

OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2017

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

Volume XIX, Issue 4

August 9, 2017

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shirley Kankas-Umolac, Lake
Nebagamon, President
Dennis Hill, Amnicon, 1st V. P.
Dan Bergsten, Poplar, 2nd V. P.
Lila Ronn, Lakeside, Secretary

Janine Seis, Lake Nebagamon, Treasurer
Dorothy Bergsten, Poplar
Mary Ann Gronquist, Parkland
Audrey Hakkila, Poplar
Matt Miller, Superior, Asst. Treasurer

Doreen Swanson, Brule
Hope Swenson, Lakeside
Charlene Harms, Duluth, Alternate
Lois Pollari, Lake Nebagamon, Alternate
Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, August 26, 2017 at Noon, in the Maple Town Hall

This will be the second year that our OBHS Annual Meeting will be held during our August Flea Market Fund Raiser for the Monticello School Museum and Archives (MSMA) at the Maple Town Hall. We hope many will want to stop by to visit our crew hard at work raising funds for completion and operation of MSMA, now safely on its basement, and while there, to join us for a brat or hot dog and our annual reports regarding our yearly progress, with recognition of our members for the hours they have put in during the 2016-2017 year, and the election of new Board Members. The first Meeting of the new Board will immediately follow for the installation of officers. Our thanks to the Town of Maple for use of the Town Hall for our Flea Market, and for our meetings.

FROM THE EDITOR:

History within the present continues to unfold even as we work to gather the records of the past. The Village of Poplar at their annual Volunteer Fire Department Fun Days celebrated the Centennial of the Village founding in 1917 this past weekend, August 5th and 6th. Two high points stand out to a lover of the past: the release of *Village of Poplar, 100 Years*, a history gathered and written by the village centennial book committee with members Randy Jones, Village President, Audrey Hakkila, Dan and Dorothy Bergsten, Donna and Bruce Bergsten, Brian Paulson, Reed Alexson and Kim Kelly, many of them active members of and contributors to the Old-Brule Heritage Society's work. The second historical highlight was held at the Village Hall where four separate performances of a new historical play, written and directed by Kathy Laakso, was performed by her local acting troupe, Time Arc Theatre. The play recalled the murder of an early Town of Amnicon (Poplar) resident and Town Chairman John Hefstedt in 1911. A fast paced multi-scene re-enactment, complete with flashbacks, was carried out in the small venue holding 60 at a time which used skillfully timed spot lighting to direct the attention of the audience into the dark corners of the mind of the deranged soul of James Dygert, who went on to murder two more before he was apprehended in the Twin Cities four months later.

It seems that throughout its history the Poplar hamlet was at the heart of change in the region of Old-Brule. When the first division of the old Town of Superior took place in 1887, it was the extended Doherty family, which included four brothers, one wife, children and their Irish born father, which contained the leadership that brought that division. With it came the creation of the Towns of Gordon and Nebagamain. The Town of Superior at that time had covered all of Douglas County. In 1906 the Town of Amnicon which included the Poplar hamlet was the first town to form which took land from Brule, again with leadership from Poplar. This again started a trend with other municipalities following Amnicon in their creation, including the Town of Maple again at the expense of Brule for territory and the Village of Lake Nebagamon gaining home rule at the expense of both Brule and Nebagamain, and not long after, in 1910, when the Poplar and Wentworth hamlets joined to separate from Amnicon to form the Town of Midland. This left a remnant that soon called itself Lakeside (Amnicon in disguise). Midland shortly thought better of their name and renamed itself Amnicon (but really a new Amnicon).

Two changes remained to give us our current boundaries in northern Douglas County. The first was the creation of the Village of Poplar in 1917 at the expense of the Town of Amnicon (left "C" shaped), and in 1921, the Town of Cloverland at the expense of Maple and the Brule remnant. This means that within Old-Brule we have one more centennial to celebrate, that of Cloverland in 1921. Jane Grimsrud has been active in chronicling their history so they have a jump on the Centennial celebration process. Brule, which has the difficulty of describing a territory and a population radically changed four times has had the longest and most difficult history. Working on that has been the Brule History Research Group, That group lost its Chairperson in irreplaceable Laila Magnuson on July 9th. Nan Wisherd has been chronicling the earliest years of Brule thought of as a region. Laila's group will close the gap, after time to recover its historical loss.

-Jim Pellman, OBHS Archives Committee

1998 to 2005, 2006 to 2017 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, at (715) 372-4948. Our 2017 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendars are for sale at \$9.00 each. Earlier issues are also available at \$5.00 (2006 - 2014), 2015 at \$6.00, & 2016 at \$7.00 in limited numbers. An e-mail address for more info: musketeer6@cheqnet.net, and by phone: 218-260-0711, 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 display 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.

The Archives Committee would welcome more volunteers to help 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 MSMA 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 yet to be determined. We expect our old routines to change as we transition to our MSMA site over the next few months. Please call Jim at 715-363-2549 to confirm the next meeting time and place.

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

Thursday, June 22, 2017, 6 p.m., Lakeside Town Hall

A pot-luck buffet was served at 6:00 p.m. Thanks to everyone for their contributions of food and labor. Thanks to the Town of Lakeside for the use of the hall tonight for our meeting, and tomorrow and Saturday as we prepare and serve our Annual Midsummer Dinner. A moment of silence was held for those we have lost and for those experiencing difficult times. 22 in attendance.

BUSINESS MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: President Shirley Kankas-Umolac called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

MINUTES: Janine moved to accept the Minutes of the April General Meeting held at the Brule Town Hall on Wednesday, April 12, 2107, as published in the June 2017 issue of *OBHS News*. Arnold J. seconded the motion; the minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Janine Seis presented the following report effective today, June 22:

<u>CURRENT BALANCE</u>		<u>CHANGE SINCE MAY 10TH BOARD MEETING</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$ 543.84	Last Report: \$ 1,458.14 <u>Subtractions:</u> \$250.00 2017 OBHS Northwestern Scholarship to Jared Anttila; \$475.00 State Farm Insurance for full year; \$ 192.72 for newsletter, invisible tape, and postage; \$ 224.40 to Nan Wisherd (Cable Publishing) for <i>Brule River Country</i> books. <u>Additions:</u> \$40.00 <i>Lake Owen</i> Wholesale book sale; \$30.00 memberships; \$45.00 Retail Calendar Sales; \$92.82 Wholesale Book sales (<i>Brule River Country</i>) to Poplar Hardware; \$18.95 Retail Book Sale (<i>Brule River Country</i>); \$1.05 donation.
WINDMILL FUND	\$ 2,285.16	Last Report: \$2,312.76 <u>Subtractions:</u> \$29.92 ECE Electric Bill <u>Additions:</u> \$2.32 Lock Box Donations
MSMA FUND	\$ 2,317.43	Last Report: \$18,462.46 <u>Subtractions:</u> \$45.00 for three student desks for school; \$15,000.00 to Kevin Mackie Construction for first installment for payment of the basement under the school. (Still owe \$500.00 for Kevin's work and \$6,067.56 for the Olson Brothers digging sand and rock that Kevin paid); \$1,500 to Woodhull Construction for moving the school onto the foundation; \$22.03 for truss brackets and nails. <u>Additions:</u> \$422.00 from four personal donors
CD:	\$ 5,848.30	NO CHANGE
Cash on Hand:	\$ 31.00	NO CHANGE
TOTAL:	\$ 11,025.73	Last Report: \$ 28,112.66

Discussion followed: We need to check with Olson Brothers to see if all has been paid. Has Olson Brothers asked Kevin for payment? Thanks to John Tuura for his work that he donated to OBHS for plumbing and installation of PEX in floor.

Dennis moved to accept the Treasurer's report; motion seconded by Dan. The report was approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1.) Statement from ECE for May Windmill Electric Service (auto-paid).
- 2.) Email from Earl Granroth re: History of the Sleepy Valley Bridge in Lakeside now on townoflakeside.com.

- 3.) Email contact regarding offer of Gronquist bell. Dennis moved to accept this donation. Following a second by Doreen, the motion passed. Thanks to the Gronquist family for this donation. This bell will be used, along with the Waino School bell, at the MSMA site.
- 4.) Letter from Oulu Cultural Center inviting OBHS Members to the dedication of the Tripp Schoolhouse and to their Midsummer Celebration. (Jim had copied and forwarded this to our email list. Many from OBHS attended.)
- 5.) Gene Davidson kits (see Committee Reports below).
- 6.) Word from Paul Colby that he will soon work on the fences around the memorial cedars at the Mill. (This work was completed yesterday.)
- 7.) WI Council for Local History requesting a \$20.00 donation. Doreen made a motion, seconded by Dennis, to send in a donation in this amount. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

DAVIDSON/WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE: Prep work has been done for the Midsummer Event. Alice has volunteered to scrape and paint the windmill door. Paul has repaired and added fence around the memorial cedar trees. Trish H. has repainted the barrel. Nancy, Mary Ann, and Alice cleaned and planted the flower beds. Ron H. has been mowing. Jim made a motion to give Ron a pile of railroad ties in exchange for equitable future lawn mowing service. Motion seconded by Janine and carried. Ron hopes that Pat Nelson will be able to finish bridge work soon.

Tentative plans to create a nature trail downhill from the Mill are ongoing. Jim will flag a route. Brushing and filling of holes will follow as time permits.

Gene Davidson has provided five kits for our use which include a DVD with his personal tour from 2007, and copies of the documents he has created describing the mill. With some production work, this contribution could be the basis for something marketable.

The Midsummer Festival schedule for June 22-24: Members are asked to volunteer for staffing at the Mill site and for dinner preparation, service, and cleanup. We need to vacate the Town Hall no later than 3:00 p.m. for another group.

Thursday, June 22:

Workday--OBHS Meeting & Set-up at Lakeside Town Hall - 6:00 p.m. Immediately following our meeting we will set-up tables for the Dinner.

Friday, June 23:

•Tours of Eskolin House & Davidson Windmill - 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Dennis and Jim will be available.

•Dinner Preparation at the Town Hall- all day. Dorothy Bergsten is in charge.

Saturday, June 24:

•Tours of Eskolin House & Davidson Windmill -10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Jim and Dennis)

•Scandinavian Dinner - 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Shirley will be selling books and other merchandise at the dinner.)

MSMA: Construction: Kevin Mackie has completed his work at MSMA except for installation of the windows and door. Because our final plans increased the vault size, the final cost was \$500 more than the bid. Kevin has paid Olson Brothers \$6,067.50 for their work and materials (their original bid). The remaining construction still has to be paid to Kevin pending transfer of funds from our CD. Work has now moved to putting on a new roof this summer (asphalt for now, with cedar or look-alike cedar in the future) and bell tower, with prep for a chimney covered over for now. Jim should like to have a floor in the attic, which is far off the ground. Scaffolding is in place. Jim P. and John Tuura worked on sub-basement slab plumbing and heating. John donated his work and materials which included PEX staples. We will be billed for the PEX tubing. We need to supply John with a statement of the materials he has supplied (for tax purposes) and thank him in writing.

We also need to get power on the site. An email has been sent to State Farm regarding liability insurance.

MSMA: Fundraising Events:

The MSMA Musical Fundraiser was successful. OBHS netted \$1,816.54, including gifts from Gordy Lahti of \$250.00 and Ed Privette of \$62.00 for the playing of Ted Pellman. There is interest in another similar event when volunteers and participants are ready, but it is difficult to schedule this event far in advance.

August Flea Market/Bazaar is set for Saturday, August 26 to take place in and around the Maple Town Hall. Set-up will take place on Friday, August 25. Planning Committee Members are May Ann, Lora, Charlene, Janine, Lila, Audrey and Jim P.

Future events might also include community plays, dinner theater, pie-ice cream socials, etc...

Additional Fund-raising Efforts.

Dennis said we need to be assertive and "beat on doors". He has made contact with Enbridge and a future meeting may produce more support with them. Other local business contacts being planned.

Raising funds on-line (Go Fund Me or Pay Pal) has been suggested.

When the exterior appearance of the Monticello School looks ready, we need publicity in *The Telegram* and *The Connection*.

MERCHANDISE: Books: Jim and Nan Wisherd, who is financing work on the calendar book, will resume work on that project as soon their schedules permit. Jim is not available currently, because he is moving and involved with summer work at MSMA.

Nan's new book, *Brule River Country*, just came out. She made it available to OBHS wholesale, hard copy @ \$13.00 (list price \$25.95) and soft cover @ \$9.50 (list price \$18.95). OBHS previously approved purchase of five hard copies and 10 soft cover books, to be purchased and delivered to Poplar Hardware for purchase there or directly from us.

Jim noted that the most requests have come in for *Sisu and Sauna*. In order to meet this demand in the short-term, Ron moved that we purchase 20 copies from the original publisher, if possible. These copies would include an addendum of corrections. Following a second by Mary Ann, the motion was approved. A second edition needs to be prepared. Lila volunteered to be involved.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE: Thanks to Janine and Nancy Moreland for maintaining this independent site which has over 660 members.

PROPOSAL TO INVOLVE LOCAL STUDENTS IN A DRAWING/PAINTING OF THE DAVIDSON WINDMILL COMPETITION: Follow-up is needed to learn how the project is proceeding. Copies of the winning drawing/painting might be used as a fundraiser.

OPT OUT OF NEWSLETTER HARDCOPY DELIVERY: Persons interested in accessing an online electronic copy of the *OBHS News* in lieu of or in addition to a hard copy should contact Jim.

REFRIGERATION DONATION: Ron will move the refrigerator donated by Shirley to MSMA. Janine made a motion that Ron be reimbursed for his purchase of a \$50 used refrigerator suitable for the Eskolin House. After a second by Dorothy, the motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP DATES: Members are asked to verify their mailing address on *OBHS News* for correctness of membership date. Contact Jim if you have questions. Jim requests that members keep up with their volunteer hours on the "blue sheets".

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT: Sympathy to the friends and family of Elmer Lintula, Tony Coletta, Sr., and of Kevin Pollari. Continued encouragement to Laila M. and Dicky T. as they deal with health issues.

ANNUAL MEETING- August 26, Maple Community Center. Noon

PREPARATION: We will need to replace several members of our Board at this meeting, including some officer positions. The Nominating Committee has traditionally been those who are leaving the Board.

2017 BOARD MEMBER ACTION LIST

Board Roster and terms:	Came on Board	Term-Rem.	Departure from Board	Action for 2017
Danny Bergsten, Poplar, 2 nd VP	2013	2-0	Aug. 2017	Replace
Mary Ann Gronquist, Parkland	2013	2-0	Aug. 2017	Replace
Doreen Swanson, Brule	2013	2-0	Aug. 2017	Replace
Hope Swenson, Lakeside	2013	2-0	Aug. 2017	Replace
Dorothy Bergsten, Poplar	2014	2-1	Aug. 2018	None
Audrey Hakkila, Poplar	2015	1-0	Aug. 2019	Renew for 2nd Term
Shirley Kankas-Umolac, President	2015	1-0	Aug. 2019	Renew for 2nd Term
Janine Seis, LN AZ, Treasurer*	2015	1-0	Aug. 2019	Renew for 2nd Term
Lila Ronn, Lakeside, Secretary	2015 (Dec.)	1-0	Aug. 2019	Renew for 2nd Term
Matt Miller, Superior, Ass't Treas.	2016	1-1	Aug. 2020	None
Dennis Hill, Amnicon, 1st V.P.	2016	1-1	Aug. 2020	None
Charlene Harms, Duluth, Alternate	2015	1-0	Aug. 2019	Renew for 2nd Term
Lois Pollari, LN AZ, Alternate	2015	1-0	Aug. 2019	Renew for 2nd Term
Jim Pellman-Maple, Emeritus				

*Stepping down as Treasurer

NEXT BOARD MEETING: 5:00 p.m., Wed., July 12, 2017 at the Eskolin House. The Board will also meet after the Annual Meeting to elect officers.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11, after the Apple Festival Weekend. Place and program TBD.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

Mary Ann noted that the Wentworth Gardens donated flowers for the beds at the Eskolin House.

Ron reported that the gravel is piling up on the edges and needs to be redistributed back into the parking lot at the Windmill site. An email will be sent to Jon Winter with this request.

ADJOURNMENT: Dennis moved to adjourn the meeting; Doreen seconded the motion. President Kankas-Umolac adjourned the meeting at 8:20 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) **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, *Brule River Country* (HC \$25.95, SC \$18.95) and *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 for the JULY BOARD MEETING
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Wednesday, July 12, 2017, 5:00 p.m., Eskolin House

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our pot-luck supper.

In attendance: Dan Bergsten, Dorothy Bergsten, Dennis Hill, Shirley Kankas-Umolac, Jim Pellman, Lois Pollari, Lila Ronn, Janine Seis, Doreen Swanson, and Hope Swenson. Visitors: Arlene Hill and John Swanson.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Shirley Kankas-Umolac called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous Board Meeting held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 were published in the June 2017 issue of *OBHS News*. Hope moved to approve these minutes. Following a second by Janine, these minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Janine Seis presented the following report effective today, July 12, 2017:

CURRENT BALANCE	CHANGE SINCE MAY 10th BOARD MEETING
GENERAL: \$ 748.54	Last Report - \$ 543.84 Additions: \$185.60 Book Sales, \$9.00 Calendar Sale, \$30 Membership, \$5.10 donation. Subtractions: \$5 for Agenda Printing and \$20 Donation to the WI Council for Local History
WINDMILL: \$ 3,187.12	Last Report - \$ 2,285.16 Additions: \$1,521.73 proceeds from the Scandinavian Dinner Event including dinners, donations, & merchandise sales; \$56.00 donations post-dinner, \$18.00 meals post dinner. Subtractions: \$370.20- Dinner expenses, \$130.00- two Lawn Mowings, \$29.85-ECE Electric Bill, \$51.60 Forum Comm. - Dinner Advertisement, \$111.80- book and merchandise sales from our dinner moved to General Fund.
MSMA: \$ 2,684.79	Last Report - \$ 2,317.43 Additions: \$ 450.00-Donations, Subtractions: \$82.64- tarp for roof, 2 X 4's, and clothesline rope used for ballast.
CD: \$ 5,848.30	No Change
CASH: \$ 31.00	No Change
TOTAL: \$ 12,499.75	Last Report: \$11, 025.73. (Up \$1,474.02)

Doreen moved to accept the Treasurer's report; motion seconded by Dorothy. The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Statement from ECE for June Windmill Electric Service (Auto-paid). Refer to Treasurer's Report.
2. Email from Ron Hendrickson with image of the Copper Creek One-Room Schoolhouse. (Great photo; Jim thought it was similar to OBHS' image of the Monticello School).
3. Facebook contact from Linda and Dan Rantala-Gronquist offering old school desks for MSMA. (Janine moved to accept these desks. Following a second by Dennis, the motion was approved.)
4. Contact between Jan Conley and Jim & Janine regarding Go Fund Me set up with authorization needed to link to a designated site and bank account for PayPal or like remote donations for the MSMA Project. (Janine moved that we grant the permission; motion seconded by Hope. This authorization was approved.)
5. Gene Davidson called Jim and left a phone message re: Windmill kits and their use. Jim will be contacting Gene.
6. Ron H. Emailed. He has been trying to reach Trish H. re: Theresa Hooper paver which may or may not have been done or is misplaced. (Ron, who was working on site, reported to the Board that Trish has advised him the pavers are in process.)
7. Bill from Forum Communications for ad about Midsummer Events. (See Treasurer's Report.)
8. A check for \$51.00 and a complimentary letter was received from a gentleman from Luck, WI who had a positive experience at our Midsummer Dinner.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DAVIDSON WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE: Windmill door painting is needed. Jim will follow up. Thank you, Paul, for repairing and adding fence around the memorial cedar trees. Ron hopes that Pat Nelson will be able to finish the bridge work soon.

Tentative plans to create a nature trail downhill from the Mill are ongoing. Jim will flag a route. Sometime in future when time permits, brushing and filling of holes will follow.

Gene Davidson has provided five kits for our use which include a DVD with his personal tour from 2007, and copies of the documents he has created describing the mill. With some production work, this contribution could be the basis for something marketable. One kit was already used as part of promotion for a grant from Enbridge for the MSMA project.

Janine moved to give Bob Bender two calendars for volunteering to push rock off the grass back onto the driveway. (The Town of Lakeside previously declined to do this.) Following a second by Doreen, the motion passed.

Report on the June 22-24th Midsummer Festival: \$1,521.73 proceeds from the day of the Scandinavian Dinner including dinners, donations, & merchandise sales; \$56.00 donations post dinner and \$18.00 meals post dinner. Expenses of \$370.52 included Dinner expenses and Forum Bill., Thanks to all for a very successful event. 121 adult and 2 children's meals were served. The surprise volunteer musicians added to the enjoyment of all.

Saturday, July 15th, Third-Saturday Tours: 10:00 - 3:00 p.m. Jim is signed up to give tours. Janine will be present at the Eskolin House on July 15th; Lila volunteered for the August 19th.

MSMA:

MSMA Construction: Kevin Mackie has completed his basement work at MSMA except for insulating windows and door. The remaining construction balance still needs to be paid to Kevin, pending transfer of funds from our CD if needed. Work has now moved to putting on a new roof this summer (asphalt for now, with cedar or look-alike cedar in the future) and a bell tower, with prep for a chimney covered over temporarily. We will have a floor in the attic, which is far off the ground. Scaffolding is in place; Jim has installed a tarp, purchased with MSMA funds, over the entire roof which is drying out the building. John donated his work and materials which included PEX staples, but we will be billed for the PEX tubing. When we get his statement, we will need to supply John with a statement of the materials he has supplied (for tax purposes) and thank him in writing. Dennis thinks the roof work, due to height (and the age of our OBHS volunteer workers!) should be done by professionals with the Woodhull's mentioned.

We need to get power on the site. Electrician Brian Raivala has been contacted and has agreed to help with the project. He will be contacted to begin work when we are ready with materials for the pedestal. Contact needs to be made with State Farm Insurance regarding updating our coverage, not that the school is on its foundation.

Lois Pollari presented OBHS a check for \$500 for the MSMA project in memory of her son, Kevin Pollari.

Dennis has obtained a quote from Poplar Building Center for \$ 3,494.77 to include roofing materials (weathered-look shingles), lumber, studs and plates for walls, and materials for the attic floor. Dennis said we should probably get three bids for labor when we have sufficient monies. Dan made a motion to get bids for labor needed for roof work and possibly the attic floor. Mary Ann seconded the motion; the motion passed.

MSMA Fund-raising Activities:

The Musical Fund-Raiser was successful, netting \$1,816.54, including gifts from Gordy Lahti (\$250) and Ed Privette (\$62 for the playing of Ted Pellman). A future Musical Fund-raiser will be planned.

August Flea Market/Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, August 26, to take place in and around the Maple Town Hall. Set up will take place on Friday, August 25. Planning Committee Members are Mary Ann, Laura, Charlene, Janine, Audrey, and Lila. This committee will meet on Tuesday, July 18, 2017. Future events might include community plays, dinner theater, pie-ice cream socials, etc.

Additional Fund-raising Efforts: Dennis, in his effort to "beat on doors" to raise money for MSMA, has contacted Enbridge, Poplar Hardware, NBC Bank, and Lulich's.

Raising Funds On-line: Go Fund Me or Pay Pal has been suggested by the Conleys.

We have had good publicity with articles in hard copy and on-line in the *Superior Telegram* and the *Duluth News Tribune* and with the *Connection*. Our thanks to Maria Lockwood and to Jean Garner for their articles. More press will be invited as we make progress.

MERCHANDISE: Books: Jim and Nan Wisherd, who is financing work on the calendar book, will resume work on that project as soon as their schedules permit. Presently, Jim's schedule is booked with work at MSMA and with moving.

Nan's new book, *Brule River Country*, has come out. She made it available to OBHS for wholesale, hard copy @ \$13.00 (list price \$25.95) and soft cover @ \$9.50 (list price \$18.95). We need to get four more of both from Nan.

Jim noted that the most requests have come in for *Sisu and Sauna*. At the June General Meeting, it was decided that we purchase 20 copies from the original publisher, if possible. These copies would include an addendum of corrections. A second edition needs to be prepared. Jim and Lila will be involved.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE: Thanks to Janine and Nancy Moreland for maintaining this independent site with over 660 members.

PROPOSAL TO INVOLVE STUDENTS IN A DRAWING/PAINTING OF THE DAVIDSON WINDMILL COMPETITION: Follow-up is needed to get feedback from the school.

OPT OUT OF NEWSLETTER HARDCOPY DELIVERY: Persons interested in accessing an online electronic copy of the *OBHS NEWS* in lieu of or in addition to a hard copy should contact Jim.

REFRIGERATION DONATION: Shirley's refrigerator is ready to be moved to MSMA. Ron has purchased a used refrigerator for \$50 to be used at the Eskolin House.

MEMBERSHIP DATES: Members are asked to verify their mailing address on *OBHS News* for correctness of membership date. Contact Jim if you have questions. Jim requests that members keep up with their volunteer hours on the "blue sheets" and that they turn them in by July 31 in preparation for the Annual Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY & ENCOURAGEMENT: Sympathy to family and friends of Laila Magnuson who passed away Sunday, July 9, 2017.

ANNUAL MEETING: August 26, 2017 at Maple Town Hall. 12:00- Noon.

PREPARATION: We will need to replace several members of our Board at this meeting, including some officer positions. The Nominating Committee has traditionally been those who are leaving the Board. The Board suggested some candidates for these openings. There will be an election for these Board Members at the General Meeting. All New Board Members will meet following the Annual Meeting to elect officers.

2017 BOARD MEMBER ACTION LIST (See list printed in the June General Meeting Minutes above.)

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Immediately following the Annual Meeting on August 26, 2017 at the Maple Town Hall to elect officers. The September Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 13, at the Eskolin House.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11, after the Apple Festival Weekend. Place and program TBD.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: A Butter-Churner belonging to Laila Magnuson has been donated to OBHS and will be kept in the Eskolin House.

Mary Ann asked if OBHS was planning an upcoming formal accounting. It would be timely given our upcoming change of treasurer. This subject will be an upcoming agenda item.

ADJOURNMENT: Doreen moved to adjourn the meeting; second by Dorothy. President Shirley Umolac adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Lila M. Ronn, Secretary

Area History: No. 117

This picture and text appear for the month of August in our 2017 OBHS Historical Calendar.

16.17-08. The Mill Pond and Main Plant of the Northern Hardwood Lumber Company in Maple, c. 1907 to 1913. Petitioning for the break-up of the old Town of Brule, out of which the towns of Amnicon and Maple emerged, came simultaneously with construction of a large hardwood saw mill on the "copper range" near the Maple station on the Northern Pacific Railway. It was 1906 but talk had started in the Twin Ports press already in 1903 about a hardwood mill for Maple. The mill was finally built but burned shortly. It was rebuilt immediately and in 1907 the Northern Hardwood Lumber Company brought complaint before the Railroad Commission of Wisconsin for construction of a promised spur into their operations, which they were awarded. Operations of the mill were in the hands of Herman Langer, close



associate of hardwood lumber baron W. D. Connor from Marshfield. T. A. Tack, another long-time associate of Connor, was president of the company. Langer, who served as secretary had left the superintendent job at Connor's Stratford hardwood mill the year before his coming to Maple with his family, to which community he eventually returned. The commission complaint brought out that the mill had already cut 1,300,000 board feet of hardwood, and that it expected to run for five to eight more years cutting local trees. *Photo in the OBHS Collection courtesy of the Stratford Historical Society.*

~ NOTICES ~

MEMBERS: Dues collection for 2018 will begin at our Annual Meeting in August & will continue into 2018. Please fill in your volunteer hours on your Blue Sheets and turn them in immediately. This hour tally runs from Aug.1 (2016) to July 31, 2017. Turn them in to Jim from now until the Annual Meeting on August 26th. Please contact our Secretary or Jim for a new Blue Sheet, or check for blank forms on our website.

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS: Thanks to all who have donated to OBHS in memorials to recently departed members, Laila Magnuson & Irene Winkka-Brazill. Congratulations to the many OBHS members who turn 70 this year.

OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY: To family & friends of the many, listed here, whom we have lost recently:

Eileen M. (Allen) Ketola, 72, Superior and Maple, who passed away July 24, 2017 at Solvay Hospice House in Duluth, MN, born 1945 to Robert H. and Jean E. (Steffenson) Allen, graduated from the former Central High School in 1963, married Theodore M. Ketola in 1973 in West Palm Beach, Florida, raised three boys, Matthew, Michael and Mark in Maple, WI, who survive.

Irene W. Winkka-Brazill, 88, longtime area resident, who died July 21, 2017 in Duluth, MN, born in 1928 in Maple, WI, the daughter of Finnish immigrants, Hemming & Mary (Majia Ammesmaki) Winkka, married Glenn Brazill in 1951, married fifty-two years, long employed as an RN, Jarvenpaa Choir member, member and active archivist for OBHS, survived by two daughters & three sons.

Tony Wolden, 65, Brookhaven, MS, & Rockmont, WI who passed away July 22, 2017, born in 1951, to Irene and Vern Wolden, one of thirteen children, went to Northwestern High School, worked at Fraser Shipyards and bartended, survived by two daughters.

Jeffrey A. Dinkel, 61, Stokesdale, NC, who died unexpectedly July 22, 2017, in Iron River, born in Superior in 1955, son of Phillip and Marion Dinkel, worked for 38 years for TE Connectivity in Greensboro, NC, survived by wife. Susan and five children.

Laila E. (Ronkainen) Magnuson, 87, Brule, who died July 9, 2017 at St. Luke's Hospital Hospice in Duluth, MN, born in 1929 in the Town of Brule to Elias & Hilda (Kauppinen) Ronkainen, taught beginning in 1949 and retired from the Maple School District in 1989 after 38 years, preceded in death by husband, Kenneth, and their only child, Sue (Mike) Jahn, active member of OBHS & the BHRG.

Eleanore Irene (Becker) Olby, 91, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away surrounded by family July 10, 2017 at Villa Marina Health & Rehabilitation Center in Superior, born in 1925 to Charles and Selma (Nordin) Becker in Mason, WI, married James Emanuel Olby in 1946, survived by three daughters and two sons.

Willis "Bill" Arden Warner, M.D., 90, who passed away suddenly July 7, 2017 in Bethesda, Maryland, born in Superior in 1927 to Emil Augustine Warner and Emily Josephine (Anderson) Warner, brother-in-law to Member Edith Warner.

Lily E. (Wisti) Carvala Morris, Fontana CA, and Maple, who passed away July 31, 2017 at Western Healthcare Center in Colton, California after a short illness at the age of 101, born 1916 in Maple, WI to Matt and Hilma Wisti, married Eino Carvala in Superior in 1950 who passed away in 1952, married in 1955 James Morris, survived by her son, John Carvala, OBHS Member, San Francisco, CA.

Maynard E. Maki, 82, Superior, who died August 2, 2017, at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth, born in Oulu, WI, in 1934, the son of Uuno and Elsie Maki, married Kathleen Peterson in 1958, was a switchman on the Soo Line RR for 30 years, survived by wife of 59 years, Kay; sons, Paul (Andrea Carroll) Maki of Brule, and Dale (Terri) Maki of Brule.

Agnes Sylvia (Johnson) Laakso, 95, Brule, Oulu, who died July 27, 2017, at Harmony House in Superior, born in 1922 in Oulu, WI to Fredrick and Helmi (Mattson) Johnson, lifelong Oulu resident, married Ray W. Laakso in 1950 in Duluth with sixty-one years of marriage prior to his death, graduated from Waino High School and the Minneapolis Business College, enlisted in the Women's Army Air Corp. survived by two sons, Steven (Eunice) Laakso, of Oulu; Gordon (Mary) Laakso, of Superior; daughter Renita Laakso (Ron) Petite, of Oulu, niece OBHS Member Gail Saari of Maple and many others.

Margy Kesler, 97, Superior, Barnes, Iron River, who died at her residence surrounded by family July 23, 2017, spent her earliest years in Iowa, born in Anamosa in 1920 to Fred and Elizabeth Kaufman, graduated from Drummond High School in 1938, married Les Kesler in 1946, had a long divided career in elementary education, taught in Barnes, Iron River, Wentworth, and Brule retiring in 1985, mother of three sons who survive, active always in community affairs and church life.

Shirley R. Beckwell, 89, Yorkville, Ill., who died March 6, in Symphony of Orchard Valley, a graveside service held July 15 in Lakeside Cemetery in the Town of Lakeside, WI, born in Aurora, IL, in 1928, daughter of Robert & Angeline (Van Alstine) Moyer, married George Beckwell, and they had two children, and made their home in Yorkville.

Ronald C. Johnson, 86, Brule, WI, who died June 14, 2017 at the Bethesda Hospital in St. Paul, MN, born in 1930 in Waino, WI to Hannes and Lillian (Maki) Johnson, married Gayle who died Dec 2016, survived by their two sons, Timothy (Cathleen) Johnson and Randy Johnson; and two daughters, Julie (Dave) Hill and Patricia (Mike) Anecki, a descendant of early settler, Koko Kalle Johnson.

Colleen J. (Martin) Orval, 90, of Jefferson, WI, who died July 2, 2017, at Rainbow Hospice Inpatient Center of Johnson Creek, born in 1927, in Chicago, Ill., the daughter of Vessie and Irene (Linton) Martin, on her 20th birthday (May 24, 1947), married Francis B.E. Orval of Maple, in Solon Springs, and the couple lived in and raised five children in Maple, taught school in Woodbine, Iowa and Maple, and worked as a nurse's aid at Countryside Home (now Alden Estates) for 27 years, with husband Francis, loyal supporters and members of OBHS from the earliest days, survived by their five children, preceded in death by Francis and brothers Jim and John Martin.

Roger Frederick Pearson, 83, Superior, Lake Nebagamon, who died at home of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis on July 5, 2017, born to Frederick & Myrna Pearson in 1933, a carman on the Soo Line Railroad for 25 years, enjoyed summers at the family cabin at Lake Nebagamon, survived by his wife of 52 years, Donna (Pananen).

Jan M. Frer, 71, Big Lake, MN and Port Wing, WI who passed away July 2, 2017, preceded in death by her parents and 4 siblings, survived by Carl Hogfeldt; mother of Jeff (Karen) Beeksma, Brian (Pam) Beeksma, Theresa Moderhack, Kent (Jennifer) Beeksma, and Julie (Dan) Andersen; Sister - Joyce (David) Olson; Brother- Dennis (Lavita) Igo;

Derek Wayne Casey, 55, Lake Nebagamon, who died June 15, 2017 in his home.

Patricia Ann (Olson) Hunter Flatten, 77, Maiden Rock, WI, who died peacefully at her residence June 1, 2017, born in Superior in 1940, the daughter of Hugo and Myrtle (Theis) Olson, preceded in death by her parents, Hugo and Myrtle Olson; husband, Alfred Flatten.

Lora Lynn Burger, 60, Michigan Center, MI, who passed away peacefully in her sleep at home June 5th, 2017, born in Superior in 1957 to Steve and Delores Malec, attended Northwestern High School in Maple, WI, worked at Covered Wagon., Hawthorne, WI for 20 years.

Dean John Pyykola, 66, Oulu area resident who passed away peacefully June 23, 2017 at St. Luke's Hospital, Hospice, Duluth, MN, born in 1951 in Ashland, son of Aarne and Elsie (Maki) Pyykola who were lifelong residents of Oulu, graduated from South Shore High School in 1969 and attended UWS and Control Data School in the Twin Cities area, employed by Duluth *News Tribune* for over 30 years as an IT Specialist, survived by his wife, Karen of 44 years; and one son.

And who have we missed or forgotten? May they all rest in peace.

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 after our annual meeting in August. Higher levels of support are always welcome.

New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!

CALENDAR.

August 16, Saturday. 10 AM-3 PM. Third Saturday of the Month Windmill Tours.

August 25-26, Friday –Saturday. Vendor set up 7 AM Saturday. 8 AM Flea Market opens for Second Annual MSMA Fund Raiser, Maple Town Hall. Closes at 5 PM. Noon: OBHS 2017 Annual Meeting at the Maple Town Hall.

September 4, Monday. Labor Day.

September 13, Wednesday. 5:30 PM. OBHS Board Meeting. Eskolin House.

September 16, Saturday. 10 AM-3 PM. Final Third Saturday of the Month Windmill Tours.

September 22, Friday. First day of autumn. Deadline for materials for October *OBHS News*.

September 29, Friday. Yom Kippur.

October 9, Monday. Columbus Day.

October 11, Wednesday. OBHS General Meeting. Place and Time TBA

October 31, Tuesday. Halloween.

November 5, Sunday. Daylight Savings Time ends.

November 7, Tuesday. Election Day.

November 8, Wednesday. OBHS Board Meeting. Place and Time TBA

November 10, Friday. Veteran's Day.

November 23, Thursday. Thanksgiving Day.

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.