



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

ACHS NEWSLETTER

[Should say "Winter 2018"] Winter 2019

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

As 2018 closes and a new year begins, we at the Arenac County Historical Society have completed a lot of work on our buildings and we will have so much more to do. We own two of some of the oldest buildings in our county, the museum in Au Gres and Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer. Old buildings require a lot of work and an enormous amount of maintenance. We seem to complete a project and another one arises. It really is ok because we are committed to saving the history of Arenac County. Whether it is buildings, books, records, or artifacts, we will continue to preserve them for the public to enjoy. We will continue having programs, junque sales, book and rada knife sales and anything we need to do to keep our organization going. We always appreciate volunteers. They are such a help getting things done for both of our buildings. If you would like to help or know of someone who has free time who would be willing to donate some time, I have a list of things needing to be done that is longer than Santa's. Oh where should we begin? Please feel free to contact us if you or anyone else would like to help. I would also like to send a huge Thank You for the donations we receive. Every little bit helps. Please feel free to donate anytime. It helps such a worthy cause!!!

We hope you have had a good and prosperous year. As the new year begins, we look forward to seeing you again. We will be having programs throughout the summer at the museum and at Ye Olde Courthouse in the fall. Look for flyers and advertisements on our website and Facebook. You never know when you may find that perfect piece of junque at a sale or hear about a program that sounds like you wouldn't like to miss. Arenac County and our great state of Michigan have so much history for us to learn about. Don't miss out!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Some of it is serious and some of it is "hold your sides" funny. I have heard recently some old folk tales that made me laugh till I lost my senses. Please join us next year, visit the museum on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the summer months. If that doesn't work for you, we can work out another convenient time. We also do group tours. For example we have school groups, girl and boy scout groups, and other organizations who set up a time to visit our museum and our courthouse. There is a lot to see and learn about. By the way you can visit our website at www.arenachistory.org. The site will look the same, but the name will be easier to remember.

We hope you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God continue to bless us and guide us through this wonderful life He has given us.

Sandy Proulx-President

WE HAVE A NEW WEB ADDRESS!
www.ArenacHistory.org

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

ACHS WEBSITE: www.ArenacHistory.org

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

ACHS OFFICERS

President	Sandy Proulx
Vice President	Mary Lou Bugh
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

Fred Robel

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

Joann Gulau

FACEBOOK

Greg Knopp

Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall

The Ye Olde Courthouse Committee is relaxing a little after a very busy year while our electrical rewiring project is being done. Over the last three years we have stabilized our foundation, replaced the widows, painted the exterior, replaced the front porch and re-homed our bats. Our last major project is to completely re-wire the building. The grant from the John and Catherine Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation for \$6,000.00, the hard work of our committee and the generosity of our donors has enabled us to complete this project. Our wiring was very old and we were concerned about the possibility of losing this historical structure and our extensive collection of pictures and documents to fire. We have purchased new light fixtures to add to this upgrade and added several additional outlets. Our committee is planning an open house this summer to celebrate these accomplishments and thank our donors.

Independent Bank held a community service day in October. Eleven Independent Bank staff members cleaned the upstairs, dusted all the pictures and railings, washed the staircase, cleaned floors and the bathroom. They did a great job and surprised us with a check for \$1,000.00. Many thanks for all their help and generosity.

The Masons have rented from us for several years but are now combining with the Gladwin Masons and will meet in Gladwin. We have enjoyed our relationship with them and will miss them.

Our furnace quit just before our Christmas events. The heat exchanger was cracked so it was necessary to replace it. Thanks to Meihls Mechanical who loaned us a patio heater until they could schedule replacing the furnace, we were able to hold our Christmas Junque Sale. They installed our new furnace in time for our Christmas Greens and Bake Sale.

Phyllis Klender applied to the Arenac Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation for a portable PA system. We were awarded the grant and the system was purchased in time for the Arenac Fund Annual Auction. This system will be available for use at our ACHS programs and for other events in the community.

THANK YOU, ARENAC FUND!

Thanks to everyone who helped with our Christmas fundraisers. Our Christmas Junque Sale totaled over \$ 1,105.00 and the fresh greens prepared by Phyllis Klender and her talented group of decorators netted over \$ 950.00. We sold \$ 512.00 in baked goods, thanks to our wonderful Omer Bakers.

The following are the totals for our income in 2018:

Junque Sales, \$ 10,786.32	E Bay \$ 1,317.48
Bake Sales \$ 2,403.10	Donations \$ 2,849.25
Memorials \$ 965.00	Pennies \$ 36.30
Book \$ 20.00	Miscellaneous \$ 87.36
Building rent \$ 1,895.00	Grants \$ 5,216.00

Thanks to everyone for making 2018 a success!

We were issued a "Challenge Grant" by an anonymous donor for up to \$ 1,000.00 to our Ye Olde Courthouse Designated Fund with the Bay Area Community Foundation. Thanks to our generous friends we were able to meet this challenge. \$ 2,000.00 will be added to our fund that provides for the financial future of the Courthouse. Thank you, Anonymous Donor!

Our committee is planning events for 2019. We will resume our monthly pot luck dinners in February and are scheduling a Junque Sale for March. Our next project will be some badly needed interior painting and some small renovations to the kitchen.

The Courthouse Committee meets on the second Friday of the month a 9:30 a.m. at the courthouse. You may contact any committee member for information or questions.

Brenda Matt, Committee Chair	989-846-0501
Phyllis Klender, Recording Chair	989-653-2762
Joann Gulau, Financial Chair	989-876-6468

**From the Bay City Evening Press, July 3, 1880
(Arenac County was then a part of Bay County)**

Au Gres boasts of 315 inhabitants.

Arenac brags of 578 inhabitants, 75 houses, 75 families, but is sick and sorry over the fact that 9 persons died during the census year and only 7 born.

Whitney is jubilant over a population of 230 with 34 houses, 34 families, not a death and 3 births.

It will be seen by this report that the people of these townships believe in living alone, and there is but one family allotted to each house.

That's right. God never intended men and women and children to huddle together like rats and mice.

March 12, 1930

The Plymouth car prices have been cut \$65.00. With prices now ranging from \$590, to \$675. The cars are in direct competition with the Ford, Chevrolet, and Whippet.

August 18, 1921

The D&M Railroad is building a new trestle bridge across the river at Au Gres, and plans to extend the spur to Alabaster.

Arenac Heritage Route Authority Standish Historical Depot

The year 2018 was an exciting and successful year for the Standish Historical Depot. Our Summer Concert Series was very well attended and the Model A & Model T Car Show brought some beautiful restored cars and a great group of people to our area. Many families enjoyed Depot Days. The carnival rides, horse drawn rides, the petting zoo, silent auction, the cooking and baking contests were all part of the success and entertainment experienced by all who attended. The Farmer's Market which was organized by the Standish Gateway Destination Group and held on the Depot grounds brought our local people and travelers who took advantage of the opportunity to purchase locally grown fresh produce and baked goods. The Santa Parade and lighting of the Depot on November 23rd was the beginning of the Christmas season at the Depot. A very large group of volunteers decorated our grounds and buildings to prepare for our events. The Santa Parade exceeded our expectations and plans are underway for this year's parade and lighting. The Standish Downtown Development Authority purchased a large snowman and snowflakes which was a very popular display. (They also purchased the lighted garlands for the lampposts.) Our parade spectators took the opportunity to visit with Santa after the parade and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies with us.

On December 1st the Lake State Santa Train arrived at the Depot. Santa came to town on the front of the Lake State engine. Mrs. Claus was aboard as well as several storybook characters to the delight of the children. The families took the opportunity to board the train and visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. We even had our own Grinch adding to our festivities. We provided donut holes and cider for our visitors. The Depot Committee and the Gateway Standish Destination group are working with Lake State on plans for this year's Santa Train. (There are YouTube videos on the train you may view by searching Lake State Santa Train.)

All of these community events would not be possible without the support of our wonderful sponsors and our dedicated volunteers.

The Depot has been collecting Direct Your Dollars cash register receipts for the Spartan Nash Family Fare community fundraiser. We are pleased to announce we have reached our goal of \$150,000 in receipts. These have been turned in to Family Fare and we are anxiously waiting to be notified of the award of \$1,000.00. Many thanks to all of the groups, businesses and individuals who have been collecting these receipts for us. We will continue to collect these receipts as long as this program is in effect.

Thanks to a grant from the John and Catherine Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation we have completed several repairs to our buildings and grounds this year. Our ground lights have been replaced and

receptacles added, the repair to the soffit and the south end of the Depot has been completed and all of the red trim has been painted. We received a grant from the Arenac Fund to purchase a laptop. Our computer is around 12 years old so we are very thankful for this upgrade. Many thanks to all of the volunteers on the Arenac Fund who work so hard for our community. Other improvements this year included painting the bandstand.

We received an e mail from a gentleman from Wyoming who restores railroad cars and saw our English Passenger Cars online. They are MK1 cars and he plans to prepare a quote to restore them. He was happy to learn that we had water sealed the windows this year because that is a major problem with the MK1's.

The Depot board continues to meet with Bill Ernat from EMCOG and Spicer Engineering on plans for the rail trail which will be part of the Iron Belle through Michigan.

Visit our Facebook page, our website, and information in the Arenac County Independent for our activities and events for 2019. We are scheduling entertainers for our Summer Concert Series, advertising has gone out for the Model A & Model T Car Show (July 13th) and Depot Days is set for October 5th & 6th.

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

-Brenda Matt, Depot Representative

Arenac County Historical Society Balance Sheet	
As of December 31, 2018	
	Dec 31, 18
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Certificate of Deposit	
CD #2	10,527.35
Total Certificate of Deposit	10,527.35
Courthouse Checking	47,490.49
General Checking Account	1,395.75
Money Market (Savings)	19,563.35
Petty cash	150.00
Total Checking/Savings	76,126.94
Total Current Assets	76,126.94
Other Assets	
BACF Endowment Fund	
Courthouse Agency Fund	4,150.00
Courthouse Agency Revenue	661.92
Courthouse Agency Spend...	-116.00
Total BACF Endowment Fund	4,695.92
Total Other Assets	4,695.92
TOTAL ASSETS	80,822.86
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Building Fund	4,324.79
Courthouse Fund	52,286.41
General Fund	9,035.10
Memorial Fund	15,176.56
Total Equity	80,822.86
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	80,822.86

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 McCreedy, 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 ½" 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.	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 ½" 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	
<p>Mail orders, please include the following shipping and handling charges in addition to the price at the right of each item:</p> <p>\$5.00 for "A Point to Remember - A Pictorial History of Point Lookout, Michigan"</p> <p>\$4.50 for "Soldiers & Sailors of Arenac County That Served in the Great War. (WWI)"</p> <p>\$4.00 for "Arenac County Normal, 1904-1957"</p> <p>\$3.50 for "A History of Arenac County, Michigan"</p> <p>All other items:</p> <p>\$3.50 for the first item</p> <p>\$0.50 each additional item</p>	
<p>Send form & personal check or money order to:</p> <p>Arenac County Historical Society P. O. Box 272 Au Gres, Michigan 48703-0272</p>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Name & Shipping Address</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/> </div>	
Questions? Call 989-876-6399 or email: achs@centurytel.net	+ Calculated Shipping
	Grand Total Enclosed

ARENAC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Arenac County Historical Society (ACHS) was incorporated in 1971, 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 1st to August 31st. Dues of a NEW member joining after March 1st 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 the 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 - 55And Under (couple)	\$400
BENEFACTOR	\$100		

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

Arenac County Historical Society
P.O. Box 272
Au Gres, MI 48703

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
AUGRES MI
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ACHS Newsletter For:

Or Current Resident

COMING EVENTS

April 6th & 7th; 9 am to 4 pm: Omer Sucker Days – Junque & Bake Sale, at Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer

May 4th & 5th; 9 am to 4 pm: Junque Sale, at Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer

May 24th, 25th, 26th; 9 am to 4 pm: Memorial Day Junque & Bake Sale, at Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer

July 4, 1918

**Owen Glover of Omer has rented the Lentz Fishery at
Timber Island and will have all the necessities for
bathers and boaters**