

# OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2016

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

Volume XVIII, Issue 3

June 5, 2016

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shirley Kankas-Umolac, Lake  
Nebagamon, President  
Audrey Hakkila, Poplar, 1<sup>st</sup> V. P.  
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Charlene Harms, Duluth, Alternate  
Lois Pollari, Lake Nebagamon, Alternate  
Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

## OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY JUNE GENERAL MEETING

**Thursday, June 16, 2016, 6:00 PM at the Lakeside Town Hall**

This is our Midsummer Work Day General Meeting. We will be working at the Windmill and at the Lakeside Town Hall getting displays set up and food prepared. The Windmill grounds will get mowed, and final painting will be done on the Windmill blades. The evening begins at 6:00 PM with our pot luck lunch. Please bring a covered dish to pass, or refreshments to share. Our business meeting will follow. Thanks to the Town of Lakeside for the free use of their hall and kitchen for the days of our event.

Friends, Guests and New Members are always Welcome!

## FROM THE EDITOR:

Historical research and the writing that accompanies it can be a predictable process: find a question that begs an answer, or a topic that demands deeper study, research available sources, gather and shape the materials and the discoveries; look for outstanding themes that emerge, and write and revise and write and revise, and do more research where needed, and write and revise. But there is an element of surprise in this creative process, and this drives you to more discoveries, and more truth. The process is saturated with honesty or it cannot be history. This is also a prescription for life.

The complexity of a human subject or person is humbling, and the larger the human collective in focus the more humbling this becomes. Clichés and pat answers may make a human subject manageable, but it is what falls between the clichés and the pat answers that witnesses to our freedom, the twists and turns, the final essence of what life is, and this really is what we are seeking. In this I am thinking about our local places, our neighborhoods, our small groups, and those individuals who are a vital part of them. This has come home to me again with the passing of Chuck Zosel, Betty Wood and Alice Walimaki, all on the roster, and in their own times vital to the life of our group. Chuck was a founding Board Member, Betty a more recent Board arrival and active Archivist, and Alice and her late husband Arvo were early generous contributors to our group. All had a passion for our local history and did what time and personal resources allowed to see that it was saved, preserved and shared. I personally will miss them all, but I carry the memory of my discussions with them and will always honor their service to us. They felt sharing the record in and out of OBHS is vital to historical work.

Sometimes lightning does strike out of the blue, and this has happened to us with contact from the Stratford, Wisconsin, Historical Society, from down near Wausau. Two veterans of their historical group, Donetta Ulrich and Peggy Smith, were waiting for me when I arrived there close to noon after three hours of driving on May 18th. I only knew that they had some photos they wanted to donate having to do with logging near Maple. Stratford was near the area that Philip Nelson and the Lefel brothers had come from. The Northern Hardwood Lumber Company which operated just behind the house I write in, back in the early 1900s, had a clerk named August Helmke in 1910 who was from that area as well, who had been a friend of the Lefels. That I knew from the 1910 US Census. I brought that Census page with me as a gift.

Still, I was amazed at what I saw when I got there. August Helmke's late daughter had married a man interested in the history of logging. He had inherited six large format professional photographs of the Maple sawmill presumably from his father-in-law, now being donated to OBHS. They quite fully visually document the mill and its activities from 1906 to 1912 or 1913 when it finally shut down. This has inspired even more research by Sister Janine Seis and me, and the story of "the largest enterprise on the Northern Pacific Railroad between Superior and Ashland outside of Iron River" in 1907 is now taking shape. Such is life, and historical research. Our deep thanks to Donetta and Peggy, to the Stratford Historical Society, and to the Wisconsin Historical Society which helped make the connection to us up here in the North Woods. And thanks to Janine who has gladly shared her amazing links to and findings in historical newspapers on line.

-Jim Pellman

**1998 to 2005, 2006 to 2016 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 are available. Please contact Janet Follis, P.O. Box 114, Brule, WI 54820, (715) 372-4948. Our 2016 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendars are for sale at \$9.00 each. Earlier issues are also available at \$5.00 (2006 - 2013), 2014 at \$6.00, & 2015 at \$7.00 in limited numbers. 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, and to those local businesses that are selling them for us each year, this year at Twin Gables & Cenex in Brule, Poplar Hardware & the Village Market, Sharon's Lakeview Restaurant & Midland Cenex in Lake Nebagamon. Or check with Jim in Maple at 715-363-2549.

*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.**

We mourn the abrupt passing of archivist Betty Bergsten Wood. She looked forward with excitement to the prospects of our new archiving space at MSMA, the Monticello School Museum & Archives. With our loss of Betty and the changes expected with our new space 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., still at the Pellmans' on a Monday afternoon. Next meeting is June 6<sup>th</sup>, and generally every other Monday thereafter, but we expect this routine to change as we prepare for our new site. Please call Jim at 715-363-2549 to confirm the next meeting time and place.

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

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m., Highland Town Hall

We started the evening with a pot-luck supper. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this enjoyable meal. Special appreciation to Mary Ann Gronquist who brought in all of the OBHS supplies, set up the coffee and other beverages, and organized the serving along with Arlene and Doreen. OBHS also thanks the Town of Highland and their Town Clerk Nora Ann Moss, for the use of their facilities.

**PROGRAM:** Brian Klawiter gave an informative and interesting power point presentation on "The History of the Lake Superior Brownstone Industry". Brian, who holds a Master's Degree in Geology, has done extensive research on the early building stone industries in our region. He explained that the Mid-Continent Rift, mostly covered now, is the setting for the Keweenawan, a supergroup of sedimentary rocks located in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. When the brownstone boom began around 1870, many quarries were established in our area near Bayfield, Port Wing, Iron River, Fond du Lac, and Amnicon Falls (Arcadian Brownstone Quarry). Brian included a few LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) images that clearly illustrated the surface features of the quarry area around Fond du Lac, Minnesota.

Notable area buildings of brownstone construction include Old City Hall and the foundations at Fairlawn in Superior; the Oliver Trophagen House, Tycoon Ale House, Temple Opera House, and First Presbyterian Church in Duluth; and the Lumber Exchange Building in Minneapolis.

Thank you, Brian, for sharing your expertise and the time that you spent with us. Everyone enjoyed your talk and looks forward to a future presentation.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Shirley Kankas-Umolac called the meeting to order at 8:20 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Jim made a motion to approve the minutes, as published in the February 2016 OBHS News, of the last General Meeting held on February 10, 2016, at the Maple Town Hall. Laila seconded this motion; the minutes were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Janine Seis has emailed the following report effective 4/13/2016.

<u>Current Account Balances</u>	<u>Changes</u>
<b>CD:</b> \$ 5,823.16	No Change from last Board Meeting
<b>MSMA:</b> \$ 14,001.44	No Change from last Board Meeting
<b>WINDMILL:</b> \$ 1,779.40	Former balance was \$ 2,090.70. Subtractions include \$ 58.82 (2 withdrawals to ECE for electricity) and \$252.48 to pay for newsletter

<b>GENERAL:</b>	\$ 184.21	expenses, which amount will be repaid from the General Account later. Former balance was \$ 950.17. Total miscellaneous sales of \$ 294.50 deposited. Check to Jim of \$924.96 (reimbursement of authorized book printing orders including 100 <i>Wisconsin Far Northwest</i> books (\$844.94) and two <i>Lake Owen</i> books (\$80.00)
<hr/>		
<b>TOTAL CASH</b>	\$ 21,785.21	\$ 22,865.47 at last Board Meeting,

**ASSETS:** (No major outstanding bills.)

Doreen moved to accept this report as presented; Mary Ann seconded. The Treasurer's report was approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:**

The Wisconsin Historical Society has sent a Mini-grant Application Packet for their matching grant program. We will be applying for funds for acid-free containers to go onto the shelves that have already been donated.

An order and check arrived ordering a *Sisu and Sauna* book, which were returned as it is not available yet.

A Wirtanen Farm Update letter was received, inviting members to attend a program 4-17-16 in Markham, MN. The program will include Phillip Loeb, who will discuss the early farm history, and a lunch in the Finnish tradition.

The Town of Lakeside sent their Annual Report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**DAVIDSON WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE:**

Bridge work and windmill maintenance will take place when the weather gets warmer. Windmill blade hub work is needed before painting is completed. Because it is seven feet to the top of the beam, Jim's scaffolding will be used. We hope that these projects will be done before Midsummer.

Ron said there is a need to provide long-term safety and durability of the bridge by purchasing trusses and putting a tin roof on the structure. The only expenditure would be that of the trusses; Ron will donate the needed tin. A roof is commonly used for protection of similar structures. Jim thought a lower profile roof would look best. Jim moved to proceed with the project and suggested we look at obtaining a bridge preservation grant. After a second by Hope, the motion was approved.

**MSMA FUND-RAISING:** We have received a \$1,000 grant from ECE Power Coop, the power supplier to our Windmill site. We will send a thank you note, a copy of our newsletter, and any press coverage received.

Shirley reported that we will eventually be ordering MSMA shirts (gray w/red lettering) from *Carey's Lake Life* in Lake Nebagamon (using funds from the MSMA account).

**CONSTRUCTION:** Because the basement construction contract with Kevin Mackie went beyond the six-month provision for startup, Kevin has been contacted and said he would be willing and able to start immediately with the same bid amounts from the expired contract. Jim moved that, after the committee checks details of the contract, they be authorized to meet with Kevin to approve a revised contract with changed terms of time slots. Following a second by Audrey, the motion was approved.

**ARCHIVES:** A typist is needed to accession information into our library and to scan and crop photos. While previous applications for matching mini-grants from the Wisconsin Historical Society have been unsuccessful, our MSMA project might improve our chances of receiving assistance in preserving our local history.

**PUBLICITY:** Thanks to Mary Ann, Audrey, & Brian for sending articles to Poplar Press & other publications.

**PUBLICATIONS:** The 2016 Calendar is available for sale at \$9.00. Jim attended the Poplar History Group's last meeting, and Randy Jones is waiting for software to continue work on the Pollari Memorial Map.

**MERCHANDISE:** Two copies of *Looking Back at Lake Owen* are available for purchase. The retail price of this book is \$70.00, but Nan Wisherd provided copies to OBHS at \$40.00 each to sell them at a price we determine.

Thanks to Scott Wisherd for picking up our order of 100 reprinted copies of *Wisconsin Far Northwest* from Publishers Express Press in Tony, WI, and delivering them to us. Their cost was approximately \$10 each; we will continue to sell them at \$20. Poplar Hardware has already ordered five copies.

Jim and Nan will begin creating a table top book on May 1, which will include images and texts from our old and current calendars and from the Brule History Research Group's calendars. Their first step will be to review and sequence all resources. Nan is planning to produce 1,000 books, with all proceeds to be gifted to OBHS.

*Sisu and Sauna:* Jim has a copy from Paul of the CD which was sent to the publisher for the first edition. Earl and Lila will be working on the project of editing the book in preparation for a reprint.

**Windmill Hoodies:** These hoodies are available now. Shirley plans to order more. The sales prices of some merchandise need to be addressed to reflect increased shipping costs.

**FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE:** Thanks to Janine and Nancy Moreland for their maintenance of this independent site with over 500 members. OBHS will encourage them to publicize our activities. In order to extract information from this site with the needed resolution, it is critical that OBHS get the original source from the person who posted it.

**PROPOSAL TO INVOLVE LOCAL STUDENTS IN A DRAWING/PAINTING DAVIDSON WINDMILL COMPETITION:** Hope is waiting for Paul Hakkila to return so they can meet with the local art teacher and the Superintendent to request transportation of interested students to the site for at least one hour to sketch the Windmill. These students would have about two weeks to complete their artwork for competition. A committee comprised of Hope, Paul, and possibly Pat Hursh, would select the winner(s). OBHS has previously supported the activity, but is not involved in project costs.

**HCE PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY:** Jim P., Mary Ann G., and Nancy Moreland attended a program sponsored by

HCE on cyber security and internet safety precautions which was presented at the Superior Public Library on February 18. A follow-up class has been scheduled for Thursday, May 19th, at 1:00 p.m.

**OPT OUT OF NEWSLETTER HARDCOPY DELIVERY:** Those members who are interested in accessing an online electronic copy of the OBHS Newsletter should contact Jim. Some members have already done so. Newsletter hard copies can be shared.

**BLACKBOARD AT OLD AMNICON TOWN HALL:** Dennis reported that the blackboard is not available.

**2016 MIDSUMMER ACTIVITIES:** Our Midsummer Celebration will be on Saturday, June 18, with tours on Friday and Saturday. The General Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16, to prepare the mill and the Town Hall for the Saturday events. Food preparation will take place on Friday, June 17th; workers are needed!

**OTHER OLD BUSINESS:** None.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT:** Encouragement and congratulations to Doris Perala on her 85th birthday. Encouragement to Edith Warner is greatly improved, and to Pal Hakkila as he deals with health issues. Sympathy to all of the Winkka & Snyder families on the loss of Shannon & to the Bridge family on the loss of Mary Jane.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday May 11, 2016 at the Eskolin House.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16 at the Lakeside Town Hall to prepare for Midsummer.

**WORK CREWS NEEDED:** Crews will be notified when the move of the Johnson gristmill to Finnworks is scheduled.

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS:** Mary Ann has sheets for members to sign up for upcoming work for the Midsummer dinner and tours.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Doreen moved to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Nancy. President Shirley-Umolac adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lila M. Ronn, 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. Windmill mugs, caps & 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 new zipper front hooded *I've Been Through the Mill* sweatshirts have arrived.

Our book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, and Nan Wisherd's books, *Pathways* and *Echoes*, Lakeside's *Sisu and Sauna*, (*Out for now*) 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 \$4.00 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 please contact our members for more info.

#### Unapproved MINUTES of the MAY BOARD MEETING OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 2:00 p.m., Eskolin House, Town of Lakeside, WI

Attendance: Danny Bergsten, Dorothy Bergsten, Mary Ann Gronquist, Lila Ronn, Shirley Kankas-Umolac, Jim Pellman, Doreen Swanson, and Hop e Swenson.

#### BUSINESS MEETING:

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Shirley Kankas-Umolac called the meeting to order at 2:55 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Dorothy moved to accept the minutes, as published in the April 2016 *OBHS NEWS*, of the previous Board meeting held on March 9, 2016. Dan seconded the motion; the minutes were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Janine Seis emailed the following report effective 5-11-2016

	Current Account Balances	Changes since April General Meeting
<b>CD:</b>	\$ 5,828.16	\$5.00 interest added.
<b>MSMA:</b>	\$ 14,001.44	No change.
<b>WINDMILL:</b>	\$1,447.47	(Last meeting \$1,779.40) ECE Bill- \$29.41; transfer of \$440 to General Account for Windmill sweatshirts purchased in December 2015; Transfer of \$252.48 from the General Account for moneys previously borrowed from the Windmill Account for newsletter & postage costs.
<b>GENERAL:</b>	\$ 721.73	(Last meeting \$184.21) \$25 honorarium payment to speaker Brian Klawiter; \$440.00 received from Windmill Account; \$375.00 deposited from sweatshirt sales, memberships, and calendar sales.
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS:</b>	\$ 21,998.80	(last meeting \$ 21,785.21)

Doreen moved to accept this report as presented; seconded by Mary Ann. The report was approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. The Wisconsin Historical Society has sent a Mini-grant Application Packet for their matching grant program which needs to be sent by June 2. We will be applying for funds for acid-free containers to go on the shelves that have already been donated for the Monticello Museum and Archives. Members discussed potential new money-makers to raise the \$200-\$300 needed for our required half of the grant. It was decided to pursue plans for a flea market to be held the same day as our Annual Meeting. The Maple Town Hall was selected as the site for this event. Hope moved to hold the Annual Meeting on Saturday, July 30, 2016. Following a second by Jim, the motion was approved. Jim will attempt to obtain the building.

2. John and Carol Arthur sent in a new membership fee and donation.
3. Philip and Gretchen Takkunen sent in a new family membership.
4. Pat and Carolyn Grube sent in a new business membership and donation.
5. The Port Wing Historical Society sent in their latest newsletter.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**DAVIDSON WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE:**

Bridge work and windmill maintenance will resume now that the weather is warmer. A workday is planned for Saturday, May 21. This is also a regularly scheduled tour day (third Saturday of the month). Repair to the windmill blade is needed before painting is completed. Jim will bring his scaffolds and ladders and tools. Our goal is to get all this work done before Midsummer.

Ron has noted that we need to purchase trusses and put a tin roof on the Taylor's Bridge to provide for its long-term safety and durability. At the April 2016 General Meeting, members decided to investigate and proceed with this project, including seeking a grant to finance it. Ron offered to donate the needed tin, so the only cost would be that of the trusses. Work remains to install replacement timber on the bridge.

It was noted that the view of the restroom from Highway 13 is unattractive. Suggested solutions included a fence and/or shrubbery. Lila will inquire if the Town of Lakeside could use their backhoe to dig some mature lilac bushes on their property for possible use in this project.

**MSMA: FUND-RAISING:** We have received a donation toward MSMA from the John & Carol Arthur family in Superior, formerly of Lake Nebagamon. Dan made a motion, seconded by Hope, that this donation be applied to an honorary membership. The motion was approved.

Shirley reported that we will eventually be ordering MSMA shirts from *Carey's Lake Life* in Lake Nebagamon (using funds from the MSMA account).

**CONSTRUCTION:** Because the six-month basement construction contract with Kevin Mackie expired, he was contacted and initially said he would be willing and ready to start immediately with the same bid amounts from the previous contract. At our April General Meeting, a decision was made that the committee review the details of the contract with Kevin, and that they be authorized to approve revisions to the contract with refined specifications & date changes. The committee has provided Kevin a list of specific topics for his review. Jim has sent him a follow-up letter, including the news that he has cleared the slope on the MSMA site of trees & brush. We hope to hear from Kevin soon.

**ARCHIVES:** A typist is needed to accession information into our library and to scan and crop photos. Our MSMA project may improve our chances of receiving a matching mini-grant from the Wisconsin Historical Society. We must provide 50-50 matching funds through suitable new fundraising to obtain this grant.

**PUBLICITY:** Thanks to Mary Ann, Audrey, and Brian for their continued work in submitting history related articles to *Poplar Press* and other publications.

**PUBLICATIONS:** The 2016 Calendar is available for sale at \$9.00. Jim attended the Poplar History Group's latest meeting. Randy Jones is waiting for software to continue work on the Pollari Memorial Map.

**MERCHANDISE:** Two copies of *Looking Back at Lake Owen* are available for purchase. The retail price of this book is \$70.00, but Nan Wisherd has provided copies to OBHS at \$40.00 each to sell at a price we determine. A bargain price of \$50.00 has been suggested. The Board supported this selling price.

Jim and Nan will begin work creating a table top book on May 13<sup>th</sup>. This book will include images and texts from our old and current calendars and from the Brule History Research Group's calendars. This information dates back to 1877. They will begin their work with a review of old maps in support of background history for the images. Nan is planning to produce 1,000 or more books, with all proceeds to be donated to OBHS.

*Sisu and Sauna:* Jim has a copy from Paul of the CD which was originally sent to the publisher. Lila and Earl will plan work to edit the book in preparation for a reprint.

**Windmill Hoodies:** These hoodies are available for sale. Shirley has ordered six more large hoodies so all sizes are available. The sales price of our merchandise needs to be reviewed in light of increased wholesale and shipping costs.

**FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE:** Thanks to Janine and Nancy Moreland for their maintenance of this independent site with over 550 members. Representative Nick Milroy is one of the newest members. OBHS will encourage publicity of our activities. It is critical that we obtain the original source in order to extract information from this site with the needed resolution, and to obtain permission from the person who posted it.

**PROPOSAL TO INVOLVE LOCAL STUDENTS IN a DRAWING/PAINTING COMPETITION of the DAVIDSON WINDMILL:** Because of time constraints, Hope reported that the proposed project will be delayed until the fall. This project involves bussing interested NWS art students to the Windmill site to complete sketches. The students would then have about two weeks to complete their artwork for competition. A committee comprised of Hope, Paul Hakkila and Trish (Pat) Hursh would select the winners. OBHS supports this activity, but is not involved in project costs.

**HCE PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY:** Jim P., Mary Ann G., and Nancy Moreland attended a program sponsored by HCE on cyber security and internet safety precautions at the Superior Public Library on February 18<sup>th</sup>. A follow-up class that will focus on security issues has been scheduled for Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.

**OPT OUT OF NEWSLETTER HARDCOPY DELIVERY:** Those members interested in accessing an online electronic copy of the *OBHS NEWSLETTER* in lieu or in addition to a hard copy should contact Jim. Some members have already elected to receive only the emailed copy. Newsletter hard copies can be shared.

**BLACKBOARD AVAILABLE AT OLD AMNICON TOWN HALL:** Dennis reported at the April General Meeting that the blackboard was not available, but provided no details.

It was noted that a flag crocheted by Elsie Kinnunen was also kept at the vacated Amnicon Town Hall. This flag was once displayed at the old Wentworth Post Office. It has been donated and Jim is currently storing it for OBHS.

**2016 MIDSUMMER ACTIVITIES:** Our Midsummer Celebration Scandinavian Dinner at Lakeside Town Hall will be on Saturday, June 18, with Windmill tours on Friday and Saturday. Planning for the Dinner will take place at Alice's on May 16<sup>th</sup>, with lunch at 1:00 p.m. Food preparation is scheduled for Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at the Lakeside Town Hall. Workers are needed! The General Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16, to prepare the mill and the Town Hall for the Saturday events.

**JOHNSON GRISTMILL MOVE:** Stanley Jacobson, Robert Keys, and Jim moved the heavy gristmill to Finnworks for temporary storage on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. OBHS thanks Stanley and Robbie for their time and labor and for providing the long trailer and skidsteer. Our thanks to the late Eddie Walman for storage space for the mill and to the Ernest Erkkila family for donations of various blacksmith shop equipment and materials that had also been stored at Eddie's and were moved. All of these items will have to be studied, together with our copper pieces and mining tools for future standing- and temporary exhibits.

**OTHER OLD BUSINESS:** None.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**MEMBERSHIP DATES:** Members are asked to verify their mailing addresses on *OBHS NEWS* for correctness of membership date. Please contact Jim if you have questions.

**SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT:** Good to see Paul Hakkila back and doing better.

Sympathy to the Winkka and Snyder families on the loss of Shannon, and to the Bridge family on the loss of Mary Jane. Sympathy to the family of Kay Coletta, whose Memorial Service will be held at St. Anthony's in Lake Nebagamon June 21<sup>st</sup>; to family of Chuck Zosel, a founding Board Member of OBHS; & to the family of Gary Wisted.

Doreen requests that members send cards to her sister Doris Perala as she deals with health issues. Doris' address is Room 212, Villa Marina Health Facility, 35 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Superior, WI 54880.

**BIKE WISCONSIN:** The Davidson Windmill and Eskolin House will be a scheduled stop for this group of bikers whose trip will originate in Superior. We will be expecting up to 75 bikers to stop at our site from 8:00 to noon on Monday, July 11. Please contact Mary Ann if you would be able to help. See bikewisconsin.com. for further information about this organization and their cycling tours.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Doreen moved and Dorothy seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. President Shirley Kankas-Umolac adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lila M. Ronn, Secretary

## Area History: No. 110

*This picture and text appears for the month of July in our 2016 OBHS Historical Calendar.*

#### 16.07. Maple Farmers' Cooperative Store, Maple, Wisconsin, c. 1940.

Facing the camera from left to right: Einard Perala, Matt Perala, Jr. John Pellman (Pellinen), Andrew Haukkala. Victor Anunti, Aili Ammesmaki. Haukkala was one of the original founders and was able to sign with his Naturalization Papers from his days as a coal miner in Frontier, Wyoming. Others named are informed guesses in some cases, but all were patrons and leaders in the local Maple Farmers Cooperative which was founded in 1914. This is one of the last photographs taken of the earlier store which was abandoned for a new modern store just north across Highway 2, built in 1941. The building seen here was once a tavern built by Matt Alto and Northern and Ashland Brewing Company interests at the time of the industrial logging era which ended in Maple about 1910. It was said that the first store building of the Maple co-op had been a chicken coop. This is possible as the tavern had been purchased by John L. Davis who had a farm across the highway, but this seems too much a structure for that purpose. It was purchased almost immediately in the life of the cooperative from Davis, served it for 27 years and had been a Maple landmark west across from the lands of the Brule/Maple Town Hall and Maple School buildings since 1902. *From a copy in the Old-Brule Heritage Society collection.*



*From a copy in the Old-Brule Heritage Society collection.*

## ~ NOTICES ~

**MEMBERS:** Dues collection for 2016 began at our Annual Meeting in August & continues into 2016. Please check your newsletter label for the expiration date we have in our records. Also, please keep filling in your volunteer hours on your Blue Sheets. Our current hour tally runs annually from August 1 (2015) to turn-in date July 31 (2016). Please contact our Secretary or Jim for a new Blue Sheet.

**THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS:** Thanks to Brian Klawiter for a great program in Hawthorne on the Brownstone industry. Happy BD Paul C.!

**OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY:** To family & friends of the many, many, following here whom we have lost recently in 2016:

**Elaine L. (Knoll) Miller**, 93, South Range & Hawthorne, who died May 27 in her home, daughter of Hans, Sr. and Esther (Brevig) Knoll, married John H. Miller in 1947 and together ran Millers, later the Longbranch Saloon, in Hawthorne.

**Jerome P. 'Jerry' Fair**, 79, Superior & Lake Havasu AZ, who passed away peacefully June 1 at Essentia-St. Mary's Duluth, born in Superior to Gertrude (Maki) and Peter Fair, married Mary Ann DeMeyer in 1956 who survives.

**Alan "Duane" Simpson**, 81, Iron River, who passed away May 25 at Solvay Hospice Center, Duluth, born in Iron River, son of Walter Simpson & Judith (Hedquist) Simpson, remained on the family dairy farm until 1979 when it became Iron River National Fish Hatchery.

**Glenn Parish**, 88, Superior & Lake Nebagamon, who passed away peacefully May 28, born to Vincent and Lily Parish, in 1949 married Marilyn Bergquist, was a Navy veteran, and taught in Superior beginning in 1950, retiring in 1987, wife and children survive.

**Mark S. Carlson**, 63, Lake Nebagamon, who died May 19 at his home, born in Superior to Dale and Jean (Potosky) Carlson, the CEO and co-owner of Tri-State Business Systems retiring in 2012 after 42 years, married Anne Pluntz in 1985 who survives.

**Laura Lee (Nieman) West**, 74, Superior, who died peacefully at home May 25, born in Duluth to Raymond and Alice (Collins) Nieman, received a BA in Elem. Ed at UWS, owned & ran Laura's Southwest Junction, survived by former husband James (Jean) West, Sr., Poplar.

**Theresa "Teri" M. (DeRosia) Crane**, 84, Superior and Fort Atkinson, Wis., who passed away May 24, born to William and Myrtle (Sharp) DeRosia, married Phillip Crane in 1949 in Pine City, Minn., was an Administrative Assistant at Whittier Hospital, survived by 3 children, and 10 of her 15 siblings.

**Clarence R. "Snookie" Brown**, 87, Poplar area resident, who passed away May 22, born in Superior, the son of Paul and Edna (Johnson) Brown, married the late Laura Mae Fair (she a 1950 NWHS grad) in 1964, with whom he had four children, worked as a farmer and Mink farmer, as a private contractor and for Lunda Construction, built and maintained a rental business.

**Vera E. Williams, PhD**, 90, who died at Bethel Home, Oshkosh, Wis., May 25, born in Hawthorne, Wis., to Lloyd and Ethel Williams. a retired teacher and Professor Emeritus from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in 1988, also worked as a telegrapher for Northern Pacific RR summers & spent retirement traveling the world, usually by train, survived by sister Vivian Lund of Gordon, Wis.

**Robert Everett Bass**, 62, Town of Cloverland, Brule address, who lost his battle with cancer May 15, 2016.

**Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay)**, 74, who died June 3, US Olympic light heavyweight & 3 time world heavy weight champion boxer.

**Gertrude Jesse Rounsville**, 97, Poplar, who passed away on May 21 in her home, born in Hawthorne, Wis. to Oscar and Abbie (Jones) Rounsville.

**Hildegarde L. Jones**, 93, longtime Poplar area resident, who died April 26 at her home.

**Jacquelyn (Chirhart) Doller**, 76, Lake Nebagamon, who died May 17 at the Golden Living Center in Superior, widow of the late Ronald Doller, was born in St. Cloud, Minn. to Robert and Dorothy (Mrozik) Chirhart, survived by two daughters & three sons.

**James P. "Jim" DeGraef**, 68, Maple, who died May 17 at his home, born in Superior to Clifford and Beverly (LaJoie) DeGraef, was a brakeman for the Burlington Northern Railroad, married June A. Suominen in 1976 in Duluth, who with daughter & son survive.

**Martin K. Uotinen**, 87, Superior, who died May 17 at St. Luke's Hospice, Duluth, born in Oulu, Wis., an Army veteran, in 1957 married Theresa M. Wnek who survives with their three sons, worked for the BN Railroad, Midland Coop & King Midas Flour Mill.

**Dorothy M. Elonen**, 91, Oulu, Wis., who passed away May 15 at her home, born in Milwaukee, Wis. to Frank and Elizabeth (Hoffmeier) Benka and had been in Oulu since 1947, married Toivo Elonen in 1947 in Superior, survived by two daughters & two sons.

**Betty Carolyn (Bergsten) Wood**, 76, Poplar, who died unexpectedly May 14 in her home, born in Superior, the daughter of Walde and Gertrude (Lundberg) Bergsten, 1958 NWHS grad, attended UW-Stout, in 1961 married Robert D. Wood of Ionia, Mich., in 1986 earned an AA degree from Kalamazoo Valley Community College at 50, in 2011 moved to Poplar, active volunteer, member of OBHS, Archivist, Homemakers & Mission Covenant Church, survived by son David (Brenda) Wood, Abingdon, MD, daughters, Heather (Jeffrey) Jones, Aurora, MN and Elizabeth Wood, Niles, Mich.

**Catherine "Kay" (Charmelo) Coletta**, 79, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away April 25 in Sun City, Ariz., where she and her husband of 62 years, Anthony "Tony" Sr. who survives her, spent their winter months, six surviving children, daughter of Victor and Helen Charmelo of LN, an award-winning journalist, reporter, newspaper editor, author, playwright, community activist, & advocate, a force to be missed.

**Carlyn G. Callahan**, 70, Rochester, Minn., formerly of Superior and Iron River, Wis., who died May 8 in Rochester, born in Duluth, Minn., daughter of Theodore "Pat" and Muriel (Hanson) Callahan, survived by a son, the two sibling families in Iron River.

**Charles William Zosel**, 76, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away peacefully at Solvay Hospice House in Duluth after a courageous 18 month battle with ALS (Lou Gehrigs Disease) on May 8, son of Harold & Bernice Zosel in Owatonna Minn., graduated from the U of Mn with a BS degree in Forestry in 1963, from 1963 to 1965 served in the US Navy, then beginning a career through retirement in 1999, serving as Superintendent of the Brule River State Forest for 20 years, married Evonne (Eve) Illi in 1963 in St. Paul, raised 5 adopted children, active in his church, a founding board member of the OBHS.

**Phyllis (Peterson) Johnson**, 90, longtime Poplar resident who died peacefully May 5 in Raleigh, N.C., born in Superior to Clifford and Mabel Peterson, married Carroll Johnson in 1947, together raising five children all who survive, as well as brother Pep Peterson.

**Gary Lee Wisted**, 57, Poplar, Wis., who died May 3 at his home following a battle with COPD, born in San Pedro, Calif. to David and Joyce (Thomsen) Wisted, founded Poplar Auto Refinishing in 1985, survived by wife Peggy and sons Josh & David.

**Jean M. Whereatt**, 81, Lake Nebagamon who died May 5 at Middle River Health & Rehab, born in Superior to Tom & Elaine Wilson, worked as a credit manager in JCPenney and Maurices, survived by four sons, Rand, Paul, James and William.

**Alice O. Walimaki**, 97, longtime of Maple, Wis. who died May 3 at Middle River Health and Rehabilitation Center, born in Maple, Wis. to Matthew and Elizabeth (Hillberg) Wuori, married Arvo Walimaki in 1944, in Lawton, Okla., he passing in 2003, survived by two daughters, Clarene Jakubek, and Bonnie (Douglas) Devorak, and one son, Clifford of Maple. Alice & Arvo gave generous support in OBHS' early days.

**Virginia P. (Weyandt) Marshall**, 82, Superior, who died May 2 at the Golden Living Center in Superior, born at home in Brule, Wis. on May 23, 1933, to Maxwell and Vivian (Kemp) Weyandt, employed as a telemarketer for many years, artistic, survived by four daughters & four sons.

**Norman H. Hautala**, 73, Oulu, who passed away April 24 at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire, Wis., born in Superior to Eino & Mary (Wallace) Hautala, survived by a sister, Linda (Larry) Exferd, Iron River; 3 nieces, Sheila (Kevin) Mackie, Brule, Sandy (Tom) Rautio, Iron River and Tia (Mark) Foster, Richfield, Minn.; two nephews, Don (Andrea) Yrjanainen, Brule and Jason Exferd, Iron River., preceded in death by sister, Evelyn Yrjanainen.

**Morris J. Botten, Jr.**, 80, Solon Springs, Wis., who passed away April 18, born in Superior to Morris and Edith Botten, a Marine Corps veteran, survived by his life partner, Mary Ann Walt, seven children & step children, and his sister, Mary Edith (Harry) Wester of Bennett, Wis.

**Laurie Rasimaki**, 72, Port Wing, Wis., who passed away April 16 at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth, Minn., born in Ashland, Wis. on Oct. 16, 1943, the son of Laurie and Mary (Nicoletti) Rasimaki, married Sandra Swanson in 1963, survived by wife & two daughters.

**Janice R. "Jan" (Fillipi) Kuralle**, 66, Iron River, who died April 11 at Middle River Health & Rehab. Center, born in Warren, Minn. to Bob and Ardith (Cameron) Fillipi, married John Kuralle, who survives, with several step children, celebrated over 35 years of marriage.

**Gilbert A. Semanko**, 87, Poplar/Maple area, who died April 8 at Northern Residence in Hawthorne, born in Cadotte, Wis. to John and Blanche (Dougherty) Semanko, drove truck for Chun King & Jenos, ran Sundown in Maple, four of six children survive.

**Philip W. Maki**, 69, Superior, who died April 7 at his residence, born in Superior to Wayne and Martha (Jarvi) Maki.

—R.I.P. ALL—

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

4808 S. County Road F, Post Office Box 24  
Maple, WI 54854

**Anyone interested in joining the Old-Brule Heritage Society is encouraged to attend any of our meetings and programs. To join they may also contact any member or the Board at the return address above, or our Treasurer, Janine Seis, 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 6**, Monday 1 PM. Next OBHS Archives Committee Meeting at Pellmans'. Please call to confirm.

**June 14**, Tuesday. Flag Day.

**June 16**, Thursday, OBHS Midsummer Work Day. 6 PM General Meeting, Lakeside Town Hall. Pot luck lunch first.

**June 17-18**, Friday & Saturday. Midsummer Celebration Tours, Scandinavian Dinner on Saturday from 11 to 2.

**June 19**, Sunday. Father's Day.

**June 20**, Monday 1 PM. OBHS Archives Committee Meeting at Pellmans'. Please call to confirm.

**July 4**, Monday. Independence Day.

**July 23**, Saturday. Deadline for submissions to the August *OBHS News*.

**July 30** or **August 27**. OBHS Annual Meeting Rummage-flea-market Bazaar Fundraiser for MSMA Archives, More later.

**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.**