

OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2019

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

Volume XXI, Issue 4

August 2, 2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Hill, Amnicon, President
Trish Hursh, Poplar, 1st Vice President
Audrey Hakkila, Poplar, 2nd Vice Pres.
Lila Ronn, Lakeside, Secretary
Matt Miller, Superior, Treasurer

Janine Seis, Lake Nebagamon,
Assistant Treasurer
Bruce Carlson, Superior
Mary Ann Gronquist, Parkland
Jim Mattson, Poplar
Jody Swanson, Brule

Shirley Kankas-Umolac,
Lake Nebagamon
Charlene Harms, Duluth, Alternate
Lois Pollari, Lake Nebagamon, Alternate
Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES SURROUNDING THE NORTHERN PACIFIC DEPOT QUESTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY PRESIDENT DENNIS HILL. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE AMNICON TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019 AT 6 PM. ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND TO WEIGH IN ON THIS ISSUE SO IMPORTANT TO OUR GROUP.

THE OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY 2019 ANNUAL MEETING, DUE TO TIME CONFLICTS WILL NOW BE HELD AT THE LAKE NEBAGAMON VILLAGE AUDITORIUM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019, STARTING AT 1:00 PM. . DENNIS WILL SPEAK ON “THE GOOD OLD DAYS: UNSWEETENED.”

FROM THE EDITOR:

Like a family, even there divisions arise, and an organization like OBHS, as large as it is, has intractable visions that show themselves from time to time. One has recently reared its head at the Davidson Windmill site. Some who would prefer more perfect unity in our group even fear for our future. I am not among those. If it is Truth that divides then division is meant to be, just as Truth can do the exact opposite and more tightly bind us together.

To sketch the visions that challenge our unity at present we have to look philosophically at our broad mission. What is Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.? It is a group of people concerned to save the history of our northern region, and to share this history among ourselves and with the public. We are completely volunteers. To save this history we are organized under guidelines established by groups with similar missions that have been around much longer than our 21 years. Few of us living remember a time when we didn't own and care for the Davidson Windmill and its grounds. But we were entrusted with this site in 2001, years after our beginning. We accepted the challenges and responsibilities of this ownership despite our youth as a group, because it fit in with our guiding mission and vision. A Finnish log structure was later added to enhance our comfort on site and to better interpret the times and the people whose lives were actively touched by the Windmill's presence.

However, in more recent years we accepted another piece of land that was to serve a dual role for our group. Being adjacent to the site of the first Brule Town Hall, it would help us better interpret the history of our name-sake, the Town of Old-Brule, particularly its governmental and educational aspects. It would in a very different role help us cohere physically with a permanent site for our primary archiving and preservation activities, and be our physical headquarters center. That facility is nearing completion after much inside and outside help in terms of grants and donations. It recreates the seat of Old-Brule government which lasted from 1887 at its first meeting in Poplar, until the creation of the first Town of Amnicon late in 1906. Old Brule's town boundaries roughly approximate those of today's School District of Maple (within northern Douglas County). Thus, de facto, we have become a historical society directly serving the Northwestern High School region. The high school was a powerful force in homogenizing the youth in our communities and their parents. These current and former students are our natural historical constituents. Our school house on US Highway 2 is a block from the high school, and two miles from the feeder elementary and middle schools. From private homes up to now we have been feeding this district the story of its past. Now we have our own "professional" location. The vision in the last two paragraphs is the vision that has driven me from the start of OBHS in 1998. It continues to be my guiding vision.

Not everyone fully shares this vision, not now, nor even at the start. For many, especially those who came along after the Davidson Windmill became our charge, OBHS was synonymous with the Davidson Windmill site. Some felt that task was enough for a group of volunteers our size, overlooking our primary work of record keeping. The rest of our mission became in their vision subordinate to the windmill site. That the story of the windmill as only part of the broader history of Old-Brule fell into the background. The impulse was to gather everything at that site. Thus began the gathering of other historical features at that location, regardless of a solid historical connection with the National Record of Historical Place's creation, the Davidson Windmill, the true reason for being of OBHS at that very restricted site.

This clash of visions has surfaced, hopefully, and ultimately, for the good. What we finally do on the Windmill site must be for that site and NOT for OBHS first, but for regional history first. If we can finally justify a depot on the site, as important as its history is to the history of our region, this will always still remain an issue. Since the vote by the membership committing us to place the depot on the slender mill site I have been arguing that its placement must not upstage the mill. I have also lately been arguing that philosophically a case can be made that two competing historical traditions are represented in the depot versus the

windmill, the first being the overwhelming introduction of engineered mechanical forces that have so changed all of our lives locally, nationally & worldwide, versus the older back to earth, agrarian, local scale, communal life-ways, so dear to the Finns & others who settled this region on homesteads, built upon hard work, Faith, family and old Tradition. The depot becomes a symbol of that modern encroachment. This tension will naturally be there in the depot's presence on site, We need to take advantage of this by interpreting the depot separately and drawing out these tensions to the benefit of understanding the presence of the windmill here in the far north and with its builder's vision of the values of freedom and independence that it symbolizes in its quieter way. The depot, too, needs to stand on its own. -

Jim

Pellman

IOPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE OBHS NEWS ARE THOSE OF THE WRITERS ALONE & ARE NOT INTENDED TO REPRESENT OFFICIAL POSITIONS OF THE OBHS ORGANIZATION.

1 ARCHIVES/COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE.

The Archives/Collection Committee would welcome more volunteers to help in this important part of our OBHS mission. If you enjoy exacting work, exhibit design, accessioning 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 considerably as we transition to our MSMA site once ready 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 for the JUNE GENERAL MEETING OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. Wednesday, June 20, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Lakeside Town Hall

Attendance: 13 signed the roster. The evening began with a buffet supper at 6:00 p.m. Thanks to everyone who brought food to share and set up the beverages and tables. Thanks to the Town of Lakeside for use of the Hall during our meeting and the weekend Midsummer festivities.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

MINUTES: Jim M. moved to approve the minutes of the previous General Meeting held on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at the Amnicon Town Hall. These minutes were published in the June 2019 *OBHS News*. After a second by Mary Ann, the minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Matt Miller has submitted his final report effective June 13, 2019. Unfortunately, he has submitted his resignation because of growing work and family obligations.

CURRENT BALANCE

NOTES

GENERAL FUND:	\$ 4,179.71	Last meeting—\$4,787.21 (-\$ 607.50)
(Cash on hand: \$21.44)		Expenses: Property Insurance—\$607.50
		Outstanding debt: Sauna fund—\$1,850.00;
		OBHS Scholarship—\$250; American Alliance of Museums—\$5
WINDMILL FUND:	\$ 3,596.36	Last meeting: \$3,660.30 (-\$63.94)
		Expenses: May and June Utilities—\$63.94
		Outstanding Income: None—see footnote 2
MSMA FUND:	\$ 6,288.32	Last meeting: \$6,310.98 (-\$22.66)
		Expenses: May and June Utilities--\$22.66
		Outstanding debt: Repayment to CD — \$1,200.00
DEPOT FUND:	\$17,510.28	Last meeting: \$17,510.28 (\$0)
CD:	\$ 4,684.91	Last meeting: \$4,684.91 (\$0)
		Outstanding income: MSMA fund repayment--\$1,200.00
TOTAL:	\$36,259.58	Last meeting: \$36,953.68 (-\$694.10)

Other items:

1. The General Fund balance minus the Sauna earmarks (\$1,850.00) & scholarship (\$250) is \$2,079.71.
2. The May Treasurer's report had a \$38.82 donation listed as "outstanding income", but the deposit had already taken place and the amount was included in May's MSMA fund balance.
3. Check from Marie and Roy Peterson with family dues for 2019 and a memorial for Hope Swenson. (General Acc't)
4. Check with a donation toward the Windmill from Anne and Michael Biagi from Brookfield, IL.
5. Check with a donation from Joyce Luedke from Rothschild, WI, (General Acc't)
6. Payment from Douglas County Historical Society of \$70 for five copies of *Wisconsin Far Northwest* books.
7. Announcement from Matt Miller that he will have to resign his Treasurer's position due to heavy work and family commitments. Earl G. moved to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. Second by Trish. Motion carried.

It was noted that Ron cleaned out the donation box which had \$38.32 in it. \$4.00 was found in a donation box at the Eskolin House. Other recent additions to our coffers include an Enbridge grant for \$5,000 for Phase 2 of the Depot project and a \$500.00 donation from Basil Edgette toward purchase of a new BIFFY for the Davidson Mill site.

Lila made a motion to install Trish Hirsh as Assistant Treasurer until official elections are held at our Annual Meeting in August to fill the vacancy created by Matt Miller's resignation. Audrey seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

The OBHS 2019 NWHS Scholarship has been awarded to **Nirvana "Mia" Albright**. She plans to attend St. Thomas University in St. Paul, MN. Funds need to be sent to the Maple School District promptly.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES/WEBSITE: Committee action remains on hold, but OBHS continues to accept items for our collection and to field requests for information. Jim P. picked up items donated by the DCHS which included several books, many of them in the Finnish language; two small showcases which should be useful in our Archives; and a desk and four period chairs which will serve in our Archives and School from Webster Wood Manufacturing Co., Superior, WI. Thanks to Valerie Burke who organized the transfer. Thanks to Earl Granroth for updating our Website from his home computer. He has been adding information about the Depot and Sauna projects.

MEMBERSHIPS: Membership renewals for 2019 are due. Thanks to everyone who has already renewed for this year. Dues remain at 415 for individuals, \$25 for families. Jim has Blue Sheets for members to record their donated hours.

MSMA PROJECT: The utility room needs to be completed and the furnace needs to be installed. Upstairs work includes the porch; inner front doors; 3 or possibly 4 "old" windows with 30 x 60 openings. A recent bid of cost for these windows was around \$300.00 per window with jamb. The most recent design of the exterior would raise the grade, allowing for a shorter ramp, yet keeping the basic old school appearance.

DAVIDSON WINDMILL GROUNDS: The land ownership exchange with the State of WI is complete. The deed has been registered and a copy of it will be mailed to us so that we can move the buildings to their desired location with County satisfaction.

At the May Board Meeting, it was decided to seek bids to paint the entire windmill (turret and entire exterior). Economy Painters from Port Wing will be contacted to give us a price. A friend of Ron Hendrickson has donated six sections of scaffolding for use by OBHS. The professional painter we use needs to be aware of their availability.

Also during the May Board Meeting, it was decided to separate the toilet from the shed. Donald Anderson from Anderson's Septic Pumping has donated his services to OBHS at the Windmill Site for many years and is now selling his business. A letter of appreciation will be sent to him. Basil Edgette has contacted MR BIFFY, and donated \$500 toward the purchase of a new \$1,000.00 commercial style, polyurethane molded toilet. MR BIFFY would service the toilet as needed, including winterization, for \$40 each time. We would probably need 2-3 pumps per year. Thanks to Basil for contacting MR BIFFY and for his generous donation. The replacement of the BIFFY should be relatively simple. MR BIFFY will take the old one away. The location of the new biffy was discussed. Dennis H. moved to locate the new BIFFY roughly where it is now; second by Ron H. Motion passed.

BLUEBERRY DEPOT: The Blueberry Depot is up on wheels and has been pulled out next to the Town Road in anticipation of its move. The process has begun to get bids for its foundation. Ron noted that we could save money if all concrete work for both the depot and sauna were done at the same time. Enbridge recently awarded OBHS a \$5,000 grant for Phase 2 of the Depot project. The Public Relations person at Enbridge has said that they can also help with providing volunteers. Future grant proposals will also be considered. Brian P. announced that he has received a pledge from Bell Lumber & Pole Co. from New Brighton, MN, for masonry work on the Depot project. (Thomas Bell is the current President and CEO of this company. He is the great-grandson of Merton J. Bell, the founder of the company which was first located in Bellwood, WI.) Brian deserves much credit for his hard work in obtaining these and previous grants.

SAUNA PROJECT: The Sauna placement on the site was discussed. We are waiting for a final County zoning land use permit to move this building which measures 12' x 15'. Ron has obtained a quote from Four Star for footings and is also working on two grant applications for this project, one from Great Lakes and one from Amsoil.

MERCHANDISE (PUBLICATIONS):

POLLARI Memorial Historical Map Project: County map maker Randy Jones has provided us with a skeleton map of Douglas County in a 24" x 35" and an 11" x 17" format, showing existing and historic railroad lines. A pdf file will be made available for OBHS use.

The 2019 Historical Calendar is available at \$9.00.

We have copies of Nan Wisherd's new book, *Boys of the Brule*.

Poplar Hardware has requested 19 books, two of which are for *Sisu and Sauna*. Jim, Lila, and Earl need to work on necessary editing before it is republished.

Shirley U. Is currently in the process of submitting a book and merchandise order.

Jim P. And Nan W. are restarting work on their calendar book on June 25.

Missy Haworth is interested in helping Jim this summer with typing and pushing forward the Brule History publication. Nancy Moreland also wishes to assist.

It was suggested that we check on placing our books at Fairlawn's gift shop.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK GROUP SITE: This site has 945 members and is independent of OBHS. We could examine a linkage to it or a supplemental site under our own name.

PROJECT COMPLETION FOLLOWUP: The Secretary will include current projects/tasks that have been determined by motion, but not completed.

UPDATE OF OBHS BY-LAWS AND JOB DESCRIPTION: The Board or a committee needs to examine existing by-laws and job descriptions for potential changes.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT: The most recent budget for 2019 appears in the December 2018 Minutes and was published in the February 2019 *OBHS News*. The Committee plans to meet again soon.

MIDSUMMER DINNER & RELATED ACTIVITIES: The Planning Committee, headed by Dan and Dorothy Bergsten met May 16, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the residence of Alice Christensen. At that meeting, donations and purchases of food were designated and workers for preparing the dinner were identified. Mary. Ann G., Nancy W., and Lila R. cleaned the Eskolin House yesterday. Ron H. Has cut the grass at the Windmill Site. Jim P., Jack Pank, and Shirley U. will be at the Windmill site to handle tours. The Lakeside Town Hall has been scheduled to be available tomorrow at 8:00 to begin food preparation and will be open again on Saturday in preparation for the dinner to begin at 11:00 a.m. Ron H. will put up signage advertising the dinner. Brian P. will bring a money box and sell tickets for the dinner along with Ruth Erkkila.

ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING: This meeting will be held at the Lake Nebagamon Auditorium on Sunday, August 11, at 1:00 p.m. The program will be planned at the July Board meeting.

ANNUAL MSMA FLEA MARKET FUND RAISER: This activity will take place again at the Maple Town Hall on Saturday, August 24, 2019.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

A location for the Gene Davidson Memorial Plaque was discussed. Ron H. moved that this plaque be placed inside the mill next to the existing plaque. Following a second by Audrey, the motion passed. Specific decisions regarding the plaque will be made at the July Board meeting. Jim is still looking for a good tamarack tree.

President Hill requested Ron H. and Brian P. to be present at the next Board Meeting on July 10.

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT: Sympathy to the family of Hope Swenson. Encouragement to Velma Dolby at the Walker Methodist Health Center in Minneapolis, and to Geraldine Karna and Irene Parenteau at Villa Marina.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at the Eskolin House.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: our Annual Meeting, see above, August 11, 2019, in Lk Nebagamon.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Ron H. moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Jim M. President Hill adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lila Ronn, Secretary

1 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 *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 \$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 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. Nan's new title from Cable Publishing, *Boys of the Brule*, is now available.

**Unapproved MINUTES for the JULY 2019 Board Meeting
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.
Wednesday, July 10, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Eskolin House, Town of Lakeside**

In Attendance: Bruce Carlson, Mary Ann Gronquist, Audrey Hakkila, Dennis Hill, Trish Hursh, Jim Mattson, Matt Miller, Jim Pellman, Lila Ronn, Janine Seis, Shirley Umolac. Visitors: Ron Hendrickson, Arlene Hill, Brian Paulson, Jon Winter.
Thanks to everyone who brought food to share.

BUSINESS MEETING

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

MINUTES: Jim M. moved to approve the minutes of the previous Board Meeting held Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at the Eskolin House published in the June 2019 *OBHS News*. Following a second by Audrey, these Minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Matt Miller, who has agreed to serve out his term until the Annual Meeting, submitted the following report effective July 10, 2019:

CURRENT BALANCE	Notes
GENERAL FUND: \$ 3,901.40 (Cash on hand: \$21.44)	Last meeting: \$4,179.71 (-\$ 278.31) <u>Income:</u> \$ 188. (memberships & misc.) <u>Expenses:</u> \$326.31 (newsletter expenses); \$230.00 (lawn mowing) <u>Outstanding Income:</u> \$230 for lawn mowing <u>Outstanding Debt:</u> Sauna Fund-\$1,850.00; OBHS Scholarship—\$250; American Alliance of Museums—\$5.00; MSMA fund for books—\$445.25; Arrowhead printing—\$840.00 Balance after outstanding income & debt: \$ 741.15.
WINDMILL FUND: \$ 5,933.79	Last meeting: \$3,596.36 (\$2,337.43) <u>Income:</u> \$548.00 (includes a \$500 donation for the Sauna Fund); \$175.07; \$500.00 Memorial Donation for Hope Swenson from Gary Luoma for the Sauna Fund; \$1,592.00—cash from Midsummer dinners <u>Expenses:</u> Midsummer meal—\$467.64; Pavers—\$10 <u>Outstanding Income:</u> Lawn mowing—\$230.00 <u>Outstanding expenses:</u> Midsummer meal— \$137.55 Balance after outstanding income & debt: \$6,026.24
MSMA FUND: \$ 6,406.74	Last meeting: \$ 6,288.32 (+\$118.42) <u>Income:</u> \$555 which includes a \$500 Hope Swenson Memorial from Gary Luoma; Hope Swenson Memorial—\$25.00 <u>Expenses:</u> Books: \$445.25; Utilities—\$11.33 <u>Outstanding Income:</u> General Fund for Books—\$445.25; <u>Outstanding debt:</u> Repayment to CD—\$1,200. Balance after outstanding income & debt: \$5,421.99
DEPOT FUND: \$18,185.28	Last meeting: \$17,510.28 (+\$ 675.00) <u>Income:</u> Donations—\$675.00 which includes a \$500 donation from Robert Kiszewski, ATI <u>Outstanding debt:</u> Woodhull Construction—\$4,500.00 Balance after outstanding income & debt: \$13,685.28
CD: \$ 4,684.91	Last meeting: \$4,684.91. (\$0) <u>Outstanding Income:</u> MSMA fund repayment—\$1,200.00 Balance after outstanding income & debt: \$ 5,884.91
TOTAL: \$ 39,112.12	Last meeting: \$36,259.58 (+\$2,852.54)

Matt noted that National Bank of Commerce is merging with Republic Bank, headquartered in Superior, WI. No changes for OBHS.

Other notes from the Board Members which will be reflected in next month's Treasurer's report: (1.) The Outstanding debt for the Sauna fund should be \$2,850 and should appear in the General Fund, reflecting the \$500 Hope Swenson Memorial received from Gary Luoma and a \$500 donation from Robert Kiszewski, ATI Sauna. This amount was erroneously added to the Windmill Fund. (2.) The Lawn Mowing expenses of \$230.00 need to be subtracted from the General Fund and not the Windmill Fund. (3.) A \$5,000 grant received from Enbridge, for the Depot Fund is not yet reflected in the Treasurer's report; (4.) There is sufficient money in the MSMA Fund to repay \$1,200 it owes to the CD. The renewal date of CD needs to be obtained.

Janine moved to accept the Minutes as presented; second by Shirley U. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Donations to the Depot Fund.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES/WEBSITE: Committee action remains on hold, but OBHS continues to accept items for or collection and to field requests for information. A Dining Room Table has been donated by Dave and Jan Conley for the MSMA Fund Raiser which may be suitable for use at MSMA. Jim P. Picked up items that the Douglas County Historical Society has donated: Finnish & Swedish language books; a Webster Table with four chairs; and two small glass showcases which should be useful in MSMA's gift shop. Thanks to Valerie Burke who organized the transfer. Thanks to Earl Granroth for updating our website from his home computer. He has been adding information about the Depot and Sauna projects.

MEMBERSHIPS: Membership renewals for 2019 are due. Thanks to everyone who has already renewed for this year. Dues remain at \$15 for individuals and \$25 for families. Jim has Blue Sheets for members to record their donated hours.

MSMA PROJECT: The utility room needs have a wall added before the furnace can be installed. Upstairs work includes the porch; inner front doors; 3 or possibly 4 "old" windows with 30 x 60" rough openings. A recent bid of cost for these windows was around \$300.00 per window with jamb. The most recent design of the exterior would raise the grade in front, allowing for a shorter ramp, helping to keep the basic old school appearance. Jim has been mowing and repairing winter plow damage and planning the porch.

DAVIDSON WINDMILL GROUNDS: At the last Board Meeting, it was decided to seek bids to paint the entire windmill (turret and exterior). A letter of appreciation will be sent to Donald Anderson from Anderson's Septic Pumping who has donated his services to OBHS at the Windmill Site for many years. At the June General Meeting, it was decided to keep the wall surrounding the BIFFY with the new BIFFY to occupy the same space for now. Basil Edgette has contacted MR BIFFY and donated \$500 toward to the purchase of a new \$1,000 commercial style, polyurethane molded toilet. MR BIFFY would service the toilet as needed, including winterization for \$40 each time. We would probably need 2-3 pumps per year. Thanks to Basil for contacting MR BIFFY and for his generous donation. MR BIFFY will take the old toilet away. The new BIFFY is expected to be delivered tomorrow.

BLUEBERRY DEPOT: The Depot was moved by the Woodhulls to the Windmill site on June 26. The zoning permit for the Depot has been received. Brian has begun the process to get bids for its foundation. Besides the recent \$5000.00 grant received from Enbridge, Brian reports that a

\$ 1,450.00 Matching Grant from the Bell Lumber & Pole Company in New Brighton, MN for masonry work on the Depot will be received soon. American Transmission Company declined Brian's recent request for a grant from their company.

SAUNA PROJECT: The Sauna Land Use Permit has arrived and that building will be moved shortly. The County will be meeting on July 24 to address our request for a variance. Ron has obtained a quote from Four Star for footings and is also working on two grant applications for this project, one from Great Lakes and one from Amsoil.

MERCHANDISE (PUBLICATIONS):

POLLARI Memorial Historical Map Project: County map maker Randy Jones has provided us with a skeleton map of Douglas County in a 24" x 35" and an 11" x 17" format, showing existing and historic railroad lines. A pdf file will be made available for OBHS use. The committee needs to complete the map using the Jones map as a basis.

BOOKS AND MERCHANDISE: Shirley has placed several large orders for books and caps for OBHS inventory and for Poplar Hardware. The Lakeside history, *Sisu and Sauna*, needs to be revised before republication. (Jim P., Lila, and Earl are on this committee.)

CALENDAR BOOK: Jim P. And Nan W. are working weekly on this project.

BRULE HISTORY: Missy Haworth is interested in helping Jim this summer with typing and pushing forward the Brule History publication. Nancy Moreland also wishes to assist.

It was suggested that we check on placing our books at Fairlawn's gift shop. Five *Wisconsin Far Northwest* books are now for sale at DCHS.

FRIENDS OF OBHS FACEBOOK SITE: This site has over 960 members and is independent of OBHS. We could examine a linkage to it or a supplemental site under our own name.

PROJECT COMPLETION FOLLOWUP: The Secretary will include current projects/tasks that have been determined by motion, but not completed.

UPDATE OF OBHS BY-LAWS AND JOB DESCRIPTION: The Board or a committee needs to examine existing by-laws and job descriptions for potential changes.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT: The most recent budget for 2019 appears in the December 2018 Minutes and was published in the February 2019 *OBHS News*. The Committee plans to meet again soon.

MIDSUMMER DINNER & RELATED ACTIVITIES: The Planning Committee, headed by Dan and Dorothy Bergsten, and Mary Ann and Lila and their crews (Nancy, Trish, Janine, Lora, Char, Arlene, Ron, Bruce, Brian, Gary, Alice) need a big thank you for a very successful Midsummer Dinner. Ron H. cut the grass at the Windmill Site. Jim P., Jack Pank, Dennis, and Shirley U. were at the Windmill site to handle tours. Brian P brought a money box and sold tickets for the dinner along with Ruth Erkkila. Earl handled the set-up and transport of the Town & Village displays. Thanks, also, to the many who made the delicious baked rice and the cookies, bars, & bread. Thanks to the Town of Lakeside for the use of their Town Hall. Over 140 happy people were served dinner.

ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING: Because of a scheduling conflict, the Board selected September 8, 2019, as the date for the Annual OBHS Meeting to be held at the Lake Nebagamon Auditorium, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Dennis Hill will provide the program: "Good Old Days, Unsweetened".

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET FUND RAISER: This activity will take place again at the Maple Town Hall on Saturday, August 24, 2019. Planning, posters, and publicity need to be done. A donation has already been received from the Conley's (a large dining room table), which might work at MSMA archives or as a Board Room table in the Depot. Jim will head a planning committee. Janine noted that the Town of Maple is now charging OBHS for hall rental. The cost will be \$35.00 per day, \$10 for a marquee, and \$30 for a refundable deposit. Janine moved to pay these charges; second by Mary Ann. The motion passed.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

Gene Davidson Memorial Plaque—A bronze plaque, similar to the one already in the Mill, would cost \$395 for an 8'x10' size or \$435 for a 12'x 8' size. The existing plaque is 8'x 11'. Audrey made a motion that we purchase a plaque; second by Trish. Jim P. will mark the certificate.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lifetime Membership for Bill Anderson—Bill has surveyed all of our sites over the past years and spent dozens of hours assisting us with needed survey work. We will award him a Life-time Certificate.

SYMPATHY & ENCOURAGEMENT: Sympathy to the families of Hope Swenson & Velma Doby. OBHS has lost two dear friends & significant contributors to our organization. Encouragement to Geraldine Karna & Irene Parenteau who is now at Cedar Ridge.

ANNUAL MEETING: September 8, 2019, 1 p.m. at the Lake Nebagamon Auditorium. Program: "Good Old Days, Unsweetened" by Dennis Hill.

ANNUAL MSMA FLEA MARKET FUND RAISER: Maple Town Hall, Saturday, August 24, 2019, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: September 11, 2019, 6 p.m. Eskolin House.

DOUGLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS: Jon Winter announced upcoming DCHS events:

July 25- "History in a Pint"-meet at Belknap Lounge at 6:00 p.m.; August 10- Rachel Markon coming as Mrs. Jay Cooke; and September 7—the Living History Walk at Greenwood Cemetery from 1-4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Jim M. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Audrey.

President Dennis Hill adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lila Ronn, Secretary

1198 to 2005, 2006 to 2019 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 soon, slowed by the loss of Laila Magnuson. Limited numbers are available. Please contact Janet Follis, P.O. Box 114, Brule, WI 54820, at (715) 372-4948. Our 2019 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendars are for sale at \$9.00 each. Earlier individual issues are also available at \$5.00 (2006 - 2016), 2017 at \$6.00, & 2018 at \$7.00 in limited numbers, & \$30 \$15 on sale for a packet of all of the first 12 years. An e-mail address for more info: musketeer6@cheqnet.net, and by phone: 715-363-2549, or

please check our Website at www.oldsbrule.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, this year yet, at Round Up North in Brule, Poplar Hardware, Aroma's Restaurant in Maple but sadly, with the Poplar Village Market, now closed permanently. Or check with Jim in Maple at 715-363-2549. We also seek more advertisers. The 2019 issue is priced again at \$9.00.

1Area History: No. 129

This picture and text appear for the month of October in our 2019 OBHS Annual Historical Calendar.

Clarence (Kelly) Barsness with Partner in front of his Douglas County Grader, c. 1935. The gravel roads of Douglas County required steady maintenance by rugged men who in units open to the elements patrolled the highways. At the time of this photograph Kelly was employed by contract to maintain County Highway P which went by his home in the Town of Amnicon. He was part of a two man team, one driving a tractor, and one managing the controls on the grader. There was a knack keeping the gravel on the road with a touchy clay base. We have copies of the contract signed by Matt Saari of the Town of Maple from at least a decade earlier who had the contract for the patrol of Highway 13 from Nine Mile Corner (County H junction with Highway 13 north of Brule) on the east, to the Junction with what was US Highway 2, now the EZ corner on the west, done with a grader pulled by Matt's team of horses. The round trip took two days and he stayed with a family overnight on the west end. *This photo in provided courtesy of Gregg Zimmer and came out of the collection of Carrie Ann Zimmer who is a daughter of Kelly. Thanks to Audrey Hakkila who posted it on the Friends of OBHS Facebook Group Site and brought it to our attention there, and to Raymond Saari, Matt's son, for information and insights.*

1

~ NOTICES ~

MEMBERS: Dues collection for 2020 will begin at our next Annual Meeting to be held Sunday, September 8, 2019 at the Lake Nebagamon Auditorium starting at 1 p.m. Please fill in your volunteer hours on your hours Blue Sheets for August 2018-July 2019 for turn in at the end of July in advance of our Annual Meeting. Please contact our Secretary or Jim for a new Blue Sheet or see our website for forms. **You can also turn in your forms by scanning them and shipping them to Jim as an image via email to musketeer6@cheqnet.net, or to Jim on Facebook messenger.**

THANK YOU & RECOGNITIONS: To the family of the late **Hope Swenson**, sons **Lee & Clifton**, for donations of historical records & old tools for our Archives & for the gift of a working No. 3 school bell complete, which had been in Hope's family from a southern Wisconsin school. Thanks to **Jan & Dave Conley** for donation of a dining room table for sale at our flea market August 24th or for our own use; to **David D. & Karen Johnson** & family as heir & personal representative of the estate of **Steven Haukkala**, who was heir of the late **Henry Antilla** of Maple, which included many Finnish books & old musical 78 records as well as Maple Coop records, documents, a "Strawberries for sale" sign from **Karl (Lehti) Maki**, prior owner of the Antilla property as well as shoe lasts, and a Hoover clothes washing machine from the 1960s and other papers, records, and documents.

CONGRATULATIONS to Members **Gordy & Betty Lahti** on their 25th Wedding Anniversary & to **Board Member Jody (John) & former Board Member Doreen Swanson** on No. 50! To Member **Marion Christensen** on her recent birthday.

OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY: Encouragement to member Irene Parenteau now back at Cedar Ridge, south of Superior and doing well, and Sympathy to family & friends of the many, listed here, whom we have lost recently:

Carolyn F. (Orville) Sarazin, 84, Virginia & Babbitt, MN, who passed away April 8, at home, family by her side, born in 1934, in Maple, daughter of Wesley & Lillian (Nurkkala) Orville, graduate of NWHS, married Bill Sarazin in 1954 in Lake Nebagamon, worked for Reserve Mining & Arrowhead Library System, survived by husband Bill, children Tim (Tammy) Sarazin of Tomahawk, WI, & Dawn (Rock) Chamberlin of Babbitt, sister: Jeanne Moorhead of Chandler, AZ; 7 grandchildren & 8 grandchildren: preceded in death by parents; son, Keith, in 2015, & sister, Judy Sauve.

Velma Marie (Hakkila) Doby, 96, Crystal Lake, Iron River, WI who passed away 9, 2019, near family & friends at Walker Methodist Health Center in Minneapolis, she had moved after a stroke in 2017, born in 1923 in Waino/Brule to Finnish immigrants Matt & Maria Hakkila, a longtime supportive member of OBHS & the History Research writing team, married Harry Doby & had one child. The first Finnfest USA was planned at her home. She was preceded in death by husband, Harry, their child Marcelle Williams, her parents, one brother & three sisters, survived by two grandsons and four great grand-children. There will be a memorial service at the Town in Brule, WI on September 28, 2019.

Irene Jeannette (Nutt) Nelson, 92, Ashland, formerly of Iron River & Mason, who died July 29, 2019 at Birch Haven Senior Living in Ashland, born in 1927 in Poplar to Edwin A. & Gilma (Barsness) Nutt, met Jack Nelson in Chicago, married him in 1947



2019,

gr-

July
where

Brule

&

Hall

and moved to Mason where they ran Jack's Clover Farm store & petroleum business, and raised 8 children, all who survive, 18 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Bruce Cameron Hagen 73, former mayor of Superior who died after long illness, in Florida July 26, 2019.

Robert "Bob" L. Hanson, 81, Lake Nebagamon, who died July 25, 2019 at Middle River Health & Rehab, South Range, born in 1938 in Superior, son of Ernest & Marie (Lamirande) Hanson, retired as a purchasing agent for Jenos after 30 years, survived by second wife, Sandy & daughter, Teresa (Kraig) Lee, and grand-children.

Arnold T. 'Sonny' Ukkola, 78, South Range & Maple, who died July 17, 2019, at his residence, born in Superior in 1940, son of Theodore and Irene (Pollari) Ukkola, married Clara Ann Khalar, with whom he had 3 daughters, worked as a welder for Clyde Iron & Superior Lidgerwood-Mundy, was preceded in death by his parents & siblings, Gladys, Patsy, & Jim, & Clara in 2001, survived by his daughters who gave him 8 grandchildren & 11 gr-grandchildren, & brothers Gerald & David.

Joyce Darlene Gustafson, 84, South Range, who died June 10, 2019, at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth, MN, born in Fond du Lac, WI, in 1935, daughter of Harold and Matilda McArthur, married Carl R. Gustafson in 1977, survived by husband, Carl, South Range, WI, and daughter, Susan Lucas, Poplar, WI, 16 grandchildren & extended family and step-family.

Andrew Theodore "Andy" Williams, 89, Brule, who died July 13, 2019 at home in his recliner, born in 1929, to George and Mabel (Downey) Williams, in Brule, met future wife IrmaDel Harmon at sixteen & they married in Superior in 1950, served in the Army during the Korean War, raised , three children, Larry, David & Deanna (Michael) Sims of Brule, was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife, eight brothers: George, Robert, Charles, Paul, Lyle, Lewis, Glen and Ernest, & two sisters Mabel and Bessie Harmon, with bothers Kenny (Arlene) and Ralph, and sister Patricia (John) Brown all of California, 11 grandchildren and spouses & 13 great-grandchildren surviving.

Myron V. Knapp, 91, Iron River, WI, Madison & Mesquite NV, who died July 5, 2019 at Middle River Health and Rehab in South Range, born at a family home in 1928 in Bayfield to Vern and Elmira (Olson) Knapp, graduated from Iron River Columbia High School, served in the United States Marine Corps, survived by his wife, Dolores, two children & extended family throughout this region.

Linda Lois (Hoeffling) Staxrude, 67, LaCrosse, WI, who died at home October 29, 2017 after a battle with cancer, born in 1950 in Superior, WI to Eugene and Mary Hoeffling of Iron River, was a 1968 graduate of Northwestern High School, married Mike Staxrude in 1970 in Barnum, MN, moved to LaCrosse, WI where she worked at a nursing home for over 39 years, survived by her husband, daughter, Lori Bean; step-son, Tom Staxrude, parents, 4 grand-children, 3 gr-grandchildren, 4 brothers, including Mike (Rhoda) Hoeffling, of Maple.

Elsie (Lundberg) Erbentraut, 102, of Branson, MO, formerly of Poplar, & Whitewater, WI, who died June 29, 2019, born in Poplar in 1916, the daughter of William and Hulda (Jones) Lundberg, graduated from Superior East High School and went on to earn her degree in nursing, later working as a Nurse Anesthetist in Elkhorn, WI and Milwaukee for many years before her retirement, lived most her life on a farm in Whitewater and moved back to Poplar in her 80s, married Robert Erbentraut in 1947, survived by her daughter, Lorraine Williams-Seymour, Branson, MO and family, sister, Ruth Nicoloff, of California & sister-in-law, Irene Lundberg, preceded in death by her parents; husband, Robert; sisters, Gertrude Bergsten, Marion Olson and Lorraine Robinson; brothers, Willard, Norman, John, Robert and Richard Lundberg.

James B. Roy, 84, Minong, who died June 26, 2019, born to Frank & Verna (Moody) Roy in Brule, graduated from Washburn HS, enlisted in the US Navy, later employed by McDonnelle Air Craft of St. Louis, MO, returned to Washburn & married Mary Jane Grage, worked for the State of WI for several years, started an electrical contracting business, survived by wife of 60 years & children, Jacqueline (Bruce) Ostrom, Juliana (Greg) Grell, James (Gloria) Roy, Jerome (Penny) Roy, Jason (Lisa) Roy, 9 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, brother Gene (Luann) Roy, sister, Donna Vuchichevich.

James Patrick "Pat" Cosgrove, 86, Solon Springs, who passed away June 26, 2019 at St. Luke's in Duluth, born in 1933 in Superior, son of Harry & Helen (Lepley) Cosgrove, raised in Gordon, WI until he was in the tenth grade, moved to Solon Springs, WI, graduated in 1950, joined the US Navy in 1951 and served on the USS Ingersoll, later worked with the Douglas County Ambulance Service, in 1956 married Patricia Margaret Bashara in Solon Springs, spent twenty years as a railroad engineer before retirement, over 40 year period served on the Solon Springs Village & Douglas County Boards & on many committees & on the founding board for Lucius Woods, survived by wife, Patricia, his children, Kevin (Cathy) Cosgrove of Solon Springs, WI, James "Kelly" (Jodi) Cosgrove of Blaine, MN, Colleen (Samuel) Sloggy of Appleton, WI, Bridget (Jay Lien) Cosgrove of Duluth, MN; six grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; one brother, John (Kathy) Cosgrove of Gordon, WI.

Ruth D. (Heino) Baillie, 87, Brule, who died June 25, 2019 at Middle River Health and Rehab. in Hawthorne, WI, was born in 1932, the daughter of August and Esther (Neimanen) Heino, married Robert "Bob" Baillie in 1950 and celebrated 68 years of marriage before his passing in January, grew up on the family farm in Maple. was a cheerleader in high school, her first job away from home was as a Woolworth Girl in Duluth, was owner/operator of the Brule Cabin Courts, later worked with Bob at Superior Baillie Oil Company where she ran the laundromat and used book store in South Superior & worked at the Brule Post Office, survived by daughter, Marlene Lawton, Scottsdale, AZ & four sons, Mark (Rebecca) Baillie & Dean (Cindy Colby) Baillie, both of Brule, Neil (Diane Dau) Baillie, Lakewoods, MN, & Bill (Nadine Lohman) Baillie, Superior, ten grandchildren & nine great-grandchildren; & brother Leo (Ruth) Heino, preceded in death by husband, Bob; her parents, two sisters (Elsie and Marta) & three brothers (Ervid, Ray and Martin);

Lillian J. Erkkila, 69, Hawthorne, WI, who died June 22, 2019 at Essentia Health St. Mary's of Duluth, born in Superior in 1950, daughter of Oiva and Ailie (Keto) Erkkila, earned an associate's degree from WITC-Ashland, and worked for Bayfield County, survived by brother Rodney Erkkila, Maple,

William C. (Clay) Hardee, 50, Lake Nebagamon, who died unexpectedly June 24, 2019 in Duluth, born in Vero Beach, FL in 1969, the son of William H. and Lois Marie (Williams) Hardee, married Connie Pooler in 1987, an equipment operator, survived by wife, Connie, daughters, Stephanie (Don) Harden, Two Harbors, MN and Felisha (Travis) Kauther, Hawthorne, WI; son, Clinton Hardee, Lake Nebagamon, & siblings & extended family.

And who have we missed or forgotten? May all those mentioned Rest in Peace.

RETURN ADDRESS:

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.

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

All interested in joining the Old-Brule Heritage Society are encouraged to attend any of our meetings and programs. To join they may also contact any member of the Board at the return address above, or our Treasurer, at the same address. Our annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals, and \$25.00 for families, \$50 for businesses, payable after each Annual Meeting in August for the twelve months of the following year. Higher levels of support are always welcome.

New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!

CALENDAR.

August 13, Tuesday 6:00 p.m. Special OBHS General Membership Meeting to address Depot Location at Mill site.
Amnicon Town Hall (no potluck lunch).

August 24, Saturday, 8:00 a.m.--4 p.m. Fourth Annual MSMA Flea Market Fund Raiser. Tours of MSMA **Friday** 6 p.m.

September 2, Monday. Labor Day.

September 8, Sunday, 1:00 p.m. OBHS 2019 Annual Meeting, Lake Nebagamon Auditorium Nominations and Election of new Board Members. New officer installation at following Board Meeting. Dennis Hill will speak on the "Good Ol' Days, Unsweetened."

September 11, Wednesday, 6 p.m. OBHS Board Meeting

September 20, Friday. Materials due for the October issue of the *OBHS News*.

September 23, Monday. First day of Autumn

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.