



ACHS NEWSLETTER

Arenac County Historical Society

Preserving The Heritage of Arenac County, Michigan

Fall / Winter 2021

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Due to Covid restrictions and variables to the virus it was decided to have the museum open by appointment only this year. We are hoping by next year things will change. We didn't want to take chances that this crazy virus would be spread by a large gathering in the museum. We have had a few people visit by appointment, but we have been doing a lot of genealogical research from people requesting information we have. Next year we will try to celebrate our belated 50th anniversary of the organization of the Arenac County Historical Society. With that being said, I am still planning some great programs for next summer.

Our books and Rada Knives are still for sale. If anyone is interested, please let us know. We do have a variety of books by local authors for sale. We still have a lot of the "Allah Lizzie" books for sale as well as the new book on the Civil War with articles and obituaries about Arenac County veterans who served. Many of these veterans are buried in cemeteries within our county. These make great Christmas gifts. We are having our Bakeless Bake Sale again this year. You will see an enclosed letter explaining the details. Because our museum hasn't been open, our donations and giving has decreased. Any donation you give will help us with the everyday finances of the museum.

Give Local Bay was a huge success for the museum and Ye Olde Courthouse. It is nice to know we will have money to support the needs of our old buildings for future use. Keeping old buildings up-to-par can be a never-ending job. They may be old, but they have such character. We want to keep them that way. We also received a donation from the Questors to be used to buy items for the museum that help us preserve some of our artifacts within our museum. "Thank you" Questors for your donation.

We have received a grant from the Bay Foundation/ Maser Fund to fix our museum's bat and small animal problem. Like I said, our museum is very old and these pests like to make a comfortable home within our walls and ceilings. We will have many areas of the building closed up and sealed to keep unwanted pests away. Depending next year where the need is greatest is where we will continue to upgrade work on our building. We thank the Maser Family and the Bay Foundation for the help we need to keep old buildings useable. Thank you for your generous donations.

Thanksgiving and Christmas will soon be here. May next year bring us back to a more normal life style. The Covid virus interrupted our lives, but we hope it made everyone appreciate the importance of life, family, and community. May your holidays be filled again with wonderful memories and fun times. We hope to see you again in the Spring.

Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas

Sandy Proulx

ACHS OFFICERS

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

ACHS TRUSTEES

Joann Gulau
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Marilyn Van Sickle
Elaine Knoch
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Brenda Matt

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Phyllis Klender	Financial Chair

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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

Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall

The Ye Olde Courthouse Committee is busy with our Christmas events. Our Christmas Junque sale is scheduled for November 19, 20, and 21; from 9 to 4 each day. This is a great opportunity to shop for Christmas decorations at a very reasonable rate. Our very popular Christmas Greens and Bake sale will be held on December 17, 18, and 19; from 9 to 4. These are beautiful fresh arrangements to decorate your home for the holidays or share with family and friends. We will have delicious candy and sweets made by our amazing Omer Bakers for your shopping pleasure.

We had several successful Junque and Bake Sales during the summer. We will have a complete total for you with our next newsletter in 2022. On October 19th we hosted a soup supper to thank and show our appreciation to our Omer Bakers.

Several renovations have been made this year thanks to a grant from the John and Catherine Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation that we received in 2020. This grant was for \$10,179.00 and enabled us to replace the boarded up window on the south end of the Courthouse; replace the unmatched siding in the same area with cedar shakes; and install a ceiling in our second story store room. A 2% grant from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe that was submitted for us by the City of Omer paid to repair our outhouse. It was badly in need of repairs to the foundation and roof. It has been a part of the property for many years and we use it for storage.

We never solved the mystery of our missing bench from the porch, but our volunteer, Ted Pestrue, made us a matching one so we are back to having two on our front porch. Committee member Mike McLavy took them both home and painted them. He also attached them to the porch so they will not disappear again.

Give Local Bay was held on May 4, 2021. This is the 7th time the Ye Olde Courthouse has participated in this fundraiser. Thanks to all of our generous supporters we raised \$9,510.00 in donations and our percent of the incentive pool was \$1,889.10 for a total added to our endowed fund of \$11,399.10.

We have three funds invested with the Bay Area Community Foundation, our Ye Olde Courthouse Designated Fund, our Ye Olde Courthouse Agency Fund, and the George Brookins Viele Ye Olde Courthouse Masonic Hall Fund. These funds provide us with a yearly spendable amount. They will continue to grow and provide funds to operate the Courthouse into the future.

I was trying to find a word to describe our volunteer, Elaine Knoch, and extraordinary came to mind. I looked it up to make sure I was using it correctly. It is an adjective that means outstanding or remarkable. It is most commonly used to describe a person with exceptional talent. Elaine has been a volunteer here at the Courthouse for several years. She recently moved to Atlanta to be closer to her family. Elaine was always first to volunteer to work, sort, mark, and haul our Junque. She used her own truck many times when picking up goods for our Junque Sales and was expert at backing up a trailer. Elaine was also an excellent baker, and we will certainly miss those wonderful cinnamon rolls. Most of all, we will miss Elaine's friendship, and friendly attitude.

Elaine plans to visit us and we wish her well and know she will enjoy her time spent with family.

We received a grant from Consumers Energy for trees. We know from Masonic minutes that the maple trees on the east side of our property were planted in 1915. We trim several dead branches off every year. With the funds from this grant, we were able to plant seven maples. They are beautiful trees, and will fill in when our 106-year-old maples are gone. Thank you, Consumers Energy.

We hope to see you at our last sales of the year. Join us for cookies, coffee or hot chocolate on December 17th, 18th, or 19th while you shop for green arrangements and sweets.

The Courthouse Committee meets on the second Friday each month at 9:30am at the Courthouse. Volunteers are always welcome to attend.

Brenda Matt, Committee Chair 989-846-0501
Regina White, Recording Secretary
Phyllis Klender, Financial Chair 989-653-2725

Arenac County Historical Society Balance Sheet As of September 30, 2021

	Sep 30, 21
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Certificate of Deposit	
CD #2	10,959.33
Total Certificate of Deposit	10,959.33
Courthouse Checking	39,274.38
General Checking Account	280.08
Money Market (Savings)	15,402.34
Petty cash	200.00
Total Checking/Savings	66,116.13
Total Current Assets	66,116.13
Other Assets	
BACF Endowment Fund	
Courthouse Agency Fund	11,750.00
Courthouse Agency Revenue	5,357.16
Courthouse Agency Spend...	-116.00
Total BACF Endowment Fund	16,991.16
Total Other Assets	16,991.16
TOTAL ASSETS	83,107.29
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Building Fund	4,405.48
Courthouse Fund	56,365.54
General Fund	6,550.30
Memorial Fund	15,785.97
Total Equity	83,107.29
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	83,107.29

Arenac Heritage Route Authority Standish Historical Depot

We have been busy at the Depot welcoming travelers and local residents visiting the Depot, enjoying our grounds and landscaping, attending our Summer Concert Series, the Model A & Model T Car Show and Depot Days. Depot days was well attended and our guests enjoyed horse drawn carriage rides with Three P's Express sponsored by the Standish Area Chamber of Commerce, rides from Schmidt Amusements and a BBQ Wagon. We did well on our Silent Auction thanks to our generous donors and bidders. These funds are a tremendous help with the daily operating expenses at the Depot.

Our volunteers are now preparing for the Santa Parade, Lighting of the Depot and a visit from the Lake State Santa Train. Our beautiful Christmas display is enjoyed by our local residents and visitors passing through Arenac County. It takes a tremendous amount of volunteer hours to accomplish this outstanding display and maintain it throughout the Christmas Season. Our Consumers bill which is usually less than \$300.00 a month jumps to \$1800.00 in January. This year, thanks to a grant of \$2300.00 from the Arenac Community Fund we were able to purchase LED lights. Many of our C7 and C9 lights that we have been using were donated to us. Because of this grant we can replace them with LED's.

The energy savings on LEDs compared to incandescent lights is tremendous. The cost to run 600 C7 or C9 incandescent lights based on a 30-day usage at 6 hrs./day with the cost of electricity at \$0.12 per kilowatt hour is \$90.72. (This is based on last year's statistics) The cost of using 600 LEDs for the same amount of time is \$1.24. LEDs use up to 98% less energy for a savings of \$89.48. These lights will be an on-going savings for several years. Many thanks to the volunteers of the Arenac Community Fund and all they do to improve our community.

Linda and Dennis Whitney drove to Frankenmuth for these commercial lights from Bronners. Dennis negotiated a good purchase price with Bronners which was considerably cheaper than other dealers we contacted for commercial lights. Dennis, Josette Rang, and Derek Wilk began in October to string lights in our trees and bushes. Carlos Mori, Mori Tree Service, has again volunteered his time and equipment to place the lights around the Depot and bandstand. The City of Standish DPW crew stores our large snowman and Santa and will install them for us. Many more volunteers will help with the lighting and decorating so that we will be ready to "throw the switch" on Friday, November 26th and light the Depot directly after the Santa Parade.

The Santa Parade line up begins at 5:00 p.m. on Lovett Lane and East Cedar St. It steps off at 6:00 p.m. and continues to the center of Standish. If you would like to receive more information or participate you may call the Depot at 989-718-3021 or stop at the Depot for more information.

Information is also available on our Facebook page and website. Watch them for more info and the time for the Lake State Santa Train which will arrive in Standish on December 11th.

We received \$1,000.00 from the Family Fare Spartan Nash Direct Your Dollars fundraiser for non-profits. We collected 150,000 in receipts and appreciate and thank everyone who saves these for us and brings them to the Depot. We now have 50,000 on our way to the next 150,000 and another \$1,000.00.

Wishing everyone a joyous Thanksgiving and Christmas. Hope to see you at our Santa Parade/Lighting of the Depot and at the Lake State Santa Train visit. Our Christmas display will be on from November 26th through January 1st so that our community can enjoy them as well as visitors to our area.

The Arenac Heritage Route Authority board meets on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Standish Historical Depot. This is an open meeting and all are welcome to attend.

- Brenda Matt, Depot Representative

THE COURTHOUSE SHARES ITS TREASURES

We get phone calls from our friends, neighbors, and people we have met over the years; who want to give us their "junk" for our famous sales. We sometimes get too much, so we are able to share with others in the community. This year we were able to donate some of our items to the following community groups:

Boys and Girls Club in Pinconning: Picture frames, glass vases, craft items, games and some puzzles

Animal Shelter: Blankets, pillows, and some sheets

Methodist Church in Pinconning: Some items for their rummage sale that they had along with a dinner

Head Start Children: Books and Beanie Babies. Also, the children come for a visit after our Christmas sale and pick out some Christmas items to take home to their family.

Senior Citizen Thrift Shop in Newberry: Left over junk that is in very good condition for them to sell in their store. One of our members has a hunting cabin there and transports it to them throughout the year.

Baby Pantry and Clothing Exchange: Clothing and shoes

NEW FURNACE

The Friends of the Arenac Heritage Route Authority received word in May that we were awarded a grant from the John and Catherine Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation for \$3,963.72 to replace the Depot furnace. Our furnace is over 14 years old and thanks to this grant we will be able to upgrade to a more energy efficient and cost saving model. This new furnace has a 95% efficiency rating, and we expect it will lower our monthly energy bills and provide a more comfortable heat. The depot operates on a very limited budget and this grant is very much appreciated

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 McCready, 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 1/2" 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 1/2" 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	
Mail orders, please include the following shipping and handling charges in addition to the price at the right of each item:	
<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; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <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
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ACHS Newsletter For:

Gaynol Fales (21-22)
229 Court St N
Standish, MI 48658

Or Current Resident

48658\$9417 R004



COMING EVENTS

Nov 19, 20, 21 ; 9am to 4pm: Christmas Junque Sale – at the Courthouse in Omer

Nov 26 : Standish Depot Tree & Decoration Lighting – to begin directly after the Standish Santa Parade (Parade begins at 6pm)

Dec 11 – Lake State Santa Train at the Standish Depot – please watch our Facebook page and website for more info and times.

Dec 17, 18, 19 ; 9am to 4pm: Christmas Greens & Bake Sale – at the Courthouse in Omer

Courthouse Committee meets on 2nd Friday of each month, at 9:30am – at the Courthouse in Omer

Arenac Heritage Route Authority Board meets on the 1st Monday of each month, at 7pm – at the Depot in Standish.