

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 2

April 8, 2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Hill, Amnicon, President
Brian Paulson, Amnicon, 1st V. P.
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OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY APRIL 2015 GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 15, 2015, 6:00 PM at the Amnicon 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: Brian Paulson, OBHS Vice President, and Jim Pellman, OBHS Secretary, will give a PowerPoint presentation on the "Ghost Towns of Northern Douglas County." Come to find out where Le Clair was located and twenty other almost forgotten sites.

A short Business Meeting will follow.

Thanks to the Town of Amnicon for the use of their Town Hall & to Dennis H. for making arrangements.

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

Guests and New Members are always Welcome!

FROM THE EDITOR:

I recently had an interesting visit with Axel and Patsy Wiitala in Maple at their home on Harju Road, next to the vacant site of the old Maple Finn Hall. I was there to borrow some books on the Cooperative Movement that Axel had years ago received from Harvey Sanders, a cooperative leader. For many years Axel was manager of the Maple Farmers' Cooperative Store. Several of the books had the name Kalle Aine written inside. These books, and other materials shared with OBHS by Velma Doby, will serve at least two immediate purposes; they will shore up my understanding of the cooperatives that once served, and still serve, this region for the sake of the Brule History Research Group. They have me helping them with finishing touches on their work on the Town of Brule within its current boundaries. The books will also serve research needed for my talk in St. Paul before the Finnish American Cultural Activities group. They requested that I talk about the split that occurred in 1929 at the Central Cooperative Exchange in Superior that had direct bearing on the creation of the Brule Coop Park, established in 1931, but dismantled in the 1960s by Arnold O. Saari. It is now a camp site in the Brule River State Forest. Just as interesting in our visit was talk of Uno Kiiski, Patsy's father, who during World War II had been the driver for Old Blood and Guts, General George Patton. They said Uno had been very quiet about his time overseas but in later years while visiting the Patton museum in Kentucky with him he volunteered the fact that the Jeep in the exhibit was the one he had driven. He knew because he had scratched his initials under the dash. The Wiitalas' have also generously offered the siding that was salvaged from the Maple Hall when it was torn down, to cover the Monticello School. On my next visit when I return the books I will have my camera in order to take photos of valuable pictures and documents they are willing to share. We owe them a great thanks, & as well, to Uno Kiiski & the men like him for their sacrifices. They said that as they were leaving the museum Uno asked to go back for a final visit by himself.

—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 in Waino (Juntti) 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, and by phone: 715-363-2549, or Laila at 715-372-4963, or please check our Website at 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 continues to build 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, interpreting and indexing 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 April 13, 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 the next meeting time and place.

Unapproved MINUTES of the FEBRUARY 2015 GENERAL MEETING OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. February 18, 2015, 6 p.m., Brule Town Hall

Attendance: 31 Members and Guests signed the roster passed around on a very cold night.

A welcome was given by President Dennis and a thanks to all members and guests who came despite the weather, and to all who served & brought food to share. We started with a moment of silence, followed by unmatched food and refreshments. Our thanks to Doreen and Laila for making hall arrangements, and to the Town of Brule for the use of their hall. Finally thanks went out to our North Shore speakers.

For our program we had 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, who gave a PowerPoint presentation and exhibited trade items. The title: "Fur Trade History of Lake Superior's Southwestern Shore: Interpreted by Madeline Island's Fur Trade Axes." Buck was the main speaker and covered the 1600-1850 Fur Trade Era history of southwestern Lake Superior. The era was skillfully 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 had been published by Buck in the 2009 *Minnesota Archaeologist* Journal. Buck had also lectured on fur trade axes at LaPointe's American Fur Company Museum, at the Council of Minnesota Archaeologists, and the Northern Lakes Archaeological Society. The great talk was customized to our specific region.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion was made by MaryAnn to approve the Minutes of the OBHS General Meeting held Dec. 10, 2014 at the new Amnicon Town Hall as printed in *OBHS News* Feb. 2015. Seconded by Dorothy B., the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul Colby had submitted his January 31st monthly report as follows: Checkbook account balances as of January 31, 2015: Accounts; General: **\$1,090.60**; Windmill: **\$1,193.86**; Monticello School: **\$2,316.47**; CD: **\$5,798.07**; Total cash assets: **\$10,359.00** (with a \$220 memorial gift in the name of George Umolac to be deposited, \$25 to MSMA, \$195 to the General Fund.)

Jan-Dec 2015 Budget proposals and adoption: Paul has been trying to set up a meeting for budget work by our "finance committee". This should be done as soon as possible. Motion was made by Audrey H, seconded by Dan B. to approve Paul's report. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report: Brian reported briefly. Jim P. needs to print up more paver forms at the new \$20 donation amount. He also has to get the names of the latest donators to Pat McCabe who will be engraving them. Ron Hendrickson's Eskolin house sign was temporarily down with the log 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 x 14 foot 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 with blade painting to be done this summer.

OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report: Jim reported. The Phases are broken down with Phase I 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 paid directly to Jim to pay for his costs.). 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 is almost ready. Other grants are being considered, as well as our local capital campaign which will start right away. *See current donors list* 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. Donors will be assigned to "clubs" based upon amounts donated with memorials noted. **Donors who have given under \$100 will be in 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 Abe Lincoln (Log Cabin) Club; and those giving \$1000 and above will be in the Old-Brule MSMA Founders Club.** Jim is updating the "vision drawing" for use in future phases. Thanks to Jeanne Gardner & *The Connection* for their article.

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. ***Woman's black coat found left at Eskolin House last fall. Contact Mary Ann.***

Archives Committee: Jim reported: Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., March 2, 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. Velma Doby has donated numerous items related to the cooperative movement, and Finnish language materials. 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. Audrey to check with Randy.

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, Nan Wisherd's Northland Tax Service in Brule, and at Sharon's Restaurant in Lake Nebagamon. Thanks to all who are selling for us, & 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 from us & through us at Poplar Hardware, was 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. Nebagamon ice was shipped all over the country via the DSS&A before it was pulled.

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:**

NEW BUSINESS:

Sympathy/Encouragements: Hope is doing this. Those identified: Members Dicky Tuura; Lois Pollari & family; the Ronns on loss of son-in-law, Steve McMillan.

Coming Meetings: Next Board meeting: 4:30 p.m., March 18th (**note the Third Wednesday of the month**), at D&D Bergstens'. Next General Meeting: 6:00 p.m., April 15th: Program: Regional Ghost Towns, Brian Paulson with help from Jim P. We are trying for the Maple Town Hall. Lake Nebagamon backup. Amnicon otherwise.

Midsummer Planning. Mary Ann G. has contacted Earl regarding reserving the Lakeside Town Hall for Sat. June 20th. The June meeting is confirmed for Thurs., and the weekend has been approved. Our Thanks to Lakeside & the Committee.

Other New Business:

Jim had a message from Ted Pellman at Channel 8 saying a *Native Report* program on the Superior photographer David Barry, noted for portraits of Native Americans will be broadcast tomorrow, Thursday February 19th at 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Doreen moved to adjourn, second by Dan B. Motion carried with adjournment at 9:10 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, Emory Mattson family, 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 in for the Basement Project. We have offered the job to Kevin Mackie Construction. Fund-raising continues in earnest. Please help if you can.

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) **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 of the MARCH BOARD MEETING
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 4:30 PM at Dan & Dorothy Bergstens', Poplar

Attendance: Dennis Hill, Brian Paulson, Dorothy Bergsten, Dan Bergsten, Doreen Swanson, Mary Ann Gronquist, Hope Swenson, Jim Pellman, Paul Colby. We started with a moment of silence, followed by food and refreshments. Thanks to all who attended and brought added food to share, and to the Bergstens who royally served us all.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the business meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion made by Doreen S. to approve the Minutes of the OBHS Board Meeting held Jan. 21, 2015, at Hope Swenson's in Lakeside as printed in the *OBHS News* for Feb. 2015, seconded by Brian P. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul Colby submitted his through March 18th to date report: Checkbook account balances as of March 18, 2015: Accounts; General: **\$421.45**; Windmill: **\$1,115.76**; Monticello School: **\$2,571.47**; CD (1-16-2015): **\$5,803.12**; Total cash assets: **\$9,911.80**.

Jan-Dec 2015 Budget proposals and adoption: Paul has been trying to set up a meeting for budget work by our "finance committee". This should be done as soon as possible. Paul reported that the Sales Tax report went out late with fees and penalties to be assessed. Motion made by Hope S, seconded by Mary Ann G. to approve Paul's report. Motion carried. Motion made by Doreen S. with a second by Mary Ann G. that added fees and penalties will be paid by OBHS and not Paul. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Windmill Site, Chairman Brian Paulson Report: Brian reported that we are marking time with the season, but work will begin soon. We will be looking for a donated lift to help with our work, especially on the blades of the mill. Jim does have scaffolds as needed. Brian has talked with Pat Grube who does have possibly suitable timbers for Taylor's

Bridge. We will be studying the success of the sealing job on Eskolin house on the entry side, and if successful we will extend the process. Mention of darker paint needed on the addition. We will be engraving a promised paver for Mike Booker for his paver work for us, work now to be done by Pat McCabe. There is need for replacement of two 12 x 12 by 14 foot timbers on Taylor's Bridge due to rot. The deck is cribbed for now.

OBHS Monticello School Museum and Archive (MSMA) Facility Project Report: The Phases are broken down with Phase I 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 this work. Phase III is to be the construction of the basement. Regarding that, four bid requests were mailed out. We have received one bid, that from **Kevin Mackie Construction**, who bid \$17,350.00 for labor & materials, with add-ons of \$600 for vault enclosure, and \$500 Wirsbo tubing installed. Total: \$18,450.00. Jim heard from two, but only had one new bid, and a prior earlier bid was \$18,000 but that contractor has gone out of business.

Motion was made by Dan B. with a second by Paul C. to accept **Kevin Mackie's** bid offer and ad-ons, with added conditions to be agreed to upon signing: 1) that the terms of the bid be good for six months from the date of signing to allow for OBHS fund-raising; 2) that the vault wall be of 6 inch concrete over footings; 3) that the concrete cap over the vault be 6 inches thick with rebar with overhead allowances permitting it to be less than an 8 foot ceiling; 4) Adjustments to bid amounts due to these clarifications should be agreed upon before works starts. Motion carried.

We have brought together a fund-raising brochure package. One has been mailed out to Bell Lumber & Pole. 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 and Dennis worked on the fund raising pamphlet with help from Doreen S. and Jim. Other grants are being considered, and our local capital campaign has started. *See current MSMA Updates* Member **Ed Privette & wife Judy** have recently 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. They join the Cal Coolidge Canoer Club. Donors will be assigned to "clubs" based upon amounts donated with memorials noted. The clubs are to be described in a loose insert in our next OBHS News. Jim is updating the "vision drawing" for use in future phases. Thanks to Jeanne Gardner & *The Connection* for their article. Added memorials have come in the name of George Umolac totaling \$160, \$20 designated to MSMA. Our thanks to Shirley.

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. *A woman's black coat was found left at Eskolin House last fall. Please contact Mary Ann Gronquist at 715-398-5493 to claim it.* **Ross & Mary Johnson** from Eau Claire just became Family Members. **Famie (& Marty) Laakso** renewed with a family membership with an added donation. Our thanks to the Johnsons and the Laaksos.

Archives Committee: Jim reported: Next meeting: Monday 1 p.m., March 30, 2015 at Pellmans'. Thanks from Jim to Earl, Audrey, Betty, Mary Ann, & Nancy (our Group Historian) & Shirley U. for keeping us on track. Thanks to Howard Levo who stopped by at our last meeting with family recollections, and for a calendar purchase. 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. Velma Doby has donated numerous items related to the Cooperative movement, and Finnish language materials. Thanks to all. All of this is being processed, and the Elmer Hermanson donated materials are nearing completion of the first stage in accessioning with scanning to follow. Our main computer failed and had to be replaced with no data lost, with \$215.74 cost.

Publications Committee:

Pollari Memorial Map Project Report: No change. We have talked with Randy Jones who is enthusiastic about getting the map done. We will advance when he is ready. He's had costly software updates.

Calendars: The 2015 calendars have sold well. They are at Twin Gables & Round Up North in Brule, and at Poplar Hardware and Poplar Village Market, at Northland Tax Service in Brule, and at Sharon's Restaurant in Lake Nebagamon. Thanks to all who are selling them 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 reordered. Nan Wisherd at Cable Publishing is waiting on Jim to move forward on 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 finish his job of gathering text & images,. Nan will use her designer for the book, and expects good sales.

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Sleepy Valley Loop Bridge: At our December 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 will be helping Hope. Hope reported that she will wait before making more buttons for new designs & photos.

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: Enc.: Lois P. & family. Symp: Joe Brygger family.

Coming Meetings: Next Board meeting: 4:30 p.m., May 20th (**note the Third Wednesday of the month**), Eskolin House? Next General Meeting: 6:00 p.m., April 15th. Program: Ghost Towns of Northern Douglas C., Brian Paulson with help from Jim P. We tried to get the Maple Town Hall, but the Volunteer Fire Department has moved their meetings to that night. Trying LN, with Amnicon next.

Midsummer Planning. Mary Ann G. has contacted Earl regarding reserving the Lakeside Town Hall for the weekend of Sat. June 20th, and that has cleared. Thursday is cleared for 6-9 p.m. for our General Meeting, and Saturday from 10-3 p.m. Motion by Doreen S., second by Hope S. to raise adult food price at Midsummer to \$8.50. Motion carried. Contact Mary Ann to sign up to help.

Other New Business: The bicycle tour is on again this year: Monday, July 13th, 8-12 they will be stopping at the Windmill.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Hope S., seconded by Brian P. for adjournment. Motion carried Adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Pellman, Secretary

Area History: No. 103

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

6. Nelson School, Town of Cloverland, 8th Grade Graduates, 1930. Left to right: Reuben Peterson, Henry Olson, Ailie Beck, Donald Danielson, Otto Olson, and teacher, Miss Elna Ellison. Ailie Beck Soyering, born with five of her siblings in the US, came from the large Finnish immigrant family of Jacob and Annie (Nelson) Beck, for which Beck's Road is named. This road runs north to Lake Superior through the Towns of Cloverland and Maple from Highway 13 across from Pellman Loop in the Town of Maple at its south end. Ailie's older siblings attended the Pellinen (Pellman) School on Pellman Loop in the Town of Maple through 1921 when it closed and students were then bussed to the new Maple Corner School. This happened simultaneously with the founding of the Town of Cloverland. The Nelson School which opened in 1919, with Ruth Nelson as teacher, was first a Town of Maple school, and was furthest west of the new Cloverland schools. It was located on what is now the Colby Road near Highway 13 on land that went from the Town of Maple to the Town of Cloverland at its founding in 1921. From a clipping of a published photo in the Superior Evening Telegram, July 25, 1930, courtesy of the late Ailie Beck Soyering and Mary Ann Gronquist. Ailie was an aunt of the late Jack Gronquist.



-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 keep filling in 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 current 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 Magnuson** continues to sell and distribute. To **President Dennis Hill** for fund-raising leadership on our MSMA project. To **V President Brian Paulson**, for sharing his passion on the history of local railroads & now their Ghost Towns. To Member **Ed Privette** for recent mailing on Brule River history. **OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY:** To the family & friends of the following who we have lost recently:

Dennis (Sonny) E. Taipale, 71, born April 19, 1943, in Superior, Wis. to Reino & Ailie Taipale, of Oulu, Wis., who passed away March 25, 2015, at his home in Richland Hills, Texas, after a lengthy illness, graduate of South Shore High School, Army veteran, worked in A/C & refrig., survived by wife Carlyn, two sons, brother Kevin (Terry), sisters Shirley (Buck) Follis, Bonita Trapp, Lois (Jerry) Tanula, Audrey (Marvin) Hanson.

Paul Joseph "Skip" Skamsner Jr., 75, Superior, who died April 4, 2015, at Villa-Marina Health and Rehabilitation Center, Superior, after a long battle with cancer, born Sept. 5, 1939 in Superior to Paul Joseph and Sarah Hunter (Turney) Skamsner, his professional career was as a newspaper writer and photographer with his BA in Journalism from UW Madison, serving the Waterloo Iowa Daily Courier, the Ashland Wis. Daily Press, the Sawyer County Record at Hayward, Wis., and the Superior Evening Telegram, funeral services at Pilgrim Lutheran Church.

Donald Berube, 94, longtime Maple and Brule area resident, who died March 28, 2015, at St Luke's Hospital, Hospice Unit, Duluth, born in Ashland Dec. 20, 1920, the son of Frank and Florence (Russell) Berube, graduated from Iron River High School, attended Superior State Teachers College, served in the US Army Air Force, was a rural letter carrier for many years, love to garden, survived by wife Judy, two daughters, and son Bob, preceded in death by siblings Lorraine (Armagust) and brothers, Lawrence and Gene.

Marvin O. Lehto, 84, who passed away March 25, 2015, at Golden Living Center, Court Manor, in Ashland, Wis., born April 6, 1930, in the Town of Oulu, Wis., the son of Oscar and Tynne (Limingoja) Lehto, survived by wife Florence (Armbruster) and six children, burial in Iron River Cemetery.

Allen Langley, 61, Iron River, who died March 21, 2015 after a long battle with cancer, was born April 9, 1953 in Superior to Dhayle and Marilyn Langley, survived by wife Jeannie, and his mother.

Irene L. (Lahti) Courtney, 72, a 15 year resident of Leisure World, Seal Beach, Calif., who died peacefully at home March 14, 2015 from Pulmonary Fibrosis. Born in Superior, Irene grew up with her three sisters, Shirley, Donna and Evelyn in Brule, Wis., where they worked on the family's dairy farm. Her parents were Wayne and Helmi Lahti. She graduated from NWHS & moved to Long Beach CA. & is survived by 2 daughters.

Violet Marie (Williams) Whitmore, 82, who died March 13, 2015 at Bay Shore Manor in Duluth, born to Ira and Ruby Williams on Dec. 31, 1933, raised in Maple graduating from Northwestern High School in 1951, with surviving brothers and sister George and Richard Williams, Superior, Billy Williams, Maple, and Betty Welty, Kingsford, Mich., and three surviving children.

Geraldine "Gerry" Mae Serre, 87, South Range, who died March 10, 2015 at Middle River Health and Rehabilitation Center, born April 9, 1927 in Superior to John E. "Buzzy" and Helen (Bergren) Jones, graduated from Poplar High School in Poplar, 3 daughters & a son survive, with burial in Poplar Cemetery.

Ervin L. Harnois, 82, Superior, who passed away March 9, 2015 in his home, owned and operated Muskeg Pottery in Iron River, Wis., born Aug. 16, 1932 in Ashland, Wis. to Joseph and Edith (Bassett) Harnois, a Navy veteran, son Gregory and daughter Kathy survive.

Karl Konrad "Konny" Strand, 79, of Arkansaw, Wis., who died March 10, 2015 at the Plum City Care Center, the only child of Harry and Goldie (Bergsten) Strand, born January 21, 1936 in Pratt, Kansas, raised in Poplar and Maple, graduating from NWHS in 1954. Memorial services were held March 15 at the Lund Mission Covenant Church in rural Lund, Wis., survived by his children and many grandchildren.

Lorraine (Salo) Luoma Pearson, 87, of Superior, who died peacefully on Saturday, March 7, 2015, at Middle River Health and Rehabilitation Center, South Range, was born Aug. 31, 1927, in Superior, daughter of Severt & Ilma (Likkala) Salo, became a Jehovah's Witness and was baptized in 1955, survived by son Victor Luoma and daughter Mary Papineau.

MaryJane (MJ Bridge) Mohr, 61, formerly of Lake Nebagamon, Wis., who passed away unexpectedly on Thursday evening, Feb. 12, 2015, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tucson, Ariz., born April 1st, 1953, in Superior, a longtime resident of Lake Nebagamon, graduated from Northwestern High School, before going on to attend college in Tucson, Ariz., survived by husband Michael Mohr & son Ted Ukkola.

Ronald J. "Rooster" Makela, 77, Superior, Town of Tripp, Ruth Lake, who passed away peacefully March 4, 2015 at St. Luke's Hospice Care Center with wife Sharon, son Jeff & daughter Cindy Michalski by his side.

Pastor Joseph D. Brygger, 86, longtime area minister and educator, who died peacefully March 2, 2015, at Solvay Hospice House in Duluth, Minn., following a battle with cancer, born Sept. 27, 1928, in North Carolina to Eliza Denny, survived by wife Clarice, three daughters and two sons.

Dr. James R. Hutchinson, 91, Superior, who passed away March 1, 2015, at St. Luke's Hospice Care Center, born in Sheboygan, Wis., Aug. 4, 1923, and grew up in Oshkosh, Wis. He joined the United States Army when he was 19 and served four years in the South Pacific. Practiced dentistry with Dr. Callaway in Superior.

Michael A. "Mike" Dufour, 74, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away on Feb. 24 at Essentia Health St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth, following lengthy battle with Parkinsons Disease, born on Jan. 23, 1941 in Superior to Adrian and Jeanette (Sellwood) Dufour, lived in Lake Nebagamon since 1970, survived by daughter Tamara & wife Dianna.

James J. Garin, 84, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away Feb. 20, 2015 at his residence, born April 13, 1930 to James and Hazel (Clark) Garin in Superior, survived by daughter Deborah Soyering & his siblings.

Gertrude Lenora (Armbruster) Taipale, "Gertie," 90, who passed away Feb. 10, 2015, at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Hospital in Superior. Gertie was born in Iron River, Wis. July 10, 1924 to Bertha (Tutor) and Percy Armbruster, married Harvey Taipale on Dec. 24, 1943, made their home in Oulu where they operated a logging operation and dairy farm.

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.

April 13, Monday, 1 p.m. Archives Meeting at Pellman's.

April 15, Wednesday, 6:00 PM, OBHS General Meeting at Amnicon Town Hall. Brian Paulson & Jim Pellman on The Ghost Towns of Northern Douglas County. Pot luck lunch. Business meeting. Income Tax due.

April 17, Friday, 7 p.m. Jim Pellman, talk before the Finnish American Cultural group in St. Paul on Brule Coops.

April 22, Wednesday. Earth Day.

April 24, Friday. Arbor Day.

April 27, Monday, 1 p.m. Archives Meeting at Pellman's.

May 10, Sunday. Mother's Day.

May 11, Monday, 1 p.m. Archives Meeting at Pellman's.

May 16. Saturday. Armed Forces Day.

May 20, Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. OBHS Board Meeting. John & Doreen Swansons, Brule. *OBHS News* June submissions.

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 W.