

OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2018

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

Volume XX, Issue 2

April 5, 2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Hill, Amnicon, President
Trish Hursh, Poplar, 1st Vice President
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Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY APRIL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 6:00 PM, at the Amnicon Town Hall

Old-Brule Heritage Society will begin its April General Meeting at the Town Hall in Amnicon with a covered dish luncheon. Members are asked to bring a dish or refreshments to share. This will be followed by our Program: Superior Librarian, and Author, Theodora "Teddy" Meronek, will present a slide talk on Superior and Douglas County in 1918. This year, 2018, is the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice signed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, ending World War I, known then as the Great War, and the War to End all Wars. In this she will talk about Superiorite, Lt. Henry Blomberg who served in France and was buried with high honor there, and for whom the first VFW post in Superior was named. The public is invited to join us for our lunch and our program. After a short break we will have a short business meeting. We thank the Town of Amnicon for use of their hall. We ask the reader to please come and bring along a neighbor or a friend.

FROM THE EDITOR:

In a month or two (or three or four) our Monticello School Museum & Archives will have a "new" look. We have recently been studying the physical hows of the project to "permanently" stabilize and restore the old school over its new base. It will be dried in once the new roof and shingles are installed, and by then salvaged period siding will have been installed and be close to ready for paint. During this same busy stretch we will also be studying how best to proceed with the Blueberry Depot Project, and also the vintage Finnish log sauna coming from the Erkkila family, the donor of the Monticello School. These three structures will have to stand the test of time, which means proper setting and display, care in foundation work, but just as, if not more important, will be the interpretation of these structures. None of this work will be cost free, so grant writing and fund raising will have to continue.

We hope that these additions can be done in such a way that neighboring property owners will continue to take pride in having us as neighbors. True historical sites entice the comparatively somber, contemplative type of visitor, and the neighbors around the sites are truly our partners in preserving and presenting our priceless heritage, especially in quiet rural areas, and we need to thank them. With that in mind we need to keep our lines of communication open with them, through our newsletters, and with personal contacts to be sure we've done all we can to address any concerns they might have. They are the first audience for anything new that we do, and all effort must be made to accommodate their requests as we go about our important mission. Our history is their history as well.

-Jim Pellman

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 continuing Archive storage space. If you enjoy exacting work and interesting conversation please join us, we hope soon, under the Monticello School. 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 our next Archives Committee meeting time and place. WELCOME!

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

Wednesday, February 14, 2018, 5:30 p.m., Brule Town Hall

The evening began with the usual delicious buffet supper. Thanks to the Town of Brule for our use of their facility, to Doreen for making arrangements, and to everyone who brought food to share, worked in the kitchen, and helped set up and take down tables. 29 persons signed the attendance roster.

PROGRAM: Jim Pellman, OBHS Board Member Emeritus, gave a Power Point presentation titled "The Search for the English Clevedon Colony at the Mouth of the Bois Brule River." About 30 or so men and their families came from Bristol, England to settle in the New World and operate a fishing station near the mouth of the Brule River. Lacking the necessary skills to thrive in the wilderness, they left six years later. Jim described what little is known about their experiences and the few traces that remain of this

settlement. This talk was a preview of a presentation in progress that Jim will give in November 2018 to the Northern Lakes Archeological Society. Thank you, Jim, for the interesting program.

BUSINESS MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. (The meeting was temporarily interrupted at 7:15 to include Jim Pellman's program, then resumed upon its completion.)

MINUTES: Audrey moved to accept the Minutes, published in the February 2018 issue of *OBHS*, of the previous General Meeting held on Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at the Maple Town Hall. Arnold Johnson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Matt Miller presented the following report effective 02/14/18:

<u>Current Balance</u>	<u>Changes since January Board Meeting</u>
GENERAL FUND: \$ 2,725.76	<u>Income:</u> Dues—\$245.00; Donations—\$73.05, (\$66 from Joyce Luedke of Rothschild, WI); Sales—\$18.95; 2018 Calendar Business Donations—\$200.00; 2018 Calendar Sales—\$331.00. Note: Calendar sales have brought in \$1,009.35 to date. <u>Expenses:</u> Newsletters—\$253.55; Jim Pellman— \$57.64 (newsletter supplies and 2018 calendar postage); School District of Maple— \$250.00 (scholarship); American Alliance of Museums— \$5.00 (membership); \$45.46 (2017 WI Sales & Use Tax). Cash on Hand: \$ 28.94, No Change. <u>Correction:</u> + \$58.01 to include a cash deposit of \$58.01 on December 18, 2018 which was not included in the January report. <u>Expenses:</u> \$59.19—Utilities (Jan. & Feb); \$20.00—Pavers. <u>Income:</u> Donations: \$100—(Hope Swenson for benefit t-shirts); \$2,192—\$1,200 in meal tickets; \$144 in 50/50 tickets; & \$230 in donations (\$100 from James Noble, \$50 from Evelyn Culhane, and \$40 from Karen Bridge.) <u>Expenses:</u> \$975.60—Poplar Building Products, (\$961.18 invoice, \$14.42 past 30 days fee); \$100—Shirts Unlimited (benefit t-shirts). <u>Outstanding Debt:</u> \$160.97—Dahlberg Light & Power; Benefit expenses—\$131.39. <u>Outstanding Income:</u> \$71.16—Menard's in-store rebates. <u>Benefit summary:</u> Net income=\$2,060.61 <u>Income:</u> \$5.09
WINDMILL FUND: \$ 2,831.64	
MSMA FUND: \$ 4,502.87	
CD: \$ 5,863.51	
TOTAL CURRENT BALANCE \$15,923.78	TOTAL BALANCE LAST MONTH \$14,525.13 (Corrected—see Windmill Fund report)

Doreen moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; motion seconded by Audrey. The Report was approved. Matt reported that he submitted the required 990-N form on 01/12/18 and the Wisconsin ST-12 form on 01/31/18. He also noted that Dahlberg has recognized our nonprofit status and will not be charging us sales and use tax.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

1. New Membership from Jim Gramer, Gurnee, IL
2. Calendar orders: Jim Gramer from Gurnee, IL, and John Carvala from San Francisco. Also wholesale orders.
3. Numerous calls, emails, & Facebook messages setting up the MSMA Kro Bar Musical Benefit event on 02/10/18.
4. More photos from Joyce Luedke and a donation.
5. Correspondence from Linda Scaccia about a misplaced donation check for 2018 Calendar, resolved when check was found.
6. Mrs. Eve Zosel has requested to go paperless for the *OBHS News*.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES: This committee is on hold until MSMA basement is ready for use. Thanks to Earl for maintaining our website and to Jon Winter who remains the host. OBHS continues to field archive requests and donations. A review of sale items on the site is needed.

DAVIDSON WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE: Quiet now during winter months.

Nature trail: This trail remains in the discussion and planning stage.

Sauna Available: Ruth Erkkila has offered the sauna on her family's farm site to OBHS. The paperwork has been signed. A decision was made at the January 2018 OBHS Board meeting to acknowledge that we have accepted a donation of this building from the Erkkila family, effective December 13, 2017 and to acknowledge our acceptance of the Monticello School, effective February 8, 2017. Jim P. has noted that a sauna is consistent with our OBHS Finnish setting of the Windmill and Eskolin House, and believes it would be best if we were able to expand our property slightly for both this project and the Depot.

Taylor's Bridge Cover: The OBHS Board voted at their January 2018 Meeting to pursue a project proposed by Ron H. to construct a protective cover for the Taylor's Bridge. Jack Pank has volunteered to assist and has offered trees from which to make timbers; Hank Wakefield has the saw mill to process these logs; and David Furtch would work on the structure design.

MSMA:

Construction: Dennis and Jim have completed insulating the basement with foam sheeting and installation of 2 X 4 wall studs around the basement interior for wiring and more insulation later. The ceiling has two inches of temporary foam sheeting. An interior breaker panel has been installed and connected by Brian Raivala with volunteer help. A small electric heater is operating to keep the area at 45 degrees so footings don't heave. With help

from John Tuura, Dennis and Jim have moved to installation of the electrical boiler unit, allowing for an economical heating of the basement all winter, so that work can be done there. Cost of this boiler was estimated at \$500, but supporting pumps and hardware will double that figure.

Restoration: Dennis proposed that we delay heating concerns until fall, and do what is necessary to “get the roof done”. A good shingled wrap needs to be wrapped around the outside. Most of the roof, which is tarped for the winter, necessitates replacement both for safety and structural reasons. As built, there is no plate on the gabled ends. Once the roof is opened, Jim and Dennis will need to work quickly to avoid more water exposure. More help and funds will be needed to safely speed up the job. We are waiting for a decision from Finlandia Foundation in March on our latest request. (They have acknowledged successful receipt of our application.)

Fundraising Events: Our 3rd Annual Musical MSMA Benefit was held at Dean Baillie’s Kro Bar on Valentine’s week, February 10, 2018. Eight musicians performed. Chairperson Mary Ann Gronquist did an outstanding job planning and organizing the event with the help of Tina Souza and many others. Total benefit income was nearly double that of last year. So far, six requests have been received for more event T-shirts.

MERCHANDISE: Jim and Nan Wisherd, who is financing work on the calendar book, will resume work as soon as their busy schedules permit. When the MSMA project is complete, a small permanent gift shop can be set up there.

MEMBERSHIP:

Opt out of newsletter hard copy edition: Contact Jim if you are interested in an online electronic copy.,

OBHS Newsletter: Because of recent equipment problems with Office Max, the current supplier of our newsletter, a decision was made by the Board at their January 2018 meeting to monitor the problem and reevaluate at the March meeting. Office Max was prompt with same day service for our February mailing. Currently we order 200 newsletters with a total cost about \$100 per mailing, including printing and postage.

Dates: Members are asked to verify their mailing address labels on *OBHS News* for correctness of membership expiration dates. Please contact Jim if you have any questions. He also requests that members keep up with their volunteer hours on the “blue sheets”.

Complimentary Memberships: We have given complimentary memberships, along with calendar business card ads, to the crews of the businesses that worked on the MSMA project.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE: Thanks to Janine and Nancy Moreland for the creation and maintenance of this independent site with over 747 users.

BLUEBERRY DEPOT OFFER: At the December General Meeting, we voted, with one dissent, to accept the old Northern Pacific Blueberry Depot as a gift from owners, Greg and Janell Mussman, and to move it from Blueberry to the Davidson Windmill site. Brian Paulson has submitted grant applications to the following organizations: (1.) Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association, due by March 1; (2.) Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Foundation; and (3.) Thomas E. Dailey Foundation. He has also completed a 4th application to the National Railroad Historical Society but is waiting for an important endorsement from the local Wisconsin chapter. The Windmill site will be studied firsthand for siting prospects at the OBHS May Board meeting.

MIDSUMMER: Scandinavian Dinner and Related Activities: Planning for use of the Lakeside Town Hall has started early to avoid schedule conflict. Lila has contacted the Town Clerk and scheduled the Dinner for Saturday, June 16, 2018, with the June OBHS meeting on the 14th, and the Windmill site open to tours on the 15th and 16th.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

Potential Donor: Hope, Mary Ann, and Lila have been communicating with a potential donor who contacted them with interest in supporting historical projects in this area. The donor was sent information about our organization and both of our current major historical projects: MSMA and the Blueberry Depot. The latest communication from this donor indicated an interest in supporting the first phase of the Depot’s project which includes site preparation, foundation, and relocation of the Depot.

NEW BUSINESS:

END OF YEAR REPORTS: Matt has submitted all annual reports to the State and Federal Offices, and, as an affiliate of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Jim will file the State Annual Report with the Field Services-Local History office.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT: Jim will be printing out our budget categories so that a committee can work on this task.

SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT: Encouragement to Minerva Johnson who is now at Middle River. Encouragement and support to Velma Doby, who welcomes company at Villa Marina. Good news: Edith Warner is back home.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. Theodora “Teddy” Meronek from the Superior Library will talk about the local war efforts during WWI. She will focus on Lieutenant Henry Blomberg who lost his life in this war and for whom the first Superior VFW was named. Site to be determined.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hill Residence.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: As in previous years, tours will be held at the Davidson Windmill and at the Eskolin House on the 3rd Saturday of July, August, and September.

ADJOURNMENT: Matt Miller moved to adjourn the meeting, followed by a second from Clyde Hursh. President Dennis Hill adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lila 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. Popular has been our zipper front, hooded, *I’ve Been Through the Mill* sweatshirts and tee-shirts.

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 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 MARCH BOARD MEETING
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, Inc.**

Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Hill Residence, Amnicon

Attendance: Jim Pellman, Bruce Carlson, Dennis Hill, Jody Swanson, Matt Miller, Jim Mattson and Audrey Hakkila. Visitors: Maryann Gronquist, Doreen Swanson, Arlene Hill, Ron Hendrickson and Brian Paulson.

The evening began with the Pot Luck buffet. Thanks to Dennis and Arlene for hosting our meeting and for the food they had prepared for us, and to everyone who brought food & refreshments to share.

BUSINESS MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

MINUTES: Due to absence of Secretary Lila Ronn, Audrey Hakkila took the Minutes. Motion made by Jim M. and seconded by Jody to approve the Minutes of the previous Board Meeting held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, at the Dennis & Arlene Hill residence, as published in the February 2018 issue of *OBHS News*. The motion carried with no negative reply.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Matt Miller submitted his report effective 3/14/2018.

General Fund				
Last Meeting	Change	Current	Last Cash on hand	Cash on hand
\$2,725.76	-\$697.55	\$2,028.21	\$28.94	\$28.94

Income: Dues: \$100 / Donations: \$87.50 (\$75 from David & Rhonda Christianson of Kendallville, IN) / Sales: \$91.95 / 2018 calendar sales: \$55
Expenses: Arrowhead Printing: \$1032 (2018 calendars)
Outstanding debt: Janine Seis \$50 for stamps

Windmill Fund		
Last Meeting	Change	Current
\$2,831.64	-\$38.04	\$2,793.60

Expenses: Utilities: \$38.04

MSMA Fund		
Last Meeting	Change	Current
\$4,502.87	-\$35.01	\$4,467.86

Income: Laila Magnuson Memorial: \$28 / Benefit: \$390 (\$40 in meal tickets from Jim, \$250 from Gordon Lahti of Palm Desert, CA, \$100 from Ed Privette of Merrill, WI)
Expenses: Benefit supplies: \$165.53 / Dahlberg Light & Power: \$285.48 (2 months)
Outstanding debt: Tricia Hursh \$12.98 for benefit supplies
Outstanding income: \$71.16 Menards in-store rebates
Benefit summary: Net income of \$2,359.79

CD

Last Meeting: \$5,863.51 Change: \$0 Current: \$5,863.51

Total

Last Meeting \$15,923.78 Change -\$770.60 Current \$15,153.18

. A motion to accept the report was made by Jody, seconded by Bruce. The motion was approved.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Amy Norlin with the Wisconsin Historical Society contacted Jim P. via email to say that the OBHS 2017 Annual Report was timely received and accepted with the changes that Jim had requested she make for us.
2. Call to Jim from Member Leila Aalto from Superior, who said she no longer has a car so she will not be able to come to our events and meetings, but that she is going keep up her membership.
3. Call to Shirts Unlimited in Superior who did our MSMA fund raiser shirt and they would do a 15 shirt reprint of that shirt for \$90.00 (\$6.00 per shirt). Four have been ordered in advance by Nan Wisherd if a reprint is done & Russ Darwin & Jim Pellman were left without. The rest (9) would be for sale. 2M-5L-8 XL A motion was made by Jody, seconded by Jim M. to order 15 shirts at \$6.00 per shirt (\$90 total), and to sell the balance of 9 shirts at \$10.00 per shirt.. The motion was passed.
4. Kent Makela has donated (for his father Ken) a school booklet Joseph Boggs Beale's (1841-1926) "American Pictorial History" through 1899 from c. 1935. Accessioning paper work in progress.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES: This committee is on held until MSMA basement is ready for use. Thanks to Earl for maintaining our website and to Jon Winter who remains the host. OBHS continues to field archive requests and accept donations. A review of sale items on the web site is needed. Earl continues to routinely relay messages coming into our website for timely review.

DAVIDSON WINDMILL/ESKOLIN HOUSE/TAYLOR'S BRIDGE: As in previous years, tours will be held at the Davidson Windmill and at the Eskolin House on the 3rd Saturday of July, August, and September.

Quiet now during winter months. The Eskolin front door has a chronic heaving problem during winter, and refuses to latch. Neighbors found the front door on the house wide open. Jim checked and there was no damage, but the door needs to be repaired. Jim

installed a temporary measure. The storm door needs some work.

Nature trail: This trail remains in the discussion and planning stage.

Sauna Secured: Ruth Erkkila offered the log sauna on her family's farm site to OBHS. The paperwork has been signed. A decision was made at the January 2018 OBHS Board meeting to acknowledge that we have accepted a donation of this building from the Erkkila family, effective December 13, 2017 and to acknowledge our acceptance of the Monticello School, effective February 8, 2017. Jim P. has noted that a sauna is consistent with our OBHS Finnish setting of the Windmill and Eskolin House, and believes it would be best if we were able to expand our property slightly for both this project and the Depot. Jim was given the task of contacting the neighbors. Matt reported that he got a call to change the size of the sauna in the agreement to 14x24', also to include that the site be cleaned of debris etc. be included in the agreement.

Taylor's Bridge Cover: The OBHS Board voted at their January 2018 Meeting to pursue a project proposed by Ron H. to construct a protective cover for the Taylor's Bridge. Jack Pank has volunteered to assist and has offered trees from which to make timbers; Hank Wakefield has the saw mill to process these logs; and David Furtch would work on the structure design. Ron said that he was waiting for the final plans which would make the cover to match the historical time of bridge building.

MSMA:

Construction: Dennis and Jim insulated the basement with foam sheeting and installed a 2 X 4 stud wall around the basement interior for wiring and more insulation later. The ceiling has two inches of temporary foam sheeting. Brian Raivala installed with volunteer help an interior breaker panel. His bill shows credit of a donated \$100, and at no charge he has followed up with installation of a receptacle box attached to the panel and a circuit breaker we had to serve interior construction needs at no charge for parts and labor. A small electric heater is operating to keep the area at 45 - 50 degrees so footings don't heave. With help from John Tuura, Dennis and Jim will eventually move to a fall installation of the electrical boiler unit and valve system, and any interior wall modifications needed to meet codes. Jim plowed to allow access for Brian's wiring, and will shortly be moving sorted unsalvageable interior boards in preparation and making room for the new roof work. Sample shake duplicate zero maintenance 50 year rated plastic-like shingles from Basil Edgette will be shared at our next General Meeting.

Restoration: Dennis proposed that we delay heating concerns until fall, and do what is necessary to "get the roof done" to permanently dry the building in. Most of the roof, which has been tarped for the winter, necessitates replacement both for safety and structural reasons. As built, there were no upper plates on the gabled ends. Once the roof is opened, Jim, Dennis and crew would need to work quickly to avoid more water exposure. More help and funds will be needed to safely speed up the job. We are waiting for a decision from Finlandia Foundation in March on our latest grant request. (They have acknowledged successful receipt of our application.) Ron suggested contacting an Amish contracting group which did good work for him. This will be investigated. Dennis would like to see use of modern 2x6 lumber to restore the wall studs and plate of the in lieu of existing full 2 x 4 dimension lumber used originally. His estimate of \$588.24 for 2x6s to add to and to replace damaged studs and plate is not much higher than using 2x4s. More study is needed. Ron will provide contact info for the Amish crew to get an estimate and time from them for labor with OBHS supplying materials. This work and the new roof will be done as soon as possible this spring/summer as weather permits.

Fundraising Events: Our 3rd Annual Musical MSMA Benefit was held at Dean Baillie's Kro Bar on Valentine's week, February 10, 2018. Eight musicians performed. Chairperson Mary Ann Gronquist did an outstanding job planning and organizing the event with the help of Tina Souza and many others. Total benefit income was significantly higher than last year with over 120 tickets sold. So far, six requests have been received for more event T-shirts. (see "Correspondence/Communications #3 above.)

MERCHANDISE: Jim and Nan Wisherd, who is financing work on the calendar book, will resume work as soon as their busy schedules permit. When the MSMA project is complete, a small permanent gift shop can be set up there to help with sales. Mary Ann will put calendar packets together for sale. Price discussed would yield about \$3.00/book.

MEMBERSHIP:

OPT OUT OF NEWSLETTER HARD COPY EDITION: Contact Jim if interested in an online electronic copy.,

OBHS NEWS PRINTING: Because of recent equipment problems with Office Max, the current supplier of our newsletter, a decision was made by the Board at their January 2018 meeting to monitor the problem and reevaluate at the March meeting. Office Max was prompt with same day service for our February mailing. Currently we order 200 newsletters with a cost of about \$ 90 for mailing, and \$100 for printing, reduced to 150 last time to save funds.

DATES: Members are asked to verify their mailing address labels on *OBHS News* for correctness of membership expiration dates. Please contact Jim if you have any questions. He also requests that members keep up with their volunteer hours on the "blue sheets".

COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIPS: We were to give complimentary memberships, along with calendar business card ads, to the crews of the businesses who worked on the MSMA project. Olson Brothers, Kevin Mackie, Brian Raivala, John Tuura and Woodhulls were named to receive memberships.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE: Thanks to Janine and Nancy Moreland for the creation and maintenance of this independent site with 768 members to date.

BLUEBERRY DEPOT PROJECT: At the December General Meeting, we voted, with one dissent, to accept the old Northern Pacific Blueberry Depot as a gift from owners, Greg and Janell Mussman, and to move it from Blueberry to the Davidson Windmill site. Brian Paulson has submitted grant applications to the following organizations: (1.) Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association, due by March 1; (2.) Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Foundation; and (3.) Thomas E. Dailey Foundation. He has also completed a 4th application to the National Railroad Historical Society but is waiting for an important endorsement from the local WI chapter. The Windmill site will be studied firsthand at the OBHS May Board meeting. Brian reported no grant replies to date. He is sending an article about the project for a Railroad Magazine to be published in April. We will be needing, fundraisers, publicity, donations and artifacts for the Depot.

A motion was made to set up a separate bank account like our others for the depot by Matt, seconded by Jim M. Passed with no negative reply.

MIDSUMMER: Scandinavian Dinner and Related Activities: Planning for use of the Lakeside Town Hall has started early to avoid schedule conflict. Lila has contacted the Town Clerk and scheduled the Dinner for Saturday, June 16, 2018, with the June OBHS meeting on the 14th, a work day, and the Windmill site open to tours on the Friday the 15th 3-6 p.m. and Saturday the 16th, 9-5p.m. June 16, 2018 serving will be from 11a.m. to 2p.m. Motion was made by Jim M, second by Matt to charge \$10.00 for the meal, Motion passed.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

POTENTIAL DONOR: Hope, Mary Ann, and Lila have been communicating with a potential donor who contacted them with interest in supporting historical projects in this area. The donor was sent information about our organization and both of our current major historical projects: MSMA and the Blueberry Depot. The latest communication from this donor indicated an interest in supporting the first phase of the Depot's project which includes site preparation, foundation, and relocation of the Depot.

END-OF –YEAR REPORTS: Matt has submitted all annual reports to the State and Federal Offices. As we are an affiliate of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Jim has filed our required Annual Report with the Field Services-Local History office. Thank you Matt and Jim P.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT: Jim has sent out our last budget in digital format to the Committee Members (our current Board officers and Jim) in order to retrieve the budget categories for assessment & update. Jim sent an email w/ last digital budget on record and had copies for those not on line. Matt will bring the Xcel form up to date with last year’s numbers to work with, and the committee will then be able to set a meeting time.

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT: Encouragement to Minerva Johnson who is now at Middle River. Encouragement and support to Velma Doby, who welcomes company at Villa Marina.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. Program: Teddy Meronek, who writes: “Since it’s the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI, I thought that I would talk about what was happening locally and about the war efforts in Superior and Douglas County. Although, my main focus will be on Lieutenant Henry Blomberg. He was a local man who lost his life in the war. Superior’s first VFW post was named after him. I will also talk about how my research into his life solved a mystery.” The site was set at Amnicon Town Hall. Jim is working with Teddy in getting equipment ready.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 6 p.m. at Eskolin House.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

SALOLAMPI LETTER FOR ANDERS GILBERTSON: At Ron’s request Matt moved that we write a letter of sponsorship for Anders Gilbertson, for attendance at Salolampi Language Camp, which allows him financial help, seconded by Jody. No costs were involved for us. Motion passed.

WEBSITE GOOGLE SECURITY: Our Web Site has no Google security certificate. Matt said he could get one for free. He will pursue this. Thank you, Matt.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Jim M. seconded by Audrey to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned about 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Hakkila for Lila Ronn.

1998 to 2005, 2006 to 2018 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 2018 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendars are for sale at \$9.00 each. Earlier issues are also available at \$5.00 (2006 - 2015), 2016 at \$6.00, & 2017 at \$7.00 in limited numbers. An e-mail address for more info: musketeer6@cheqnet.net, and by phone: 715-363-2549, 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 & Round Up North in Brule, Poplar Hardware & the Poplar Village Market. Or check with Jim in Maple at 715-363-2549. We also seek more advertisers.

**Area History:
No. 121**

This picture and text appear for the month of April in our 2018 OBHS Historical Calendar.

Brule School Teachers, 1964: Walter “Wally” Simpson, Shirley Magnuson, Lucille Townsend and Laila Magnuson. This time last year (December 2016) this writer worked for the final time with Laila on the long awaited history of Brule that my friend and “retired” teacher, Laila Ronkainen Magnuson, and her crew in the Brule History Research Group, had faithfully and thoroughly compiled. My task was to attempt to help bring the materials which they had gathered into a solid narrative, using digital processes. Laila and the remaining members of their much diminished committee, due to age, were running out of time. I was sure that this challenge could and would be met, but



I faced repeated disruptions in my own personal life, and competing and consuming prior commitments. Laila’s patience with me remained to the end. And as a team we had caught our stride during the final few weeks and truly looked ahead to the dream of successful completion, never realizing that a relatively routine surgery would abruptly end indispensable Laila’s life. The team leader had fallen, but there is a legacy in her efforts, in her labor of love. She still leads by her selfless example, and the materials gathered under her leadership will get the historical vessel they deserve. This new year must be a year of completions, for my own time is running out, but I pray, not before her community’s history, and my own, stand as she wanted to see them. *Photograph courtesy of Laila’s sister-in-law, Shirley Magnuson.*

~ NOTICES ~

MEMBERS: Dues collection for 2018 began at our Annual Meeting in August & will continue into 2018. Please fill in your volunteer hours on your Blue Sheets for 2018-2019 for turn in next July 31st. This hour tally runs from Aug.1 (2018) to July 31, 2019. Please contact our Secretary or Jim for a new Blue Sheet or check our website for forms.

THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS: Thanks to Linda Scaccia at Round Up North for her generous donation at calendar time and for selling them for us. To Larry & Sheri Hendrickson for selling calendars for us at Twin Gables. Also to Darlene Nevin at Poplar's Village Market and to Joyce Orłowski at Aroma's in Maple who are carrying them. To our local towns and villages which continue to offer their halls for our meetings at no charge except for a clean kitchen and floor when we depart. To Brian Raivala & John Tuura for their help at Monticello School. To all who made our Valentine MSMA Music Benefit a success.

OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY: Encouragement to Larry Hendrickson who is recovering from medical issues. Sympathy to family & friends of the many, listed here, whom we have lost recently:

Kathleen "Kathy" Diane (Kauti) Sletten, 65, Superior, who passed away March 8, 2018 at Essentia Health St Mary's Hospital in Duluth, born 1953 in Superior to Eino & Loretta (Severin) Kauti, graduated from Superior Senior HS in 1972, worked at Breakwater Restaurant for many years, survived by sons Chad Sletten & Brian (Lisa Chadderdon) Sletten, of Superior, WI; three sisters, Bonnie Lucas, Lorraine Aho & Patty Kauti, preceded in death by her parents, brothers, Wilbur, Roland, Dennis, Earl and Gerald Kauti, Lavern Johnston & sister Linda Hancock.

Robert "Bob" John Rantala, 76, Brule & later Grantsburg, who died February 25, 2018 at his residence, born in 1941 in Superior to Audina (Johnson) & Eino Rantala, graduated from NWHS in 1959, in 1962 joined the Peace Corps & spent 2 years in Brazil, later graduated from UWS, in 1967 married Velvet Ann Chantelois, raised 2 children, worked as a meat cutter in Maple, later insurance sales in Superior, loved logging & in 1973 moved to Grantsburg & ran Grantsburg Timber Co., hauling pulpwood to Nekoosa Edwards paper mill in Nekoosa, Consolidated Papers in Wisconsin Rapids & Potlatch Corp. in Cloquet, survived by wife Velvet, children, Kenneth (T.J) Rantala & Nancy (Michael) Lemp, sister, Bernice Taipale, preceded in death by parents; brother-in-law, Walter Taipale; & nephew, Tom.

Lorraine K. (Walman) Autio, 90, Maple, who died April 2, 2018 at Middle River Health & Rehab in Hawthorne, born in 1927 in Maple to Hjalmer & Hannah (Salo) Walman, worked as a CNA at Middle River for many years and prior to that farmed. She was a member of the Finnish Apostolic Church in Maple, survived by one son, John (Diane Pearson) Autio, Maple, two daughters, Ann (Daniel) Pluntz, Barnes, WI and Jane (William) Maula, Superior, grandson, Joseph (Lauren) Autio, La Crosse, WI; sister, Alice Christenson, Wentworth, preceded in death by her husband Mattias "Art" in 1991, her parents & brothers Clifford & Edward Walman.

Victor Lenhart, 96, Cornucopia, who died April 2, 2018 in New Perspective Senior Living, born in 1922, time of sharing & military honors at 3 p.m., Sunday, April 8, at Downs Funeral Home in Superior.

Ronald Fonger, 80, Solon Springs, who died Sunday, April 1, in Essentia St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth, born in 1937.

Terry Lee Oaks, 62, Superior, who died March 28, 2018, at Solvay Hospice House, Duluth, born in 1955, son of Norbert & Joy (Baumgartner) Oaks, a gifted artist & guitarist, preceded in death by all his grandparents, his parents, brother, Roy, survived by wife of 18 years, Tammy (Cooper), step-sons, Tim, Thomas, & Tyler, sister, Maria (Bobby) Krynicki, son, Kyle, daughter, Lacey, brothers-in-law, Jim (Lynn), Gene (Paula), Tony (Anne), and Robbie (Steph), sister-in-law, Amy (Brad), 3 grandsons; 2 granddaughters.

Helen Julia (Laine) Mikrot Mattila, 82, South Range, who passed away March 25, 2018 at Villa Marina Health & Rehab in Superior, born in Automba, MN in 1935 to John & Lydia Laine, graduated from Moose Lake HS in 1953 & married Isadore Mikrot & settled in South Range, WI & started the family farm in 1956 now operated by son Michael, attended WITC & graduated in 1971 & also graduated from the Superior/Douglas County Leadership Program in 1996, worked for Catholic Charities in Superior in 1972-1999 & then went back to work in 2000 as Executive Director of Inter Faith Caregivers of Superior/Douglas County & worked there until 2003, preceded in death by her parents, first husband Isadore Mikrot who passed in 1986, remarried in 1988 Harold Mattila who passed away in 2001, preceded in death by her brothers, grandson Andrew Mikrot, survived by her sons, Michael (Jackie) Mikrot, Richard (Terri) Mikrot, of South Range; daughters, Joanne (Daniel) Osterlund & Jeanne (John) Greely, also of South Range, 11 grandchildren & siblings

Ruth (Engelun) Swenson, 92, Lakeside, who was born in 1925 & passed away March 12, 2018 at St. Luke's Hospice, Duluth, born to Ole & Kristine Engelun in Wentworth, WI, moved to Silverdale, MN where she grew up & graduated from high school in Little Fork, MN, married Robert "Bob" Swenson in 1946 & lived in the Town of Lakeside most of her married life, was active in Lakeside Baptist Church, worked at National Bank of Commerce, was a homemaker, preceded in death by parents, husband Bob, daughter Barbara, brothers, Oley (Tina) Engelun & Theodore (Muriel) Engelun, & sisters Agnes (Oscar) Lundquist & Magnhild (Earl) Bloomquist, survived by daughter, Kim Swenson, in Hong Kong, sister, Evelyn Finstad. & nieces Linda Engelun & Jane Wester, her primary care givers in her last years.

Robert "Bobby" Allen Johnson, 74, Lakeside, WI, who died March 16, 2018 at Middle River Health & Rehab. Hawthorne, born 1943 in Duluth to Harvey & Helen (Winkka) Johnson, 1962 graduated from NWHS, worked for Town of Lakeside as a heavy equipment operator, survived by wife Kathryn of 53 years, son, Kevin (Lisa) Johnson, South Range, daughter, Renee (Jeff) Priem, South Range, 7 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, brother, Roger Johnson, South Range, sister, Cheryl (Scott) Haworth, Hawthorne, sister-in-law, Arlene (Jim) Erickson, brother-in-law, Allan "Skip" (Becky) Jones, South Range, preceded in death by brother, Ron Johnson & parents.

Gabriel John Dinkel, 24, Lake Nebagamon, who died March 13, 2018 in his home, born in 1993, in Baldwin, Wisconsin, survived by his parents, John & Linda (Roen) Dinkel of Lake Nebagamon; birth-mother Julie Mahoney, and step-brothers Axel and Maddox Mahoney, of Woodville, WI, star athlete at NWHS, named Most Valuable Athlete his senior year, attended college on a golf scholarship.

Ray Polzin, 93, Cadott, who passed away February 23, 2018 at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls, close to his birthplace on a dairy farm near Cadott, WI, served in US Army's 10th Mountain Division for 3 years during WWII, graduated from UW River Falls and UW Madison, married Catharine Cunningham in 1950, spent 36 years as an Agriculture Agent in Clark, Sauk, & then 29 years in Douglas County, served on the Board of the Douglas County Historical Society from 1957 to 1989.

Leroy William Lepasti, 85, Poplar, who passed away February 25, 2018 at his home due to Parkinson's, born in 1932 in Marengo, WI to William & Flora (Sukanen) Lepasti, graduated in 1950 from Ashland HS, served in the Navy during Korea, went to County Normal School in Ashland & to UWS, retired in 1988 from NWHS after 29 years of teaching sciences & coaching track & cross country, married Janis Lundberg in 1960 who survives, with sons Vince (Mi Yong), Kevin (Christine) & Randy (Yolanda) & 8 grandchildren.

Patricia Ann Carlson, 78, South Range, who passed away on February 23, 2018 at St. Luke's Hospice, born in Duluth in 1939 to Earl and Elsie (Hautamaki) Wilson, preceded in death by husband Louis, son Scott Hartshorn; her parents & brother Tim Wilson, survived by son Rock (Derian) Hartshorn; daughters, Sheryl Pederson & Vicki (John) Trauba & families & brother Earl (Nancy) Wilson.

Loretta Mae Rose, 84, Maple, lifelong area resident, died February 21, 2018 at Essentia Health St. Mary's Hospital, Duluth, born in Superior in 1933, daughter of Cornelia Grube, survived by her children, Virginia Rose, Superior, James Rose, Valrico, FL, Steve Rose, Otsego, MN & Tim (Linda) Rose, Maple, WI, sisters-in-law, Betty Rose, South Range, WI and Renee Nelson, Middle River, WI; cousins, Rudy Grube, AZ & Mike Grube, Poplar, WI, preceded in death by her mother, Cornelia Makela; husband, John Rose; & brother, Ted Makela.

George E. Miller, 89, of Embarrass, MN, who passed away March 11, 2018 at the Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital, born in Brule in 1928, enlisted in the US Navy at 17, went to vocational school in Superior, married Shirley Lambert in 1949 in Superior where they lived until 1956 when they moved to Babbitt, MN, survived by Shirley, wife of 68 years; sons James (Janette) Miller of Rosemount, MN & Joe Miller of Excelsior, MN; 8 grandchildren & 8 great-grandchildren, preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Hazel (Carter) Miller, sons, Edward & John, grandson, Corey & sister, June Miller

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, Matt Miller, 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.

April 14, Wednesday 6:00 p.m. OBHS General Meeting at Amnicon Town Hall. Pot luck lunch. Program: Teddy Meronek "Superior & Douglas County in WW I & Lt. Henry Blomberg", Business Meeting.

April 22, Sunday. Earth Day.

May 1, Tuesday. May Day.

May 5, Saturday. Cinco de Mayo.

May 9, Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. OBHS Board Meeting. Eskolin House.

May 10, Thursday. Ascension Day.

May 13, Sunday. Mother's Day.

May 19, Saturday. Armed Forces Day. Submissions for the June OBHS News due.

May 28, Monday. Memorial Day.

June 14, Thursday. Flag Day. OBHS General Meeting, Pot luck. Lakeside Town Hall. Midsummer Celebration prep day.

June 15, Friday. Windmill Tours 3-6 p.m. Midsummer prep day.

June 16, Saturday. Midsummer Dinner served 11-2, \$10 at Lakeside Town Hall. Windmill Tours 9-5 p.m.

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.