

OBHS News

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

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

Volume XVII, Issue 6

December 3, 2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shirley Kankas-Umolac, Lake
Nebagamon, President
Audrey Hakkila, Poplar, 1st V. P.
Dan Bergsten, Poplar, 2nd V. P.
Charlene Harms, Duluth,
Acting Secretary

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Dorothy Bergsten, Poplar
Mike Granlund, Lakeside
Mary Ann Gronquist, Parkland

Doreen Swanson, Brule
Hope Swenson, Lakeside
Betty Wood, Poplar,
Lois Pollari, Lake Nebagamon, Alternate
Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

****JOIN US FOR THE MUSICAL MSMA FUND RAISER AT THE KRO BAR DEC 12TH 2-6 PM****

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 16, 2015, 6:00 PM at the Brule Town Hall

For our Program for our December Holiday General Meeting Jim Pellman will give a preview of the 2016 Calendar he is working on. He will also recap in photos our “Historical” Music MSMA Fund Raiser to be held at the Kro Bar on Saturday, December 12th. It will be a rare gathering of all of these volunteer veteran local music personalities who have entertained crowds throughout our area and far beyond over the past 30 and even 50 years.

The Wednesday evening Christmas meeting will begin at 6 PM with our pot luck lunch held in the historic Brule Town Hall. Please bring a covered dish to pass, or refreshments to share. The slide talk will begin about 6:30PM with our business meeting to follow. Thanks to Laila M. for arranging our meeting site, & to the Town of Brule for the use of the hall. The evening will close with our annual Christmas gift exchange.

Friends, Guests and New Members are always Welcome!

FROM THE EDITOR:

Creating the annual calendar is always a challenge, more so due to the solid deadline than from anything else. The text and photos are actually a pleasure to research, maybe too much so, as new facts are discovered, now so often with many old newspapers being digitized and made available on line. The end of the internet may have just one more clue or fact of interest. But for our calendar, as with books and other published works, the computer has also generated a rival medium that threatens the very reason for being of the printed word. “Why sacrifice all of those trees when a computer screen will do the same thing?” so goes the argument.

With children now born with a keyboard and stylus in their hands, to think that cursive writing is being abandoned in schools is a shocking development to someone like me who had to struggle to almost master the art with my left hand. (I hear a chuckle from some.) But why write at all, or even type for that matter, when we have marvelous portable sound recording devices? If we carry this further into the absurd, why speak when we can show people videos of everything we encounter on the screens of our hand held devices?

Where IS the tipping point? When have we gone too far? The traditions of imaginative story-telling are found in all people, and truly this is what makes us human. The sharing of our imaginations, our visions and plans, and our imagined past, has been amplified by refinements in our speech and languages and arts. I was so much reminded of that the other evening when I shared with other guests in the opening of the art show of David DiFrancesco from Brule at Lizzard’s Gallery in Duluth. There we stood amidst the imaginative creations of over 100 people. The same with libraries and book stores. When within them, the gathering of creative energy of thousands, past and present, surrounds us.

So when have we gone too far? When is the computer network more harmful to us than helpful? I think this happens when we fail to see it as a tool, a very powerful and useful tool, a creation among all the other human creations, like the Press, also a tool. When the Press becomes all the news, we realize real life has somehow become impoverished. Culture, too, and civilizations are human tools. And they too have their failings and their limits. When our hearts and our homes are being violated we have to say “enough” and look for new tools, or forgotten and latent tools, and give them new life. History is a tool and can be a help in this renewal. An old building, and its history can bring to mind ways and a scale of human living that fit us better as creatures than large complexes, and fit better than having our inter-personal connections being filtered by touch screens. Will we recognize when we have lost the ability to find and touch the sacred in one another?

~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 will be 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, and by phone: 715-363-2549, or Laila at 715-372-4963, or please check our Website at www.oldbrule.org. Shipping & handling: \$3.50 each, less for each for larger orders. We thank our donor businesses whose cards we list in the back of each calendar, and to those local businesses that are selling them for us each year.

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

ARCHIVES/COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE.

Excitement continues to build over the prospects of our new archiving space at MSMA, the Monticello School Museum & Archives. With the changes expected the Archives Committee would welcome other volunteers to help us in this important part of our OBHS mission. Our continuing project is learning to use the computer in support of our work, scanning, interpreting and indexing documents and photos, storing clippings and records and creating databases. The future holds more work on temporary and permanent exhibits using items in our collection, which the school space will permit. Our thanks go to our loyal committee members and document and artifact donors, and to the Town of Maple for Archive storage space. If you enjoy exacting work and interesting conversation please join us at 1 p.m. at the Pellmans' on a Monday afternoon. Next meeting is December 7th, 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 FOR THE OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Wednesday, October 21, 2015, 6:00 PM

Lake Nebagamon Auditorium

Attendance: 20 signed the attendance roster

President Shirley Kankas-Umolac welcomed all members and guests. We started with a moment of silence for our ill and departed members. We thanked all who had brought food and refreshments to share and thanked the Village of Lake Nebagamon for the use of their Auditorium. We then shared a wonderful lunch.

PROGRAM: Scott Markle, Education Outreach Coordinator for the Bong History Center in Superior, gave a talk on Major Richard I. Bong. In a pre-Veterans' Day program, Scott related stories about Major Bong, the nation's Ace of Aces, some seldom heard. He was accompanied by his friend, John Kanzler, a WWII Veteran, who shared his stories from being aboard the USS Colorado in the Pacific during the war. Thanks to our speakers for the excellent presentation. In addition, Mr. Markle gave us a supply of coupons for one-half off admission to the Bong History Center. See our President if you would like some.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: After a short break, President Shirley Kankas-Umolac called the meeting to order at 8:30PM.

MINUTES: Audrey Hakkila made a motion to approve the Minutes of the O-BHS General Meeting held June 18, 2015 at the Lakeside Town Hall as printed in the O-BHS News for August 2015, second by Jim Mattson. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Seis provided her report, by email, which was given by President Shirley Kankas-Umolac. This is reprinted here:

THE CD: \$5,818.10 (\$5.05 Interest added October 16th)

GENERAL FUND Account: TOTAL as of October 21 is \$365.17

DEPOSITS in **AUGUST** include: Memberships \$195.00, Donation from the Esther Pollari estate of \$150 to be used for postage; Book sale, sold to the Fugates, for \$23.00

DEPOSITS in **SEPTEMBER:** Book purchases from Poplar Hardware were \$74.40

DEPOSITS in **OCTOBER**: 2 Memberships \$30.00 and LOCK BOX deposit of \$7.31

EXPENSES \$50 donation for the Oulu Cultural Center, \$25 to Speaker Fortney, Office supplies \$18.99, Postage \$150.72 which included newsletter mailing and a coil of stamps for the Treasurer) \$109.00 for printing costs for the newsletter) *JANINE WOULD REMIND & ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO PLEASE PAY THEIR DUES SINCE OUR GENERAL FUND IS QUITE LOW. DUES ARE OUR MAIN SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR THE GENERAL FUND.*

MONTICELLO (MSMA) Account: \$9,352.47

(Recent donations include \$70 in memory of Eddie Walman, \$2,275 Total from Gordon Lahti, Howard Maki, Janine & Doug Seis and Jim Pellman)

WINDMILL Account: \$2,447.60

(Added \$521.15 from the bake sale Apple Festival weekend) SEPT Electric bill was \$34.01 and OCT Electric bill was \$32.28. BOTH amounts came out automatically.

Normally the money from the lock box has been going into the Windmill account, but that last amount from October of \$7.31 was *accidentally* put in the General Fund. Motion by Char Harms, second by Mary Ann Gronquist, to leave the \$7.31 in the General Fund where it had been deposited. Motion carried. In the future ALL lockbox money will continue to go only into the Windmill Account. Of course the General Fund serves the Windmill as well.

There appear to be some funds from the September 19th open house at the windmill that weren't deposited yet. Char Harms will check with the Treasurer and follow up.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Jim Mattson, seconded by Audrey Hakkila. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

SLEEPY VALLEY LOOP BRIDGE: Received a letter regarding the bridge on Sleepy Valley Loop (an article appeared in the last Superior *Telegram*.) Lila Ronn reported a memo of agreement has been signed among the WI DOT, WI Historical Society and the Town of Lakeside for this project with no mention of OBHS and our Bridge History Committee despite their work up to now.

MEMORIAL TO MSMA: Donation to O-BHS-MSMA received from the Conley family of \$500 in memory of Jan's mother, Muriel Idziorek. Muriel's mother taught in the Monticello School.

WINCH: Jim P. had a call from David Lee who wanted to deliver the winch, once used in the Lake Nebagamon ice industry, which he was donating. Arrangements were made and archive paperwork was completed at the time of delivery which was by David and many from his family. It is stored for now on ties and a platform, under tarp, at Finnworks.

Other correspondence/communications received were addressed with pertinent agenda topic.

NEW OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Reviewed the list of officers and board members; and committee assignments for this year which were made at the Board Meeting following the Annual Meeting.

Jim Mattson moved to formally confirm the approval of the Minutes of the Board Meeting on August 16, 2015 that followed the Annual Meeting, seconded by Jim Pellman. These minutes had been approved by poll of the Board as they were immediately needed by our bank in the new signature card process. Motion carried.

DAVIDSON WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE:

Ron Hendrickson reported on progress on the Taylor's Bridge repair. The Windmill blades still need paint. Our volunteer painter, Jennifer Sloan, had surgery, but has still shown interest. Needs to be contacted in the spring. Others have shown interest in painting, but added work needs to be done on the blades before work can start.

Jon Winter from the Douglas County Historical Society indicated they have a rug loom available for use in the Eskolin House or at O-BHS or anyone interested. OBHS will help spread the word, but we have two looms available at present.

MSMA: Jim had made contact by phone with Kevin Mackie regarding prospects for a start on the basement this year. Kevin was going to check his schedule, but hasn't responded yet.

MSMA FUND-RAISING: Discussion on a fund-raiser set for December 12, 2015 at the Kro Bar in Brule WI to raise dollars for the MSMA school project. Several well-known area musicians have volunteered their talents to help the MSMA cause. Motion by Audrey Hakkila, second by Jim Pellman, to support this fund-raising effort and have the O-BHS Board address additional details. Motion carried.

PUBLICITY: Thank you given to Mary Ann Gronquist for her efforts with publicity.

PUBLICATIONS:

2016 calendar project is getting underway. Discussed changing the General Meeting back to the second Wednesday of even numbered months. A conflict on the present date prevents OBHS from holding its meetings at the Maple Town Hall. A motion was made by Jim Pellman to change the General Meeting date to the second Wednesday of even numbered months starting in calendar year 2016, seconded by Mary Ann Gronquist. Motion carried. This will be reflected on the 2016 calendar.

There has been no change on the Pollari Map and the Calendar Book.

MERCHANDISE: Shirley Kankas-Umolac has discussed need for MSMA shirt design. She is also checking with the new company in Lake Nebagamon for costs to print shirts and mugs. "I've Been Through the Mill" t-shirts have been ordered. Gene Davidson decided to do the Windmill DVD project on his own; Jim will return his materials. Button

creation is on hold. Reprint is needed of *Wisconsin Far Northwest*. Jim will have to follow up. Page changes and added material omitted from the prior printing need to be done before submission.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE: This independent site was created and is maintained by Janine Seis with help from Nancy Moreland. To date there are over 464 members.

WI COUNCIL FOR LOCAL HISTORY and WI HISTORICAL SOCIETY NW REGIONAL MEETING: had no takers from OBHS this year. We hope more time will open for next year's meeting.

OBHS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP: We have had discussion on a scholarship letter from Northwestern High School from last year. Acting Secretary Charlene Harms followed up with the Maple School District to be sure we are on their scholarship list for this year (2016), and verified that we have a balance of \$250 with the district. An OBHS Scholarship will be awarded this year.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT: No one mentioned.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: will be held Wednesday, December 16th, at 6PM. This will be the Christmas meeting. Laila Magnuson will attempt to secure the Brule Town Hall for our site, and besides Jim's sharing of the images in the 2016 calendar, a full program will need to be determined. No discussion on our traditional gift exchange.

WORK CREW NEEDED:

Due to passing of Ed Walman a work crew is needed to help move the flour mill. The mill was donated by Arnold Johnson to OBHS. May have to contact Stanley Jacobson. Ties and tarps will be ready in back of Finnworks when we have a date. Motion by Jim Mattson, seconded by Char Harms to allow up to \$100.00 for the move. Motion carried.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Jim Mattson moved to adjourn, seconded Lila Ronn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:26PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Harms

Acting 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 book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, and Nan Wisherd's books, *Pathways* and *Echoes*, Lakeside's *Sisu and Sauna*, and *Annicon From the Beginning*, are available for \$20.00 a copy + \$3.50 shipping. Wisconsin sales tax is included in all of our prices. Shipping and handling for mugs, caps and tee shirts is a \$3.50 minimum. All items are also available for purchase at our meetings or by contacting an OBHS member. Our booklet, *Davidson Windmill History* by Jim Pellman and Gene Davidson is available for \$8.00 (+\$2.00 shipping). Leigh P. & Richard Jerrard's new expanded and revised edition of *The Brule River of Wisconsin* is now available at \$20.00 (+\$3.50 shipping). See our calendar ad above. Jane Pearson Grimsrud has released small and large print versions of *Brule River Forest and Lake Superior Cloverland Anecdotes*. Both are available for \$20.00 (+\$3.50 shipping). Poplar Hardware also has an inventory of most of our titles. Please check ahead for current availability. Also contact our members for more info.

Unapproved MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 2:30 PM

Hope Swenson Residence, Lakeside WI

Attendance: Jim Pellman, Betty Wood, Dan Bergsten, Hope L. Swenson, Audrey Hakkila, Shirley Kankas-Umolac, Mary Ann Gronquist, signed the roster passed around. A moment of silence was held for those killed and injured in Paris and others in harm's way. We thanked all who brought food and refreshments to share & Hope Swenson, our generous hostess.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Shirley Kankas-Umolac called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion by Mary Ann G, seconded by Doreen S. to approve the Minutes of O-BHS Board Meeting held September 16, 2015 at Eskolin House in Lakeside, as printed in *O-BHS News* for October 2015. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Seis provided her report, submitted by email, which was presented by President Shirley, which follows:

THE CD: \$5,818.10 (\$5.05 Interest added October 16th)

GENERAL FUND Account: TOTAL as of November 18th is \$558.37.

DEPOSITS in NOVEMBER: Book purchases from Poplar Hardware were \$86.00;

MONTICELLO (MSMA) Account: \$9,952.47

(Recent donations include \$500.00 in memory of Muriel Idziorek from Jan & Dave Conley) \$100 not deposited yet from Barbara Hammerbeck for MSMA.

WINDMILL Account: \$2,250.84

(Added \$92.00, gathered by Alice at the September 19th open house at the Windmill;

Motion by Audrey, seconded by Doreen to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Membership renewal & Windmill history book order from Paul & Delores Hakkila. \$35.00. Book sent & roster updated.
2. State Farm Insurance bill: \$258.00. Shirley will handle this.
3. Gene Davidson had sent Jim an email. He is concerned about the tilt he saw in the mill on a recent visit, and mentioned the issue of the blades potentially needing maintenance before painting. Should they need replacement he recommends using the stub designed by his father that fits into the hub as a pattern, and then adding the remainder of the blade after this stub has been installed as a best method.
4. Jane Asbach from Ashland had written thanking us for our efforts and enclosed an article from the *Milwaukee Journal* from the 1980s that talked about recollections of the north Maple region, by a former resident in their youth. (a Jokela?).
5. Kim Kulp's letter thanked us for opening up the mill to the Horseless Carriage Club this summer.

Other correspondence/communications received were addressed with pertinent agenda topic.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DAVIDSON WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE:

Ron Hendrickson is working on the Taylor's Bridge repair. The Windmill blades still need paint but some hub repairs first. Our volunteer painter, Jennifer Sloan, had surgery, but has still shown interest. Needs to be contacted in the spring. Others have shown interest in painting, but added work needs to be done on the blades.

MSMA: Jim did not get a direct response from Kevin Mackie regarding prospects for a start on the basement this year after his visit on the phone. Kevin was going to check his schedule. He had talked to other members later saying his schedule this fall has been "crazy." It looks like our basement project will not start until next spring. More fund raising will be going on in the meanwhile.

MSMA FUND-RAISER: We will be having a musical benefit fund raiser at the Kro Bar in Brule on Saturday, December 12th, 2 to 6 p.m. Several well-known area musicians have volunteered their talents to help the MSMA cause. We have talked about a "Chinese Auction" with need for personal contacts with area businesses for donated services or items. Food will be part of the planning. We need a committee to visit Dean Baillie to finalize details. (His father recently fell and broke his hip, and has been hospitalized.) Doreen knows all the principles and was to make contact with Dean

PUBLICITY: Thank you given to Mary Ann G. for her efforts with publicity, and to Audrey H. for submitted OBHS historical articles to the new *Poplar Press*.

PUBLICATIONS: 2016 calendar project is underway. Business donation mailings have gone out. General Meeting date is back to the second Wednesday of even numbered months. A date conflict on the present date had prevented OBHS from holding any meetings at the Maple Town Hall this year.

There has been no change on the Pollari Map and the Calendar Book.

Poplar Hardware book order was filled by Shirley above & payment of \$84 received into General.

MERCHANDISE: Shirley Kankas-Umolac has discussed need for MSMA shirt design. She is also checking with the new company in Lake Nebagamon for costs to print shirts and mugs. "I've Been Through the Mill" T-shirts have been received. Gene Davidson decided to do the Windmill DVD project on his own; Jim will return his materials. Button creation is on hold. Reprint is needed of *Wisconsin Far Northwest*. Jim will follow up. Page changes and added material omitted from the prior printing still need to be done before submission, and a printer confirmed. *Sisu & Sauna* needs a reprint, and is in the hands of the Lakeside committee.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE: This independent site was created and is maintained by Janine Seis with help from Nancy Moreland. To date there are 481 group members with huge amounts of info & photos being shared.

OBHS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP: Discussion on the scholarship letter from Northwestern High School from last year. Jim reported that acting Secretary Charlene Harms followed up with the Maple School District to be sure we are on their scholarship list for this year (2016), and verified that we have a balance of \$250 with the district. An OBHS Scholarship will be awarded this year. We will still be contacted by the district.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT: Member Paul Marvin Hakkila will delay return to Texas due to surgery should get a card of encouragement. Sympathy should go out to the families of Wendy Teal, and Robert Parsons.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, January 13, 2016. (the second Wednesday) Location?

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: will be held Wednesday, December 16th. This will be the Christmas meeting. Laila Magnuson has secured the Brule Town Hall for our site, and besides Jim's sharing of the images in the 2016 calendar, a full program will need to be determined. Discussion on our traditional gift exchange which we will have, \$5-10 MW or E.

WORK CREW(S) NEEDED:

Due to passing of Ed Walman a work crew is needed to help move the flour mill. The mill was donated by Arnold Johnson to OBHS. A call was made to Stanley Jacobson, but no reply as yet. RR Ties and tarps will be ready in back of Finnworks when we have a date. The General meeting approved a sum of up to \$100.00 for the move.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: More discussion on the Musical Fund Raiser. A committee was formed and members named: Laila, Lila, Doreen, Shirley, Betty & Dan, Mary Ann, Jim. Also talk of coloring books for kids, themes: Windmill, etc. a project for Jim.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Doreen S., second by Dan B. Motion carried & meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Pellman for Charlene Harms, Acting Secretary

Monticello School Museum & Archives Project Updates

Larger donations were early received from **Douglas County, the Pellman family, Lois Pollari, Earl & Barbra Granroth, Paul, Trenton & Gabbie Colby, Geraldine Fechtelkotter, Emery Mattson's Mattson Properties in Ashland, Ina Falk, Gary Luoma, Hope Swenson, Mary Ann Gronquist, Gordon Lahti, Laila Magnuson, Audrey Hakkila, Gene & Agnes Davidson, John & Doreen Swanson, Dennis & Arlene Hill, Shirley & George Umolac, Ed & Judy Privette, Jerry & Pat Anderson, Jan Stevens & Donna Johnson in memory of their father, Oscar Anderson, Cindy & Duane Crider, Janine & Doug Seis, Jim Pellman.** Thanks to everyone for their generous memorials in **Delores' Pellman's** name, & in memory of the late **Muriel Idziorek**, mother of **Member Jan Conley**, and in memory of **Member George Umolac**. **Kevin Mackie Construction** has been contacted for a date when work on the Basement Project could begin. Fund-raising continues in earnest with a balance now at **\$9,952.47**. Please help if you can, and much thanks to all who have already given so much. Plans are in place and prize donations are being gathered, volunteer musicians booked for the Kro Bar fund raiser. Thanks!

**Area History:
No. 107**

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

12. Merton J. Bell with Cigar, c. 1940. Among the larger than life figures who have walked the woods of the North and the early Town of Brule, was Merton James Bell. M. J. Bell, with the help of his father, ran the Bell Hotel in early Brule, and the Bellwood Station on the Northern Pacific Railway, was named for this colorful leader, land surveyor, logger, hotel owner, boxer and scrapper, magazine owner, politician, and entrepreneur. One time Old Brule Town Chairman (after a battle that went to the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 1900) and Douglas County Treasurer, Bell wrote a letter critical of the process by which the Town of Waino was being formed in the 1930s, despite the need to call down a fellow Republican, which may have shaped that development and left Brule as it remains today. Publicity in his magazine, *Sports Afield*, promoting his Bellwood cabin resort business, helped shape the modern mystique of the Brule River. The Bell family company based in the Twin Cities that he built, supplying the communications and power industry with line poles, still thrives today under the leadership of his great-grandson, Tom Bell. Blueberry's Ethel Jondreau, who knew M. J. Bell as a neighbor, late in her life exclaimed, "Bell, if he had wanted to, was more qualified to serve as a US Senator than anyone I ever knew." There is little reason to doubt her. *Portrait from Polemakers: A History of Bell Lumber & Pole Company, courtesy of the Bell Pole & Lumber Company and the Brule History Research Group.*



~ NOTICES ~

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

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS:

To **Dean Baillie** and **Kro Bar** for opening their kitchen & business to host our Dec 12 MSMA Musical Fund-raiser. Thanks to **Ted Pellman** who has rounded up the volunteer performers for the full afternoon of beautiful live music.

OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY: To family & friends of the following whom we have lost recently:

Gregory L. Lind, 55, Maple, who passed away due to complications of diabetes Nov. 30, 2015, was born on Sept. 1, 1960, in Salina, Kansas, to Larry and Joyce (Granstrom) Lind, graduated from Northwestern High School in 1978 and UW Eau Claire with a Bachelor's Degree in Business and Economics, studied in Sweden for a year. Survived by parents and daughters, and brothers, Keith and Brian.

Steve Arnes, 61, Oulu, who died Nov. 25, 2015 at his home surrounded by family and friends, following a battle with brain/lung cancer, was born Sept. 11, 1954, to Allen and Dorothy Arnes in Duluth.

Thomas O. "Tom" Sandmon, 76, Lake Nebagamon, Highland, who died Nov. 26, 2015, at his residence surrounded by his family, was born in Solon Springs Aug. 25, 1939, the son of George and Eithel V. (Yadon) Sandmon. He was employed as a grounds keeper & guide on the Brule River, in 1983 married his high school sweetheart Karen Hanson. He was a member of the Highland Volunteer Fire Department, Barnes Area Hist. Assoc. (an affiliate of the Bayfield County Historical Soc.) & the Barnes area VFW.

Robert Allan Parsons, 76, Poplar, who passed away Nov. 18, 2015 at the Villa-Marina Health and Rehabilitation Center in Superior after a long battle with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), a rare brain disorder. He was born Dec. 9, 1938, in Englewood, N.J. to R. Dewitt and Helen (Morton) Parsons, graduated from Tenafly, NJ High School, & had a BA Degree from UWS, served in the USAF from 1960 to 1964, married Althea Bloom in 1964 at Mission Covenant in Poplar, who survives.

Bill Nutter, 79, South Range who died Nov. 19, 2015 in his home surrounded by his family after a long illness, was a longtime employee of Murphy Oil, survived by wife Evelyn and four children.

Harvey L. Rath, 90, South Range, who died Nov. 18, 2015 at Middle River Health and Rehabilitation Center, born Sept. 16, 1925 in Ladysmith, Wis. to Henry and Helen (Prozinski) Rath. He served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II, was employed as a highway superintendent for James Peterson Construction for 40 years before retiring in 1990.

Wendy L. Teal, 62, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away Nov. 16, 2015, at the Solvay Hospice House in Duluth, following a seven year battle with Ovarian Cancer, born on Sept. 14, 1953 in Superior to Dale and Irene (Knoll) Wedan, married Roger Teal in 1971 in Lake Nebagamon and celebrated 44 years of marriage, employed at Minnesuing Acres for 19 years.

Michael A. Johnson, 32, Iron River who died Nov 4, 2015 after an overdose of drugs at the Johnson Hunting Camp in Port Wing, Wis., born June 28, 1983 in Ashland, son of Randy and Julie (Johanik) Johnson who survive, brother Scott of Iron River, grandson of the late Walter & Ailie Johnson.

Calvin "Cal" C. Haworth, 90, Hawthorne, who died Nov. 1, 2015, at Middle River Health and Rehabilitation Center, Hawthorne. Calvin was born March 14, 1925, son of Sampie and Jessie (Carlin) Haworth. During the 1940's, Cal served in both the Merchant Marines and Army. He worked over 35 years as a car-man with the CNW railroad. He enjoyed hobby farming, camping, fishing, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Audrey (Miller).

Van Jeffery "Chipper" Korhonen, 57, Oakland, who passed away Oct. 17, 2015 in his home, born May 19, 1958 in Superior to Sulo and Betty (Serre) Korhonen, of Wentworth, youngest of seven children, graduated from Northwestern High School in 1976, worked repairing outboard motors, tires, roads and in construction, survived by two daughters and one son.

Stanley Peter Ladich, 79, who died Sept. 22, 2015 on his birthday, at Cedar Hospice, West Bend, Wis., born in Superior to Peter and Amelia Ladich, graduated from Central High School, attended UW Madison and Superior, received Bachelor and Master degrees, was an educator in West Allis, Wis., coaching football and girls basketball, moved to Lake Nebagamon upon retirement, is survived by wife Maurine (Yaworski) and children

**May these, our dear friends and neighbors, rest in peace.
... and who have we missed or forgotten?**

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

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

Anyone interested in joining the Old-Brule Heritage Society is encouraged to attend any of our meetings and programs. To join they may also contact any member or the Board at the return address above, or our Treasurer, 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.

December 7, Monday, 1 PM. Hanukkah. Next OBHS Archives Committee meeting at Pellmans'. Please call to confirm.

December 12, Saturday, 2-6 PM. OBHS MSMA Historical Musical Benefit Fund Raiser at the Kro Bar in Brule.

Spaghetti Dinner: \$5.00 Children 12 and under, \$10.00 Adults. Ticketed drawings for donated prizes.

December 16, Wednesday, 6 PM. OBHS General "Christmas" Meeting. Jim presents "History in the 2016 Calendar",

Gift Exchange: \$5-10 amount, marked "Man," "Woman," or "Either."

December 22, Tuesday. First Day of Winter.

December 25, Friday. Christmas Day.

January 1, 2016, Friday. New Year's Day.

January 13, Wednesday. OBHS Board Meeting. Place and Time TBA.

January 18, Monday. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

January 20, Wednesday. Deadline for items in the February OBHS News.

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.