

**MENOMINEE RANGE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION MUSEUM
CORNISH PUMPING ENGINE & MINING MUSEUM
WWII GLIDER & MILITARY MUSEUM
WINTER NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2019**

Dear Museum Friends,

The Menominee Range Historical Foundation Board of Governors wishes you and your family a blessed holiday season and a healthy and peaceful New Year. Continuing support and donations from our faithful membership, year after year, has made for the successful operation of our three facilities, enabling us to meet many of our dreams and goals in 2019.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2019 AND PLANS FOR 2020



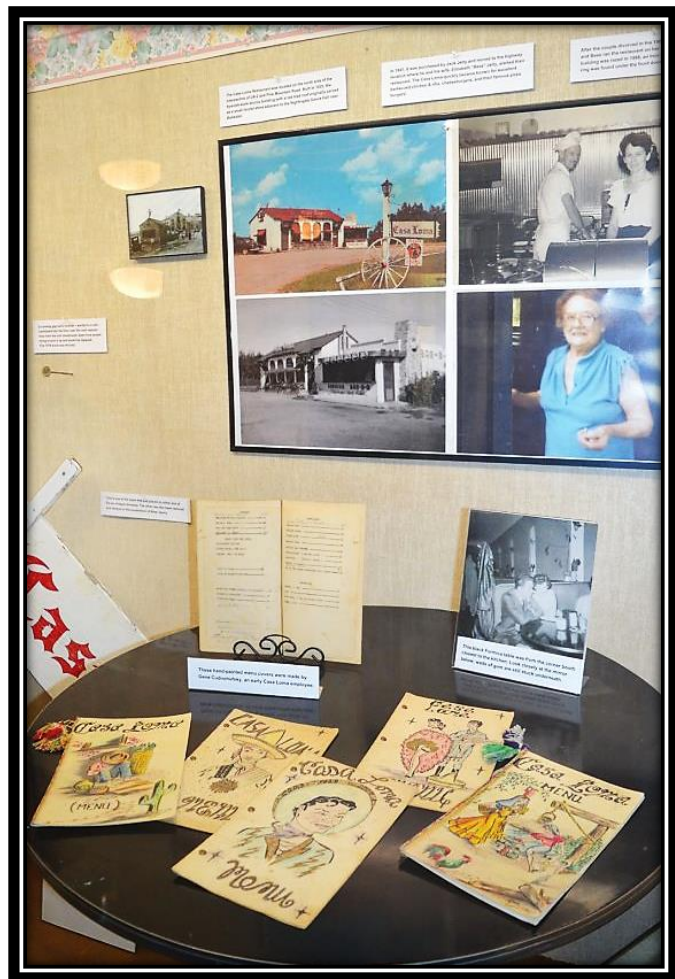
A reenactor from C Company, 401st Glider Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, displayed his personal collection of authentic World War II paraphernalia to visitors during the fourth annual Heritage Day under the wing of the restored CG-4A glider.

On Saturday, June 29, the Foundation hosted its fourth annual Heritage Day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Uniformed members of the

World War II Historical Reenactment Society from Green Bay, Wisconsin, representing C Company, 401st Glider

Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, pitched their tents near the World War II Glider & Military Museum on Friday, June 28, and displayed their equipment for visitors during Saturday's open house. C Company plans to return for the 2020 Heritage Day.

At the Menominee Range Historical Museum: This summer a special exhibit featured items from the Casa Loma Restaurant which opened in 1941 at the intersection of U.S. 2 and Pine Mountain Road and remained in operation until 1985. Patrons enjoyed barbecued chicken and ribs as well as owner Bess Jetty's famous pizzaburger.



Iron Mountain resident Jeff DeRidder, Bess's grandson, donated photos, background information, menus and fixtures which were arranged by Keith and Jayna

(DeRidder) Huotari for the exhibit. Jayna is Jeff's daughter and Bess's great-granddaughter.

At the Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum: In May Clyde Unger installed a working model to show the movement of the slide valves and control arms that allowed for the flow of steam into and out of the Cornish Pump's cylinders. The high pressure cylinder measured 50 inches in diameter and the cylinder head weighed 10 tons. The low pressure cylinder measured 100 inches in diameter and weighed 17 tons.



By mid-June Foundation Vice President Jim Hartwell completed the installation of vents on the north and south walls of the Mining Museum to help alleviate heat generated in this uninsulated metal structure.

At the WWII Glider & Military Museum: The Seventh Annual Veteran's Free Day which began shortly after the WWII Glider & Military Museum opened in 2011 was held on June 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. All

veterans are invited to visit free of charge. Veterans from the Oscar G. Johnson Veterans Hospital are among those who come each year to view the museum exhibits and share lunch and fellowship.



Foundation Treasurer Guy Forstrom and Dolly McCartan posed with the 1924 Ford Model T Coupe Dolly and her husband Scott donated when Guy picked up the vehicle in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, on July 12, 2019.

A 1924 Ford Model T Coupe was donated by Scott and Dolly McCartan of Pewaukee, Wisconsin. The car was originally purchased by Dolly's father, Al Chmielewski, in about 1950 for \$75. Kept at the family's cottage at Little Cosgrove Lake in Spread Eagle, the vehicle was used to go fishing and to give his grandkids rides through the woods.

Dolly's brother Tom Chmielewski drove the Model T from Spread Eagle to Pewaukee,

Wisconsin, in 1960. On the way he had two flat tires and had to use a solid rubber tire he had brought along as a spare to get the rest of the way home. This tire is also on display.

Dolly's father sold the car to his grandson, Tom Chmielewski, Jr., for one dollar and in the late 1980s with guidance from his grandfather Tom, Jr., restored the vehicle.

Scott and Dolly took over as caretakers of the car several years ago. While visiting the

Menominee Range Museums in early July 2019, they decided it would be nice to see the Model T come home to the area so other visitors could enjoy this bit of automotive history.

This model was also known as a “doctor’s coupe” as it is an enclosed all-weather car and was preferred by rural physicians. The 1924 Ford Model T Coupe sold new for \$525. This “tin lizzie” runs and drives as it should.

Promotional Committee Activities: The core Promotional Committee formed last year consists of Mikki Hall, chairperson, and Seth and Lucy Anderson, Ashley Ellis, Mick Gayan, Keith and Jayna Huotari, Michael Johns and Kasey Webber.

Through their efforts considerable work has been done on social media to make it easier to connect with the Foundation’s website currently being redesigned.

The Committee also designed the Foundation’s new logo, pictured at the right, which was approved by the Board in May.



In mid-October 2018 the Committee approached the Foundation Board for permission to organize and handle the annual Independence Day Parade which was granted. Americans for Constitutional Enforcement (A.C.E.) had served as parade organizers for the past sixteen years and were seeking new leadership.

The 2019 theme was Hometown History and parade participants were encouraged to reflect this idea to “bring light to the history of the community.”

The Committee selected Foundation President Bill Cummings as the grand marshal.



The Foundation exhibited its 1939 Ford DeLuxe “Woodie” Station Wagon on its float, pulled by Foundation Treasurer Guy Forstrom.

With a tremendous amount of work from a few dedicated Committee members and

the assistance of Joe Testolin, past parade organizer, the parade was very successful

and money was raised for future promotional activities.



The 2019 Independence Day Parade Grand Marshal Bill Cummings, Joe Testolin of A.C.E. and Parade Chairwoman Jayna Huotari posed at the First National Bank.

VIP reservations were available for \$50 as in past years. The Committee initiated the Carnegie Cup Traveling Trophy, awarded to the first-place winner of the parade float entries which will be passed to the first place winner each succeeding year.

Bloom's Wholesale donated candy for the parade which was attached to a Happy Independence Day Parade Pass allowing the bearer to visit the museums for the remainder of the season at a reduced admission rate. T-shirts with the new Foundation logo identified members as they worked along the parade route.

Museum Tours: The Foundation's Mission Statement reads: *The Menominee Range Historical Foundation is dedicated to the perpetuation and preservation of the history of the Menominee Iron Range and the use of that history and our museums to further educate the general public.*

In accordance with the Mission Statement, Fourth Grade Tours have been conducted for more than 25 years. Area

schools are afforded the opportunity to bring fourth-graders to visit the Menominee Range Historical Museum on scheduled tours. In the fall of 2018 it was decided to conduct Fourth Grade Tours in the fall of 2019. Unfortunately, this year volunteers weren't available and these tours were not held.

The Foundation initiated tours of the Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum and the WWII Glider & Military Museum in the fall of 2018 for eighth graders for all four Dickinson County school districts. As was also the case last year, only Breitung Township Schools' Middle School responded.

A tour of the two museums was given to the Bay West Leadership Academy on October 11 in the late afternoon.

The Pine Mountain Christian School also toured the two museums on September 30.

Tour groups are welcome and guided tours can be scheduled. For groups of 10 or more, a reduced admission fee is charged. Groups range from professional tour companies to local civic, religious, class reunion and family groups.

Kingsford High School World History Class Tour: Approximately 140 11th grade students from Kingsford World History Classes toured the Cornish Pumping Engine/Mining Museum and the Glider/Military Museum on May 20. The event was a cooperative effort between the Foundation and teachers Jessica Garavaglia, Dan Olkkonen and Aaron Yonke.

The theme was "Our Town: A Soldier's Journey" developed for this first World History Local History Day.

Students were divided into six groups and rotated every 45 minutes, visiting: the Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum, the World War II Glider & Military Museum, the Michigan National Guard, the

Army recruiter, the Marine recruiter and a volunteer group of veterans who spoke to the

students and answered questions regarding their service experiences.



Over 160 Kingsford Middle School students from John VanDusen’s eighth grade social studies classes toured the Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum and the WWII Glider & Military Museum on October 10 and 11, continuing the Foundation’s new Eighth Grade Tour program. Foundation President Bill Cummings served as a guide for these tours. Three hour-and-a-half tours of approximately 25-30 students each were conducted each day.

At the “Dry Museum Project” – Phase 2: In the summer and fall of 2017 the new archives room was built in the dry building and the archival material from the Carnegie Public Library was moved to the new facility which is fireproof, climate-controlled and provides easy access to these materials. A manager’s office was also constructed. A storage area above the archives room and manager’s office fills another need.

The Foundation plans to move the museum from the Carnegie Public Library building to the dry building near the Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum as funding permits. This is a long-range goal

which will be achieved incrementally. Having all three facilities on one campus would be a distinct advantage.

Most of the 2019 Phase 2 goals were achieved during the spring, summer and fall under the leadership of Foundation Vice President Jim Hartwell whose considerable professional experience and willingness to volunteer his time and expertise has saved the Foundation a substantial amount of money.

The Foundation was extremely fortunate to be selected to receive the 100 Plus Women Who Care’s gift of approximately \$22,374 at their August 12, 2019 meeting to assist in the Dry Museum Renovation Project.

Continued stages of renovation with estimated costs include: south room display area (33' x 43'), \$85,000; north room display area (33' x 43'), \$85,000; electrical wiring, \$5,000; three gas heaters at \$5,000 each, \$15,000; hallway ceilings, \$15,000; main entry area ceiling, \$19,000; tape and paint

main entry area, \$4,000; 25 4' x 4' wall display cabinets at \$175 each, \$3,750; three special larger wall display cabinets at \$400 each, \$1,200; insulate ceilings with 12-inch deep insulation bats, \$5,000; plate glass for all displays, \$4,500. The estimated total of these projects is \$242,000.



The “Dry Museum Project” is now underway in this historic 108-year-old structure. Phase 2 in 2019 included the construction of 194.5 lineal feet of the outside perimeter walls around the display area which measures 77’9 ½” x 59’3”. Styrofoam insulation with a vapor barrier was attached to the back of the 2” x 4” walls which were affixed to the original sandstone walls. Then fiberglass insulation was installed between the studs for further protection and warmth. Blocking was also installed for the wall display cabinets each measuring about 4-feet square which will be located along the south wall east of the garage door and the full length of the east wall shown here. Windows and the main entrance on the north wall will help light the schoolroom on the northwest corner of the museum. Foundation Vice President Jim Hartwell is pictured at work on the scaffolding.

Refinements of the proposed layout of the new museum continue to be made. These plans will be submitted to an architect this winter so working blueprints can be

developed and progress can continue on actual construction as additional monies become available during 2020 season.



As workmen began to dig the footings for the cement handicapped ramp emergency exit on the east side of the dry building this fall, water was encountered. The trench filled to the top overnight. Coleman Engineering has provided a proposed solution which will be addressed this spring.



The south wall and a portion of the east wall covered in 12-foot high drywall panels can be seen in this photograph. All exterior walls have been sheathed in dry wall.

Members of the Menominee Range Historical Foundation Board of Directors:

Bill Cummings, president and historian; Jim Hartwell, vice-president; Kathie Fayas, secretary; Guy Forstrom, treasurer; Jan Reynolds, Friends of the Museum president; Mikki Hall, Promotions Committee chairwoman; Pam Edens, Bob Johnson, Dave Pelto, Roger Scott and Joe Warren, trustees.

Museum Manager Dianne Castelaz-Chiapusio:

Beginning her twenty-seventh year, Dianne continues to serve as museum manager, covering a wide range of responsibilities.

Volunteers Keep the Museums Open:

Volunteers are crucial to our museums, for without them the Board could not afford to staff the three sites and operate for the number of hours open during the season.

Volunteers staff the WWII Glider & Military Museum, working from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. An employee covers this museum on Saturdays and Sundays. Several Board members also staff this museum weekly or bi-weekly.

The admissions desk and gift shop at the Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum are staffed by one full-time employee and one part-time employee and one volunteer weekly, who works Monday mornings from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., allowing the manager to perform other duties.

Staffing the Menominee Range Historical Museum has been increasingly difficult. However, this past year the Museum was open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. most weeks. Keith and Jayna Huotari kept the museum open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Volunteers are always needed, including individuals willing to occasionally substitute. Please consider contributing time to assist the museums' operations in this manner.

Toro Lawn Mower Donation: Through the efforts of Foundation Treasurer Guy Forstrom a new Toro 60” MyRIDE TimeCutter HD Zero Turn Mower was donated by Boss Plow which is owned by the Toro Company. The Toro Company supports

nonprofit organizations by providing high quality products to maintain their facilities and help them achieve their mission. Qualifying communities must be located within 30 miles of a Toro headquarters or manufacturing facility.



Pictured from left to right are Foundation Treasurer Guy Forstrom, Toro Co-Ambassador Justina Blazier, Museum Manager Dianne Castelaz-Chiapusio (on mower), F.P.& A. Director Joe Jaeger, BOSS Vice-President Jody Christy and Senior Product Development Technician Noah Williams. Forstrom applied in the spring and the award was announced in October.

Friends of the Museum Raise Funds for Numerous Projects: The Friends of the Museum group continues to offer financial support to all three museums. One antique/craft show was held in the spring of 2019.

Members are Janet Reynolds, president/treasurer; Greta Betti, vice-president; Julie Eutizzi, secretary; Diane Carlson, Susan Cobb, Kathie Fayas, Darlene Orlor, Jackie Rosen and Kay Villa.

Oak Island Fund Raisers: The History Channel series “The Curse of Oak Island”

features Kingsford natives Rick and Marty Lagina and their colleagues exploring the island in the Canadian province of Nova Scotia, trying to find the treasure legend claims was buried there 220 years ago.

Rick Lagina donated a variety of Oak Island memorabilia including caps, key chains and necklaces to the Foundation to be used as a fundraiser.

On Saturday morning, June 15, the Friends of the Museum under the leadership of Jan Reynolds and Kathie Fayas held the Oak Island Fundraiser in the dry building

and the items were sold out within an hour and a half.



Foundation Secretary Kathie Fayas and Friends of the Museum President Jan Reynolds show some of the items sold at the Oak Island Fundraiser in June.

The Laginas donated additional Oak Island memorabilia to the Foundation this fall. The John Fornetti Dental Center offered space in their building to the Foundation to sell these items for the annual “Girl’s Night Out” on Thursday, November 14. Dr. Fornetti’s wife Theresa is a sister of the Lagina brothers.

Funding Needs: The Foundation again needs your help in realizing its 2020 museum goals. As our membership list grows shorter with each passing year, your continued support is most appreciated. Please help us to encourage others to become members and support our museums. A membership form is included for your consideration and is also available on our website, noted at the bottom of this page.

Annual donations come from individuals, businesses, anonymous benefactors, the Iron Mountain-Kingsford Women’s Club, TADCA, the First National Bank & Trust, the Red Oak Foundation and WE Matching Funds. A number of grants have also been received from the Dickinson Area Community Foundation.

The Menominee Range Historical Foundation is funded only through admission fees, gift shop sales, memberships, donations, bequests and occasionally grants. No tax dollars from city, county, state or national sources are received.

Donations of any size for any of the museums are always very much appreciated. Make your check out to “Museums,” P.O. Box 237, Iron Mountain, MI 49801. Please call Secretary Kathie Fayas at (906) 774-2827 with any questions.

**SEASONS GREETINGS FROM
THE MENOMINEE RANGE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

VISIT US AT: menomineemuseum.com



MENOMINEE RANGE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Menominee Range Historical Foundation and its three museums – Menominee Range Historical Museum, Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum, World War II Glider & Military Museum – is a 501(c) 3 organization dependent upon donations, grants, membership dues and earned income to provide its annual operating costs. Individuals and groups help support the Foundation as follows:

- **Annual Membership for All Three Museums** (\$20 single/couple or \$25 for family, including children living at home to age 18): Members just need to give name at the front desk of the museum for admission.
- **Life Membership** (\$100): Dues provide admission for life and a 1” x 3” brass plaque of up to three short lines of copy installed at the **Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum**. The plaque may include the name and city and state of the life member.
- **Memorial** (\$50): \$50 is required for the initial plaque set-up. Additional names may be added as other memorial donations are received. The plaque may include “In Memory of _____, City and State, by (donor’s name).” The plaques are installed at the **Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum**.
- **Glider/Military Museum Memorial Plaque** (\$50): Plaque installed at the **World War II Glider & Military Museum** with text up to 7 short lines, and installed in the **General Section** (may include name of person honored, reason honored, name of donor) or **Special Military Section** (may include name, war, rank, where served, medals, etc.) Call Kathie Fayas at (906) 774-2827 for additional information.
- **Founders’ Club** (\$1,000): Dues paid for life, bronze 2” x 8” plaque installed at the **Menominee Range Historical Museum**. Only interest from these donations may be used to perpetuate the museums. Plaque inscription may hold up to five short lines of information (may include name, city and state, and additional information).
- **Heritage Club** (\$1,000): Dues paid for life, bronze 2” x 8” plaque installed at the **Cornish Pumping Engine & Mining Museum Gift Shop**. These funds may be used in total for maintenance of the museums. Plaque inscription may hold up to five short lines of information (may include name, city and state, and additional information).
- **General Donation For General Maintenance of Historical/Cornish Pump Museums** (amount donated): \$_____
- **General Donation For General Maintenance of World War II Glider & Military Museum** (amount donated): \$_____

Please circle the appropriate item and send a check payable to the Menominee Range Historical Foundation, P.O. Box 237, Iron Mountain, MI 49801. For additional information or assistance call (906) 828-1822 or (906) 774-2827. **Thank you for your support to help preserve our heritage.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

____ Would be willing to bake for Friends of the Museum sales or help at sales – call (906) 774-5212

____ Will save Super One/Econo Foods grocery slips – leave at either museum or call (906) 828-1822

____ Would like to volunteer at museums – call (906) 828-1822

____ Would like to donate to the Perpetuation Fund in my trust or will – call Kathie Fayas at 774-2827

Menominee Range Historical Foundation
P.O. Box 237
Iron Mountain, MI 49801



Postmarked February 6, 1910, at Granite Bluff this sprinkler sleigh was driven by Nels P.