A message from the CCHS President
By Carolyn Person

The events of the last month have had an impact on all of our lives and that includes Chippewa County Historical Society. We have the opportunity to experience world history changes in the making. Stories that our grandchildren and their families will relate at family gatherings and social gatherings are the current history that we are experiencing now. Or maybe some history buff will be asking one of us in an interview: “What are your memories of the pandemic?”

I have been speaking the last year or so about the renovation projects, elevator and other needed changes with our Ashmun Street building and our plans for our history collection. Like the rest of the world we are standing still until the next few months of slowing down, gearing up, changing and adjusting level out. Our plans are still viable and our hopes strong for continuing our mission of preservation, collection and interpretation of Sault Ste. Marie and Chippewa County history.

Your support is vital to our continued success. Our historical family must pay lights and heat just like our members. Our volunteers give their time, energy and sometimes money to keep our history alive. We appreciate your past contributions and understand the caution and confusion of today’s financial situations. Please remember it’s your contributions that keep Sault history from being lost history. Thank you.

Joseph and Estelle Bayliss Endowment
Established at CCHS
By Bernie Arbic

The Bayliss name resonates with many in our area for good reason. Since our public library is named after them, it is likely that a majority of Sault and area citizens recognize the name. This article is meant to inform our members of the important part that the Bayliss name plays in our institutional history. The Chippewa County Historical Society was given a major gift by the estate of Joseph and Estelle Bayliss in the 1970s. This legacy asset has been the basis of our long-term financial assets ever since.

Joseph Bayliss had many jobs during his rich career—he took part in the Klondike Gold Rush in the late 1800s, he worked as a special agent for the F.B.I., he worked on an early survey crew for the Corps of Engineers on the St. Marys River, and he was once the sheriff of Chippewa County. He and his wife Estelle were also dedicated to preserving the history of our area. They wrote the book *Historic St. Joseph Island* in 1938, and in 1955 joined with professional historian Milo Quaife to write *The River of Destiny*—a classic history of the St. Marys River and surrounding region. They were also early members of CCHS. In 2019, our society reprinted a limited edition of *River of Destiny*, which had long since been out of print. It was a good centennial project for us, since it made this important book easily available again, while at the same time generating some revenue for the society.
holdings for the Dow Chemical Company of Midland, Michigan. While employed there, he and Estelle accumulated a large amount of Dow Chemical stock—at least we presume that’s when they acquired it. In their wills, much of that accumulation went to the Carnegie Library Board, which decided, rather than expanding the Carnegie Library, to build a new facility. When the stock in the Bayliss gift to the Carnegie Board was sold in 1971, it brought in more than $718,000 and that money built the Bayliss Public Library, named in their honor. War Memorial Hospital and CCHS also received bequests from the Bayliss estate.

In a recent board decision; upon the suggestion of long-time former treasurer Bernie Arbic, estate gifts that have been received in years past will now be placed in the Joseph and Estelle Bayliss Endowment Fund. Naming the fund in their honor will help to preserve the institutional memory of the Bayliss’ generosity. A percentage of the fund’s income will help with the annual operations of the CCHS. We are blessed to have the financial cushion of these assets, bolstering our ability to continue investing in the preservation of our rich history and improving our lovely old building that is so important to our mission.

We would welcome gifts of any amount to help us build on the Joseph and Estelle Bayliss Endowment. And if CCHS would fit into your gift or estate planning, please consider making our group a beneficiary. In doing so, you will be teaming up with a very inspirational couple. Your gift will help ensure the future of our institution; the motto on our special logo created for our 2019 centennial year is “Sharing the Past – Shaping Our Future.”

A Solving a Mystery: Who was Daniel B. Ward?
By Ginny Cymbalist

A month ago, I was the only one in the office when a call came from a woman named Linda from Detroit who has connections to a cemetery in the Netherlands where 8,291 American soldiers from WWII are buried*. The Dutch people have “adopted” the graves of these soldiers and, in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the end of the war, are attempting to find photos of each person buried there. Linda was hoping to find pictures of a Daniel B. Ward whom she thought was from Sault Ste. Marie. She knew that Daniel enlisted twice—in 1937 and again in 1941. He was married in the Sault to a Dorothy MacDonald in 1939 and was killed in action on April 4, 1945.

This request immediately drove me to City Directories and other resources both at CCHS and on-line and Mary June, Dee Stevens and Carolyn Person quickly became involved, searching newspapers.com and the Evening News for listings and photos of local soldiers. All information found indicated that Daniel was from Chicago but married Dorothy in Sault Ste. Marie. This led us to suppose that Daniel was stationed at Fort Brady when he met and married Dorothy.

Then we turned to Sandy Robbins who, from her distant winter location, did extensive research and confirmed that he was born and raised in Chicago. Not only did Sandy trace information on Daniel, but she went on to find the facts about all his siblings and where their families might now be located. She even contacted a friend (a former Chicago-area principal) who helped figure out what high school Daniel probably attended.

All this information has been transmitted to Linda in Detroit with the hopes that someone will eventually locate a picture of Daniel either from a high school yearbook or a family member.

If you ever wondered just what occupies our time in the CCHS office, this is just one example of a typical query we receive each day. In addition to cataloging, organizing, filing, putting up displays, preparing exhibits, operating the gift shop and more, research is constantly being done. If you have an hour or two a week that you can devote, please join the great group at CCHS—we’ll be glad to help you get started on something in which you’re interested.

*Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial Margraten, Eijsden-Margraten Municipality, Limburg, Netherlands.

Family History: A Personal Story
By Mike Wirt

At its best family history research is more than just tracking down ancestors to see where they lived and how far back in time you can trace them. Yes, it’s about the family tree but it’s also about the stories you can piece together about them along the way.

My initial interest in genealogy began in 1964 when a great aunt in Detroit sent me a letter with a list of ancestors dating back to 1759, badly typewritten on the back of two pieces of blank Detroit Times Office Memo paper. At the top there was a notation in pencil: “not absolutely correct list handed down by 2nd cousin.” I was a junior at Loretto High School.

Over 40 years later I dug out her 1964 letter after Ancestry.com became available at my local library and began researching the names. The list was fairly accurate. I got hooked. But living on the other side of the country from the Sault I was limited to Internet resources, free and subscription.

I began to piece together ancestors’ stories from online birth, marriage, and death records, with the occasional death certificate or
newspaper obituary. But occasionally there’s a pleasant surprise and that happened to me when I did a Google search for my 2nd great-grandfather, Andrew Blank. Through Ancestry I had already learned he emigrated from Germany in the mid-1800s, ending up in Sault Ste. Marie, married, had several children, and died in 1911. The great aunt who sent me the list when I was in high school is a granddaughter.

My Google search turned up a treasure trove. I found that in 1895 The Lewis Publishing Company in Chicago published “The Memorial Record of the Northern Peninsula of Michigan” and later, in 1911, it followed up with “A History of the Northern Peninsula of Michigan and Its People.” Both feature biographies of prominent people of the era, including names like Johnston, Easterday, Hursley, and yes, Blank. Both were digitized by the University of Michigan Library and are included in its Michigan County Histories and Atlases collection, searchable online. I later learned they’re in Bayliss Public Library’s Steere Collection, a place I would have initially checked had I lived in the Sault. (also available in the research library at CCHS.-ed.)

The biographical sketches of Andrew Blank chronicled a young immigrant’s success in his adopted country, showing his ambition and entrepreneurial spirit. It’s a great story. And it’s great family history.

Throwback Thursday Facebook Posts
by Bernie Arbic

For over four years now, CCHS has been posting an old photo virtually every Thursday on our Facebook page. Facebook’s encouragement of a “Throwback Thursday” picture from old albums fits our mission very well, and I have always loved writing captions for photographs, so I enjoy selecting a historical photo from our huge collection (we have almost 3,000 of them on our database now), writing a descriptive caption—that may take a bit of research—and posting both on our page. It is a feature that seems to be gaining in popularity. If you visit our page and click on an image, it will be enlarged on your screen. Then, if you wish to, you can click on a right-facing arrow and step back one image at a time, to see all of the images we have posted. But it will take you a while, because there must be about 200 of them now.

Perhaps the most popular image we have ever put up was the image below, of Dalimonte’s Grocery Store, on south Ashmun Street. It has generated 502 “likes,” 288 comments, and 252 shares since being posted on January 14, 2016. Here’s one of the comments: “Thanks for sharing this. It brings back sweet memories of visiting Mr. Dalimonte with my Dad to get our Italian goodies. The Italian nougat candy Torrone was a special treat!”

Andrew Blank: The tourist of a dozen years ago must remember the pride with which a building on Portage Avenue was pointed out as the first brick house in the Sault. This building, of which we give a fine illustration, was erected by Mr. Andrew Blank, one of the self-made men of this city. He was born in Mainstockheim, Bavaria, on the 20th of October, 1831, and in 1853 emigrated to America. He first settled in Cleveland, Ohio, where he worked in a brewery, but in the spring of 1854 he came to the Sault, being employed on the Ship Canal till its completion. He then started in the milk business, which was sufficiently profitable to enable him to soon erect an ice house for the supply of passing vessels, his trade amounting to as much as 3000 tons a year. In 1874 he build the brick house above mentioned, all the materials being imported. In 1855 he was married to an estimable young lady from Saginaw, who is still living, and who has been his helpmate in the accumulation of a fortune of over $100,000. Mr. Blank is one of the founders of the Sault National Bank, and is otherwise largely interested in the business enterprises of his adopted city.

With these two books I learned Andrew Blank arrived in the village of Sault Ste. Marie via New York and Cleveland, finding work on the State Lock construction with Charles Harvey. He used his savings to buy two cows and sold milk and butter, later establishing an ice business and investing in property throughout the city and outlying areas. He built the first brick house in the Sault at 435 East Portage across from the locks. A member of the first village council, he helped establish a bank and was active in several fraternal and civic organizations. I later found out he died a wealthy man.
Another popular image was one of a parade from May, 1942 on north Ashmun Street. This was about six months after the Pearl Harbor attack that brought our nation into WWII, and there had been a huge build-up of personnel stationed at Fort Brady in the intervening months, evidenced by the number of soldiers in this picture. Walter Materna took countless parade shots from the second-floor bay window in his studio above the former Rudell Drugstore at the corner of Ashmun and Maple. This photo was posted May 16, 2019—about 77 years after it was taken—and it generated 297 “likes,” 42 comments, and 212 shares. Here are three comments:

1) “My grandfather and his brother were in that crowd, and may have signed up to join the fight soon after.”
2) “We lived across the “road” from the gate house of Fort Brady. There were anti-aircraft guns in front of the house.. interesting time to grow up in.”
3) “Ah…the Temple Theater, I remember going there in the 60's and seeing "Camelot" with Richard Burton. The buildings on the left look the same as they do now, and same for the cab stand.”

I was especially pleased to see a very recent comment on one of our more recent Throwback Posts: “My favorite page. I love seeing old-time Sault Ste. Marie photos. Your page is the best!” In case it’s too small for you to read, the theater marquee says “Double Feature Regis Toomey Bullet Scars.”

Our web page is www.cchsmi.com, and it has a link to our Facebook page on it. But the web page is of interest in its own right, so have a look if you are not familiar with it. You can shop online at our Gift Shop, you can renew your membership or make a donation there, you can read previous issues of this newsletter going back to 2007, and you can also view many old photos in our Picture Gallery. We post these pictures in fairly low resolution, but in almost all cases, a high resolution copy can be ordered from us.

**Literary legacy of a Northern Industrial Town**

**Part 2 (continued from last issue)**

*By Susan Puska*

Janet Lewis, author of *The Wife of Martin Guerre*, spent summers as a child near the Sault on Nebish Island, where she befriended Anna Marie Johnstone, a descendant of John Johnston. Lewis published her first novel, *The Invasion: A Narrative of Events Concerning the Johnston Family of St. Mary’s*, in 1932 based on Johnston family stories and extensive research exposing the violent settler-colonialism that caused the dispossession and impoverishment of the Anishinaabe (Spry, 67). *Invasion* has been described as “a sustained critique” of the “historical process and an ideology that persists into the present day” (Spry 78).

Better known for her poetry, Lewis wrote many poems inspired by the Anishinaabe people. In her first collection of verse published in 1922, *The Indians in the Woods*, she described the intimacy between the Anishinaabe and the woods with elegant simplicity in “A Song for the Wife of Manibozho”: Ah, the woods, the woods— / Where small things / Are distinct and visible.

Governor Chase Salmon Osborn, a complex man of action, exploitation, and culture, settled in the Sault at the age of 27 in 1887. On his 80th birthday in 1941, the then Governor of Michigan declared his birthday, January 22, as Chase S. Osborn Day in his honor. He is the only resident of the Upper Peninsula (UP) to serve as governor of Michigan. Well-traveled, educated, and adventurous, Osborn grandly defied conventions. He and his wife, Lillian, surprisingly adopted the 37-year-old Stellanova Brunt in 1931. Stella had worked as Osborn’s assistant since 1924. After Lillian died, Osborn annulled the adoption and married Stella two days before he died in April 1949. Together, he and Stella wrote several books, such as, *Schoolcraft, Longfellow, Hiawatha*, in which they refuted a charge that Longfellow plagiarized Finnish epic poems in writing *Hiawatha* by detailing the links between *Hiawatha* and Anishinaabeg stories assembled by Schoolcraft, a friend of Longfellow. Stella, an accomplished writer, produced several books of prose and poetry before her death in 1988. In *Summer Songs on the St. Mary’s*, published in 1982, she described her many summers on Duck Island, adjacent to Sugar Island between the St. Mary’s River and Lake George on the U.S.-Canada border in “Twilight Mirror”: The moon and the evening star / Peer over the alder’s shoulder / And even the littlest clouds / Are admiring themselves in the water.

Osborn strove to stimulate the culture and economy of his adopted home. He started the first newspaper, the *Sault Evening News*, and nominated Sugar Island in 1945 as the location for the headquarters of the newly established United Nations. From his travels he brought back foreign objects to the city, such as the Torii gate that he shipped from Japan to erect at the original entrance to the Soo Locks Park in the early 1900s. Later, he and Stella donated a Romulus and Remus with She Wolf statue to the city, now located on the grounds of the historic Courthouse, because the founding story of Rome parallels the Anishinaabe founding story of the Bawating, a gathering place at the foot of the Whitefish-rich rapids that once spanned across the river between the twin cities of Sault Ste. Marie. An avid reader, Osborn
collected over 7,000 books that he preserved in a special fire-proof library at his home on Duck Island, which were donated to The University of Michigan, Lake Superior State University (LSSU), and family members upon his death. A memorial, tucked away in the Soo Locks Park, visually recounts the key events of Osborn’s life and his cultural impact on the Sault.

In 1929, locally born author, Florence McClinchey, earned national recognition for Joe Pete, a fictional story of the hardship of native people who suffered discrimination and poverty on Sugar Island and in the Sault. Joe Pete and the previously unpublished, Big John, have recently been published by ZIIBI Press introducing a new generation to these stories of Sugar Island. McClinchey wrote that her natural reserve “enabled me to become friends with the Indians and learn much of their legends and tales” (“Joe Pete” iii.). She wrote of the tragic downfall of one native woman, Joe Pete’s mother, Mabel, and the adventures and sometimes the unloved” in Headline & Headstones from Sault Ste. Marie’s Historic Past (1) and other works, she led the effort to construct a memorial to recognize the people of the Riverside’s potter’s field.

Richard Hill ruminates on aspects of life growing up in the Sault in the 1950s-60s and working as a deck hand on the Great Lakes in the 1970s. In Lost in the Woods: Building a Life UP North he tells a Sisyphean tale of his twenty-year odyssey to build a log cabin near the Sault. His story may help you when you build your log cabin, or it could steer you in another direction. In any case, it opens the reader to a new appreciation of the log cabin, while learning much about friendship and family life up north along the way.

The Sault occasionally appears in the writings of nationally recognized, bestselling authors, like Ellen Airgood, a resident of Grand Marais, Michigan, and author of South of Superior, whose heroine sees encouragement in the Sault’s ability to “survive and have this subtle, hidden beauty” (Airgood, 259). Jim Harrison, author of Legends of the Fall, spent many years in Grand Marais. He described the Sault as a “fascinating place” where he could stand in the December cold “20 feet away from the huge oceangoing ships, called ‘salties,’ hauling grain from Duluth” before shipping stopped for the season (Harrison, 2013). And Steve Hamilton placed his first murder victim in a rundown Sault motel in his award winning A Cold Day in Paradise.

The industrial look of the Sault today obscures many of its rich complexities as its long literary tradition reveals. The writings of local authors, now and in the past, bring to life the Sault’s multicultural history and the lives of visitors and others who have made this small northern town home.

The above mentioned books and many more can be found at Bayliss Public Library, CCHS Gift Shop or on our website: history@chsmi.com. –ed.

Works Cited
Algonquin
By Dee Stevens

Algonquin, a western suburb of Sault Ste. Marie, was also the location of some of its first big industries. Because of that, the Algonquin subdivisions were some of the first to be developed in the city of Sault Ste. Marie. For a time, Algonquin had its own schools, churches, stores, and even a fire hall.

Gilmore Gridley Scranton, grandson of fur trader (and for a time, fish trader) Peter Barbeau, may have been the first person to get the idea to make bricks from the clay along the bluffs back of the Sault, but he was not the last. By 1888 he had bought a chunk of land west of the city proper and, with the help of former Soo Locks clerk Llewellyn Fleming, was churning out bricks. Though they were intended for local consumption, by the second year of the operation, Fleming was seeking buyers as far away as Wisconsin, Chicago and the western Upper Peninsula.

Sault Ste. Marie Brick and Tile Co. was the first business in what would come to be known as Algonquin. It was located at the spot where West Fourth Avenue meets Foss Street at Foss Hill. It was not far from the DSS&A railroad tracks, which were completed in the fall of 1887, so that was a selling point. Sault Brick was used by Chandler for his house, and for what would become the Sault News Building (completed in 1889 and owned by the Chippewa County Historical Society today) and by Peter Keliher for his Ashmun Street grocery store (National Office Products today). And it did go to Newberry, Rhinelander and Hermansville. But the company was still struggling to survive. A lucrative contract came up. Bricks were going to be needed to build the new Fort Brady on the property bought from Thomas Ryan on the bluff to the east. Sault Brick put in a bid – but they lost to another Sault company. Ironically, Lipsett and Gregg, well-known builders who had done some work on the Algoma mills, had never made bricks before, but they were game to try. The bricks were made on what would become the north side of the campus. And Sault Brick was closed for a time, though another attempt was made to start it up in 1895.

By this time, just about everyone had a brick yard, it seemed. James Ryan had Ryan Brick on the east side of Ashmun Hill, below what is the Crestview Motel today by 1887. And Charles Beadle and Clark Watson had Chippewa County Brick Yard on the Pickford Road, across from the driving park (probably about where the Chamber of Commerce is today) in 1901. Even Frank Perry and George McCullum as the American Brick Company were making sandstone brick, some of which was used for the old Carnegie Library, the new Soo Woolen Mills plant and a warehouse for the Musselman Company in 1904. The Rudyard clay belt provided the longest stretch of brick production in the area from well before 1899 until after 1922, according to Jack Thornton in Tales of Rudyard as Told by the Folks.

Sault Brick only just beat the first of the lumber mills lured to the Algonquin area, though. H.B. Nease and Son Lumber opened in September of 1891 on property owned by Peninsula Land and Lumber Co. northeast of the brick yard. It may have been known as the Lake Superior Lumber Company during this time. Shortly the John Torrent Mill, the Alexander and Ainsworth mill, and the Gray Shingle Yard would join them. Housing was built for some of the workers east of the Nease mill, along the shore of Ashmun Bay, back toward town. The area around the mill became known as Neaseville. Local investors had subscribed to bring these mills to town.

Nease didn’t last long. Peninsula carried on with the mill, at last succeeding in luring some Boston businessmen to build a tannery, using the abundant water and hemlock bark available. The Sept. 22, 1900 Sault Ste. Marie News said the investors, William Bullivant and William Murdock, were “…impressed with the importance of this city as a manufacturing center, with an abundance of hemlock bark within a short distance.” It would also require a lot of water to tan hides, but that, too, was handy and abundant. Northwestern Leather would build its own pumping plant with a reservoir capable of holding 100,000 gallons. All they asked was a ten-year tax abatement from the city.

Northwestern Leather Company opened in 1900, announcing that they would hire 150 people to make shoe upper leather to begin with. They had their own housing built, but by 1902 land speculators in the area were announcing developments. William Snell would develop the old brickyard as the Scranton Subdivision, and Beadle was announcing a housing development west of the factory. (This would appear to be on property once owned by his brother-in-law, George Brown, according to the 1888 Sauer atlas. It was west of Seymour Creek. The county or city apparently held on to the land east of the creek until the last McKinley School was built in the 1950s. By the way, thanks to
Northwestern Leather Company, based in the western Sault Ste. Marie suburb of Algonquin, provided a source of employment to many area residents between 1900 and 1955. (Photo Courtesy of Gordon Daun Collection, Chippewa County Historical Society and Bayliss Public Library)

research by Kathy Hendricks, we know that the land on which Nease Lumber and Northwestern Leather was built was once owned by Louis Trempe and sold to Chippewa County in 1884. The county also bought what would become L & M Trailer Park from him. It was the county fairgrounds from 1914 until the 1930s, and was used as an auxiliary camp for the Army during World War II.)

Northwestern Leather made mostly shoe uppers. It did the fine work in 1906 as well for the hides processed at its Manistique plant. The company hired 1,200 people at its peak to take in 14,000 sides of leather from all over the world and make fine, finished leather. Nothing was wasted. The hair from the hides was used for plastering, flesh and hide scraps were used for glue, and scraps were made into heels and soles for shoes. The ground bark, after being steeped to produce the tannin, was used as fuel.

William Robertson, who was hired at the plant in 1900 and left in 1910 to open his own shoe store downtown, was a buffer. His job was to take the thin outer skin off the hides to create a smooth surface. Robertson later purchased a laundry, which he ran as New Method Laundry, along with his son, Jim.

And so, development had come to the subdivision of Algonquin. The power canal was finally being built in Sault Ste. Marie proper, scheduled to be completed in 1902. But in Algonquin there was now a fire hall, a club, stores, and even a church. By 1907, the citizens were asking that the street car line be extended to the settlement. The Algonquin Club belonged to Northwestern Leather Company for the use of its workers, and was housed in the first school at Algonquin. A new school was built on property east of 12th Street at South Street, on the southeast corner in 1902, but it burned in 1905. It was rebuilt and used until the “new” school was constructed in the 1950s.

Some of the lumber mills changed hands. White Lumber was coming to take over the Ainsworth and Alexander Mill in 1929.

Bradley-Watkins had bought the Torrent Mill by 1907. Kelly and Mayer came from Muskegon to buy the Gray Shingle Mill in 1897 from Sault Savings Bank, which had foreclosed on it. But Kelly and Mayer, and then just Kelly, carried on until the 1950s. In the 1920s, a group of investors headed by Arthur Dawson, the manager of Union Carbide Co. (which became the major customer for the power created by the canal), was able to lure in a big lumber concern from Cadillac. The Cadillac-Soo Lumber Company owned vast tracts of Upper Peninsula timberland and employed hundreds of people until the resources were deemed exhausted and the effort overwhelmed by progress in the 1950s.

The same went for Northwestern Leather Company, which became known as “The Tannery.” Its work was rewarded during World War II, in 1944, with the U.S. Army and Navy’s “E” Award. Of all the Algonquin businesses, The Tannery was the greatest. At its height, The Tannery employed 850 people. When they reunited in 1983, their memories of the place were still fond. A McKinley School reunion took place in 1995. The recollections of the attendees of these two reunions, former denizens of Algonquin, will be recorded later.

Sugar Island Sampler to be reprinted as an Expanded Edition
By Bernie Arbic

The Chippewa County Historical Society will be publishing an expanded edition of Bernie Arbic’s Sugar Island Sampler shortly. The original edition of the book was first published in 1992, and has been reprinted with no changes four times since the original printing. There still seems to be plenty of interest in the book. When we asked Bernie how many copies have been sold overall, he shrugged and said “It would take too much effort to do an accurate count, but probably four to five thousand wouldn’t be too far off.” The last two printings were financed by the Society, and we have received all the proceeds, so it has been a financial success for us. The expanded edition will be about 15% larger, with 15 new images. Bernie said “It’s been 28 years since my book was first published, so there have been plenty of changes on the island since then. Such things as the formation of the Sugar Island Historical Preservation Society, the new bridge on the causeway, the reprinting of Joe Pete and publication of its sequel Big John gave me ample material to work with. I also discovered a lovely old French map from 1744 to feature on the back cover, and stumbled on a few island photographs I hadn’t known about, which are included.”

In the late 1930s, there was a special W.P.A. project on Sugar Island which involved a group of 26 Native Americans from the island. The project provided employment to them as they used craftsmanship such as the weaving of baskets and other articles, furniture making, and snowshoe making. In May of 1940, an Open House was held at the Finn Hall on the island, to display many of the articles to the public. An invitation was printed on birch bark, and one of the 15 new
images in the Sugar Island Sampler shows that invitation, which is included in this article.

Bill Gerrish—who has strong connections to the island himself—kindly agreed to design a new cover for the book. The front cover is much the same as the original, featuring Joel Arbic’s drawing of Charley Andrews, with a satellite photo of the island super-imposed, but the back cover is totally new, with the French map and “testimonials” about the book from Connie Pim and Roger Pilon. Bill very graciously did his design work free of charge, as a donation to the Society. Once again, all proceeds from the sales of the expanded edition will go to CCHS.

We are excited about this project; the book will be available at our gift shop and area bookstores in the early summer. It will also be available for purchase at our website www.cchsmi.com as soon as it has been produced.

Dennis’s Train Corner
By Dennis Hank

As I write this, the open houses are over for the season, and the layout is being dismantled, boxed up, and stored until next fall. It’s always a little sad to move into this part of the project, but it starts us thinking of what we can do to make it more historically accurate and improved over the previous version. Our thoughts for next season include adding more building interior details, relocating some current items, possibly the original Soo Brewery and maybe a church and/or the Water Street historic homes. We are still looking for suggestions, especially if you have a connection to a local business and would like to see it represented in one form or another.

On a personal note, I still actively collect model railroad locomotives, railcars, etc, and my latest acquisition was a Soo Line diesel with a very different paint scheme. In the late 80’s, Soo Line purchased The Milwaukee Road, and a lot of their orange and black locomotives were given a quick “patch job” instead of a complete re-painting, which resulted in a number of mostly orange locomotives with a large black area covering the Milwaukee logo, and simple “Soo Line” letters added in white paint. These units were known as “bandits” by railroad fans. It continues to amaze me that you can open up the 2018 Lionel train catalog and find Soo Line locomotives and freight cars, and especially something unique like this...

Doing Research
By Carolyn Person

Doing research, whether it is for a book, news article or answering a question is time consuming and informative and one gets side-tracked very easily. It doesn’t matter if one is using the internet or using books, there seems to always be something that catches your eye that isn’t about the topic at hand.

I was cataloging a 1914 pamphlet published by the I.O.O.F Grand Encampment, Grand Council meeting and I just had to open the cover to view what was inside. The cover is a soft construction paper almost velvet looking 9x6” many page artifact with the usual photos of important people in the organization and is filled with ads of Soo businesses.

I came upon an ad of Edison Sault Electric Company advertising MAZDA lamps (see next page). Thinking they would be some type of electric lamp, a special artsy style, I Googled MAZDA and discovered this from Wikipedia:

Mazda history
By Carolyn Person

Mazda was a trademarked name registered by General Electric (GE) in 1909 for incandescent light bulbs. The name was used from 1909
through 1945 in the United States by GE and Westinghouse. Mazda brand light bulbs were made for decades after 1945 outside the US. The company chose the name due to its association with Ahura Mazda, the transcendental and universal God of Zoroastrianism whose name means light of wisdom in the Avestan language.

In 1909 the Mazda name was created for the tungsten filament light bulb. GE sold bulbs under this trademark starting in 1909. GE promoted the mark as identifying tungsten filament bulbs with predictable performance and life expectancy. GE also licensed the Mazda name, socket sizes, and tungsten filament technology to other manufacturers to establish a standard for lighting. Bulbs were soon sold by many manufacturers with the Mazda name licensed from GE, including British Thomson-Houston in the United Kingdom, Toshiba in Japan, and GE’s chief competitor Westinghouse.

Tungsten-filament bulbs of the Mazda type were initially more costly than carbon filament bulbs, but used less electricity. Often electrical utilities would trade new lamps for consumers’ burned-out bulbs. In at least one case the authority regulating energy rates required the utility to use only tungsten bulbs so as not to inflate customer’s energy use.

The company dropped the campaign in 1945. GE’s patents on the tungsten filament lamp expired in the late 1930s and other forms of lighting were becoming more important than incandescent bulbs. GE stopped licensing the trademark to other manufacturers, although it continued to renew the trademark registration up to 1990. The registration on trademark no. 77,779 expired in 2000. Modern association of the Mazda name is mostly with the Mazda automobile manufacturer of Japan (which coexisted with Toshiba’s Mazda bulbs in its early years). The Mazda trademark is split between the Japanese manufacturer where it applies to automobiles (including automobile lights and batteries) and GE for non-automotive uses.

GE’s Mazda bulbs were manufactured at a factory in Northeast Minneapolis. From the 1930s until 2013, the building was headquarters for Minneapolis Public Schools.

REMEMBER THIS PANDEMIC?
By Patty Olsen

World War I was considered to be the deadliest conflict in human history. The final death toll worldwide of Spanish flu in 1918-19 is estimated at more than 50 million lives. The epidemic broke out at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas in March 1918. Shortly after the Division was sent to Europe in May, the flu spread across Europe. There were a high number of casualties in Spain, thus the name Spanish flu.

After circulating the world it returned to the United States in the fall of 1918. The story of the flu epidemic of 1918 and its impact on Sault Ste. Marie is taken from the files of the Evening News written by Marion Boyer.

This disease started with the soldiers at Fort Brady. On October 1st there were no reported cases of the disease. But, orders were received from Washington that the men were not allowed to attend movie theaters, skating rinks, or public gatherings where more than a few people would congregate. This illness became known as a Crowd Disease which was highly infectious and spread through contact.

By October 3rd there were five reported cases at Fort Brady. The first death from Spanish Flu in Chippewa County was a 60 year old woman from Strongs. On October 8th Fort Brady reports 144 suspected cases. By October 12th there was a rush order for pneumonia jackets as the first death from pneumonia was reported.

Ferry service on the St. Marys was cancelled on October 14th. Following a decision by the City Commission Health Officer J.J. Griffin ordered all Sault churches, schools, theaters, pool halls, dance halls and other public gathering places closed. Street cars were fumigated and windows were to be kept open. Drinking parlors would not be forced to close unless they become crowded and a menace to the health of the city.

There was now a need for more hospital space. The Franklin Hotel at 223 Ashmun Street was converted into an 18 room and 30 bed ward hospital. There was also a Red Cross Hospital set up in Algonquin.
On October 23rd there had been 27 deaths at Fort Brady and 50 new cases of flu reported in the city. All clerks in banks, stores, and public places were ordered to wear masks or respirators while at work. There was a fine of $1-$50 for spitting on the street.

On December 9th ferry service was restored on the St. Marys River. Canadian Sault officials checked passengers in both directions because crossing was allowed for official business only.

Records show 800 cases were reported here with at least 300-400 more not reported. The State Health Department now ordered every household with the flu post a quarantine sign.

Spanish influenza peaked in Michigan during the fall of 1918, but the pandemic continued through the winter and spring, although it was much less severe. By the summer of 1919, the disease had also disappeared from the state.

Did the people then experience economic and social hardships due to the restrictions placed on them? But, did these strict actions save the lives of many people? Is the pandemic we are now facing with CORONAVIRUS-19 very similar?

**How You Can Help Us Preserve Your History**

By Sharon Dorrity

The Chippewa County Historical Society is a 501 c (3) charitable organization whereby contributions to our organization are tax-deductible. There are many ways to give to our organization and support our mission to preserve and promote the public awareness of the history and culture of Chippewa County and Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

**ONLINE**

Visit [chismi.com/support-us/](http://chismi.com/support-us/) to become a member of the Chippewa County Historical Society or to make a charitable gift to the Chippewa County Historical Society.

**CHECK/CASH**

Please make checks payable to:

Chippewa County Historical Society  
PO Box 342  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

**APPRECIATED SECURITIES**

One of the many preferred giving options is the donation of appreciated stock. If you are considering making a stock gift, please contact the CCHS Office at 906-635-7082 for broker information.  

*Note: Always seek the advice of your tax consultant to maximize the many tax advantages that this type of donation may offer.*

**MATCHING GIFTS**

You may double your gift through a matching gift program available through your employer. Contact your Human Resource Department to check for eligibility and matching gift form.

**IRA Charitable Gift**

If you are 70½ or older you may consider donating a gift from your IRA and:

1. Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the current year
2. Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions
3. Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts
4. Help us to promote and preserve our rich history through your generosity.

To make an IRA Charitable gift, contact your IRA plan administrator to direct a gift from your IRA to the Chippewa County Historical Society.

Thank you for your support of the Chippewa County Historical Society!

*from the archives...*

**The City of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

This city is the county-seat of Chippewa County, which was organized in 1826, and with Mackinac County divided the eastern portion of the Upper Peninsula.

In 1887 Luce County was organized, taking off several western towns. The surface is undulating, a large portion being excellent for farming purposes, particularly the portion known as the "burnt lands."

The county is becoming rapidly developed and produces fine crops of wheat, oats, peas, hay and vegetables, and for many of its products prizes have been taken at the State Fairs. Fine stock is also being raised and will in time become celebrated throughout the State.

In 1847 the township of Sault Ste. Marie was incorporated under the name of Ste. Maries. In 1872 the village was organized by the Board of Supervisors and was re-incorporated May 29, 1879. In 1887 the city charter was granted by the Legislature, and the first officers were elected in April, 1888.

The present population of the city is about 9000. In 1885 the valuation...
of school property in Chippewa County was $15,194 and number of school houses 25.

The Results are In
By Ginny Cymbalist

Nearly 2100 visitors came to our Winter Open Houses with people traveling from as far as Traverse City, Ishpeming and Elliot Lake (Ontario). The main draw was the spectacular scale model train layout which only improves every year but there were purchases made in the gift shop, many wonderful comments about other displays and memories shared at the American Café booth. Our thanks to all who worked to make this a spectacular success.

Our list of “Thank you” for memberships, donations and volunteering has been locked down. Our volunteers would like to work remotely, however, the Society does not have the capability to allow computer data to leave the office. We gratefully say that our supporters are very much appreciated and hopefully computer donor information can be accessed by the next newsletter.

Upcoming Events

CCHS has no upcoming events at this time. Due to the requirements for public gatherings, CCHS has cancelled the Annual Meeting and program scheduled for early May. Our summer activities will be determined by the health suggestions of the next few months. Please check our Facebook page or website (www.cchsmi.com) for current information.

Your participation in the amazon smile promo added over $100 to our Society. Thank you for your generous donations!
No Upcoming Events scheduled at this time

Please check our Facebook page or website (www.cchsmi.com) for current information

YES! I want to be a CCHS Member!

Membership Rates
- Individual $20
- Family $30
- Contributing $50
- Business/Corporate/Org. $50
- Lifetime $300
- New Millenium $1000+

Additional Donation $______

Name __________________________________________ Address __________________________________________

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

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