A History of the U.S. Weather Bureau Building at Locks Park
By Bruce Lynn and Susan James

Not only does the interest of commerce and navigation, but also that of humanity itself, demand that something should be done, if possible, to prevent the fearful loss of life and property on our Great Lakes, such as has recently filled so many newspaper columns with their appalling details. If we could have even a few hours' notice of the approach of the great storms that bring these calamities upon us, much of their mischief could be avoided...I take the liberty of calling your attention to the list of disasters to the commerce of our Great Lakes during the past two years, and ask whether its appalling magnitude does not make it the duty of the government to see whether anything can be done to prevent, at least, a portion of this sad loss in the future.

(continued on page 2)
A History of the U.S. Weather Bureau Building
(continued from front page)

Such were the words of Dr. Increase Lapham, “Father of the U.S. Weather Service,” in his December 1869 plea to Congress that weather stations be constructed in strategic locations across the Great Lakes. Dr. Lapham was spurred to action by the 1,164 shipwrecks in 1868 (321 lives lost) and the 1,914 shipwrecks in 1869 (209 lives lost).

The U.S. Weather Bureau Building was constructed on the grounds of the Soo Locks in 1899 and advised ship captains of lake conditions for nearly 40 years. The Sault Ste. Marie station acted as a central weather forecast office. Later, the station was converted to an American Merchant Marine Library Association structure and, more recently, the administrative offices for the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society. Learn more about this historic structure and its history on Wednesday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m.

Bruce Lynn, Executive Director of the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, will speak about “A History of the U.S. Weather Bureau Building at Locks Park” at CCHS’s Annual Meeting to be held in the Community Room at Bayliss Public Library. Refreshments will be provided.

Sault Summer History Camp 2013
By Patty Olsen

The CCHS is pleased to again sponsor a history camp for elementary students this summer. It will be held from July 8 through July 12, and is open to students who have completed third through fifth grades. The theme for this summer is individuals who have contributed to the history of Sault Ste. Marie. Students will delve more into the Johnston and Schoolcraft families and their interests. Students will be studying the rock formations in the area with a field trip planned to the Natural Science Park at the high school. The building of the first Fort Brady and the changes that occurred in the location of the Fort are also on the agenda. Students will receive information on the camp following Spring Break. Ginny Cymbalist and Patty Olsen, both members of the CCHS Board and retired elementary teachers, will head the camp. Tuition is $75 for the five-day camp. Enrollment is limited to 20 students. For more information, please email cchs@sault.com. Thank you to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) for awarding CCHS a $1,230 mini-grant to help cover expenses.

Annual Meeting: Nominations and Elections

April is when CCHS holds its Annual Meeting and Elections. This year they will take place on Wednesday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m. at Bayliss Public Library. The brief business meeting and elections will be held prior to Bruce Lynn’s talk.

Board members who served during 2012-13 are: Mary M. June, President; Susan James, Vice President, Programs and Publications; Constance M. Baker, Vice President, Membership and Fundraising; Bernie Arbic, Treasurer; Virginia Cymbalist, Secretary; Amber Clement; Don Cooper; Jim Dwyer; Tim Ellis; Sharyn Faunt; Caroline Grabowski; Dennis Hank; Patty Olsen; Carolyn Person; Janet Russell; Karen Sabatine; and Paul Sabourin. We wish to thank all of our board members for their participation and support over the past year.

In April 2013, the following board members’ terms will end: Amber Clement, Sharyn Faunt, Dennis Hank, Mary M. June, Carolyn Person, and Constance M. Baker’s interim appointment. Constance Baker, Dennis Hank, Mary M. June, and Carolyn Person have indicated their interest in continuing as board members. Amber Clement and Sharyn Faunt have decided to step down for personal reasons, but will continue to help the Society as their schedules permits. We appreciate their past service and support.

The Nomination Committee of Caroline Grabowski, Karen Sabatine, and Paul Sabourin present the following slate for three-year terms on CCHS’s Board of Directors: Constance M. Baker, Dennis Hank, Mary M. June, and Carolyn Person for terms ending in 2016. Thank you to the nominees. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

The Nomination Committee presents the following slate for CCHS’s Officers of the Board: Mary M. June for President, Susan James for Vice President of Programs and Publications, Constance M. Baker for Vice President of Membership and Fundraising, Bernie Arbic for Treasurer, and Virginia Cymbalist for Secretary.

Gift Shop

The Gift Shop will reopen on Monday, April 8, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. We hope to be open each weekday, from 1:00-4:00 p.m., as volunteers are available. Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped in the shop this past year. If you would like to help us this year, please let us know by emailing cchs@sault.com, leaving a message at 635-7082, or speaking to one of our Board members.

CCHS Launches Annual Fund

By Constance Baker

On May 1, the CCHS will launch its first Annual Fund aimed at increasing the number of donors providing financial resources to support the organization’s yearly operations. Fundraising efforts will be channeled toward raising $20,000 to support the various annual educational programs, continue accessioning and cataloging CCHS’s collections, compose and distribute the quarterly CCHS newsletter, River Soundings, and operate the CCHS building.

CCHS volunteers will use the following strategies to reach new donors: person-to-person solicitation, direct mail, telephone, email, and canvassing at CCHS programs and special events. Persons interested in assisting with CCHS’s Annual Fund effort should contact Connie Baker, V.P., Membership and Fundraising, at cbaker1@iupui.edu.

Riverside Cemetery Tour

By Paul Sabourin and Caroline Grabowski

Pierre Barbeau (died 1882) and Mary Ann Anthony (died 1895) are two of our Board members. They have led tours of the Maple Ridge Cemetery and they will do so again in October. These events are fundraisers for CCHS and...
the admission charge is $5.00 per person. Refreshments will be provided. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather. The cemetery is located on Riverside Drive, south of 3 Mile Road. Look for our tent.

Did you know that Riverside Cemetery was established in 1890? The Catholic section of the cemetery was opened in 1901, after Maple Ridge Cemetery closed. Riverside Cemetery has over 20,000 burials, and is set on 80 acres of land; 40 of which are currently developed. Thank you to the City of Sault Ste. Marie for permission to hold these tours.

**Date Plaques for Your Home or Business**

Recently, Ken Miller, library director, and Susan James, assistant director, showed off their new date plaques at Bayliss Library. Come Spring the plaques will be adorning their respective homes. What a great way to celebrate the history of your home and community, and support the Chippewa County Historical Society at the same time. Ken’s plaque includes the name of the family that built and lived in his home. His late wife, Dee Ann, had done extensive research on their house and was especially proud of its history.

The plaques are made of cast aluminum with gold-colored letters and numbers on a black background. The basic plaque is 12½” x 7½” and costs $75. The larger plaque, 14¼” x 10¼”, is available for $100 and includes a third line of text of up to 14 characters. For $25 extra, a historical society member will help you research the date of your home. To receive a brochure, place an order, or for more information, please email cchs@sault.com or call 635-7082. Brochures are also available at Bayliss Library and at CCHS. Thank you to Caroline Grabowski and Paul Sabourin for organizing this successful, ongoing fundraiser. Soo Builders Supply generously contributed to the cost of the brochure printing. They have been building Sault Ste. Marie since 1922!

**War of 1812 Exhibit**

The National Museum of the U.S. Navy created a traveling mini-exhibit, War of 1812: A Nation Forged by War that is currently on view at CCHS. The display commemorates the 200-year anniversary of the War of 1812 and highlights the prominent role of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, and the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service in bringing Great Britain to the negotiating table and forcing European recognition of a truly independent United States. It tells the stories of heroic U.S. Navy crews in battles on the oceans and Great Lakes, as well as the contributions of sailors in celebrated land battles from Canada to Louisiana.

The War of 1812 was fought between the U.S. and Great Britain from June 18, 1812 to February 17, 1815 and was sparked by conflicting maritime policies and competing western expansion along the U.S.-Canadian frontier. After 2½ years, the young American republic and the world’s leading superpower found themselves in a stalemate and concluded a fair and equitable peace. According to curator Dr. Edward Furgol, “The Navy played an essential role in preserving the strategic status quo that led to an unconditional peace with Britain in December 1814.” The favorable outcome greatly elevated the international standing of the U.S. and boosted the self-confidence of the American people at a critical time in their history.

For visitors with smart phones, additional content is available by scanning the QR code on each panel. To learn more about the Navy’s contributions to American history, visit www.history.navy.mil/nmusn. Thank you to Paul Sabourin for facilitating this gift to CCHS.

**Historic Churches 2013**

Planning is underway for this summer’s Historic Churches programs. They are held on Monday evenings beginning in late June and will continue through most of August. The schedule will be available in June at CCHS, the participating churches, Bayliss Library, the Chamber of Commerce, and various museums and businesses. We hope to see you at the events that bring attention to our architectural gems, area history, and talented performers.

**Rendezvous in the Sault/History Fest 2013**

By Ginny Cymbalist

The planning committee is excited about this year’s History Fest, billed as “Rendezvous in the Sault, a History Fest Event.” We are fortunate to have the planning help of Harry and Rose Burgess, of Port Huron, who have organized the successful Feast of the Ste. Claire for 35 years. The Burgesses will act as hosts for the rendezvous portion of our event.

The kick-off will be a concert by Genot Picor and La Compagnie on Friday evening, July 26, in Locks Park. You may have seen Genot’s wonderful stories, which will continue to be featured in the Evening News each Sunday until the event.

Saturday, July 27, and Sunday, July 28, will be event-filled days encompassing the north City Hall lawn and the Water Street Historic Buildings. We have over 50 participants registered for the encampment portion and expect that there will be more. These people will re-enact what life was like in Sault Ste. Marie from 1668-1840. People participating will represent all walks of life and skills—candle wicking, spinning, fur trading, trapping, gunsmithing, cooking, leatherwork, and more. We’ll have a town crier, authentic food for sale, military musters and demonstrations, cannon firing, fife and drum, fiddle playing, storytelling, dancing, singing, and more. Many activities will be participatory and some items will be for sale.

The Historic Water Street homes will be open with docents. In that area, we’ll have children’s activities, spinners, artisans, re-enactors, and visits from historic Sault personalities. Susan Johnston will again be cooking and tending her chickens. There will be a “farm” with sheep and a goat. We’re also working to involve the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians in the planning and implementation of Rendezvous.

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Rendezvous in the Sault/History Fest 2013
(continued from page 3)
There will be a small admission charge which will enable one to attend
the Rendezvous and enter the homes on Saturday and/or Sunday. Sault
Downtown Days (formerly Sidewalk Sales) will be held on Friday, July
26, and Saturday, July 27. The Downtown Development Authority will
coordinate with us to encourage people to attend both Saturday events.

There are many opportunities to help with Rendezvous/History Fest
and volunteers are needed. You may help with any number of activities
before, during, or after the event, from stuffing envelopes to sewing
costumes, to manning the admission gates, to dressing in costume and
wandering the grounds, to writing thank-you notes, to serving on the
planning committee, to donating to the cause. To find out about volunteer
or donation opportunities (or to offer suggestions), please contact Ginny
Cymbalist at 632-9523 or ggcybalist@yahoo.com. Or phone CCHS
and leave a message. Watch our website, www.historicwaterstreet.org/
rendezvous for updated information about participants and activities.

Our thanks to Rose and Harry Burgess for their work and expertise
and to committee members Angie Patterson, Ginny Cymbalist, Susan
Askwith, Caroline Grabowski, Sharon Dorrity, Paul Sabourin, Mike
Bennett, Tom Ewing, and Phyllis Bigelow, who are working hard to
make this event a success. Rendezvous in the Sault/History Fest 2013
is made possible by generous support from the Sault Convention
and Visitors Bureau and the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Osborn Trust.
Donations to and proceeds from this event will go toward future
Rendezvous and to restoring the Water Street Historic Buildings.

Cloverland Electric Digitizing Project

Volunteers from CCHS and Cloverland Electric Cooperative have
completed scanning and cataloging almost 1,000 glass plate negatives
of the construction of the power canal and powerhouse in the Society’s
collection. Over 100 hours of volunteer time, since last August, were spent
in viewing and commenting on the contents of the plates. Some of the
Cloverland volunteers were familiar with the equipment featured in the
negatives, making possible a more precise database. Construction of the
canal and the powerhouse was a remarkable undertaking and CCHS is
fortunate to have this record of a major historical event in Sault Ste. Marie.
Thanks to Cloverland Electric Cooperative for making the digitization
possible through their commitment of financial and human resources.

U.P. Sports History Talk

Dan Truckey, Director of the Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center in
Marquette, spoke at CCHS’s January meeting at Bayliss Public Library
about “High School Sports Legends of the U.P.” He spoke about how the
selections were made of athletes to feature in the Marquette exhibit and
how difficult it was to limit the exhibit to a manageable size. He covered
a variety of high school sports highlighting different teams, coaches, and
individuals. The exhibit ended on March 30. Members of the exhibit’s EUP
committee, Rob Roos, Jim Dwyer, and Larry Rubick, were in attendance
that night, as well as John Payment, the Brimley High School student who
broke the all-state, all class high jump record in May 1989 with his jump
of 7’1” at the U.P. finals in Marquette. The record still stands for all schools
in Michigan. Other dignitaries in attendance were Mary Parker Brooks,
Brent Belleau, manager of Cloverland’s hydroelectric plant,
and Bernie Arbic

Mary Parker Brooks and Norbert Bennin
daughter of Brimley Boys Basketball Coach Karl Parker and granddaughter of another U.P. Sports Hall of Famer and Norbert Bennin, who also coached basketball. Over 30 people attended the program, including Mike McKee of the Evening News who posted a photo on the January 10 front page as well as photos of CCHS Board members, Dan Truckey, and John Payment and family on a subsequent FaceTime page.

**EUP History Consortium Meeting**
The next meeting will take place on Saturday, May 4, at the Rudyard Township Hall. Astrid Flanders, of Trout Lake, the daughter of a German army officer, will speak about her childhood on an island in the North Sea during WWII, and emigrating to the U.S. in the 1950s.

**Internship**
By Mary M. June
Since January, Heather Mead, from Springport, has been working with us as an intern. She is a History major with a minor in Geography, who is due to graduate this Spring from LSSU. While at CCHS she has been involved in scanning and recording our collection of glass plate negatives, helping accession donations to CCHS's collections, creating labels for artwork on display, and assisting with research and the creation of a display. She spent time at Bayliss Library learning about archival preservation and helping transcribe some historic documents. She also spent time familiarizing herself with Kenneth J. Shouldice Library's Special Collection area and assisting with a library display. We have enjoyed working with Heather and wish her well.

**Grant from the Hudson Foundation**
In December, CCHS was awarded a generous grant of $2,000 from the Roberts P. and Ella B. Hudson Foundation for upgrades to its PastPerfect collection database, a FlipPal portable scanner, and archival preservation materials. We are grateful to the Foundation for its continued support of our mission to preserve area history and make it more accessible to the public.

**CCHS Building Update**
By Carolyn Person
Several volunteers are hard at work accessioning and organizing the collection at CCHS. The collection has really grown over the past few years and the group is getting caught up with all the new items. An up-to-date cataloging program has been purchased by the Society, thanks to a generous grant from the Roberts P. and Ella B. Hudson Foundation, and we will begin inputting the data very soon. A searchable database will make research easier and give people access to the collection. If you would like to join us in the cataloging and sorting process, please call CCHS, as we would appreciate assistance.

**Historic Water Street Homes**
By Mary M. June
Plans are in the works for the opening of the Historic Water Street Homes and the Kemp Coal Dock Office Museum this summer. The Historic Structures Committee has submitted its proposed budget to the City and is waiting to hear if it is approved. The committee is planning to improve the signage for the area and have it completed before the homes open on Engineers Day (the last Friday in June). CCHS volunteer Roger Blanchard hopes to get started working on the Baraga House again in May. Last summer he was able to work two days a week on the home and make great progress. We are looking for volunteers with carpentry experience who can help him one or two days a week. If you are interested, please contact us at cchs@sault.com or 635-7082.

**Women's Suffrage Event**
CCHS participated in a Women's Suffrage program held in February at Bayliss Library. We were one of the four donors towards the licensing fee to show the movie "Iron Jawed Angels." Bayliss Library, the League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan organization, and the Political Science Club at LSSU were the others. Amy Hjerstedt, an at-large member of the MI League and a Sault resident, coordinated the event. CCHS and its members were among those who contributed to the lobby display. Thank you to Carolyn Person and Amy for creating the display, Mary M. June for assisting, and to Linda Schmitigal, Dee Stevens, Karen Sabatine, Amy Hjerstedt, and Susan James for lending items. Note: Bayliss Library now has a copy of the DVD for rental.

**Bruce Township Historical Society**
By Shirley Patrick and Carolyn Person
Bruce Township Historical Society continues to add to the history of the early pioneers in the township area. Thanks to interested people who have contributed newspaper research, family lore, and photos, there is a growing genealogical collection. If your family immigrated to Bruce Township in the early years, please check with BTHS to view their collection. If you have any photos or family books, they would appreciate any information people would like to share. Contact Shirley Patrick at 748-0952.

**Soo Co-op**
By Deidre Stevens
The Soo Co-op Grocery Store, which closed its doors at the end of May 2012, would have celebrated its 100th birthday in April of this year. The business was housed in various Ashmun Street locations until it found a longtime home at 538 Ashmun, where CO-ED Flowers & Gifts is today. On the occasion of its 50th anniversary in April 1963, Soo Co-op moved into a new building at 220 Osborn Boulevard, where it remained for the rest of its existence. Soo Co-op was originally organized as the Soo Cooperative Mercantile Association and opened April 1, 1913. At its peak in the 1930s, the Co-op had ten stores in the city and their headquarters at

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Soo Co-op
(continued from page 5)
538 Ashmun. Leo LeLievre was manager of the cooperative grocery for 25 years, but left to run his own grocery store in 1939. Other early managers were Francis Kelly, Henry Bertram, and Norman Bartunek. Let us know if you have any memories or memorabilia you would be willing to share with us.

Would you like to receive your newsletter as an e-newsletter? To save on printing and posting costs, we are considering this alternative. Send us your vote/preference at cchs@sault.com, on your membership renewal form, or as a phone message. Thank you.

CCHS Seeks to Increase Membership
By Constance Baker
Members are the lifeline of a vibrant organization because they bring new ideas, attend and participate in activities, help develop and volunteer in programs, ask relevant questions, and represent the organization in other groups and venues. CCHS members are engaged, loyal, diverse, and generous. CCHS members include individuals and families, students and senior citizens, organizations and businesses, and persons who make a lifetime commitment to CCHS.

During 2013, CCHS aims to increase membership among Chippewa County businesses and to ask individuals to invest in a lifetime membership. Plans are being developed to reach potential members throughout Chippewa County. Persons interested in assisting with CCHS’s membership drive should contact Connie Baker, V.P., Membership and Fundraising, at cbaker1@iupui.edu.

Membership Renewal Time
Please check your address label. If you are not a Lifetime or Honorary member, it may be time to renew! Our membership year ends on December 31. Please continue your support of CCHS and, if possible, add something extra for our Annual Fund. Thank you!

SAVE THESE DATES:
CCHS Events (see www.cchsmi.com)
May 1, Annual Fund Launch
May 4, EUPHC Meeting at Rudyard Community Center
May 18, 1:00 p.m., Riverside Cemetery Tour
June 24-Aug. 19, Mondays, at 7:00 p.m., Historic Churches of Sault Ste. Marie programs
June 28, Historic Water St. Homes & Kemp Industrial Museum open for season
July 8-12, Summer History Camp
July 18, 7:00 p.m., Neil Moran will speak about “Heirloom Seeds and Native Plants” at Bayliss Library
July 26-28, Rendezvous in the Sault/History Fest

Bayliss Public Library Events (see www.baylisslibrary.org)
April 2, 7:00 p.m., Joe Nault, local naturalist and photographer will speak about “Nesting Great Grey Owls in Chippewa County”
May 16, 7:00 p.m., Author Gordon Galloway, Full Circle: A True Story
June 11, 7:00 p.m., MI Notable Author, Richard Ford, Canada

Would you like to be a newsletter sponsor? It costs $50 for bulk mail postage and about $200 to $300 to print our quarterly newsletters. Thank you to Audrey Gillett for her newsletter sponsorship. 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.
Thank you to the following:

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Caroline Grabowski, Dennis Hank, Patty Olsen, Carolyn Person,
Janet Russell, Karen Sabatine, Paul Sabourin

Errata in January Newsletter:
Constance (Connie) Baker’s name was incorrectly reported.
Our apologies for the error.

Volunteer Help Needed:
Staff the Gift Shop
Assist with mailings
Assist with research and collections
Bake refreshments
Carpentry at the Baraga House
Committee work
Coordinate other volunteers
Distribute brochures
Distribute flyers
Enter data into computer
File paperwork
Help staff the office
Help with Historic Churches programs
Help with History Camp
Help with History Fest
Help with Summer Arts Festival
Serve as hostess at events
Vacuum and clean
Membership Rates

- Individual $20
- Family $30
- Student $10
- Senior $10
- Contributing $50
- Business/Corporate/Org. $50
- Lifetime $200+
- New Millennium $1000+
- Additional Donation $______
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Office Hours:
- Monday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- and by appointment at back door

Gift Shop Hours:
- Mon.-Fri., 1-4 p.m.
- when volunteers are available at front door

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- and by appointment at back door

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- when volunteers are available at front door

Join us on Wed., April 10, at 7 p.m., at Bayliss Public Library, for Bruce Lynn’s talk on “A History of the U.S. Weather Bureau Building at Locks Park”

YES! I want to be a CCHS Member!

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City __________________________ State ______ Zip __________
Email ____________________________________________

Please keep me in mind for:  □ Volunteer Work  □ Board Member

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