Weather Program
by Karl Bohnak and Jack Deo

CCHS will hold its fall general meeting on Wednesday, October 10, at 7 p.m. in the community room at Bayliss Public Library. Karl Bohnak and Jack Deo will do a presentation about their new book, *Sunburns to Snowstorms: Upper Michigan Weather in Pictures & Stories*. The event should be both entertaining and educational, as we prepare for the upcoming winter season—a subject near and dear to our hearts.

Karl Bohnak is chief meteorologist at Marquette's WLUC-TV6. He has forecast Upper Michigan weather for 30 years. His first book, *So Cold a Sky*, was a Library of Michigan Notable Book in 2007. Jack Deo opened a photography studio in Marquette in 1978. That year he also acquired the 110-year old Childs Art Gallery collection. Thus began a 40-year collecting passion which has grown into a treasure-trove of thousands of historic photographs from across Upper Michigan. In recent years, Jack Deo shared his collection at joint CCHS/Soo Theatre Project fundraisers.

The book *Sunburns to Snowstorms* features nearly 300 historical photos; our Jim Dwyer contributed images from his collection of Newberry photographs. It will be available for purchase and signing, along with *So Cold a Sky* and *Michigan's Upper Peninsula Almanac* that Karl co-authored with Ron Jolly.

The event is free and open to the public; refreshments will be provided. Bayliss Library, a Superior District Library, is located at 541 Library Drive in Sault Ste. Marie. Please enter by the library’s front door, since the rest of the building will be closed that evening.

TRAINS, TRAINS, TRAINS (and more)
By Ginny Cymbalist

Plans are well underway for another exciting winter season of open houses at CCHS. The trains will be running on Saturdays, December 8, 15, 22, and 29, January 26, and February 2, with displays and layouts of every size from N gauge to G gauge. You will want to check out the additions to historic Sault Ste. Marie on the large O gauge layout and new interactive additions to the smaller O gauge layout. There will be an operating HO layout with displays of N, S, and G gauge sets, plus wooden Brio and Thomas trains and other activities for young people. Does all this “gauge” talk seem confusing? Come in for a look and a chat…we will explain it all. The sound of electric trains running is infectious and we can almost smell the oil and the smoke.

In addition to the trains, there will be other displays of the season…angels, nativities, Christmas villages, dolls…we’re not just sure what, because plans are still being made but, we can guarantee, there will be lots to see.

While you’re there, you will want to do some holiday shopping in our gift shop. In addition to our great selection of books, the shop offers beautiful gift items. And, remember, that all purchases help to keep our historical society up and running.

Mark your calendars. Bring the whole family…complete the search
and find to earn a prize...enjoy the refreshments...shop. Exact hours will differ slightly for the January and February events, but we will be open from 11 a.m.– 4 p.m. for each of the December days. Arrangements can be made for special group showings by contacting Ginny Cymbalist at 630-2858 or ggcymbalist@yahoo.com. There is no admission charge, but donations are always appreciated.

If anyone has display items or would like to help serving, etc., please contact Ginny.

**CCGS Merges with CCHS!**

The CCHS Board is proud to announce a new joint effort with the Chippewa County Genealogical Society (CCGS). CCGS will maintain its presence as a genealogy research group, but will operate out of the historical society offices. The memberships will merge and the newsletter *River Soundings* will offer articles from CCGS. CCHS’s website, www.cchsmi.com, will include information on accessing genealogy information and researchers. CCGS will maintain their separate Facebook page. More information will be included in the January 2019 *River Soundings*, as we are currently in the process of establishing the merger.

Welcome members and supporters of CCGS!

Editor’s note: we trust that past CCHS President, the late Yvonne Hogue-Peer, would approve of this effort. She was instrumental in organizing CCGS and in reactivating CCHS in the 1990s.

**Rendezvous in the Sault 2018**

By Ginny Cymbalist

Rendezvous in the Sault 2018 was another great success with nearly 200 reenactors and well over 1,000 visitors. On Friday evening, the Historic Water Street Homes were staffed by volunteers and opened for tours by the reenactors. Fortunately, the weather cooperated for the entire weekend while locals and tourists strolled the City Hall grounds and toured the Historic Water Street homes. There was music, dancing, demonstrations, storytelling, merchants, battle reenactments, and much more. Children once again enjoyed learning about different sites with the voyageur log program and received a prize for their efforts.

Event organizers were grateful to local restaurants, Penny’s Kitchen and Wicked Sister, for stepping in to supply wonderful food for the reenactors when, due to a family death, the food vendor was forced to cancel.

An event like this doesn’t just happen. Major funding from the Sault Convention and Visitors Bureau makes it possible to bring quality performers and to keep the costs to the reenactors low. Volunteers
worked in many capacities—selling admission tickets, running kids’ activities, setting up, and tearing down. Rendezvous could not have been such a success without the expertise and dedication of Harry and Rose Burgess who have, for many years, chaired the Feast of the St. Clair and of Angela Patterson who, with her late husband, Mike, had the vision to see the possibilities of such an event in the Sault.

Planning for Rendezvous 2019 is already in process with some younger volunteers joining the committee with a view to running the whole event in the next year or two.

Organizers Angie Patterson and Ginny Cymbalist are excited to work with these new volunteers and to help implement their exciting ideas.

You are invited…
By Carolyn Person

Who is Chippewa County Historical Society? It is members, like you, who have an interest in promoting Sault Ste. Marie AND AREA history. It is volunteers that donate a bit of time either on a regular basis or when there is a project that interests them. It’s also a Board, again volunteers, who meet monthly on the 2nd Wednesday.

Currently the Board has 14 members, who are responsible for the CCHS building, maintaining the collection, applying for funding, and coordinating activities with the city and other organizations involving history promotions. Office work is shared and sometimes we get a little behind, but we keep working at it.

You are welcome to attend a Board meeting and experience history at work. You may ask a question, share thoughts, or even gain insight to the workings of the society.

Who is the Society? What is CCHS? Come find out.
2nd Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Back door off Portage Ave. in Sault Ste. Marie

Sault Historic Businesses
By Carolyn Person

The Historical Society cannot save and record area history without the cooperation of our members and the general public.

The Northwestern Leather Company (the Tannery) and Union Carbide (the Carbide) were major employers in the Sault from the 1920s into the 1950s. Both businesses employed much of the Sault population over the years and today many residents can say they had a relative employed with either company. Even though people can remember those businesses, they left the Sault over 70 years ago and are now history that is being lost. The Society needs your help in adding to our collection of artifacts, stories, photos, and memories of their time of production here. The Carbide and the Tannery kept the Sault alive for many years and were a major contributor to those in the area.

Remember, nothing is too trivial in our search for Sault historical documentation. Do not discard; please call us at 635-7082, if you have knowledge of these and other area businesses.

350th Festival

This festival took place the weekend before Rendezvous. Some images from CCHS’s Color of the History of the Sault book were
transformed into two large banners that could be colored by participants. Also on display there were the newly revealed contents of Lake Superior State University’s time capsule that commemorated the 1968 Tricentennial. The contents are to be on display at City Hall.

A Review of Early Sault Ste. Marie
Library History
By Jim Dwyer

On the occasion of the Silver Anniversary (25 years) of the Sault’s Carnegie Library, the Evening News did a historical review of Sault library history to that time. In 1864, the Soo had a library consisting
of 75 books. That was a collection held by the legendary Reverend Thomas Easterday. It was a small township library with 75 “precious volumes” that were held by the township supervisor. When E.E. Ferguson came to the Soo in 1866, he was in favor of having the library at the high school. When the school was built on Bingham Avenue in 1874, the library was established there. By 1902, the library still had only 400 volumes. That library was the forerunner of the Carnegie Library. The first librarian was Miss Adelia Reed, starting in 1904. She was succeeded by Miss Adah Shelly and the third was Miss Alice Clapp.

Industrialist Andrew Carnegie donated $25,000 on the condition that the city provide the site and a guarantee of $3,000 for maintenance and expansion. The agreement was made, followed by haggling over a location. Mayor Stradley won out and the library was located at Armory Place in 1903. That location had formerly been used as a Fort Brady cemetery.

The front area of the library was enhanced by Chase Osborn, who made a gift of two lions in stone, creations of the sculptor Ferradini, and brought them from Bellagio, Italy in 1906.

At the time of the 25th anniversary celebration, the library had 27,000 volumes; 26,500 more than there had been when the library opened. The original Carnegie Library was described as a “puny and almost helpless thing,” by the Evening News. The first “worthwhile” addition and the biggest ever made was in 1905 when 2,104 new volumes were placed on the shelves. The library was on the mailing list of 83 magazines and nine newspapers.

The Carnegie building was discontinued as a library in 1975 with the completion of the current Bayliss Public Library. According to the library’s website, it now has about 80,000 materials in various media.

For more information about library history, you may purchase Bernie Arbic’s book From Carnegie to Bayliss: The First Hundred Hundred Years of Sault Ste. Marie’s Public Library from CCHS’s Gift Shop. We would be glad to mail it to you.

Historic Water Street Homes and Kemp Industrial Museum
By Ginny Cymbalist

It was a busy year on Historic Water Street. People probably don’t realize that most of the displays in the buildings are stored at CCHS for the winter, leaving only a few large display pieces. Time in the winter is spent planning changes and additions to be made to displays. In mid-spring, the scheduling of docents begins and then volunteers clean each of the buildings before carting all the items back to their summer places. We have the buildings ready by May 15 for special group tours with our official opening on Engineer’s Day. Until the Labor Day general closing, a group of dedicated docents welcomes guests seven days a week. Then, at the beginning of October, everything is moved back to storage at CCHS.

Throughout the year, we work closely with the City’s Historic Structures Management Committee to plan work that needs doing; this past summer that involved removing the Johnston House dormers, which were leaking badly and causing damage to the rest of the home. This winter, bids will be let to determine the leakage problems at the Baraga House. This will require figuring out why the siding on the east end is buckling and fixing or replacing the windows on the third floor. Then the leak damage inside needs to be fixed. Only then can the second floor be completed, and furniture/displays be added. It takes teamwork, a great deal of time, and a lot of money to ensure that the buildings are properly maintained. The City of Sault Ste. Marie is fortunate to have these four buildings and it is our responsibility to insure that they are restored with historical accuracy.

Research
By Carolyn Person

As we talk to people—visitors and area residents—about local history and about the Chippewa County Historical Society, we frequently hear the question, “Just what do you do?” We mention the Historic Homes, photo scanning, History Camp, Rendezvous, and book and magazine publishing, just to name a few activities. Those are some of the very visible undertakings of the Society.

Every day we receive calls from people looking for grandmother’s house where the caller would come to visit as a child. Someone doing family research comes upon the reference that a relative operated a neighborhood store and they would like to know more about the store and if there is a photo. Another caller had read a reference to Vikings visiting this area and wondered if there were any artifacts relating to that assumption. As the cataloging people were listing the latest bottles, the question was raised as to the content of Miss Lydia Pinkham’s tonic. Some clothing was being processed and after
commenting on the small waist of the skirt, we determined the skirt must have had a bustle which created another opportunity to look into that history. Another person was asking about Kaines Rink when the building was the trolley barn, which led to looking up the file on street cars in the Soo and then the bio of Thomas Ryan. A donation of a couple Chippeway Bank notes resulted in an informative discussion about pre-Federal Reserve money. Lime Island came into the spotlight and the researchers found some newspaper articles that added some new history to a research project. As you read this, please understand that this is a report from just one week at the Society’s office.

We are proud and pleased that our collection has grown and is organized to the point that we can assist the public with historical information. It should also be noted that we have quite the brain pool in our group that can field these interesting questions.

Now that brings us around to my favorite subject—Volunteers. CCHS has an outstanding group of people who have stored historical knowledge and who have an interest in sharing that knowledge with others. They know that it’s fun to talk to people and that they will learn more about the topic by exchanging information with others.

Do you have some Soo history that you would like to inquire about or a memory you would like to share? Ask us, share with us, visit, and look forward to visiting with you.

History Camp 2019

CCHS has just been awarded a $2,000 grant for next summer’s History Camp by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Minigrant Program, administered by EUP Regional Planning and Development Comm. We are grateful for MCACA’s continued support of our efforts to instill a love of history in the younger generation.

The theme will be Native American culture. If you have or know of a 9 to 12 year old who would be interested in participating in the June 2019 camp, please email history@cchsmi.com and we will add your contact information to our mailing list for future notifications.

A Little Piece of Land
By Eileen Jokinen

The following is a puzzle. What do the Aroostock War (1838-39), an 1852 Act of the United States Congress, Private Asa Fowles, Ebenezer Warner, and Sugar Island have to do with one another?

First, the Aroostock War was a military and civilian confrontation between the State of Maine and the British Colony of New Brunswick over the boundary between them. Private Asa Fowles was a veteran of the War, serving in the Maine Militia. The border issue was settled by the Daniel Webster–Baron Ashburton Treaty of 1842, giving most of the disputed territory to Maine. (Note: This same treaty settled a border dispute in which Michigan gained governance of Sugar Island.)

On March 22, 1852, the U.S. Thirty-second Congress passed an act “to make Land Warrants Assignable”...as military grants to veterans. These bounty lands were designed to reward veterans for their services. Asa Fowles was granted 40 acres of Lot 4, Section 28, on the north shore of Sugar Island. Asa, as most veterans did, turned down the land and took the money instead.

In 1859, Ebenezer Warner, a farmer who served in the Michigan State Legislature for two terms in the early 1860s, was awarded a patent for our piece of land.

After that, the land changed hands at least seven times until 1895. Mortgages and taxes went unpaid, and “squatters” lived on the property. The Brown family first appears in 1906 when they pay back taxes ($66.58). Warren S. Brown, in 1937, sued five individuals occupying the land and won back deeds, indentures, etc.

In 1943, Warren S. Brown began to sell to Finnish families. Land parcels were bought and sold, usually to other Finns. I am the last Finn to occupy this little piece of land.

Appraiser Mark Moran

Appraiser Mark F. Moran of Iola, Wisconsin paid his fourth visit to Bayliss Library in August and CCHS took advantage of the opportunity to have items from the collection evaluated. A framed hair wreath was determined to be comprised of the hair of several different people and was in excellent condition. The frame of the shadow box dates from the 1880s. The value was estimated at $300-
An amethyst biscuit jar of cut-to-clear glass with gilt and enamel decoration was determined to be of Czech or Bohemian origin and date to 1905. Its value was estimated at $400. The library is currently gauging interest in whether to schedule an event with Mr. Moran for next summer. If you may be interested, please let Susan know at sjames@baylisslibrary.org.

For more information on the appraiser, see MarkFMoran.com

**EUPHC**

The fall meeting of the Eastern Upper Peninsula History Consortium will be held on Saturday, October 6 at the Tower of History in the Sault. For more information and to register, please contact Mary M. June at mjune@lssu.edu.

**CORRECTION**

Thank you to Chuck Zane and his mother for bringing to our attention an error in Dee Stevens’ Ann Street History article in the April 2018 issue of *River Soundings*. Chuck is the great-great grandson of Marshall N. Hunt, one of the founders of Soo Lumber Company, and builder of over 165 buildings and homes. A reference to Maurice Hunt should have been attributed to his father Marshall N. Hunt. The elder Hunt immigrated from Canada, traveled to Chicago to learn the building trades, and then returned to the Sault in the early 1890s to start his construction business, according to Mr. Zane. Mr. Hunt lived on the corner of Amanda Street and Bingham Avenue and built houses on both streets for his sisters, their families and eventually for his children, including Maurice. Other buildings in the Sault constructed by Marshall Hunt include the Ojibway Hotel and the Soo Theatre. Thank you, Chuck Zane, for the fascinating family history!

**Gift Shop**

The CCHS Gift Shop closed for the season at the end of September, but we will continue to have office hours on Mondays and Fridays at the back door and provide Gift Shop access as needed. The shop will be open for the open houses in December, January, and February. Thank you to Janet Russell, Karen Sabatine, Ruth Neveu, Shawna Mauldin, and Rowan Mauldin for volunteering in the shop this season!

*Thank you to the following people and businesses. We greatly appreciate your support.*

**New Memberships:**
- Mikel Classen
- Chris & Michele Delridge
- Mark Kennedy
- Fawn Moeller
- Joe Paczkowski
- Joan Vinette

**Membership Renewals:**
- Robert & Dawn Aldrich
- Linda Beaumont
- Sharon Dorrity
- Paul & Sherry Duesing
- Joe Gallagher
- James & Kathleen Hendricks
- Ruth Johnston-Pike
- Darien & Ruth Neveu
- Richard Noble
- Donald See
- Shirley Stevens
- Lowell & Gail Ann Ulrich
- Judith Wilson

**Donations:**
- Collette Coullard in memory of Joel Arbic
- Gerald & Fern Coutant
- Sharon Dorrity
- Peter & Georgia Gianakura
- Ruth Johnston-Pike
- Mark Kennedy
- Mar...
YES! I want to be a CCHS Member!

Membership Rates
- Individual $20
- Family $30
- Student $10
- Senior $10
- Contributing $50
- Business/Corporate/Org. $50
- Lifetime $200+
- New Millenium $1000+
- Additional Donation $______

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

Office Hours:
Mon. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Fri., noon-4 p.m. at back door.

Gift Shop Hours:
During open houses and office hours or by appt.

Upcoming Event

Join us on Wed., Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. at Bayliss Public Library for “Sunburns to Snowstorms: Upper Michigan Weather in Pictures & Stories” by Karl Bohnak and Jack Deo!