

OBHS News

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2020

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

Volume XXII, Issue 4

August 5, 2020

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Hill, Amnicon, President
Mary Ann Gronquist, Parkland,
Vice President
Arlene Hill, Amnicon, Treasurer
Jim Pellman, Maple, Secretary

Matt Miller, Superior
Assistant Treasurer
Joe Autio, Superior
Bruce Carlson, Parkland

Shirley Deterling, Poplar
Trish Hursh, Poplar
Jim Mattson, Poplar
Jody Swanson, Brule

THE 2020 OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE AMNICON TOWN HALL ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2020 at 6 P.M. Due to the continued general restrictions placed upon group activities and meetings throughout the State and Nation, the consensus at the July 19, 2020 OBHS Board Meeting was that we hold our Annual Meeting without a Program or Pot Luck Lunch, in lieu of our next General Meeting, at 6 p.m., August 12, 2020 at the Amnicon Town Hall. We will require all attending to wear a face mask, and social distancing will have to be enforced. The event will be limited to a Business Meeting including election of Board Members and essential matters. A short Board Meeting will follow to install Board Officers, and any other necessary business. Our MSMA Fundraising Flea Market usually held in late August was formally cancelled as have public tours, including the Bayfield Apple Festival weekend tours.

There has been a recent spike in Corona virus cases in Douglas County which has tripled the number of recorded cases, rising into the seventies. Attempts are being made to normalize life with school openings planned on a reduced scale. A vaccine is still in the future. We are currently faced, on top of the quarantine with now universal masking in public areas. With unrest and continued street protests within the Nation, with some desecration of public statues, Christian churches, and Federal Courthouses. Federal officers are now holding a protective line around Federal facilities in Oregon. Rhetoric is heightened due to a contentious Presidential election season. There are signs the economy is awakening and with the Virus much better understood there is room for hope. A sure sign is that Churches have reopened with capacity limits, masks and social distancing. "The new normal" is taking shape but without much clarity. OBHS will go on with cautious steps for now.

FROM THE EDITOR:

At our recent Board Meeting, despite the awkwardness of masks and the scattering of the few of us present on the folding tables at Lakeside Town Hall, an important issue to us a group came to something of a head. There have been proposals made brought before us regarding restoration efforts of the Davidson Windmill. There have been plans made to get estimates for removal of the original metal outer skin, and even the replacement of the wooden arms, or of the roof shingles. It is not my nature to be contrarian but when these issues arose at meetings I often stand alone and try my best to offer an explanation for what has been done up to now on the windmill and why.

Often the discussion ends up with "We will have to kick the issue down the road for now." This is how the issue came to an end at this Board Meeting as well. The basis on my arguments always has to do with the uniqueness of the Windmill. It is not a "Finnish windmill," though built by a Finnish immigrant. It is not a typical grist mill by a blueprint from someone else, from anywhere. It is the creation of the mind, experience, skills and hands of an inventor, meeting the specific needs of a specific group of people in a very specific time and place with mostly local materials. Gene Davidson often went to pains to say that it was made of local materials, different types of wood and stone, found and gathered locally. Because of its scale the tools made to scribe its parts were made specific by the builder for the needs of the job. They had no other use to him. It was made at a deep level of creative invention, just as were all of the working parts of this creation. It was more than a feat of skilled engineering, it was a work of art, and remains a work of art. No work has been done to the structure as it is beyond absolute necessity.

Little thought in our time of ownership has been given to immediate or even long range economy. Change has been made as an act of last resort. Shingles are interchangeable, paint is interchangeable. They can be worked upon on a schedule. But a unique patched skin of rusting metal or spliced wooden sail arms subject to breakage, or foundation logs subject to ground contact rot, or the "ladders" that held the metal sail material, or even the steering arms are of a totally different order. All the latter had to be patched, repaired or even removed, but totally as a last resort, and they entered history as what is unique, replacing what was unique, one unique piece at a time, as in any art restoration. The Windmill is as sacred as the Mona Lisa is sacred. We need the original brush (and axe) marks. Yes, we are kicking the can down the road, but we study, inspect and repair, one patch at a time, as did the Davidson family. This is not like a generic house, or even a routine sauna, or even a rare collector vehicle. It is not typical. It has the unique creative root of any art. It is a kind unto itself and its maker. Although local, it is High Art. I firmly believe we are responsible for preserving every patch that can be saved. Finally the

mill's greatest beauty as a creative act was in its spirit of charity, built of local need in service to neighbors. I hope this will never be forgotten.

- Jim Pellman

ARCHIVES/COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE.

The Archives/Collection Committee would welcome more volunteers to help in this important part of our OBHS mission. If you enjoy using computers, 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 despite the pandemic & now urban riots.. Please call Jim at 715-363-2549 to confirm our next Archives Committee meeting time and place. I will be contacting those who have offered to volunteer when it is safe. WE WELCOME YOUR HELP and historical donations.

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

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY Unapproved MINUTES for JUNE GENERAL MEETING LAKESIDE TOWN HALL JUNE 18, 2020

Attendance: We all wore face masks, and observed social distancing in our seating. Our evening began with our Program on Pattison Park presented by park director, Mr. Kevin Feind. He presented slides as he talked about the history of Civilian Conservation Corps within the Park, and also about recent projects at the facility many having to do with repairs after flooding, but also the new Copper Creek multiuse trail in the northern park area. Thanks to the Town of Lakeside for use of their Town Hall, and to Mary Anne G. and Laila Ronn for evening set-up. Twenty visitors and members were in attendance.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the Business Meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion by Laila Ronn, seconded by Shirley Deterling to approve the Minutes of the General Meeting held February 12, 2020 at the Maple Town Hall as published in the April 2020 issue of the *OBHS News*. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Arlene Hill will give our Treasurer's Report showing current balances for our four checking accounts, our CD balance and Total Cash Assets:

General:	\$557.97
MSMA:	\$8,575.88
Windmill:	\$4,850.55
Depot:	\$16,844.62
CD:	<u>\$5,903.22</u>
Total Cash Assets	<u>\$36,732.24</u>

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Audrey Hakkila, seconded by Ron Hendrickson. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES/WEBSITE: This committee remains semi-dormant until working space is available at MSMA. Thanks to Earl who continues to update our Website from his home computer. Construction on the porch is ongoing at MSMA. Materials were donated by the Seis' which will help in construction of the handicap ramp.

MEMBERSHIPS: These remain steady, but membership drives are in order with the aging of our group.

MSMA PROJECT: Longer term goals for more fundraising events will address the need for water and a septic system. Available to MSMA Chair Jim Pellman are the funds in the MSMA account for construction use. Porch door and windows are on site and will follow porch construction now active. Basement work, restrooms construction, and the utility room, will be worked on throughout summer and fall with installation of the Pex system to be completed before winter. Wiring (hidden upstairs) will go in. The upstairs restroom will be included in this work to integrate upper and lower bath plumbing & wiring. Walls will be insulated with fiberglass and then closed in with sheetrock in the Archives area. The electric furnace and manifold, pumps & valve system will be installed. We postponed the decision on our MSMA Flea Market as the Corona Virus is still a huge factor in preparation & the holding of the event. Old local brick are being gathered for our MSMA chimney.

WINDMILL GROUNDS: Mill Painting Project from last year was postponed. This needs attention. Tours have been cancelled together with the Midsummer Event due to the Virus. Historically appropriate repairs to the Windmill and restrictions under National Register standards need to be addressed in any work done. Dennis reported on research he had done on the internet for requirements for sites placed on the Nation Register. He feels the skin should be totally replaced. Ron H. had been working on sheet metal estimates. Jim argued that repairs on that and any other part of the mill should only be done with patching or repair piece by piece. As a privately owned site Dennis said that we could even tear it down if we wanted. It was a judgment call on the owner's part. A bronze plaque honoring Gene Davidson has been approved, but not ordered yet. A Gene Davidson memorial tamarack tree has been recently found, thanks to Lora & Lee Olson. **Roof:** At recent Board Meetings we discussed holes in the roof that need patching. The old growth cedar shingles are not that old. The roof was shingled the summer of 2007. (13 years ago.) It should be due for a change after 25 to 30 years normally. We need a careful inventory of the holes & a plan of action. Eskolin House roof was done near the same time. Third weekend tours have been put on hold due to the virus.

BLUEBERRY DEPOT PROJECT: The foundation has been poured. Block were laid in prep for the final move, Ron H. and Brian P. are working the project. An info sign has been put up. The buildings had not been moved yet. Woodhulls are doing the move. Another grant had been approved: \$3,200 by the Northern Pacific Historical Association, now totaling \$7,000. Brian Paulson was recognized for these fine grant writing efforts.

It is intended that the sheet metal roof will be replaced with architectural shingles as more original in look.

SAUNA PROJECT: The pioneering Heikkurainens on Section 6 Road were the builders of the sauna. It might be reasonable to name the sauna for them if the Erkkila family name is not used, or both used. There is a growing consensus to use both. The sauna foundation was poured at the same time as the depot. The move will be soon.

MERCHANDISE & PUBLICATIONS: *Boys of the Brule* is proving popular and another printing has come in at Nan's Cable Publishing. Jim P. found three copies in our inventory. More intermediate shirt sizes should be ordered, in prep for the Bayfield Apple Festival Weekend Tours if they are to be held. We still need to look closely at our website to bring our offers there in line with what we have in stock, and prices will have to be adjusted in some cases. Earl G. will need help getting counts and current prices for the website order form.

One of the first things to go into our MSMA basement will be a very small gift shop with inventory, and a blurb to say it's open. This shop should certainly include all OBHS & Windmill related products.

The Old-Brule Calendar History Book has been on hold for several weeks with the extended income tax season at Wisherd's. We're hoping to move forward as possible on the calendar book work

2020 Calendar & Pollari Memorial Historical Map. 2020 Calendars are still selling and are available. **The Pollari Memorial historical Douglas County map** is still moving. Jim is adding more railroad features by hand. He will call a work meeting once this is done for review of future plans. Richard Jerrard contacted Jim with interest and some ideas.

FRIENDS OF OBHS: This Facebook group site of over 1200 members is independent of OBHS. Thanks to Janine Seis and Nancy Moreland for their continuing work on this site on our behalf.

BYLAWS & JOB DESCRIPTIONS: Jim P. has been designated to head this committee looking at the currency of our by-laws and of our Standing Committees and Board Officer Job descriptions. Jim Mattson has offered to help in this review. The Virus has moved this to back burner. Thus far the By-Laws look OK. They are quite general and pre-Davidson Windmill.

BUDGET REVIEW: We need to work on this promptly with the changes taking place in the duties of our Treasurer and formal assistants. Chairing this committee has been part of the Treasurer's duties. Traditionally in OBHS the Board Officers joined in this task. We'll need to look closely at all of these duties to lighten the load. Again affected by the Virus.

2020 MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL: Sat, June 20, 2020 was cancelled for the first time. Virus victim.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE Please let Shirley Deterling know where there is need. Trish is recovering from back surgery.

ANNUAL MEETING for 2020: Need for August plans for site and program. Board will take this up.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY & ENCOURAGEMENT:

NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 8, 2020, 6 p.m. Eskolin House. Post Annual Meeting in August.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: October 14, 2020.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Laila R., seconded by Basil Edgette. Motion carried at 8:45 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Jim Pellman, Secretary**

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY
Unapproved MINUTES for the JULY BOARD MEETING
ESKOLIN HOUSE, JULY 10, 2020

Attendance: Due to the Corona Virus State of Emergency, we operated with masks and social distancing outside: Dennis & Arlene Hill, Mary Ann Gronquist, Bruce Carlson, Matt Miller, Jim Pellman, Basil Edgette, John Winter, Trish Hursh, Jim Mattson. Missing Jody Swanson (health), Joe Autio, Shirley Deterling.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: President Dennis Hill called the Business Meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion was made by Mary Ann G. to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held May 13, 2020 at the Eskolin House as published in the June 2020 issue of the *OBHS News*, seconded by Jim Mattson. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Arlene Hill will give our Treasurer's Report including current balances for our four checking accounts, our CD balance and Total Cash Assets:

General:	\$687.97	\$130 deposited
MSMA:	\$8,514.63	\$33.91 Light Bill auto deduct
Windmill:	\$4,341.62	
Depot:	\$14,344.62	\$2,500 to Woodhulls
CD:	\$5,903.22	
Total Cash Assets:	\$33,792.06	

Motion by Jim Mattson seconded by Matt Miller to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES/WEBSITE: This committee remains semi-dormant until working space is available at MSMA. Thanks to Earl who continues to update our Website from his home computer. Construction on the porch is ongoing at MSMA. Material were donated by the Seis' which will help in construction of the porch & of the handicap ramp.

MEMBERSHIPS: These remain steady, but membership drives are in order with the aging of our group. We've heard recently from Members Leila Aalto of Superior, and Ramon & Janette Jones from Cornucopia with Family renewal and donation.

MSMA PROJECT: Longer term goals for more fundraising events will address the need for water and a septic system. Available to MSMA Chair Jim Pellman are the funds in the MSMA account for construction use. Porch door and windows are on site and will follow porch construction now active. Basement work, restroom construction, and the utility room, will be worked on throughout summer and fall with installation of the Pex system to be completed shortly, wiring (hidden upstairs) will go in. The upstairs restroom will be included in this work to integrate upper and lower restroom plumbing & wiring. Walls will be insulated with fiberglass and then closed in with sheetrock in basement. The electric furnace and manifold, pumps & valve system will be installed. We decided to cancel our August MSMA Flea Market as the Corona Virus is still a huge factor in preparation & the holding of the event. Old local bricks are being gathered for our School house half-chimney. A generous donation has come in from Michelle Rouleau, from Florida, daughter of Shirley Umolac, for MSMA. Our thanks to her.

WINDMILL GROUNDS: Mill Painting Project from last year was postponed. This still needs attention. Tours have been cancelled together with the Midsummer Event due to the Virus. Third Saturday tours have also been cancelled. Historically appropriate repairs to the Windmill and restrictions under National Register standards need to be addressed in any work done. The issue was addressed at our last General Meeting which established that as private owners we have the right, even to level the Windmill if it our desire. The real issue is how we should go about repairs in a historically responsible and sensitive manner. Jim P. argues for only incremental changes to retain every bit of the history possible in the structure. Other ideas presented would entail removal of much of the character & history in the building. In any case a close examination of the structure is called for and was agreed upon. A bronze plaque honoring Gene Davidson has been approved and is now to be ordered. Cost: \$421.29 from the Windmill Fund. A Gene Davidson memorial tamarack tree has been recently found, thanks to Lora & Lee Olson. **Roof:** At recent Board Meetings we've discussed holes in the roof that need patching. The cedar shingles are not that old. The roof was shingled the summer of 2007. (13 years ago.) It should be due for a change after 25 to 30 years normally. We need an inventory of the holes & a plan of action. Eskolin House roof was done near the same time.

BLUEBERRY DEPOT PROJECT: Update Report: The depot has been moved onto its foundation by Woodhulls. Ron H. and Brian P. are working the project. An info sign has been put up.

SAUNA PROJECT: The pioneering Heikkurainens were the builders of the sauna. The consensus was to use both the names of the donor Erkkila family and the builder Heikkurainens. A heads up would be appreciated so that pictures can be taken to commemorate the event.

MERCHANDISE & PUBLICATIONS: *Boys of the Brule* is proving popular and another printing has come in at Nan's Cable Publishing. Jim P. found three copies in our inventory. More intermediate shirt sizes should be ordered as needed. The Bayfield Apple Festival Weekend Tours have been cancelled due to virus for 2020. We still need to look closely at our website to bring our offers there in line with what we have in stock, and prices will have to be adjusted in some cases. Earl will need help getting counts and current prices for the website order form.

One of the first things to go into our MSMA basement will be a very small gift shop with inventory, and a blurb to say it's open. This shop should certainly include all OBHS & Windmill related products.

The Old-Brule Calendar History Book has been on hold for several months with the extended income tax season at Wisherd's and Corona restrictions still in place. We're hoping to move forward as soon as possible.

2020 Calendar & Pollari Memorial Historical Map. 2020 Calendars are still selling and are available. **The Pollari Memorial Historical Douglas County map** is still moving. Jim is adding more railroad features by hand. He will call a work meeting once this is done for review of future plans. Richard Jerrard contacted Jim with interest and some ideas. More follow up is still needed there.

FRIENDS OF OBHS: This Facebook group site of over 1200 members is independent of OBHS. Thanks to Janine Seis and Nancy Moreland for their continuing work on this site on our behalf.

BYLAWS & JOB DESCRIPTIONS & BUDGET REVIEW: Jim P. has been designated to head this committee looking at the currency of our by-laws and of our Standing Committees and Board Officer Job descriptions. He has rolled in the Budget Review. Jim Mattson has offered to help in this review. The Virus has moved this to back burner. The By-Laws look OK. They are quite general and pre-Davidson Windmill. Consensus is that our budget, due to the disruption of large projects has to be ad hoc as reflected in our current ad hoc accounts. We'll need to look closely at all of these duties to lighten the load. Again affected by the Virus.

2020 MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL: Sat, June 20, 2020 was cancelled for the first time. Virus victim.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE Please let Shirley Deterling know where there is need.

ANNUAL MEETING for 2020: After discussing the Virus situation plans were pared down to a basic meeting without lunch or program to be held Wednesday, August 12, 2020, 6 p.m. at the Amnicon Town Hall with masks and social distancing inside.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

SYMPATHY & ENCOURAGEMENT: None mentioned.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, September 9, 2020, with an officer installation meeting after the Annual Meeting in August.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Our Annual Meeting supplants it on August 12. After that we meet as a group on October 14, 2020.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: None. Reminder, Those leaving the Board are challenged to find a replacement. See Board Chart following here.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Jim Mattson, second by Jim P. Motion carried, adjourned 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Pellman, Secretary

2020 Board Member Action List

Board Roster and terms:	Came on Board	Term-Rem.	Departure from Board	Action for 2020
Matt Miller, Superior, (retiring as AstTreas.)	2016	2-0	Aug. 2020	Need Replacement
Dennis Hill, Amnicon (retiring as President)	2016	2-0	Aug. 2020	Need /Replacement
Jim Mattson, Poplar	2017	2-1	Aug. 2021	None
Bruce Carlson, Parkland	2017	2-1	Aug. 2021	None
Jodi Swanson, Brule	2017	2-1	Aug. 2021	None
Trish Hursh, Poplar,	2017	2-1	Aug. 2021	None
Jim Pellman-Maple, again Active., Secretary	2019	1-1	Aug. 2023	Done
Joe Autio, Superior	2019	1-1	Aug. 2023	Done
Shirley Deterling, Poplar	2019	1-1	Aug. 2023	Done
Arlene Hill, Amnicon, Treasurer	2019	1-1	Aug. 2023	Done
Mary Ann Gronquist, Parkland , (1st VP	2019	1-1	Aug. 2023	Done
OPEN (Need two nominees)	2020	1-1	Aug. 2024	OPEN
OPEN (Need two nominees)	2020	1-1	Aug. 2024	OPEN

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 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.

Area History: No. 134

This photograph and text was taken from the month of August in the 2020 issue of the OBHS Annual Historical Calendar.

Recognition and Honoring of Aaron Jacobson of Maple (7/01/1910-7/27/1983) for His Heroic Service in World War II, June 17, 2019, at the Bong Center in Superior, Wisconsin. Jacob and Elina Jacobson, married in 1899, were farming in Maple in 1910, she coming from Finland in 1899, he four years earlier. Their youngest son, Aaron Jacobson, was born later the following year and his only sister Helmi (married later to a Beckman) was born two years later, the final child born into the farm family before Jacob V. Jacobson died in 1916 when Aaron was only six. In 1930, at 19, Aaron still lived and worked on the farm, but by 1940 at 29 he was working off the farm on a WPA project. His brothers Matt (34) and George (31) and sister Helmi (now 26) all still lived at home. Aaron would soon be drawn into active service in Europe in World War II. Stanley's family, headed by Eino & Esther Jacobson in 1940 lived on County Road O north of Blueberry where Stanley lives yet today. He was only four and his brother Robert was six at that time. Aaron was in his early thirties when he served, a decade older than many he served with. Even as a US Army, PFC, he was more mature and level headed than most in his unit. While In France "on September 21st, 1944, the 313th infantry regiment of the 79th infantry division were mopping up a battle field that had just been cleared. They were suddenly under fire and hit the ground... PFC Jacobson, without regard for his own life, low crawled towards a position from which he could flank the machine gun nest. As he approached the nest, he realized his rifle was full of mud and it wouldn't fire. He fixed his bayonet and stabbed the rear guard of the nest. Then using the firearm captured from the German soldier he had just killed, he neutralized the remaining three Germans in the machine gun nest" thereby saving the lives of many. He was decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross, second only to the Medal of Honor. He went on to more heroics and sacrifice, being awarded three Purple Hearts. He came back to the farm but with severe psychological damage from his experiences. Due to a fire in 1956 that burned his home and took the life of his brother George, his medals and documentation were also totally destroyed. He now had lost the means of claiming the higher level of help and the pension that he needed for care and treatment. He died at 73 without this help and the recognition he deserved. As witness to what had happened to his loved one, it was Stanley's mission to at least restore the medals and honors Aaron had lost, and with the help of Congressman Sean Duffy, seen on the left, and that of his neighbors, despite destruction of government records, also caused by fire, and with over a decade of effort, Aaron's medals were replaced as he was publicly recognized at the Bong Center for his sacrifices for his friends and country. "Freedom is not free," said Stanley. Staff Sergeant Aaron Jacobson, US Army, 79 Infantry Division in WWII will not be forgotten. His story and medals will enter the permanent exhibits at the Richard Bong Center. *Jim Pellman photo.*



... PFC Jacobson, without regard for his own life, low crawled towards a position from which he could flank the machine gun nest. As he approached the nest, he realized his rifle was full of mud and it wouldn't fire. He fixed his bayonet and stabbed the rear guard of the nest. Then using the firearm captured from the German soldier he had just killed, he neutralized the remaining three Germans in the machine gun nest" thereby saving the lives of many. He was decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross, second only to the Medal of Honor. He went on to more heroics and sacrifice, being awarded three Purple Hearts. He came back to the farm but with severe psychological damage from his experiences. Due to a fire in 1956 that burned his home and took the life of his brother George, his medals and documentation were also totally destroyed. He now had lost the means of claiming the higher level of help and the pension that he needed for care and treatment. He died at 73 without this help and the recognition he deserved. As witness to what had happened to his loved one, it was Stanley's mission to at least restore the medals and honors Aaron had lost, and with the help of Congressman Sean Duffy, seen on the left, and that of his neighbors, despite destruction of government records, also caused by fire, and with over a decade of effort, Aaron's medals were replaced as he was publicly recognized at the Bong Center for his sacrifices for his friends and country. "Freedom is not free," said Stanley. Staff Sergeant Aaron Jacobson, US Army, 79 Infantry Division in WWII will not be forgotten. His story and medals will enter the permanent exhibits at the Richard Bong Center. *Jim Pellman photo.*

~ NOTICES ~

MEMBERS: Thanks to all who have caught up on their Dues for the 2020 year. Please turn in your volunteer hours on your Blue Sheets for August 2019 thru July 2020 if you haven't yet.. Please contact Jim P., our Secretary, for new Blue sheet forms for next year.

THANK YOU & RECOGNITIONS: To all who are trying to make it safer for all of us to function in these tough days. To **Barbara Mortimer** from Fort Worth, TX who just donated to OBHS her father, Irwin Wasserstrass', photos from 1933-36 at Brule CCC. To **Michelle Rouleau**, daughter of **Member Shirley Umolac** for her generous donation to the MSMA project. She lives in Florida. To Members **Ron and Sue Hendrickson** who donated the proceeds from a recent rummage sale at their home in Parkland to the Sauna/Depot projects at the Windmill site.

CONGRATULATIONS: To **OBHS Family Members Cindy and Duane Crider** who just safely arrived from Wyoming with a long U-Haul van pulling a large boat to start the move into their new home on the Billings Park waterfront in Superior

OUR ENCOURAGEMENT & SYMPATHY: To all of us, but especially to the many whose health and livelihood has been directly impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Also to family & friends of the many, listed here, whom we have recently lost:

Gary "Eino" Olson, 65, Maple and **65**, North Charleston, S.C., who died July 19, 2020 after a long battle with cancer, youngest son and child of Mathias "Art" and Elsie Olson of Maple, survived by Diane Sutherland, his partner of 28 years, four of his sibling sisters and three of his brothers, preceded in death by his parents

Larry L. Pearson, 74, Cloverland and Lake Nebagamon, who died July 25, 2020 surrounded by his family at home, born in Superior in 1946, son of Harold and Helga (Anderson) Pearson, married Marilyn Swanson in 1969, general manager at Link Brothers Ford for many years before retirement, survived by wife, Marilyn, sons Paul (Summer) Pearson, Barnes, and Doug (Heidi) Pearson, Lake Nebagamon, sisters, Lorene (Don) Anderson, Maple, Linda (Jerry) Soyring, Maple, & Teresa (Rob) Reese, Duluth, & brother, Tim Pearson, Rochester, **Lillian Joanne (Granlund) Miller, 83**, Brule (Maple P O) who passed away August 2, 2020 at Middle River Health and Rehabilitation, Facility, born in Iron River, WI in 1937, grew up in Oulu, and attended the Pioneer and Washington Schools, then South Shore High School in Port Wing graduating in 1954, went on to UW-Whitewater the following year, in 1959 married Edwin Hissa of Oulu and together they had five children; in 1990 married Fran Miller, and this spring celebrated 30 years of marriage, living on the Granlund Farm, was the beloved "Mrs. Kantapää" in a favorite Finnish Midsummer skit with the "Golden Girls", survived by husband, Fran; children, Bruce Hissa, Webster, TX, Warren (Loretta) Hissa, Eagle, CO, John (Gina) Hissa, Iron River, Ann (Bill) Trautt; Oulu, and Nancy (Al) Ramirez, Pearland, TX; stepchildren, Joe and Pam Miller, Duluth, and Todd "Toad" Miller, Maple, grandchildren, Nicole (Jeff) Ojanen, Brittany Leigh Hissa, Donnie (Courtney) Hissa and Timothy Hissa, and a multitude of friends and family.

Karrie M. Amys (Wigley) 49, Poplar, who died July 27, 2020 at Essentia Health in Duluth, born in 1970 in Everett, WA. to Cheryl (Vandekop) Semanko & Arthur Ray Wigley, graduated from NWHS in Maple 1989, survived by her mother, brother, Donald Archambeau (Gale), 2 sisters, Cherree Carlson (Rick) & Annette Stumo (Jevon), 2 children Jackie Thompson & Paul Burger (Lita)

Patricia M. "Patty" Kauti, 68, Superior who died March 13, 2020 at home in Superior, born in Superior in 1951, daughter of Eino and Loretta (Severin) Kauti, survived by sisters, Lorraine Aho, and Bonnie (Richard) Lucas.

Earl A. Carignan, 71, Iron River & Superior who died July 18, 2020 at Solvay Hospice House due to cancer, born in Ashland to Robert & Clara Ann (Thompson) Carignan, grew up in Superior, was in the tavern business operating Carignan's Bar in Iron River.

Dean Allen Pooler, 70, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away July 26, 2020 at his residence amidst family, born in 1950, son of John and Helen (Carothers) Pooler in Superior, married Lucy Woodhull in 1970, served in the US Army from 1968 to 1971 & in that time spent 2 tours in Vietnam, then worked for the BNRR, with his brother David started Pooler Construction, survived by Lucy & family..

Roger Neal Hammer, 75, Iron River, who died July 15, 2020 near home, born in 1944 in Davenport, IA, a retired respiratory therapist & retired Marine & Vietnam Vet, survived by wife Vicki Hammer; daughters Staci Lin Hammer & Kimberly E. Hammer; 4 grandkids.

Danna Kathleen (Meronek) Swenson, 79, Superior, who passed away July 11, 2020 at St Luke's Hospital in Duluth, daughter of Mae & Leo Meronek, sister of Teddie Meronek & others, wife of UWS educator William Swenson, mother of Julie & Daniel, and an artist.

Margie A. (Swanson) Bleskan, 74, Superior & Blueberry, who died July 14, 2020 at Solvay Hospice House, Duluth, born in 1945 in Superior, daughter of Alvin & Genevieve (Lazarski) Swanson, married James Bleskan in 1969, survivors include husband & 3 siblings.

Katherine J. Falstad, 86, Kansas City, MO and Lake Nebagamon, who died July 9, 2020 at her cabin in Lake Nebagamon, born in 1933 in Duluth, daughter of Myrtle (Bell) and Earl Wellington Young, married Robert D. Falstad in 1955, 2 daughters, Kristin and Linda.

Barbara Nelson, 71, originally from Port Wing, who died June 28, 2020 in Reno, NV due to cancer, born in 1948 in Superior to C. Franklin Nelson & Virginia (now Garz) who survives, South Shore HS grad in 1966, moved to the Bay area of CA, worked for A T&T.

Richard "Dick" Williams, 89, Maple and Superior, an educator, who died Jan. 20, 2020, in his home from multiple myeloma, born Sept. 25, 1930, and a memorial service with military honors planned for July 10 at Lakeside Baptist Church were cancelled, interment in Pine Ridge Cemetery in Brule.

Derek Allan Tuura, 26, Brule, who. passed away May 20, 2020, born in 1994 to Renea Woerle and Gary Tuura, survived by his mother, Renea Woerle, stepfather; Scott Woerle, father; Gary (Rochelle) Tuura, six siblings, and a very large extended family.

Andrea DeBeir, 55, Iron River, and Superior, who passed away July 1, 2020 at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth, born in Superior in 1965, the daughter of Paul & Marla (Rydberg) DeBeir, survived by her son, Brennon (Angie) DeBeir, five siblings & two grandchildren.

Sally Ann (Charbonneau) Flaten, 85, Superior, who died June 14, 2020 at the home of her daughter, Dawn, born in 1934 in Superior, child of Lake Capt. Earl J & Cecelia (Geris) Charbonneau, married Don Flaten in 1934, had two daughters, Dawn & Sandra.

Lawrence J. Quam "Larry" 76, Superior, who died June 7, 2020, born in 1934, son of Lawrence & June Quam, married Yvonne in 1954, very active in the community, worked for Superior Sheriff's Department, served on the Douglas County Board., had five children,

Gary E. Dunbar, 68, Brule, who died June 7, 2020 at home, born in 1952 in Milwaukee, son of Archie & Agnes (Ballering) Dunbar, grew up in West Allis, WI, was an over the road trucker, married Sue Thibedeau and had 3 children, all who survive him.

Rosemary (Manske) Caven, 93, Lake Nebagamon, who passed away May 31, 2020, born in 1926 in Finlayson, MN to Frederick & Mae (Dosch) Manske, grew up in Crosby Beach, MN, married Roy Caven in 1949, 3 children, Timothy (Marcia) of Brule, Jeffrey & Jeanine.

Carol J. (Hoffren) Clark, 74, Superior, who died June 5, 2020, under hospice care at home, born in 1945 in Superior, daughter of Toivo and Lillian (Hendrickson) Hoffren, a banker, preceded in death by her parents & and husband, Kenneth R. Clark in 2016.

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 calendar year. Higher levels of support are always welcome.

New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!

CALENDAR.

August 12, Wednesday, 6 p.m. OBHS Annual Meeting, Amnicon Town Hall. Social distancing & masks. Bd. meets after.

August 15, Saturday. Davidson Windmill Tours **cancelled** due to COVID 19.

August 22, Saturday. MSMA Flea Market at Maple Town Hall, **cancelled** due to COVID 19.

September 7, Monday. Labor Day.

September 9, Wednesday. OBHS Board Meeting. Details to be announced.

September 13, Sunday. Grandparents Day.

September 22, Tuesday. First day of Autumn. Deadline for articles for October issue of *OBHS News*.

October 2-4, Friday to Sunday. Apple Festival Weekend Tours **cancelled** for 2020 due to COVID 19.

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.