

# OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2015

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

Volume XVII, Issue 1

February 14, 2015

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY FEBRUARY 2015 GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 18, 2015, 6:00 PM at the Brule Town Hall

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

Please bring a covered dish to pass or goodies to share.

**PROGRAM: Guest Speakers: Northern Lakes Archaeological Society Members David “Buck” Peterson, Fur Trade Era Axe Expert, and Brothers, Larry and David Furo, trade axe and ancient copper & lithics (stone tools) collectors and experts, will give a PowerPoint presentation and exhibit trade items.**

**Title: “Fur Trade History of Lake Superior’s Southwestern Shore:  
Interpreted by Madeline Island’s Fur Trade Axes”**

The 1600-1850 Fur Trade Era history of southwestern Lake Superior will be presented. The era will be interpreted through the presentation of excavated trade axes recovered on Madeline Island and in Northern Wisconsin. Preliminary research and study of Lake Superior basin trade axes has been published by Buck in the 2009 *Minnesota Archaeologist* Journal. Buck has lectured on fur trade axes at LaPointe’s American Fur Company Museum, at the Council of Minnesota Archaeologists, and the Northern Lakes Archaeological Society.

**A short Business Meeting will follow.**

Thanks to the Town of Brule for the use of their Town Hall & to Laila M. for making arrangements.

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

Guests and New Members are always Welcome!

## FROM THE EDITOR:

Despite the zero degree temperatures of today we can expect to see the signs of spring before we know it. This will open into a summer full of Old-Brule projects...High on the list is the Monticello School Museum & Archives basement project, and the associated fund-raising. With that accomplished we will move into school restoration. Even while this is going on we will be preparing for June’s Midsummer Celebration on the Windmill grounds and at the Lakeside Town Hall. We have repairs to make on the timbers on the upper structure of Taylor’s Bridge. There will also be repairs made to the Windmill sails, and then their painting which was put off from last summer. Behind the scenes we will be pushing the completion of our Douglas County Historical Map, and our table top book gathering all the photos and texts of our historical calendars. It’s an ambitious schedule, steady work for six months or more. Eventually there will be the project of transferring and organizing our archives into their new setting. If we can accomplish all of this by late Fall we’ll be ready for a winter’s rest, maybe a vacation even, but as the archiving crew fully realizes, the gathering of history never ends. My term as Secretary does end in August, but this will just give me more time for everything else historical that needs to be done. I might even be able to finish an art work or two and even my Maple history. There is even a solid rumor that a Brule history is on pace for a summer publication.

We have to thank Jean Gardner and *The Connection* for the tremendous front-page article on the Monticello School Museum & Archive Project that she has given to us. There is little to add or to change, although I had bad numbers when I talked with her the other day, and instead of \$17,000 spent so far on the project we have *only* spent \$14,000. I would want to fully emphasize the universal nature of our group’s work. When installed and organized we will have a powerful Finnish-American research collection, for sure. But this is not the half of it. Our artifacts, records, photos and indexing cover source materials on-line, on paper and in hand for all the communities in the Old-Brule area, and of all ethnic backgrounds, all families and religious groups, economic enterprises, farms, cooperatives and social movements and so. We will certainly not rival the UWS collection nor that of the Superior Public Library. But what we have will be solidly local, in depth, and that which is very unique to us. We will continue to gather and preserve the stories of the towns and villages and of their inspiration, creation, growth and transformation over time, and supporting documents and artifacts. And we are local enough to talk about our people as individuals, and within their neighborhoods. So thank you, Jean, and thank you, every one, who has believed in our work, who has given time and resources, and who has trusted us to care for our past.

–Jim Pellman

**1998 to 2005, 2006 to 2015 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. Our 2015 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendars are for sale at \$9.00 each. Other earlier OBHS calendars are also available at \$5.00 (2006 - 2012), 2013 at \$6.00, & 2014 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: [musketeer27@hotmail.com](mailto:musketeer27@hotmail.com), and by phone: 715-363-2549, or Laila at 715-372-4963, or please check our Website at [www.oldbrule.org](http://www.oldbrule.org). Shipping & handling: \$3.50 each, less for each for larger orders. We thank our donor businesses whose cards we list in the back of each calendar. We have delivered a free copy to each of them.

*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.**

Excitement is building over the prospects of our new archiving space at MSMA, the Monticello School Museum & Archives. With the changes expected 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 clippings and records and creating databases. The future holds more work on temporary and permanent exhibits using items in our collection, which the school space will permit. Our thanks go to our loyal committee members and document and artifact 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 is February 16, 2015, and generally every other Monday thereafter, but we expect this routine to change when we are in our new site. Please call Jim at 715-363-2549 to confirm next meeting time and place.

**Unapproved MINUTES for the DECEMBER 2014 GENERAL MEETING  
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

**December 10, 2014, 6 p.m., New Amnicon Town Hall**

Attendance: 36 Members and Guests signed the Roster passed around. Alice C. had called, could not attend but sent Christmas greetings. We started with a WELCOME TO ALL, and a moment of silence, followed by our food and refreshments. We thanked all who attended, and all who helped, decorated, served and brought food to share. We thanked the Town of Amnicon for use of their new Town Hall, & Dennis for making arrangements.

Before our program Mr. Ross Johnson, with the WisDOT in Eau Claire and Jeff Olson from the Superior Office talked briefly about the Historical Mitigation Process associated with an historic bridge like the Sleepy Valley Loop Middle River Bridge. If the bridge is removed it is hoped that a group like ours would become actively involved in producing an historical exhibit about the general and local significance of the bridge. The time line might be extended to make it easier for us, as busy as we are. State funding is involved. See note under Other New Business below for more info.

For our Program we watched "A Second Pattison Park", a Revisit to Copper Creek with a Power Point Presentation by Regional & Lake County Historian, Mr. Todd Lindahl of Two Harbors, narrated by Jim Pellman and others who attended our May 2007 Tour. This was followed immediately by Jim's quick survey of the images in our new calendar, 2015 edition, our 10<sup>th</sup>.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Dennis Hill called the meeting to order at 8:45 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Audrey H. with second by Shirley U. to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on October 8, 2014, at the Maple Town Hall as printed in the *OBHS News* for December 2014. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Paul Colby reported with his monthly spreadsheet report: Checkbook account balances as of the November 30, 2014, and **to date**. Accounts: General: \$656.11/~~\$464.85~~ (Deposit 12/10/14 \$152.00 not included); Windmill: \$1,219.19/**\$1,193.86**; Monticello School: \$1,271.47/**\$1,306.47**; CD: \$5,798.07(11/18/14); Total cash assets: \$8,944.84/**\$8,763.25** (without 12/10 deposit). Interest income: \$19.96. The bill for Olson Bros came to \$5,857.46. Motion by Doreen S., second by Earl G. to approve Paul's report. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

**Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report:** Motion was approved at the last Board Meeting that the price of pavers from now on should be \$20.00 under the same terms of lettering and style for the new price. Jim P. will print up

more paver forms with the new amount. Ron Hendrickson's signs for house and bridge were delivered and installed. Eskolin house sign is temporarily down with the work being done there by Dennis & Jim to seal the road side of the house. The Board thanked Ron. We will be engraving a promised paver for Mike Booker for his paver work for us. There is need for replacement of two 12x12 timbers on Taylor's Bridge due to rot. The deck is cribbed for now. Pat Grube has shown interest in helping.

**OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report:** The Phases are broken down differently for more clarity. Phase I is now the move of the school saving it on the old Maple School site. Phase II is the construction of the driveway and the planning for this. Olson Brothers has completed their work. Phase III is to be the construction of the basement. Regarding that, two or more new bids are needed, and fund-raising brochures and grant writing are moving forward. Jim had the information sign done sponsored by Hope S. and it was to be put in place the following day. Our thanks to Hope. Costs for materials came to \$222 which she paid directly to Jim to reimburse him. Phase IV; Jim has created a "vision drawing" of the Monticello School facility which is being used in brochures and mailings, which includes the restoration of the school building. Dennis has started work on the fund raising pamphlet with help from Doreen S. and Jim. Other grants are being considered, as well as our local capital campaign. *See current donors list in this newsletter.* Dicky Tuura has an old bell that could be displayed on the grounds. Mary Ann is following up.

**Membership and Publicity Committee:** Our Secretary is still passing out & gathering our hours donated Blue Sheets. Paul & Mary Ann have been submitting our publicity requests.

**Archives Committee:** Jim reported: Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., January 5, 2015 at Pellmans'. Thanks from Jim to Earl, Audrey, Betty, Mary Ann, Irene & Nancy (our Group Historian) & Shirley U. for keeping us on track. Earl is making great strides with our archive scan index. We can always use new help with loss of our stalwarts. Thanks to all.

#### **Publications Committee:**

**Pollari Memorial Map Project Report:** No change. We have talked with Randy Jones who is enthusiastic about getting the maps done. He should be ready to start soon but has updates needed in his costly map software.

**Calendars:** 2015 calendars are in the print phase and may be ready tomorrow or Friday. They will get to Poplar Hardware and Village Market in Poplar right away, and soon at our other sites.

**Books: *Sisu and Sauna Reprint (Lakeside History):*** Work is going on to revise the first edition. *Looking for a New Frontier* (Pearson Family) Jerrard's *Brule River of Wisconsin* are selling, and have been reordered. *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's new book, re her first part of Cloverland's history called *Brule River Forest and Lake Superior: Cloverland Anecdotes*, available through us at Poplar Hardware, was just reordered. Jim has met 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. Jim has to make time to gather text & images, and has BHRG help with their images. Nan will use her own designer for the book.

**Merchandise Inventory:** No change. We have filled the gap in our T-Shirt inventory, and also have approval to get a few shirts made with the new aerial view OBHS design. (4 each of small, medium, large & extra-large for the former decided upon. "I've been through the mill" the most popular.)

**Projects:** 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 is still being investigated.

**Button Creation:** Still work ahead. Hope S. has been working on this in support of the Monticello School project. Text will have to be created for the buttons. Pat McCabe will be helping Hope with this work. Our thanks to them.

**Vouchers for 20% off regular admissions** have been sent out by the Wisc. Council for Local History. See Jim.

#### **Other Old Business:**

**Jan-Dec 2015 Budget proposals and adoption:** Paul has been trying to set up a meeting for work to be done by our "finance committee" before years end. This will have to wait until our next Board meeting in January or later.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sympathy/Encouragements:** Hope is back doing this. Those needing encouragement: George & Shirley U. & Alice C.

**Coming Meetings:** Next Board meeting: 4:30 p.m., January 21<sup>st</sup> (**note the Third Wednesday of the month**), at Hope S.'s. Next General Meeting: 6:00 p.m., February 18<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wednesday). Jim & Dennis will work on a program & site.

#### **Other New Business:**

Jim had gotten recent calls and emails from State historical consultant Greg Rainka regarding planning for mitigation of history lost potentially with the removal or replacement of the Sleepy Valley Loop Bridge, which is eligible for national registry. The Town of Lakeside still has to vote on this. Should this pass the DOT will need a signed commitment from a local historical society or organization as lead in preparation of a modest historical display. The OBHS Board felt there was no interest at this time to take on another project. The consensus was that we support such activity but that we at this time would not be able to commit to this task which Jim was to convey to Greg. The evening's earlier guests from the WisDOT were there to provide more information on the proposed project and to answer any questions we

might have had. After the talk by Mr. Ross Johnson with the WisDOT in Eau Claire and his partner Jeff Olson from the Superior DOT office and after their departure and discussion led by President Dennis Hill asking OBHS members for their thoughts on supporting the State's efforts in planning of a display to mitigate the loss of the historic Sleepy Valley Loop or Old Highway 13 Middle River Bridge, Earl Granroth moved that OBHS will participate with the State in designing and executing a plan (using digital and poster displays) to mitigate the loss of history with the replacement of the Old Highway 13 Middle River Bridge. After a second by Lila Ronn, and with no further discussion the motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

A tentative committee was named to deal with the Sleepy Valley Loop Bridge as it develops: Ron Hendrickson., Lila Ronn, Earl Granroth, Dennis Hill, and Paul Colby.

Shirley Kankas Umolac presented OBHS with a \$1000 donation to go to the MSMA Project. Thanks Umolacs!

**ADJOURNMENT:** Doreen moved to adjourn, second by Paul C. Motion carried with adjournment at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Pellman, Secretary

### Monticello School Museum & Archives Project Updates

Larger donations have been received from **Douglas County, the Pellman family, Lois Pollari, Earl & Barbra Granroth, Paul, Trenton & Gabbie Colby, Geraldine Fechtelkotter, Ina Falk, Gary Luoma, Hope Swenson, Mary Ann Gronquist, Gordon Lahti, Laila Magnuson, Audrey Hakkila, Gene & Agnes Davidson, John & Doreen Swanson, Dennis & Arlene Hill, Shirley & George Umolac, and Ed & Judy Privette.** Thanks to everyone for their generous memorials in **Delores' Pellman's** name, & for rallying to the project. The driveway is done. Bids are being received for the Basement Project.

### 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. Windmill mugs & tee shirt proceeds go into the Windmill Fund. **SEE OUR WEB SITE** ([www.oldbrule.org](http://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 *Annicon 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 \$3.50 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 JANUARY BOARD MEETING OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

January 21, 2015, 4:30 p.m. Hope Swenson Residence, Town of Lakeside

Attendance: Arlene Hill, Dennis Hill, Brian Paulson, Dorothy Bergsten, Betty Wood, Doreen Swanson, Mary Ann Gronquist, Hope Swenson, Jim Pellman. We started with a moment of silence, followed by food and refreshments. Thanks to all who attended and to all who served & brought food to share. Thanks to the Hope for use of her beautiful home.

### BUSINESS MEETING

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Dennis Hill called the business meeting to order at 6 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Doreen S., seconded by Mary Ann G. to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held 11/10/2014, at Hope Swenson's residence in Lakeside as printed in the *OBHS News* for December 2014. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Paul Colby has emailed the numbers for his December 31<sup>st</sup> monthly and end of year 2014 report: (unable to attend today due to family event) Checkbook account balances as of December 31, 2014: Accounts; General: **\$1,071.60**; Windmill: **\$1,193.86**; Monticello School: **\$2,316.47**; CD: **\$5,798.07**(11/18/14); Total cash assets: **\$10,380.00** (with a \$40 amount to be determined and another deposit waiting).

**Jan-Dec 2015 Budget proposals and adoption:** Paul had been trying to set up a meeting for work to be done by our "finance committee" before years end. This will have to wait until after our Board meeting.

Motion to approve Paul's report by Mary Ann G., seconded by Brian P. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS:

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

**Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report:** Jim P. needs to print up more paver forms with the new \$20 donation amount. He also has to get the names of the latest donors to Pat McCabe who will be engraving them. Ron Hendrickson's Eskolin house sign is temporarily down with the work that was being done there. We will be engraving a promised paver for Mike Booker for his paver work for us. There is need for replacement of two 12 x 12 timbers on Taylor's Bridge due to rot. The deck is cribbed for now. Pat Grube has shown interest in helping. He may have timbers that will work. There was talk about need for a cherry picker or lift to get high enough to work on the windmill blades.

**OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report:** The Phases are broken down slightly different from before. Phase I is the move of the school saving it on the old Maple School site. Phase II is the construction of the driveway and the planning for this. Olson Brothers has completed their work. Phase III is to be the construction of the basement. Regarding that, four bid requests were mailed out. Jim has heard from two so far, one bid firm, and fund-raising brochures and grant writing are moving forward. Our thanks again to Hope for her donation to pay for sign materials (\$225). Phase IV is the total restoration of the school building. Jim has created a "vision drawing" of the Monticello School facility which is being used in brochures and mailings. Dennis has been working on the fund raising pamphlet with help from Doreen S. and Jim, which we reviewed. Other grants are being considered, as well as our local capital campaign which will start right away. *See current donors list in this newsletter.* Member **Ed Privette & wife Judy** have just donated \$200 to the MSMA account, \$100 in memory of Ed's grandparents, Ed & Hulda Niemi, and \$100 in memory of Ed's parents, Charles and Helen Niemi Privette. Soon donors will be assigned to "clubs" based upon amounts donated with memorials noted. The idea was well received that donors giving under \$100 be part of the George Washington (Mount Vernon) Club; those giving \$100 up to \$250, the Cal Coolidge Canoe Club; those giving \$250 up to \$500, the Thomas Jefferson (Monticello) Club; those giving \$500 up to \$1000, the Abraham Lincoln (Log Cabin) Club; and those giving \$1000 and above be part of the Old-Brule MSMA Founders Club. Jim is updating the "vision drawing" for use in future phases.

**Membership and Publicity Committee:** Our Secretary is still passing out and gathering our hours donated Blue Sheets. Paul & Mary Ann have been submitting publicity requests. General meeting in Feb. to benefit by good publicity.

**Archives Committee:** Jim reported: Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 at Pellmans'. Thanks from Jim to Earl, Audrey, Betty, Mary Ann, Irene & Nancy (our Group Historian) & Shirley U. for keeping us on track. Earl is making great strides with our archive scan index. We can always use new help with loss of our stalwarts. Dicky Tuura has a large old bell that could be displayed on the MSMA grounds. Mary Ann is following up. Duane & Kathy Colby have donated a wooden pulley that came from the Melvin Esselstrom Estate. Marion Christensen donated a group of historical papers being accessioned. Thanks to all.

#### **Publications Committee:**

**Pollari Memorial Map Project Report:** No change. We have talked with Randy Jones who is enthusiastic about getting the maps done. He should be ready soon to help but needs costly software updates.

**Calendars:** The 2015 calendars have been selling well. They are at Twin Gables & Round Up North in Brule, and at Poplar Hardware and Poplar Village Market, and at Sharon's Restaurant in Lake Nebagamon. Thanks to all who are selling for us, and to Laila M. who takes good care of the Brule end.

**Books: *Sisu and Sauna Reprint (Lakeside History):*** Work is going on to revise the first edition. Interesting materials are emerging on "Friends of Old-Brule Heritage Society" on Facebook. ***Looking for a New Frontier*** (Pearson Family) Jerrard's ***Brule River of Wisconsin*** are selling, and have been reordered. ***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's new book, re her first part of Cloverland's history called ***Brule River Forest and Lake Superior: Cloverland Anecdotes***, available through us at Poplar Hardware, was just reordered. Jim has met 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. Jim has to make time to gather text & images, and has BHRG help with their images. Nan will use her designer for the book, and expects good sales.

**Merchandise Inventory:** No change. We have filled the gap in our T-Shirt inventory, and also have approval to get a few shirts made with the new aerial view OBHS design. (4 each of small, medium, large & extra-large for the former decided upon. "I've been through the mill" the most popular.)

**Projects:** 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 is still being investigated.

**Sleepy Valley Loop Bridge:** At our last general meeting motion carried to support the DOT in memorializing the Sleepy Valley Loop Middle River Highway 13 historical pony truss bridge. Thus far there has been just a call from Ross Johnson in Eau Claire DOT to confirm our positive decision. A committee was formed to handle the mitigation project when needed: Ron H, Lila R, Earl G., Dennis H., and Paul C.

**Button Creation:** Still work ahead. Hope S. has been working on this in support of the Monticello School project. Pat McCabe has offered to help Hope.

**Vouchers for 20% off regular admissions** have been sent out by the Wisc. Council for Local History. See Jim.

**Other Old Business:** None

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sympathy/Encouragements:** Hope is doing this. Those identified: George & Shirley U. & Alice C. Lois Pollari & family.

**Coming Meetings:** Next Board meeting: 4:30 p.m., March 18<sup>th</sup> (**note the Third Wednesday of the month**), D&D Bergstens'. Next General Meeting: 6:00 p.m., February 18<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wednesday): Program: Firming up with Dave "Buck" Peterson to give a talk on the Fur Trade Era in our area, including La Pointe on Madeline Island, with help from other Northern Lakes Archaeology Society members, David and Larry Furo, all experts in this area. Many trade axes specimens and a trade musket will be on display. Will try for the Brule Town Hall as location.

Midsummer Planning. Mary Ann to contact Earl regarding reserving the Lakeside Town Hall for Sat. June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Other New Business:**

Betty W. announced that Steve Tedman would be singing at *Laskianen* in Palo, Minn. this year.

Discussion about our future General Meeting in April. Brian Paulson has agreed with the help of Jim P. to talk about local Ghost Towns.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Doreen S., seconded by Dorothy B. Motion carried. Adjournment at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Pellman, Secretary

## Area History: No. 102

*This picture and text appeared for the month of January in our 2015 OBHS Historical Calendar.*

- 1. Evalt and Aili (Koivu) Perala of Maple, and a member of their top average producing herd in Douglas County in 1956.** This herd of thirteen cows produced an average of 569 pounds of butterfat each, the top DHIA (Dairy Herd Improvement Association) average in Douglas County. Another member of this Holstein family (most had the same mother) was a top individual producer, Nawisco Belle Mahilda Ruth, who produced 804 pounds of butterfat, according the Ray Polzin, the County Agricultural Agent at the time, "probably the highest producing cow in the history of Douglas County." *Photo courtesy of Doris Perala together with a clipping she provided from the Superior Evening Telegram of December 21, 1956, written by Ray Polzin. Aili was Doris' mother's sister.*



### -NOTICES-

**MEMBERS:** Dues collection for 2015 began at our Annual Meeting in August & continues. Please check your newsletter label for what we have in our records. Also, please fill your volunteer hours on our **Blue Sheets**. Our tally runs annually from August 1, 2014 to July 31, 2015. Please contact Secretary Jim for a new blue sheet.

**THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS:** To our 2015 calendar business sellers, and our volunteer distributors. **Poplar Village Market, Poplar Hardware, Sharon's Restaurant in Lake Nebagamon, Twin Gables, Round Up North, and Northland Tax Services in Brule** have been selling them. **Laila Ronn** continues to sell and distribute. To **Jean Gardner** and *the Connection* for the excellent article on our MSMA project. To **David "Buck" Peterson** for agreeing to come down with the **Furo Brothers, David & Larry**, from the North Shore to talk about the Fur Trade Era and Trade Axes.

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

**Ronald John Danielson**, 83, Superior, who passed away Feb. 5, 2015 at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth, was born in Oulu, Wis.. in the family log cabin, to Nels & Lillian (Kortesma) Danielson. His wife Marilyn (Blomquist) & 2 children survive.

**Lawrence Hans Johnson**, 52, Marengo, Wis., formerly of Brule and Superior, who died Jan. 30, 2015, son of Ronald and Gayle (Bunt) Johnson, survived by his parents and three children.

**Thomas M. Walsh**, 54, of Iron River, who died Jan. 30, 2015 in the Town of Cable as a result of a car accident, survived by wife Diane (Reijo) Walsh and four daughters.

**Marlene Budnick**, 65, Superior, who passed away Feb. 1, 2015, at the Solvay Hospice House in Duluth from complications from COPD, sister of the late Woody Budnick.

**Tommie T. Ranta**, 62, Superior, who died Feb. 1, 2015, of cancer, at the Villa-Marina Health and Rehabilitation Center in Superior, born in the Town of Cloverland to Arvid and Ellen (Wiitanen) Ranta, graduated from NWHS in 1970.

**Walfred "Wally" Anderson**, 81, Port Wing, Wis., who died Jan. 31, 2015 at St. Joseph Hospital in St. Paul, was born in Port Wing, Wis. to Edwin & Anna (Person) Anderson. Wife Karen (Clauson), 2 sons 1 daughter survive.

**Claudia J. Kurki**, 70, South Range (Rockmount area), who died Jan. 28, at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth, born Mar. 14, 1944, in Superior to George & Carole (Koenig) Harris. Husband John Kurki & 3 children survive.

**Inez Lucille (Mills) Acker**, 105, who died at Golden Living Center on Jan. 22, 2015, was born April 19, 1909, to William and May (Porter) Mills in Clark, S.D. She married Ora Acker in 1925 & moved to Hines, Wis. 1932 and then Foxboro, Wis. in 1942 where they farmed, moved to Superior in 1981. 1 daughter survives & grandchildren Penny (Bill) Hietala.

**John Hoadley**, 75, Superior and Iron River, who passed away Jan. 23, 2015 at Middle River Health Care Center.

**Jo Ann M. Hamshire**, 75, Eau Claire, Wis., who died Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015 at Syverson Lutheran Home, in Eau Claire, born in Brule to George and Florence (nee Erno) DeRosia, graduated from NWHS in Maple in 1958.

**George Francis "Umo" Umolac, Jr.**, 77, of Lake Nebagamon, Wis., who died peacefully at home Jan. 21, 2015. George married OBHS Member Shirley (nee Kankas) 21 years ago, and both have been loyal supporters of our group & of MSMA.

**Jim Peterson**, 84, formerly of Superior and Iron River, who died at Eden House, Companion Hospice, Mesa, Ariz. Jan. 15, 2015, ran the Choo Choo bar in Superior, in the early 1980s created Peterson's Greenhouse near Crystal Lake.

**Henry William "Hank" Hulter**, 107, formerly of Superior, who died at his home of 36 years in San Rafael, Calif.

**Connie Diane Chevront Graden**, 60, Lake Nebagamon, who died peacefully Jan. 16, 2015 in her home, following a long courageous battle with cancer, surrounded by her family, survived by husband Paul Graden & four children.

**Charles "Joe" Kotera, Jr.**, 52, Superior, who passed away Dec. 27, 2014, in Prescott, Ariz., was born in Superior to Charles and Evelyn (Lauderville) Kotera, graduated from NWHS in Maple in 1981 and had worked in the Maple Coop.

**Charles Henry "Chuck" Kronlund**, 78, Spooner, who died Jan. 10, 2015, was son of Henry and Jeanette Kronlund.

**Roy W. Wahto**, 85, Superior, who passed away Jan. 7, 2015 in his home, was born in Superior to Emil and Ellen (Lammi) Wahto and was a lifelong Superior resident. For 20 years he served as caretaker at Regina Hills Apartments.

**James G. Wright**, 67, Brule, who died Dec. 29, 2014 at Solvay Hospice House in Duluth with his son by his side, was born and lived in Eau Claire, had been a member of the US Ski Jumping Team that went to Lake Placid NY in 1968.

**Robert "Bob" Kizlik**, 73, Lake Nebagamon, Wis., who died Dec. 24, 2014, at Middle River Health and Rehab. Center, in the 70s owned Lake Minnesuing Store Resort, survived by wife Marilyn & six children, Lynette (Curt) Wester locally.

**Steven Todd McMillen**, 46, of Roseville, MN, who died at U of M Hospital Feb. 8, 2015. His funeral is Sat. Feb 21st at St. Mark's Cathedral, 10:30.AM. Steve's wife, Alison, is the daughter of OBHS Members Lila & Dick Ronn.

**Ruth Ann E. (Keil) Polzin**, 87, longtime Solon Springs and Superior area resident, who died Dec. 21, 2014, at Villa Marina Health & Rehab. Center in Superior, born in Beaver Dam, Wis. to Philip and Laura (Lidtke) Keil, survived by a daughter and a son, and grandson Kyle Polzin of Lake Nebagamon among several grandchildren.

**Elizabeth (Liz) Esther (Nicoletti) Pearson**, 84, Cloverland, who died Dec. 21, 2014 at the Middle River Health Care Facility, was born to Italian immigrants Mary (Meneguzzo) and Peter Nicoletti in a family of 11 children, and grew up in Herbster, married Lyle Pearson in 1948, survived by three sons, a daughter, and three sisters.

**John P. Martin**, 86, Cloverland, who died in his sleep Dec. 16, 2014, was born in Beloit, Wis. to Vessie and Irene (Linton) Martin, married Irene Tutor in Iron River in 1949, sailed the Great Lakes for 10 years, worked for Baillie Oil for 17 years, was a logger and lifetime farmer, survived by his wife, five daughters and son John "Pat", and sister OBHS Member Colleen Orval.

**Randall A. "Randy" Perala**, 61, Maple, died in his sleep at home Dec. 12, 2014. He was born in Superior to Assemblyman Reino and Elvie (Olson) Perala, married Susan Zacny in 1977 in Superior, graduated from UWS, was an insurance adjuster for years, survived by Susan, and brother Ron.

**Charlene Jessica Mechley**, 11, of Duluth (Rice Lake Township), who died tragically on Dec. 3, 2014 in her home along with her father **Michael John Mechley (Cozzi)**, 39, due to carbon monoxide poisoning in their trailer home. Two children survived. Paternal step-grandparents of Charlene are Joy (Clemmer) & Allen Anderson of Lake Nebagamon, where a memorial service was held for Charlene after the visitation earlier in Duluth.

**Ann F. (Suomi) Moxley**, 90, Gardnerville, Nev., Maple, Wis. & Long Beach, Calif., who passed away at Emeritus Senior Living in Gardnerville, born to Charles and Mary Suomi in Maple, Wis., Ann attended Corner School in Maple, then worked in the Maple Coop, at 18 moved west to Long Beach, but during WWII moved to Seattle, Wash., and worked as a "Rosie the Riveter" for Boeing. In 1947 back in Long Beach she met and married her iron worker husband to be Clarence "Blackie" Moxley. In their work travels to Alaska, Arizona and California they raised three sons and a daughter. Ann worked as a waitress, and later in real estate. Two of her sons live in Gardnerville, just south of Reno and Carson City, east of Sacramento & the Sierra Nevada (snowy range) Range.

**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.**

**February 16**, Monday. Presidents' Day. Archives Meeting at Pellman's 1 p.m.

**February 18**, Wednesday, 6:00 PM, OBHS General Meeting at Brule Town Hall. David Peterson speaks on Fur Trade Era Axes. Pot luck lunch. Business meeting.

**February 22**, Sunday. Washington's Birthday.

**March 8**, Sunday. Daylight Saving Time begins.

**March 16**, Monday. St. Urho's Day.

**March 17**, Tuesday. St. Patrick's Day.

**March 18**, Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. OBHS Board Meeting. Dan & Dorothy Bergsten's in Poplar.

**March 20**, Friday. First Day of Spring. Submissions due for the April *OBHS News*.

**April 3**, Friday. Good Friday.

**April 4**, Saturday. Passover.

**April 5**, Sunday. Easter.

**April 15**, Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. OBHS General Meeting. Program: The Region's Ghost Towns. Location TBA

**OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY WEB SITE ON LINE**

The Website Committee has been maintaining our Web site ([www.oldbrule.org](http://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 W.**