



The Pinery

PUBLISHED NOW & THEN BY THE PORTAGE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 3 February 8, 1958 No. 1

CIRCUIT MEETING

A circuit meeting, one of those delightful around the county affairs instituted a few years ago, will be held at Amherst on Thursday, February 13. The meeting will be at 8 o'clock in the Amherst High School Library. An interesting program planned has as its main feature a panel which will discuss phases of Amherst's development. There will be music and interesting historical exhibits.

Miss Winifred Harvey is general chairman of the program and arrangements and Mrs. Albert Bickel is chairman of the exhibits. Other Amherst members of the Society are hosts and hostesses for the evening.

All members of the Society are urged to attend and to take friends with them. Invite others to attend whether they are members of the Society or not. This may be a way of interesting them in our Society so that they will become members.

The Amherst folks will have put a great deal of time and effort on this program and our attendance will show our appreciation.

CENTENNIAL BOOKLET

Members and good friends of your Society are busy these days preparing the Story of Stevens Point for the Souvenir Centennial Booklet which is being issued by the Portage County Historical Society. As a City, Stevens Point will be 100 years old this year, its Charter having been granted in 1858. It is the story of life and progress since that date that the Centennial Booklet will tell. It will also contain a center spread of the Centennial Program of the celebration to be held the first week in July and many pictures of the City during the century.

All proceeds from the sale of the booklet are to go to the County Historical Society.

SPEAKING OF PICTURES

Members are urged to look in their attics and in old boxes and trunks in a search for pictures of Stevens Point and its people during its 100 years as a city, especially the first 75 of these 100 years. Pictures may be left at the Stevens Point Journal Office with Mr. Sherman Sword or if it is more convenient at the College Library with Mr. Nelis R. Kampenga.

Your Society would also welcome old pictures which it could keep in its files. They would be carefully cataloged and filed for future reference.

OLD DOCUMENTS

The Society is also interested in obtaining old documents of any type - old city and county Directories, old programs of social events, old letters and papers describing the early day life in Portage County, the towns and villages of the county, and the City of Stevens Point. Anything in the line of old documents accepted by the Society will be carefully cared for.

MEMBERSHIP

The new Society year begins on April 1st. Let's swell our membership on that date by every member not only renewing their membership but by every member getting a new member by that date.

Membership fees are only \$1.00 per year. Any one living in Portage County or a former resident of the county is eligible to become a member. In fact anyone interested in the County may become a member.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Under the New Articles of Incorporation the Board of Directors of the Society contains 13 members. They and The officers are as follows:

Mr. Clifford D. Swanson, Park Ridge
President.

Mr. Nelis R. Kempenga, R. 1, Stevens
Point, Vice President

Miss Alice Gordon, Nelsonville,
Secretary

Mrs. Win Rothman, 550 Briggs Street,
Stevens Point, Treasurer.

Other Board Members are: Warren G.
Jenkins and Had E. Manske of Park Ridge.
James W. Hull, S. G. Kingston and Marie
Swallow of Stevens Point.

Howard Woodside and George Sterling
of Plover.

Malcolm Rosholt of Rosholt and Winifred
Harvey of Amherst.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS GIVEN TO SOCIETY

The Portage County Historical Society has been given 34 documents ranging in date from 1849 to 1860 by Mrs. Lawrence Chapman of Stevens Point.

Included in these documents are:

1. The oath of office as town supervisor of the town of "Stephens" Point signed by John DuBay on April 4th, 1850. (He couldn't sign his name so he made his "mark")
2. A petition to the town supervisors signed by Moses Strong on May 3rd., 1851 with respect to surveying a road to the Plover bridge.
3. The oath of office as chairman of the the town board of supervisors signed by Abraham Brawley on April 4th, 1850.
4. Election inspection report of the election for the town of Middletown (Stevens Point) held at "the trading post and house of J. B. DuBay" dated November 6th, 1849.
5. Poll list - a list of voters voting "at the house of Phelps & Hixton" in the town of Middletown (Stevens Point on November 6, 1849.

Much important data heretofore unknown are contained in these documents and they will serve to expand our early history when they have been more closely studied and correlated.

The Society, Portage County and the City of Stevens Point are much indebted to Mrs. Chapman for her generosity.

INFORMATION STILL WANTED

on the Plover portage by the Boy Scouts and the Society. Perhaps someone can find that in an old letter or paper long since forgotten or carefully treasured.

Also, does anyone have any definite, authentic information on the Old Indian Trail northeast through the county to Pike Lake in Marathon County?

FOUNDER'S DAY

Mr. Clifford D. Swanson, Portage County Historical Society President, attended Founder's Day at the State Historical Society Building in Madison on Saturday, January 25. A dedication of the Mass Communication Center was the feature of the meeting. He also attended a meeting of the State Board of curators.

REMEMBER

To attend the Meeting at Amherst:
When - Thursday, February 13th.
Where - in the High School Library.

To put forth a real effort in helping to secure photographs of Stevens Point for the Centennial Booklet.