



## Arenac County Historical Society

Preserving the Heritage of Arenac County, Michigan

# ACHS NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022

### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Hello Friends,

I am excited to let you know the museum will be open again this summer. We have only opened the museum upon request due to the Covid-19 virus. We will continue to open the museum upon request and we will be open on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00 during the summer months. We look forward to seeing all of you again.

I have some programs scheduled for the summer months. I don't have all of them yet. I am waiting for a program presenter to get back with me. For all of you asking, Mrs. Lincoln will be making a return visit, as well as a Story Teller and a program named Uniquely Michigan. Keep watch for dates and flyers in the community businesses and other locations.

We have some maintenance being done this spring on the museum to get rid of unwanted visitors in the museum. There are some small critters and bats that have made their home in our building. Hopefully, when the contractor is done they will make their homes elsewhere. Old buildings require a lot of unusual repair. We like to keep our buildings in the best conditions so we can show off the rich history of Arenac County.

Enclosed you will see a letter explaining Give Local Bay. We have been participating for several years and we are asking for donations again. These donations help us save money for the future of our organization and our old buildings. When you read the enclosed letter you will understand the importance of your donations. We truly appreciate all donations whether big or small. We are asking for your support to help us operate our organization's buildings well into the future.

Sometime this summer we will have a celebration for the Arenac County Historical Society. We have been in operation for over 50 years and it's time to celebrate. Due to Covid-19 restrictions we could not have had it earlier. Join us in celebrating over 50 years of saving the history of Arenac County. Watch for flyers and advertising within our communities. Again, we thank you for your support of the Arenac County Historical Society.

Sandy Proulx

#### ACHS OFFICERS

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

#### ACHS TRUSTEES

Joann Gulau  
Brenda Matt  
Phyllis Klender  
Greg Dittenber  
Gaynol Fales  
Mary Delaat

#### ACCESSION COMMITTEE

Sandy Proulx  
Joann Gulau  
Mary McLaughlin

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Fred Robel

#### PUBLICITY COORDINATOR

Phyllis Klender

#### ACHS REPRESENTATIVE to the Arenac Heritage Route Authority

Brenda Matt

#### YE OLDE COURTHOUSE & MASONIC HALL

Brenda Matt	Chair
Regina White	Secretary
Phyllis Klender	Financial Chair

#### ACHS WEBSITE TECHNICIAN

Gaynol Fales

#### FACEBOOK COORDINATOR

Gaynol Fales

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

ACHS WEBSITE: [www.ArenacHistory.org](http://www.ArenacHistory.org)

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## Ye Olde Courthouse/Masonic Hall

The Courthouse Committee held our first Junque and Bake Sale for 2022 on April 1, 2, & 3. It was great to see so many people and the bakers did a fantastic job as usual. Our committee is busy planning the next sale and our busy year. We are planning an open house for later this year to thank everyone for all the help with preserving and maintaining this historic Arenac County Landmark.

We finished 2021 with a very successful Christmas Junque Sale, Greens Sale and Bake Sale. Thanks to Rick Rockwell we received a Thrivent Grant for \$250.00. We used the Thrivent Grant to support our bake sales. Here is our income for 2021 provided by our Financial Chair, Phyllis Klender:

Junque Sales:	\$14,942.00
Greens Sale:	\$1,354.00
Bake Sales:	\$2,219.00
E Bay Sales:	\$303.00
Donations:	<u>\$1,470.00</u>
Total of:	\$20,338.00

We received several other grants in 2021 also:

The Catherine and John Maser Historic Preservation Fund for our fire escape: \$17,200.00

The Saginaw-Chippewa Indian Tribe through the City of Omer 2 % program to renovate our outhouse: \$2750.00

Consumers Energy for seven maple trees: \$700.00

We are grateful for these grants which enable us to continue our efforts for the preservation and upkeep of our building and site.

We are getting prices together for a new permanent sign to replace our portable trailer sign. It will be a changeable letter sign so that we can continue to inform everyone about our events. Watch for this addition to our site.

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

Mary DeLatt, Recording Secretary 225-247-6746

Phyllis Klender, Financial Chair 989-653-2725

### Ye Olde Courthouse Fire Escape Replacement Grant

We received word in November that we were awarded a \$17,200.00 grant from the Catherine and John Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation to replace our fire escape. This stairway/fire escape on the south end of our building is badly deteriorated and unsafe. We have contracted with B & B Fabricating and Welding, Inc. of Sterling to build and install this fire escape. This will be made of steel, painted black and will be an attractive and safe addition to the Courthouse. We are so thankful for these grants provided by the Maser Family for the preservation of historic structures in Arenac County.

## GIVE LOCAL BAY

We are again participating in Give Local Bay (our 8<sup>th</sup> year) and the opportunity for you to support our efforts. Your donation will allow us to continue building funds for the future maintenance and preservation of the Ye Olde Courthouse. Funds received from donors, like you, will be eligible for a percentage of the incentive pool to add to our endowed fund. Make your donation during the 24 hour time period, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, beginning at 12 a.m. Donations can be made by going to Give Local Bay.org. Under "Find an Organization to Support", scroll to: Ye Olde Courthouse/Arenac County Historical Society and follow the directions. Credit and Debit cards are accepted (Master/Visa only) or you may call 989-893-4438 (8a.m. to 8 p.m.) to donate with your credit card. If you wish to donate by check: Date your check May 3, 2022, make it out to: Bay Area Community Foundation and mail it to Phyllis Klender, 423 W. Huron Rd., Omer, MI. 48749 by April 28<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions contact the following committee members, Phyllis Klender, 989-653-2762; or Brenda Matt, 989-846-0501. Thank you for your continued support.

## Arenac County Historical Society Balance Sheet As of February 28, 2022

	Feb 28, 22
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	
Certificate of Deposit	
CD #2	10,960.71
Total Certificate of Deposit	10,960.71
Courthouse Checking	48,908.55
General Checking Account	1,180.41
Money Market (Savings)	30,618.52
Petty cash	200.00
Total Checking/Savings	91,868.19
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>91,868.19</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
BACF Endowment Fund	
Courthouse Agency Fund	16,750.00
Courthouse Agency Revenue	6,283.29
Courthouse Agency Spend...	-116.00
Total BACF Endowment Fund	22,917.29
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>22,917.29</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>114,785.48</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Building Fund	4,405.84
Courthouse Fund	71,925.84
General Fund	22,641.59
Memorial Fund	15,812.21
Total Equity	114,785.48
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>114,785.48</b>

# Arenac Heritage Route Authority

## Standish Historical Depot

Crocuses are blooming at the Depot, tulips and daffodils are poking through the ground and we are getting ready for spring. We have a cleanup day scheduled for April 23 at 10 a.m. Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Bring your gardening gloves, rakes, hand gardening tools and join the fun. Lunch will be on us!

Our holiday events, the Santa Parade, Lighting of the Depot and the Lake State Santa Train were great events and very well attended. Our wonderful volunteers spend many hours decorating and keeping the lights operational for the holiday season so that they could be enjoyed by our residents and travelers. This was made difficult this year because we experienced two major wind storms which knocked down some of our arches and tipped over decorations. Heather Bauman, the Executive Director of the W.E.L.L., led a sponsorship drive to help support these holiday events. Our sponsors were very generous and are appreciated. The W.E.L.L. Outreach, created by Paul and Michelle Aultman, is a non-profit community and family-centered organization. Their mission is to strengthen the community through programs aimed at awakening potential in people. We thank the W.E.L.L. for Heather's time spent helping the Depot and our community. The Depot decorated a lot and tree in the AuGres Park this year and we are making plans for next year. The lights and decorations in the park were beautiful. It is well worth a little road trip at Christmas time to see the Depot lights, lights throughout the county and the AuGres City Park.

### ENERGY SAVINGS GRANTS

The grant we received last year from the Arenac Community Fund for \$2,300.00 to purchase LED lights for the Depot was a huge savings to us on our light bill. In 2021 our Consumers bill in January was \$1,666.47. This year, 2022, thanks to this grant, our January bill was \$764.25. A savings of \$902.22! We weren't able to replace our icicle lights with LED's but we plan to replace them before the holiday season this year which will result in an even greater savings. We are grateful to the Arenac Fund for this grant which will continue to save us money well into the future.

Our aging furnace was also replaced by a grant received from the Catherine and John Maser Historic Preservation Fund of the Bay Area Community Foundation. We were able to upgrade to a more energy efficient model with a 95 % efficiency rating which should also help to lower our utility bills. The Depot operates on a very limited budget and these grants are important to the operation of the Depot.

### AMAZON SHOPPERS

Attention: AMAZON SHOPPERS, we need your help. We are part of the Amazon Smile program which gives a portion of what you spend on Amazon to us at no cost to you. Just open the Amazon app on your phone, select the main menu and tap on Amazon Smile within Programs and Features. Select: "Friends of the Arenac Heritage Route Authority" as your charity. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app.

### FAMILY FARE SHOPPERS

Don't forget to save your Family Fare grocery receipts for us. We have received \$2,000.00 from this fundraiser for non-profits through the generosity of Spartan Nash and now have 75,000 in receipts on our way to 150,000 and our next \$1,000.00.

The Farmer's Market will begin on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> and continue through September 9<sup>th</sup>. The County Wide Garage Sale is scheduled for June 3 & 4<sup>th</sup>, the Vintage Car Show (formally the Model A & Model T) is set for July 16<sup>th</sup>. Fun in the Sun will begin on June 4<sup>th</sup> and will continue every other Saturday until September 24<sup>th</sup>. Our concerts start off on June 23, with the Rhett Yocom Blues Band, June 30<sup>th</sup> - Kowalski Brothers Polka Band, July 7- Elvis Impersonator, Bryan Dixon, July 14<sup>th</sup>-Steve Drzewicki Polka Band, July 28<sup>th</sup>-Josh Ramses Band, August 4<sup>th</sup> -Point Blank, August 11<sup>th</sup>- The Reliks, and August 18<sup>th</sup> Omer City Limits held in Omer. Our new website, [www.standishdepot.org](http://www.standishdepot.org), is up and running, thanks to Wendy Hillman, as is our Face book page. Check out our events on both of these sites. Watch for information in the Leisure Guide and the Arenac County Independent also.

### COMMUNITY BASED LED INFORMATIONAL SIGN

The Depot is in the process of raising funds for a Community LED Video Sign System which will be placed on our grounds in front of the bandstand. We are approaching community organizations and applying for grants. This sign will be used to promote local activities and share information to our community and travelers. It will be used to promote Depot activities, Arenac County Fair Ground Events, the Arenac Community Center, Arenac Community Fund Events, Standish Area Chamber of Commerce Events, Loyalty Day Parade, Northeast Michigan Arts Council, Arenac County Historical Society Events, Ye Olde Courthouse, Iosco Arenac Library Programs, school events, etc. More information on this project is available at the Depot. We are hoping to have it in place by early summer. We hope to see you at our events this summer and throughout 2022.

Fred Ro

The Arenac Heritage Route Authority 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. We may be contacted at [info@standishdepot.org](mailto:info@standishdepot.org) or 989-718-3021.

- Brenda Matt, Depot Representative

### GIVE LOCAL BAY

The Depot is participating in Give Local Bay for our fifth year. This will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. This is a 24 hour fundraiser that begins at 12 a.m. Donations may be made by going to [www.givelocalbay.org](http://www.givelocalbay.org). (Minimum \$10.00 donation). Under "Find an organization to support", scroll to: Friends of the Arenac Heritage Route Authority and follow the directions. Credit and Debit cards, (Mastercard/Visa) are both accepted. You may also make a donation by calling 989-893-4438 on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you wish to donate by check, date it for May 3, 2022, made out to the Bay Area Community Foundation and mail it to the Depot at A.H.R.A., P.O. Box 456, Standish, MI. 48658 or you may drop it off to the Depot no later than 2:00 p.m. on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The more money the non-profit raises the more incentive pool money they receive. This money is deposited into our endowment fund which will provide for the future of the Depot. Thank you for your support.