

OBHS News

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Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2006
Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

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NEXT REGULAR MEETING/PROGRAM

WED., FEBRUARY 22nd, 6:30 P. M., AT THE MISSION COVENANT CHURCH IN POPLAR
OUR MEETING WILL BEGIN WITH A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWED BY OUR PROGRAM
AT 7 P.M. SHARP. CHUCK AND EVE ZOSEL WILL PRESENT SLIDES AND NARRATIVE ABOUT THEIR
RECENT TRIP TO ICELAND. THE PROGRAM WILL BE HELD IN THE MAIN SANCTUARY.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! PLEASE BRING A FRIEND.

Thanks to the Zosels and to the church for the use of their facility,
and to all who bring refreshments to share (to be served after the program).

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Greetings Everyone,

May all your issues of concern be moving forward, or spiraling upward, as I try to spark thoughts about the joys we share here in the Northland.

As I begin typing these words about our group's progress, I've just walked back from my grandpa's sauna, occasionally stopping to ponder while staring at the stars. It was a good steam bath. It has a sweet wood aroma since I switched to my reserves of seasoned black ash. The steam was relaxing after a day of arduous work, ending with the clean up of fresh snow in the yard and around the woodshed.

I hope nobody's complaining about the weather, since it's been a really mild winter so far, especially January. I've chatted with many of the elders in the area (before the newspapers announced it was a record), and they said they've never seen anything quite like it.

Unfortunately it was this winter that I decided to do some logging, mainly playing road-monkey myself, for my Colby cousins, as they've been select cutting on my property. Their smaller John Deere 450 skidder is the perfect size for this unseasonably warm winter, not making too many ruts all over the woods and trails. The swamps aren't frozen, and that's where I come in, helping by packing down the trails with my four-wheeler, with Alex Hart assisting with his snowmobile. The deer and rabbits are enjoying the popple tops left from their hard work, and I'm quite enthused about the increased visibility from my deer stands (I forgot to mention some saboteur hacksawed the support nails holding my box stand, which fell to the ground before this year's hunt) and wider and longer shooting lanes. The partridge will enjoy the new popple shoots, especially when they reach wrist size.

I'm becoming an expert on biodiesel fuel, since Minnesota has mandated the addition of two percent to on-road diesels, which is a beginning in reducing our dependency on foreign oil. At ConocoPhillips, where I work, we offer biodiesel (B100), and it can be blended in home heating and other fuels that are exempt from the bean oil as well. This organic chemistry of using methyl ester from soybeans is good for the environment due to it being non-hazardous and twice as efficient to produce as ethanol, which consumes almost as much energy to make it when produced. And of course with all the new processing plants have come jobs! When I hear the word "biodiesel" I still associate negativity with the word; the producers had some processing problems that trickled down to end users in the Northland. And besides time spent in the installation of the injection system this summer, it has consumed many extra hours, which Uncle Sam will enjoy. There's one thing the people of the lower half of Minnesota have forgotten, we up north wake up to many a morning that is well below zero (ordinarily). It seems this winter the "precipitates" (total glycerin) have raised havoc with trucking industry and loggers. The latest test results I've seen were done only down to ten below. I am glad we're resolving these issues this winter.

Some positive news in Lakeside: a small group of us are laboring on a book to be released for our Centennial. Since we're the remnant of the first Town of Amnicon which was formed in 1906, this makes this year our centennial year. The people in the Town of Lakeside have had continuous independent town government for 100 years. In 1910 the lower half of Amnicon seceded to form a new town and took the name "Town of Midland." Shortly after, the Amnicon remnant decided to change its name to Lakeside, and with that the name "Amnicon" was again available. The Town of Midland, still in 1910, decided to change its name to what is really the second Town of Amnicon. Hence their centennial has to wait until 1910.

Anyway, our awesome group of Lakesiders has been meeting every other Monday to create a book for our celebration. We've even brought in some reinforcements. Dr. Ron Mershart has kindly offered his advice and volunteered to be our Project Manager for a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities Council which we're applying for. This way we hope not to have to ask our Town for taxpayer monies. Speaking of which, I've been driving my daughter to the end of our town road so the bus doesn't have to travel so far. Also, a new town snow plow driver broke our family's mailbox. I fixed it myself and didn't file a claim against the Town. And you have to love our Pine Central Road sign off of Highway 13 that someone made quite awhile ago instead of the town purchasing a new one.

I've heard Audrey Hakila has been in Madison as a senior advocate. I know she received a grant to attend. I've read some of Mr. Pukema's articles in our newspaper – which I deeply agree with.

No new news on the log house, though I will plow a path to the slab at the windmill site with a slight cold front approaching.. I've often see Pat Grube's pulp truck lights through the woods while preparing for the new day. I feel I may have to up our offer in an attempt to show progress at the site. I'm sitting on more monies and they may be lost if we don't make the move soon.

Sincerely,
Paul Colby

p.s. It seems we'll be voting on a new high school structure again. I'm glad there are plans for utilizing the gymnasium and keeping the school in its logistically proper place. I'm hoping the changes are done in phases and not handled like the government center.

p.p.s. A new dairy farm is operating in Lakeside near the old Pine Central school.

FROM THE EDITOR:

In my preparations for creating text to go with the photo choices in our new calendar I have been reviewing files and books for useful information. I also did several internet searches, one which brought me to Mr. David Stuntz, cousin of George R. Stuntz. We have recently exchanged messages and some valuable information. Mr. Stuntz is a vital 85 years of age and lives in Maine. The materials I have gathered locally about George Stuntz over the years are very valuable to him in his own family research, and the facts and insights he has given me should help us better understand the inimitable Mr. Stuntz. David is enthusiastic that there is interest in "George Riley." He has come to his study of his relative with his own many questions arising from the separation of time and physical distance. He has discovered the distant George R. Stuntz (who never had children) much as I have, second hand, despite being a family member.

This brings to mind one of my favorite philosophical mines: the question of our individual human finiteness, and how our dealings with the reality of this inescapable fact about ourselves and others yields the human systems we individually and collectively deploy to manage our state of being. By finiteness I do not mean only that we must eventually surrender to death, but that at any time in our lives we only have a limited store of energy, a limited range of senses, and, thankfully, a limited means of imposing ourselves on others and the world around us. We are also finite in our ability to invest ourselves in others, even in our own families (and "tribes" as I once wrote). This seems so obvious, but as we lose this sense about ourselves we lose our sense of proportion, especially in our emotional lives. We try to take on too much, we try too hard, we look too far beyond ourselves and local need.

History plays an interesting role among those strategies we deploy in the face of this finiteness, as does religion in all of its forms, as do law and politics, as does medicine, as does the press, and, now, very recently, the internet, and so on. During a time of profound human change such as we have been living through, these strategies are tested, stretched, put under assault, dismissed in some cases as passé, utopian, wrong-headed, elitist, simplistic and so on. What Dickens writes in his poetic prose in his famous opening paragraph to *A Tale of Two Cities* of 150 years ago, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." summarizes our times and these continuing human dynamics.

We can try to bring this down to earth and ask how this relates to our two cities, Superior and Duluth, and their surrounding populations. A key question is, from whence the stress on our institutions? Huge competing institutions and enterprises impinge upon individuals, the local and upon one another. On one such front we have lived under the assault of the transportation revolution now for almost a century. This has been fundamentally an assault by economic institutions on confining local life, once predominantly rural, and its sustaining religious and governmental institutions. Local life in 1906

and 2006 are frighteningly different. Town and village government, even ancient traditions of land ownership, and private property rights are not spared.

Recent moves to use eminent domain to take private property in the name of a public purpose that enables another "private business" to flourish for the sake of the "public good," or razing historical properties (or even to threaten such) when in private hands "to eliminate blight," are local instances of the collapse of former institutions in the face of new human agendas and institutions on the march. I fear these new agendas and institutions are statist (to use Eisenhower's word). They reflect a dismissal of rights founded on earlier pre-automobile institutions, ones that considered local self-determination and private property rights sacred, at least here in America, in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The problem with "public good" justifications for these actions is that these determinations are open to institutional fad and elite assessments lacking a higher absolute of personal liberties and rights. This leads to an invasion by other institutions seeking their advantage in the softening of private property rights. The individual and the small local community are ground up in the collision of these social forces as legal protections under the law collapse, ultimately, of late, in the Nation's highest court.

-Jim Pellman

NEW! 2006 OLD-BRULE HISTORY PHOTO CALENDAR SOON AVAILABLE.

The Brule History Research Group, organized in 1995, produced its eighth and final calendar in 2005 with more pictures of Brule's past. Proceeds of these annual calendar sales since 1998, when the first one was produced, are being used for the publication of the history of Brule, hopefully to be completed soon. Limited numbers of the 2005 calendar and earlier issues are still available. To order any of these calendars by mail, please write or call Janet Follis, P. O. Box 114, Brule, WI 54820 (715) 372-4948.

Soon the first Old-Brule Heritage Society Calendar will be out in limited numbers, continuing the BHRG calendar tradition. They will be available for \$6 from an OBHS member or at local businesses. An e-mail address: musketeer6@cheqnet.net.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE O-BHS NEWS ARE THOSE OF THE WRITERS ALONE AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO REPRESENT OFFICIAL POSITIONS OF THE O-BHS ORGANIZATION.

ARCHIVES/COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE.

The group would welcome other volunteers to help us in this important part of the O-BHS mission. Our current project is learning to use the computer in support of our work, scanning documents and photos, storing records and creating data bases. Our thanks to our loyal committee members and contributors, and to the Town of Maple for archive space. If you enjoy exacting work please join us at 1 p.m. at the Pellmans' some Monday afternoon. Next meeting: February 20th, 2006. Please call 363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

**(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
OLD BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.
DEC. 14, 2005, LAKE NEBAGAMON AUDITORIUM**

Attendance: 20

Time: 6:15 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Paul Colby. Jim Pellman provided a video of The Golden Girls' performance at the Lake Nebagamon Auditorium in 1992. We enjoyed a potluck dinner provided by members while watching the video.

BUSINESS MEETING: 7:50 p.m.

MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of the October, 2005 meeting was made by Jim Pellman, seconded by Shirley Kankas-Rouleau. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Checking Account Balance	\$2104.52	Mill Fund Balance	\$9609.96
Roofing Fund	105.00	Books sold to date	502

Shirley reported that the memorials received for LaVerne LaPole totaled \$1373 and the Younkers booklets brought in \$292.30 The Town of Lakeside gave a donation of \$250.00. Memberships total 82 paid up to date. Extra newsletters are sent to former members who have not renewed. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Earl Granroth, seconded by Barbara Granroth. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: A framed picture of the Windmill print was to be presented to Kathy Laakso for the DCHS, but she did not attend, so Jim will deliver it. Ron Mershart was invited also, but was unable to attend due to eye surgery.

DAVIDSON MILL: The log house is still not moved but hopes are to have it moved soon. Field stone will be used instead of riprap to save money and look more authentic. Paul Williams reported there is a large rock pile in Bud

LaPole's field at his farm. It will be looked into. A fire number for the Mill will be picked up from the Courthouse.

FUNDRAISING: No supplier for the magnets as yet. Jim brought up an idea of making a calendar for a fundraiser. It was suggested to use old school pictures on the calendar. Ads will need to be solicited. Laila Magnuson will provide a solicitation letter that was used by the Brule History Research Group for their calendar. A motion to order 400 calendars for 2006 was made by Earl Granroth, seconded by Paul Williams. Motion carried. The Archives Committee has access to pictures.

ARCHIVES CTTE. The committee meets every other Monday at the Pellman home. Additional volunteers are welcome. Eddie Walman and Alice Christensen will be on the committee starting in January.

WEBSITE. Waiting for software. Website address is www.oldbrule.org.

PUBLICITY: Audrey Hakkila continues to publicize our activities in *The Connection* and the *Daily Telegram*.

PUBLICATIONS: No progress on the Heritage Map. On hold until calendar is completed.

MEMBERSHIP: Dues are being collected for 2006. Please turn in volunteer hour sheets if you have not done so.

POLLARI MEMORIAL GIFT: Still no meeting with High School staff.

DAVID MAKI RESEARCH GRANT: No new information.

CENTENNIAL FARMS: Mehtala farm in Oulu is applying. New blanks are available. Does not need to be a farm to qualify – can be a house as long property has been owned by same family continuously for 100 years or more.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Feb. 8[22], 6:30. A motion to meet at Mission Covenant Church in Poplar, Hy. P was made by Earl Granroth, seconded by Shirley Kankas-Rouleau. Motion carried. Chuck Zosel has agreed to speak on his trip to Iceland at this meeting.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: January 11 at Shirley's, 6:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion to change the bylaws to reflect the change of the annual meeting to the second Sat. in August was made by Jim Pellman, seconded by Audrey Hakkila. Motion carried. The state must be notified.

RON MERSHART RECOGNITION: Jim explained about the award that Ron received for which he was honored at a reception at DCHS. He will be invited to our April meeting. Scott Nielsen is a possibility for a speaker during the summer months as he does not drive after dark.

OTHER: The committee planning the Centennial for the Town of Lakeside is planning to publish a book. Paul Colby asked if they could use one of our ISBN numbers for this purpose. Gronquist reported who she has sent get well and sympathy cards to. Please let her know of any members A motion was made by Jim Pellman that the OBHS is willing to support through the use of our ISBN number the book effort by the Town of Lakeside, seconded by Jack Gronquist. Motion carried. Mary Ann who should receive a card.

COMMUNICATIONS: Paul Colby received a letter from the president of the Office of Local History regarding not replacing Tom McKay. There will be two Field Offices set up, one in the north and one in the south of Wisconsin. A letter was received from Gene Davidson concerning getting electricity at the Mill. He gave information about a system using a generator. He also has an idea for a scale model of the Windmill that we could sell blueprints for at our open houses. Paul Colby told about a solicitation letter with pictures and a summary of our history for asking for grants. Copies have been sent to Murphy Oil, Enbridge and Harvest States Elevator.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Earl Granroth, seconded by Marilyn Pank, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. A gift exchange followed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Ann Gronquist

FUND-RAISING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

The Society has available regional history magnets, plus Davidson Windmill memorabilia: mugs, caps and tee shirts and sweat shirts for sale. Magnets are going for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.00, proceeds to our general fund. The Windmill mugs are \$8.00, caps, \$9.00, and tee shirts, any size, \$10, all proceeds going into the Windmill Fund. Sweat shirts, any size are \$25.00, taxes included.

Available also are copies of a David Noah Seis photograph of the mill for sale. This image comes in three sizes: 4 by 5 inches, 5 by 7 inches, and 8 ½ by 11 inches. The smaller reproductions can also be used as post cards as each has a brief historical description on half of its reverse side. Prices are \$1.00, \$2.00 and the largest one which has no printing on it \$3.00. All are laser reproductions on card stock suitable for framing. This same image is available in our magnet series.

Our new book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, and Nan Wisherd's *Pathways* are available for \$20.00 a copy + \$3.00 shipping. Wisconsin tax is included in all our prices. Shipping and handling for mugs, caps and tee shirts is a \$4.00 minimum. All items are available for purchase at our meetings or by contacting an O-BHS member.

(UNAPPROVED) MINUTES BOARD MEETING

OLD BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, JAN. 11, 2006, KANKAS-ROULEAU HOME

Present: Paul Colby, Shirley Kankas-Rouleau, Jim Pellman, Earl Granroth, Barbara Granroth, Alice Christensen and Mary Ann Gronquist.

BUSINESS MEETING: Meeting called to order by Earl Granroth at 6:30 p.m.

A. MINUTES. A motion to approve the minutes of the Nov. 9, 2005 Board meeting made

by Alice Christensen, seconded by Shirley Rouleau.. Motion carried.

B. FINANCIAL REPORT (Dec. 15, 2005 to Jan. 11, 2006.)

Income	\$ 745.92	Expenses	283.96
Checking Balance	2585.14	Mill Fund Balance	10,019.92 (Includes Roofing Fund)

A motion to accept the Financial Report was made by Paul Colby, seconded by Jim Pellman. Motion carried.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. DAVIDSON MILL: Discussed the log house moving. Waiting for colder weather so the ground will be more frozen. The fire number for the Millsite is 3196 S River Road. The print of the Windmill for DCHS will be presented at a later date, as Kathy Laakso was unable to attend the Dec. meeting. An open invitation will be extended to her and also to

Ron Mershart to attend our next regular meeting.

2. FUNDRAISING: Jim is still looking for a source for windmill pins and magnets. Jim suggested having a contest to create a design for them. Jim brought several brochures available locally which do not include any information about the Windmill. We need to get information to these publications. Discussed the calendar planned as a fundraiser. Jim showed us samples of calendars. We discussed using historical photos depicting different seasons. Jim hopes to have it done this week. Laila Magnuson provided a solicitation letter used for the BHRG calendar. 515 books have sold to date.

3. ARCHIVES: The next meeting is at the Pellman home on Jan. 23, 1:00 P.M. (every other Monday.) More volunteers are needed.

4. WEBSITE: Jon Winter is working to obtain a program entitled Microsoft Front Page which will allow us to work on updates to the website ourselves. A non-profit status letter has been provided to Jon.

5. LOIS POLLARI GIFT: No further progress.

6. PUBLICITY: Audrey Hakkila continues to announce our meetings and events in the Daily Telegram and The Connection.

7. PUBLICATIONS: No progress on the Heritage Map. On hold until calendars are done.

8. MEMBERSHIPS: Dues are still being collected for 2006. Turn in volunteer hours if you have not done so. 82 paid up memberships. A motion to extend a year's membership to Jeanie Castleberry in appreciation for the help she and her family have rendered to our group was made by Paul Colby, seconded by Alice. Motion carried. Jim will include Shirley's address in the newsletter and explain when dues are due.

9. DAVID MAKI RESEARCH: Paul will contact him.

10. CENTENNIAL FARMS: New blanks are available – contact Jim.

11. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. at Mission Covenant Church, Hy. P, Poplar. A motion to change our next meeting date to the fourth Wednesday instead of the second Wednesday of February at 6:00 p.m. was made by Shirley Rouleau, seconded by Alice Christensen. Motion carried. The program will be Chuck Zosel speaking on his trip to Iceland. The meeting will take place before the program.

12. NEXT BOARD MEETING: At the Pellman home in Maple at 6:00 p.m. on Mar. 8th.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. BUDGET ADOPTION: A motion to accept the proposed budget was made by Paul Colby, seconded by Mary Ann Gronquist. After some discussion the motion carried.

2. DCHS WORKSHOP: A motion to pay the \$5.00 fee for any member attending the Debbie Kmetz workshop at DCHS was made by Shirley Rouleau, seconded by Jim Pellman. Motion carried.

3. LAKE NEBAGAMON GIFT: A \$500 anonymous donation has been offered to be forwarded to the Lake Nebagamon Centennial Committee from OBHS. A motion to accept this anonymous donation was made by Jim Pellman, seconded by Alice Christensen. Motion carried.

4. COMMUNICATIONS: A \$500 donation to the Mill fund was received from Murphy Oil. Paul Colby sent a thank you for this gift.

F. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Shirley Rouleau, seconded by Alice Christensen to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:53.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Ann Gronquist

<p>Area History: No. 48</p>

Another excerpt (from pages 69-73) from our book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, ©2004, 2005.

The first meeting on record for a school organization after modern Lakeside was formed was held on June 15, 1910. It was decided to have three districts in Lakeside. Axel Dahlin was chairman of District One, Isaac Rautio of District Two and Senia Niemi of District Three. A. N. Young was County Superintendent of Schools at the time. There were five schools within Lakeside's current boundaries. Cedar Grove was built around 1889 on the homestead of Matt Hendrickson; in 1906 he sold to Gust Runquist, who later donated land for a cemetery and a church site. Cedar Grove was relocated from Davis Road north of the Schiff Road to an acre of land purchased from John Gustafson in 1911. In 1917 it burned down and the children attended school at the Erickson farm until a new two room school was built. The school operated on that site until 1940.

Around 1890, Monticello School was built on Isaac Rautio's land in Section Six. Isaac Rautio, Andrew Koukkula, Peter Heikkurainen and a hired carpenter built the one room school house. The first teacher was Susan Taylor. The school eventually was purchased by Edward Nieminen from the School District and he moved the structure to his property. The school currently rests on the property of Walter Erkkila.

North Middle River School was built in 1923-24. The first teacher was Cora Holter. Play Days for all four schools in Lakeside were held at the end of each school year, with North Middle River hosting the event. The winners from the athletic events went on to a district Play Day at the Brule Coop Park. The school operated until the Fall of 1938.

The first Pine Central School was built around 1905. Nina Asker was teaching in 1907. The old school building was moved from Henry Saari's farm across the road to John Pearson's. It was used as a non-denominational church of which John Pearson became chairman. He gave sermons, and a ladies' aid was formed. The second school was built in 1918-19 on the northeast corner of the intersection of Pine Central and Lake Roads. William Hautala was the first teacher in the new building. The third building was erected in 1926 and operated until 1939.

Figure 20. *Monticello School, Town of Lakeside. Feb. 1911.*

Front Row: L to R: Tony Wainio, Bill Fors, John Kaarto, Sylvester Karsikas, Martha Rautio, Sadie Wainio, Hilda Kaarto, Irene Karsikas. Back Row: L to R: Teacher Wm. Hautala, Emma Rautio, ? Kaarto, Matt Aro, Jennie Hendrickson, Emma Kaarto, Elmer Aro. Robert Swenson Collection. Identifications by Inez Berglund.



Built in 1894 on the land of Erick Hanson, the Riverside School in 1906 was located next to the Amnicon River, south of the old Amnicon Bridge. In 1921, the residents voted to build a new school on the hill top near the Davidson Windmill. Felix Esselstrom and Alfred Wahlberg received the contract for construction of the new school for \$3,796.00. Lena Riihimaki was the first teacher of the new school and her salary was \$95.00 with \$5.00 extra when she engaged in janitorial work during the five coldest months. The school operated until 1940 and was used for the Mill View Community Club for many years afterward. The building was destroyed by an arsonist on May 31, 1993. Some Lakeside children, because of the locations of their homes, attended the Snowbound School, located on the southeast corner of Highway D and Moonshine Road. The school belonged to the Town of Amnicon and closed in 1940.

After all the schools were closed by 1940, the children attended Poplar or Wentworth School, depending on where they resided. In 1948 the construction of Lakeside School began. However, the school board ran out of money. In 1949 the Town Chairman, Arnold O. Saari, decided to finish the school without further help from the school board. He applied for a grant to use the school also as a town hall. It was completed that same year in time for the children to attend. The school operated until June, 1998. Mr. Saari also served on the Board of the Maple School District for many years until 1970.

One amazing statistic Mr. Saari mentioned was that in 1945 he conducted a government farm survey that documented one hundred and nineteen milk and cream producing farms in the Town of Lakeside. Currently there is only one dairy producing farm in the entire town, Lakeside Dairy Inc., owned by Gary, Larry and Verlyn Peterson. Chester Peterson, Verlyn's father, came to Lakeside in 1917 from Rockford, Illinois. He firmly planted in his family the seed of productive farming in the Lakeside community.

The earliest settlers would get their supplies from Duluth or Superior by rowing boats between the Twin Ports and the mouths of the Middle and Poplar Rivers. They carried their supplies overland by backpack or suitcase

on logging roads or Ojibwa trails. Staples in the pioneer diet included: fish (suckers), venison, home garden crops, produce from fruit trees and a lot of potatoes, which grew nicely next to stumps left by the lumberjacks. Later, when Heikkurainen, Koukkula and Rautio heard a whistling noise south of their lands, they decided to investigate and began a six-mile journey. What they discovered was a train depot and hamlet in Poplar, which shifted their purchasing and trading routes to the south. People later bought items from the Sears, Roebuck and Company, which were shipped by rail to the depot in Wentworth where the purchasers would travel to collect them. This made purchasing supplies more efficient and safer than traveling to Superior and Duluth on Lake Superior by rowboat.

Early residents took short cuts on "wash roads," where the ladies would travel to streams or to the Lake shore to wash cloths, and children took regular paths to school. Later, roads were made by locals, such as Matt Pellman and his brother John (*Iso-Pellinen*), who were hired for day work or used their horses to fulfill road contracts. Roads were of clay, and in swampy areas logs were laid horizontally and covered with soil, which created what were called corduroy roads. Both men were involved in politics; Matt, in Lakeside as Clerk, and John, Town Chairman for years in Maple. In 1922 they began graveling the roads by hauling three and four yard loads with horse and sleigh. They hauled the gravel from the mouth of the Amnicon using the road running on the west side of the Amnicon River. The gravel was supplied by Orland Sage's scoop and winch (powered by a six cylinder Chevrolet engine) that pulled in gravel from Lake Superior. In 1921 Henry Britz worked in a similar operation where he hauled gravel from Albin Carlson's near the Poplar River, and graveled what would become State Highway 13.

Over the years, depending upon where settlers lived, they would buy or sell dairy products, produce and supplies at stores in Maple, Poplar or Wentworth, including the Co-op's in Maple and Wentworth. Independently owned stores began to appear in Lakeside in the 1920's. Adolph Rautio opened one north of Highway D, and it was later owned by Alex and Ina (*Nurkkala*) Maki, who sold it to Roy and Inez (Esselstrom) Berglund. They closed their store in 1966. Swenson's Cedar Grove Store was located next to the Baptist church. Alfred and Eva Swenson bought the building from Herman Mattson (*Suutari*). They operated the store from 1928 to 1966. The store was then purchased by Louis and June Wester; thereafter called the Wester Store, which operated until December 31, 1973. During the Westers' years of operation, the author stopped in on Sundays and left some of what should have been his church offerings with them. The store was finally dismantled by a family from Cloquet, Minnesota.

Felix Esselstrom operated a small store during the 1930's, just west and across the road from the Swensons. On the east side of town, east of the windmill, was Ylitalo's, owned by Emil and Rose of the same name. They ran the store and a garage until 1932. Weiner and Laina Tanttila then purchased the store and operated it until 1941. They closed the store at that time because they were unable to purchase supplies due to World War II. Edward Davidson also ran a small store next to the Davidson Windmill in the 1930's. The only known tavern/store in Lakeside was Pitten's Corner. It was a "dry" establishment, meaning they only sold beer. It operated in the 1930's on the northeast corner of Highway 13 and Camp Amnicon Road. The owner was Andrew Pitten who immigrated to this country from Holland in 1904.

Illnesses and vaccinations were addressed by Doctors Knox and Zwicky, who took the train from Superior to Wentworth. Once there they would seek the assistance of a local resident, such as Fred Esselstrom, who would harness up horse and wagon, or even a sleigh, to bring the doctor to the place of need. Another doctor who provided his services was Charles Gnesen, Sr. During the tuberculosis outbreak families were quarantined, as was the Berglund family, until the epidemic subsided. The outcome, unfortunately, was not always positive. Before doctors visited the area, neighbors skilled in folk medicine cared for those in need. Jacob Pellinen of Maple doctored locals by setting bones, as did John Saari, his son-in-law. Sophia Heikkurainen, Mary Britz, Jane Walsh (Irish), Matilda Pellinen, Jacob's wife, and Mary Saari, Matilda's daughter, were skilled midwives. The Finnish midwives usually performed the birthing in a heated sauna. The normal charge for delivering a baby was fifty cents. One exception was the time when Selma Soyering gave birth to Gene Soyering in the sauna, by herself, because the midwife arrived late.

Today no private businesses remain in the Town of Lakeside, the last store, Wester's, closing in 1973. Commitment to farming has also declined dramatically, with the major influence being World War II which started the nationwide shift in employment opportunities. With improvements to Highway 13 and forces in the City of Superior advocating growth, urban ideals will further continue to seep into the town and its infrastructure. Lakeside's population has shown a reasonably slow growth over the years. The average family size is smaller compared with the early farming days, but there are more homes, with most new ones appearing in unused fields and pastures. With wages being relatively low in the region and taxes rising dramatically, some locals are beginning to follow the pattern of developers and/or realtors, supplementing their incomes by sub-dividing and selling their unused lands.

The Lakeside community has been well served by our local government, which has done a great job over the years. Lakeside has a big challenge ahead in producing its own comprehensive plan to address unchecked and damaging development. The Town's plan must be done to strengthen the local control of change, and besides, who knows their town better than the ones who reside in them. The unique climate and other geographical features allow the residents of Lakeside many opportunities and sources of wealth and leisure. Many residents choose to live here even when wages and economic opportunities are lower than state and national averages. And even as many locals complain of rising government costs, many families will remain, knowing they reside in an area of immeasurable prosperity.

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Notices:

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS:

To business members, **Nan Wisherd of Northland Tax Services**, and the **Dennis Agency**, for their membership renewals, and to **Murphy Oil** in Superior, and **Thom Higgins** for the company's gift of \$500.

To **Everyone** caught up on their due for 2006. To member **Elvie Agackie** who now serves us on the Archives Committee.

ENCOURAGEMENTS:

To members, **Margie Koskie, Cash Christensen, Arnold O. Saari.**

OUR SYMPATHY: To the **Christensen** family on the loss of **Arnold**, to the **Olson** family in the loss of **Elsie**. -and who have we missed or forgotten?

NOTICE: **SISU** will hold a Finnish Language Study opportunity from August 6-12, 2006, at UMD. \$295 + housing.

Contact Kathleen Ristanen-Jonas (218-564-4299) or 740-592-1157) jonask@ohio.edu or kaisa@eurekanet.com.

Calendar:

February 14, Tuesday, Valentine's Day

February 20, Monday, 1:00 pm, Archives Committee Meets, Pellman's in Maple. Presidents Day.

February 22, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., O-BHS Regular Meeting. Zosels on Iceland, Poplar Covenant Church..

March 1, Ash Wednesday.

March 8, Wednesday, 6 pm, O-BHS Board Meeting, Pellmans' Maple.

March 16, Thursday, St. Urho's Day. Deadline for April issue of *O-BHS News*.

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

April 16, Sunday, Easter.

WEB SITE ON LINE

The Website Committee has been working with member **Jon Winter** of **Winter Systems** in **Superior** on our own independent site (www.oldbrule.org). Thank you for your patience as we work to build up the site. Thanks to **Audrey Hakkila** for her efforts.

Anyone interested in joining the Old-Brule Heritage Society is encouraged to attend any of our meetings and programs. To join they may contact any member or the President at the return address below, or call him at (715) 364-2500, or our Treasurer, Shirley Kankas Rouleau, at 374-2413. Her address is PO Box 171, Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849. Our annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals, and \$25.00 for families, payable at the time of our annual meeting. Higher levels of support are always welcome.

New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.
Post Office Box 24
Maple, WI 54854