



Arenac County Historical Society  
Preserving The Heritage of Arenac County, Michigan

# ACHS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy Spring everyone. I hope all of you are anticipating a much better year starting this spring. The Covid-19 virus has certainly played havoc with all our lives, businesses and everything that makes our existence a real (not so normal) life. I hope you found ways to make life easier for yourself and all the people around you. It sure made me more aware of how quickly life can change. I hope all of you have had the Covid shots or are at in the process of getting them. Hopefully, life can get easier and better soon.

On that note, I just want to give you the latest information on the Historical Society. We are not certain if the museum will be open this summer for programs and visits. I have programs in mind, but until we can open up at 100% I don't think we can open safely. Safety is our first concern. As of right now, the museum will be open by appointment only. I have had several people ask about research and I have opened to allow their research to be done. It was so interesting to me to hear people asking us to help with the research and see the importance of our help. Sometimes I was not so helpful but was able to refer people to other avenues to hopefully find what they are looking for.

Ye Olde Courthouse may be open for the Junque Sales from time to time with a limited amount of people allowed inside the building. Visits inside would be by appointment if you wanted to just look around. Again, if we are able to open at 100%, all this would change and be back normal.

We have the new Civil War book on sale now. It is interesting to see how many men served from Arenac County or moved to Arenac County after the war because they received land grants as a form of payment for their service during the Civil War.

It is that time of year when we are asking you to **BE BOLD**. On May 4<sup>th</sup> Give Local Bay will have a day of giving for all of us to donate to our favorite charities. We have the Ye Olde Courthouse Fund and the Mary Jennings fund that are near and dear to us. These funds help support our Historical Society now and future years. Please donate to our worthy cause. The Arenac County Historical Society Board appreciates all your help. With the help of the Bay Area Community Foundation we can do so much to preserve the history of Arenac County. In the newsletter you will find an extra page giving you all the information you need to participate. Again, we thank you for all your donations and thank the Bay Area Community Foundation for allowing us to participate and keep our promise to save as much history of Arenac County as we can.

Sandy Proulx-President

### ACHS OFFICERS

President	Sandy Proulx
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Elaine Knoch  
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Phyllis Klender

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Brenda Matt

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### MASONIC HALL

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Greg Knopp

### WEBSITE COORDINATORS

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Greg Knopp

All historical news clippings courtesy of *The Arenac County Independent* (unless otherwise noted)

ACHS WEBSITE: [www.ArenacHistory.org](http://www.ArenacHistory.org)

THE ACHS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED COMPLIMENTS OF PROULX FINANCIAL SERVICES OF AUGRES

## Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall

We are busy at the Courthouse planning our events for 2021. We are excited to welcome our guests to our building and events this year. Our first Junque Sale is in the books and it was great to know we could safely hold our sales including our first bake sale. Both were a big success. Dates are tentatively set for Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day sales, (And maybe a few in between). Watch Face Book, our sign in front of the Courthouse and the Arenac County Independent for details.

Our next big event is our participation in Give Local Bay. We have done this for many years and built our endowed fund through this fundraiser. This fund will support the Ye Olde Courthouse for many years into the future.

### MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 GIVE LOCAL BAY DAY

In 2020 Ye Olde Courthouse Endowment Fund received \$ 10,271.00 in donations during the 24 hour Give Local America Fundraiser hosted by the Bay Area Community Foundation. With your continued support on May 4<sup>th</sup>, we can surpass last year's total. Our theme for this year is: GET READY, GIVE GENEROUSLY ON MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>, # 1 IN 2021! Every donation made in the 24-hour period will be eligible for incentive pool funds, the more our non-profit raises, the more incentive money we receive! Hourly prizes are also awarded to non-profits throughout the day. Just think of the impact your donation can make toward our historical gem and our continuing efforts to restore/preserve it for future generations to enjoy!

### OUR MISSING BENCH

Our bench is missing from our porch! When our Junque Sales are over we place left over items on our front porch and put a sign that says "FREE". Last fall someone thought that meant the benches. If anyone knows who mistakenly took our grey bench, please let them know that we would like it back. It is identical to the remaining one and they are part of the history of our building.

### SECOND STORY REPAIRS

We received a grant in 2020 from the John and Catherine Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation to replace the boarded-up window and the unmatched siding to the south end, second story of the Courthouse. Due to shortages last year, it took some extra time to have the custom window made. It has finally arrived and as soon as the weather gets a little better the work will begin. Part of the grant was also to install a ceiling in the second story storage room. This will be completed in April. Our next renovation project is to repair our outhouse. We only use it for storage, but it has been a part of the property for many years.

Last year's plans were to hold an open house to showcase and celebrate our renovations and thank all the wonderful people and organizations that have contributed to the restoration and preservation of our historic building. We put those plans on hold last year and are looking forward to hosting this event in 2021.

We hope to see you at our Junque and Bake Sales this year. Our committee meets on the second Friday of each month at 9:30 at the Courthouse. Volunteers are always welcome to join us.

Brenda Matt, Committee Chair 989-846-0501  
Phyllis Klender, Financial Chair 989-653-2725

### HOW TO DONATE TO GIVE LOCAL BAY DAY ON MAY 4<sup>TH</sup> 2021

Make your donation during the 24-hour time period, May 4<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 12:01 A.M. Donations can be made by going to: GiveLocalBay.org. There will be a box on the right where you enter the name of the organization you wish to donate to: Type in Ye Olde Courthouse/Arenac County Historical Society and follow the directions. Credit and Debit cards (Master/Visa only) are both accepted or if you wish call 989-893-4438 (8:30 a.m. -8:00 p.m.) to donate by phone with your credit or debit card. \$ 10.00 minimum donation. If you wish to donate by check: Date your check for May 4-2021, make it out to : Bay Area Community Foundation and mail it to Phyllis Klender, 423 W. Huron Rd., Omer, MI. 48749 by April 28<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity for the ACHS/Ye Olde Courthouse to receive additional funds to aid our restoration/preservation efforts. All donations will assure the future of Ye Olde Courthouse historical site, and your donation is tax deductible! If you have any questions please contact the Courthouse committee members, Brenda Matt, 989-846-0501 or Phyllis Klender, 989-653-2762. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

## Arenac County Historical Society Balance Sheet As of February 28, 2021

Feb 28, 21

<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	
Certificate of Deposit	
CD #2	10,956.33
<b>Total Certificate of Deposit</b>	10,956.33
Courthouse Checking	37,172.40
General Checking Account	709.45
Money Market (Savings)	13,818.38
Petty cash	200.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	62,856.58
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	62,856.58
<b>Other Assets</b>	
BACF Endowment Fund	
Courthouse Agency Fund	11,750.00
Courthouse Agency Revenue	1,198.08
Courthouse Agency Spend...	-116.00
<b>Total BACF Endowment Fund</b>	12,832.98
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	12,832.98
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>75,689.54</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Building Fund	4,404.89
Courthouse Fund	50,105.38
General Fund	5,395.37
Memorial Fund	15,783.90
<b>Total Equity</b>	75,689.54
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>75,689.54</b>

## Arenac Heritage Route Authority Standish Historical Depot

We are happy to welcome spring, flowers, and sunshine at the Depot. Our snowman, Santa and all of Christmas decorations are in storage and we are planning on some repairs, repainting and additions for 2021. Many of them were frozen in so it took us a little longer this year to get them put away. Our Christmas display and lighting was beautiful and enjoyed by our community and guests to our county. We cannot thank our volunteers enough for all of their hard work installing all of the Christmas decorations and the time they spend keeping everything in working order. Breakers trip, fuses blow, connectors melt, connectors get wet and bulbs burn out but our volunteers kept repairing so that everyone could continue to enjoy our beautiful display throughout the holiday season. Carlos Mori, Mori Tree Service, volunteers his time and lift to install the lights around our buildings, and the City of Standish DPW sets the snowman and takes down and stores the snowman and Santa. They are very much appreciated. Our electric bill is tremendous, and we are hoping through grants and donations to purchase more LED lights to replace our incandescent lights. The LEDs would give us a substantial savings on our light bill for 2021 and future years.

We will take the tarps off the passenger cars in April and be ready for our busy season. Our concerts are booked, Model A and Model T Show scheduled, and dates are all set for the Farmer's Market and Fun in the Sun. New brochures for the US 23 Heritage Route are at the printer and will be available soon. We are also in the process of re-lettering our sign that welcomes people to our county and North East Michigan.

Watch our Facebook page for event dates and the Arenac County Independent Leisure Guide for our schedule of events. Our website is being re-done and updated also. Our concerts begin on Thursday, June 24<sup>th</sup> and continue until August 19<sup>th</sup>, the Farmers Market begins on May 21<sup>st</sup> and continues every Friday night until September 10<sup>th</sup>, the Model A & Model T Car Show is scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup>, the Fun in the Sun Vendors begins on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> and continues every other Saturday until September 25<sup>th</sup>. Depot Days will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope you can join us for these events.

We are still saving Family Fare Direct Your Dollars sales receipts. The Friends of the AHRA received \$1,000.00 from this fundraiser two years ago and we now have 141,000 in receipts. Only 9,000 more to go to receive another \$ 1,000.00! Thanks to everyone who has been saving them for us.

The Arenac Heritage Route board meets on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Standish Historical Depot. This is an open meeting, and all are welcome to attend.

- Brenda Matt, Depot Representative

### GIVE LOCAL BAY

To make your donation during the 24-hour period on May 4, 2021 beginning at 12:01 a.m. go to Give Local Bay.org. There will be a box on the right where you enter the name of the organization you wish to donate to. Type in Arenac Heritage Route Authority/Standish Historical Depot and follow the directions. Credit and debit cards (Mastercard/Visa only) are both accepted or if you wish call 989-893-4438 (8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.) to donate by phone with your credit or debit card. (\$10.00 minimum donation) If you wish to donate by check: Date your check for May 4, 2021, make it out to Bay Area Community Foundation, and mail it to Arenac Heritage Route Authority, P.O. Box 456, Standish, MI. 48658. Please mail it so that it reaches us by May 4<sup>th</sup>. You may also drop it off at the Depot. This is a great opportunity for the Depot to receive incentive pool funds to add to our future. Your donation is tax deductible. You may leave a message the Depot if you have any questions, (989-718-3021) or call Brenda at 989-233-1428.

### 100 YEARS AGO IN ARENAC COUNTY.....

March 10, 1921: The Kimball-Martindale elevator at Twining, together with six carloads of beans, was totally destroyed by fire last Friday.

May 26, 1921: A new state law calls for all owners to register their cars with the Secretary of States Office.

June 16, 1921: The new elevator in Twining, being rebuilt by the Kimball Martindale Company of Bay City, will be one of the most up to date in Northern Michigan, storage capacity - 25,000 bushels.

## Arenac Historical Society Books & Publications – Mail Order Form

The Society has a number of books and publications for sale related to Arenac County history and people. All of our selections are also for sale at the Museum, the Depot, and Ye Olde Courthouse.

**Mark selection box in left column, and add price to subtotal for each item desired. Then add shipping as detailed at bottom.**

Title & Description of Book or Publication	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> "A Point to Remember" - A Pictorial History of Point Lookout, Michigan - Val Korth, 2014 - Second Edition	\$ 30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Arenac County Normal, 1904-1957 - written and compiled by the ACHS; 2013	\$ 30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 1906 Standard Atlas of Arenac County, Michigan: including a plat book of the villages, cities and townships of the county - includes index - reprinted by the ACHS; 2012	\$ 12.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Soldiers & Sailors of Arenac County That Served in the Great War. (WWI)-written and compiled by the ACHS 2010. 300pg	\$ 28.00
<input type="checkbox"/> A History of Maple Ridge, Arenac County, Michigan - written & compiled by Marion Poole Maday & Friends; 2008 282 pgs	\$ 28.00
<input type="checkbox"/> A History of Arenac County, Michigan - by Calvin Ennes; edited, compiled and amended by Paul Michalke; 2003, 208 pgs	\$ 25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Wah Sash Kah Moqua, or Thirty-Three Years among the Indians - by Mary A. Henderson Cabay Sagatoo; 1897 - Reprinted by Printer's Devil Press. Content: 140 pages plus illustrations	\$ 12.00
<input type="checkbox"/> The Story of Standish and its People, 1876-1976 - by Allan McCready, 1976 – Reprinted. 108 pages plus illustrations.	\$ 10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> First Families of Standish Township, 1974 - Reprinted; Lots of family names and pictures. 32 pages.	\$ 10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Omer Centennial Book, 1872-1972 - Reprinted.	\$ 10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> History of the Sterling Area - by Virginia Adams, 1976 – Reprinted, 16 pgs	\$ 8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> History of the Sterling Area, Second Generation - by Virginia Adams, 1977 – Reprinted. 15 pgs	\$ 8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> The Handy Cook's Book – 1915 - by the Ladies Aid Society of the M. E. Church, Au Gres.	\$ 6.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Arenac County "First County Fair" Premium Book - 4 1/2" x 6", originally printed in 1885. Reprint	\$ 6.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 100th Anniversary - Omer Masonic Lodge #377 F. & A. M. – Reprint; Includes a history of Omer & Free Masonry	\$ 6.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Arenac County Fair Premium Book – 1914 - Reprinted, Includes ads of the period, showing businesses in the County	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Short History of Arenac County Roads – 2004 - With 3 different color maps of the county. 30 pages.	\$ 6.00
<input type="checkbox"/> This is the Way We Went to School; West and Northwest of Saginaw Bay Around the Turn of the Century	\$ 6.00
<input type="checkbox"/> One Room Country Schools, Arenac County, Michigan - edited by Marie Bauer & Friends of Arenac County Historical Society, 1992. Reprinted with additional photos, names and information. 4 volumes with illustrations and maps.	\$ 7.00 Per Vol.
<input type="checkbox"/> One Room Country Schools Map - Content: Map of Arenac County showing all of the 42 One (and two) room schools that were in the County at one time. 8 1/2" x 11"	\$ 2.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Arenac County Directory – 1947 - Reprinted. Lots of local information. 90 pages.	\$ 8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> St. John's United Church of Christ - Au Gres 1912 – 1981 - Content: Known as "Old German Church", located on Delano Road. Later closed and now sits in park in Au Gres across the street from the ACHS museum.	\$ 5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Plat Book of Arenac County - villages, cities and townships - circa 1920 – Reprint; aps showing land ownership + index	\$ 10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Au Gres Centennial 1865–1965: From Timber to Tourists - History of Au Gres Area, 1965 – Reprint	\$ 6.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Rifle River Centennial Sucker Festival, Omer Michigan, April 8, 9, 10, 1983 - Content: Schedule of events, committee members, history on Omer and sucker fishing, sucker recipes history on logging and more.	\$ 4.00
<input type="checkbox"/> POINT LOOKOUT, The Famous old Summer Resort located on the West Shore of Saginaw Bay. Unrivaled as a Summer Resort. - 12 pg booklet, to promote the area when the Steamers were bringing in tourists. Pictures, time tables and more.	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Au Gres Harbor Story - Short story of how Au Gres got the Harbor of Refuge and Marina, spanning 1945 –1973 12 pgs	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Program Pioneer Picnic & Homecoming - Au Gres – 1942 - Published for the annual Pioneer Picnic in Au Gres. 20 pg bklt	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 1883 to 1983 - Arenac County Centennial - One Hundred Years of Growth - Road Tour Guide; Small 12 page booklet	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/> The Early Au Gres Area - A Series of maps with Buildings and Landmarks. Edited and Modified by Mike Melvin	\$ 5.00

**Subtotal**

Mail orders, please include the following shipping and handling charges in addition to the price at the right of each item:

- \$5.00 for "A Point to Remember - A Pictorial History of Point Lookout, Michigan"
- \$4.50 for "Soldiers & Sailors of Arenac County That Served in the Great War. (WWI)"
- \$4.00 for "Arenac County Normal, 1904-1957"
- \$3.50 for "A History of Arenac County, Michigan"
- All other items:
- \$3.50 for the first item
- \$0.50 each additional item

Send form & personal check or money order to:  
**Arenac County Historical Society**  
 P. O. Box 272  
 Au Gres, Michigan 48703-0272

Name & Shipping Address

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Questions? Call 989-876-6399 or email: [achs@centurytel.net](mailto:achs@centurytel.net) + Calculated Shipping

**Grand Total Enclosed**