

# The Clapboard

Fall/Winter 2015

*Partnering with Sleeping Bear  
Dunes National Lakeshore to  
Preserve and Interpret its Rich  
Heritage of Historic Structures  
and Landscapes*

## Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear

### VOLUNTEERING: WHY THEY DO IT



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGGEN WATT PHOTOGRAPHY (caption pg. 5)

Looking over the successful preservation projects of the past 15 years, we marvel at the volunteer efforts that made so much of it possible, and ask what motivates people to volunteer? It's certainly not money, and good thing—since we don't offer that. Besides, that would defy the very definition of volunteering, wouldn't it? It's been well-documented that money isn't a reliable motivator anyway. So if not money, what does motivate us? At the end of the day, research and volunteers seem to agree—it's doing something that make us feel good about ourselves, whether it brings a sense of belonging, friendship, connection to community, or making an impact on the things we value. Now *that's* some-

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**NEW CHALLENGE MATCH! - Page 3**



-thing Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear can offer in spades. We have a cause—preserving and interpreting our heritage, a heritage evidenced in the farming community of Port Oneida, the lumbering town of Glen Haven, unique log cabins, one-room schoolhouses, inns, and maritime buildings throughout the National Park. These structures exemplify craftsmanship and pioneer history. What volunteers get in return for their efforts is a sense of self-worth, confidence, feelings of accomplishment, strengthening of social or career skills, and staying active and strong. Whether serving as a tour guide, demonstrator of 19th century crafts, or painting and repairing a historic building—to know what you do is enriching humanity in some way, feeds the soul.

For our HistoriCrew, working alongside others with varying skills gives opportunities to mentor or be mentored; to learn, and stretch comfort zones; to overcome challenges and celebrate victories at the end of the day. There's also the satisfaction that comes from physical labor with a purpose, on a project that often only a team could

accomplish—one that you can proudly say you've been a part of. Bottom line is, it's good for mind and body.

We're grateful for the work of our volunteers who take time from their lives to put their hands to the plow as caretakers of these special buildings and landscapes. These are historic preservationists at work. They understand there is much to learn from our past. Their endeavors are that the stories and efforts of these pioneers will live on for many generations, and that some of these resources will be re-used for the greater good. As they get up-close and personal with these buildings, removing their broken boards and sealing them tight from the ravages of weather and animals, they can almost hear them sigh in relief that someone cares whether they survive or fall.

But who better than our own volunteers to tell us why they do it?! Read on, and then share with us your story—we'd love to hear it

- SUSAN POCKLINGTON, Director

## VOLUNTEER PERSPECTIVE—WHY WE SAVE HISTORY



Working in the rain and the hot sun, pulling down dirty ceilings, cleaning up piles of debris, paint-

ing and staining, glazing and repairing crumbly windows, clearing brush—WHY DO WE DO THIS?

Our passion as Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear volunteers began as a desire to save the historic buildings in the park. That desire was quickly enhanced after Lita, former resident of the Boekeloo Cabin, came to visit while we were working there, sharing stories of her childhood and telling about the horse that lived under the cabin. And Mr. Owens, who happened by on his motorcycle while we were working on the Tweddle School, stopping to tell us that his grandfather taught at the school and that his mother was a student there. The structures have come to life and our interest has quickly evolved into preserving the culture and lives of the folks who settled this area. Reading the stories of the pioneering inhabitants of North Manitou Island and hearing the encouraging comments of the hikers going by as we work, has built our desire to push onward in our preservation work.

PHSB has also provided us the opportunity to develop relationships and friendships with park personnel and other volunteers which would not have happened without the Preserve organization. We have learned many skills from working

with many talented people. The camaraderie among the volunteers, all working together for a common purpose, has carried over to our social lives. As a result of working together, friendships have formed that go beyond the work projects. While hiking, swimming, or sitting around a campfire together, enthusiasm builds as we chatter about the next project we'll get involved in. THIS IS WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO!

- Doug and Margo Detzler, MI and, IN



It has always been a huge privilege to participate in the work projects for Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear, and to participate in the great work being done in our National Park. Working with the other volunteers has always been a lot of fun, especially on the Katie Shepard Hotel project on the North Manitou Island. We are often stopped by visitors to the island and asked questions, or get to hear their stories about memories that are sparked by seeing the work. The work we do is important, it is more than just painting boards or repairing a window, it is about helping people to remember. They look and they remember who they are, where they came from, the history, not just of the people on this island, but the human history. The places have memory, not haunted exactly, but carrying a rich weight of the past that is available for all to experience.

- Stacie Hill, Okemos, MI

# PRESERVE CONTRIBUTES RECORD VALUE

## CASH DIRECT TO PARK

*Preservation and Interpretation Projects* **\$14,498**

## CASH IN-KIND TO PARK

*Interpretation* **\$12,849**

*Preservation Projects - 16 projects* **\$81,064**

Farmland restoration—tractor and mower purchase  
Ole Oleson farmhouse painting and repair  
Carsten Burfiend farmhouse(s) painting and repair  
C. Burfiend repair of 20 windows  
Port Oneida Schoolhouse roof and repair  
Katie Shepard Hotel, North Manitou Island  
Riggs Cottage, North Manitou Island  
Kraitz Cabin restoration  
Faust Cabin restoration  
Tweddle School Porch repair and roof  
Martin Basch Farm field restoration  
Antique Orchard Grafting Project  
Charles Olsen Farm landscape restoration  
Charles Olsen Farm barn door and post restoration  
Charles Olsen Barn roof coating

## IN-KIND TO PARK

**Volunteer hours – 3803 hours** **\$125,364**

Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear contributed more to heritage preservation and interpretation of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore **this past fiscal year** than ever before in our 17 year history! The contribution is a combination of funds given directly to the park for projects; cash in-kind which is our total direct expenditures on preserving historic structures; and the value of volunteer hours. The real value is even greater, as we estimate our projects would be three times the cost if the government, or a government contract did the work.

While Preserve contributes more than 75% of the partner groups in the National Park Service, our need is great with such a unique collection of historic structures. We will continue to strive to reach the heights of partner contributions at Parks such as the Smokey Mountains or Acadia!

***Thank you to our amazing donors/members for supporting your national park!***

**CONTRIBUTED VALUE THIS YEAR: \$233,775**

## EXCITING *NEW* 90-DAY CHALLENGE MATCH STARTS NOW!

Last year a donor threw down the gauntlet and challenged Preserve and our members to match his pledge of \$25,000. Not only did our members step up, they exceeded the goal! We welcomed new members and some that had forgotten us for awhile; and were thankful to current members that increased their contributions. This had a huge impact on a banner year of accomplishments. We're grateful to everyone who helped us meet the match.

There is still more to do, however. The National Park has protected 71,000 acres for the public, but they need your help to save the 366 historic buildings and elements therein. There are many more historic structures to repair, and plans to develop for use of these buildings and fields!

**That's why we are extremely excited to announce a new challenge match that comes with an incredible twist—there's no ceiling on it! That's right, it will be matched dollar for dollar for as much as we can muster.**

If you ever wanted to tell people about what we do and what it means to you, this might be the time. What an opportunity to increase our impact in preserving the heritage of this special place in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore that is yours to treasure and enjoy.

We hope you will help us double your dollar by meeting one of the following qualifiers:

1. Join for the first time. New members will qualify, so please share this opportunity with your Facebook friends. Consider a gift membership, honorarium or memorial in addition to your annual donation.
2. If you have given to Preserve in the past, but did not donate last year, your membership renewal will qualify.
3. **THIS is exciting.** If you met our match last year, and you give the same amount or more this year, whatever portion qualified last year will again qualify. This means that last year you were either a new member/donor; or you donated last year after a lapse year (you didn't give the year before); or you increased your donation by at least \$25.
4. Join our Plowshare Society! See page four for details.

**Our first goal is \$30,000 by April 1st (90 days!).**

Use either the form on page four, the envelope sent to current members, or donate at [www.phsb.org](http://www.phsb.org). Thank you in advance for helping us get to our goal!

## GET INVOLVED: VOLUNTEER!



There are many ways to get involved! Applications are currently being accepted for board and committee positions. Please contact us for more details.

**Board of Directors:** Board membership requires attending an average of eight board meetings a year as well as some events, and serving on committees. Skill-sets include, but are not limited to, experience in marketing, print design, legal profession, accounting, construction, preservation, event planning, education, finance, community planning, business, gardening, interest in history, or enthusiastic folks that support our mission! We are also currently looking to fill an officer vacancy of Treasurer.

**Teams/Committees:** Alternatively, contact us about joining one of these teams. They meet to plan their activities and delegate tasks among team members:

\_\_\_ **Adaptive-Use** focuses on developing plans and proposals for adaptive-use of historic buildings and land.

\_\_\_ **Development** assists with budget review, fund development, and fundraising events.

\_\_\_ **Outreach** involves our expanding interpretive and educational programming; events and promotion.

\_\_\_ **Projects** assists in determining our list of preservation projects, lines up supervisors, prepares materials lists, and assesses buildings. Construction, engineering, architecture, or carpentry experience is extremely helpful.

**Volunteer Staff:** We are hiring a summer lead docent at the Olsen farm with housing provided; and a volunteer writer for press releases, social media and our website.

**Specific Tasks:** We also need volunteers for specific tasks. If you are interested, please complete the volunteer form on our website at [www.phsb.org](http://www.phsb.org). Thank you!

\_\_\_ Preservation Projects    \_\_\_ Adopt a building  
\_\_\_ Docent    \_\_\_ Port Oneida Run  
\_\_\_ Tour Guides    \_\_\_ Caretaker

## MEET THE *NEWMATCH!*

### BE A STEWARD *of* SLEEPING BEAR

With a donation of any amount, you become a member or "Steward" of Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear. To double your impact, see page 3 for details on how your gift can qualify for a match!

#### Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation

\$5,000+	Preservationist	_____
\$2,500-4,999	Harvester	_____
\$1000-2,499	Barnraiser	_____
\$500-999	Cultivator	_____
\$250-499	Tiller	_____
\$100-\$249	Homesteader	_____
\$50-99	Settler	_____
\$35-49	Pioneer	_____
Up to \$34	Friend	_____

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

### PLOWSHARE SOCIETY

\_\_\_ Join with a pledge to give a minimum of \$500 annually!



*Sowing Deep Financial Seeds*

### GIFTS, HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS

A membership to *Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear* is a meaningful gift for someone who loves the National Park. For the person who has everything, it makes a great Christmas, Birthday or Wedding gift. A gift in honor or in memory is also a unique way to recognize a loved one.

### LIFESAVER LEGACY

Ensure a legacy you can be proud of. Planned Giving could include bequests, designating PHSB as a beneficiary of your IRA or other retirement account, gifting real estate, or artwork which benefits PHSB and may avoid capital gains tax.

Visit [www.phsb.org](http://www.phsb.org) for further details.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PHSB, P.O. BOX 453  
EMPIRE MI 49630 OR DONATE ONLINE AT  
[WWW.PHSB.ORG](http://WWW.PHSB.ORG)





# A MESSAGE FROM THE PARK

Tom Ulrich, Deputy/Acting Superintendent

I just returned from a week of training with fellow Superintendents and Deputies. One of the highlights was a morning session given by a Disney executive who discussed leadership culture, visitor services, brand identity, and mission focus. There were lots of good lessons applicable to the National Park Service, to be sure, but one thing we all agreed upon afterward was a fundamental difference in our missions; the National Park Service preserves REAL history and nature for people to experience, and Disney merely replicates it.



I personally appreciate the work of Preserve and its volunteers, as I know the nature of bureaucracy doesn't make the National Park Service the easiest group to partner with! Safety regulations, environmental protection laws, and a web of national policies can slow things down quite a bit! Director Susan Pocklington and the project leaders have been exceptionally patient; learning "the system" well and still accomplishing great things every year. We will soon be meeting to discuss priorities for 2016.

When we go over the many historic preservation needs that the park just can't get to, I know Preserve will again step up and insist they can take on the work. Somehow, they overcome obstacles and seem to accomplish more each year.

That distinction is one that engenders real passion and commitment in National Park Service employees, visitors, and volunteers. As I look back on all the good work that Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear has accomplished in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore this year, it strikes me that nobody exemplifies that passion and commitment better than Preserve's volunteer corps. Whether it was the crew fixing up the Tweddle School porch, a docent talking history at the Olsen House, Intern Denise Ganpat doing whatever-was-needed, or the annual expedition to Cottage Row on North Manitou Island, Preserve's volunteers gave of themselves with a "can-do" attitude toward saving very real pieces of our nation's history for all to enjoy.

As someone who has dedicated my professional career toward caring for the most special – and real – places in America, I am always humbled by people who donate their time, treasure, and talent to that mission. There are many who love history and who love Sleeping Bear Dunes, but only a fraction of these manifest that love with real effort. I thank the volunteers of Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear for their dedication to this amazing place and for coming back year after year to do the very real work of preserving it. You are "The Real Deal".

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COVER PHOTO—North Manitou Island HistoriCrew in front of the Riggs Cottage. Front row - Jim Fonte, Ben Eichorst, Karen Wells, Vince Sadowski, Margo Detzler, Fred Siegmund, Joel Petersen, and Meggen Petersen. Back row - Stacie Hill, David Watt, Doug Detzler, and David Chew.

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER



During her childhood, Penny Szczechowski spent a few weeks each summer at the Burfiend farm in Port Oneida. "We are related to them through my great Aunt Bertha Lawr whose family farm is also in Port Oneida," says Penny. "When the

park took over the farm I was very pleased that it would remain as I remembered it as a child. Being a board member of Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear gives me an opportunity to work to keep the historic buildings and area available for

everyone. This project is very close to my heart." Penny is a former teacher, a board member of the Benzie Area Christian Neighbors, and a volunteer in the food pantry and at her church. She served as secretary for the Friends of the Beulah Library during the fundraising and building of the new library.

She and her husband Jim live in Beulah and have saved and preserved two historic homes downstate. They have helped build homes for Habitat for Humanity, and Jim also volunteers with Preserve on projects. With Penny's passion for history, we are fortunate to have her join our team!



# MEMORIES OF MY SUMMER WITH PRESERVE

Denise Ganpat



Whether my title was marketing intern, exhibit host, docent, or Susan's assistant, my summer 2015 Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear (PHSB) volunteer time was terrific! Along with these various titles, I enjoyed many activities and an incredible family experience. I volunteered for nine weeks, and our sons joined me for five of the weeks. In addition to the beautiful place, we discovered that the opportunity to meet and work

our sons Blake and Grant, were ideal ages for this kind of adventure. They had opportunities to be docents, clean/dig out the barn, plant and mulch potatoes, clear brush, and more. One of my favorite memories was when the boys participated in the Fourth of July parade for PHSB as a farmer and cow.

Both sides of my family have farmed for several generations, so I am familiar with historic structures, farming tools and techniques. As we learned about the history of the area, I found many similarities in the stories of Port Oneida families and my ancestors. It didn't take long to feel comfortable with the neighbors, visitors, staff, and other volunteers within Sleeping Bear!

My boys and I stayed close to the Olsen farm in another Park farmhouse (without TV or Internet) where they enjoyed exploring the barnyard, playing croquet, and reading. Besides the fun volunteering, we loved spending time at the beach, riding bicycles, hiking, and exploring nature. As a former farm girl who loves old houses, barns, and water, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear was a perfect fit!

alongside kind, dedicated, and appreciative people to preserve this special place and to educate its visitors made our time with PHSB extra wonderful!

I work at Drake University in a 10-month position. In June 2014, we met several volunteers in Yellowstone National Park, and that's when I first considered the idea of a summer volunteer position. My husband, family members, and friends probably wondered what I was up to when I started planning to leave Iowa to volunteer during my time off, but God opened the door to a special blessing. There is no better time to help preserve the past than the present, and at 11 and 13,

*We were delighted to have Denise and her two boys as volunteers. Denise received summer housing in Port Oneida in exchange for working 24 hours a week. She was our lead docent, but her tasks varied from promotion to giving tours. Denise was always cheerful, professional, and showed great initiative. Her boys wanted to volunteer too, and her husband helped when he visited! They were all a wonderful addition. If you would like to volunteer next summer in exchange for housing in the Park, a possible stipend, and time to enjoy Sleeping Bear, please apply at [www.phsb.org](http://www.phsb.org).*

## PRESERVING THE FARMSCAPES

Youth groups seem to enjoy taking loppers to invasive brush and saplings and seeing immediate rewards! They have the energy and enthusiasm to cut through a jungle of invasive olive autumn, black locust, and silver poplar. This summer we took out massive amounts of silver poplar at the Martin Basch farm. This tree outcompetes native plants and



shrubs and was encroaching on the farm's fields. Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) worked hard on a July morning with 16 students and four adults. The Christian Service Brigade (pictured left) from Haslett, nearly finished the job with their crew in October. It's the community service portion of their annual trek to play up north. Thanks to these great student groups!



## CARING FOR THE PORT ONEIDA SCHOOLHOUSE

The Port Oneida Schoolhouse has a new green-shingled roof! Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear funded, and was the contract manager for, this much-needed project on the schoolhouse, owned by Glen Lake Community Schools. The roof was in bad shape and had recently started leaking. Several other substantial repairs were made including replacing rotted roof boards and fascia, and partially rebuilding the bell tower.

Preserve completed the project in September using funds from a grant award, and a dedicated donation. We first contacted Glen Lake Community Schools in May of 2013 to offer assistance in preserving the schoolhouse and to explore potential use of it for programs. In August 2014, the school contacted us to help. The project involved working closely with the School and their architect. We're happy we could assist with saving this community asset and important feature of the Port Oneida Rural Historic District.

**Rotted roof boards were replaced on the entire porch with rough sawn boards**



*Picture top right: porch needs all new sheathing. Right: The new shingles look great!*

## PORT ONEIDA RUN ADDS TILLER'S 10K



Beavers on Kelderhouse road in Port Oneida almost nixed our aim to add a 10K run to the Port Oneida 5Krun/walk held Saturday, August 1st. But wind and sun helped dry enough of the dam overflow on the dirt road to safely navigate it. The Tiller's 10K adds a longer, less hilly race option on a combination of dirt roads, paved Port Oneida road, the Bay View Trail, and even a beautiful stretch of

Lake Michigan beach. It required more work in signage, volunteers and food, but the runners loved it! About 300 people participated in both runs on a weather-perfect low humidity, low 70s day. We were struck by how many runners were thanking volunteers on the course, since from where we stood, they were doing the hard work! How nice that they appreciated the volunteers' part in the event that raised \$3,150.

Indeed, the event is yet another example of the importance of our volunteers. It would be impossible to host without them serving food, registering participants, and guiding runners on the course. It was a great day. A HUGE thanks to all who came out to run or walk the race! We hope to see you next year on Saturday, August 6th to "Run for the Farms!"





## TRACTOR GIFTED—FUNDS RAISED FOR MOWER

Bob Sutherland of Cherry Republic in Glen Arbor has long supported our efforts, but this year he gave his most generous gift to Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear yet; a tractor for our landscape preservation program! This larger tractor can pull a bigger mower, and Preserve raised \$16,000 for this purchase in time for Fritz Barratt of Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes, and other volunteers to get out and mow the farm fields. Mowing capacity increased from 250 acres to 1000 acres in the short window allowed by the Park to avoid nesting birds. Our thanks to donors who contributed to the mower fundraising campaign! If sitting high and looking out on farm fields sounds relaxing and fun, come get trained and volunteer in 2016! Contact us at phsb@leelanau.com.

*Preserve Chairman Bill Herd (left) thanks Bob Sutherland of Cherry Republic*



## THE GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING—VOLUNTEERS

Fiscal year 2014-2015 (Oct.1-Sept.30) 3,803 Volunteer Hours = \$125,364 value

To our volunteers that participate in projects, greet Park visitors, give tours, tend gardens, serve at events, and help in many other ways—our hats are off to you. We thank you so much for all that you do. Your contribution is of tremendous value to Preserve and the National Park.

*If we have missed anyone please let us know!*

### OPERATIONS

Cheri Boss  
Mary Crane  
Ed Crippen  
Maureen Doran  
Denise Ganpat  
Bill Herd  
Jean Jenkins  
Amy Peterson  
Fred Siegmund  
Linda Stevenson  
Ty Stuber  
Penny Szczachowski

### ADOPT -A - HIGHWAY

Bob Quinn  
Rita Quinn  
Karen Wells

### APPLE DAY

Jerry Conroy  
Jean Jenkins

### DOCENTS/TOURS

Chris Armbrecht  
Mary Crane  
Denise Ganpat  
Bill Herd  
Jean Jenkins  
Phyllis Konold  
Nancy Olsen  
Dorie Price  
Charlotte Smith  
Linda Stevenson  
Ty Stuber  
Tom Van Zoeren

### PROJECTS

#### Olsen Farm

Francis Alfs  
Ed Crippen  
Margo Detzler  
Doug Detzler  
Blake Ganpat  
Denis Ganpat  
Grant Ganpat  
John Griffith  
Chris Nettleton  
Rod Nettleton  
Fred Siegmund  
David Watt  
Karen Wells

#### C. Burfiend Farm

John Flynn  
John Goff

John Sargent  
Steve Stier  
Jim Szczachowski  
Karen Wells  
John Wells

### Gardening

Maureen Doran

### Basch Field Restoration

Christian Service  
Brigade  
John Griffith  
TCAPS

### North Manitou

Doug Detzler  
Margo Detzler  
Ben Eichorst  
Jim Fonte  
Stacie Hill  
Joel Petersen  
Meggen Petersen  
Vince Sadowski  
Fred Siegmund  
David Watt

Karen Wells  
Tom Whitaker

### Kraitz Cabin

Jerry Conroy  
Doug Detzler  
Bill Herd  
Rod Nettleton  
Chris Nettleton  
Fred Siegmund  
David Watt

### Tweddle Schoolhouse

Phil Bergman  
Rose Bergman  
Doug Detzler  
Margo Detzler  
Fred Siegmund  
Libby Siegmund

### Farming

Blake Ganpat  
Grant Ganpat  
Bill Herd

### EXHIBIT

Ganesh Ganpat

Barb Kobberstad  
Jim Kobberstad

### PORT ONEIDA RUN

Josephine  
Arrowwood  
Luke Bell  
Doug Detzler  
Margo Detzler  
Maureen Doran  
Pete Edwards  
Bonnie Gotshall  
Darcy Heyd  
Jean Jenkins  
Colin Johnstone  
Peter Katz  
Barb Kobberstad  
Jim Kobberstad  
Kelly Kobberstad  
Don McNew  
Peggy McNew  
Fred Siegmund  
Libby Siegmund  
Penny Szczachowski  
David Watt  
Jill Webb

## THREE FARMHOUSES AND A GRANT

Bare clapboard—it's an open invitation to deterioration. With many split boards and little to no paint on the siding, the historic Ole Oleson farmhouse at the end of Kelderhouse road, and both Carsten Burfiend farmhouses on Port Oneida road, were on our list for preservation work last summer.



*Left: Park crews replace rotted boards. Above: painters finish the north house.*

Funded primarily by a grant, the exterior was scraped, primed, and painted their orig-

inal white by contractors. As on similar projects, Park crews helped out by replacing cracked boards with new ones



*Above: Ole Oleson before painting; Below: painting crews at work.*

which Preserve purchased. They installed 1200 linear feet of cedar siding on the three buildings. While the lead-certified painters were on site—we had them clean out interior debris from fallen

ceilings as well. With the exteriors painted and repaired, the buildings are in much better shape to be preserved from the elements and for potential re-use.



## SAVING WINDOWS—THE SOUL OF A BUILDING

Windows are one of the most important features of a building. In the Park, we make every effort to preserve the original wooden windows on historic buildings, maintaining the integrity of the 19th century architecture. It's a big job considering the number of windows on over 200 historic buildings!



*Above: Karen Wells, Jim Szczechowski and John Goff at windows workshop with Steve Stier in background. Right: John Wells installs repaired window at Burfiend farm.*

Our volunteers were busy again last summer working to complete the 28 windows on the north Carsten Burfiend house as the first stage of rehabilitation for use. The crew first attended a May window workshop alongside

South Manitou Lighthouse. A series of work sessions followed on the Burfiend windows, organized by the volunteers themselves—Karen Wells and John Goff—who were eager to keep the momentum going on this large project. All but eight were completed by fall. Those have been removed and taken indoors to be worked on over the winter.



Contrary to popular opinion, there's much evidence that keeping old windows, when coupled with a storm window, will give better insulation, and save money. In addition, it keeps them out of a landfill. The National Park Service offers information on the repair of historic windows in documents available online, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation offers a "Weatherization Guide for Older & Historic Buildings". It takes a variety of tools and supplies, knowledge of how to remove and install the windows with a rope pulley system, and a good amount of patience. Volunteer crews are doing a fantastic job, and will continue to work throughout the park preserving windows—the soul of a building.

NPS employees, offered by the Park. With instruction from Steve Stier, they worked on windows from the Burfiend farm, Monte Carlo Cottage (North Manitou), Kraitz Cabin, and



# TWEDDLE SCHOOLHOUSE NOT FORGOTTEN

*Fred Siegmund*



*Phil Bergman replaces deteriorated flooring on the porch*

Tweddle School sits on M-22 a mile or so south of Empire at the corner of Stormer Road. It's safe to say many park visitors drive past it during their summer visits without any idea it's a park building, or a former school with a long history. It has no sign or other markings. Those who find it on Park Service handouts and stop to investigate find a white frame building that goes back to 1895. It has a steeply sloped roof, a long front porch and two front doors remain: one for the girls and one for the boys.

After Preserve members noticed roof shingles curling and the porch floor sagging and collapsing with plenty of rotting deck boards, plans for repairs moved forward at the annual NPS projects meeting. It took only one sunny July day for Phil Bergman, his wife Rose, Doug Detzler and me to jack up the porch and put in new footers. Shingles and deck boards were ordered and a date set for completing the work, thought by all to be a "one day job."

Surprises started quickly the second day when I got on the roof: "Hey Doug, it's a little spongy up here." After a couple scrapes at the asphalt shingles I found rotting cedar shingles underneath. A little more scraping and rotting roof

boards appeared and then some rotting and broken rafters under that. Phil Bergman is a Grand Rapids builder who had to leave after the second day and so Doug and I "one more day'd it" for eight long days. Ahhh, but there is fun and success to report. As volunteers we took days off and picked



sunny weather to work, and Doug and I got our respective wives, Margo and Libby, to come along and help. With no electricity it turned into a hand tools project with the guys on the roof doing the measuring, fitting and pounding and Margo and Libby at the saw horses below taking measurements to mark and cut boards and shingles.

What a team! Of course we needed coffee breaks with Deering's fresh donuts and sweet rolls and a leisurely lunch



*Margo and Libby, (left) cut rough sawn sheathing, while Fred and Doug (above) install it to match the historic material*

under the cedar trees and along the Lilac hedge that borders the grounds. Good thing we had the foresight to bring our camp chairs.

The Park Service does not yet have final plans for Tweddle School but it is stable now and has a new and most hospitable porch thanks to our efforts and Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear. Stop by, have a look, or bring your camp chairs to relax and watch the world go by.



# RESTORATION BEGINS TO SAVE PIONEER CABIN

*Bill Herd*



For folks who have been watching with dismay, the rapid deterioration of the park's oldest pioneer cabin, they will be delighted to know that preservation work has begun. In early September, volunteers removed the badly damaged roof and gable ends of the Kraitz cabin. This was the first step in a major project to remove and replace rotten logs. PHSB has contracted with log home builder Larry Lolito of Williamsburg whose crew will skillfully remove the damaged logs, hew new logs, re-create the dovetail corner joints, and set the new logs in place.

The first generation of settlers in the Lakeshore built log homes. Folks who settled in Port Oneida and North Unity came from areas of Europe with a long tradition of log construction. The cabins that they built had exceptional craftsmanship. The Kraitz cabin, built about 1860, is not only the oldest structure on the mainland por-

tion of the Park, but is also architecturally significant as an excellent example of this craftsmanship. It is one-of-a-kind, and a physical reminder of the early years of European settlement in Northwest Lower Michigan.

One of the difficulties of the project was finding large enough logs. We needed several logs 14" in diameter and 20 feet long. Unaware of our project, Blue Bay Builders of Glen Arbor called "out of the blue" one day: "Could you use some really large hemlock trees from a lot we're building on?", they asked. Yes! The Park took on the task of transporting them—not easy, given the number and size of the logs. To make this project possible, much of the



*The Park transported the large hemlock trees from Glen Arbor.*

work will be done with volunteers from PHSB. When the new logs have been set in place, volunteers will return next spring to rebuild the roof and gable ends, repair windows and doors, and remove and replace chinking between the logs. When done, the cabin will appear just as it did when it was first built and will be a place for school classes and families to have a glimpse of pioneer life.

## FAUST CABIN CHOSEN AS CENTENNIAL PROJECT



The Faust log cabin, a.k.a. "GlenCraig", has been selected as a 2016 centennial project by the National Park Service. To be considered, a financial match had to come from a Park partner group. Preserve had already met the requirement by raising over \$10,000 to fund stage 1 for window repair. The project is one of many around the country that will be matched by the federal

government. Located at Inspiration Point, the cabin was built in 1929. The original owner's family willingly sold the cabin recently to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Preserve is continuing fundraising efforts to help with the scope of work estimated at \$132,000, and has produced a fundraising video which will be posted on our website soon.





## A WOOD POST AND THE UNKNOWN HOLE

*Ed Crippen*

PHSB projects cross the spectrum from complex and long to simple and short. This summer, a project of the latter category was planned at the Olsen farm to include clearing some invasive vegetation, reconstructing a barn door opening, and replacing some long ago clothes posts. Even when planned well, many projects seem to have some odd scenario that cannot be imagined. It occurred twice on this simple summer event!

**CLOTHES POST**—First, the clothes posts. The originals fell down long ago and replacements in-kind were needed to reconstruct this aspect of farm life for interpretive activities. Needing three posts, each ten foot long wouldn't seem to be an odd order to fill until one begins the search. Treated posts aren't suitable, neither are square and rectangular posts. Round is what we need so off to every lumber yard, mill and harvester between Big Rapids and Big Mac ( the bridge), and not a darn post is available longer than eight foot! I called log cabin builders - they laughed - yet I remember seeing long cedar posts all along highway US 2 in the upper peninsula. Why are there none below the bridge? Eventually, SEEDS came to the rescue and provided three fairly straight poles long enough to work with. A volunteer learned how hard that black locust is as he sawed, whittled and drilled and planted the posts in place. They may look a little crooked but we're sure that's how the originals looked.

**SAVING GRANDMA'S YARD**—On to the unknown hole. We were removing about 40 trees in a thicket, encroaching on the landscape around

the foundation of "grandma's house" next to the Olsen farmhouse. During the field clearing my truck was used to haul the removed vegetation and one of the rear wheels broke through the surface and sunk into a pit well over six foot deep. The corner of the truck is resting on the frame and it doesn't take long to figure out a wrecker is needed and called, and the truck is retrieved.

**BARN DOOR**—Preserve's horse and wagon tours of Port Oneida are gaining popularity and it would simplify the operation if the wagon could be stored in the Olsen barn.

The wagon door at the south west side of the barn has been screwed shut for years and a section of the overhead track had been removed, twisted and tossed aside. Some blacksmith work straightened the track and we installed a new post (square this time) and cross beam to support the track and door. A berm of earth was removed to allow the door to slide, and the door now opens adequately to back the tour wagon into the barn. I hear it was quite a sight to see the horses and their owner do that masterfully!

All in a day's work with an involved volunteer crew!

## OLSEN BARN ROOF



We were grateful for a donation of \$4,450 earmarked to complete the Olsen Barn exterior restoration. After some research, we contracted the application of a recommended aluminum fiber coating to the very rusted roof that should protect it for many more years.

# NORTH MANITOU ISLAND: THE VISION

David Watt

Our volunteers on North Manitou Island have a vision that brings them back every year – for seven years now! – to work on fulfilling that dream. For the first few years we held to a picture found in Rita Rusco's book, *North Manitou Island Between Sunrise and Sunset*, of several ladies sitting on the porch of the Katie Shepard hotel. When we finished the porch and added chairs during our third summer, there was the sense of “Ah ha” as we rested in the new chairs and related to the ladies in the picture. Since that time we have painted the exterior to look like the photograph, and in the past two years have cleared brush and trees to open the lake view that those ladies enjoyed. We invite you to sit in those chairs and share that feeling.

Since then, our vision has expanded to include all of NMI's Cottage Row from the Monte Carlo cottage on the north end to the Katie Shepard hotel on the south end. One picture that we like is described as the “Postcard view of boardwalk, North Manitou Village, dated 15 October 1906. A wooden walkway, gas lamps, and shade trees lined the front of the private resort development known as ‘Cottage Row’” found in the book, *Tending a Comfortable Wilderness* by Eric MacDonald and Arnold Alanen. PHSB is submitting a plan to the Park to convert the Katie Shepard hotel into a hostel. We have also provided a very thorough report to the Park with recommendations for restoring the Monte Carlo cottage, who, records indicate, was likely designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Another cottage, built for Margaret Riggs in 1924



Vince Sadowski working at the Riggs Cottage; photo—Meggen Watt Photography

and last owned by the Londergan family, received a much-needed start to restoration with PHSB's help this summer. We cleaned out a trailer full of trash, and glazed and painted windows and the front door. We also assisted the Park in assessing foundation repair, and developing plans for leveling the floor. A variety of other projects kept us busy including staining and varnishing new ceiling boards for the Katie Shepard hotel for installation next year; helping the Park repair rolled roofing on the garage near the sawmill; replacing rolled roofing on the pump house near the Riggs cottage; and installing an extension to the ramp next to the dock. The crew always has fun, and this year we celebrated the engagement of Stacie and Vince, two volunteers who met during our project in 2014! Who knew historic preservation could be so romantic?!

## ROOTStories PROGRAM SHARES MILLER HISTORY



The Miller Barn on Miller Road in the Port Oneida Rural Historic District

the area as a descendant of the Miller Farm in Port Oneida where his mother grew up. From an inside look at the barn to some insight into the quiet, lonely cemetery on the bluff high above the lake, Ty related first-hand knowledge of the

Our mid-July ROOTStories program attracted a group of fourteen who listened with interest and asked questions of speaker Ty Stuber. In the two-hour talk and tour, Ty shared his roots to

land and the barn that remains. He adopted his mother's love of the region and has been a Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear board member for several years. He even has a Facebook page devoted to Port Oneida.

Ty and his wife Jodi run their own non-profit organization located in central Michigan. That keeps them busy, but they visit the County every chance they get. We're grateful to Ty for sharing his ties to Port Oneida!





## The Barefooted Fisher Girl—Magdalena Burfiend Olsen

Andrew White of Traverse City has always had a keen interest in the history of the Leelanau region since working in Port Oneida at Camp Innisfree as a counselor in the 1970s. He loved to talk with the residents and record their recollections. Now, as an engineering officer with a Great Lakes shipping company, he uses his spare time on the lakes investigating regional history.

That's how he turned up this newspaper article about Magdalena Burfiend, the child of Port Oneida's first European pioneers, Carsten and Elizabeth Burfiend. Magdalena ("Lane" or "Lanie") married Ole Oleson, (Olsen) from Norway. The article was in *The Tri-Weekly Examiner*, of Salisbury, North Carolina found on the internet. Andy explains: "Basically, this article went 'viral' just like things do on Facebook today. Back then, newspapers mostly consisted of things copied from other papers all over the place".

*The following is the text of an 1869 newspaper article about Magdalena Burfiend (Oleson), who became the matriarch of a large Port Oneida family.*

### THE BAREFOOTED FISHER GIRL

"While our steamer Norman lay wooding up at Port Oneida, on the Michigan shore, there came aboard a pleasant, barefooted German girl, with a pail of berries. She wore a clean calico dress, minus the hoops with a little gingham shaker nearly hiding her face. She was rather under size, with a supple figure and air of modest assurance that denoted a girl of genuine stamp, but that told the boys to keep out of the way. All the men about the boat and deck seemed to know her. The steward bought her berries at her own price. The clerk at the office touched his hat to her as if in the presence of a duchess. "That's the smartest girl in Michigan," said the engineer, as she passed out of the gangway. The girl gave no heed to admiring glances and compliments that followed her, but straightway sought her little fish cabin, where she was mending nets, by the shore. On enquiry of the old dock-man, we learned that our little barefoot maiden, though only seventeen,



*Magdalena (Burfiend) Olsen many years later, with some of her grandchildren: Verlin (back-left); and (front, L-R) John, Virginia, Lorraine, and Garnet Olsen.*

was the oldest of a family of an even dozen, lying in a little double log cabin on the high bank above the shore. Her father came here from Buffalo some dozen years ago, went to clearing timber, selling wood to steamboats, and raising stuff on his land.

Lanie, the oldest girl, was the "little captain" from the start and showed pluck beyond her years. In winter she would get on her boots and be out among the woodchoppers before she could hardly waddle through the snow. In summer she would wander off a berrying or be

down among the nets or fishing boats. It was her greatest delight to get on the water, to rock and toss upon the waves. At ten, she was a trim little sailor herself, and would coast off for miles alone. At twelve she would allow no boy to pass her with sail or oar. For the last three years "Lanie" has been master of a handsome fishing craft and a set of "gill nets." She puts them out early in April and continues them till late in the fall. She is out every morning at daylight, and again in the evening, except in the roughest weather. She takes a younger sister along to help set and draw the nets. She often brings in a couple hundred fine lake trout and white fish at a haul. She dresses them, tries out the oil, packs and sends them away to market. Her August and September catch amounted to over \$300.00. Besides her fishing receipts she has taken in over \$170 this season for berries, picked at odd hours by herself and sister. All her money goes to her father. Month after month, he packs it away in old sacks and stockings under his bed; night after night he guards it with sabre and pistol. In all, she is said to have earned him over \$3,000.

Of course the old man is proud of his girl, and tells of her exploits with the liveliest twinkle of satisfaction. Danger and hardship seem unknown to her. She will go out in any blow and come in with full sails. Her white mast and blue pennon is known by people far along the coast. Boats salute her in passing; boys swing their hats in proud recognition. Without knowing it, Lanie Borfein is a heroine."

# IN GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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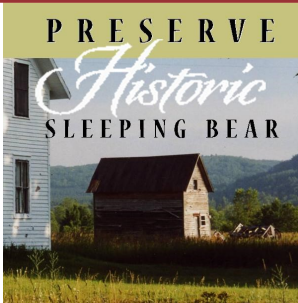
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## HORSE AND WAGON TOURS

Our second year of horse and wagon tours of Port Oneida were enjoyed by many. Make a note to make your reservations next summer when friends and family come into town for this unique way to learn your history!



*Bill Herd plows the field to plant potatoes, Olsen Farm*

## FAIR PLANS FOR 2016

The 2016 Port Oneida Fair dates are set for Friday and Saturday, August 12 and 13th. Mark your calendar! Last summer's fair was cancelled unfortunately, due to the August 2nd storm in the area. This situation required the efforts of all in the community. We did learn however, what the Fair means to many. It was heartwarming to hear of one disappointed child who said the Fair is the "best day of the year!", and we had calls from those who had planned their vacations around the Fair. 2016 is the Park's Centennial year and the Fair is not to be missed!

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Port Oneida Run: - Saturday, August 6**  
**Port Oneida Fair - Fri. & Sat. August 12/13**

## GRAFTING, PRUNING and POTATOES

The orchard grafting project in Port Oneida is funded by Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear. This project involves preserving the antique orchard varieties through a grafting process followed by planting at the Kelderhouse farm. Learn how to prune fruit trees at the Park's annual pruning workshop in May. Contact us or the Park for information. Last spring we planted our first garden crop of potatoes! It was great to see the garden growing throughout the summer. In addition to preservation projects, your donations support programs such as these.