

The Negaunee Historical Society

303 East Main Street, P.O. Box 221,
Negaunee, MI 49866 (906-475-4614)

JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

Editor: Roland Koski (negauneehistorical@att.net)

FROM THE PRESIDENT, Virginia Paulson



As I look out the window of the museum, I see a flower cart, resembling an ore car, with the numbers 1844. It's a significant number for the city of Negaunee, reminding us that iron ore was discovered here in that year. When I look through the many photo albums we have on our shelves, I try to imagine what it might have been like to live in those early years. Mining was hazardous, back-breaking work. They didn't have the most up to date equipment. But miners made a living for themselves and put Negaunee on

the map.

The discovery of iron ore is our claim to fame and here at the Negaunee Museum we try to preserve history and the way people lived. Many changes have taken place since those days. We do not have any mining, but what makes Negaunee the city that we know now? - It's people and history.

The museum board members are grateful to those who continue to contribute to the upkeep of our facility. The newest updates are the new floor coverings, a gift from the Lehtonen estate.



We are open from 10 am to 4 pm Monday through Saturday or by appointment.

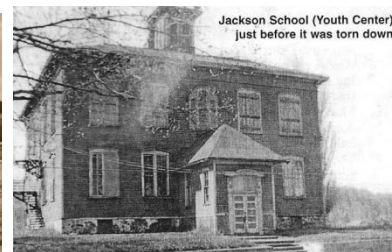
PICTURES FROM THE PAST



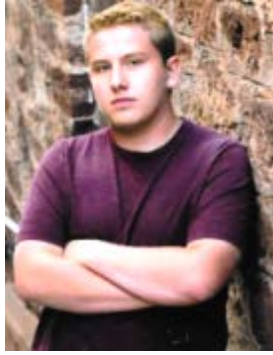
Iron St- Breitung Hotel in back



Mather "B" Mine (High School)



Jackson School on Snow St



PRESTON KOSKI 2018 NHS SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Virginia Paulson, representing the Matthews' family, presented the \$500.00 Frank Matthews Scholarship to Preston Koski during the 2018 Negaunee's Awards ceremony. He is the son of Danielle Koski and resides in Negaunee. Congratulations, Preston!!

"Thank you very much for awarding me the Frank Matthews Memorial Scholarship. I am very grateful and will be happy to use the money to help further my education. I plan on attending Northern Michigan University but have not decided my major. Again, thank you very much for awarding me the scholarship. With appreciation, Preston Koski

DOWSING FOR UNMARKED GRAVES – AN ANCIENT TECHNIQUE

Have you ever heard of the phrase grave dowsing or someone using a witching stick? If you haven't worked on water lines or in the mines, you and I are about to learn what this technique is all about. Dowsing is an ancient technique that was used by ancient Egyptians and Chinese searching for coal deposits and later to find water and now for finding an unmarked burial in the cemetery. In 1910, 6,180 bodies were removed from the old cemetery to our present one. There are 3,104 bodies interred in Potter's Field. Names and burial dates are logged in for several bodies but a majority of them are buried and designated as unknown. Using a witching stick, these bodies can be located. Believe it or not, but a body can be identified as a baby male/female, a teenage male/female, or an adult male/female by the movement of a dowser.



50 YEARS AGO – RAISH OIL NEGAUNEE CITY LEAGUE CHAMPS

March 13, 1968

This was a multi-talented team with multiple sponsors participating in the Negaunee City Basketball League. The team celebrated at Denny's Bar, had jerseys from Terry Talo's gas station and the team was called Raish Oil out of Marquette. Whatever their true team name, they were city league champions in 1968. In the front row are Denny Kallioinen, Don "Booner" Price, and Paul Jandron. In the back row are Jim Ranta, Les Melka, John Bianchi and Bob Jandron. Rodney Guizzetti and Bob Herman were absent when this picture was taken.

REMEMBERING UNION PARK & GREEN BAY PACKERS

When you are walking the Heritage Trail from Negaunee to Ishpeming, you will be walking through a location that was called Union Park. That area, just north of Suicide Hill, was the old city dump in the early 1950's. The Electric Street Railway went through the park on its way to Lake Angeline before returning to Negaunee. Sporting events were numerous at the park and the street cars would be filled with people going to and from Ishpeming-Negaunee baseball or football games which attracted between 5,000-7,000 fans. Many other events were also taking place such as a circus, carnival, cycling, parades, bicycle races, horse racing, wrestling, and cricket. The Green Bay Packers played here in 1919 in their first ever road game prior to playing in the NFL. Researching the "Negaunee Iron Herald", the first event at the park took place in May 1877 with a baseball game between Republic and Negaunee. Use of Union Park ended some time in 1947-48 as the paper indicated that the city council was beginning a City Rat Extermination Drive starting at the 'city dump' in May 1948 under the advice from our city health officer, Dr. George Knutson. Some interesting highlights of Union Park activities over the 70 years of existence are listed below from the "Negaunee Iron Herald".



- June 12, 1890 – The Electric R R went from Iron to Cyr and then to Ishpeming within a few steps of Union Park
- April 15, 1892 – A game of cricket will be played at Union Park by the English Oak Cricket Club
- May 27, 1892 – The U. P. 4th of July Celebration will be held at Union Park and hosted by Negaunee/Ishpeming
- June 22, 1894 – A new grandstand is being built at Union Park
- Aug 2, 1895 – Ringling Bros Circus at Union Park
- June 1, 1895 – 1st athletic contest involving Negaunee and Ishpeming was a track and field meet at Union Park
- Sept 24, 1897 – A bicycle race at Union Park between two professionals – one from Milwaukee
- June 10, 1898 – Peter Chevrette and August Jacobs will race their horses at Union Park
- Oct 4, 1898 – A golf club has been organized and a course set up at Union Park
- May 2, 1902 – Buffalo Bill's show is coming to Union Park
- Sept 4, 1908 – The Negaunee Cricket Club will play two matches at Union Park with Copper Country
- July 18, 1913 – Sun Bros Circus came to Union Park
- Oct 19, 1919 – Green Bay Packers defeated Ishpeming-Negaunee All-Stars 33-0 at Union Park
- June 10, 1921 – Negaunee will play the L'Anse Zeba Tribe Reservation at Union Park
- April 27, 1928 – U. P. towns getting airports and Ishpeming plans on using Union Park
- June 28, 1940 – Ringling Bros exhibited most colossal traveling exhibition ever at Union Park
- May 24, 1948 – Union Park is now being used as the city dump as stated above

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP – JUNE 1 273

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS 189

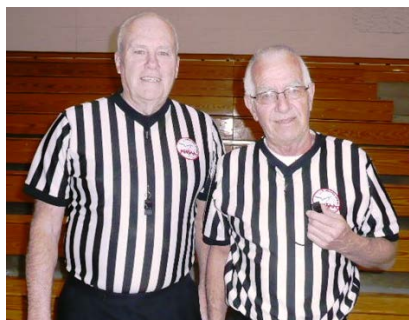
2018 MEMBERSHIPS 84



Two years ago, our membership roll reached 300 for the first time ever and we reached that mark again in 2017. Now would be a good time for others to help and support the preservation of Negaunee's history by renewing their membership and seeking new members. The museum displays are being continually updated and improved for our visitors. Thank you for all the past memberships, donations, gifts, grants and to all of our volunteers.

LOCAL BASKETBALL OFFICIALS REACH CENTURY MARK

After 50 years, Rodney Guizzetti and Roland "Foo" Koski are still officiating high school basketball games. They are pictured here while refereeing the Ishpeming vs. Carney-Nadeau varsity scrimmage on November 30, 2017



Roland "Foo" Koski and Rodney Guizzetti began their long careers as MHSAA officials in 1968 after "Foo" completed his 4-year Navy career in August 1967 while Rodney was discharged from the Army in June 1968. That summer, Rodney brought up the idea of becoming registered referees and doing high school basketball games. Both got registered soon after as they both passed their tests and received their patch, thus beginning their long careers as basketball officials back in 1968. Roland is in his 51st year while Rodney will be in

his 50th this basketball season. The only reason being, Rodney took one year off to follow his son's senior year on the Munising basketball team. They estimated having officiated over 5,000 games over the years including independent tournaments, county city leagues, "Gus Macker", Special Olympics and those 40 plus years of refereeing in the Negaunee Invitational Tournament. Rodney also earned the distinction to officiate in the state basketball finals for both the girls and boys teams. Rodney related an interesting and proud memory in that he is only one of a small handful of officials to have played in the state finals and then referee in one.

Guizzetti recalled notes from his diary. *"We contacted Mr. Paul Meli, Negaunee's Athletic Director back in 1968, and he replied that if the two of us could "survive" refereeing in the Negaunee City league that year to contact him the following year and he'd give us some junior high games. We were paid \$5.50 for junior high games and \$7.00 for tournament games. We did our first JV game in 1968 and it was between Bergland and National Mine and we were paid \$7.50. That game was played on the stage in the auditorium at the old National Mine School with fans looking up at us to watch the game. It was a great experience for the both of us."*

Foo stated, *"We did our first varsity game in National Mine in 1970 and it was a rivalry game between Republic and National Mine and the head coaches were Bill Koski and Gordy Chinn. We were nervous and both coaches knew how to intimidate two inexperienced referees. We earned our pay with a \$17.50 check. We must have passed the test because we were rehired in the following years and also hired by several other schools throughout the Upper Peninsula. Our first college game was at Northern in 1972 because the original officials could not make the game. We filled in to do the freshman game between Northern and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Rodney's diary indicated that we earned \$25.00 that evening".*

These old-timers agreed that most referees are focused on the rules and officiate in the true sense of the game and without any bias in their decision making. Hotly contested games that aren't decided until the final moments seemed to be blamed on the referees. The idea of winning at any cost will continue being a necessity for so many bias fans. Yes, referees have a split-second to make the tough call and hopefully get it correct for everyone.



Here are some more officiating memories

Rodney recalls, *“We officiated in the last game played in the old Munising Gymnasium commonly known as the “pit” and also the last game in the Manistique gymnasium against Gladstone in 1976. We also officiated in the first varsity game played in the new Westwood Gymnasium when the Patriots hosted Norway in 1976. “I especially enjoyed some of the fans who would tease me and wave their glasses for me to use. Many asked if I brought my seeing-eye dog with me. The regular fans who knew basketball never gave us a hard time. They might not have agreed with our calls but they knew how tough our job could be. I’m proud to mention that I never missed a game because of weather. If you have ever travelled between Munising and Marquette in whiteout conditions, you know what I mean.”*



Foo recalls, *“I remember driving to Trenary for a JV game alone and having to drive back in a blizzard and getting a paycheck for \$7.00. The Trenary gym was so small that they only had one row of chairs going around the floor and a stage on one end. Referees had to change clothes in the wood shop classroom.”*

Their feelings on the future of new officials:

Koski stated, *“You have to accept the verbal abuse from coaches and irate fans but let it go in one ear and out the other. It’s all part of the territory. Yes, I learned to accept criticism, some harsh and some in jest but I’ve enjoyed it”.*

Guizzetti stated *“Some of the new officials don’t want to work junior high games but want to do varsity games right away. We paid our dues and worked many Junior high, freshman and junior varsity games for a couple of years to prove to AD’s that we could do them. 99.9% of my career, I really enjoyed the games.”*

TRUCK RODEO WON BY “FUZZY” GARCEAU

Excerpts from “Negaunee Iron Herald” - January 6, 1956

A Negaunee resident PFC Willis A. Garceau, Jr. captured top honors in a truck rodeo at Orleans, France. “Fuzzy”, as he was known in Negaunee, was a member of the 520th Transportation Company stationed in France. He wheeled his two-and-one-half ton truck over the grueling obstacle course to garner 386 out of a possible 400 points. In addition to the obstacle course, contestants were scored on personal appearance, a written test, ability to service their trucks and inspection of his vehicle. To be eligible for competition, “Fuzzy” was required to have an accident free record for at least one year. He was presented with a watch to go with a pen and pencil set and a signet ring during qualifying rounds. Finalists in the event included Army truck drivers and civilian employees of the Army. He entered the Army on May 3, 1954 at Fort Leonard Wood, MO where he was presented an award as the most physically fit member of his company. In October of 1956, he was promoted to Specialist Third Class. “Fuzzy” was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Garceau, Sr. who resided at 367 County Road. He died on September 24, 2011 at the age of 77.



CUTTER RESCUED FROM THE ELEMENTS AND RESTORED



When Dave Dompierre first became involved with the Historical Society, the cutter (sleigh) we got from Merv Stanaway's Christmas display was sitting in the backyard of the museum. Exposure to the elements at the Stanaway residence on County Road and a number of years sitting in the front yard of the museum had resulted in serious deterioration of many key wooden parts. Because of its condition, it seemed to have no future as a display item and was likely heading to the trash heap. Dave was given the OK to take it to his camp where, hopefully, he could do some restoration work during the summer months. Unfortunately, it was partially dismantled but it never rose to the top of Dave's project list. Last fall, Dave returned the cutter to the carriage house and asked Art Gischia to offer an opinion as to its potential. Art took it to his home and over the winter months he did an excellent job of returning it to a condition that might make some think that if we had a horse we could, one by one, take it for a ride.



We are fortunate for Dave's foresight that we were able to retain this valuable cutter. He took the opportunity to participate in preserving the valued history of Negaunee and the surrounding community.



Art couldn't help but to be drawn to this project and we certainly thank him once again for giving the museum the benefit of his experience and expertise. Hopefully, everyone will take a look at the outstanding work Art put into the restoration of what is now a very valuable artifact for our museum.

The photo of the cutter on top does not show all of the damaged parts that it had on the underside but gives a general idea of its earlier condition. The photo on the right shows it as it sits in the carriage house today. It takes a whole group of dedicated persons to advance a cause, and thanks to Dave and Art and fellow board members, our museum is a shining example of how to take a thought and turn it into reality!



GAS STATION FROM THE PAST

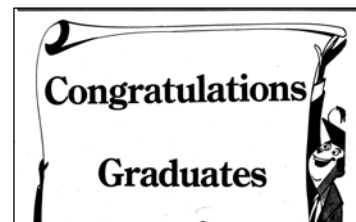
Can anyone recognize this picture from the past? If anyone wanted to know anything about politics or what was happening in Negaunee, they just stopped here for gas and were educated by the local politicians inside. It was Adolph's Sinclair gas station (Adolph Violetta) located at 387 Silver Street. The station became known as Terry's Arco (Terry Talo) in the 1970's.



Anderson, Douglas Allen	Helander, David Arnold	Lahti, Shirley Ann	Picel, Frances Christina
Anderson, Gary Eugene	Hemmila, Dale Robert	Laituri, Kathryn Lee	Pietila, Jonathan Barry
Anttonen, Ruth Marie	Hemmila, Janice Deborah	Larson, Kenneth Michael	Pilto, Theodore John
Arbelius, Janice Lynn	Hemmila, Sandra Avonne	Laurila, Gerald Richard	Prusi, George Wilbert
Bath, William Roy	Hendrickson, Roger Bruce	Lehtinen, Judith Marie	Prusi, Jon Eric
Beauchaine, Susan Lynn	Herrala, Wayne Randall	Lehto, Hugo Theodore	Pynnonen, Donna Marie
Brintlinger, Mary Anna	Hietala, Gale Ellen	Lehto, Kristine Ann	Pyykkonen, Mark Edward
Buck, Miles Marvin	Hill, Daniel Walter	Little, Dallas Scott	Quinn, Clayton Fred
Burke, Elizabeth Ann	Hill, Nancy Ann	Loop, Timothy John	Rasanen, Gary Arvid
Bussone, Michael Joseph	Hill, Ruby Marie	Lukkarinen, David Fredrick	Reichel, Diana Lynn
Cody, Frank Robert	Hintsala, Glenn Reino	Lyons, Suzanne Mary	Roberts, Jo Anne
Collins, Rose Marie	Hodge, David Neil	Maki, James William	Roti, Lois Ann
Dahlstrom, Barbara Marie	Jarvi, Donna Marilyn	Makinen, Terry Ann	Rubatt, Joseph Christopher
Darling, Pamela Grace	Jarvi, Michael John	Marjonen, Lynn Marie	Russo, Dennis Charles
Davey, James Howard	Jarvis, Debra Lee	Marshall, Richard John	Russo, Yvonne Rosalie
DeGabriele, Carolyn Silvia	Jewell, Sandra Eileen	Marta, Anita Ann	Sager, Ronald Kenneth
DeGabriele, David Marius	Johns, Clayton Lee	Marta, Ann Marie	Salmio, Arlene Joyce
Dompierre, Mary Kristine	Johnson, David Carl	Marvin, Cleo Louise	Savolainen, John Francis
Ducoli, Peter Allen	Johnson, Lawrence David	Method, Suzanne Charlotte	Shepley, Rick Doyle
Dunstan, Gary Clayton	Jokipii, Kathleen Marie	Miljour, George John	Sivula, Nancy Annette
Etelamaki, Gordon Gene	Juchemich, David Wayne	Moore, Terry Lee	Sleeman, Linda Ann
Evans, Gary Lew	Kallioinen, John Leslie	Moquin, Ann Marie	Stanaway, Norman Ellis
Flannigan, Dennis John	Kangas, Lois Jean	Morris, Sharon Lee	Sunne, John Pryor
Fosco, Dennis Michael	Karki, Richard Charles	Moyle, Dennis Russell	Sylvester, Russell Frank
Franson, Ralph Raymond	Kemppa, Charles Arthur	Neely, Jill Rae	Torreano, George Dominic
Ghiardi, Francis James	Kettu, Michael John	Newman, Ann Louise	Turino, Rene Leah
Ghiardi, Joseph Jafet	Kevern, Diane Lynn	Niemi, JoAnn Rae	Valesano, Mary Ellen
Ghiringhelli, Louis Peter	Kimar, Nancy Lou	Niemisto, Daniel Lee	Veale, Russell Edward
Gleason, Joanne Louise	Kivela, Glen Daniel	Northey, David Robert	Verran, Gail Louise
Granlund, George Joseph	Kivisto, Dulcey Lee	Numikoski, Roger Alan	Wahlstrom, Leroy James
Grayes, Sandra Ann	Koponen, Shirley Ellen	Nurmi, Diane Jean	Waters, Kathy Ann
Grund, Sandra Lee	Koskey, Robert Michael	Ogea, Peter Lyle	White, Joan Marie
Guizzetti, Veneda Signe	Koski, Linda St. Andre	Patierno, Michael Dale	Wickstrom, Pauline Lois
Hakala, Jack Steven	Kratz, Dennis James	Pelto, Don Randolph	Wiig, Arthur William
Heighes, Ronald Allen	Kujala, Donald Frans	Perrault, Rita Louise	Wiig, Kathleen Joan
Helander, Aleta Richardson	Lahti, Eugene Oliver	Perucco, Steven Paul	Wommer, Gary Lee
			Yelland, Roy Richard



NEGAUNEE HIGH SCHOOL 1968



JUNE 14, 2008 - BUSINESS AFTER HOURS A BIG SUCCESS

The Greater Ishpeming-Negaunee Area Chamber of Commerce held a Business after Hours event, hosted by the Negaunee Historical Society. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, Cognition beer and wine were served. Special prizes were awarded in drawings to lucky visitors. Approximately 60-65 persons visited the museum.



Delicious choice of foods to eat



Friendly Cognition Bartender

Hear no evil See no evil Speak no evil



Jeanne Laura Virginia

A Special Thank You to the Organizers



Plenty of donated gifts



Theresa Donna Pat

(Negaunee Historical Society, P O Box 221, Negaunee, MI 49866-0221)

Lifetime - \$100.00 2018 individual - \$10.00 2018 student - \$5.00



Name: _____

Address: _____

City and Zip: _____