

**GUNFLINT TRAIL HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Annual Membership Meeting**  
**Gunflint Lodge Conference Center**  
**June 9, 2014**                      **1:30 pm**

**Present:** Suzanne Weber, Susan Scherer, Nathalie & Ken Rusk, Don & Eleanor Lease, Bill Boisenin, Lee Zopff, Joan Perusee, Voni & Dale Swenson, Bruce & Sue Kerfoot, Hedi Doo-Kirk, Sally Valentini, Chris Steele, Mark Johnson, Ethel Johnson, Nancy Dalbec, David Larson, Linda Hendrickson, Phyllis Sherman, Margot Jamieson, Pat & Bill Sueppel, Bob & Cornelia Einsweiler, Robert & Kay Olson, Ada Igoe, Sharon & Bob Baker, Sr., Mary Adkins, Peter & Roma Leuty, Paul & Carol Schaap, Les Edinger, Fred & Fran Smith, Dave Tuttle, Barb Bottger

**President Bob Baker, Sr. called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.** and welcomed everyone.

Chris Steele introduced himself as the coordinator of the 2014 Gunflint Trail Canoe Races and passed out a volunteer sign-up sheet.

Sue Kerfoot offered free trees, red and white pines, for anyone to plant.

**Secretary Barb Bottger electronically filed minutes of the September 9, 2013 meeting.**

**Financial Report – Bud**

Bob reported in Bud's absence. Bud's term came up for renewal this year and we are happy to report that he will be continuing in his role as Treasurer. Please thank him for his amazing work. We are in a solid financial position.

**Membership Report – Ada**

June is membership renewal month and many have come into the museum to do so. A mailing will arrive soon in your mailbox. Our membership year is from June 30-July 1. As of today we have 984 members. Keep in mind, one membership may have 2 members; thus, we have 407 memberships. In 2013 we had 35 new members.

**Museum Report – Fred**

This is the first winter when not a single critter got in to eat the stuffed animals. We have a magnificent temporary exhibit, "Butterflies, Skippers and Moths of the Gunflint Trail", put together under the direction of Betty Hemstead.

We have installed sound domes over the movie theatre to improve sound quality and attempt to contain the sound in that area.

The exterior of all windows were painted last year, we rebuilt a screen door over the winter, and will be doing exterior chimney repair this year.

### **Grounds Report – Les**

The water levels are high and impede on parking spaces. Most trails have some standing water, too. Trails have been cleared.

### **Special Events – Sally**

- **Sunday, June 29, 12 noon – Shrimp Boil at Chik-Wauk.** This is a change in the venue and we are excited to offer this.
- **Saturday, August 16, 4 p.m. – Gunflint Woods, Winds and Strings Benefit Concert with Reception.** Member Susan Scherer is organizing this effort. It was a great success last year. Susan asked for help in organizing the reception and getting the program printed. She already has musicians lined up.
- **Sunday, August 31, 11 a.m. – Pie and Ice Cream Social.** A perennial favorite!

### **Cultural Landscape Report – Fred**

Since 2011 we've been talking about this CLR. Fred presented the book that contains not only the history of the property but our plans for enhancing the property. It is a magnificent, historical document with many photos. Copies will be available at the museum for reading.

Could we get this on the website? Yes, we will do that! Thanks for the suggestion!

### **New Nature Center and Administration Building Status – Bob**

Our priorities are the same but we have decided to separate out the administration office space from the Nature Center so plans have been made to build a separate building. We hope to be under construction with the two buildings by the end of this season.

Sue Kerfoot is overseeing a committee (Suzanne Weber, Kathy Lande) to plan the interior of this building.

Judy Edlund stood up to testify about the first class exhibits we have and excitement for the new Nature Center exhibits.

### **Capital Projects Fundraising – Bruce**

We have some very generous supporters on the trail, along with other public entities, and monies from the GTHS totaling \$246,000 which enables us to start construction.

What is the goal? He suspects it will be between \$400-500,000. Thanks for asking!

Where will these buildings be situated? The Nature Center will be near the existing lower parking lot. The Admin Building will be across from the museum door next to 2 handicap parking spots and a vaulted toilet. Good to know!

Fred added that, through the CLR process, we learned that the focus of activity was all the buildings as you came on to the property. In our rehabilitation mode, that is the attempt in the placement of these buildings.

### **Boat Shelter Building Project – Dave Tuttle**

Dave would like to rename it “Watercraft Pavillion”. This timber frame building will be built in 2016 as a 22x36 building to display watercraft. We’ve looked into contracting out this project. Recently we met with the North House Folk School in Grand Marias to consider a joint project with a group from the high school and a group from the Gunflint Trail to work 1-2 weeks to cut and form the timbers for this project.

### **In Memory of Lost Residents – Barb Bottger**

The following people were remembered: Bob Swanson, Paul Brandt, Roy Watson, Dennis Todd, Eleanor Matsis, Richard Durey, Ardis David, Warren Olson, Matt Hueltnner, Chris Nicoliason, Charles Vickers, Dale Matchette, Paul Johnson, Bunny Proper, Les Weber, Frank Smith, Art Anderson, Milt Powell, Jean Horner Daily, Joyce Ogren. A red pine tree will be planted on the museum grounds, one for each person.

### **Election of New Trustees and Officers**

Trustees – Two trustees have completed their terms. The first trustee is Roma Leuty. Thank you Roma for your service and continue support of this organization. The second trustee is Fred Smith. Fred has been a trustee for 9 years. He has been involved since Day One. He was in charge of restoring the building, served as Vice-President, President, Museum Chair. Thank you Fred! (Applause ensued!)

Nominated Trustees – Suzanne Weber is nominated as a returning Trustee and brings an extensive marketing background in Cook County. Bruce Kerfoot is nominated as a returning Trustee. No nominations from the floor.

**Motion by Bob to accept this slate of nominees. A. Paul Schaap seconded. Motion passed.**

Officers - Bud Darling has been Treasurer for 4 years. Last year we amended our bylaws to extend this term of office and Bud has agreed to renew his term.

Nominated Officers – Barb Bottger is nominated as Vice President.

**Motion by Bob to accept this nomination. Seconded. Motion passed.**

Vice President automatically ascends to President. Bob turned the gavel over to new President Dave Tuttle.

Dave Tuttle presented a canvas picture and a plaque to Bob Baker, Sr. He spoke of Bob's character in keeping Dave informed with all the tasks of President.

**Guest Speaker – Bill Boissenen**

In the 1930's, Bill's parents started Trout Lake Lodge on the south shore of Trout Lake. He talked about the evolution of the resort business including the concept of housekeeping cabins. In 1943 they bought land to build Forest Lodge on Clearwater Lake. He told the story of taking this on during the war. His parents operated the resort until 1965. His father died in 1968. His mother died in 1997. Bill built his cabin on the land his parents hoped to have built a cabin. Bill, in the interest of time and sore bottoms, chose to cut short his storytelling. Come back again Bill!

**Summer Meeting Schedule**

July 14 – Trustee and Membership, A. Paul and Carol Schaap Community Ctr

August 11 – Trustee and Membership, Seagull Community Ctr

Sept. 8 – Trustee and Membership, A. Paul and Carol Schaap Community Ctr

**Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Passed. 3:30 p.m.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Barb Bottger, Secretary.**

## **Gunflint Trail Historical Society – Membership Meeting July 14, 2014**

**GTHS board members present:** Tuttle, Darling, Edinger, Baker, Weber, Douglas, Kerfoot, Sherman.

**Staff present:** Igoe

**Also present:** Jim & Judy Edlund, Tersenia Schuett, Mona Hanson, Nathalie & Ken Rusk, Susan Scherer, Peter & Roma Leuty, Don & Eleanor Lease, Richard & JoAnn Fink, Myron Bursheim, Fran & Fred Smith, Larry & Sue Schei, Dave & Kathy Larson, Barb Tuttle, Bill Boissenin, Lee Zopff, Laura & Grant Parcels, John & Julie Henricksson, Ginger Alexander, Doris Durey, Harvey & Joan Perusse, Oz Twedt, Voni & Dale Swenson.

**Meeting called to order:** 1:30 p.m. by President Dave Tuttle.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve June 9, 2014 meeting minutes (Fred Smith/Ken Rusk). All ayes.

**Financial Report:** Darling reported financial status of the GTHS is doing well. The endowment has approximately \$56,000.00. Bruce Kerfoot clarified there is also an endowment from the Griffis, which is not included in the \$56,000. Memorials donated to the GTHS are now deposited into the endowment fund. Darling suggests the funds should accumulate to \$500,000 before disbursement is considered, and only the interest earned should be spent.

**Membership & Renewal Report:** Igoe states there are 530 active members, and 309 have already renewed, leaving 221 remaining to renew. Those who have not renewed are encouraged to do so.

**Attendance Report:** Igoe reports attendance is up slightly from a year ago, and it may be related to the weather (cool and rainy). This summer on Mondays kids under 18 years of age may attend free and participate in the interpretive programs. Tuesdays at 3 p.m. the USFS provides a naturalist program, and topics vary. *July 20 Dave Battistel* presents a program about the *Paulson Mine and PAD&W* railroad (early arrival is suggested). *July 27 Teresa Marrone* will be speaking about *Wild Edibles*, and leading a hike to find wild edibles. (Program dates and times are posted on ChikWauk.com.)

**USFS Visit June 26, 2014:** Bob Baker reported about the visit from the USFS Superior National Forest Supervisor, Brenda Halter and other Forest Service staff, including Nancy Larson.

**Grounds Report:** Les Edinger reported the lake level is still high and several parking spots remain under water; the driveway is being graded; hazard tree was taken down by USFS staff; brush has been cut and removed; painting the picnic tables is planned.

**Special Events Upcoming:** Dave Tuttle reported for Valentini – the shrimp boil took in \$1200, serving 100 people. Thank you to the volunteers! Scherer reported the *Gunflint Woods, Winds, & Strings* concert tickets are now on sale, \$20 for adults and \$5 for children. Dates is August 16, 2014, 4 p.m. at the large

garage, Fire Hall I. Reception follows the concert. 150 tickets will be sold. Money raised goes to Chik-Wauk. A sign-up sheet for pie bakers and volunteers for the August 31 *Pie & Ice Cream Social* is being passed around. (Location is Chik-Wauk.)

**Nature Center:** Bob Baker reported the plan is to open the Nature Center in 2015. Plans have been drawn up and sent to Lee Johnson of the USFS and SHPO. Discussions related to water and septic were reviewed. The GTHS hopes to see a letter from Tim Nelson (Cook County) this week, enabling the planning process to proceed.

**Boat Shelter Pavilion:** Dave Tuttle is working with North House Folks School. The GTHS board will vote in October 2014 whether or not to proceed with a class at North House in August 2016. The members of the class will construct a timber frame boat shelter in a 40-hour/one-week class in Grand Marais. All instructions and materials will be provided by North House and included in the cost.

**Capital Fundraising:** Bruce Kerfoot reported approximately \$240,000 has been raised to date. This is prior to the general fundraising campaign scheduled. The tentative plan for new buildings is: 1) Nature Center, 2) administration building with artifact storage, 3) boat pavilion, 4) reconstructed cabin, 5) storage building. Bruce is also pursuing possible funding from the legislature. Total targeted amount of fundraising for this go-round is \$400,000 – 500,000. Bud Darling added that the GTHS may now accept donation of stocks.

**Trustee Election:** Nominations requested from the floor. Nominating committee presents name of Sue McCloughan to renew for two years as a GTHS trustee. Motion to close nominations (Bruce Kerfoot/Phyllis Sherman). All ayes. Motion to elect Sue McCloughan to the board of trustees (Fran Smith/Les Edinger). All ayes.

**Guest Speaker:** Dicky Powell – Stories from Saganaga Lake: Bill Douglas introduced Dicky and Sherry Powell as the guest speakers. Stories were shared and enjoyed.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**

**Motion:**

Motion to elect Sue McCloughan to the board of trustees (Fran Smith/Les Edinger). All ayes.