



GUNFLINT TIMES

THE GUNFLINT TRAIL
Historical Society

VOLUME XVIII

GUNFLINT TRAIL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2020

2020 OPENING POSTPONED UNTIL JULY 10

As this newsletter goes to print, the Gunflint Trail Historical Society (GTHS) hopes you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy.

Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center celebrates its 10th Year in 2020. Unfortunately, this year will look much different than anticipated.

The Gunflint Trail community has always been a strong, supportive group. This group came together and persisted through the process of developing Chik-Wauk Museum in 2005 and pulled together during the tragedy of the Ham Lake Fire of 2007. In 2020 the GTHS asks for your support as it faces unprecedented health challenges.

Due to the unpredictable nature of this viral event, the GTHS is unable to ensure that Chik-Wauk's opening or events will occur. Please stay in touch and be assured that everything possible is being done to engage GTHS members and the community.

Creative ways to open the Museum and Nature Center, while still keeping employees, volunteers, and guests as safe as possible are being explored.

Group events may be canceled or rescheduled. When Chik-Wauk does open, the number of visitors in the building will be limited. Social distancing and the wearing of facial coverings are anticipated. Touching and handling of soft, difficult-to-sanitize Museum items and socializing within the building will be discouraged. Staff and volunteers will be disinfecting the restroom facilities and buildings on a regular basis. Other temporary changes may be put in place as needed. The goal is to keep everyone safe and healthy, and then get back to normal operational procedures as soon as this health crisis has passed.

Updates will be posted on the Chik-Wauk website, social media channels, and through emails. If any of you would like

to be on the list of updates for Chik-Wauk contact Bonnie at chikwauk@boreal.org and she will make sure you are part of this list.

Thank you for your continued support to the Gunflint Trail Historical Society and Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center. When you are able to visit, the GTHS will do everything possible to make your visit to the Campus enjoyable and secure.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2020 Chik-Wauk Staffing

For the 2020 season at Chik-Wauk, we are once again very fortunate to have a professional dedicated staff.

Bonnie Schudy will continue as the Campus Director.

Kathy Lande will continue as the Assistant Campus Director/Assistant Nature Center Director.

Eddie Moran will be back again as the Nature Center Program Director.

New this year as the Watercraft Exhibit Building Manager will be, **Rochelle Staley**.

In addition to our regular staff the Gunflint Trail Historical Society will have a student intern from the UMD College of Environmental Education assisting with the programs on the Chik-Wauk Campus.

The Gunflint Trail Historical Society looks forward to the return of our great core of support volunteers, and hope even more from the Gunflint Community will join the Chik-Wauk volunteer team.

Arden Byers, Trustee

2019 Financial Report

The Gunflint Trail Historical Society ended 2019 in good financial standing. The checking account balance was \$65,002.86 and money market balance \$91,490.27. The money market fund is used as the "reserve, building, and exhibit account". Grant money and donations specifically for capital projects are deposited into the money market account. The checking account is used for general operations and check writing. Reserve funds have been established in both the checking and money market account.

The GTHS extends its deepest gratitude to those donating to the capital projects, Gift Club, programming and presentations, and the day to day operations of Chik-Wauk. Each and every gift contributes to its success.

Suzanne Weber, President



One day in August a group of scouts were intensely watching something on the picnic table in front of Chik-Wauk Nature Center. As it turned out, each was awaiting a turn to carefully lift a monarch butterfly from a special protective enclosure, where chrysalis transformed to butterfly. Once out of the enclosure Kathy or Eddie delicately affixed a tracking tag. Upon release, the monarchs often landed on heads or shoulders of the scouts, gaining the final energy required to lift off to the tree tops. A chorus of wonder and joy followed each release. Another confirmation of the incredible place called Chik-Wauk.

A quick review of the 2019 season

- Visitor numbers continued to increase in 2019, with a final tally of 8577.
- Presentations and programs were successful; the finale for the season was "Adventures Under the Night Sky" with Travis Novitsky and Joel Halvorson.
- The beautiful timber frame building that is called the Watercraft Exhibit Building opened Memorial Day



Weekend, with a grand opening on July 4. Visitors were astounded by the quality of the Watercraft Exhibits.

- Joel Halvorson and Josh Wasniewski brought a portable half dome planetarium to the Nature Center for special Dark Sky programming on Thursdays.
 - A new Gunflint Trail author exhibit installed in the Museum, showcases John Hendricksson and Calvin Rutstrum.
 - The construction phase of the "Interpretive Cabin" was completed.
- And this was just a sample of 2019 at Chik-Wauk. Chik-Wauk volunteers and staff are the reason these exhibits and programs are possible.

Suzanne Weber, President

ANOTHER DREAM COMES TRUE... A LOG CABIN ON CHIK-WAUK CAMPUS

The Gunflint Trail Historical Society will have to postpone to a later date the opening of the log cabin exhibit. Visit www.chik-wauk.com for current information.

The cabin will closely resemble what visitors would experience if they were vacationing on the Gunflint Trail in the 1950s in an American Plan cabin. These cabins were simply furnished and no kitchen was required because all guests received their meals in the main lodge dining room.

Most resort owners in the 1950s built their own furniture and the preferred material was from the diamond willow tree. Diamond willow will be featured in the vintage and newly created furnishings in the cabin.



Above is pictured a vintage diamond willow table and rocking chair donated by Sharlene Heston Le Tourneau. To the right is a photo of LeRoy Ulrich carving on a piece of diamond willow that will become part of a table lamp he is creating. Visitors will be able to read about all the furnishings in a book of information found in the cabin.

The cabin is the fourth major building project that the GTHS has taken on since 2005. The main stone rehabilitated museum

building was dedicated in 2010. The Nature Center building was constructed and opened in 2016. Last year the Watercraft building was added and now the Gunflint Trail Historical Society is proud to offer the log cabin to complete the story of the cultural and natural history of visiting the Gunflint Trail through time.

When you walk through the door of the new cabin, it will closely resemble what guests would have experienced at the Chik-Wauk

Resort in the 1950s. Electricity had just recently been installed, but there was no running water. This meant making a trip to an outhouse or using a chamber pot. The GTHS will have an authentic chamber pot from a 1950s cabin from Gateway Lodge on Hungry Jack Lake. This item was contributed by Suzanne Weber and can be found tucked under the bed.

Former GTHS president Bob Baker took on the task of chairing the building of the cabin. Jordy Kirk was the contractor for the construction.

The committee planning, searching, building, and finding the furnishings include from the GTHS Board of Trustees - Barb Bottger, Bill Douglas and Jane Lawrence along with three members from the Gunflint community - Betty Hemstad, Bruce Kerfoot and Fran Smith.

Betty Hemstad

THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF THE GUNFLINT TRAIL INCLUDES THE SKY

Chik-Wauk sits under the only level one dark sky in the Eastern US. To help protect this natural resource, efforts are underway to establish an International Dark Sky Sanctuary designation over the border region. While this darkness occurs naturally, it won't stay this way unless we are intentional. Sustainable lighting practices support human health, nocturnal habitat, and quality of life.

Visit darksky.org for more information.

The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness.

- John of the Mountains: The Unpublished Journals of John Muir, (1938)



NEVER IDLE ON THE CHIK-WAUK CAMPUS

The doors of Chik-Wauk may only be open seasonally, but the campus is open all year long for hiking, photography, bird watching, wildlife sightings and just exploring.

Just as the campus is not idle, neither are the Trustees, staff, and volunteers. During the “off” season the Board of Trustees, staff and volunteers are busy preparing campus for the coming season.

One update of note is the creation of a new hiking trail/campus map. The “old” map was missing many of the campus features, including Blueberry Hill Trail. Kathy Lande and Katherine Hellner updated the map to include the Watercraft Exhibit Building, Interpretive Cabin (opening this summer) and the handicap bathroom facility near the Museum. This map includes information with descriptions of all the hiking trails and a narrative guide acquainting visitors with each building on campus.

Note: one admission per person includes all of the buildings on the Chik-Wauk campus.

A few repairs were taken care of during the off season. Two of the taxidermy mounts in the museum were damaged last winter. Through the 2019 Gift Club Campaign, GTHS members donated for the repairs needed for the beaver and river otter. Also funded by a 2019 Gift Club donation, a taxidermy Broadwinged Hawk will be on display at the Nature Center in 2020.

Eddie Moran will be back for another year as the Nature Center Program Director. Eddie brought different ideas to the Nature Center last year and plans to add even more for this coming year. The insert in the newsletter lists presentations taking place on the Chik-Wauk campus during the 2020 season. Or, you can check out the calendar of events at <http://www.chikwauk.com/event.php>

A popular activity returning for 2020 is observation of Monarch butterflies life cycle. Last season the Monarch butterfly caterpillars, hatched on and fed by the

milkweed plants in Chik-Wauk’s gardens, became chrysalis, then emerged as butterflies. To protect the Monarch, the caterpillars were gathered just entering the chrysalis stage, and placed in special cases. Chik-Wauk joined Monarch Watch (<https://monarchwatch.org/tagging/>) to learn how to tag butterflies. Thirty-one Monarchs were successfully released. These activities involved kids and adults, generating a great deal of interest and enthusiasm.

A familiar face returns to the Watercraft Exhibit Building this year. Rochelle Staley, a resident of the area will be back as the full-time manager. Rochelle said she had such a wonderful time meeting and talking to local residents, and listening to visitors telling their history of the area, she wanted to come back. *Make sure you check out the new items added to the Watercraft building gift shop, too.*

I look forward to opening up the doors of the historic Chik-Wauk Lodge for another season. I hope to see you this summer!

Bonnie Schudy, Campus Director

REMEMBRANCES *Remember when...remember the time we...remember our good friend...*

The stories of times long ago and the stories of times more recent are treasured pieces of history and become part of the rich cultural heritage of the Gunflint Trail. This year on July 13, is the Gunflint Trail Historical Society “remembrance” meeting. Join fellow GTHS members as well as friends and family to remember the neighbors and residents of the Gunflint Trail who have passed away this past year.

We apologize if we have missed that special friend, neighbor, or relative. If you are aware of others to include, please contact Barbara Bottger at 218-388-0868 or jbbottger@boreal.org

THE GUNFLINT TRAIL
Historical Society



Tom Schank

In May, one tree will be planted on Chik-Wauk grounds for each of the following people:

- Mary Posner (Loon Lake)
- Ron Hemstad (Gunflint Lake)
- Paul Kelnberger (West Bearskin Lake)
- Marge Cushman (Seagull Lake)
- Darwin Hindman (Hungry Jack Lake)
- Barbara Graham (Gunflint Lake)
- Albert Earl Niewald
- Doug Tuttle (Leo Lake)
- Nancy Caple Borson (Seagull Lake)
- Bob Einsweiler (Seagull Lake)
- Alice Weck (Poplar Lake)
- Tom Schank (Tucker Lake)
- Jean Oleheiser (Gunflint Lake)
- Frank Moran
- Ron Sutphin (Poplar Lake)
- Marjory Grinnell (Loon Lake)
- Marion Powell Johnson (Saganaga Lake, Canadian side)

REMEMBERING YOUR LOVED ONES

Are you reminiscing about your past friends or family? In the Museum there is a Memorial Book located in the Museum’s reading corner. There you will find a page for each person who has been remembered by a special donation in their name. It is meaningful way to have your loved ones remembered.

Barb Bottger, Past President

Gunflint Trail Historical Society Board of Trustee Candidates for 2020

In June 2020, four current Gunflint Trail Historical Society Trustees complete their terms, creating four openings. After several word of mouth searches to no avail in 2019, an email was sent to GTHS members asking if there was interest. Indeed, GTHS trustees received more responses than the four vacancies. The Board of Trustees determined a ballot would give all members the opportunity to vote.

Watch for GTHS trustee ballots in the mail in May, with complete instructions. If you have any questions or do not receive your ballot please contact the Gunflint Trail Historical Society office at 218-388-9915, chikwauk@boreal.org

The following are short biographies for each Board of Trustee Candidate.

David M. Coleman, Clearwater Lake

I have owned a cabin on Clearwater for 40 years (now our full-time retirement home). I have a deep reverence for the Gunflint Trail and its history.

In recent years I was active in historic preservation activities in Detroit, MI, including the restoration of 4 historic homes: 25-years as Architectural and Construction Chair of 175- year old Christ Church, Detroit; as Commodore initiated a strategic plan that led to formation of the Detroit Yacht Club Foundation (raising over \$3M for building preservation); grant writing; etc. Locally I serve on the Maple Hill Church Board (Secretary); Gunflint Trail National Scenic Byway Advisory Committee, the Cook County Higher Education Board; and President of the Clearwater Lake Owners Association. I would hope to translate some of those experiences and skills to help further the goals of the Society, and especially to assist the continued growth and maturation of the Chik-Wauk Museum & Nature Center.

Bruce Kerfoot, Tucker Lake

Bruce is retired from Gunflint Lodge and Gunflint Outfitters. He started and ran many businesses, and has been and continues to be involved in many volunteer organizations.

Bruce has been active with the Gunflint Trail Historical Society since its beginning. His contributions include accomplishing major fundraising to build Chik-Wauk Museum, as well as the Nature Center, Watercraft Exhibit Building, and Cabin. He is an active member of the "Sawdust Seniors" and states the reason for wishing to serve on the Board of Trustees is, "Had my heart and soul in it from the beginning."

Lee Hecimovich, Poplar Lake

Growing up in the "cities," we spent many summers camping along the Gunflint trail and have owned a family cabin on Poplar Lake for 35+ years. I have enjoyed the many outdoor activities and strongly supported local events, including Chik-Wauk. We also donated display items and funds towards its development as my parents spent time there as young adults. I recently retired as an Extension Educator/Agent, primarily in youth development with over 40 years of experience with boards and non-profit organizations. I have a BS in natural resource mgmt. and MS in education, with many years of outdoor/environmental education experience with all ages and would be interested in assisting in this and related areas." I also enjoy writing, art and music and have extensive event planning which should also be helpful in this position. I look forward to returning to the Gunflint this summer and becoming more involved!

LaRaye Osborne, Poplar Lake

Our family vacationed on the Gunflint for ten years before buying our Poplar Lake home in 2006. The work of the Gunflint Trail Historical Society has deepened our appreciation for the Trail and the neighbors who make this community so unique. Although a lawyer by training, I spent the latter half of my career in business leadership roles, focusing principally on environmental and sustainability matters. Past volunteer experience includes serving on the Boards of a residential environmental learning center as it was engaged in a large capital project, and of a business that included resort, restaurant, and home owner association activities. I would welcome the opportunity to apply my skills and experience to furthering the mission of the Gunflint Trail Historical Society.

Shawn Williams, County Road 60

My husband and I moved to Grand Marais in May 2018 after we fell in love with the people, wildlife, and the stories and rich history of the Gunflint Trail. As we approach almost two years here it is time to get involved in the community and give back. The moving dust is finally settling and as employment stabilizes, and with the business on firm footing, I am interested in spending my energy on good causes and endeavors. Being a bit of a history nerd, a lover of the great outdoors, and recognizing your institution's wonderful works, I want to lend a helping hand to expand the mission and donor base. With over 20 years in the information technology field I believe I would be a great asset to your organization to get the word out.



Watercraft Exhibit Building

Throughout the summer of 2019, exclamations of "Wow," and "This is the best thing we have seen on our vacation," were heard. Visitors came from all over the country and all over the world. One young honeymoon couple were on their first trip to the Trail. They met online and both were professional linguists. The wife works in Africa, the husband in Russian Siberia. The husband was working in a primitive village whose residents are related to local native Ojibwe and whose source of income is fur trapping. The connection to the Watercraft Exhibit was immediately recognized. Small world!

The Gunflint Trail Historical Society celebrated the opening of the Watercraft Exhibit Building in May 2019. If you have yet to visit, a wonderful experience awaits. With thanks to Split Rock Studios and the exhibit committee, it is a

first-class exhibit of boats, canoes and motors of historic relevance to the Gunflint Trail. Each one has a unique story.

The exhibit is designed to portray the use and evolution of watercraft on the Gunflint Trail chronologically, beginning with the Voyageurs in the mid-1700's. View authentic outboard motors dating back to the early 1900's and watercraft to the 1930's. Included is an authentic Ojibwe Birch Bark Canoe as well as one of the first metal boats on the Gunflint Trail.

The timber frame structure which houses the exhibit is an important part of the experience. A short video plays in the west wall which follows the cutting of the timbers at North House through the completion of the entryway.

The exhibit expects to have a significant new addition this summer. Be sure to stop by.

The inspiration for the Watercraft Exhibit Building began during the presidency of Bob Baker, planning and construction continued through the presidencies of Dave Tuttle and Barb Bottger, finally completing in Suzanne Weber's term. Along the journey many individuals contributed to its completion including twenty volunteer timber framers, Mike Lande, a tireless group of Sawdust Seniors, the exhibit committee, volunteers and several local contractors. Thank you to all! The Gunflint Trail Historical Society has another top notch exhibit available for the public to enjoy.

Bill Douglas, Vice-President

2020 GTHS AND CHIK-WAUK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events subject to change. Please call Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center at 218-388-9915 to confirm.

Admission to Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center: \$5 adults, \$2 children ages 5-18. Children age 4 and under and GTHS members: free. Discount rate available to senior citizens. Guests visiting the Museum with GTHS members receive a discounted admission.

Due to COVID-19 concerns the Chik-Wauk buildings will not open on the scheduled date of Memorial Weekend. Postponed to open at a later date. Check the website www.chikwauk.com for current information.

Hiking trails will be open but we ask visitors to stay safe & follow social distancing guidelines outdoors. It's important for the safety of everyone during this time.

GUNFLINT TRAIL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

All meetings begin at 1:30 pm. After a brief overview of GTHS business, a guest speaker presents Gunflint Trail tales and history. Treats and conversation follow.

Monday, June 8 - Annual Meeting has been canceled.
Seagull Lake Community Center: Speaker Larry Wooding – Gunflint Trail Postal Service

Monday, July 13 - A. Paul and Carol Schaap Community Center: Gunflint Trail Resident Remembrances

Monday, August 10 - Seagull Lake Community Center: Speaker Bruce Kerfoot - BWCAW legislation of the 1960's and 1970's

Monday, September 14 - A. Paul and Carol Schaap Community Center: Speaker Sandy Skrien – Slide presentation of her father Rolf Skrien and his time living on the Gunflint Trail. Talk about her experience working out of the Seagull Guard Station

CHIK-WAUK NATURE CENTER PRESENTATIONS:

Kids' Day - Postponed to later date.

Visit www.chikwauk.com for current information.

Children under the age of 18 can visit the Museum and Nature Center free of charge. Chik-Wauk staff will offer a variety of hands-on activities all related to the unique history and nature of the Gunflint Trail, as well as stories, hikes, journal making, and craft projects. A parent or guardian must accompany children at all times at the Nature Center.

USFS - Postponed to later date.

Check out www.chikwauk.com for online presentations.

Each Tuesday, U.S. Forest Service naturalists present on a different Northwoods themed topic.

Special Naturalists Presentations: Located in the Chik-Wauk Nature Center begin at 2:00 pm.

July 12 – Larry Weber: *Wondrous Webs*

July 19 – Janice Matichuk: *Life on the island at the Cache Bay Ranger Station*

July 26 – David Battistel: *The Country Beyond: Life on North and Gunflint Lakes 1892-1923*

August 9 – Tom Uecker: *Life Cycle, Migration, and Habitat needs of Monarch Butterfly*

August 16 – Bryan Hansel: *The Dark Skies of the Boundary Waters Region*

August 23 – Staci Drouillard: *Walking the Old Road*

August 30 – Teresa Marrone: *Secret Lives of Mushrooms*

September 12 – Travis Novitsky: *Wildlife Photography*

September 26 – Chris Tolman: *Raptors*

October 3 – Erin Altemus: *Mushing*

GTHS Endowment Growing

2019 was a good year for the Society's Endowment Fund. Growth perked up during the year with both designated member contributions and remembrance memorials.

The ending balance in the Vanguard Fund on December 31, 2018 was \$165,929.88, whereas the account balance on December 31, 2019 was \$197,082.94. Including market growth, dividends and added contributions, the dollar growth amounted to \$31,153.06.

While the Board of Trustees is elated and grateful for the 2019 uptick, there remains work to be done. Reaching the now long standing goal of \$500,000 is but a faint flicker in the distance, but the journey of accomplishment is on-going.

Trustees, early in the formation of the GTHS, established the endowing plan with the intent to grow the fund to the 500K mark before tapping yearly earnings to assist in sustaining and supplementing general Chik-Wauk operations.

With the endowment plan not yet half way to its destination, the GTHS is encouraging members and friends to consider continued financial support through contributions to the GTHS Endowment Fund. Helping to build on the fund can be accomplished in several ways including;

- A monthly sustaining contribution
- An annual contribution
- Through a will
- Through a revocable living trust

If you would like more information about planned giving with more details about possible options, please contact the Society @ 218-388-9915 to initiate discussion about crafting a plan. With your own financial planner, the GTHS and you can work through specifics of planned giving that will create a lasting Legacy and:

1. Make you feel secure about the future of your loved ones;
2. Help you maintain control of your assets;
3. Be beneficial in receiving tax benefits;
4. Enable you to give more than you ever thought possible.

In closing, if you have already included the GTHS in your long range financial planning, while not required, it would be helpful to inform the Society of your plans to include the organization as a beneficiary. Thanks for being with the GTHS in the past, and thanks in advance for taking us into the future!

Your contribution assures Chik-Wauk's future.

Fred Smith, Secretary

THANKS TO BOB “THE BUILDER”

Soon after the GTHS opened the book on Gunflint history in 2010, it became evident that to tell more stories about the cultural and natural components of this special place in the universe, other elements needed to be addressed. Leadership since that time has been working hard to enable development of a campus setting whereby expanded exhibits could be housed appropriately to present more chapters for visitors to investigate and enjoy.

This being said, Officers and Trustees began to strategize and plan what this might look like in partnership with the USFS. Within weeks after the Museum grand opening, Fred Smith, the third GTHS president, initiated the charge which led to intensive study and development of a Cultural Landscape report.

This report has since been a guide to campus planning, leading to the eventual construction of four new facilities; the



Nature Center, Administrative Building/ Restroom facility, Watercraft Exhibit and opening this season, an Interpretive Cabin.

Whereas many from the Gunflint community have contributed greatly to these projects, one person stands out as having been an enduring leader in three of the building projects. With the completion

of the cabin, Bob Baker Sr. has been toiling diligently, many times behind the scenes, since President Smith asked him for managerial leadership sometime around 2012.

Bob is likely still scratching his head in wonderment about consenting to take all this on, particularly as project after project evolved over the past eight years. Whether or not this has been a labor of love for Bob has not been revealed, but one would surmise that he has to feel a great deal of satisfaction looking back at his accomplishments.

It is with deepest gratitude the GTHS wishes to recognize, congratulate and thank BOB BAKER SR. for his “never say die” commitment. Next time you see Bob give him a big pat on the back and thanks for all he has done!

Bob has left an indelible chapter in contemporary Gunflint Trail history.

Fred Smith, Secretary

GIFT CLUB SUCCESS

During the 2019 Holiday season the Gunflint Trail Historical Society leadership created a giving opportunity whereby members and friends could offer supplemental support to the Chik-Wauk Campus. This support came in the way of financial backing for items that staff recommended, in short, a wish-list. Such items are special enhancements that fall outside the general operations budget, but would be of assistance in several areas of daily operations and visitor programming.

The response from the GTHS members was splendid as their gracious support provided financing to cover nine of the ten wishes, and even extended partial funding for the tenth. In total, \$13,300 was generated to date just shy of the \$14,900 needed to cover all the wish list items. Contributions are still being accepted for the 2019 Gift Club.

The Gunflint Trail Historical Society Executive Board Leadership and staff are very grateful and pleased to recognize the following members for this loving assistance. If you wish to join the Gift Club there are still a few items to fund, or look for the next posting of subsequent needs.

Checks can be sent to Chik-Wauk, 28 Moose Pond Dr., Grand Marais, MN, 55604. Please note Gift Club on the check memo line, and again, thanks so much! For more information contact Fred Smith @ 388-0613.

Gift Club Members to date:

- Rollie & Mary Adkins
- Dick Allyn & Margo Brownell
- Joe & Michael Bailey
- David & Nancy Bargaen
- Bearskin Lodge
- William Boissenin
- Shirley Brown
- Arden & Carol Byers
- Robert & Stephanie Donaho
- Michael & Patty Feeney
- Tony & Carol Feiock
- Tom & Pam Hartzell
- David & Catherine Hawkinson
- Jim & Margit Jamieson
- Scott & Stacy Mitchell
- Helen Muth & David Quick
- Mike Myzsewski & Martha James
- Todd Petzel & Kate Dressel
- Seagull Outfitters
- Fred & Fran Smith
- William Sueppel
- Michael & Sally Valentini
- Suzanne Weber

Special Fundraising Events

Mark your calendars today!

The Gunflint Trail Historical Society hosts three fundraisers each summer for members, neighbors, friends, and visitors to enjoy. All the funds raised are used to support the ongoing daily operations, maintenance expenses, and program expenses at Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center.

June 7, - Annual Shrimp Boil has been canceled for 2020.

July 4, - Tenth Anniversary Celebration has been canceled for 2020.

Sept. 6, Sunday - Old Fashioned Pie and Ice Cream Social:

- Held at Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
- Guest author Tim McDonnell will be on hand to sign his latest book; “Where Water Collides with Stone”
- A delightful afternoon of delicious homemade pies, ice cream, live music on the porch, gift shop sale.
- Fun for the whole family!
- \$5/ piece of pie ala mode.

Judy Edlund, Special Events Chair

THANK YOU MEMBERS!

The loyal, ongoing support of Gunflint Trail Historical Society members keeps the Society and Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center strong, vibrant parts of the Gunflint Trail community. Thank you to all members who renewed, joined or are patron members in the 2019 - 2020 membership year.

Membership information current as of February 23, 2020.

Questions? Contact info@gunflintrailhistoricalsociety.org or call the museum at 218-388-9915.

Anonymous	Robert Burgess	Al, Austin and Amy Flieder	Gloria and George Johnson
Anonymous	Myron Bursheim	Paula Foster	Diane and Michael Johnson
Bearskin Lodge	Sue Butcher - Langston	Eric Fournier and Kathy Schaaf	Jayne and Rick Johnson
Big Bear Lodge	Arden and Carol Byers	Jack and Kathy Frakes	Marjorie Johnson
Clearwater Lodge	Tom and Terry Caldwell	Dottie Frank	Janis Jolly
Cook County Visitors Bureau/ Gunflint Trail	Jerry and Sharon Caple	Sara Friendly	Marguerite Jolly
Cross River Lodge	Ron Caple and Abett Icks	Jim and Teresa Furlong	Jim and Fran Joy
Gallagher Island Strata Contractors	Ann and Bob Carlson	Bart and Lynn Galla	Christine Justice
Gunflint Lake Property Owners	Blake and Carol Carlson	Judy Galt and John Lampland	Ann and Bob Karrick
Gunflint Trail Excavating, LLC	Michael Carlson	John and Suzanne Gappa	John and Susan Karpicke
Heston's Lodge	Nate Carlson	Rick Garnitz	DeAnn Kautzmann
Hungry Jack Lodge	Dennis Chick	Barb and Greg Gecas	Dick and Becky Kayser
Hungry Jack Outfitters	Liz and Dana Christiansen	Vickie and Dale Gehring	Mike Keesey
Pincushion Trails Inn	Biz Clark	Katie George	Kate Kelnberger
Seagull Canoe Outfitters	Keith Clark	Carole and Don Germain	Robert and Sarah Kempainen
Susan Brandon-Cadwell/Sue's Hair	Camille and Tim Clifford	Ann and Guy Gibbon	Bruce and Sue Kerfoot
Voyageur Canoe Outfitters	Joan Clyborne	Jodi Gierok	Art and Beth Kidd
Trail's End Cafe	David and Patricia Coleman	Lou Ellen Giberston	Kristine and William Kieper
Way of the Wilderness Outfitters	Jeff and Ayannia Coleman	Dick and Kris Gillespie	Bill Kirkpatrick and Anna Nekola
Stu and Jeanne Abraham	Timothy and Ann Colstrup	Graham and Katie Gillette	Chuck Kleymeyer and Ann Debrey
Kip and Leanne Adams	Mary and Gary Connell	Karen and Tim Grangaard	Carol Kosciak
Mary and Rollie Adkins	Joan Countryman and Gina Hughes	David and Rosemary Good	Larry and Joann Krause
Suzy Ahrens and Steve Hine	Dick Cronstrom	Bob and Michele Graves	Alice Krull
David and Katie Alexander	Joan and Richard Crosby	Janet and John Green	Carlene Krumpack
Don and Ginger Alexander	John Cutcliffe	Dianne Greenley	Rita LaDoux and Paul Swedenborg
Richard Allyn and Margo Brownell	Cheryl Hedstrom Dailey	Dennis and Louise Griffin	Beverly and Richard Lachenmayer
Holly Ambrose and Chip Landmesser	Craig and Candace Danielson	Cary Griffith and Anna McCourt	Kathy and Mike Lande
Forrest and Carol Amundsen	Nancy Dalbec	Deb and Paul Griffiths	Naomi Landman and Neil Tobin
Jane Anderson	Bud and Ruth Darling	Joe and Margie Grinnell	Kathleen Larson
Jean and Oz Anderson	Mark Darling	Heather and Luke Groben	Jane Laurence and John Wright
Judy and Paul Anderson	Donald Dautel and Martha Dautel/Michel	Paul and Jean Groben	Sue Lawson
Wayne and Philis Anderson	Kim Dayton and Laurie Hanson	Mike Gulden and Jackie Nelson	Joyce and Tom Leddy
Melissa Anderson	Andy and Ida DeLisi	Steve and Bonnie Hagen	Thomas and Diane Lentz
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IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

It does "take a community" and volunteers of the Gunflint community have been an invaluable asset to the Gunflint Trail Historical Society. They have played critical roles in the story about Chik-Wauk since it's transition from a run-down resort lodge in 2005.

Behind the scenes of any viable non-profit organization stands a crew of noble volunteers. Taken as a group, volunteers from the Gunflint territory have given support and vitality to whatever the endeavor or project. On the Chik-Wauk Campus, loyal volunteers have been the backbone of the body of work since the first nail was driven in rehabilitation during '05. And they continue as the energetic GTHS celebrates the 10th anniversary of the Chik-Wauk Museum grand opening.

Chik-Wauk has had a bevy of volunteers over the years, from the first days of restoration to current day folks who help run the Museum, Nature Center and Watercraft Exhibit Building facilities, serve as docents, supplement in program offerings and other necessary campus tasks.

The Board of Trustees is very grateful and cannot thank one and all enough, for those who have put on their volunteer cap.

This is not the end of story. As the Chik-Wauk endeavor has grown to tell more of the Gunflint Trail history, so has the need for more support personnel, in the name of volunteers. The GTHS needs ten more new enlistees to step up for 2020.

Volunteering doesn't have to feel like work. Being a volunteer can mean small

commitments of a couple hours or maybe even one four hour day, often ending up in a joyful gathering with others of similar interest. Our volunteers find great satisfaction in knowing that their efforts make a difference.

As always, when help is needed, the Gunflint Community rises to whatever occasion. With the opening of the Interpretive Cabin, our call is out for more Gunflint friends and neighbors to answer the bell.

Please find a spot in your heart and schedule to be a part of our volunteer team. 2019 Chik-Wauk teammates are recognized below:

Kathy Lande	Bruce Kerfoot	Jim Edlund	John Schloot	Shrimp Boil
Susan Scherer	Arden Byers	Mike Carlson	Rose Schloot	Volunteers P
Rene' Block	Mike Lande	Richard Fink	Joel Halvorson	& IC
Ruth Saunders	Bob Baker Sr.	Dave Tuttle	Mark Lande	Social Volunteers
Madeline Watters	Bill Douglas	Barb Tuttle	Destry Theyrey	Dark Sky Caravan
Cherlyn Morrison	Sue Douglas	Bill Boissenin	Eddie Moran	Helpers
Jayne Johnson	Dick Smith	Larry Schei	Betty Hemstad	US Forest Service
Kate Kelnberger	Ronene Smith	Ken Lind	The Sawdust	Naturalists &
Lee Zopff	Rochelle Staley	Michael Valentini	Seniors	Staff
Fran Smith	Les Edinger	Sally Valentini	Timber Framers	
Sue Kerfoot	Judy Edlund	Fred Smith	GTHS Trustees	

Thanking you in advance, please give Bonnie a call at 218-388-9915.

Fred Smith, Secretary



THE GUNFLINT TRAIL *Historical Society*

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The Two-Minute History of Chik-Wauk

The key information we want all Chik-Wauk visitors to walk away knowing are:

- Visitors are standing in the old Chik-Wauk Lodge.
- Beginning in 2005, the Gunflint Trail Historical Society began renovating and converting the building into the Museum and Nature Center.
- The Museum opened in July 2010.
- Chik-Wauk Lodge was started by Ed and Art Nunstedt, father and son, in the early 1930s.
- The stone building was built in 1934 and was the second lodge to stand in this spot.
- The first lodge burned down when a dog kicked over a kerosene lamp and the entire building burnt to the ground before the lodge had opened for business.
- The last owners, Bea and Ralph Griffis, sold the lodge to the U.S. Forest Service as part of the 1978 Federal Wilderness Act.
- Eventually, the Forest Service approached local residents for their ideas for using the lodge building.
- The Museum strives to present the information about the natural history of the Gunflint Trail and also tells the story of the seven major groups of people who have passed through the region: the Prehistoric people, the Native Americans, the Voyageurs, the Miners, the Loggers, the Resorters, and Current Residents.
- The Museum is laid out chronologically if you go through the museum counterclockwise.
- Visitors should watch for hands-on displays. (Fishing lure drawers, voyageur exhibits, discovery hole in tree).
- Museum guide brochure has information about the various videos offered.
- In the 1980s all buildings, except for the stone lodge building, were auctioned off and removed from property so the land could revert back to wilderness.
- Ralph and Bea maintained a 20-year lease on the property until 1999.
- In 1999, the property, which had fallen into considerable disrepair, was turned over in full to the U.S. Forest Service who had no specific need for the building.
- Split Rock Studios designed and installed all exhibits.
- Building and property still owned by U.S. Forest Service. GTHS has 25-year lease with the Forest Service.
- There are six hiking trails on the grounds

NEW FACES ON CAMPUS

In addition to our great returning staff, there will be some new faces working with visitors this summer. The Gunflint Trail Historical Society (GTHS) leadership is pleased to announce an evolving relationship with the University of Minnesota Duluth.

The GTHS relationship with the University was initiated after a great first visit from the Dark Sky Caravan in August of 2018. It has been growing ever since with leadership exchanges between GTHS officers and Joel Halvorson, UMD Public Engagement Director and UMD students.

2019 saw a few new attractions added to the Chik-Wauk Campus as the GTHS piloted a student intern program in the Nature Center. UMD Grad student, Josh Wasniewski worked with NC Director Ed Moran and Joel Halvorson to offer astronomy programming in a panorama planetarium on Thursday afternoons.

Ideas for adding more program opportunities to exploration of the natural world around the Campus, has led to the un-official label of Boreal Observatory for future activities.

Further developments find a 24-7 All Sky Camera being installed at the Museum. This will enable round the clock observation of this

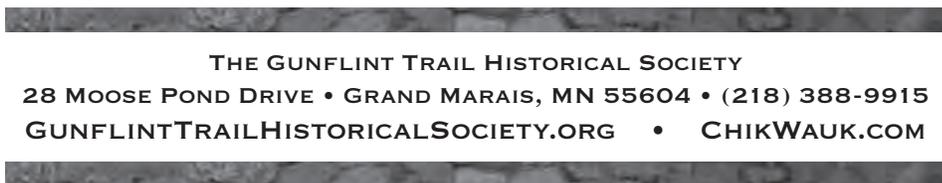
Level I dark sky region for the world to see via connection to the Chik-Wauk website and the UMD Planetarium. This project was funded in part by UMD, The Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation and two generous GTHS member families.

For 2020 the GTHS is working with the UMD College of Environmental Education and Department Head, Ken Gilbertson, to bring an undergraduate student intern (or possibly interns) to work in the Nature Center as part of their academic requirements. Their academic programming is to be integrated with current Nature Center curriculum creating enhanced and new educational opportunities for visitors to learn about the outdoor environment.

This will be a paid intern program with both housing and a small stipend provided by the GTHS. The Society is grateful for housing opportunities being offered by a couple of very charitable Gunflint Lake Property owners, while financial support is provided by another philanthropic Gunflint Lake family.

This is a very exciting venture for the GTHS and we welcome membership involvement to support programming innovations.

Fred Smith, Secretary



THE GUNFLINT TRAIL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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