

# ACHS NEWSLETTER

Arenac County Historical Society

August 2013

Summer is passing quickly and I hope you have enjoyed it so far. Many events have taken place in Arenac County. We had two great programs at the museum and we are looking forward to two more. In August, we will have a program on railroading and the continuous restoration of Engine 1225 which is also known as the Polar Express. In September we will have a program on genealogy with ideas and ways to research our ancestors. There have been programs at Ye Olde Courthouse and our local libraries. I hope you have been able to attend some of these. Standish and Au Gres had wonderful car shows. There has been some great music each week at the Standish Depot. The Arenac County Fair was great family fun and canoeing, camping and boating are also good ways to experience the beauty and great outdoors available in Arenac County. Please don't forget to buy your tickets for our raffle at the museum. Our prizes are: 1<sup>st</sup> place - a basket of Michigan goods, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - a Kindle e reader with a \$25.00 gift card and 3<sup>rd</sup> place - a \$100.00 gas card. The society appreciates your support of our great organization. Many things can be accomplished with a little support from everyone. August 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a mortgage burning ceremony at the Olde Courthouse in Omer. A big THANK YOU goes out to all involved. Whether you donated junk, baked, bought goods or helped in any way, your efforts have produced a wonderful result. The society was able to pay off the debt in a shorter period of time. Now we are looking forward to doing some restoration to the building.

Enjoy the rest of the summer because the leaves on my maple trees are showing a bit of a color change already. The beauty of autumn will quickly be here.

Sandy Proulx  
President

From the Arenac Independent  
12/18/29



## ACHS OFFICERS

President	Sandy Proulx
Vice President	Jacob Lockwood
Recording Sec.	Mary McLaughlin
Treasurer	Carla Dittenber

## ACHS TRUSTEES

Joann Gulau  
Brenda Matt  
Marilyn Van Sickle

## ACHS STANDING COMMITTEE

### BUILDING and GROUNDS

### COLLECTIONS/EXHIBITS

### ACCESSION COMMITTEE

Sandy Proulx  
Joann Gulau  
Mary McLaughlin

### HOSPITALITY

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Norah Wolthuis

### PUBLICITY

Marilyn Van Sickle

ACHS REPRESENTATIVE 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

### WEBSITE COORDINATORS

Mike Melvin  
Joann Gulau

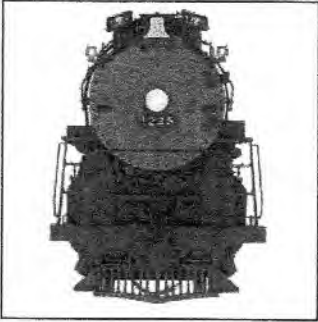
### FACEBOOK

Greg Knopp

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



The depot has been very busy greeting travelers to Arenac County and Northern Michigan. Many of our visitors stop at the depot seeking information on places to see and things to do in Arenac County, tour the historic building,

caboose and train cars and use the restrooms. A lot of people are seeking information on their family histories. Much of the information we share with them comes from the books published by the Arenac County Historical Society.

The summer concerts have been popular and are almost finished. The concert on August 15th will be held in Omer, featuring Omer City Limits Band and the last concert will be held on August 27<sup>th</sup> in Au Gres and the entertainers will be Flipside Band.

A book signing for the ACHS Arenac County Normal book will be held on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Joann Gulau will be there to sign this book and they will be available for purchase at the depot after the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Depot Days will be held on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be carnival rides for the children, a pie baking contest, several entertainers and the ACHS scrapbooks will be on display. Please watch the depot website [www.standishdepot.org](http://www.standishdepot.org) for times and information.

Volunteers are always welcome and needed at the depot. Please call the depot at 989-718-3021 if you have a little time to spare and would like to staff the depot.

Our flower beds are in need of volunteers also. If you have an organization, family or group of friends and would like to adopt a flower bed, please call the depot or e mail at [info@standishdepot.org](mailto:info@standishdepot.org).

The Arenac Heritage Route meets at the depot on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. This is an open meeting and all are welcome to attend.

Brenda Matt,  
Depot Representative

## "Justice Forbes" in Matched Race at Arenac County Fair

9-1-1932



The Racing Stallion "Justice Forbes"

G. B. Mout announces the following strong race program to be presented at the Arenac County Fair Thursday and Friday, Sept. 29 and 30:

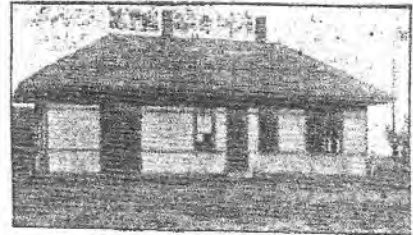
Four harness races—Two each afternoon of Thursday and Friday—including matched race between "Justice Forbes" and "The Girl." Edwin Mosher, owner of Justice, says attracted so much attention on the race tracks of Michigan, will re-

turn the horse from the Southern Michigan-Ohio racing circuit to meet all comers in his home county for Friday, Sept. 30—and set a record for the Standish track which will not soon be beaten.

Also, on Friday an added race—a Farmers Running Race—purse \$25, for which a big field is already assured. All races have sufficient starts and entries have been closed and it is up to the weatherman and Bill Simpson to have the track ready for fast company.

## Alger 4-H Club House

9-5-1934



Abandoned Depots are becoming more frequent every year. The above photo shows the former Alger M. C. R. station which has been out of service for several years. Recently, through the cooperation of interested parties, Clark Kerr received permission to use the old depot as a 4-H club house for Alger 4-H clubs. The place is an ideal one for this purpose.

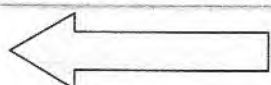
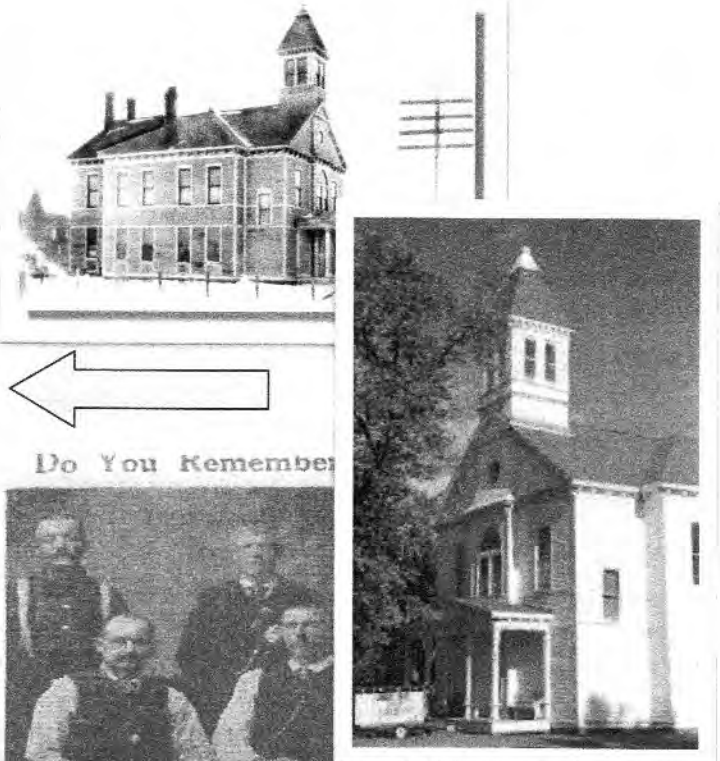
**Ye Olde Courthouse  
August Newsletter 2013**

The \$ 85,000.00 dollar mortgage is paid thanks to the support and hard work of so many people! Bake sales, junque sales, pledges, donations and the generosity of our community made this possible. **We invite you to join us on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 p.m. (program at 2:00 pm.) for a mortgage burning celebration. If you gave us a box of junque, made baked goods, donated pennies, signed a pledge or helped in any way we want you to join us. Please come and celebrate this momentous occasion with us.**

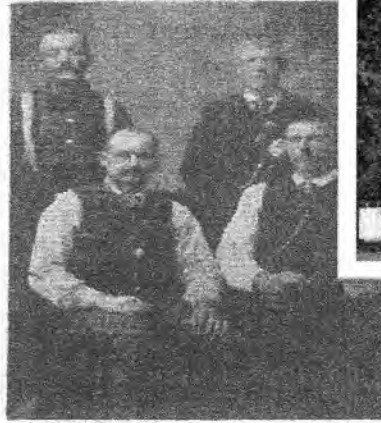
Our display of Early Arenac will be unveiled after the mortgage burning at the courthouse. The highlight of this display is a postal cabinet donated to the historical society by Eileen Wyatt Burns. This cabinet was in the post office at Arenac that closed in 1895. We are grateful to Eileen's family for saving this cabinet along with many other historical articles and documents that reflect the early history of the settlement of Arenac.

The courthouse will be open for the Labor Day weekend and will include a junque sale and bake sale. Please stop in and visit with us, shop and enjoy some delicious baked goods prepared by our Omer Bakers. Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July sale profit was \$ 1,702.65 and our bake sale was \$ 480.95. The Saginaw Chippewas donated \$ 500.00 for our paint fund. Exterior painting of our building is our next project. This will be quite expensive so please continue to save your good "Junque" for us. Our junque, bake sales, pledges and donations have made the preservation of this historic building successful.

Ye Olde Courthouse Committee



**Do You Remember**



BACK IN 1882 the above picture, a tin type, was taken in Omer. Frank Payea brought it in for publication, thinking some of the old-timers of The Independent might be interested in seeing it—and thus bring back old time memories. The man at the left is Charles Madden, deceased. Next is George St. Clair, now in Chicago. The individual seated at the left is Milton Weaver, operator of a hotel at Omer. He was the brother of the late N. B. Weaver of Standish. The person seated at Weaver's right is Joseph Stover of Arenac. 11-11-42

Two views of the courthouse/Masonic Lodge in Omer.

Do You Remember  
11/11/42

Lincoln Township's New Town Hall

4/4/34

Page Four

4-4-1934

**Lincoln Township's New Town Hall**



Lincoln Township Town Hall, completed last week, served the citizens of the community for the first time through the C. W. A. plan, p.m. Monday at the spring election. The hall, 24x46 in size, is of granite cement block construction on a concrete foundation. It was built at a cost of \$2,743.30, all furnished by the community. The \$300 supplied by the township. E. J. Nehls, supervisor of the township was in charge of the project.

From the Arenac County Independent 12/16/42

15-16-1942



**Make Yourself  
Lovely for  
Christmas**

Now is the time to get your new permanent . . . be lovely for Christmas.

**Make Your Appointment  
Now.**

**WEISHUHN'S  
BEAUTY PARLOR**  
Phone No. 3621  
Standish, Michigan

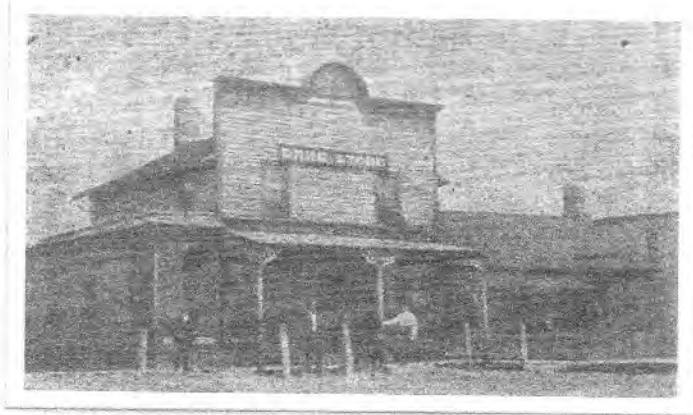
All of our book selections are for sale at the MUSEUM, the DEPOT, and YE OLDE COURTHOUSE.

HISTORY OF STERLING A reprint of Virginia Adam's book	PRICE	\$8
HISTORY OF STERLING (2 <sup>ND</sup> Generation)	PRICE	\$8
AU GRES CENTENNIAL 1865-1965	PRICE	\$6
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
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	\$12
THE HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTY, MICHIGAN This best-seller is in its 4 <sup>th</sup> reprint!	PRICE	\$25
THE HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTY ROADS	PRICE	\$6
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
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
RECORD OF ARENAC COUNTY SOLDIERS AND SAILORS IN SERVICE IN THE GREAT WAR Joann Gulau and Mike Melvin	PRICE	\$28
ARENAC COUNTY NORMAL 1904-1957 Joann Gulau and Mike Melvin	PRICE	\$30

Arenac County Historical Society  
Balance Sheet  
As of June 30, 2013

	Jun 30, 13
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Certificate of Deposit	
CD #1	1,181.78
CD #2	10,277.77
CD #3	6,284.72
Total Certificate of Deposit	17,744.27
Courthouse Checking	16,859.69
General Checking Account	525.72
Money Market (Savings)	12,523.32
Petty cash	100.00
Total Checking/Savings	47,753.00
Total Current Assets	47,753.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>47,753.00</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Equity	
Building Fund	4,258.66
Courthouse Fund	16,909.69
General Fund	12,062.19
Memorial Fund	14,522.46
Total Equity	47,753.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>47,753.00</b>

DO YOU REMEMBER?



**From the Arenac County Independent 7/11/34**

Do you remember when Sterling's business streets looked like they do above. Look hard and see how many folks you might recognize. These pictures were taken about 30 years ago.\*

**\*This would make these pictures about 113 years old.**

ARENAC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 272  
Au Gres, Michigan 48703-0272

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Arenac County Historical Society (ACHS) was incorporated in 1970, and operates the County Museum in Au Gres, Michigan and Ye Olde Courthouse and Masonic Lodge in Omer, Michigan. Membership is open to anyone. Dues are payable IN ADVANCE of each fiscal year, September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>. Dues of a NEW member joining after March 1<sup>st</sup> 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 (individual)	\$150
INDIVIDUAL	\$15	LIFE - OVER 55 (couple)	\$225
COUPLE/FAMILY	\$20	LIFE - 55 AND UNDER (individual)	\$300
CONTRIBUTING	\$50	LIFE - 55 AND UNDER (couple)	\$400
BENEFACTOR	\$100		

MAIL TO:           TREASURER, ACHS  
                          P.O. BOX 272  
                          AU GRES, MI 48703-0272

Arenac County Historical Society  
PO Box 272  
Au Gres, MI 48703

NONPROFIT ORG  
USPOSTAGE PAID  
AUGRES MI  
PERMIT NO. 50

ACHS Newsletter for:

or Current Resident

### COMING EVENTS

#### ACHS Museum in Au Gres

August 10 <sup>th</sup>	Book Signing for the County Normal Book	Joann Gulau Mike Melvin
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	Engine #1225	Bruce Kuffer
September 11 <sup>th</sup>	Genealogy	Donnie Boursaw

#### YE OLDE COURTHOUSE in Omer

August 18 <sup>th</sup>	"Burning of the Mortgage" Party	
August 30 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup>	Junque Sale	Friday and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm

#### OMER LIBRARY Programs Held at Ye Olde Courthouse

Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup>	1,000 Letters Home (WWII)
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