

# The Negaunee Historical Society

303 East Main Street, P.O. Box 221,  
Negaunee, MI 49866 (906-475-4614)

## JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER

Editor: Roland Koski (negauneehistorical@att.net)

### FROM THE PRESIDENT, Virginia Paulson

Summer has arrived.... I see green grass that had been covered with white for many months. Just one day of sunshine and warm temperatures bring a hint of green to the trees promising us that leaves will appear. The garden centers are fully stocked for those people that have green thumbs.



Yes, its summer and the museum will be open for business. We will now have front door access again and a porch to sit on. It is one of the finest porches in town and we welcome you to come and visit and sit a spell.

With all of the controversy of getting rid of land line phone system, did you know that in January 1955 all telephone numbers in Negaunee were changed to automatic dial system? Did you know that the new numbers for the dial system were preceded in Negaunee by the name Granite, henceforth, GR is the 47? Negaunee users were able to dial direct to Ishpeming and Marquette. Now you know.

VIRGINIA PAULSON

### NEGAUNEE HOME TOUR – JULY 11

Submitted by Suzanne Morris

The Negaunee Historical Society will hold their annual self-guided tour from 1 to 4 pm on Friday, July 11th during Pioneer Week. The tour includes four homes as well as our museum. Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased at the museum at 303 East Main Street or at any of the tour venues - watch for posters and advertisements of locations. Proceeds from the home tour help to support our museum. We do not receive any funds from the City or State sources but are entirely supported by donations and dues. Refreshments will be available at the museum. This annual event is always highly anticipated by all participants. Enjoy.

### FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

Our future monthly meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at the museum and all members are welcome to attend.

## **JONI HEINO 2014 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER**



*“Thank you to Mrs. Jean Nelson who donated the money for the Frank Matthews Memorial Scholarship that I received. I am grateful for receiving this financial aid.”*

**Joni Heino, Negaunee**

Joni Heino, daughter of Jon and Deb Heino of 142 South Basin Drive, was awarded the 2014 Frank Matthews Memorial Scholarship. Joni’s community service projects included a food pantry in Detroit, clean up after hurricane Katrina, clean up at Joplin, Missouri, and going to the Moore, Oklahoma tornado site with Operation Blessing. Joni will attend the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to obtain a degree in English and Arts and dream of owning her own photography company. CONGRATULATIONS Joni from the Negaunee Historical Society.

## **HAVE WE SEEN THE LAST OF WINTER?**

The saying has always been – “Don’t plant your flowers until after Memorial Day”. Could this be another late wintery season? Here is a picture of a snowman from almost 70 years ago. I remember this very much since I was already six months of age. (Foo)



## **DEDICATION OF COLLINS LOG CABIN**

**Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm**

Negaunee pioneer Samuel Collins brought his family to Negaunee in 1867. They lived in a log cabin while he built the first framed house in Cornishtown Location near the Jackson Mine. Five years ago, that cabin was found within the walls of a small house being demolished in the Collins First Addition (Hungerford Avenue) near the football field. That cabin was taken apart, log-by-log, and now has been put back together in Old Towne Park. The Lions Club, spearheaded by Jim Thomas and Dave Dompierre, successfully took on this project. The dedication of the Samuel Collins Cabin will take place on Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> beginning at 2:00pm. Because of this occasion, the descendants of Samuel and Hannah Collins will also hold a Collins Family Reunion in honoring their common heritage. The sixth generation Samuel Collins will be in attendance.

## **INTERESTING HISTORICAL DATES – 1850-1900**

**Shown below are some interesting historical dates from May thru July (prior to 1900)  
Excerpts are taken from our book, "Negaunee's Early Years, Dominated by Mining"**

- 1858 May 13, Mary Laughlin was born to Daniel Sr. and Honora Laughlin to become the first white girl born in Negaunee.
- 1858 June 9, St. John's Episcopal Church built on corner of Teal Lake Avenue and Main Street at a cost of \$6,000 with the money coming from an anonymous gentleman for the purchase. It seated 250, included a cabinet organ, a small Sunday school library, one large Bible and several prayer books. Approximately 70 children were enrolled.
- 1879 June 26, first NHS graduating class with 10 members receiving their awards at Winters Hall (later the McDonald's Opera House and now Negaunee Elks).
- 1879 July 13, Presbyterian Church organized. Congregation consisted of 45 families. Sunday school membership is about 70.
- 1881 May 31, James F Foley house, corner of East Case and Teal Lake Avenue, was the first residential brick building built in Negaunee. Pabst Brewery Company on Gold Street was first business built of brick.
- 1882 July, Benjamin Neely's building being erected on corner of Iron and Gold (later known as Levine's Department Store)
- 1882 June 24, City's municipal pumping station was erected on the S.E. corner of Teal Lake and all use of the lake for recreational purposes, boating, swimming and fishing was forbidden.
- 1885 June 22, Adelphi Roller Rink opened for business located east of the Breitung Hotel with a 110 x 40 surface and changing rooms. (Corner of West Lincoln and Teal Lake Ave)
- 1885 July, first street lighting system became a reality as gas for twenty-five street lamps was purchased from the Negaunee Gas Light Company
- 1886 July 27, The Negaunee Lodge 202, Free and Accepted Masons organized. The eleven charter members elected city pharmacist Philip B. Kirkwood as their first Worshipful Master. It has the distinction of being the oldest lodge still in existence.
- 1887 May 5- Dam being constructed across Teal Lake outlet to purify water
- 1887 June 13 - First National Bank was established by H. R. Pearce and opened for business across the street from where it is located today. The 1st President of the bank was Alexander Maitland.
- 1887 June 20, The Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized with the purchase of the two-story wooden Case Street School. It was renamed Immanuel Lutheran Church by the congregation in 1944 and is now located on the corner of US-41 and Baldwin Avenue.
- 1890 July 6, Mission Covenant Church, which was built on Lombard Street, congregated for the first time with Rev G. Gustafson its first pastor. The church moved to Bluff Street in 1896 where it is still located. Both sites were donated by the Jackson Iron Company.
- 1890 July 10, Jackson House closed down and purchased by Charles Sundberg and became known as the Sundberg Block (our youth center was located upstairs)
- 1895 June 1, first athletic contest involving NHS and Ishpeming was a track and field meet at the Union Park. Winning 10 of 15 events, Negaunee was victorious by a score of 65-33. With participation being very limited (due mainly to a lack of interest) over the next six years, track was finally dropped as a sport in 1901 until returning in 1923.
- 1898 June 24, first street address was given to Hans J Peterson, 214 Main Street.

## HOW DID NEGAUNEE NAME ITS STREETS?

(The following illustrations are possible reasons for these street names)

### EDWARD C HUNGERFORD (19NOV1827 – 03DEC1910)



Hungerford Avenue is located on the east side of the Negaunee football field. It was named after Edward C. Hungerford who is remembered in history as being selected as Marquette County's and Negaunee's first postmaster on January 21, 1858. The name was changed to "Negaunee" on February 11, 1859. The "Iron Herald" wrote in its June 30, 1893 edition that "Mr. E. C. Hungerford wanted to get a souvenir spoon as he lived here for a long time and came in 1857 and "organized the town and gave it its name it now bears, and so feel an interest in it." He also superintended the erection of the Pioneer Furnace and was prominent in the affairs of the town for many years. He died in Chester, CT at the age of 83.

### AUGUSTUS C MACKENZIE (13NOV1838 – 13JUL1896)



MacKenzie Avenue is located one block west of our museum. It was named after Augustus C. Mackenzie. He was born in Ohio, enlisted in the Army in 1862 and became a surgeon during the Civil War prior to mustering out in 1865. He then entered Long Island College Hospital, graduating in 1868 with highest honors. He came to Negaunee in 1869 and served as physician and surgeon. His wife's maiden name was Helen Sterling. An article from the "Iron Herald" shows that on November 28, 1878 that Dr. Cyr and Dr. MacKenzie removed a four-pound growth from the neck of a resident from Republic with a little loss of blood. The apartment building on the NW corner of East Main and MacKenzie was actually called the "MacKenzie Apartments" in honor of Augustus. He died at the age of 57 and is buried in the Negaunee cemetery.

### ALEXANDER W MAITLAND, SR (20JUN1844 – 12JUN1925)



Maitland Street is located one block east of our museum. It was named after Alexander C. Maitland, Sr. He was born in Scotland and came to Negaunee via Canada in 1864 earning a position with the railroad and then working for the Iron Cliffs Company. He also became the manager for the Cambria and Lillie Mining companies. In 1887, he was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Negaunee. He owned and operated the Maitland Mine in Palmer. He served three terms as Negaunee's mayor prior to becoming Michigan's Lieutenant Governor from 1903-1906. Alexander died at the age of 80 and is buried in the Negaunee cemetery.

## **PHILOMINA CODY & BROTHERS**

Painting and story done by Sharon (Johnson) Fosmoe in 1951



Every town has one or several unusual, strange, odd, mysterious town characters. Negaunee had Philomina Cody who was a witch-like, fast walking, skinny, old lady that always wore a black coat or dress depending on the season and very scary to us children. That didn't stop us from teasing the poor old woman. Philomina lived in the "chicken coop" with her brothers, Pete and Louis in Patch Location. They had dirt floors, a well for water and an outhouse and were as poor as any three people could be in a small town America. One day my friend Sharon and I met up with Pete Cody, Philomina's most normal brother or so we thought. There was the usual string of railroad cars at the end of the path. The only difference was that this

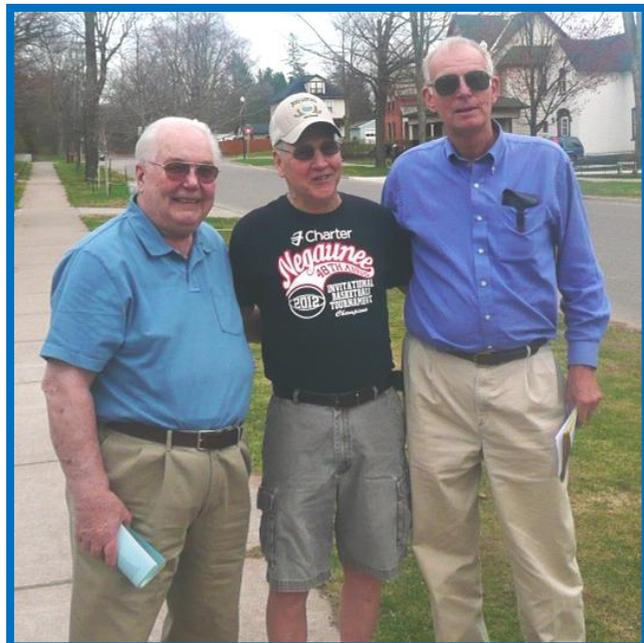
time there was an engine at the end of the cars. Pete (taking the pipe out of his mouth) said "don't worry," "I'll tap on this car to signal the engineer not to move so you can crawl under". We did – trusting in his judgment. In hindsight, I realize how disastrous this could have been. If the train had moved, we could've been killed or dismembered. I had come to the conclusion if we got through our childhood and teenage years alive we had a good chance of living to an old age.  
Sharon (Johnson) Fosmoe

## **THEN AND NOW**

Bill Hyry, Paul Jandron and Rodney Bessolo were teammates on 1957 State Basketball championship team.

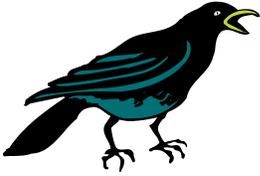
57 years later they were reunited at the Negaunee Historical Society Museum.

Bill and Rodney also joined Paul as members of the society during their visit to our museum.



## LETTERS TO THE SOCIETY

April 7, 2014



*“Hi Foo, I went to Green Bay on Tuesday with my aunt Joyce and out of the blue she said “when I went to the Jackson School as a kid we would come out of school and Jimmy the Crow would greet us by saying, ‘Don’t Fall’”. I’ll bet if you guys put something in the newsletter about JIMMY, you probably would hear from a few people that remember him.”*

**Dennis Stanaway, Ishpeming, MI**

April 28, 2014

*“I cannot tell you how thrilled I was to receive your email and documents, Roland. Thank you so much for taking the time to research and forward this valuable information to me. This information has opened up new avenues for me to pursue. There was a lot of new information, some discrepancies, and a few surprises. Oh, and FYI... Agnes Donovan Pagano had three sons: (Ralph, Aurelius, and Clarence). My dad was Aurelius. I was very glad to see that the Donovans were buried together. This is a comfort. Throughout this whole journey, I have painted a mental picture of these people...my ancestors. Your information has made this picture a little clearer. I know this is a lot to ask, but if you should happen to discover any more information, could you forward it to me? I would also like to peruse your website someday. Please accept this small donation as a thank you for the information sent to me by Roland. I understand that your society operates from donations and you do not receive any government funding. I wish it could be more, because the information I received about my ancestors is invaluable. I am very grateful.”*

**Carolyn Pagano Tylutki, Lisle, IL**

May 22, 2014

*“Thank you to Mrs. Jean Nelson who donated the money for the Frank Matthews Memorial Scholarship that I received. I will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and hoping to double major in English and Arts. One day, I am hoping to work as a full time employee of the program, Operation Blessing. It is a relief program that works throughout the USA during the aftermath of disasters. I also wish to continue my Photography and Arts business that I started this spring. I am grateful for receiving this financial aid.”*

**Joni Heino, Negaunee**

## **REMEMBERING OUR STREET CAR (1892-1927)**

(Following excerpts were taken from information provided by Jim Thomas in our “Negaunee’s Early Years, Dominated by Mining” book.)

The Negaunee-Ishpeming Electric Street Car made its first run in 1892. The



Negaunee terminal was in front of the Breitung Hotel on the east end of Iron Street (next to our Fire Department). The single track ran westward the length of Iron Street to the corner of Cyr Street (the Viga Bowling Alley) then went down Cyr Street to Mill Street. The track went through the Power House Location then

Swede Town and through the old Union Park and terminated at Lake Angeline. Thirty-five years later, the Street Car made its final trip in October 1927 and the railroad tracks were taken up on Iron Street.

The Street Car is now in temporary storage after resting at the Senior Center for several years. There’s some interest once again in restoring this treasure and putting it out for public viewing. Seeking grant money has been difficult to pursue but volunteer laborers are more in demand. If we can combine these two together, then our dream can become a reality.

Pictured to the right are volunteers from the Historical Society along with community friends and the Ishpeming National Guard who helped move the trolley from the Senior Center to its resting place several years ago.



**JOIN TODAY...**

**TO REMEMBER YESTERDAY...**

**AND BE A PART OF TOMORROW....**

## MARUKE'S BAR – UNDEFEATED 1954 CHAMPIONS

Independent Basketball Champions - Republic (Open),  
Hermansville (Class B) and Iron Mountain (Open) Tournaments



Standing: Sponsor- Angelo "Maruke" Dellangelo, Loren "Pard" Bess, Don "Booner" Price,  
Jim "Suitcase" Simpson, Marvin "Sawbones" Maki, Coach- Leonard "Cookie" Koski  
Sitting: Joe D'Ambrosio, Les Melka, Tom Connors, Don Kangas, Ray Lindstrom

(Note: My dad was the coach. At the age of 10-years old, I would awake for school each morning and run to the kitchen table to look at the scorebook and happily see Maruke's Bar victorious - game after game. I still treasure that scorebook with all those victories along with the "Mining Journal" coverage of the games. I will be donating my memories for display at our museum. To have my picture taken with trophies was "priceless" 60-years ago.)



## PORCH PARTY- JUNE 24TH

The Historical Society will be sundae celebration for the Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00- have known for some time, our for three years due to a everyone can enter through the porch. All visitors will also have room displays while enjoying



sponsoring a FREE ice cream completion of our porch on 8:00 pm. As most residents porch was "out of commission" careless driver. Once again, front entrance and sit on our an opportunity to visit the many their sundae.