoration of the schoolhouse. It is in review. 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 an exhibit catalog printed giving the history of the school, a dramatic production, and a grand opening event, all of this for later in 2014 and later. 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 last 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 more recently from Laila Magnuson, Gene Davidson and John & Doreen Swanson. Thanks 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, the School & Archive, and our historical publications. Mary Ann has been active in inserting articles in places like the *Connection* and *Northwoods Shopper*, as well as annual tourist magazines from the local Chamber and the State.

Archives Committee: Report. Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., April 14 at Pellmans’. Please call to confirm. Thanks from Jim to Earl, Audrey, Betty, Irene & Nancy (our Group Historian) & Shirley for keeping us on track. This winter has slowed us down some. Earl is making great strides with our scanning index. We have new help...Mary Ann Gronquist has joined the committee. Thanks to all.

Publications Committee:

Pollari Memorial Map Project Report: Very slowly progressing. A spirited discussion developed at our last Board meeting around the need to get the Pollari Memorial Map finished, and how best to get this done. A motion passed 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 on the logging side. The railroad mainline and spur map would be smaller and on the back with the text descriptions already being developed. We were to contact Randy Jones as soon as time opens up. Should be able to meet with Randy shortly and get moving. We will also put out a final request to the 21 rural communities in Douglas County for final input from them on what they feel are the most historic sites in their communities, via email to village and town boards.

2014 Calendars Report: On sale at Poplar Hardware, Poplar Village Market, Twin Gables in Brule, Sharon’s Restaurant & Cable Publishing in Lake Nebagamon.

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. Jim has scheduled an appointment with Nan Wisherd at Cable Publishing to discuss the Calendar Book. She said her company would absorb up-front costs for publishing the book, for a negotiated percentage covering her costs. Meeting rescheduled for April 16, 10:30 to noon.

Merchandise Inventory: An inventory was done, thanks to Shirley & George.

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 has a winch used in lifting ice from Lake Nebagamon pre-refrigeration days. This will be investigated further.

Button Creation: Hope S. is working on this in support of the Monticello School project. Shared at Board meeting progress there. New materials for the button making were ordered and received.

Vouchers for 20% off regular admissions have been digitally sent out by the Wisc. Council for Local History. See Jim for a printed or digital version.

Midsummer. Info has been updated on the website by Earl. A signup sheet for Thursday, Friday and Saturday workers was proposed and passed. Mary Ann and Alice are heading this up with posters to go up again designed by Janine S.

Other Old Business: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sympathy/Encouragements: to the family of Jeff Hermanson.

Recognitions & Volunteer Hours documentation. New Blue Sheets are available to hand out. See Jim or go on line to our website at www.oldbrule.org.

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

Coming Meetings: Next Board meeting: Eskolin House, May 14, 4:30 p.m. Next General Meeting will be on June 19, Thursday, at the Lakeside Town Hall. Prep day for Midsummer.

Other New Business:

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Doreen S., second by Lila R. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 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 Windmill 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 has 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. Also contact our members for more info.

Unapproved MINUTES for the MAY BOARD MEETING

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 4:30 p.m. at the Eskolin House

Attendance: Hope S., Gary L., Dennis H., Brian P., Paul C., Dan B., Jim P., Mary Ann G., Dave & Jan Conley.

CALL TO ORDER: By President Dennis Hill at 4:35 p.m.

MINUTES: Mary Ann G. noted that the minutes should read that we have Kindel prints for sale, rather than paintings. Motion by Hope S. to approve the Minutes as corrected of the Board Meeting held at the Dan & Dorothy Bergsten residence in Poplar, Wed., March 12, 2014, as published in the April *OBHS News*. Seconded by Brian Paulson, the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul C. submits an end of month Apr.30 & to date (May 7) summary: Beginning balance: \$7,577.63 (\$5,148.83); Income: \$435.00 (\$0.00); Expenses: \$453.90 (\$2529.00); Ending: \$7,677.83 (\$5,148.23). Checkbook account balances: General: \$709.30 (\$310.10); Windmill: \$286.38 (\$260.58); Monticello School: \$6,682.15 (\$4,578.15). CD: \$5,788.06 (ditto). Total cash assets: \$13,465.89 (\$10,936.89). Balance of the Pellman Family matching grant (\$2000-\$2000) = \$ 0. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Brian P, seconded by Dan B., carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Davidson Windmill/Eskolin House/Taylor's Bridge Committee: Summer work ahead as described at last General meeting. Discussed the need for log chinking or caulking on the Eskolin House. A call might be good to the Pudas' who have worked with log buildings, and Duane Lahti.

Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report:

OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report: 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 projects, with basement Archive construction yet to start; Winter stopped progress on driveway and culvert installation by Keith Olson & Olson Brothers. Culverts have been ordered. 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. An on-site sign needs to be put up explaining the project, at least once the driveway and parking area are established.

Mini-Grant forms were received from the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Local History Council for help with preparing the Archiving space. This grant request was rejected last year, but they asked for us to reapply; Our application for a grant from the **Finlandia Foundation National** in California has come in at half of the \$5,000 we requested, \$2,500.00, accepted at our last General meeting. Grant monies will be sent after May 1, 2014. An inquiry has been sent to the Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation re grant with the later Phases all in mind, Phase III being the full restoration of the schoolhouse. It is under their review. 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 an exhibit and catalog planned, a dramatic production, and a grand opening event, all of this for later in 2014 or after. Several of us attended a workshop in Ashland for Humanities Council grants, put on by Kathy Laakso & Janet Seymour of WHS: Dennis H., Jim P., Laila M. & Paul C. 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 (now matched). 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, Laila Magnuson, Gene Davidson, and Doreen & Jody Swanson. Thanks also to everyone for their generous memorials in Delores' Pellman's name, and for rallying to the project.

Archives Committee: Report. Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., June 2 at Pellmans'. Please call to confirm. Thanks from Jim to Earl, Audrey, Betty, Mary Ann & Shirley for keeping us on track. This winter has slowed us down some. Earl is making great strides with our scan index. Thanks to all.

Publications Committee:

Pollari Memorial Map Project Report: Very slowly progressing. A two sided map is now going forward, one side 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 on each by dividing the contents, confining the time covered from 1890 to about 1910 on the railroad map. It will be smaller and on the back with the text descriptions already being developed there. Jim is to contact Randy Jones who is done with most of digitizing but has some railroad lines that need resolution. Audrey has talked with him.

2014 Calendars Report: Still on sale at Poplar Hardware, Twin Gables in Brule, & Cable Publishing in Lake Nebagamon.

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 also supports a table top book with reprints from our calendars. Jim met April 16 with Nan at Cable Publishing to discuss the Calendar Book. She said her company would handle up-front costs for publishing the book, for a negotiated percentage to recover costs. Jim now needs to gather prospective images and text. Book sales have been steady at Poplar Hardware. Jane Grimsrud's first part of Cloverland's history called *Brule River Forest and Lake Superior: Cloverland Anecdotes*, is now available through us at Poplar Hardware. Just ordered 12 more, 8 with large print.

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. Also David Lee has a winch once used in the ice block business on Lake Nebagamon which is being investigated. May be suitable for display near MSMA.

Button Creation: Hope is working on this in support of the Monticello School project. Ordered and received new supplies.

Vouchers for 20% off regular admissions have been digitally sent out by the Wisc. Council for Local History. See Jim for a printed or digital version.

Midsummer. Info has been updated on the website. Same price & serving times & tour hours as last.

Other Old Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Sympathy/Encouragements: The family of Jane Peterson (Ron H.'s mother-in-law) on her loss, & to Barb G., and Rich H.

Recognitions. Blue Sheets for recording volunteer hours were available to hand out. We need hours handed in just before the annual meeting in August, filled in through the end of July. We'd like to again recognize people for their time.

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

Upcoming Meetings: Next **Board Meeting:** Swanson Cabin, July 9, 4:30 p.m. Next **General Meeting** will be on June 19, Thursday, 6 p.m. at the Lakeside Town Hall; our prep day for **Midsummer. Annual Meeting,** August 23rd weekend? Location ?. Program ?

Mowing 2014: Paul C. & Trenton will do it. Last year's total cost for mowing: \$425.00.

Other New Business: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Dan B., second by Brian P. Motion carried. Adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Pellman, Secretary

**Area History:
No. 98**

This photo is the June entry in our 2014 OBHS History Calendar.

14.06 Lillian Smith Fonger on her Honeymoon at "Arcadia" in Solon Springs, June 23, 1922. One of the young teachers at Lakeside's Monticello School was Lillian Smith Fonger. Her father, Olaf Pierson (Pehrsson), was born in Sweden in 1863. He came to the US at age 19 and promptly changed his name to Smith so he would sound more American. He traveled on to North Dakota where he met Marit Opland who had immigrated with her parents from Flatanger, Norway, to the US in 1885. They moved to Duluth where they married and started a family. After eight years they moved to Poplar. Lillian Evangeline was the second of 11 children. Her father was often ill and she had to leave school at 14 to do housework and childcare in Superior. She finished 9th grade, and then took a year at Superior's State Normal School (now UWS). Her very first job was in 1913 at Monticello School. She had 20 students, grades 1-8. She received \$35/month. She lived with the Rautio family and paid them \$10/month for room and board. She loved nature, art, theater, music and poetry. She went on to teach four more years at Woodland, Snowbound and Anton schools. One of Lillian's very vivid memories was when she had to deliver a baby - during school hours! Lillian married Robert D. Fonger of Poplar in 1922 and they had three children. She was loving, creative and made everything fun. She did art projects, read books, played games and made birch bark cards with her grandchildren. She joined a sewing club called the Monkey Club and made over 200 sock monkeys in her lifetime, many of them going to sick children or others in need. She also jotted down notes about her life, and after her death her granddaughter, Jan Conley, compiled those notes into *Out of This Red Clay*. Ancestry and Memoirs of Lillian Smith Fonger. When she and Robert brought a cabin on Lake Nebagamon after retirement she took her grandchildren into the woods and called the birds - just as her father had done when she was a child. Lillian died in 1982 at age 85 and remains an inspiration to her family. *Photo courtesy of Jan Conley.*



-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 2015 will begin at our Annual Meeting in August.

THANK YOU'S & RECOGNITIONS: To all of you who have donated your time & resources to make what we do possible.

OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY: To the family & friends of the following:

Toivo Donald Hietala, 81 of Crystal Falls, Michigan, who passed away on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at his home.

He was born on Nov. 30, 1932 in Poplar, son of the late Emil and Helen (Nykanen) Hietala. He graduated from NWHS

Betty Marie (Nevin) Knoll, Lake Nebagamon, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, June 1, 2014 at the Franciscan Health Center in Duluth. Daughter of Gene and Marie Nevin, she was preceded in death by husband, Hans Knoll, born Dec. 28, 1934 in Brooklyn, NY.

Shirley (Jones) Webb, 86, formerly of Poplar, died Monday, June 2, 2014 at Golden Living Center in Superior. Preceded in death by husband, Harry W. Webb, Jr. Survived by daughter Morgan, and sisters Hildegarde Jones and Kathryn Willard. Shirley was born April 5, 1928 in Poplar the daughter of Hilma J. (Wiberg) Jones and George E. Jones.

James G. Doherty, 86, Superior, passed away on Monday, May 26, 2014, in his home. He was born on Sept. 15, 1927, in Superior to Harvey and Mary (Nevin) Doherty. James graduated from the former Cathedral High School, married Beverly Jaques on October 25, 1952, and celebrated 48 years of marriage before she passed away on Jan. 21, 2001.

Charles (Chuck) D. Miller, 66, Friendship, Wis. passed away on Sunday May 18, 2014 at home with his wife by his side. Former Lake Nebagamon Chief of Police. He was born on Dec. 28, 1947 in Wisconsin

He grew up in Superior and Brule and attended Northwestern High School. Finding a new family with Reuben and Donna Clemmer.

Elna Hermanson, 98, San Diego, Calif., died peacefully in hospice care on May 18, 2014. She had lived independently at Ocean Beach until just after her 98th birthday. Elna was born on Nov. 28, 1915, in Maple, Wis., to Edward and Hulda Niemi. On Jan. 6, 1942, she married Gunnard "Hermie" Hermanson. After his death she moved to San Diego, Calif., to be near family.

Pat O'Hara, Sept. 19, 1946 - May 17, 2014 passed away peacefully on the 17th of May, 2014. Interment in Lakeside (WI) Cemetery.

Edward R. "Ed" Deniswicz, 81, Superior, passed away on Monday, May 19, 2014 at Essentia Health St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth. Survived by wife Geri (Gotelaere). He was born on Dec. 30, 1932 in Superior to Walter and Stella (Konopacki) Deniswicz.

He grew up in Lake Nebagamon and graduated from Northwestern High School.

Arlis Jean Miller, 81, Town of Hawthorne, died Tuesday, May 13, 2014 in St. Luke's Hospice, Duluth.

Preceded in death by husband of 60 years, Ray A. Miller. She was born April 5, 1933 in Superior to Angeline (Jacobson) and Clarence Doolittle. Arlis and Ray owned and operated the Red Barn Tavern in Hawthorne.

Richard L. Forsythe, 80, of Iron River, passed away Friday, May 9, 2014, at St. Luke's Hospital, in Duluth, Minn. He was born May 14, 1933, in Delta, Wis., the son of Leonard and Hilda (Jacobson) Forsythe. Survived by wife JoAnn.

Ruby Ostrom Thomas, 82, Superior, died Sunday, April 27, 2014, at St. Luke's Hospital, Duluth, Minn. with family and friends by her side. Active in the Douglas County Historical Society, once was a stewardess on NW Orient Airlines.

She was born on October 10, 1931, in Duluth to Swedish immigrants, Nels and Gunhild Ostrom. Taught the piano.

Survived by husband Kermit and celebrated 55 years of marriage this past summer.

Dr. O. "Gayle" Manion, 93 of Superior, Wis., passed away peacefully with his family by his side on May 1, 2014. Gayle was born in Idaho Falls, Idaho to Orville and Eva (Sipple) Manion on May 20, 1920. Taught at UWS and was a leader there. Summered in Lake Nebagamon. Survived by wife of 68 years, Louise.

Douglas Peter Bergstrom, 99, of Lake Nebagamon, passed away on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, at Middle River Health and Rehab Center, born on March 22, 1915, in Lake Nebagamon, the son of Peter and Hilma Bergstrom.

Beloved Superior teacher, **Earl William Blomfelt**, 77, of Superior passed away on Friday, April 25, 2014, after a long battle with dementia, and finally succumbed to pneumonia. Earl was born in Oulu, Wis. on Feb. 5, 1937.

Howard Sandberg, 97, formerly of Lake Nebagamon, currently of Superior, died, Sunday, April 6, 2014, at Harmony House in Superior. He was born on Feb. 10, 1917, in Superior to Harvey and Ovedia (Vinge) Sandberg.

Neda Rae (Hill-Amys) Peterson, 74, of Superior, formerly of Poplar, Wis., died April, 20, 2014, peacefully at her home, surrounded by her loving family. She was born Jan. 1, 1940, in Superior, to David M. and Inez Hill. Neda graduated from Northwestern High School in Maple, Wis. In June 1959, she married Gerald Amys. Later, on Sept. 12, 1987, Neda married William F. Peterson.

Edna E. Swenson, 88, Superior, died Friday, April 18, 2014 at Villa-Marina Health and Rehabilitation Center, born on Dec. 31, 1925 in Maple to Paul and Ann (Lukkarila) Tyykila, graduated from Central High School, earned her RN Degree from St. Luke's Nursing Program in Duluth, married Loyd Swenson April 7, 1956 who survives her. She was an artist, played the organ, and loved her Faith.

Marvin Tyykila, 78, South Range, passed away Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at St. Francis Home in the Park. He was born on Aug. 8, 1935, in Maple, Wis. at the family homestead to Matt and Mary (Lepisto) Tyykila. He was one of twelve children; five sisters survive.

John Louis Lancour, Sr., of Lake Nebagamon, passed away peacefully on April 9, 2014 at Hospice in St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth.

He was born in Superior in 1930. He was married to Elayne (Archambault) for 65 years.

Lorraine M. Lind, 85, of Iron River, formerly of Duluth died surrounded by family on Monday, April 7, 2014 at the New Brighton Care Center, born on Sept. 22, 1928 in Henderson, Minn. to Herman and Marie (Zwartz) Lieske. attended Superior State and University of Minnesota-Duluth, married, Lauri Lind on Sept. 11, 1948 and they celebrated 65 years of marriage.

Allan J. Olson, 69, of South Range, passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2014, born on April 22, 1944 to Sadie (Saalasti) and Jarl Olson in Chicago, Ill. He was brought home to Poplar River Road as a toddler and lived on that road until 1989. He attended school from grade school through NWHS in the School District of Maple, survived by wife DeAnn, siblings Karen (Wesley) Johnson, Lyle & Mark Olson.

**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 above, 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.

June 14, Saturday. Flag Day. Nebagamon Auditorium: Play Fund-raiser for Veterans Memorial.

June 15, Sunday. Father's Day.

June 19, Thursday, 6:30 p.m. OBHS General Meeting, at Lakeside Town Hall. Prep Day. Pot luck at 6 p.m.

June 20, Friday. Midsummer Celebration (*Juhannus Juhlat*) Windmill Tours 3-5 pm. Meal Prep. Lakeside TH

June 21, Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Windmill tours continue. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Scandinavian Dinner, \$8; \$5, 6-12, & 5 and under Free, at Lakeside Town Hall. Town Exhibits. Merchandise for sale. Summer solstice.

June 23, Monday, 1:00 p.m. Archives Session at Pellman's. Please call to verify.

July 4, Friday. Independence Day.

July 18, Friday. Deadline for August *OBHS News* contributions.

August 23, Saturday. OBHS Annual Meeting. Amnicon's New Town Hall. Board meets following.

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.