

# ACHS

## NEWSLETTER



*Arenac County Historical Society*

*February 2010*

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT . . .

Winter is a good planning time for the ACHS. We've been discussing different programs that will be presented this year. We have ideas for new and extended displays. There will be a new area for research and genealogical study. Best of all, we have new lighting in the museum to make our exhibits really stand out and look amazing. We are also planning to install new ceiling fans to circulate the air better and keep the museum cooler in the summer. We hope you will be pleasantly surprised, when you visit us this summer.

The ACHS is looking for several people to serve on our Board of Trustees. Anyone interested may contact the museum and leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as possible. We are also looking for a program director. The director's duties include finding speakers and programs to present to the public, setting up the dates and times of the programs and making sure the proper equipment is available for the presenter. A hospitality person is needed also. That person would need to have refreshments ready at any museum event. Volunteers would be appreciated.

The Society is sorry to see Doug Juras resign as a board trustee. Doug has served several years and his work and volunteerism has been extensive. He has helped us raise money through research for and writing grants and has been an appreciated general handy-man around the museum. We will miss him and wish him the best as he and his wife, Charlene, continue as enthusiastic grandparents and world travelers. Perhaps we can get them to give a presentation on their excursions, sometime. On another sorry note, Annabelle Goodman has resigned as Director of the ACHS Board. Annabelle has been with the society since its inception. She has dedicated many years of service to the preservation of the history of Arenac County. She is a walking encyclopedia of stories, facts, events, people, businesses, land owners and more. Annabelle will continue to use her knowledge in the research department and anyone needing help in genealogy can still contact her. Best Wishes Annabelle and a huge THANK YOU for all you've done.

These winter months will fly by. Soon we will be greeting you again at the museum and courthouse with new and interesting events. We are looking forward to our 2010 season.

Sandy Proulx  
President

### ACHS Officers

President	Sandy Proulx
Vice President	Ann Ennis
Recording Sec.	Mary McLaughlin
Treasurer	Carla Dittenber

### ACHS Trustees

Joann Gulau	Nancy Selle
Brenda Matt	Linda Proulx
George Tolgo	
Pam Findlay	

### ACHS Standing Committees

#### Building and Grounds:

George Tolgo

#### Collections/Exhibits:

Annabell Goodman

#### Accession Committee:

Sandy Proulx  
Ann Ennis  
Joann Gulau

#### Hospitality:

Joann Zibble

#### Newsletter Editor:

Norah Wolthuis

#### Publicity:

Marilyn Van Sickle

#### ACHS Representation to the Arenac Heritage Route Authority:

Brenda Matt

#### Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall:

Brenda Matt	Chair
Phyllis Klender	Secretary
Joann Gulau	Financial Chair

#### ACHS Website Webmaster:

Greg Knopp

#### Coordinators:

Mike Melvin - Joann Gulau

ACHS WEBSITE: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~miachs/index.htm>

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

**ARENAC HERITAGE ROUTE AUTHORITY  
STANDISH HISTORICAL DEPOT**



Arenac Heritage Route Authority  
Standish Historical Depot



The Depot Authority has been busy planning for 2010. Our first event will be our annual fundraiser, The Diamonds, Denim and Camo Dinner. Dr. Schwab is working with Dixie Dave for hosting this event. It will be held at the VFW Hall in Standish on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The menu will once again be wild game (not too wild since most of the meats are raised domestically) and several side dishes. We will surprise you with an excellent variety of hors d' oeuvres and cheese. Watch the local paper for more information concerning time and tickets in March.

We are now open for our winter hours which are 12 noon to 6 p.m. daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Several of the ACHS books are available for purchase and research at the Depot. Our veterans display is still on exhibit and we are accepting information for our scrapbooks on our area veterans, local people, cities, townships, and schools throughout Arenac County. We have recently added two more Arenac County railroad people to our depot scrapbook. Warren "Tramp" Brown lived in Alger and worked for the Michigan Central and later the New York Central. He did switching for the railroad and was also a conductor. His office was in the caboose. Brown earned the nickname "Tramp" because he would jump the train in Alger to get to work in Bay City on Monday mornings. Warren's regular run was from Bay City to Grayling, so he would stay with his sister in Bay City during the week and have the train drop him off in Alger on Friday. His twin daughters would run to the train stop in Alger to take their father his lunch. Warren's daughter Margaret (known as Blue) married James Kohoyda and lived in Alger also. Two of their sons still live in Alger and one in Bay City. George A. Templin, also of Alger, worked for the New York Central. George started working for the railroad at 18, and worked for the NYC until he was inducted into the military. He served in France during World War I. Templin started as a laborer and was later promoted to section foreman. He supervised a crew that repaired the tracks in Arenac County. George would walk to work and then take a small railroad utility car that would go up and down the tracks looking for repairs. Templin worked for the New York Central until 1948 when he had a severe heart attack. At the time of his retirement his monthly pay was \$55.50 a month. George married Olive Doron and resided in Alger where his children grew up. His children now live in Bay City and Unionville and furnished the pictures and information about their father. Another visitor to the depot told of her grandmother, Ann (Adrian) Carruthers, who was born in 1903. She lived in the Worth area and flagged the train down to ride to Standish to visit her sister. The cost was ten cents. We would like more stories about people who worked for the railroad or rode the trains.

Plans are in the works for two train rides this summer. The first ride is tentatively set for Saturday, August 14, and will go from Standish to West Branch. The other train ride will be during Depot Days which is scheduled for October 1, 2, & 3.

The Depot Authority is in the process of publishing an Arenac County map for hand out to our visitors. We expect our bandstand to be completed as soon as the weather permits in the spring and we will be scheduling small concerts during the week. Watch for our announcements concerning these events.

The Arenac Heritage Route authority meets at the depot on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.

Brenda Matt  
Authority Representative

**PHOTOGRAPHY CORNER  
FEBRUARY - 2010**



In this rather "snowless" winter of 2010, the Photography Corner visits some snowier scenes of yesteryear.



Clearing Snow From the Tracks in  
Standish – Michigan Central RR



Ice Storm in AuGres - 1922



Logging Near Turner - 1910



## OLDE COURTHOUSE/MASONIC HALL

The ACHS Committee from the Courthouse/Masonic Hall would like to thank everyone for their tremendous support during 2009. Because of our wonderful friends we had an outstanding year. Our Financial Chair, Joann Gulau, has prepared the following report which is a quick recap of this year's fundraising:

Memorials	465.00
Pledges & Donations	2,500.00
In House Raffles	500.00
Published Books Sold	1,231.00
Million Penny Drive	2,504.47
Bake Sales, Candy Sale, Lunch	3,211.50
Trees & Wreaths	635.00
Junque Sales, Auction, Book Sales.	16,457.90

(All stuff that was given to us to sell)

For a total of **\$27,504.57**

The balance on our mortgage is now \$33,921.23 and the total for the million penny drive is \$5,531.57. We will continue to collect pennies until we reach one million or \$10,000.00. And of course, we will keep on accepting "Junque" for our annual sale, which has become one of our most successful sources of income. We will be paying another lump sum payment of \$5,000.00, this month. This is in addition to our regular payments and will reduce our mortgage balance to under \$29,000.00 and of course also reduce our interest. The ACHS purchased this building 4 1/2 yrs. ago for \$85,000.00. The committee at Ye Olde Courthouse is planning for our annual spring opening which will be April 3 and 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be holding a bake sale and serving hot dogs and chili during this opening weekend of sucker season. We are also in the process of planning some programs which we hold in partnership with the Arenac-Iosco District Library. If you have any ideas for programs of interest to you, please contact Phyllis Klender. We will be holding a small "Junque Sale" when we are open for Memorial Day and, of course, hold our annual "Junque Sale" during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. We were the hosts for the

Annual Winter Wolf Run in January. This was a great opportunity for guests from all over Michigan to see this historic building. The Courthouse received a grant from the Arenac County Fund of \$ 500.00. The leadership of the ACF is composed of several volunteers who have worked very hard to establish and maintain the fund. We appreciate their dedication to our community and the Arenac County Historical Society.

Our grant was an Energy Efficient Project to replace all of our light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs and to replace several of the black shades in the second story to protect drapes and carpeting. In 2009 we were approached by the Bowring Masonic Lodge # 377 F. & A.M. to lease our building to hold their meetings. After much discussion between the ACHS and the Masons, we have entered into a lease agreement. The Masons occupied this building for nearly 100 years and we are proud of our Masonic History and displays. It is exciting to once again have our building occupied by a Masonic Lodge. We are looking forward to an excellent working relationship with the Masons and not only will this benefit the Bowring Lodge, but will help us both financially and with the maintenance of the building. We continue to collect Arenac Township and Omer history to display and are planning to rearrange some of our historic pictures and to add family histories and pictures to one wall. Our pledge board is on display in the front entrance. We are still seeking more pledges and would be glad to provide more information on this project. Please join us in 2010 and attend our many events, enjoy a cup of coffee and a visit with us. Volunteers are always welcome.

Brenda Matt	Committee Chair	846-0501
Phyllis Klender	Reporting Chair	653-2762
Joann Gulau	Financial Chair	876-6468

**DOES ANYONE REMEMBER MISS RUTH WHO GAVE TAP LESSONS IN THE 1940'S and 50's? YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND GO TO NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Brenda and Berma from Standish**



## MUSEUM BOOK STORE

All of our book selections are for sale at the MUSEUM, the DEPOT, and the NORTHEAST ART CENTER in Standish

**HISTORY OF STERLING** PRICE \$8  
A reprint of Virginia Adam's book

**HISTORY OF STERLING** PRICE \$8  
(2<sup>ND</sup> Generation)

**AU GRES CENTENNIAL 1865-1965** PRICE \$6

**ARENAC COUNTY FAIR PREMIUM BOOK**  
Printed in 1885, it describes the first Arenac County Fair that was held in Omer when it was the County Seat  
PRICE \$5

**THE STORY OF STANDISH and ITS PEOPLE: 1876-1976**  
This is a reprint of Allan McCready's book; an index of names has been added  
PRICE \$10

**ARENAC COUNTY PLAT BOOK, circa 1920** PRICE \$6

**THIS IS THE WAY WE WENT TO SCHOOL** PRICE \$6

**8 1/2 "x 11" ARENAC COUNTY MAP** -- Shows location of each of the 43 early Arenac County Schools  
PRICE \$1.25

**WAH SASH KAH MOQUA** by Mary Sagatoo  
This is a reprint done by the Book Nook in East Tawas  
PRICE \$10

**THE HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**  
This best-seller is in its 4<sup>th</sup> reprint!  
PRICE \$20

**THE HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTY ROADS** PRICE \$6

**24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ARENAC COUNTY FAIR BOOK**  
PRICE \$3

**ONE ROOM ARENAC COUNTY SCHOOLS,** \*  
Vol. 1,2,3,4  
PRICE \$7 each

**1947 ARENAC COUNTRY DIRECTORY** PRICE \$6

**FIRST FAMILIES OF STANDISH TOWNSHIP** PRICE \$10

**ARENAC COUNTY PIONEER SOCIETY, AUGRES 8-26-1911**  
PRICE \$6

**A HISTORY OF MAPLE RIDGE, ARENAC COUNTY, MI**  
Marion Poole Maday  
PRICE \$28

**THE HANDY COOK'S BOOK**  
Written and compiled by members of the Ladies' Aid Society of the M.E. Church of Au Gres in 1915 with most of the contributors' names with it.  
PRICE \$6



Did you study with Miss Ruth? Check out our website at:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~miachs/index.htm>

and go to News and Announcements. Miss Ruth is in the picture to the right with her accompanist Erma Burnside Bellville.

We are still looking for pictures of the yearly classes of County Normal. Call Joann at 876.6468 if you can help.

Even though the museum is not open on weekends through the Winter months, we want to remind you that if you wish to visit the museum for research, you can call and leave a message and someone will get back with you and make arrangements for your visit. You will also find a lot of our indexes on our web site and copies are available by mail or email.

## Arenac County Historical Society Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2009

Dec 31, 09

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

#### Checking/Savings

#### Certificate of Deposit

CD #1 1,149.85

CD #2 13,856.91

CD #3 5,688.29

Total Certificate of Deposit 20,495.05

Courthouse Checking 11,029.64

General Checking Account 495.25

Money Market (Savings) 9,781.16

Total Checking/Savings 41,801.10

Total Current Assets 41,801.10

**TOTAL ASSETS 41,801.10**

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

#### Equity

Building Fund 3,944.07

Courthouse Fund 11,029.64

General Fund 14,771.17

Memorial Fund 12,056.22

Fund Reconciliation -18,437.46

Net Income 18,437.46

Total Equity 41,801.10

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 41,801.10**

*Arenac County Historical Society*  
**P.O. Box 272**  
**AuGres, Michigan 48703-0272**  
**989-876-6399**

**Membership Information**

The Arenac County Historical Society (ACHS) was incorporated in 1970, and operates the County Museum in AuGres, Michigan. Membership is open to anyone. Dues are payable IN ADVANCE of each fiscal year, September 1 to August 31. Dues of a NEW member joining after March 1 will be credited through the following fiscal year. Renewals are accepted at any time.

I would like to:  Join  Renew.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (With Area Code) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for Membership circled below.

Category	Dues	Category	Dues
Student (under 18 years)	\$3	Patron	\$250
Senior (over 55 years)	\$10	Business	\$50
Senior Couple (over 55 years)	\$15	Life over 55 years (individual)	\$150
Individual	\$15	Life over 55 years (couple)	\$225
Couple/Family	\$20	Life 55 and under (individual)	\$300
Contributing	\$50	Life 55 and under (couple)	\$400
Benefactor	\$100	Gift to Building Fund	\$

**Mail to:** **Treasurer, ACHS**  
**P.O. Box 272**  
**Au Gres, MI 48703-0272**

## COURTHOUSE in Omer



SUCKER WEEKEND  
APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
at Omer Courthouse

ARENAC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PO BOX 272  
Au Gres MI 48703-0272

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
AU GRES MI  
PERMIT NO. 50

ACHS NEWSLETTER For: \_\_\_\_\_

OR CURRENT RESIDENT