

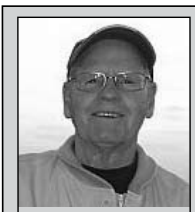


Looking south from the corner of first and Hancock in downtown Pentwater before the fire of 1869.

EARLY PENTWATER HISTORY

By - Mrs. I. N. Lewis and Mrs. Dell Webb

As happens sometimes, when searching for ideas for articles for our newsletter, I recalled a donation received from Don Volz in June of 2011. Don received from Jim and Roxanne of the Village Haus of Ludington, old writings that portrayed the early history of Pentwater as written by Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Webb. At the time Don donated these writings, I was thrilled to get such wonderful personal observations for our museum as recorded by these women so many years ago. What a great mental picture one gets when reading these accounts of Pentwater history beginning in the year 1849.....! If you like local history, then reading the following story will certainly be your cup of tea. I have recopied the original documents into our computer file for permanent storage. In some cases the actual written words, dates, punctuation etc. may not be sufficiently clear or understandable, and I have recorded this story as accurately as possible.



ED BIGELOW
Museum Director
PENTWATER
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Very few, I think would have recognized our charming village with its pleasant environments in the small settlement which I found here over 50 years ago. Imagine, if you can, this entire town instead of pretty lawns and grassy plants a barren sand covered place, not a blade of grass growing. A few ferns the only vegetation save the trees. These were mostly pines. At the foot of what is now Hancock Street was a lumber mill erected

by Messrs. Cobb and Rector. This firm bought of the government the present site of Pentwater in the year 1849, but did not build hereon until 1853. A boarding house was built on the site of what is known as the Reed house. A part of this boarding house was afterward moved and now stands the 2nd house east on Second street. This then is the oldest house in our village. These buildings with a barn

(Continued on page 9.)

**Grand
Opening!**

OF OUR NEW MUSEUM

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2014

The purchase of the Baptist church on August 16, 2012 was a dream come true and a historical moment for the Pentwater Community. The transformation of the church into a Historical Museum is a monumental task and is being completed in a very timely manner. The people who contributed their money, time and talents need to be commended for these accomplishments. We need to make our members and the community aware of this auspicious event. Our goal is for the members and the community to remember the Grand Opening as an event where they say "Remember when the Historical Museum opened and they....."

PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING 2013

- Publish fundraising plan in newsletter
- Put fundraising team in place
- Gather input from museum committees about projected need and cost
- Review available grant sources and submit applications
- Recruit patron donors - connected to a specific need
- Prepare recognition lists and plaques
- Plan press coverage of Museum opening
- Articulate fundraising goal for following year

SUMMER 2013

- Have membership approve fundraising plan
- Set Fundraising Goal for following year at Annual Meeting
- Meet with donors, use audiovisual materials
- Distribute award pins, plaques, and recognition at Annual Meeting
- Input into website design
- Invite feedback on fundraising plan from membership

FALL 2013

- Develop fundraising strategy for following two years
- Match identified need to grant sources
- Meet with potential donors
- Plan fundraising events for following two years
- Gather data to support and identify need
- Develop/refine fundraising presentations and audiovisual materials

WINTER 2013/2014

- Design material for fundraising for following year(s)
- Match grant sources with identified needs
- Monitor and adjust fundraising program as appropriate
- Plan press campaign for the following year (Market Museum)
- Plan museum exposure on internet, Facebook, etc.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE AND

Planning the grand opening! Hopefully the winds of winter have drifted good fortune your way! We are writing this article to share our good fortune as we work to make the Pentwater Historical Museum ready for its grand opening. We also want to update you on our fund-raising plan.

The Community has supported our efforts with more than \$13,000 in contributions and grants since we purchased the museum. In addition many artifacts have been donated to our collection.

We are well on our way to making our museum a gathering place for the community, a destination point for visitors and a display of Pentwater pride.

We planned for sufficient funding to renovate and operate the museum for the first few years. Beyond that we will need resources.

We have a plan to sustain this good start.

We are asking all members of the Society to meet the Ruby level of contribution—that is a contribution of four hundred dollars to support the mu-

seum. We are seeking revenue streams within the operation of the museum that will result in additional operational dollars.

The Legacy Gift Program. We are also asking members and friends of the society to consider a legacy gift, an end of life gift, to the museum. Our Legacy Program is a key component to our sustainability efforts. The basic component of a Legacy Program is a gift to the Pentwater Historical Society contained in an end of life document such as a will or a trust. There are a variety of ways to make an end of life contribution to the Society. You may give a gift directly to the Society, or you make a gift to the Society thorough the Community Foundation of Oceana County. There may be tax advantages in one form of giving over another that your advisor will explain.

Other Contributions. A gift of money is always appreciated, but it is not the only way to make a contribution. A gift may be made in the form of securities or tangible personal property, such as works of art,

FUNDRAISING PLAN 2013-2014

SPRING 2014

- Gather input from museum committees about projected need and cost
- Review available grant sources and submit applications
- Recruit patron donors - connected to a specific need
- Prepare recognition lists and plaques
- Develop/refine fundraising presentations
- Input into website
- e-mail membership with fundraising updates
- Start information flow on final giving and endowments
- Articulate fundraising goal for following year

SUMMER 2014

- Set Fundraising Goal at Annual Meeting
- Report fundraising success at annual meeting
- Meet with donors, use Audio/visual materials
- Distribute award pins, plaques, and recognition @ Annual Meeting
- Final gifting and endowment fund information @ Annual Meeting
- Invite feedback from membership on fundraising plan

FALL 2014

- Fundraising strategy for following two years
- Match identified need to grant sources
- Meet with potential donors
- Plan fundraising events for following two years
- Gather data to support/identify need

WINTER 2014/2015

- Design material for fundraising for following year(s)
- Match grant sources with identified needs
- Monitor and adjust fundraising program as appropriate
- Plan press campaign for the following year (Market Museum)

LEGACY PLANNING

jewelry, precious stones, or valuable collections. Real estate may also be deeded to the Society as a way to provide future resources.

The Society may become a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or you may leave a portion of the assets from an IRA or other retirement plan to the Society.

The long term sustainability The Legacy Program at the Pentwater Historical Society is intended to provide a source of funding for the long term sustainability of our museum. Its full implementation by the members and friends of the Pentwater Historical Society will require planning and advise from qualified professionals.

It should not be a large effort on the part of a few that drives our future, but rather a small effort on the part of many that endures our success.

Pentwater Historical Society
Museum Relocation Committee
Fund-raising Sub-committee

DUES NOTICE

Dues are on a calendar year basis and 2014 invoices for Annual Members and Sustaining Members were mailed in October. Dues invoices for 2013 Delinquent Members were also mailed in October. Delinquent Members that last paid dues in 2012 will be dropped from the Society's Membership List at the first 2014 Executive Board Meeting in January.

DUES ARE DUE

Membership dues for the 2014-2015 year are due. If you see "13", or an earlier year following your name on the mailing label, it is time to renew your membership. The dues amounts are shown below and on the Membership Application form on the last page of the newsletter.

Please send your check to:

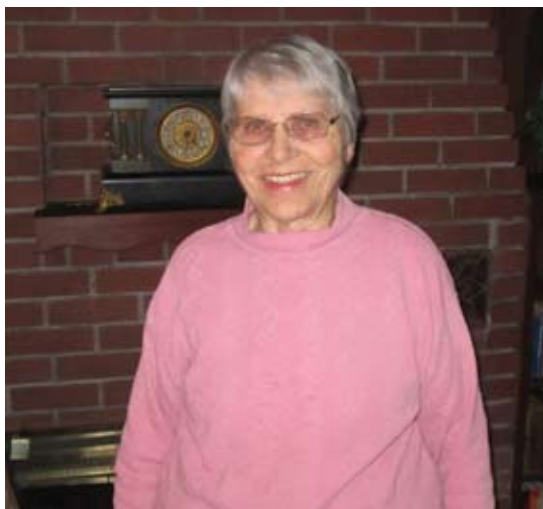
**Pentwater Historical Society, P.O. Box 54,
Pentwater, MI 49449**

CHANGES IN DUES

In order to sustain our regular Society activities on a solid financial basis, the Board has approved the following changes to the dues structure effective January 1, 2013:

Annual . . . \$20	Sustaining . . . \$50
Student . . . \$3 (No Change)	Life. . . \$250
Patron. . . \$500 (No Change)	

TOOTIE AND MARY LEW REMEMBER...



Winter Snow Storms in 1936 near Weare Cemetery

By: Mary Lou (Bowden) Mitteer

I grew up on a small farm about four miles northeast of Pentwater, near the North Weare Cemetery. In the winter of 1936 we had a terrible series of storms, snow and winds. All the main roads were soon blocked with drifts eight and ten foot high, back roads also. Our country school stayed open but some days it was just too deep to walk there. There was no mail or chance to get groceries. We were snowed in for four to five weeks. Luckily we had our own chickens and cows and a bin of potatoes and apples in the basement and lots of home canned food. My folks always bought flour, sugar, and other staples ahead for winter. There was no electricity out in the country then and no telephone lines either. We heated with wood and cooked with wood also. Our lights were kerosene lamps.

After two or three weeks my brothers Jack and Bill pulled a toboggan into Pentwater through the drifts and picked up mail and a few supplies for ourselves and the neighbors along the way.

The weather finally cleared some and they were able to start clearing roads. At that time US 31 came through Pentwater. They brought in a big rotary plow from Grand Rapids for the worst of the roads. By now the drifts were even higher and packed. The big V Plows would have to hit the drifts several times to get through. A crew of men with shovels helped also. They were a long time clearing the roads and some were left to melt with springtime.

This was the worst winter I remember. We ate a lot of popcorn, apples, pancakes and bean soup and played a lot of card games. In spite of everything we were warm, happy, never hungry and really glad to see spring.



Snow Storms in the 30's and 40's in Pentwater

By Marilyn (Tootie) Buchner

I grew up on a farm near St. Mary's Lake. I remember the winters of the late 1930's and early 1940's. We had snow storms that we would be snowed in for two to three weeks at a time! They would bring in big cats to remove the snow as it was too much for snow plows. We would miss school sometimes up to three weeks.

The snow was flush with the electric lines and my folks would warn us not to touch them. Mother canned just about everything so we always had food.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

FROM: IN MEMORY OF:

Joan & Ted Cuchna Marilyn Lipke

DONATIONS

*Anonymous—\$5,000 for Main
Floor Refinishing*

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Morrison

NEW PATRON MEMBERS

Thomas and Jeralyn Bye

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Don Lambris Albert Jefferies

Glenn & Louise Beavis

Jack & Marylou Patterson –Honorary

CONVERSION TO LIFE MEMBER

James Pikaart—Honorary

PROGRESS REPORT&THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Since our Fall News Letter Edition, excellent progress has been made in transitioning from a church building to the new Pentwater Historical Society's own Museum. What has made this transition process work to continue so well is "Leadership and Volunteer Teamwork."



TOP: Mike Castor installing electrical floor plates for new outlets

LEFT: Jared Griffis repairs lower level stair carpeting.

NEAR LEFT: Glen Beavis worked on the balcony railings.

BELOW: Gary Hickman reinstalls wainscoting in the building entryway.

Thanks to Norm Shotwell for his leadership and managerial skills combined particularly with Mike Castor for his leadership and hard work as our electrical engineer and project coordinator and their efforts aimed towards getting the many jobs done!

So far on this building renovation and upgrade project over 40 people have donated their time and skills and good advice on the best way to get things done. Following is a brief report of the major activities and status as of this Winter Newsletter.

Floor Refinishing. The main floor has been beautifully refinished by Scott Castor, owner of Greener Home Services Company. The balcony and stairs to the stage have been re-carpeted at no cost to the PHS by Jared Griffis of West Michigan Carpet.

Electrical Upgrades. Thanks to Mike Castor, our group of dedicated volunteers and the Mike Blackmer Electric & Construction Company, the Museum electrical work is complete

and accepted by the Ocean Electrical Inspector. The entire building is now upgraded with new electrical wiring and systems including emergency lighting with exit markers, all new fixtures, outlets, switches and lines. The work was achieved well within budget thanks to our volunteers and outstanding productivity and discounted pricing from Blackmer Electric.

Plumbing Work. The new main floor restroom facility has been plumbed by Mike from the MJM Plumbing Company from Shelby, Michigan and final plumbing inspection should be conducted shortly. One of the lower level restrooms is now a mop room and drain closet and the other lower level restroom has been upgraded with a required venting system. There is now a new outdoor faucet on the north side of the building and upgraded faucet on the west side.

General Construction Work.

Volunteers continue to make the difference! In addition to all the work reported in the Fall Newsletter, our volunteers, particularly Bruce Koorn-dyk, Glen Bevis, Ron Christians and Chris Dunn, have continued to refinish walls, paint, install replacement wainscoting, fit out the ADS bathroom, and many other items to numerous to mention.

Stain Glass Windows. Work on the beautiful stain glass windows has begun to repair the metal frame structures and replace broken glass sections; to make them last for another one hundred years plus. This work is being done at material cost only by summer resident Tom Blackburn of the Pristine Glass Company located in the Grand Rapids area. Our severe winter has limited the work to only having one ready for re-installation.

ADA Accessible Restroom Flooring. Jared Griffis of the West Michigan Carpet has provided and installed the period representative flooring for the new restroom.

LEND A HAND FOR THE MUSEUM ARTIFACT RELOCATION

As we near the much waited spring season, our historic museum is close to being ready to display the wonderful array of artifacts that portray Pentwater's history.

Get together with your friends and join a team to move this historical treasure to our new museum!

**CALL BOB CORNELISEN TODAY AT 231-869-4812
OR e-mail him at: bcornelisen@gmail.com**



An original vintage photo of F. O. Gardner dated 1865. (This photo is part of the Carrie Mears Picture Collection donated from the Buton Coon Family in memory of their father Burton Coon.)



Marvin Coker donated this roll top desk upon his death. The desk was used in the Information Booth when the booth was located at the top of the Village Green. (The booth is now located at the marina.)

New Donations to PHS Museum

The Pentwater Historical Society encourages our members and the community at large, to continue to grow our artifact collection of Pentwater's history. Our new museum will soon be available to document and display more of Pentwater's rich history to our members and all interested visitors.



Old fashioned sleigh bells from the Carrie Mears Collection.

A complete old sewing and repair kit in a small tin box.



Reginald Yaple donated this history of Camp Morrison's first 100 years from 1913 to 2013.



Carrie Mears' Car Lap blanket.



Carrie Mears' portable Corona typewriter

Welcome... PENTWATER'S NEW VILLAGE MANAGER



Rob Allard is the new manager for the Village of Pentwater, taking over in December of 2013.

Before coming to Pentwater, Rob was the superintendent for the City of Ludington's wastewater plant and the utility maintenance department, having responsibilities for the sewer collection system, treatment, and the water distribution system.

Rob began his career in the environmental consulting field, specializing in groundwater and industrial wastewater remediation. While in private consulting, he obtained numerous commercial and industrial wastewater licenses. Rob graduated from Michigan State University in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science in Natural Science. Since that time he has obtained both commercial and the highest municipal wastewater and water distribution licenses from the State of Michigan.

Rob is a native of west Michigan and has spent most of his life in the area. He enjoys the outdoors; fishing and boating with his wife and family. Rob is looking forward to furthering his career in the beautiful village of Pentwater.



Reverend Sam Morrison stands amid the partly completed sanctuary of St. James Episcopal Church. It has been many years since anything had been done in the church so in January and February of 2014 the sanctuary was gutted and re-plastered. It was painted the same wall and trim color to retain its original charm. The stain glass windows and altar area were left untouched.



TECHNOLOGY NOTES:

Society's Website Upgraded

The Pentwater Historical Society is in the process of upgrading its web page in many ways to provide a more contemporary 21st century information experience. Of course it will show what's happening with THE BIG MOVE and with future events but will also provide links to similar sites such as the Pentwater Township site and even the Township Cemetery for genealogical purposes.

VISIT US AT: pentwaterhistoricalsociety.com

What's happ'n in the Village.

See something going on in the Village?
Grab your camera, take a photo and
send it with a brief discription to
The Pentwater Historical Society
website at:
pentwaterhistoricalsociety.com

Snow, and more snow was the theme of what's happ'n this winter in the 'ville and we've received lots of photos to prove it!

TOP: Village crews worked to keep streets clear as snow piled ever higher as shown in this photo of the entrance to Mears State Park.

RIGHT: It has been a long while since we've seen vehicles driving over the ice on the lake.

BELOW: Early January already has the channel completely jammed with ice.

RIGHT: A fishing deck has begun at the bridge.

FAR RIGHT: The interior of the new sanitary plant.



ABOVE: Dan Root conducts the outstanding Pentwater Concert Band.

MIDDLE: The Baptist Church holds its first Christmas program in their new building.

FAR RIGHT: Clayton Breiler conducts the Pentwater Public School Christmas program.

RIGHT: The Pentwater Boys Falcon Basketball team wins 76 to 47.



and work-shop comprised Pentwater. The only stock owned by the settlers was a single yoke of oxen. One of these was exceedingly useful, as it often served as a ferry boat in crossing the channel. The name Pentwater was taken from the name the Indians had given the lake.

The first families to locate here were those of Mr. Cobb, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barber and Mr. Rector. Two others Messrs. Glover and Harding settled up the river and were engaged in cutting the logs for the mill. A Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt had been here in 1853, he being identified with the building of the mill. Mrs. Roosevelt was the first white woman to come to Pentwater. If we had any record of Mr. Roosevelt hunting the bear in these wilds we might perhaps

next day but we never knew how the accident happened. The interment of this body was the 1st burial. No funeral services were held. That year late in the fall as in all years since perhaps frequent and severe wind storms availed. After such a storm it was the custom for some of the settlers to go to the lake to see if their assistance was needed in aiding an unfortunate vessel or crew which might have been driven upon the beach during the storm. One morning upon going down, they found a vessel on the South beach freighted with hardware. The men were all on deck and appeared nearly helpless, but upon seeing the men on shore they roused themselves and writing a note they placed it in a bottle which they fastened to the cabin door and set it afloat. When it reached shore the men

found the note to be in substance a prayer for those on shore to aid them in reaching land; that they were nearly exhausted having been many hours without food, their provision box having been swept off at the beginning of the storm.

They had worked hard the entire night trying to lighten the boat by throwing the cargo overboard.

The settlers work long and faithfully. At last a line was secured and the men were all saved there were 16. It was near midnight when they reached the boarding house where we had prepared hot coffee and a good meal. They finally went to Grand Haven walking the entire distance. The name of the vessel was found to be the "Wright." Many of the nails used in some four 1st buildings were from this wreck as kegs and kegs of them were found in it.



This old post card view shows an unpaved, dirt Hancock Street looking south. The photographer is standing about in the middle of First Street almost the same spot as the photo on the first page. That's the front porch of the old Glendee Hotel on the far left. (See more views of the Glendee on the back page.)

think him a relative of the President. In the year 185_, July 4th was celebrated. We did not have an oration delivered. The Declaration of Independence was not read we had not even a brass band nor was there a gun fired: but it was Independence Day and our neighbor from the North Clay Banks came down in a small fishing boat, and when we saw at a distance, the red and white sunbonnets worn by the women and the blue shirts worn by the gentlemen, we almost imagined we could see "Old Glory". We certainly saw its colors. We passed the day very quietly, but never since has July 4th been more pleasantly celebrated in .

In September of that year a sad accident occurred. Among the settlers was a man named Barnes, who with his son was usually employed about the mill. This day, business took them up the river. Near nightfall their empty canoe came floating down. One of the bodies, their hats and an oar were found

During the winter lumbering was carried on to some extent about ½ a mile from our main street. The wolves were quite troublesome to the workmen, gnawing the axe and saw handles if left out during the night. As winter advanced they became even dangerous. One time in particular we few settlers were somewhat frightened by them. It was night time and we were awakened by the howling of wolves in the distance. The howling became almost deafening as they drew nearer and on looking from the windows we saw a great pack of them located in front of the house as if about to attack, but upon placing lights in the windows they fled. You can hardly imagine the feeling of relief experienced when I saw them disappearing across the lake.

It was this year, 1854, that a daughter was born to Mr. and

(Continued on next page)

BOB'S CORNER

(by Bob (Childers), of course)

Alas, here it is the 26th of February, 1909. I sit in my spacious penthouse offices of The Pentwater Historical Society, high above the streets of our fair town. The fire in the fireplace warms the room. I look out the window and see thousands of people on the streets below out shopping and doing their daily chores. I desperately try to think of something to write about for this issue. My mind is blank. A glass of 75 year old Pentwater brandy in hand I look over some of the old notes I have. What to write about? What to write about?

Should I write about the recent fire that started at the railroad yard just south of the village last Wednesday that ran for three days and nights through the woods, burning over hundreds of acres south of Pentwater Lake including both sides of the "Big Bayou". But for the spiritedness of Harry Burnell and Chas. Hemeral, who worked day and night most of the time, and boys and men in Pentwater who volunteered, the entire lake frontage on the south side of Pentwater Lake would have burned over. Alas, no. That has been covered in great detail just recently in the Pentwater News.

JOKES AND HUMOR

This is some other notes I have had like forever. By todays standard, 2014, these jokes are very, very tame.

"Going to have turkey on your birthday? No; I'm going to blow myself this year for an elaborate feed. I'm going to give a bacon dinner to the family."

"Doctors disagree – except as to the size of the bill."

"I feel very uneasy; It's raining very hard and my wife went out without her umbrella."

"No doubt she'll take refuge in a shop somewhere."

"Yes, that's just what worries me."

What's a figure of speech? Well, if talk is cheap, it must be a pretty small figure.

There is nothing a man will do with so little encouragement as fishing.

Charge for the advice you hand out if you want people to take it.

"Oh yes; Jack adores me. I've known for weeks."

"Then what's bothering you?"

"What's bothering me? Why, I've got to wait for him to find out."

Mrs. Nelson Glover. This was the 1st white child born in Pentwater. The 1st time the U.S. Mail was brought to us was in February 1855. Mr. E. R. Cobb was our 1st postmaster. Think of going or rather sending to Chicago for our mail. In 1856 our settlement had grown from a mere handful to nearly 100 people. A town meeting was held and the following officers elected. Supervisor, E.R. Cobb; Clerk, James Dexter; Treas. E. Rogers; Highway Comm. A. Rector. One hundred and fifty dollars was voted for township expenses. It was in 1856 that Mr. C. Mears came to our village, built a saw mill and boarding house just north of the ferry. In 1857 he built a store. Mr. Mears called his part of the village Middlesex. The 1st manager of the Middlesex a known friend James Brooker and wife. H.C. Flagg, and Mr. Mears' general manager, came to Pentwater this year, also many others.



An old view of Hancock Street looking north from present day 1st Street.

The natural channel from Pentwater Lake to Lake Michigan was at this time far to the North of what is now connecting with the Big Pond near the sand hills. This year it was made to lead perfectly straight from Pentwater Lake. This great improvement was accomplished mainly through the efforts and enterprise of Mr. Mears.

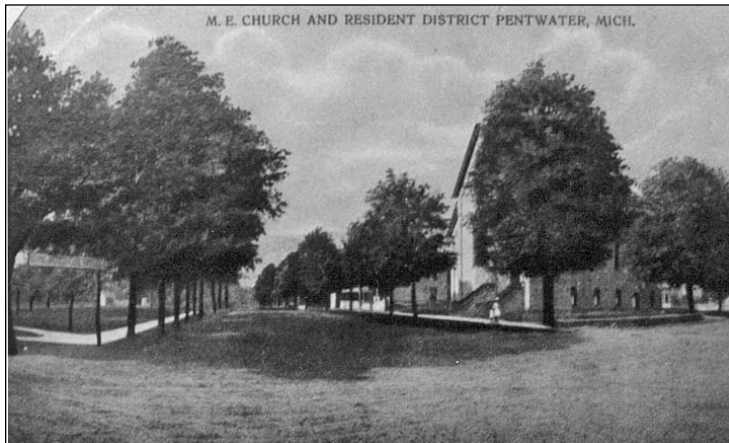
The 1st minister sent to this township was the Rev. Beard in 1858. Then came the Rev. Naylor who was followed the next year 1860 by the Rev. M. Joy who encouraged the pioneers by frequent visits and words of cheer. The first semblance of a store was a trading hooker conducted by Mr. Chapin. From this could be bought many useful articles (if the boat was in port when you wanted them). In 1859 a change was made; J. Brillhart and H. Tower purchased the Cobb and Rector mill. This new firm opened a store at the corner of 3rd and Hancock streets at what is known as Turner Building.

The families of C.R. Whittington, William Webb and Capt. Irons came to our village this year. These people have helped very materially in making Pentwater the charming place that it is. Mr. A. J. Underhill, T. Collister, the Crane family, J. Corlett, P. Labonta and many others came this year and were engaged in fishing. Barrels and barrels were shipped from this

port. The 1st school was taught by Miss Emily Daniels now Mrs. Croxon, of Muskegon. The school room was part of the dwelling house where 8 young urchins alternately whispered, chewed gum, went to the stove, got a drink, threw paper wads and whittled the seats as children have done in all time.

Pentwater had now increased to a settlement of sufficient importance to make the want of a newspaper apparent. The 1st newspaper was issued in 1861. The office being over the store of C. Mears. The editor was F. Ratzel afterward a prominent journalist of Manistee. Mr. Ratzel was a genuine newspaper man and issued a lively paper.

I think many would smile if they could see the style of the hats worn by us in those early days. The new settlers bringing in the styles from outside made the female part of the population long for a milliner and as we must be in style we were obliged to manufacture at least part of our bonnets. This we did by making the frames of starched mosquito netting, pressing the small back part over a pint basin while the wide flaring front was decidedly stylish, but late in 1863 a milliner came. G. W. Faulkner and family came to Pentwater this year and Miss Kate, a daughter, at once seeing the need, opened a milliner store. Her capital was just \$5.00.



Another view of Hancock Street looking north from 1st Street

Early spring brought many new-comers. Houses were built and our village seemed booming but it was not until some

years later that by a special act of the legislature, the village of Pentwater became incorporated and held its first election which was as follows: Pres. - C.W. Dean, Recorder - E. ? , Treasurer - John Highland; Assessor - O.P. Cook; Trustees - D.J. Kittredge, O.C. Pelton, I.N. Lewis, A. Bryant, J. Bean, J. Merritt. It was a Republican victory and was hailed as such, and in the evening jubilant over their success, they formed a procession and headed by a martial band marched through the streets cheering and firing guns. Thus ended the first election of the village of Pentwater, the first village of the county of Oceana.

Pioneer life anywhere must of necessity be rather trying, but I can say I truly enjoyed those early times and it is with a feeling of satisfaction that I glance back to those pioneer times. They were truly years well spent by all of us. We were so helpful to each other sharing each others sorrows, sharing each others joys. Hospitality is to be found in a marked degree in



A later view of the corner of Hancock & First looking south.

all new settlements and Pentwater was indeed no exception. We always had plenty of room and enough to eat for all who came. Once I believe the supply of flour was rather short; in fact the gentlemen for a time denied themselves white bread but they were quite content with brown. The people seemed united in a sort of brotherhood with the same object in view - - to make comfortable homes for their families rather than to acquire wealth.

I well remember the bright morning, June 18, 1854, when I arrived in Pentwater on the Spartan, a sailing vessel which made regular trips between this port and Chicago for the purpose of bringing supplies to the settlers and in return taking to Chicago the lumber cut by the mill. The vessel anchored outside as the natural channel was too shallow for the boat to enter. The passengers which were four in number, went ashore in a small boat. I will never forget how the great waste of sand looked to me, the like of which I had never seen before, my home having always been near the Green Mts. Of Vermont.

20013-2014 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES OF THE PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dick Warner	William O'Donnell	Jim Alfredson	Mike Castor
President	V-President	Secretary	Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP
CHAIRWOMAN
Karen Way

DIRECTOR OF
INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT
Jim Ege

MUSEUM
DIRECTOR
Ed Bigelow

TRUSTEES: Myrna Carlin, Bob Childers and Roger Bailey

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE
Jim Pikaart Bruce Bates

USE THIS FORM TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NAME _____

ADDRESS (The Address where you have your important mail sent when it absolutely positively has to get there!)

E-MAIL: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: • Patron \$500* • Life \$250* • Sustaining \$50*
• Annual \$20* • Student \$3 (* Includes Spouse)

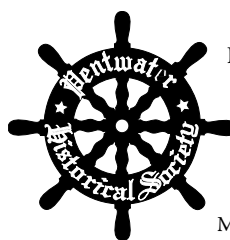
STATUS: ☐ New
☐ Renewal

Would you like to be contacted to participate in society activities? If so, your area of interest is: _____

☐ Yes, Please send the newsletter by e-mail. My e-mail address is: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:
The Pentwater Historical Society, P.O. Box 54, Pentwater, MI 49449

AUTHORIZED
SIGNATURE _____



PENTWATER
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 54,
PENTWATER,
MICHIGAN 49449



TOP LEFT: Another view of the old Glendee Hotel. (Even though this photo has been labeled as 6th St. it was taken before the streets were renamed and now this is present day First Street looking east.

TOP RIGHT: Yes, this is the same corner with the Glendee Hotel. That's "Capt". Perkins who operated stage lines to Mears and Ludington and brought visitors and their baggage from the Train Station to town, lodgings and cottages.

ABOVE: Capt. Perkins with his faithful horse "Dock".

LEFT: Here's Capt. Perkins at 81 years old and "Old Dock" at 30 years old.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW MUSEUM ON SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2014