



CHARLEVOIX COUNTY HISTORY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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SPRING 2011

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 4

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Curious about this image? Read about it inside.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN NOW TO ATTEND OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!

MONDAY, MAY 23, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.

Happy Birthday, Raven Hill !
Speakers: Tim & Cheri Leach
Raven Hill Discovery Center
Warren Loranger Great Room
4737 Fuller Road, East Jordan, MI

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.

Grand Opening Reception of the
"Undine...A Settlement Remembered" Exhibit
Charlevoix Historical Society's Harsha House
103 State Street, Charlevoix, MI

MONDAY, JULY 25, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.

The History of the GAR and the SUVCW
Speakers: Tom Jenkins and Dale Aurand
Boyne District Library, Community Room
201 East Main Street, Boyne City, MI
CCHPS Annual Meeting

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011 – 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

StoryCorps: An Oral History Fair
Charlevoix Public Library
220 Clinton Street, Charlevoix, MI

There is no charge for these events

Everyone is welcome.

Member of the History Society of Michigan
Member of the Michigan Oral History Association



From the President's Pen...

Dear CCHPS Members & Friends,



Spring may finally be here and with it I am reminded that gifts come in all shapes and sizes, and sometimes when we least expect it. What does gift giving have to do with spring? Well, on my old farm home, every spring I am surrounded by gifts from all the previous owners. Asparagus, English roses, lilacs, forsythia, holly hocks, bearded irises, buttercups, strawberries, black caps, and blackberries, just to name a few, are popping up everywhere. Some I have transplanted so that they can prosper for another hundred years, perhaps to continue to make this old home's owners smile each spring. By definition, gift means "something voluntarily transferred by one person to another without compensation". At CCHPS, we appreciate all the gifts our donors give (whether in the form of volunteer time or monetarily) to promote our mission. We always welcome more gifts and make every attempt to use them diligently to further the mission of CCHPS. We hope we have made that even easier for you. You can now donate (even join or renew!) instantly when you visit our CCHPS website. Please visit www.cchps.info soon and see how easy it can be.

Respectfully submitted,

Georganna

Organizational Details ...

Our annual meeting will be held on July 25 immediately after the program at the Boyne City Library. At this meeting, there will be an election to fill the four vacancies on the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee has nominated two current incumbents for new two year terms: Raechel Wright and Tony Duerr. Their biographies are included in those of the current directors on the CHHPS website.

Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. Anyone seeking nomination should be reminded of the time and work commitment required. The candidate or the member making the nomination will also need to address the nominee's qualifications to the members.

After discussion, those members in attendance will be able to vote for up to four nominees. Pursuant to the Bylaws, each individual and corporate member has one vote for each vacant position. Family memberships are entitled to two voting members who can cast ballots. Corporate members may designate one representative to vote. The Bylaws can be accessed from the CCHPS website

Our Thanks Go Out to...

Hanna David and Cheri Leach have resigned from the CCHPS Board of Directors due to school and family obligations. They will continue to be active and supportive members of CCHPS. Their service on the board has been exemplary and while we are saddened by their resignations, we certainly understand and wish them well in their endeavors.

What's New With



The Park Avenue Prowl

Get to the new Park Avenue Prowl website from www.cchps.info. It has a different look and it's now smart-phone capable. That means you can take the Prowl and read about each site as you walk by it, on your smart phone or iPad or 3G Kindle. And to all of the people who asked for a printed Park Avenue Prowl guide, it's coming. We'll tell you where to buy it on our www.cchps.info website in a few weeks.

***What's new with...* The 1910 Water Works Building**

The members of Questers Petoskey Chapter make donations each year to a non-profit organization working to preserve a historic building. This year they chose to contribute to CCHPS, in support of its efforts to construct a historical display inside the Boyne City Waterworks ("1910") Building, which is undergoing renovation and restoration, and will be recommissioned as a water pumping station in June.

Thank you Questers members, especially CCHPS member Mary Beth Soellner, for recommending the support of this project to her Questers Chapter and contributing to its success. To date, \$275.00 has been donated.

Questers is an international organization of women interested in antiques and the preservation of historic structures, with chapters throughout the country and the world. Its headquarters is in Philadelphia. It supports restoration and preservation projects through grants and scholarships.



Pictured from left to right are Mary Beth Soellner presenting a check to Georganna Monk, and CCHPS and Quester member Candice Brennen.

Program Particulars...



May: Happy Birthday, Raven Hill!

Raven Hill Discovery Center is the only place in northern Lower Michigan where children and adults have been linking science, history & the arts with hands-on activities and explorations both indoors and outdoors and have been doing it for twenty years! Take advantage of this extraordinary event to learn how the Center provides opportunities for all ages to learn, create, grow and play. Join Raven Hill founders, Tim & Cheri Leach, for an evening of sharing what has transpired over the past two decades and what lies ahead for this unique center of learning. Don't miss your chance to see the Main Museum, as well as the completely furnished One Room Schoolhouse, Print Shop, Energy House, Earth Tones Music Garden, Beyond Jurassic Park, Ancient World, Taxonomic Trail, Stone Labyrinth, and other outdoor exhibits that make additional connections between science, history and art for visitors. Cheri and Tim will take us on a guided tour of the extensive grounds prior to presenting the program which will be held in the new Warren Loranger Great Room of the main building.

Tim and Cheri Leach, co-founders of Raven Hill Discovery Center, both graduated from Albion College and have spent their lives learning and sharing their knowledge with others. As teachers for over 40 years each, they work as mentors to both youngsters, adults and teachers, who are interested in science, history and art and their connections to all other aspects of our lives. **Grab your friends and plan to attend this special event to say "Happy Birthday, Raven Hill" on Monday, May 23, at 7 PM. Raven Hill Discovery Center is located at 4737 Fuller Road, between East Jordan & Boyne City, just off C-48 at Pearsall Road and within Mile 15 of the Breezeway.** For more information contact Cheri at 231-536-3369 or Georganna at 231-582-5326.

AT LONG LAST...

YOU ARE INVITED!
UNDINE- A SETTLEMENT REMEMBERED...
Friday, June 24, 2011 – 7:00 PM
EXHIBIT OPENING
WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION
Harsha House Museum
103 State Street, Charlevoix, MI

After five long years of researching and compiling information on the Undine Settlement and various sections of Hayes Township, the Undine research team will soon unveil a large portion of their findings to the general public. **Friday, June 24th, 2011 will mark the opening of the year-long exhibit, "Undine- A Settlement Remember..." at the Harsha House Museum in downtown Charlevoix.**

Many have asked, "Where exactly was Undine?" Anyone who has traveled the Boyne City-Charlevoix Road here in Charlevoix County, has driven past what was once known as the "Undine Settlement" of Hayes Township. What remains is a small rural cemetery along the highway and a relocated country schoolhouse on the opposite side of the road. More recently, the Undine Nature Preserve was created, yet little more than a memory remains of the people and settlement that were once located on these very same acres.

Presented by the Charlevoix County History Preservation Society, in conjunction with the Charlevoix Historical Society, the Undine exhibit will focus on the rise of this once thriving rural community, from what was originally a vast, untamed wilderness. For the first time ever, the story of Charlevoix County's Undine Settlement will be told, through the use of turn-of-the-century images, newspaper data, and original documents and artifacts.

In addition to what promises to be both educational and entertaining, we will also host a wine and cheese reception that evening. We are very grateful to Mike and Rhea Dow for their generous contribution toward the cost of the Grand Opening Reception, and to Monarch Garden and Floral Design of Petoskey for donating the evening's floral arrangements. Our special thanks also go out to the CHS for their gracious invitation. Their generosity in providing this extended public venue will not only create public awareness of the Undine project and for the CCHPS, but we are also certain that it will help bring further information to light. We would also like to thank Lynn Maxwell, a new CCHPS member, for volunteering to transcribe material for the Undine project. So please, come out and show your support for what is being done to preserve the history of Charlevoix County. We look forward to seeing you there!

July: The History of the GAR and the SUVCW

People visiting a cemetery may be curious about the grave marker with the five pointed star and the letters GAR on it, and ask what does it signify? With the 150th anniversary of the Civil War upon us, organizations across the country have scheduled events to commemorate this era of American history. Current members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Tom Jenkins and Dale Aurand will explain the origin of these organizations and what they represent at the Charlevoix County History Preservation Society's *History Speaker Series* in July. Please plan to attend this program on **Monday, July 25, 2011, at 7 PM in the Community Room of the Boyne District Library in downtown Boyne City.**



Tom Jenkins has been a resident of Traverse City since 1999 after retiring from a career in the Parks and Wildlife Divisions of the Department of Natural Resources. For many years he has had a keen interest in the history and historical preservation of the great American Civil War. His interest was generated during his time serving in the U.S. Navy in the Virginia area where he and his wife spent many weekends touring and studying the Civil War sites of the region. When Tom became aware of the Robert Finch Camp 14 in Traverse City, he applied for and received a membership based on his Great Grandfather Charles' service in the 184th Regiment of the New York State Volunteers. Tom was appointed as the Camp Graves Registration Officer and has been actively identifying and recording a data base of those veteran's burial sites in our 11 county area. Primarily, he works with the Genealogical Societies of the counties to discover the burial sites and, in some instances when requested, coordinate the placement of military grave stones on those sites currently unmarked.

Tom now also serves the Camp as the Secretary, and his wife Judy is active in the Frances Finch Chapter of the Sons of Union Veterans Auxiliary as the Chaplain. Judy will also be attending the meeting and will be happy to answer any questions the members may have regarding the Auxiliary mission and membership opportunities.

Dale Aurand began his career with Michigan Bell Telephone in 1969 and transferred to Traverse City in 1991. Since his retirement in 2003 he became active in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Dale is currently Commander of Robert Finch Camp 14 in Traverse City. At age 10 Dale learned his Great-Grandfather was in the 9th Michigan Cavalry and has had an avid interest ever since. Through extensive reading and research he has learned many incites about the 9ths involvement in the Civil War.

CCHPS Annual Meeting of the Membership will immediately follow this program.

StoryCorps™: An Oral History Fair – August 27, 2011

Charlevoix County History Preservation Society and the Charlevoix Public Library are sponsoring an Oral History Fair, **Saturday, August 27, from 10-4**. Several other organizations, including Real People Media, Raven Hill Discovery Center, Charlevoix County Genealogical Society, Beaver Island Historical Society, the Harbor Springs Area Historical Society, and others, will be joining us, providing exhibits and activities for all ages.

To make this a special event for our community, CCHPS has formed a relationship with StoryCorps, a nationally acclaimed project of Sound Portraits Productions. Sound Portraits is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation established in 1994 by MacArthur Fellow Dave Isay as an independent production company dedicated to telling stories that bring neglected American voices to a national audience. These voices reach our nation through weekly broadcasts on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* and *Morning Edition* and have won every award in journalism, including multiple Peabody Awards. The conversations StoryCorps captures are archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.



The recordings will offer future generations a "bottom-up" history of life as it was lived in the 20th and 21st Century through the voices and stories of everyday people. It will soon be the largest oral history archive ever collected, and will define the character of this nation. The people of our community need to be part of this archive, so we brought StoryCorps to Charlevoix to capture conversations involving 36 residents. Plan to join us for this exciting event. Learn about StoryCorps, and find out about local organizations doing similar work here. Share your own oral history with CCHPS, or one of the other participating groups while you're there. And pick up interesting and unusual gift items.

CCHPS Receives Grants for StoryCorps Oral History Fair

Fisher-Cummings Family Fund has awarded us \$5000 to help pay for the StoryCorps Oral History Fair. This is in addition to a \$500 grant from The First Federal Community Foundation. We want to thank both the Fisher-Cummings Family Fund and the First Federal Community Foundation for contributing to this important community event.

Past Program Particulars...



SHARPSHOOTERS IN THE ARMY OF GENERAL GRANT – Native Americans from Charlevoix County fought in the Civil War!

The audience at the well attended first 2011 CCHPS speaker program heard the fascinating history of Company K's Charlevoix County Civil War veterans from Lansing, Michigan historian Chris Czopek on March 29. Mr. Czopek has carefully researched the history of Company K of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters. The story is unique. Company K was recruited from the Native American tribes of Michigan in early 1863. Native Americans were not subject to the recently enacted draft – all 139 Native American soldiers were volunteers. Their story is an almost forgotten episode in the Civil War. The unit fought in some of the bitterest battles of the Civil War: The Wilderness, Spotsylvania, The Battle of the Crater, and the Siege of Petersburg. Of the 146 men in Company K (6 officers and the First Sergeant were white), 43 died in the war. Fifteen were taken as prisoners to the infamous Andersonville POW camp where half of them died of starvation or disease. Of the Andersonville survivors, 2 also survived the sinking of the Sultana on April 27, 1865, the greatest maritime disaster in the United States. Tough guys indeed!

Mr. Czopek's talk concentrated on the Charlevoix County connections, including the stories of Benjamin and Jacob Greensky. Benjamin and Jacob were sons of Peter Greensky who established the Greensky Church in Charlevoix County's Hayes Township. Benjamin enlisted first and was killed in action on May 12, 1864 during the Battle of Spotsylvania in Virginia. Soon after, Jacob enlisted and took his brother's spot in the unit. Jacob survived the war and returned to Charlevoix County. He died in 1888 and is presumably buried at the Greensky Hill Methodist Church Cemetery.

Louis Miskoguoan was one of the two Company K Sultana survivors. He had enlisted at Harbor Springs in September 1863 and survived the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, and early Petersburg campaigns but was captured at Petersburg in June 1864 and sent with 14 other Company K soldiers to the infamous prison at Andersonville, Georgia. There he survived an attack by the Raiders, a prison gang that preyed upon and robbed other prisoners. The resistance of the Company K newbies gave heart to others who organized to put an end to the depredations of the prison gang. Louis Miskoguoan died near Burgess, Hayes Township, Charlevoix County in 1870.

Joseph Shawonosang lived on Beaver Island and enlisted in June 1863. He was severely wounded in the left leg at Spotsylvania in May 1864. He came back to Detroit, Harper Hospital, for treatment and was discharged for disability in December 1864. Thereafter, he moved with his Beaver Island employer to Attica, New York and presumably died there.

Finally, Mr. Czopek discussed the service of John Jacko who grew up in Northport and initially declined to enlist but whose father, Jacko Penaiswanquot, enlisted at age 40 and died in Andersonville on November 1, 1864. John enlisted in February 1865 after learning of his father's death. He fought at Petersburg and survived. Following the war he moved to Charlevoix County living in Horton Bay and Hayes Township until his death in 1907. He was an outgoing man, active for some years in the Horton Bay GAR, the fraternal organization of Civil War veterans. He died in 1907. His unmarked grave in the GAR section of Boyne City's Maple Lawn Cemetery is finally to be marked with a stone. A dedication ceremony is set for May 7, 2011.

Mr. Czopek has published his research in a spiral bound volume of some 224 pages. For more information, visit his website at <http://RedOak1863.homestead.co>



Where the Heck Is the Boyne Falls?

A capacity crowd occupied the Boyne District Library Community Room on the evening of April 25 to hear the second presentation in CCHPS's 2011 speaker series. Retired teacher and school administrator, Bill Aten, spoke on the history of Boyne Falls and Boyne Valley.

The program had its genesis in a multi-media class taught by Mr. Aten in 1989 at Boyne Falls High School. Using techniques pioneered by Ken Burns in the then recent PBS Civil War series, students assembled scanned, organized photos on computers and conducted video interviews of long time residents. Mr. Aten has preserved and added to the efforts of these students.

Mr. Aten recounted the origins of the Boyne Falls settlement dating back to 1857 when John Miller explored the river and falls, naming them after the river in his native Ireland that flowed into the Irish Sea. The falls soon saw the establishment of a dam, millpond, and sawmill. The photos and videos screened for the audience gave life to the history of Boyne Falls and Boyne Valley, depicting the ever evolving community and its economy. Early employment was provided by lumbering, farming, brick making, rail transportation, and milling. By 1908 Boyne Falls had a population of 450 and had 4 churches, a bank, 3 hotels, 9 businesses, 2 physicians and a brick manufactory.

Boyne Falls seems to have been a hotbed of education as the first three public schools and St. Augustine's Catholic School were destroyed by fire. School number four was started in 1947 with a bond issue of \$85,000. Soon after, Boyne Mountain was opened, forever changing the local economy. Another mainstay, Boyne Falls Log Homes, built its first structure in 1946. The Polish Festival was inaugurated as a centennial observance in 1975.

The numerous photos that accompanied Mr. Aten's narration drew excited responses from numerous audience members whose childhood memories were stoked or who recognized ancestors or friends from the past. These efforts in documenting, preserving, and publishing aspects of the history of Boyne falls and Boyne Valley serve as a reminder of how easily history can be lost and how interesting, important, and rewarding the work of historical preservation can be.

Oh, yes.....the falls were located where the Boyne River passes under M-75 near M-131.

FROM THE PAGES OF THE PAST

As noted elsewhere in this issue of our newsletter, **the exhibit opening of "Undine- A Settlement Remembered..." will take place at 7:00 PM, Friday, June 24th, 2011 at the Harsha House Museum, 203 State Street, Charlevoix, MI.** What remains of the Undine Settlement today? Like thousands of other now ghost-town settlements throughout Michigan, nearly all remnants of Undine have vanished. What remains are acres of privately owned land, much of which has reverted back to nature.



Undine was given its name and began its rise to success in 1880. By 1890, it had reached its peak of progress and population. 1900 had nearly marked the final decade for Undine as a destination, and by 1910 the sections which once made up the Undine Settlement were on a fast decline from "settlement" back to a network of small, family-owned farms.

The following article, taken from the "pages of the past," will allow our readers to actually "see" the Undine area, as it was at that particular point in time. Come take a journey with us, along the very roads that our Undine Settler's once walked. "See" for yourselves, how the thriving days of 1890's sawmills and lumbering had tapered back into this peaceful, 1909 rural farm community. Perhaps some of the names mentioned will

be familiar ones to you. If so, please make a point of getting in touch with us. There is still a great deal to be uncovered about the Undine Settlement and its inhabitants. If any of our readers have even seen early images of these farms, or others like the photographs being described below, we would also appreciate hearing from you!

Extracted from:
The Charlevoix Courier
Wednesday, September 29, 1909
Page 1 Column 6

**CHARLEVOIX AND HAYES TOWNSHIPS - Are the Homes of Progressive Farmers
WHO ARE MAKING A SUCCESS - In the Raising of Fruit and all Other Crops**

**Beautiful Farm Homes and Well Kept Orchards Are to be Seen on Every Hand –
Are Alive to Possibilities**

Last week it was our good fortune to accompany County Clerk Payton and the photographer on their mission of securing views of farm scenes to advertise the glorious possibilities of Charlevoix County, to the people who are listening to the cry of "back to the land" and seeking a patch of ground which they might call their own, and lure them away from the siren call of the West.

The trip this time was taken through the townships of Charlevoix and Hayes. The first stop was made at the farm of George Durance, where a fine view was taken of Mr. Durance's cabbage patch. Mr. Durance also has a crop of potatoes and a strawberry patch worth going miles to see. The next stop was made at the Waller farm, where the well-kept buildings and the acres of orchards make a showplace which will well repay a visit to them; here a view was taken of the buildings, also plum trees loaded down with fruit.

Passing into Hayes we stopped at the orchard of LeRoy Hamlin and secured a view of his orchard which has been well cared for. Passing by the farm of Henry Hamlin, where a barn which is highly creditable to Charlevoix County is being finished, and the Jerrichow farm and others which were equal to those we stopped at. We ran up to E. G. Wightman's to secure a view of a field of squash and {...} field of corn, which proves that Hayes Township raises corn.

Our next stop was made at Frank Sneathen's which bears all the marks of an up-to-date farmer. Here we took a view of a grape arbor loaded with fruit. Next we visited the Sand-bed farm, owned by E. E. Stroud, and secured a view of his silo [and] also an apple tree well fruited. The beautiful farm home of Fred Sneathen next claimed our attention. One could travel miles, in any part of the United States, without seeing a more ideal home than Mr. Sneathen's. The buildings, orchards and crops all indicate the dwelling place of a farmer who understands his profession. Here a view was taken of the buildings, a scene of apple picking in the orchard and a peach tree loaded down with beautiful fruit.

Pressing on to the Village of Horton Bay we secured a view of peach trees, bending beneath their burden, belonging to Mrs. Carlstein, and the home of A. J. Stroud.

As in our previous trips a constant source of regret was felt that we had to leave so much behind that was as worthy a place in the collection as those we secured and again we urge that all farmers report what they have in the way of pictures or reports of good crops. One thing that impressed us in Hayes was that better care has been given, in the majority of cases, to their orchards than in the other sections of the county visited, but a vast amount of labor is yet to be done before the farmers reap the full benefits awaiting them.

The History Community...

Memorial Day – Flag Ceremonies will be held at various cemeteries throughout the county. Check your newspaper for times and locations.

June 2, 2011 – The Charlevoix County Genealogical Society presents "The Hampton Family in Northern Michigan" by Mary Beth Soellner at 7:00 PM at the Boyne District Library.

August 19, 2011 – Dedication ceremony of the new pavilion at Thumb Lake Park in the name of Louisa Hughes and to honor Ralph Harmon and many others for their efforts to make Thumb Lake Park what it is today. This ceremony and pot luck luncheon begins at noon. For more information, call Doug at 231-549-2295.

A Special Invitation...

The Mission of the Charlevoix County History Preservation Society is to promote understanding and appreciation of the heritage of the people of Charlevoix County and its townships by searching out, collecting, preserving, and interpreting artifacts of historical and cultural significance. Membership in the Charlevoix County History Preservation Society is open to anyone interested in furthering the mission, objectives, and purposes of the society. Would you or someone you know be interested in helping us to preserve our county's history? You can participate in a variety of ways... but it begins with the first step. Won't you please take that step and join us?

Collector- Individual:	\$20.00
Collector- Family:	\$30.00
Preserver:	\$50.00 to \$99.00
Protector:	\$100.00 to \$499.00
Collaborator:	\$500.00 and above.

Charlevoix County History Preservation Society is a nonprofit Michigan corporation, recognized as exempt under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Check with your tax advisor to determine what portion of your dues is tax deductible.

Please send membership dues to:

CCHPS
946 N. Advance Road
Boyne City, MI 49712



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