



# ACHS NEWSLETTER

Arenac County Historical Society

November 2014

It has been a privilege to serve as the president of the Arenac County Historical Society. I will continue to work towards making this a successful organization. I sincerely appreciate all the volunteer work our board does as well as all the volunteers who help make this organization great. When we all work together we continue to show our community we are an active and thriving group. Thank You to all of you who help whenever you can. There are always things to be done, money to be raised, visitors to greet, genealogical research, programs to enjoy, and much more. It is always fun when you are doing the things you have a passion for. We enjoy preserving the history of Arenac County whether it is in the Museum, Ye Olde Courthouse or Standish Depot. If we don't continue our work, history will be lost forever.

Our published book sales are the biggest money maker for the museum. Publications can also be found at Ye Olde Courthouse and the Standish Depot. These books make wonderful gifts for the holidays. You may contact us if you are interested in any publication and we will get it for you if you are unable to find what you would like at our locations. A postage fee will be added to the total of your order if you would like anything mailed. A Point to Remember by Val Korth has been an excellent seller as well as the book the History of Arenac County by Cal Ennis. There are books written by local authors that are also excellent reads.

We will be working on finding new programs for next year this winter. If anyone has ideas we will happy to hear about them. I am currently working on a future program concerning a person who served during the Civil War who lived in Worth. I was totally fascinated when I found out when and where he served. I still have a lot of research to do and I hope you will enjoy it as much as I have enjoyed doing the research. This is as much as I intend to talk about now but I hope I have sparked your interest.

On behalf of the Arenac County Historical Society we would like to thank you for your support. We hope you have had a great year. As 2014 comes to a close we hope you have a Happy Halloween, Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year

Sandy Proulx  
President



#### ACHS OFFICERS

President	Sandy Proulx
Vice President	Mary Lou Bugh
Recording Sec.	Mary McLaughlin
Treasurer	Carla Dittenber

#### ACHS TRUSTEES

Joann Gulau  
Brenda Matt

#### 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

November Newsletter, 2014  
Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall

Our busy year is coming to a close and we are planning our Christmas celebration. We will be open on Nov. 8th for our Christmas Junque Sale. This is the same date as the SS Central Bazaar. We hope that everyone will enjoy a day of shopping both in Omer and Standish. Our Christmas greens (fresh Christmas arrangements) and homemade candy sale will be on December 13<sup>th</sup>. This will be just in time for the Christmas holiday and a great opportunity to purchase this delicious candy to share with family and friends during this Christmas season.

On Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> the staff of Chemical Bank spent the day cleaning at the Courthouse. We would like to thank these wonderful people for their service to the community. It is great to have our building clean and ready for our upcoming events.

Two very interesting programs were held recently at the Courthouse through a partnership with the Iosco-Arenac District Library. Ric Mixter's program on the Saginaw River Rear Range Lighthouse and the Weird Michigan program held in September was enjoyed by people from Bay City to Oscoda.

Our friends have been very generous with contributions of their good "Junque". We were overflowing with merchandise so we held a sale in October. Our profit was almost \$ 1,000.00 for this sale. Thanks to all who donated and shopped. We are still happy to pick up more Junque. Just give us a call.

Jim Steward has made a tremendous improvement to our parking lot and ramp. We now have a driveway complete with crushed blacktop that leads to our ramp and on south end of the building. Jim also filled many of the parking spots on the east side. This will be very convenient in the spring when we open and will keep us from parking and walking in the mud. Thanks Jim for this improvement and for keeping our grass mowed and our lawn looking good all summer.

New this October was a community pot luck dinner on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Many Omer residents and friends from surrounding areas attended. The food was delicious and the company wonderful. Our guests enjoyed the time to visit and would like us to plan another dinner for next year.

We hope to see at our upcoming events. Please stop in and enjoy a cup of coffee and a visit with us.

Ye Olde Courthouse Committee  
Brenda Matt, Chair 989-846-0501  
Phyllis Klender, Reporting Chair 989-653-2762  
Joann Gulau, Financial Chair 989-876-6468

## FIRE AT STERLING

8-24-1906

### Six Buildings Wiped Out in An Hour

At about eleven o'clock yesterday fire broke out in Jay Ames' barn at Sterling and soon spread to his dwelling, to Peter Shearer's blacksmith shop and laundry buildings, Wm Lutz's ice house and crossing the road ticked up a small house belonging to M. A. Vogie. It was a hot fire and so sudden that a horse in Mr. Ames' barn burned, also nearly all of his household furniture lost. Peter Shearer lost nearly everything in his shop and severely burned one of his arms fighting fire.

Lutz's hotel was smoking and the furniture was moved out. Dr. Abbott packed his stock ready for removal.

It was only through the great efforts of the fire fighters that the fire was stopped from spreading further.

We understand there was little or no insurance on the property burned.

A large number took the noon train there from Standish but the fire had spent its force before the train arrived.

## DWEELLING BURNED

11-2-1905

### Firemen Made Quick Work of Putting Out Fire

At a little past ten o'clock Saturday night the fire alarm sounded and in a few moments half of the town were gathered at the house occupied by Wm. Biskner on Church street, which was on fire. Both hose companies were promptly on hand and though the roof was falling in the fire was killed so dead that the side walls of the brick veneered building were left standing and a wooden wing to the building hardly shows signs of fire. It was great work by the firemen.

All of the furniture on the lower floor was saved and the greatest loss by Mr. Biskner and family was their extra clothing which was all upstairs.

This was the first brick building in Standish having been built by Fred Pelkey about 20 years ago.

The house was owned by the Capital Building and Loan Association.

8-28-1913

A barn in Au Gres township, owned by Henry Selle, was struck by lightning last Saturday and entirely destroyed together with 73 tons of hay. The barn was located on one of Mr. Selle's farms east of his home place. The loss is about \$1500 with about \$800 insurance.

3-7-1918

One of the finest residences in the county is that of G. A. Burnside one mile north of Sandusky. It is a fine large two-story brick house of 21 rooms with every modern convenience. A basement, nicely cemented and finished extending under the entire house, contains the hot water furnace boiler, the fruit and vegetable cellars and a recreation room for the men. The interior of the house, throughout, is finished in hardwood and beautiful furniture graces every room. A complete gas lighting plant provides light for the house and large screened porch. A large lawn slopes gently down to the east branch of the Au Gres river and cement sidewalks and driveway lead to the house from the public road. It's a beautiful home and any visitor is extended open-handed hospitality by the genial Burnside and his good wife.

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**Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall**

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**Arenac County Historical Society  
Balance Sheet  
As of September 30, 2014**

All of our book selections are for sale at the Museum, the Depot and Ye Olde Courthouse

<b>A HISTORY OF STERLING</b>	PRICE	\$8
A REPRINT OF Virginia Adam's Book		
<b>A HISTORY OF STERLING</b>	PRICE	\$8
(2 <sup>ND</sup> Generation)		
<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 ½ "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>		
The best-seller is in its 4 <sup>th</sup> reprint		
	PRICE	\$25
<b>THE HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTRY ROADS</b>	PRICE	\$6
<b>ONE ROOM ARENAC COUNTRY SCHOOLS</b>		
Vol. 1,2,3,4	PRICE	\$7 each
<b>1947 ARENAC COUNTY 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 COUNTRY SOLDIERS AND SAILORS IN SERVICE IN THE GREAT WAR</b>	PRICE	\$28
Joann Gulau and Mike Melvin		
<b>HISTORY OF ARENAC COUNTY NORMAL SCHOOL 1904-1957</b>		
Joann Gulau and Mike Melvin	PRICE	\$28
<b>PLAT BOOK OF ARENAC COUNTY 1906</b>	PRICE	\$12
<b>PLAT BOOK OF ARENAC COUNTY 1920'S</b>	PRICE	\$8
<b>A POINT TO REMEMBER</b>	PRICE	\$30

	Sep 30, 14
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>Certificate of Deposit</b>	
CD #1	1,185.50
CD #2	10,318.94
CD #3	6,309.85
<b>Total Certificate of Deposit</b>	17,814.29
<b>Courthouse Checking</b>	29,004.82
<b>General Checking Account</b>	1,299.12
<b>Money Market (Savings)</b>	10,579.37
<b>Petty cash</b>	100.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	58,898.70
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	58,898.70
<b>Other Assets</b>	
<b>BACF Endowment Fund</b>	2,000.00
<b>Courthouse Agency Fund</b>	
<b>Total BACF Endowment Fund</b>	2,000.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	2,000.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>60,898.70</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
<b>Building Fund</b>	4,270.32
<b>Courthouse Fund</b>	31,054.92
<b>General Fund</b>	10,911.34
<b>Memorial Fund</b>	14,662.12
<b>Total Equity</b>	60,898.70
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>60,898.70</b>

The high school students walked out Monday morning and refused to enter until the school flag was hoisted on a pole, it having been draped from one of the windows. Some culprit in the past month cut the ropes on the flag pole thus preventing the flag to be raised. However the school board being remiss in not procuring a new one. The students resented it and so went on a strike Friday evening. With the school flag and several smaller flags headed by a drummer they marched around the town Monday morning, interviewing the members of the school board. In no time a new rope was put up and later the flag hoisted. There certainly is true patriotism in the boys of our town. 4-26-1917

Frank Hamlin, one of our former citizens, but now a merchant of Selkirk, Mich., was married on Christmas to Miss Grace Baker, of Melita. Frank has got weary of keeping bachelor's hall, hence his wise conclusion to get him a baker. We trust he will succeed even better in business than ever, as he will have grace to help him. Rev. Mr. Doolittle was present when the marrying was going on. 12-20-1901

**POINT LOOK OUT**

E. Coombs is the proud possessor of a new cow.

Kate McIntyre called on Mrs. Koleder last week.

Byron Adams has returned home from Sebawaing.

Fred Adams and wife visited at Hamen's last Sunday.

Charlie Griffith passed through our burg last Monday.

Mrs. Wright and son Willie called on Mrs. E. Adams last week.

Several from this burg attended the dance at Au Gres Tuesday night.

Mr. Kennedy and family of Omer were visitors in our burg Sunday.

Maudie McKnight and Albert Scram spent Sunday evening at Fred Adams.

The surveyors are expected here next week to survey the new resort grounds.

Byron Adams and son Fred furnished the music at Schlabergers wedding dance last Tuesday night.

10-12-05

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

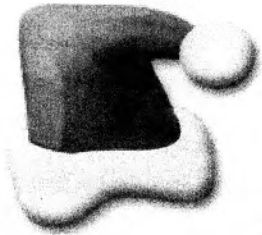
Arenac County Historical Society  
PO Box 272  
Au Gres, MI 48703

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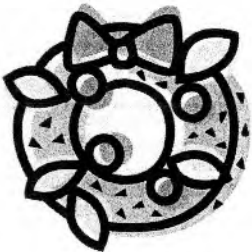
ACHS Newsletter for:

or Current Resident

### COMING EVENTS



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**  
**CHRISTMAS "JUNQUE" SALE**  
9 – 4 at the Courthouse



**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**  
**DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> AND 13<sup>TH</sup>**  
**FRESH GREENS SALE AND CANDY SALE**  
9 – 4