

# ACHS NEWSLETTER

Arenac County Historical Society

November 2013

The year is quickly coming to a close. Thanksgiving and Christmas will soon be here. The museum will not be open this year for Christmas, but Ye Olde Courthouse will be. We will be having a pie sale at the Olde Courthouse in Omer along with the Courthouse candy sale and Christmas Junque sale on December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. We are asking for donated pies for the sale. If you cannot bake, a donation will be greatly appreciated. Buying some items is even better!!!

We have had an interesting year at the museum and courthouse. We had several programs at both locations that were well attended. We paid off the mortgage at the courthouse and we are looking for ways we can raise money to support improvements to both buildings. We have had a lot of people requesting genealogical research throughout the year with requests coming from different states. Visitors have also come from around the country. I never would have believed that so many people would be interested in completing family trees.

Next summer we will be trying some different ideas to encourage visitors to come to our museum and courthouse. Over the winter we will be putting these ideas in order and work on getting more programs for next year. We received many interesting artifacts from our local VFW in Au Gres. Since we received these artifacts more people are calling to donate military artifacts they have from family members in Arenac County. What a great way to honor our veterans who served our country!

On behalf of the Arenac County Historical Society, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for all of your generous support.

Sandy Proulx  
President

#### 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 HAL

Brenda Matt	Chair
Phyllis Klender	Secretary
Joann Gulau	Financial Chair

##### ACHS WEBSITE WEBMASTER

Greg Knopp

##### WEBSITE COORDINATORS

Mike Melvin  
Joann Gulau

##### FACEBOOK

Greg Knopp



### Standish Historical Depot

Our busy tourist season is drawing to a close at the depot. Mina, Angie and crew are now busy planning Christmas decorations. The

depot is always beautifully decorated for Christmas and you are all invited to stop in and enjoy the beautiful Christmas trees and displays.

The staff of Chemical Bank worked on the landscaping on Monday, October 14. This was a community service day for the staff of Chemical Bank in Standish. They worked very hard preparing the flower beds and berms for winter. These great people spread compost and mulch, weeded and trimmed flowers and shrubs. This was a tremendous help to us and we appreciate all of their hard work and willingness to help the community.

Any one driving by the depot has probably noticed the black dirt piled around and the trenches and holes being dug. Dr. Ron Schwab has coordinated a tree planting program between the Heritage Route Authority, the Down Town Development Authority and Re-Leaf Michigan. These trees will be very similar to the original plantings when the depot was built and contribute to the original "park like" setting. The trees along the highway will help prevent road dust and noise on the depot property. John Stranton is working with Dr. Schwab, digging with his tractor and helping to plant trees. Thanks John, for contributing your time and talents to the depot.

Santa arrives at the Depot on November 29<sup>th</sup>. You may enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in the depot. Santa will be available in the caboose to talk to your children. Bring your camera for a great opportunity for pictures with Santa.

If you could spare a few hours a week or month, we are always in need of volunteers to staff the depot. Please call 989-718-3021 and leave a message for Sue if you are interested.

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

### Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall



The Courthouse Committee would like to thank the staff of Chemical Bank for choosing us for their Community Service Day. On Columbus Day several of the staff of the Standish bank worked all day at the courthouse cleaning our building. Windows and walls were washed, floors cleaned and

furniture moved and polished. We appreciate their time they gave to this historic project and their willingness to serve our community.

We have just completed another book sale. Several of our members drove to the Midland Dow Library to pick up over 90 bananas boxes of books. Our volunteers set up for the sale and staffed the building during the sale. This is one of our fundraisers and an opportunity for people to purchase lots of reading material for the coming winter days. We do not set a price and people purchase the books by giving a donation. Thanks to the generosity of our customers we made over \$ 600.00.

A Christmas Open House is planned for the week end of December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our Omer Bakers make homemade candy for the bake sale. This is a great opportunity to purchase delicious candy and treats for the holidays. Our Christmas "Junque" Sale and "fresh green" arrangements will also be available for purchase. A special treat will be added this year on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The ACHS will be holding a homemade pie sale at the courthouse during this open house.

Our next big project is painting the exterior of our building. The cost is quite expensive and even though we have completed our million penny drive we still will be glad to take your pennies for the paint fund. We will be happy to pick up any good "junque" that you would like to get out of your attic, house or garage for our sales for 2014.

Our Mortgage Burning Party in August was a great celebration and made possible by all of the wonderful people who have supported us and helped in any way. We thank you all for attending and celebrating with us. The Early Arenac display has been very popular and we have received many complements from our visitors.

Please join us on December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> for cookies and coffee while you visit with us and shop for your Christmas treats and delicious pies.

Ye Olde Courthouse Committee.

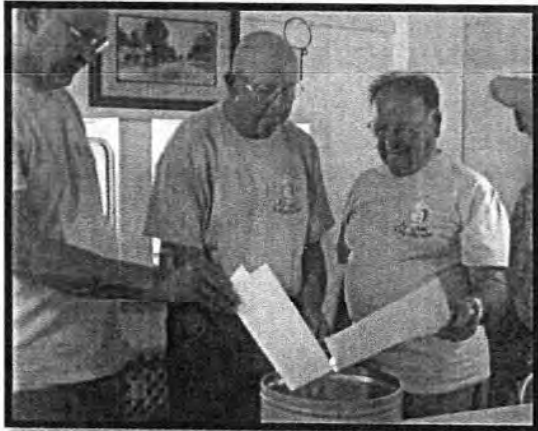


MORTGAGE BURNING CELEBRATION

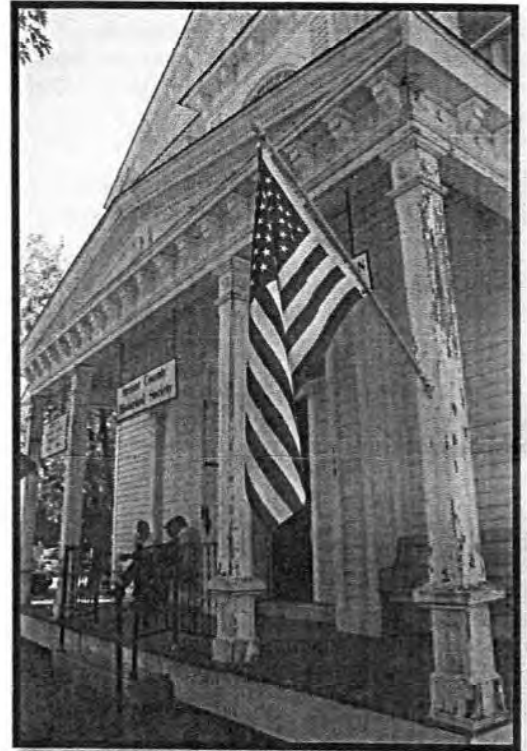
Through book sales, bake sales, junque sales and just plain hard work, the ACHS celebrated the paying off of the \$85,000 mortgage on Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Many friends attended. They enjoyed listening to the history of the courthouse, the history of the purchase and paying off of the courthouse and the new display on Early Arenac. Here are a few pictures of the festive occasion.



THE LOYAL COURTHOUSE "GANG"  
CELEBRATES THEIR HARD WORK



THE BURNING OF THE  
MORTGAGE



THE COURTHOUSE SHOWING ITS NEXT PROJECT: SOME  
REPAIRS AND A GOOD COAT OF PAINT



CHECKING IN



ENJOYING THE NEW ARENAC DISPLAY

# MUSEUM BOOK STORE

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

<b>HISTORY OF STERLING</b> A reprint of Virginia Adam's book	PRICE	\$8
<b>HISTORY OF STERLING</b> (2 <sup>ND</sup> Generation)	PRICE	\$8
<b>AU GRES CENTENNIAL 1865-1965</b>	PRICE	\$6
<b>THE STORY OF STANDISH and ITS PEOPLE: 1876-1976</b> This is a reprint of Allan McCready's book; an index of names has been added	PRICE	\$10
<b>ARENAC COUNTY PLAT BOOK, circa 1920</b>	PRICE	\$6
<b>8 1/2 "x 11" ARENAC COUNTY MAP</b> – Shows location of each of the 43 early Arenac County Schools	PRICE	\$1.25
<b>WAH SASH KAH MOQUA</b> by Mary Sagatoo This is a reprint done by the Book Nook in East Tawas	PRICE	\$12
<b>THE HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTY, MICHIGAN</b> This best-seller is in its 4 <sup>th</sup> reprint!	PRICE	\$25
<b>THE HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTY ROADS</b>	PRICE	\$6
<b>ONE ROOM ARENAC COUNTY SCHOOLS,</b> Vol. 1,2,3,4	PRICE	\$7 each
<b>1947 ARENAC COUNTRY DIRECTORY</b>	PRICE	\$6
<b>FIRST FAMILIES OF STANDISH TOWNSHIP</b>	PRICE	\$10
<b>A HISTORY OF MAPLE RIDGE, ARENAC COUNTY, MI</b> Marion Poole Maday	PRICE	\$28
<b>THE HANDY COOK'S BOOK</b> 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
<b>RECORD OF ARENAC COUNTY SOLDIERS AND SAILORS IN SERVICE IN THE GREAT WAR</b> Joann Gulau and Mike Melvin	PRICE	\$28
<b>ARENAC COUNTY NORMAL 1904-1957</b> Joann Gulau and Mike Melvin	PRICE	\$30

## Arenac County Historical Society Balance Sheet As of October 31, 2013

	<u>Oct 31, 13</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>Certificate of Deposit</b>	
CD #1	1,181.78
CD #2	10,277.77
CD #3	6,284.72
<b>Total Certificate of Deposit</b>	<u>17,744.27</u>
<b>Courthouse Checking</b>	22,032.36
<b>General Checking Account</b>	477.75
<b>Money Market (Savings)</b>	11,086.41
<b>Petty cash</b>	100.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>51,440.79</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>51,440.79</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>51,440.79</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
<b>Building Fund</b>	4,238.96
<b>Courthouse Fund</b>	22,082.36
<b>General Fund</b>	10,576.04
<b>Memorial Fund</b>	4,523.44
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>51,440.79</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>51,440.79</u></u>



### COMING EVENTS

- \* December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 o'clock  
Come and help us make fresh green arrangements for the holidays. Lunch will be served.  
**AT THE COURTHOUSE**
- \*\* December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 9 am to 4 pm both days  
Candy Sale, Fresh Greens Sale and Christmas Junque Sale.  
**AT THE COURTHOUSE**
- \*\* December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 9 am to 4 pm both days  
PIE SALE  
**AT THE COURTHOUSE**  
**SPONSORED BY THE ACHS MUSEUM COMMITTEE**

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

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ACHS Newsletter for:

or Current Resident

### COMING EVENTS

#### YE OLDE COURTHOUSE in Omer

December 11<sup>th</sup>



Come and help us make fresh green arrangements for the holidays.  
Starting at 9 am  
Lunch will be served

December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>



Candy Sale  
Fresh Greens Sale  
Christmas Junque Sale  
9 am to 4 pm both days

December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>  
Sponsored by the ACHS  
Museum Committee



PIE SALE AT THE COURTHOUSE  
9 am to 4 pm both days