



THE CARLINS

By Dee Samuel

The idea for

articles about families who have had a long history with Pentwater was born in Bill O'Donnel's kitchen.

Bill's wife and I enjoy knitting and I visit her to do that from time to time. During some of these visits, it is not unusual for the three of us to toss around ideas for the Historical Society Newsletter. Bill will bring up some of his ideas for an article and has an effective way of talking them up. He also has an effective way of talking me into personally pursuing that idea. It was in that way that I got pulled into Bill's web of work. After listening to his idea to do an article on the Carlins, I was sold. Of course, Bill knew that Myrna and I had been in school together, that Hal was one of my teachers, and that I knew numerous tidbits of Pentwater life in the 50s. By then Bill knew I was hooked. All that remained was to reel me in.

Over the next few weeks, I interviewed the Carlins three times, each time leading to yet another. It was a delight to sit with them and take notes. After years of only seeing Myrna casually, we reconnected at a friendly and familiar level. Their kittens began to treat me as family and a big yellow-tailed one named Max would wrap his tail around my pencil helping me with my notes as we worked at the



Myrna & Hal Carlin

dining room table. As the number of my visits increased I even learned to negotiate their tight, little circular driveway leading to the house.

Time spent with the Carlins, learning about their children and hearing stories of their pets was both interesting and colorful.

Myrna and Hal have four children: Susan, a CMU graduate and a schoolteacher, Sandy, an EMU graduate and a commercial artist, Michael, the oldest son who passed away in 1990, and Randall who attended Ferris and is now employed by Peterson Farms in Shelby. Myrna likes to make people aware that all her grandchildren graduated from college. This is a significant accomplishment given that the Carlins have six grandchildren. Myrna and Hal are definitely "pet people." There were always cats around the house, but their great love was their boxers Sugar I and Sugar II, pure breeds weighing 100 pounds and more. One of Sugar I's litters was shown in the West Minister Dog Show, a distinguished competition for purebred dogs. The walls of the Carlin house are covered with paintings and photographs of Boxers. Their daughter, Sandy, created a pastel portrait of Sugar II that graces the space over the dining room bureau. Myrna's advice in raising Boxers. Get them as puppies and treat them like your children."

Continued on page 3

THE OCEANIAN'S Cartoons & Caricatures Part IV

By: Ed Bigelow, PHS Museum Director

This is the fourth series of Cartoons & Caricatures from the 1902 Oceanians Booklet that features a total of 82 Cartoon Caricatures. This Booklet is a historical treasure for our museum.

The written descriptions for these three "Oceanians" was taken from either the Oceana County & Business Men Of Today, a Pentwater News Steam Print Book of 1890, or the Oceana County, Michigan 1895 book of Topography, Biography, History and Art Folio, produced by The Standard Atlas Company of Battle Creek, Michigan.

Please enjoy reading about these men who helped to develop Michigan's Oceana County, in the writing style of the day.



William A. Rounds

William A. Rounds was born at Garrettsville, Portage County, Ohio, November 1, 1843. He is a son of William and Louisa Rounds. At the breaking out of the rebellion, he enlisted in Co. C 16th U.S. Inf. and served to the close of the war. On July 6, 1865, he landed in Pentwater and has made his home here since then with the exception of a short time. He first commenced work at Pentwater for Richmond & Bean, and afterwards for Sands & Maxwell. He was also engaged for some time in running a dray line at Pentwater and for six years had charge of Slocum's coal dock for the Engelman line. In the spring of 1888, he purchased a livery business and has since followed that business. He has the only livery and feed stable at Pentwater and runs a stage line

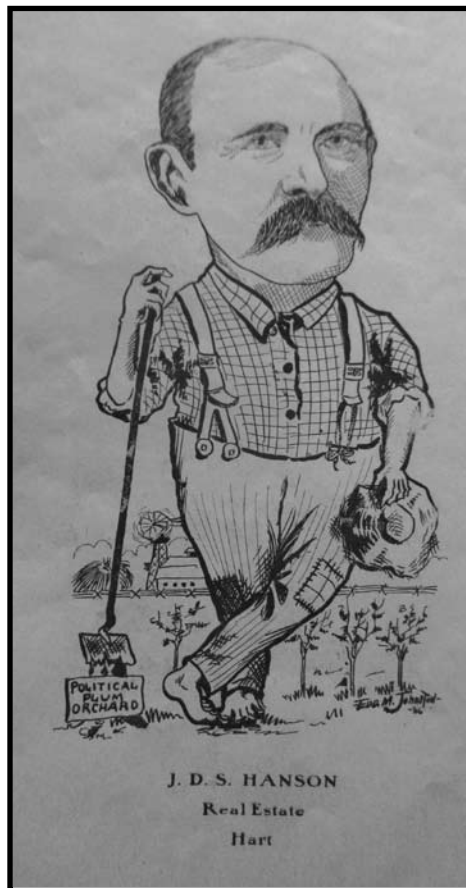
between Pentwater and Ludington during the winter season when the boats cannot run. He is a member of Oceana Lodge No. 200 f. & A. M., Oceana Chapter No. 56 R. A. M. and of Pentwater Lodge No. 378 I. O. O. F May 29, 1867, he married Miss Emma Graham, and they have since had three children, two sons and one daughter. One of the sons has since died. Mr. Rounds has held the positions of Deputy Sheriff of the county, Treasurer and Constable of the township, and Village Marshal. As a police officer, he is not excelled, having always been considered one of the best in the township.

J. D. S. Hanson

John D. S. Hanson, farmer, was born January 1, 1852, in Whitehall Michigan. His parents, John D. and Betsy Hanson, came from Norway to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and thence to White Lake, where Whitehall now is, arriving in May 1845.

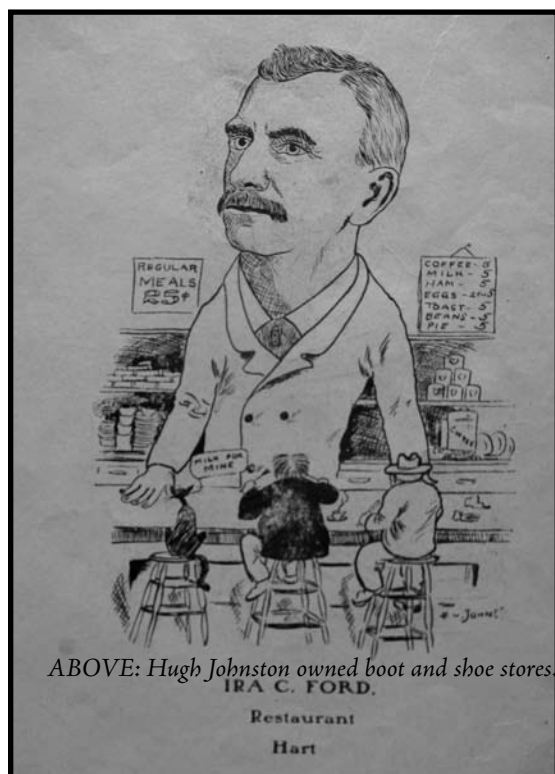
Mrs. Betsy Hanson was for some time the only white woman at White Lake, spending at one time three months without seeing any white person, whatever, and

having only Indian women for associates. Mr. Hanson explored the Clay Banks lakeshore, with Dr. Thomas Phillips and others, and being leader in the enterprise, was accorded the first choice of lands, and was the first to select lands in Clay Banks. Indeed, he had previously resolved, when sailing in sight of those banks, that he would in the future choose lands in that locality. He afterward served as consul for Norway and Sweden to Northern Michigan for some years and for four or five years as United States marshal.



Ira C. Ford

Ira C. Ford was born in Seneca County, N. Y., March 30, 1850. Moved to Fulton County, Ohio, in 1862, and to Oceana County, Michigan in 1875. Engaged in farming till 1881, since which he has been scaling logs. Was superintendent of schools in Crystal for three years. Married, January 28, 1878, to Clara L. Main, who was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., June 20, 1858. Two children: Mary A. and Lloyd A.



Please welcome our newest board member, Jim Lambrix.

2015-2016 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES OF THE PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bill O'Donnell
President

Dick Warner
V-President

Joan Gehringer
Secretary

Mike Castor
Treasurer

DIRECTOR OF
MEMBERSHIP
SERVICES
Jim Lambrix

DIRECTOR OF
INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT
Jim Ege

MUSEUM
DIRECTOR
Ed Bigelow

DIRECTOR OF
MARKETING
Open Seat

TRUSTEES: Amy LaBarge, Bob Childers and Deb Deward

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Jim Pikaart

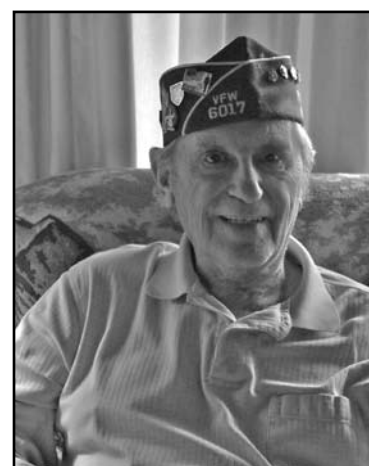
Bill O'Donnell

Bruce Bates

Hal

Hal was born April 7, 1926, in Rochester, New York to William and Minnie Carlin. Though always being called Harold by his parents, he preferred the shortened version, just Hal. Over time, he finally became known as Hal to them and to the Pentwater community as well. The family moved to Detroit in 1931, where Hal attended elementary school, then on to Centerline where Hal spent the majority of his school years, graduating in 1944. He recalled a humorous story that occurred when he was in the first grade, though I doubt he thought it funny, then. After arriving at school, Hal went outside to play on the playground as he always did. Looking around he wondered where all the kids were. When he finally found someone to ask, what a surprise it was to learn that it was Saturday. I wonder if the family knew that Hal went to school that day.

Soon after graduation Hal was inducted into the Army. He served in the Pacific Theatre principally the Philippines where his company took heavy casualties. Hal witnessed the signing of the unconditional surrender treaty between the United States and Japan held aboard the USS Missouri. This was a



Hal Carlin

story to remember and pass on to others back home. Hal landed in Japan after the surrender in 1945 and served there almost for two years. Always the sportsman, Hal also played baseball in Osaka and later learned he had played at the same stadium represented in the movie that Tom Selleck starred in. Hal was a student at CMU from 1946-1950 playing both basketball and baseball for four years. Even as a high school student he loved the game and was honored for earning 35 points during one game -a record that held up for 12 years. Hal's love of basketball led him to play as well as coach and officiate. He was hired in Pentwater to teach social studies and English and was expected to handle the basketball program. It wasn't unusual for teachers to spend a full day in the classroom and then attend to their coaching duties. Most often, those duties included managing schedules, handling equipment, sweeping up after practices, and sometimes, laundering Jerseys. You had to love the job! Hal's skills led him to Lake Orion where he was hired as a teacher and coach. At that time, Lake Orion was only hiring veterans to fill their educational positions – a very patriotic action

Continued on page 4

for a school system make. From 1954 until his retirement, Hal remained in the Lake Orion Schools. From 1968 to 1981, he served as both Assistant Principal and Athletic Director, a total of 31 years in this large AA system. It was through these experiences that Hal was later able to rekindle relationships with his former friends and athletic associates in the Lake Orion and Troy area.

Hal related an interesting story about a time when he was hired to officiate at a football game in Lake Orion. It wasn't clear whether Hal only had one official's shirt, but the one he wore that day had short sleeves. It may be that he didn't know that it was a practice of the officials to wear shirts with long sleeves for football games, nonetheless Hal showed up in his short-sleeved shirt. Nothing strange about that except he looked like the odd man out and to make matters worse, it was snowing! It was most likely an uncomfortable evening.

Myrna

Myrna wanted to be called Joan, her middle name, but it was her desire only and was never realized. Her parents, Myron and Alice, had other ideas. Myrna was born in Ludington in 1933. They lived at the edge of town on Melendy St where the family had been able to keep animals, cows, horses and various pets; one such was Myrna's horse. You've heard the old tale about having to walk to school in a blinding snowstorm, uphill both ways. Myrna's early school experience would have echoed that story as she often went to school in similar conditions, walking from her Ludington home on Melendy Street to Foster Elementary, a downtown school located by Emanuel Lutheran Church on Danaher Street. Later in 1943, the family moved to Pentwater and lived in a house on the Southeast corner of Third and Carroll, eventually moving to the Northeast corner of Second and Carroll.(as they are known today) When leaving Ludington, Myrna had begged her father to bring her horse. He must have relented because it wasn't long before Myrna and her friend, Juliette, were daily caring for their horses that were boarded at a small farm at Twin Silos in the countryside near Pentwater. It was with the care of her horse that she first got into trouble with Superintendent Chaffee of Pentwater High School.

Superintendent Chaffee was an imposing figure and could bring fear into misbehaving children in a trice. He always dressed in a crisp white shirt, a black three-piece suit, freshly shined shoes and spats. It was an intimidating matter to be summoned to the office of this stern, "person of authority." As it happened, you see, Myrna had to feed and exercise her horse before school every day and while on most days she was able to get home in time to change her clothes, on this occasion, she didn't. There might have been a differ-

ent ending to this story had girls been able to wear pants to school. On this particular, ill-fated day, Myrna was late getting back to town and chose to go to school wearing her jodhpurs and riding boots. She hoped to sneak into the study hall that was bordered by the glass windows of the superintendent's office, but was unaware of Superintendent Chaffee's attention until she heard his knuckles rapping on the window. In the language of today's teen, she was busted! Myrna was indeed called into Superintendent Chaffee's office, reprimanded and sent home to change into appropriate clothing. This school story was such a great one of the 50s, exemplifying the signs of the times. After graduating from high school in 1951, Myrna continued her education at Muskegon Community College, Oakland Community College, and Western University.

With a special certificate, she taught in several positions in Lake Orion.

It was a great pleasure to dig around in the history of Myrna and Hal Carlin and to be so helpfully led by this couple through the days of their interesting lives. I found our times together full of fun and laughter. I eagerly looked forward



Myrna Carlin

to each day of research with them and came away with wonderful new facts and a lot more questions. Myrna and Hal, thank you for allowing me to get to know you better. And Myrna, how fun it has been to become reacquainted after so many years. I feel privileged to have been allowed to invade your space and to get to know you on a more personal level.

Sincerely, Dee Samuel

To be continued. Next issue of the PHS Newsletter will have the last part of this article where Myrna and Hal talk about, among other topics, their years of owning the well-known Nickerson Inn.

MUSEUM REPORT SPRING 2016

By: Ed Bigelow, PHS Museum Director

The Museum had a very successful visitor season for 2015 with lots of great compliments about our museum building and its many fine artifacts. As we prepare for this year's visitors, curator Dick Warner is busy planning new displays and rearranging others.



PHS member Jim Gehringer adding insulation up in the attic.

A much needed project was the addition of insulation in the building's attic to keep the heating bill down and our workers comfortable too. Another project last November was to have the Gordon Freeland Roofing Company replace the West end roofing where leaking into the building had occurred.



Gordon Freeland Roofing Company resingled the leaking west roof area of the Museum.



PHS member Glenn Beavis works to improve the Artist Room behind the stage area.



Library Book Shelving Unit donated to the Society from the Pentwater Township Library.

Efforts are underway this spring to renovate the area behind the stage to make a dedicated work area for our local artists and to provide ample storage space for them. In the lower level of the building, the shelving unit donated by the Pentwater Township Library is being put to good use for artifacts that are not being displayed. The new cabinetry and counters in the Information

and Technology center look great and are a great asset. We have gained both additional work surface areas and the ability to orderly display books, papers and other flat materials. Many thanks to all the willing workers who are ensuring that our Museum remains a Pentwater destination.

THE GREEK PROVERB,

*"a society grows great
when old men plant trees
whose shade they shall
never sit in"*

HAS A POWERFUL MESSAGE.

It also represents the driving force that has propelled the astounding achievements that we have made over the last 34 years.

This proverb is a fitting way to describe all of the supporters of PHS; the Board, the volunteers and the many many financial contributors.

Our Historical Society is great because our people are responsible and generous.

We are planting trees knowing full well that we will not live to see the trees bear fruit nor enjoy their shade; and still we do so to benefit future generations.

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 description to the Pentwater Historical Society's web site at: pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org

TOP: New Dollar General Store coming to the Pentwater area East of the Mears' Red Barn.

NEAR RIGHT: Saint Patrick's Day Parade was short but sweet.

FAR RIGHT: Finishing touches are being made on this new home North of Pentwater Public School.



Easter festivities on the Village Green with Kids, customs and lots of eggs!



Garrett House at the corner of Lowell and Ellery was lost to fire.



House renovation on Wythe beside the Episcopal Church by Custom Builder, Dave Slachter.



Pentwater Boy Scout Troop 1145 holds 5th Annual Pentwater Community Food Pantry collection day and receives 180 pounds of food and nearly \$200.00 donated for the Pantry's purchasing use.



LEFT: New home being built on the corner of 2nd and Victory Blvd.



Dolly Geer's former Pentwater house getting a make over.



This home on Lowell Street near the beach is in the process of renovation.

Museum Recieves Donated Items



Department of Michigan - Ladies Auxiliary Hand Books printed respectively in 1956, 1973 and 1975. Donated by PHS member Karen Way.



Shelving units were donated from the Township Library.

Ice Harvesting Tool
Circa 1800's to mid 1900's.
Donated by Dan Filius.



Resolution No. 40 from MI Legislature for Village of Pentwater's 1967 Centennial Celebration. Donated by Mary Barker, Director of the Pentwater Township Library.



The violin and case were hand made by Mr. Ora E. Moore in 1933 when a resident of Grand Rapids, MI. Donated member Malcolm Belk and Veronica & Maggie Tesfai.



Vintage Old Bottles.
½ Pint Glass Bottle, 1 oz. Mercurochrome from Rexall Drug Company, 1 oz. Iopexadine Bottle, a Brown Glass Bottle with Cap and dropper and a Brown Glass Bottle with Stopper. Donated by member Linda Fekken.

GET YOUR TICKET TO THE SPRING DINNER!

ADMIT ONE

THE PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING DINNER

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
5:30pm at the VFW Hall

ONLY \$17.50 EACH
50/50 RAFFLE

ADMIT ONE

*After Dinner
Program Features:*
**The Pentwater
Historical Museum
Video!**
Plus...

Ms. Sharon Bluhm

*Author & Professor
at West Shore College*

will give a presentation of her
book about Manierre
Dawson: a West Michigan fruit
farmer and pioneer abstract artist.

DINNER MENU

*Baked chicken, shredded beef, mash
potatoes, green beans, salad, Italian
bread with garlic butter, deserts
and pre-dinner appetizers.*

Catered by Kristi's Pour House.

TICKETS SOLD AT:

Decors by Sandra

Pentwater Township Library

Or call: Ed Bigelow 869-8631

Bill O'Donnell 869-5399

Deb Deward 869-2230

SOUTH BEACH AND THE REXFORD FAMILY

By Peter Rexford

Peter Rexford is an author, journalist, and syndicated columnist. His roots go back to the late 1800's with his grandparents coming to Oceana County and staying in one of the first cottages in the Oceana Beach Association. They also stayed in Garrison Park and he presently has a cottage there.



Peter Rexford and his brother Doug.

Kids have endless excuses for doing poorly in school. Most are lame. Mine was legitimate – Pentwater. It's true. After first setting foot on south beach just before 1960, it was all I could think about the rest of the year in St. Louis. I would stare north out my classroom window imagining Pentwater was just over the horizon and wondering how soon I could return. Teachers always caught me in that dreamlike daze staring at the sky. They accused me of being "on Cloud Nine." They were right.

It's a 515-mile drive from St. Louis to Pentwater – just about eight hours. In the '60s, it was much longer. Illinois interstates were not yet built so it was two-lane blacktop including a small

stretch on the "Mother Road," Route 66. With Mom closely monitoring the AAA TripTik, it took 12-to 14-hours and often meant staying at a motel. From the Indiana border, we drove north on Old 31 through South Haven, Douglas (my brother Douglas wanted to believe it was named for him) and Holland. Then on to Muskegon and up what's now Oceana Drive past New Era, Shelby and Hart.

The last few miles were surely torture for our parents. From Old 31 west toward Lake Michigan my brother and I were possessed. We knew we were so close. Only a scant few cottages stood watch on Lake Pentwater out the right-side window. A boathouse or two, an A-frame cottage and some older cabins

were visible through the trees. Then, the last turn into Oceana Beach Association led to unbridled hysteria.

Weaving for a few moments through the dark "magic" forest road then a right turn up the hill. We pulled next to the clubhouse and erupted at the sight of the brilliant blue sky, sapphire water and white-cap waves. Doug and I ignored our parent's plaintive pleas for help with bags as we bounded out of the car sprinting toward the beach.

In the 1960s, the clubhouse was the anchor of South Beach. Above the dining room were a dozen or so simple but cozy rooms for rent by the week. Mornings offered the irresistible aroma of eggs, bacon, coffee, pancakes and syrup blended with the ideal mix of vintage wood paneling, wavy glass windows and lake breezes. The cooks made pancakes in the shape of animals to amuse the kids (and, I'm sure, themselves).

Passing on conventional breakfast drinks my brother and I enjoyed something new called Boysenberry juice. We thought we were so clever calling it "poison berry."

A large bell on a post behind the clubhouse was used to signal lunch and dinner. We would try to be near when the kitchen worker assigned to ring it came out. He or



The Rexford boys with their father Oscar at Oceana Beach.

she would let us take turns pulling the rope announcing the meals. In the evenings, the scent of cigarettes wafted from the clubhouse



Peter at the casino shuffleboard court complete with canteen, binoculars, helmet and multiple bandaids!

front screen porch. It was the age when most everyone, men and older women alike, casually smoked while sipping cocktails anticipating another amazing sunset. I know for that reason I still love that smell.

The young kitchen staff lived in a long building behind the clubhouse. The motel-like structure on the far south end of the parking area housed high school boys on one-side and college freshmen girls on the other. The belief was it was safe because college girls would never want anything to do with younger boys. Years later, it was learned how wrong that was. Substantial "togetherness" apparently went on there as well as in the dunes and woods. Reportedly, the girls were most frequently the initiators. Go figure.

Evidence of those long ago workers can still be found in the kitchen of the now-closed clubhouse. The crew of each year would write their names in marker on the wooden walls – testimony to all who found

summer work there (and perhaps a bit more).

Our family frequently stayed in the clubhouse Annex – a building immediately to the south on the boardwalk. Now, a private cottage, in the '60s it housed four apartments. The Annex is where I learned how much the Pentwater lighthouse meant. One night, when I was six or seven, while in a room on the second floor I just couldn't sleep. My bed was by a window and, in the wee morning hours, I sat up to look out. In the distance, I saw the red blinking light standing guard at the channel



Peter with his mother Mary on Oceana Beach.

entrance. I watched it signal that everything was fine and always would be. I fell asleep soon after. Naturally, life centered on the beach, clubhouse and casino. We were on our own for entertainment. There were no television, few news-

papers and the only telephone was in a small booth in the clubhouse library. Long-distance rates made any calls virtually prohibitive. The booth is still there but the old rotary pay-phone long gone.

For kids, during the day the casino on the beach was home base. In the evenings, family activities took over. Shuffleboard tournaments, game nights, talent shows, music or a movie were the mainstay. Families would participate or even be in a show. Most everyone on south beach would come for a night at the casino. Afterward, the small closet in the southeast corner would be opened and kids could get a candy bar or treat of their choice. They never tasted better. Still do. That tradition remains.

The best part of Pentwater summers where the days and nights struggled to never end. In the next issue's final installment, I'll include accounts of some still buried south beach treasure and "The Stick" – far and away our most memorable icon of Lake Michigan. In the meantime, as I think about writing it, out my window to the far north I can see some slowly moving, bright puffy clouds – nine if my count is right.

DUES NOTICE

Dues are on a calendar year basis and 2016 invoices for Annual Members and Sustaining Members were mailed in October. Dues invoices for 2015 Delinquent Members were mailed in October.

DUES ARE DUE

Membership dues for 2016 are due.

If you see "15" following your name on the mailing label, it is time to renew your membership.

The dues amounts are shown 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



*Please
Join the...*

3RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION **SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2016** **NOON TILL 3 PM**

**COME WATCH
OUR VIDEO OF
THE PENTWATER
HISTORICAL MUSEUM!**

THE MUSEUM GROUNDS WILL FEATURE:

Plus **•THE TIN CAN RAFFLE!**
**WE'LL BE SERVING CAKE, COOKIES,
POPCORN, COFFEE & TEA!**

**FEATURING A COLLECTION OF 800 SALT & PEPPER SHAKERS, OUR NEWLY
ACQUIRED "OLD SIGNS" AND A COLLECTION OF MASON & OCEANA MILK BOTTLES!**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP WANTED

In pursuit of our marketing efforts, we have obtained approval from the Village Council to have a table at the top of the Village Green. The table will be used to hand out PHS Flyers, offer PHS memberships, accept donations and display other appropriate historical information.

Want to join in? CONTACT OUR WEBSITE AT:
info@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org

Help us build new interest and new memberships by volunteering for any of the following events:

Founders Day

Saturday May 7 12 noon to 4:00pm

Spring Fest Arts

Saturday June 18 12 noon to 4:00pm

Crafts Fair

Sunday June 19 12 noon to 4:00 pm

Pentwater Homecoming

Saturday August 13 12 noon to 4:00pm

Merchants Sidewalk Sale

Friday August 26 12 noon to 4:00pm

Saturday August 27 12 noon to 4:00pm

Fall Fest Arts & Crafts Fair

Saturday Sept. 24 12 noon to 4:00pm

Sunday Sept. 25th 12 noon to 4:00pm

NEWS FLASH!

The membership has approved changes to the by-laws that provide a more reasonable way to amend them, provides for two more board positions—Director of Marketing and Director of Membership Services, and other minor changes in the verbiage for clarity or accuracy.

Participate in Pentwater's Annual Garage Sale!

**Garage
SALE!**

The Historical Society will have postcards, historical memorabilia and many other items **FOR SALE** at the museum!

*If you have a few household items
that you would like to donate*
WE ARE WILLING TO SELL THEM FOR YOU!

Drop off items at the museum
on Friday, June 10 from 10am to 1pm.

or contact our website at:
info@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org

BOB'S CORNER

(by Bob Childers), of course

News Flash!

On this date, 1898.
The Hart Railroad and
not the Pentwater Railroad?

Recently a discussion had
taken place in the execu-
tives' dining room here

at the Pentwater Historical Society's exclusive
officesuites high above the streets of our town with Mr.

Opdyke and Mr. Steen of Chicago and several of our
citizens, notably members of the Common Council, as to
a proposed railroad. From time to time, your reporter for
the PHS has referred to the possibility of a railroad coming
from the southeast to Hart, Oceana County and the pos-
sibility of finding a terminus at Ludington.

We were assured by these gentlemen that arrangements
had been made with Boston and New York financiers that
the funds necessary to carry out the enterprise were avail-
able. The proposed line would eventually reach Toledo to
the southeast, but for the present time would join the Grand
Rapids & Indiana railroad at Cedar Springs, coming north
and west up through Newago, Fremont and Hart then on
to some good harbor. We are told in the near future the
people would be fully informed as to what will be neces-
sary if we are to secure this road, principally; land. It is also
noted that in earlier conversations we proposed this railroad
should come over to Pentwater as we have a better harbor

than any other port on Lake Michigan. Hart has no harbor
nor is there a decent harbor as far south as Muskegon and
they already have a railroad servicing their community. The
freight delivered north to Ludington would still again need
to be brought back south by ship going to Chicago or Mil-
waukee. This would cost the railroad the additional expense
of track to be laid.

As it is a pleasant day, I had one of our drivers take one
of our executive carriages, our fine team of horses, out so
I might investigate a suitable site for the railroad to come
into town. I do believe the best choice for a terminus would
be on the west side of Pentwater Lake. The railroad would
be in close proximity to the ships coming into our harbor
and to the ferry to shuttle freight and passengers across the
channel. At present there is nothing on the south side of the
channel save for some fishing shacks and fishing docks serv-
ing the commercial fisherman. It would be an inconvenience
for the railroad to come directly into town or on the north
side of the channel. Too many established businesses would
be displaced and interrupted. I do believe this railroad will
bring great economic benefits to our community. I hope that
Mr. Opdyke and Mr. Steen will see our point.

One thing for certain, it is only a matter of time, and not
a very long time at that, when this does happen. We have
the solid financial backing and the natural advantages of the
harbor. This is no idle talk. It is a fact, as will be proven in
a couple of years.

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Boat House Bar & Grill	James Lambrix
Chris & Sheri Pangerl	Lee Price

NEW SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Connie & Glenn Fontaine

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Robert & Barbara Pell
David Peterhans

CONVERSION OF EXISTING TO LIFE MEMBERS

Ann & Jim Carlson

DONATIONS

William & Toni Bigelow	Dan & Dawn Carter
Russ & Sandra Cross	Ted Towl
Jean Russell & Bob Childers	
Bruce & Judy Koorndyk	

MEMORIALS

FROM:	IN MEMORY OF:
Dolly Geer	Damon Crumb
	Marjorie DiPangrazio
	Fred Seaman
Pentwater Womens Club	Ashley Gannett
James and Ann Carlson	Elizabeth Peterhans

MEMORIALS ALSO FROM:

Elsie & Warren Jocz	Robert & Diane Larson
Judith Levich	Gretchen Monti
Mitchell/Hawk Family	Doug & Julie Nelson
Dale & Carol Downs	John Savara
Dan & Beverly Kelly	Jo Ann Green
Jane Wood	Ann Dettwiler

IN MEMORY OF Don Lambrix

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 _____

CLIP AND SAVE THESE UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS FROM THE PHS!

SPRING DINNER

May 25, 5:30 at the VFW Hall

ONLY \$17.50 EACH

After Dinner Program Features: Sharon Blum
with a presentation of her book on Manierre Dawson

**PHS 3rd ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

Saturday, May 28, Noon till 3pm

- At the Museum Grounds
- Refreshments & Displays!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday Morning June 26,
9am till Noon

At the Museum Grounds

SUMMER DINNER

August 24, 5:30 at the VFW Hall

**GARAGE
SALE**

JUNE 11, ALL DAY

Drop off donated items at
the museum on
Friday, June 10
from 10am to 1pm.

**AFTERNOON
TEA**

September 10



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