The Finnish Community on Drummond Island
You are invited to hear Sault native Arthur Koski speak at the Chippewa County Historical Society general meeting on Wednesday, July 28, at 7 p.m. Arthur and his wife, Suzanne, are lecturers at the Finn Grand Fest 2010 in Sault, Ontario the next day. Arthur was a member of the Finnish-American community in Sault, Michigan, for 20 years. Some of that community was centered around St. John’s Lutheran Church on 4th Avenue. He and his wife live in Colorado.

Arthur attended Lincoln and Washington Schools and graduated from Sault High in 1953. He was a chemistry and physics major at the Sault Branch of Michigan Tech (now LSSU); at the University of Michigan he studied liberal arts, including Scandinavian literature. Arthur earned a degree in journalism from Wayne State University and worked in technical writing and public relations for Martin Marietta, now Lockheed Martin, in Orlando, Baltimore, and Denver, where he finished his career as Public Relations Director. He sought out the Finnish community in Denver and eventually joined the board of Finlandia Foundation National in 1998. He also studied Finnish in Denver, building on the conversational skills he had developed during summers with his grandmother Miina Laakso on Drummond Island.

His maternal grandparents, Miina and John Laakso, homesteaded on Drummond Island in 1906. They came from Luvia, Finland, via Brooklyn, New York. They were attracted to Drummond Island by the promise of 160 acres of land in the Finnish colony being established by Maggie Walz. Between 1905 and 1913, Finns established about 70 homesteads on eastern and southeastern Drummond Island. The population grew to about 300 by the late 1920s. Much of the organizing of this community was done by Maggie Walz, a Finnish immigrant who came to Hancock in 1881 from Tornio in Northern Finland. By 1903, she had become a land agent for 160-acre homesteads on Drummond Island. She envisioned a colony based on temperance and Christian principles. The colony was originally called Kreeta after her Finnish name, Margareeta Johanna Kontra Niranen, and she became the postmistress.

There were struggles in the Finnish community between socialists and those who were at least nominally Christian. A farmers’ association was established in 1908 under the leadership of Karl Palmroos and Antti Toivola. By 1913, a large Finn Hall was built with volunteer labor complete with a stage, a dining room, and a library. This served the entire community. A socialist activist, Aku Rissanen, who spent his summers on Drummond Island, even taught a socialist “Sunday School” in the Hall. Outnumbered by the socialists, Maggie left the Island in 1914. The Hall burned mysteriously on Halloween night in 1928. It was uninsured and never rebuilt. Group activity among the Finns ended by 1936.

Arthur Koski’s talk will be illustrated by photos of the early Finnish homesteads on Drummond Island, the homesteaders, and the Finn Hall. The talk is free to the public. Refreshments will be provided. You may park in our Portage Avenue parking lot and walk through the building to the front or, if Ashmun Street is accessible during the road construction, you may park on Ashmun Street.

Excursion on the St. Marys River
CCHS’s “Excursion on the St. Marys River, 1820-1860” was a tremendous success, thanks to many dedicated individuals. 132 of 146 available tickets were sold and the crowd enjoyed the perfect weather. Thank you to Soo Locks Boat Tours for donating the use of LeVoyageur for our fundraiser. Steve Welch and Rich Brawley were both very helpful with all the details involved. Captain Jack Cork and his crew were great to work with. Ken Miller did an excellent job of narrating the cruise, and we also thank him for donating the use of his drawing “Mackinaw Boat” as artwork for the ticket and the flyer. He also donated a print as a door prize that was won by Mary Rossiter, Sue Askwith and Dave Stanaway performed on the upper deck for the ride from Bell’s Point to downtown Sault, Ontario, making
Excursion on the St. Marys River (continued)
for a very enjoyable evening. Jane Duffield and Paul Pioszak did a great job serving the refreshments. Mary M. June wrote the historical narration and Ken Miller, Dee Stevens, and Susan James assisted. Amber Clement designed the ticket, flyer, and map handout. Extra copies of the map are available for purchase for $2 in the Gift Shop. We are also grateful for the many donated items, including a cake from Soo Co-op, and to Askwith Gifts, Captain Mary Schallip, Dee Stevens, and Sault Historic Sites for door prizes. CCHS made over $2,700 after expenses that will be added to our capital campaign to assist with renovations of our building. We hope to be able to offer this fundraiser again in the future. Thanks to everyone for their assistance; a list of names is adjacent. Thank you too to those who joined us for the ride.

THANK YOUS:
Soo Locks Boat Tours
Steve Welch
Rich Brawley
Sue Askwith and Dave Stanaway
Captain Jack Cork and crew

Door Prizes:
Askwith Gifts
Captain Mary Schallip
Chippewa County Historical Society
Dee Stevens
Ken Miller
Sault Historic Sites

Refreshments:
Jane Duffield & Paul Pioszak
Soo Co-op donated a cake
Soo Locks Boat Tours donated coffee

Ticket Sales:
Sault Area Chamber of Commerce
Sault Convention and Visitors Bureau
Board members of the CCHS
Gift Shop volunteers - Mike Bennett, Norajean Wilcox,
Caroline Grabowski, Sharyn Faunt, Ginny & Gil Cymbalist,
Patty Olsen, Mary June, Susan James

Publicity:
Sharon Dorrity
Tim Ellis
The Evening News
Tom Ewing, WSOO
Susan James
Jean Jones, Alberta House Newsletter
Tom Pink, LSSU
Marian MacLeod
The Sault Star
Jessica Stanaway

Design of Ticket, Flyer & Map:
Amber Clement
Ken Miller (use of “Mackinaw Boat” image and donation of charts)
Mary M. June
Susan James

Planning Committee:
Mary M. June, chair
Ken Miller
Jane Duffield
Dee Stevens
Amber Clement
Ginny Cymbalist
Susan James
Charles Follo Award

Nancy was nominated for her dedication to CCHS and to local history. She has been the driving force that helped reinvigorate the Society and build a solid financial base to ensure its future. She was instrumental in setting up a capital campaign to purchase and renovate the Society's headquarters and also in helping secure grants to assist with renovations of the building and other projects. Board members Mary M. June, Ginny Cymbalist, Amber Clement, and Susan James traveled to Menominee for the presentation at the 61st Annual U.P. History Conference. It was an exciting moment and Nancy richly deserves the honor. Congratulations, Nancy! Past Follo winners and CCHS members include Yvonne Hogue-Peer, Annegret Goehring, Bob Money, and Carol Taylor.

Sault Sweeps Awards

Bayliss Public Library was presented with the Superior Award at the U.P. History Conference in Menominee at the end of June. According to the Historical Society of Michigan, "the Joseph H. Steere Room houses an archive of national significance that brings researchers to the city from all over America. The collection originated with a gift from Steere, who had helped found Sault Ste. Marie's Carnegie Library. The collection has mushroomed over the years to become a magnificent collection that transcends merely local importance. Holdings include items from the American Fur Company; the papers of Peter Barbeau, an early Sault Ste. Marie merchant and advocate for the Soo Locks; the papers of Barbeau's son-in-law and business partner Myron Scranton; the papers of fur trader and merchant George Johnston; records of the Port of Mackinac; and many more. The library's staff has worked tirelessly to make this collection available to researchers with the development of finding aids to the collections, digitized images, and an extensive vertical file. As a result, the library's collection is seeing continual and increasing use." Library director Ken Miller traveled to Menominee to receive the award. We are all proud of Bayliss Public Library and library employee Nancy Steinhaus for enabling the Sault to sweep the awards this year.

History Fest

CCHS will host the Sault History Fest 2010 this summer. It is our second annual celebration of the Sault's history. The festival will take place on the grounds at Portage Avenue between Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock 2 and the Power Canal. Festivities will begin on Friday evening, July 30 and will feature an old fashioned fish boil, music by the Finn Hall band from 5 until 8 p.m., and the Saginaw Voyageur encampment. A history fest flyer is enclosed in your newsletter. On Saturday, July 31, activities will continue on the festival site from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Music and entertainment will be ongoing throughout the day as will games, crafts and activities for kids. Mark your calendar for an event filled with food, fun, and adventure.

Tom Melville of Milwaukee, Wisconsin will offer participatory cricket games all day. Local participants of any age make up the teams and have an opportunity to play short, informal cricket games just as British/Americans did in the early 19th century, using historically replicated equipment and costume. For a video of this activity, go to www.vimeo.com/1239177.

Randy Miller of Mulliken, Michigan, will demonstrate and discuss early Michigan trapping and trading. This "encampment" and display (including trade items, firearms, life necessities, and luxuries of the era) will be showcased for people of all ages to view and enjoy.

This year the festival will provide tours of the Maple Ridge Cemetery located on Ashmun Street. Caroline Grabowski has spent hours researching Maple Ridge Cemetery and will share fascinating stories of the cemetery's history and of the people buried there. Thanks to the City of Sault Ste. Marie, the Governor Chase S. Osborn Trust Fund, and the efforts of many City employees this historic cemetery has been restored and fenced.

Fish Boil tickets are available at CCHS during Gift Shop hours and at the Sault Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), next to the Soo Theatre. Tickets are $12 each and include a full dinner. Thanks to the CVB for their sponsorship of the Fish Boil and to the Governor Chase S. Osborn Trust Fund for their $2,500 grant to help fund the History Fest this year.

Continued on next page
History Fest (continued)
For the children’s activities, History Fest organizer Ginny Cymbalist is still looking for the following items either on loan or as gifts to CCHS:
- clothes wringer that fits over wash tubs
- an old hand pump
- glass butter churn
- examples of other types of churns
- burlap bags
- old wooden knitting needles and crochet hooks
Please contact Ginny at ggcymbalist@yahoo.com or through the CCHS office, 906-635-7082.

Historic Churches
The 2010 “Historic Churches of Sault Ste. Marie” series has begun. It is currently in its 10th year. We have had several programs so far in July with good attendance. The programs run on Monday nights through August 23. Please see the enclosed flyer for more information. The last program, on August 23, will be at the Salvation Army Citadel with Captain Daniel M. Voss, the new commander, presenting “Salvation Army 101” at 7 p.m. Join us for entertaining evenings that are free to the public and celebrate the Sault’s history. The Historic Churches program is organized by the CCHS and is funded by donations, so your contributions are welcome.

John Kenn Talk
Historian John Kenn gave an entertaining and informative talk in April on Sault area schools to a full house at our Annual Meeting. He provided handouts listing the numerous area one-room schools in Chippewa County and one showing the years of use of the various Sault school buildings. Various displays documented the locations and photos of the various area schools. John lent the displays to CCHS for several months for visitors to see. Bob Money provided book displays of early school readers at Bayliss Public Library leading up to the talk and at CCHS the night of the talk. Thank you to Tony Stackpoole of Cup of the Day for donated coffee; Leanne Barnes Deuman, Marie Carter, Margaret Money, and Mary M. June for donated refreshments.

Jane J. Schoolcraft Award
The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians recently presented CCHS with a plaque honoring the memory of Jane Johnston Schoolcraft, a 2008 inductee into the Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame in Lansing. Schoolcraft was a 19th century Sault Ste. Marie author and historic figure of Ojibwe and European descent. For more information on Jane and the Hall of Fame, see http://hall.michiganwomen.org.

4th of July Parade
CCHS Board members Ginny Cymbalist, Patty Olsen, and Susan James walked in this year’s 4th of July parade in Sault Ste. Marie handing out flyers for upcoming events — the boat cruise, the Historic Churches programs, and the Sault History Fest. Mary M. June kept CCHS open for visitors before, during, and after the parade.

New Board Members
We welcome Amber Clement, Jane Duffield, Sharyn Faunt, and Dennis Hank as new Board members. They came on board in April and have already put in numerous volunteer hours. Amber designed our boat cruise ticket, flyer, and map and will be installing lettering on our front windows that reads—Gift Shop and History Center. Jane expertly planned and served the refreshments on the boat cruise. Sharyn has volunteered in the gift shop, including on the hectic day of the boat cruise, and donated funds for our new window lettering. Dennis is negotiating a possible Soo Line engine for display in town and has a display of his collection at CCHS. We are also grateful to them for their help with ticket sales for the boat cruise.

Water Street Historic Block Update
Despite the mess on Water Street this summer, and perhaps because of it, work on the historic buildings is progressing. Bids have been taken for numerous projects that should be concluded this summer and some of the projects have already been completed:
- Electrical contractor, Tim Korcal of Positive Energy Ltd., placed an underground conduit across Water Street so that electrical service can be provided underground to all three of the historical homes in the future.
- Water and gas service will also be in place for service in the future, thanks to the city.
• Local contractor, Art Derry, has completely finished the floors in the Kemp Industrial Museum.
• Although there is still some work to be done, most of the Baraga House has been gutted, thanks to volunteer Jim Colvin.
• Bids have been obtained for carpentry, electrical, and insulation work to be done in the Baraga House.
• Bids have been obtained for painting the interior of the west dependency and the exterior carpentry work and painting of the Schoolcraft House.

All of the projects being undertaken this summer are being funded through the City of Sault Ste. Marie and grants from the Governor Chase S. Osborn Trust Fund.

Special thanks should be given to Waste Management for the contribution of a dumpster and to them and Bacco Construction Company for their cooperation in moving the dumpster as needed.

Thank you too to Sharon MacLaren for all of her work on behalf of the Water Street Historic Block, the Sault History Fest, and other projects this summer.

Gems of Lake Superior 3-D Photo Show
Join CCHS and the Soo Theatre on September 18 for “Gems of Lake Superior: A 3-D Trip around Lake Superior in 1870” fundraiser. Jack Deo of Superior View in Marquette will present two programs from stereoscopic views by photographer Brainard F. Childs and others. Childs was the premier photographer of the Lake Superior district.

The September 18 programs will take place at the Soo Theatre. About 200 images will be shown, including views from around Lake Superior, including the Sault, Duluth, Marquette, Pictured Rocks, Whitefish Point, Apostle Islands, and Montreal Falls. Enjoy scenes of Native Americans, mining camps, towns, ore docks, schooners, steam ships, rivers, and waterfalls. 3-D glasses will be provided and collected after the show. There will be a matinee at 2 p.m. that is free for children 18 and under.

The evening show will take place at 7 p.m. and last about an hour. Tickets are $10 for adults for the matinee and all tickets for the evening show are also $10. Tickets will be sold at the Soo Theatre, CCHS Gift Shop, and at the door, if not sold out. The matinee showing is supported by a grant from the Roberts P. and Ella B. Hudson Foundation. Jack Deo recently presented this show to enthusiastic audiences in Duluth; Ashland, Wisconsin; Thunder Bay, Ontario; and Calumet. You may see other views at http://www.viewsfromthepast.com. The June issue of Lake Superior Magazine featured an article about his upcoming shows.

Building Update
Work is not yet completed on the kitchenette, but we expect to have it done soon. You will notice that we have a new weighted sign on wheels that we display in front of the building when the gift shop and displays are open. Also out front, we have pots of assorted colorful flowers from Country Road Greenhouse that Mary M. June donated.

New in the Gift Shop
Artist Jeanne Tubman’s “Soo Line” prints are now available for purchase in our gift shop. Jan Huttenstine’s new book Remotely Yours: A Historic Journey into the Whitefish Point Area is now available in the shop. Volunteer Mike Bennett has donated some books on the fur trade and volunteer Caroline Grabowski has donated some beautiful antique pins for sale in the shop. Harold and Gail Essmaker donated a print to sell by Paul A. Essmaker of “Three is a Crowd” showing the steamer Cason J. Callaway. Bernie Arbic and Dee Stevens’ book Then and Now: The Changing Face of Sault Ste. Marie is available again, in a second printing for the same low price of $10.

Our gift shop and displays are open Monday to Friday, 1-4 p.m., as volunteers are available, and on occasional Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., during the Farmers’ Market. Thank you to the volunteers who have worked in our gift shop since our reopening in April — Mike Bennett, Ginny and Gil Cymbalist, Sharyn Faunt, Caroline Grabowski, Susan James, Mary M. June, Patty Olsen, Norajean Wilcox. If you would like to help us in the gift shop occasionally, please give us a call or write to cchs@sault.com.

Then and Now Photo Display
The “Then and Now” display of photos by Walter Materna paired with current images by Bernie Arbic is on display at CCHS. It will be on view at the August 3 Summer Arts Festival.

Carl Materna Photography Donation
Sault photographer, Carl Materna, brother of Walter Materna, died a few months ago. His daughter, Karlene Crawford, recently donated a collection of his photos and negatives and some of his camera equipment to CCHS. We are pleased to add Carl Materna’s photos to our collection. Included in the gift are aerial photos of the Sault and many other images yet to be archived and scanned. We see many possibilities for future photo projects. We thank the Materna family for their generosity to CCHS in adding to our Materna family photo collection and helping preserve Sault area history.

History of Lighted Flag
The lighted flag on CCHS’s roof is a patriotic landmark that serves to locate our building as well as add interest to the city’s skyline, especially at night. Thanks to Tony Stackpoole’s Evening News “Open Forum” from July 11, 2000, I was reminded that the American flag has been re-illuminated for ten years. Back in early 2000, years before CCHS owned
the building, the Downtown Development Authority and the City of Sault Ste. Marie began a project to restore the illuminated flag that had fallen into disrepair. It had not been lit for over 20 years. Rick and Rod Roy renovated the flag in 2000, according to Tony's article, replacing the wiring, bulbs, porcelain sockets, and electrical motor. Chuck Fabry of Soo Welding and his staff removed the flag so that it could be worked on. Peggy and Norm Cardinal sold the flag and easement rights to the city for one dollar. The city continues to reimburse us for the monthly electric charges; the Sault Lions Club paid the bill in 2000-01. Over the years, caretakers for the flag have included Edison Sault employees, Jesse Knoll, Dr. Tom Robinson, and Tony Stackpoole.

CCHS friend Jack DeWeese, who used to work for Edison Sault Electric Company, did some research and inquiring, but has not been able to determine when the flag was installed at 115 Ashmun Street. According to Tony's article, Edison Sault employees took up donations to place the flag there. One theory is that the flag may have been installed after the Evening News offices left the building in 1924. Others speculate it may have been placed there in the 1940s. If anyone has any additional information about the lighted flag, please contact CCHS at 906-635-7082 or send an e-mail to cchs@sault.com or a letter to P.O. Box 342.

Volunteers Needed
Volunteers are needed at the History Fest, July 30 and 31; Summer Arts Festival, August 3; and at Sidewalk Sales at our used book table on August 6 and 7. We are setting up 2 hour shifts and would love to have you involved. Also, we could use help in our Gift Shop, especially during the Sault Farmers' Market times on Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., during the summer and early fall. Please contact us.

Used Books Needed
CCHS is in need of used books for our table at the August Sidewalk Sales. If you have books to donate, please drop them off during gift shop hours at the front door, 1-4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Mondays are the best time to reach us through the back entrance from the parking lot, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Thanks for your help!

History of Lighted Flag (continued)

Volunteer Spotlight
Ann Marie Smith, who coordinates the Friends of Bayliss Library's Farmers' Market table of information and used books on Wednesdays, is also helping out CCHS. She provides information about CCHS and our events at the market table and distributes our flyers around town and the EUP. Since CCHS is across the street from the market, she is an excellent spokesperson/cheerleader for us. We hope to be able to keep the shop open during more of the market times, as volunteers are available.

EUPHC Fall Meeting
The fall meeting of the Eastern Upper Peninsula History Consortium will take place at Whitefish Point on October 9. Author Jan Huttenstine will be the speaker.


Michigan Notable Author
CCHS organized a display of Poe Lock photographs and artifacts for Bayliss Library's May Michigan Notable Author event. Author Paul Taylor spoke about his book Orlando M. Poe: Civil War General and Great Lakes Engineer, mentioning Poe's involvement with the Soo Locks and Great Lakes lighthouses. For the display, Mr. and Mrs. John Wellington lent lighthouse and boat models and Marie Carter donated a lighthouse poster. Mary M. June and Bernie Arbic wrote the sign text. Other CCHS items included Locks photos donated by Cris Roll, commemorative plates donated by Mark Kennedy and Mike Bennett, and a core sample by Jerry Wurster. Our thanks to Bernie Arbic, Carolyn Person, Amber Clement, Nancy Gillotte, and Sault Realism for their assistance.

SAVE THESE DATES:
CCHS Events
Sept. 18, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., “Gems of Lake Superior: A 3-D Trip around Lake Superior in 1870,” co-sponsored by CCHS and the Soo Theatre. It will take place at the Soo Theatre.

Oct. 20, 7 p.m., Jan Huttenstine will speak about her new book, Remotely Yours: A Historic Journey into the Whitefish Point Area, at CCHS's general meeting.

Bayliss Public Library Events
July 29, 7 p.m., Local author Leon Hank will speak about his book of stories about family and hunting in the U.P.

August 19, 7 p.m., Dr. James “Ted” Walker will speak about “Christ and the Art of the Earliest Christians”

River Soundings Newsletter
Would you like to be a newsletter sponsor? It costs $50 for bulk mail postage and $175 to print our quarterly newsletters. We also appreciate volunteers who can help us on short notice with preparing the newsletter for mailing. Please consider helping us in any way you can.
Membership Renewals
Please check your mailing label to see if it is time for you to consider renewing your membership. The first line of the label lists your membership status and your expiration date. If you see asterisks there, you are receiving a complimentary membership, but we would appreciate your support with a contribution, if at all possible. Thank you to everyone who has renewed. We appreciate your continued support of our organization. If you can this year, why not include an extra donation with your renewal, or upgrade your membership to the next level. We count on your support and our costs are increasing.

Thank you to the following:
Capital Campaign Donations since March:
Jim Dwyer
Mick & Nancy Gillotte
Lowell & Gail Ulrich
Norajean Wilcox

Life Members:
Carole (McMorris) Bosshart

New Members:
Jim Dwyer
John & Barb Kenn

Renewals:
Jane E. Carr
Jack DeWeese
Sharon & Dan Dorrrity
Frances Finlayson
Meta S. Geyer
Mick & Nancy Gillotte
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Rich & Judy Hill
Arthur Koski
Phillip A. Mollet
Wayne & Patty Olsen
Paul E. Ripley
Theresa Schenck
Laurel Trim
Lowell & Gail Ulrich
Beverly G. Ward

Donations:
Melissa Belevender
Mike Bennett
Corey Davis
Pat & Deb Egan
Sharyn Faunt
Bob & Margaret Money
Diana Pingatore
Gayle A. Shell in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Hank

Donations of Services:
Bernie Arbic - scanning & printing photos
Mike Bennett - building work
Jim Colvin - building work
William Gerrish - newsletter design

Volunteers:
Robert Aldrich, Bernie Arbic, Susan Askwith,
Mike Bennett, Marie Carter, Amber Clement, Jim Colvin,
Ginny & Gil Cymbalist, Leanne Barnes Deuman,
Jack DeWeese, Sharon Dorrity, Jane Duffield, Jim Dwyer,
Tim Ellis, Sharyn Faunt, Bill Gerrish, Peter & Georgia
Gianakura, Caroline Grabowski, Dennis Hank,
Susan James, Mary M. June, John Kenn, Arthur Koski,
Sharon MacLaren, Marian MacLeod, Ken & Dee Miller,
Robert & Margaret Money, Sonja Norris, Patty Olsen,
Jennifer Parker, Carolyn Person, Paul Pioszak,
Ann Marie Smith, Dave & Jessica Stanaway,
Tony Stackpoole, Dee Stevens, Daniel Voss,
Norajean Wilcox, Jackie Willey

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Susan James, Arthur Koski, Ken Miller, Sharon Dorrity,
Ginny Cymbalist, Sharon MacLaren, Rick Smith,
Bernie Arbic, Mary M. June

Newsletter Designer:
William Gerrish

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- Individual $20
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- Contributing $50
- Business/Corporate/Org. $50
- Lifetime $200+
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Name __________________________________________
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Please keep me in mind for:  □ Volunteer Work  □ Board Member  □ Capital Campaign

Make checks payable to: Chippewa County Historical Society, P.O. Box 342, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Office Hours:
Monday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Tuesday, 10 a.m.-noon
and by appointment

Gift Shop Hours:
Monday-Friday, 1-4 p.m.
Open during office hours,
events, and by appt.
Please call ahead.

Join us on Wed., July 28, at 7 p.m.,
at CCHS, 115 Ashmun St. for
Arthur Koski’s talk on the “The Finnish
Community on Drummond Island”

YES! I want to be a CCHS Member!