“Voices from the Gathering Place”

Sault, Ontario resident Peter White will present a multi-media program on Thursday, January 29, at 6:30 p.m., at Bayliss Public Library. “Voices from the Gathering Place, Sault Ste. Marie, 1622-1870” will include original music and video about the history of our region. Peter White is a musician who was raised in Northern Ontario. While reading The Jesuit Relations, he discovered fascinating descriptions of life in the Sault in the 1600s. Further research into the stories and characters of Sault history led him to write songs and create this musical/video production. He will sing about such people as Etienne Brulé, John Johnston, Jean-Baptiste Cadotte, and Henry and Jane Schoolcraft. There will be a brief meeting prior to the program. Refreshments will be provided. Bayliss Library, an affiliate of Superior District Library, is located at 541 Library Drive, in Sault Ste. Marie.

“Music in the Pines” Exhibit

“Music in the Pines: Hiawatha Traditional Music Festival” is an exhibit created by the Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center at Northern Michigan University and funded in part by the Michigan Humanities Council.

The Hiawatha Festival, first held in Decerton and currently held in Marquette every July, is celebrating its 35th year. The festival is a celebration of friendship brought together by music and artistry. People come to Hiawatha not only to enjoy the music by performers, but to experience nature by camping out and to catch up with friends.

In this exhibit, stories, memories, and relics are brought together to capture the essence of the festival. The exhibit opened in Marquette in September and is traveling to CCHS from March 30-May 9. Plans are in the works for musical performances in the Sault Schools and at CCHS during the time of the exhibit. There will be more information in our next newsletter.

Historic Weather Events of the U.P.

At our fall general meeting in October, forecasters David Lawrence and Michael Boguth with the National Weather Service in Gaylord spoke about “Historic Weather Events of Michigan’s U.P.” They spoke about our extreme weather, ranging from violent winter storms (Nov. 10, 1913) to November gales (Nov. 10, 1975), severe weather and flooding, and occasional periods of summertime heat (July 1936), drought, and wildfires (Oct. 1871) in the U.P. over the last 150 years. About 30 attended the enjoyable talk.

St. Mary’s Cemetery Tour

By Caroline Grabowski

The St. Mary’s Cemetery Tour was held on one of the few sunny days in October. The previous rains left the cemetery very muddy, but no one seemed to mind. About 40 people in sturdy boots showed up, and they learned about the fate of many of the Soo’s working poor of the
early twentieth century. Tour goers were also introduced to the long-neglected and forgotten Potter’s Field located at St. Mary’s. CCHS Board members provided refreshments and tour synopses which helped everyone to enjoy their walk through history even more. Riverside Cemetery will be toured again in early summer. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thanks Giving Celebration
By Paul Sabourin

CCHS would not be in existence, if it was not for their volunteers and donors. They are the lifeline and the steward of our history. Without them, we would not be able to adequately preserve and maintain our past. This recent celebration, held in November was a special tribute and recognition to those dedicated individuals. In the presence of Chase Salmon Osborn, attendees at the Thanks Giving Celebration were able to learn more about the only Governor of Michigan from the U.P. Board member Paul Sabourin portrayed Chase Osborn and related his life experiences.

From his struggling youth in Indiana, to his prosperous career in the newspaper, and his adventures in prospecting and mining, Chase Osborn enjoyed an intriguing life. His goal was to find all of the iron-bearing rocks in the world, and this is why he ran for only one term as Governor. He did not want his political pursuits to interfere with his quest. He travelled around the world and always came back home. He chose Sault Ste. Marie as his home town for most of his life. His legacy and contributions to our city are numerous and priceless. He remains here locally, being buried at his residence on Duck Island.

If you find yourself interested in becoming an active volunteer with CCHS, please contact us at your convenience. You can become a docent, a collector, a gift shop attendant, a librarian, a researcher, a historian, or whatever your pursuits may lead you to. Hands-on experiences are learning opportunities. What better venue is there to become aware of our history.

Funds Galore
By Paul Sabourin

During our recent Thanks Giving Celebration, we announced the launch of our fundraising initiative for the façade project. Flyers were delivered to those in attendance by our paperboy (Rowan Mauldin – 1880s style) and recently, a mailing was sent to all of our membership. If you wish, you may copy, scan, or share the pledge form with those who are willing to support our cause. Donations can be on a one-time basis, or committed over a period of three years. The amount is of your own choosing, while recognition will be made public in our newsletter and on a dedication plaque inside the facility.

Our goal is to reach the $50,000 mark, which represents 25% of the total estimated project cost. As previously confirmed, the society has received funding from the state government in the amount of $161,000, representing 75% of the total cost.

All financial donations to the society are considered tax deductible. Please support our project and make our restoration a financial viability. Thank you for your consideration. If you wish to discuss your intentions, please do not hesitate to contact us at your convenience. A list of recent donors is on page 6.

Holiday Open Houses

CCHS held two Holiday Open Houses in December. About 130 people viewed the displays and enjoyed the holiday cheer. Board member Dennis Hank and Gil Cymbalist set up two operating trains. Richard Trautwein and Board members Ginny Cymbalist and Susan James lent dolls and stuffed animals for display. There were also book signings by Board members, Bernie Arbic, Carolyn Person, and Caroline Grabowski. Thank you to everyone who helped with these fun, annual events.
Façade Project Update
By Paul Sabourin

Although you may not notice any activity on the outside of 115 Ashmun Street, the façade project is already underway. During the course of the winter months, the contracted carpenters are customizing all of the windows in their workshop. This requires skill and expertise to replicate all of the frames, muntins, rails, sashes, stiles, sills, aprons, stools, and casings. These are being made to measure and will be ready to install once the actual work of the building starts.

Another part of the project that will not be evident at this time is the reinforcement of the south wall from the inside. You may notice the historic through-wall tie anchors and metal plates in the shape of a sun. They are located at the mid and upper levels on the front of the building and on the façade’s south side. These are used to retain the opposite east and west walls together. There is a steel rod attached to both ends and extending between the ceiling and the floor. In the aftermath of the fire that burnt down the third floor of the Traverse Bay Woolen store, the south wall needed stabilization. This requires further reinforcement in order to secure the structural integrity of the building.

The most intriguing aspect of the renovation will be the removal of the wooden laminate covering on the parapet wall. This will reveal a brick wall that has the protruding letters of NEWS BUILDING. As for the decorative cornice, they will be precast in cement and will replace the rusted metal.

Scaffolding will be installed on the sidewalk during the spring and summer, in order to provide a working platform for the contractors. Access to the building will still be possible from the Ashmun Street entrance. You are always welcome to visit our Gift Shop and tour our facility to view new displays.

Home Page = www.cchsmi.com
By Paul Sabourin

When surfing the Internet, make your home page that of the CCHS, at www.cchsmi.com, or list it as your top Favorite page. You will have access to our upcoming events page, you can view our posted photos of past activities, and read the society’s River Soundings newsletters.

The website is in the process of being upgraded, with the tasks being completed by our webmaster, Shawn Durham. Changes and additions are being made on a regular basis. In the near future, we plan on providing an opportunity for you to shop online, at our Gift Shop. All of the items for sale will be listed on the website with ease of purchase via PayPal. Delivery will be made directly to your home or to any designated recipient.

While you are logged in, make it a point to check our Facebook account and become a Friend of CCHS. We are hosting an interesting weekly feature with our Throwback Thursday. Each week, a picture of the past and caption is posted for viewing pleasure – Like and share. View days gone by at the touch of a key and comment, if you wish.

We would like to hear from you; your comments, suggestions or ideas are welcomed. If you wish to share your email address in order to populate our directory, please send us your contact information to cchs@sault.com.

St. Mary’s Cemetery—Potter’s Field
By Caroline Grabowski

The restoration and enhancement of the Potter’s Field at St. Mary’s Cemetery is still scheduled for summer 2015. The Knights of Columbus will be overseeing the project which will include the placement of a monument there, complete with a plaque listing all 187 names of those buried on the site.

Board member Caroline Grabowski, with the help of genealogist Kathy Hendricks, has written a little book giving information about the Potter’s Field and each of the souls buried there. Unto Dust—the
the poem s are based on old jokes with U.P. references. As Bernie the basement of Harbor House and tried to outdo each other. Most of P.O.E.T.S., a group of friends who met weekly at the Bombshelter in Arabic's creations over 20 years ago while he was a member of the P.O.E.T.S., a group of friends who met weekly at the Bombshelter in the basement of Harbor House and tried to outdo each other. Most of the poems are based on old jokes with U.P. references. As Bernie believes, “If a good joke rhymes, it's good many times.” The book is also the product of two other area artists: William Gerrish, who created the cover and Connie Thompson, who created the layout. The book is available for $10 in the CCHS Gift Shop that is open by appointment for the next few months. It may also be sent to you.

Date Plaques in the Gift Shop
By Caroline Grabowski
Homes continue to be adorned and their history remembered with the purchase of a CCHS date plaque. Thirteen plaques were purchased in 2014, including four plaques placed at the entrances of Riverside and St. Mary's cemeteries. Dates on the plaques ranged from 1880 to 1906. Four were bought as Christmas presents. What a great idea! If your historic house is feeling left out, purchase a plaque today. Your plaque will arrive in about two weeks. Order forms may be found at CCHS and Bailyss Library, and on the Gift Shop page of our website www.cchsmi.com. You may also email cchs@sault.com for more information.

John Tanner Mystery Available
In 1846, a man accused of a murder in Sault Ste. Marie fled to avoid prosecution. In the eyes of the authorities, his departure confirmed his guilt. The fugitive, John Tanner, an adventurer, author, and Anishinabe interpreter, seemed to have vanished. Canadian and U.S. authorities searched for years without success. Now, nearly 17 decades later, a Wisconsin author has located a court document linking Tanner with northern Wisconsin’s legendary Chief Namakagon. The author is certain both men are the same, solving a mystery dating back 168 years.

The name John Tanner is familiar to many. In 1830, his memoir was published in New York, England, Germany, and France. It tells of his life with his Ottawa family in Minnesota, his years as a woodsman near Rainy Lake, his association with powerful political leaders, and more. His years in the Sault are also well documented—right up to July 1846, when he disappeared after the murder of James Schoolcraft. Now, James Brakken fills in details about Tanner’s “second”
life—that of Chief Namakagon. Brakken writes fact-based, historical novels about the northland’s great timber harvest days. His recent novel, the third in his Chief Namakagon trilogy, is entitled The Secret Life of Chief Namakagon. It delves into the life of John Falcon Tanner. In the Sault, the book is available only at the CCHS Gift Shop. Brakken’s other books ship free from his website, www.BadgerValley.com.

**Historical Organizations in Sault Ste. Marie**

By Bernie Arbic

Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding area has a rich history, which CCHS has been preserving, celebrating, and promoting since our founding 95 years ago. As a dues-paying member of CCHS, you are helping us with this mission.

Because of the long and multifaceted history of our area, it is probably not surprising that there are several other organizations whose purposes relate to that history. The reader may belong to one or more of them. Here is a list of such organizations—just in Sault Ste. Marie, not to mention several township organizations in the Sault area:

- **The River of History Museum** (aka The Sault Ste. Marie Foundation for Culture and History, Inc.)
- **Sault Historic Sites** (comprising the Tower of History and the Museum Ship Valley Camp, aka Le Sault de Sainte Marie Historical Sites, Inc.)
- **Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society**

CCHS cooperates closely with the other organizations. For example, we have loaned some of our artifacts to each of the first two mentioned above. Each year, we provide artifacts for use in the Historic Homes on Water Street, train the docents who staff the homes, and coordinate musicians and re-enactors who provide regular entertainment in them. Sault Historic Sites handles the financial aspects of the homes, and maintains the buildings and grounds. Both organizations are working under contract from the city of Sault Ste. Marie, which owns the structures.

We have received questions that make us realize that there is some confusion out there about these different historical groups, and hope that this article will help you keep them straight. It is important to know that each of the organizations above has totally separate finances. When you pay your annual dues to CCHS (or to the other groups), you will be supporting that particular organization directly, but will still need to pay separate dues to the other groups, if you wish to support them as well. Obviously, we hope our programs and activities will continue to earn your support for the CCHS as we start our 96th year.

**Rendezvous in the Sault 2015**

By Ginny Cymbalist

The third annual Rendezvous in the Sault, to be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 25 and 26, promises to be just as exciting as the last two. Plans are coming together with the work being spearheaded by Angie Patterson with help from Ginny Cymbalist and others. Specific information on Rendezvous will be published in our April newsletter. Until then check out our website, www.historicwaterstreet.org/rendezvous. The event is sponsored by the CCHS, the City of Sault Ste. Marie, and the Sault Convention and Visitors Bureau. Volunteers are always appreciated for jobs ranging from helping with the gate and/or specific activities, to dressing in period dress, to setting up fencing. If you are able to help out, please contact Ginny Cymbalist at 906-632-9523.

**History Camp 2015**

By Ginny Cymbalist

We have received confirmation that a Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) mini-grant of $1,500 has been awarded to CCHS for our 4th annual summer history camp. As in the past, this exciting week of activities will be coordinated by CCHS Board members and retired teachers, Patty Olsen and Ginny Cymbalist. This year’s camp will be held June 15-19 and students finishing grades 3-6 (ages 9-12) are welcome to attend. Cost for the week will be $75, with some scholarships available. Please contact Ginny Cymbalist at 906-632-9523 or ggcbymalist@yahoo.com for more information or to reserve a space. Watch for upcoming information in the April newsletter.

**Docents Needed**

By Ginny Cymbalist

Last year was an exciting one on Historic Water Street—the Baraga House was open full-time for the first time in many years, the Johnston House stabilization project was completed, and many visitors went through the buildings. We had a number of new docents whose enthusiasm for the history of the Sault was quite exciting. All our docents had wonderful suggestions for changing or updating the displays and improving attendance and we hope to implement some of these for next summer. Being a docent on Water Street is a great way to share the history of our city with locals and visitors alike and one even receives some pay. One needn’t know a great deal of local history, the only attribute necessary is excitement and a willingness to learn. A docent training manual is available as well as expert guidance from local historians. To find out more about being a docent, please contact CCHS (906-635-7082; cchs@sault.com) or Ginny Cymbalist (906-632-9523; ggcbymalist@yahoo.com).

**CCHS Membership 2015**

By Paul Sabourin

Membership with the CCHS has its privileges and benefits. Is your membership renewed and active for the year 2015? Recently, all listed members received a renewal form, in order to keep their status up to date. If you have not yet completed the form and returned it to our office, please do so at your earliest convenience.
Your membership category can vary depending on your present status. You can choose to renew as an individual, a student, or a senior. If you share your interest, the family category may be more suitable and economical. If you wish to promote your place of business as a community supporter, we have your option. On the other hand, we raise the ante by providing the opportunity for contributing and lifetime categories. As an active member, you are receiving the *River Soundings* and being informed of our activities. Take advantage of your membership and reap the benefits.

**Bruce Township Historical Society**  
**By Carolyn Person**  
It all started with the simple question, “Where were the one-room schools in Bruce Township?” That was in the early 1980s. Today the research has blossomed to over 300 ring binders of early family history, farming articles, and school and church history. Shirley Patrick of Bruce Township has worked many hours compiling newspaper articles, interviews, and family histories into a researchable collection of the township’s early resident families, businesses, and notable happenings. She is more than happy to share any information and is always interested in visiting with people who have memories handed down from the early days. Please share and help preserve the history of our area.

**Thank you to the following:**

**Life Members:**  
Robert R. Arfstrom & Sharyn L. Faunt  
Theresa Schenck  
Charles M. Zane

**Renewals:**  
Marion J. Albrough  
Jill Brumwell  
Joe & Marilyn J. Burton  
Larry & Jeanne Cooper  
Susan James  
Steve Jorgensen  
Steve R. Kail  
Leo & Marlene Kuhn  
Richard Noble  
Ann Pollman  
Julia Rawlings  
Lawrence Rice  
John W. & Luana Russell  
Paul & Margo Sabourin  
Brian Smith  
Richard W. Spier  
Mary Lou (Holliday) Tillison  
Lowell & Gail Ulrich  
Phyllis E. Ware  
Sam & Marcia White

**Annual Fund:**  
Brian Smith  
Norajean Wilcox

**Façade Project:**  
Roland Akre  
Francis Allaire  
Michael Bennett  
Mary Jane Bernier  
Carole Bosshart  
Meta Geyer  
Donald Henderson  
Roberts P. and Ella B. Hudson Foundation  
Johann Ingold  
Mary M. June  
Judy McGonigal  
Margaret Money  
Bill Oberman  
Julia Rawlings  
Tom Robinson  
Louise Rose  
Scott Shackleton  
Patricia Shimmens  
Richard Spier  
David & Jessica Stanaway  
Suzanne Stevenson  
Dolores Sundstrom  
Mary Lou Tillison  
Genevieve Usimaki

**Donations:**  
Mike Bennett—books for gift shop, building supplies  
Cup of the Day—coffee for Cemetery Tour  
Paul Sabourin—cap for chimney  
Sault Printing Co., Inc.—printing of fundraising flyers

**Volunteers:**  
Dawn Aldrich, Bernie Arbic, Mike Bennett, Roger Blanchard, Amber Clement, Jim & Mary Couling, Ginny & Gil Cymbalist, Shawn & Mindy Durham, Jim Dwyer, Bill Gerrish, Caroline Grabowski, Dennis Hank, Susan James, Mary M. June, Molly Kallio, Marian MacLeod, Shawna Mauldin, Rowan Mauldin, Kathy Newcomb, Patty Olsen, Shirley Patrick, Carolyn Person, Karen Sabatine, Paul Sabourin, Meredith Sommers, Dee Stevens, Richard Trautwein, Gail Ulrich, Gene Usimaki

**Newsletter Contributors:**  
Susan James, Bernie Arbic, Mary M. June, Paul Sabourin, Ginny Cymbalist, Carolyn Person, Caroline Grabowski

**Newsletter Designer:**  
Connie Thompson, graphicsetc@hughes.net

**Board Members:**  
Mary M. June, President  
Susan James, Vice President, Programs and Publications  
Paul Sabourin, Vice President, Membership and Fundraising  
Bernie Arbic, Treasurer  
Virginia Cymbalist, Secretary  
Robert Aldrich, Jerry Coutant, Jim Dwyer, Caroline Grabowski, Dennis Hank, Patty Olsen, Carolyn Person, Janet Russell, Karen Sabatine
Thank you to these people who donated to CCHS’s collections in 2014:

Don Ausdemore—berets, alumni book
Cynthia R. Back—dishes, hats
Mike Bennett—books, newspapers, camera, flag
Ruth & Warren Benson—1938 SAHS reunion
Phyllis Bigelow—basket
Mary Brady—maps
Gordon Brazil—photos
Jill Lowe Brumwell—news article
Sharon K. Burkart—WWII scrapbook
Zelma Cahoon—furniture, basket, bedding, books
Amber Clement—postcards
Joanne Coates—map, photos, news articles, yearbooks
Melanie Cook—*Keynote*
Raya Steinbach Cook—wedding dress
Ginny Crouse—Locks photos
Carol DeWeese—sheet music
Martha DuBois—vase and iron
Anne Earle—books
The Evening News—cabinets
Brenda, Robert, & Barbara Flemal—souvenir pin, photos
Don & Joan Gerrie—poster
Peter & Georgia Gianakura—framed sign & menus
Beth (Mitchell) Hamel—farm account books
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Holley—news article
William Horton—postcard
Waltraut Ingold & Margaret Chance—WMH Auxiliary
Flea Market archive
Susan James—ice cream cartons, mugs, writing kit
Ken Johns & Mary Rookwood—Centennial plates, photos
John & Barbara Kenn—newspapers, maps, stock certificates
Bonnie Krempel—wedding dress, yearbooks, newspapers
Marcanne LaFrance—scrapbook, photos
Neva Larson—card case
John Leigh—buttons
Roger LeLievre—1959 *Know Your Ships*

Charles N. MacDonald—lumber buyer guide
Sharon MacLaren—lantern, game, archives
Jon MacLeod—stamps
Joyce Mansfield—Baraga House items
Gloria Marsh—doily
Chris McLean—calendars
Nyla I. Middleton—abstract, archives
Tom Moher—butter churn, crock, rake, book
Margaret Money—books, letters
Kimberly Momson—photos
Margaret & Charles Nairn family—books
Judith Old—plat book, insurance map
Phyllis Paradiso—roller blades
Donna Payment—photos
LaVerne Eagle-Perrollaz—dishes, photo, textiles
Marietta Peterson—photos
Donald S. Pratt—Centennial program booklet
Sandy Robbins—copies of abstracts
Karen Sabatine—buttons, camera, furniture
City of Sault Ste. Marie—City Charter books
John Schaeffer—photo
John Setala—iron axe head
Peggy Sibbald—hat, hatbox
Kathy Smithers & Laura Norton—trunk
Shirley Spaeth—bedding, tablecloths
Karen Stabile—newspaper, book
Dee Stevens—magazines, copy of abstract
Jackie Tastor—invoice
Richard Trautwein—postcards
Arthur & Elizabeth Utech—roller skates, kitchen items
Deborah Ulrich—books, journals
Barbara Wilkinson—postcard
Jerry Wurster—book
Upcoming Events

Join us on Thursday, January 29, at 6:30 p.m. for Peter White’s “Voices from the Gathering Place,” at Bayliss Public Library

YES! I want to be a CCHS Member!

Membership Rates
- Individual: $20
- Family: $30
- Student: $10
- Senior: $10
- Contributing: $50
- Business/Corporate/Org.: $50
- Lifetime: $200+
- New Millennium: $1000+

Additional Donation: $__________
Façade Project: $__________

Name ________________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
City _______________________ State _____ Zip ___________________________
Email ________________________________________________________________

Office Hours: Monday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment at back door
Gift Shop Hours: Closed until late March Open by appointment

Please keep me in mind for: ☐ Volunteer Work ☐ Board Member

Make checks payable to: Chippewa County Historical Society, P.O. Box 342, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783