



ACHS NEWSLETTER

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

Spring 2020

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy Spring everyone! Considering our winter was quite mild I am still glad spring is here. Nothing like beautiful flowers and green trees again. Animals coming out of hibernation with cute little babies. However, some of those babies aren't so cute when they get older. Seeing more sunshine and hearing the birds sing sure lifts your spirit.

Over the winter we have been planning what to do at the museum and Ye Olde Courthouse over the summer and fall months. I have four great programs planned at the museum. Three of which people requested to have return this year. Pam Dawson will present Part Two of Mary Lincoln's Life. This part is about Mary's life with Abraham, her family, and being First Lady. Dianna Stampfer will present a program called Ladies of the Lights about women who served as lighthouse keepers. Jennifer Strauss our story teller will present more stories of Michigan in *The Story Be Told*. Finally, Tobin Buhk who is a Michigan author will present a program on murder and mayhem. A story of unusual murders in Michigan. I hope I have attracted your attention. These wonderful people present some of the best programs. I hope to see and greet you at these programs.

Remember, this summer we are having a 50th Celebration at the museum. We have been the Arenac County Historical Society for 50 years. On August 29th we will have an Open House and our drawing at the museum. We have some wonderful prizes. We will be selling tickets all summer long so get in on the drawing. First prize will be a Long Bow donated by Mike Hoadley; second prize will be a muzzle loader donated by Dick Klender. We are working on some other prizes which will be listed when we sell our tickets. We will have some refreshments, and an Ice Cream Social. Maybe a few other surprises too. So come have a good time, check out our museum and see some history from Arenac County. We look forward to seeing you then.

We will also be participating in the Give Local Bay Program for the Courthouse, and also for the Museum. This money donated to our funds in the Bay Area Community Foundation will help us carry out the work and preservation of history of Arenac County for years to come. I will be sending out letters with more information soon. Please help us with your donations. We will certainly appreciate any amount you may be able to give.

We are currently working on a project that will help us save much of the written history of Arenac County. We need to save that written material before much of it is unreadable. We have a wonderful volunteer heading up this immense project. Mary Delaat will be the one working to digitize all of this rich history.

Unfortunately, due to the virus that has paralyzed our state and country everything planned for this summer is on hold until we know more. That includes events at the courthouse too. When we know more we will get the word out to you about our events as quickly as we can. Thank you for your patience. We were so looking forward to seeing everyone this summer and maybe we still can. Let's make the best of this situation and pray it will end soon.

Sandy Proulx-President

Automobile rationing will start in February
- *Arenac Independent* 1-21-1942

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

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Phyllis Klender	Secretary
Joann Gulau	Financial Chair

ACHS WEBSITE WEBMASTER

Greg Knopp

WEBSITE COORDINATORS

Joann Gulau

FACEBOOK

Greg Knopp

Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall

We are patiently waiting to resume activities at the Ye Olde Courthouse and excited to set the date for our first Junque Sale this spring. Our sale date is May 22, 23 and 24. Our building will be full as well as two tents. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. This will be our first bake sale this year and your opportunity to purchase delicious baked goods prepared by our famous "Omer Bakers".

UPDATE FOR 2019

We had a great Christmas season including our Christmas Junque Sale, and our annual Holiday Greens and bake sale. Our Financial Chair, Phyllis Klender prepared the following report on our Christmas Greens Sale and our income for 2019.

We made 138 arrangements and we sold 111 of them. 27 were left and we took 2 to the library and some of the others were given to elderly people and shut ins in the community. The sale of the greens totaled \$948.00, the bake sale total was 779.50, we had some other donations for a total for the Christmas season of \$1,979.50.

Our total income for 2019 was \$30,954.30. Junque sale total was \$13,299.55, E-Bay sales, \$400.89, pennies, \$74.50, bake sales, \$3,166.50, donations, \$1,047.86, rent, \$220.00, memorials, \$25.00, Christmas greens, \$976.00. We also received \$11,744.00 in grants from the John and Catherine Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation. (That grant paid to paint our kitchen, main room, entry, stairway and added two new kitchen cabinets and all new countertops.) All of this was made possible by our friends, guests and our wonderful volunteers. Thank you everyone for being AWESOME!

We will be holding many more Junque and Bake Sales on holiday weekends throughout the summer. Watch our sign, face book and the Arenac County Independent for dates and information. We are planning an open house later this year to celebrate, showcase our renovations and thank all the wonderful people and organizations that have contributed to the restoration and preservation of this historic Arenac County landmark.

Our committee meets on the second Friday of every month at 9:30 at the Courthouse. Volunteers are always welcome to join us.

Brenda Matt, Committee Chair	989-846-0501
Phyllis Klender, Financial Chair	989-653-2725
Elaine Knoch, Recording Chair	989-653-2004

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Britt took their son to the Metro Airport Sunday. Robert has been home and working in the Tawas area for three weeks. He is returning to his station in Panama. - *Turner News* 4-19-1972

GIVE LOCAL BAY

Dear Friends of Ye Olde Courthouse:

In 2019 Ye Olde Courthouse Endowment Fund received \$14,959 in donations during the 24 hour Give Local Bay fundraiser run by the Bay Area Community Foundation. With your continued support on May 5th, we can surpass last year's total. Our theme for this year is; GET READY, GIVE GENEROUSLY ON MAY 5TH, # 1 IN 2020 AGAIN. Every donation made during the 24 hour period will be eligible for incentive pool funds, the more our non-profit raises, the more incentive money we receive! Hourly prizes are also awarded to non-profits throughout the day.

Make your donation during the 24 hour time period on May 5th, beginning at 12:01 a.m. Donations can be made by going to GiveLocalBay.org. There will be a box on the right where you enter the name of the organization you wish to donate to. Type in Ye Olde Courthouse/Arenac County Historical Society and follow the directions. Credit and debit cards are accepted (MasterCard/Visa only) or if you wish to call 989-893-4438 (8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.) to donate by phone with your debit or credit cards. If you wish to donate by check: Date your check for May 5, 2020, make it out to the Bay Area Community Foundation and mail it to: Phyllis Klender, 423 West Huron Rd., Omer, MI. 48749 by April 23rd.

This is a great opportunity to assure the future of our Ye Olde Courthouse historical site. If you have any questions you may call Phyllis Klender at 989-653-2762.

Arenac County Historical Society Balance Sheet As of February 29, 2020

	Feb 29, 20
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Certificate of Deposit	
CD #2	10,527.35
Total Certificate of Deposit	10,527.35
Courthouse Checking	35,125.00
General Checking Account	957.98
Money Market (Savings)	11,244.36
Petty cash	200.00
Total Checking/Savings	58,054.69
Total Current Assets	58,054.69
Other Assets	
BACF Endowment Fund	
Courthouse Agency Fund	6,750.00
Courthouse Agency Revenue	1,198.98
Courthouse Agency Spend...	-116.00
Total BACF Endowment Fund	7,832.98
Total Other Assets	7,832.98
TOTAL ASSETS	65,887.67
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Building Fund	4,326.08
Courthouse Fund	43,057.98
General Fund	3,047.54
Memorial Fund	15,456.07
Total Equity	65,887.67
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	65,887.67

Arenac Heritage Route Authority Standish Historical Depot

We are making plans at the Depot for our upcoming busy summer season. Our spring bulbs are coming up including many new ones that our gardening volunteer, Josette Rang, planted in the fall. We will schedule a volunteer work day as soon as possible to get our grounds prepared. Our fence posts need painting, the mulch touched up, dead foliage removed, leaves raked, sidewalks edged and our train cars cleaned. We are looking forward to taking the tarps off our passenger cars in time for the Loyalty Day Parade scheduled for April 25th.

Our Summer Concert Series will begin on June 18th. Watch our Face Book page, website and the Arenac County Independent Summer Guide for details. We have a great group of entertainers booked for this year. Thanks to our sponsors, these concerts are free to our community.

Our very popular Model A & Model T Show is scheduled for July 11th. This is also free and a fun day for our participants and guests.

The Farmers Market begins on Friday May 22nd and continues every Friday into September. Fresh vegetables, fruits, homemade products, and baked goods by local producers will be available. This is your opportunity to enjoy these products and support our community.

Our 2nd Annual Christmas Parade and Lighting of the Depot was held on November 29th. The parade was spectacular with many entrants and the streets of Standish were lined with spectators. Hot chocolate and cookies were served to our guests who came inside the Depot to visit with Santa. Our outstanding Christmas light display was enjoyed by our entire community as well as anyone passing through Standish. The additional outlets and timers paid for by the Standish Downtown Development Authority were a great help and enabled us to add more lights to our display. Many groups and individuals helped with the lighting under the direction of our main lighting crew, Dennis Whitney, Derek Wilk and Josette Rang. These three not only direct our lighting volunteers but continue to keep the display working, re-setting blown fuses, breakers and replacing bulbs throughout the Christmas Season. The Lake State Santa Train returned to Standish for the second year. This was a great event; Santa and Mrs. Claus were aboard the train as well as several storybook and Disney characters. Families entered the train car to visit with Santa, were given goodie bags supplied by our sponsors and the storybook and Disney characters visited with everyone and posed for pictures. The Depot has its very own Grinch, (Michael Hillman) who did another outstanding job portraying The Grinch. The Depot served apple cider and donut holes to our guests. We couldn't host these community events and pay our Consumers bill without our wonderful sponsors and volunteers. We thank the Standish Area Chamber of Commerce, Richardson, GLD Management Company, Curt Hillman and the Ramsey Group, Al & Yvonne Gulvas, Stage Right Performing Arts Studio and The Sunrise Side Antique Tractor Club for their sponsorships. Our goodie bags were supplied by Independent Bank, contents by McDonald's of Standish, Karen Fales, Wendy Hillman, Brenda Matt, and the Depot. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers who give so much of their time and talents to our success and provide so much joy and Christmas spirit to our community. It would take this entire page to list all of them.

Fred Vincent, Omer Civil War Veteran, claims to have saved the life of General Custer. - *Arenac Independent* 8-12-1931

The AHRA continues to work on the portion of the Iron Belle Trail that will continue from Bay County through Arenac County and connect with the trail in Iosco County. Final surveying and design work is underway and funding applications that are being submitted to complete this phase. The trail through Arenac County will be named the Saganing Anishinabek Miikana Trail. (The First People's Trail) We welcome anyone interested in more information on the trail to attend the AHRA meetings.

We hope you visit the Depot this summer, see our beautiful flowers and grounds, volunteer if you can spare some time and enjoy some of our scheduled events.

The AHRA meetings are held at the Depot on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. These are open meetings and all are welcome to attend.

-Brenda Matt, Depot Representative

GIVE LOCAL BAY

The Depot will be participating in Give Local Bay on May 5th for our fourth year. This is an opportunity to add to our endowed fund with the Bay Area Community Foundation. Every donation made during this 24 hour time period is eligible for incentive pool funds. To donate on line go to www.givelocalbay.org (\$ 10.00 minimum donation) There will be a box on the right where you enter the name of the organization you wish to donate to. Type in Friends of the Arenac Heritage Route Authority and follow the directions. Credit and debit cards are both accepted. (MasterCard/Visa) You may also donate by calling in to 989-893-4438 from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and use your debit or credit card. If you wish to donate by check; date your check for May 5, made out to the Bay Area Community Foundation and mail it to the Depot, Arenac Heritage Route Authority, P.O. Box 456, Standish, MI. 48658 so that it reaches us by May 5th. You may also drop a check off at the Depot anytime but before 2 P. M. on May 5th. This is a great opportunity to provide for the future of the Depot and its projects.

Various items of food, gasoline and tires are on a rigid rationing plan. - *Arenac Independent* 1-6-1943

THANK YOU ARENAC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Thanks to the generosity of our ACHS members, our "Bakeless Bake Sale" held in November was a great success. This fundraiser netted over \$1,300.00. This is huge to the ACHS and the daily operations of the museum. These funds will pay our light and phone/internet service for several months. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You for participating in this "Sale".

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.	\$ 7.00 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 bkt	\$ 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: Arenac County Historical Society P. O. Box 272 Au Gres, Michigan 48703-0272</p>		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">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>		
<p>Questions? Call 989-876-6399 or email: achs@centurytel.net</p>		+ 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

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ACHS Newsletter For:



Or Current Resident

COMING EVENTS

May 5 : Give Local Bay, at Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer & Standish Historical Depot

May 22, 23, 24 (Fri-Sat-Sun) ; 9 am to 4 pm : Junque and Bake Sale, at Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer

July 2, 3, 4, 5 (Thur-Fri-Sat-Sun) ; 9 am to 4 pm : Junque and Bake Sale, at Ye Olde Courthouse in Omer

Arenac County has Three Civil War Veterans: Owen Fox, 89;
Henry Hibner, 92; from Standish; and Frederick L. Vincent, 88,
from Omer. - *Arenac Independent*, May 27, 1931

Arenac County Historical Society

304 W. Michigan Avenue • PO Box 272

Au Gres, Michigan 48703

(989) 876-6399

To: Members and Friends of the Arenac County Historical Society-Museum

From: Board Members of the Arenac County Historical Society

Subject: The Bay Area Community Foundation- Give Local Bay Event

"BE BOLD" Can you be bold? The Arenac County Historical Society Museum will be participating in the Bay Area Community Foundation- Give Local Bay Event on May 5th. We are asking you to donate to the Mary Jennings Fund that will help the future of the Museum. Mary invested funds for the support of the museum so we may use the money for just about anything we need including funds for the day to day operation of the museum. The dividends we may use each year help support the preservation of the museum, its artifacts and technology. Building up our funds insures that we will have money for future use.

Every donation within the 24 hour period will be eligible for incentive pool funds and hourly prizes are awarded throughout the day to help grow these endowment funds. Remember your donation is tax deductible. You may mail your checks to me: Sandra Proulx—1400 Santiago Rd.—Turner, MI—48765. Make out your check payable to Bay Area Community Foundation and be sure you date your check for May 5th. The date is important in order to qualify for Give Local Bay and incentive funds. Please have your checks to me by April 28th so we can get them ready to hand deliver them to the foundation by May 5th.

Donations may be given on line with a debit or credit card. Go to: GiveLocalBay.org. There will be a box on the right to type the name of the organization you wish to donate to. Type in *Arenac County Historical Society*. From there follow the directions. You may also call in your donation with a debit or credit card. The number is: 989-893-4438. Visa and MasterCard only and a minimum of \$10.00 is required.

Thank you for your support! We certainly appreciate all your donations!

Sincerely,



Sandy Proulx-President