



Following the Paths of our People and Places

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 Library Archives and
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 Library Annex 202
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 Duluth, MN 55812
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 Historical Society**
 1900 E. Camp St.
 Ely, MN 55731
 218.365.3226

**Hibbing Historical Society &
 Museum**
 Memorial Building
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 Hibbing, MN 55746
 218.263.8522

**Minnesota
 Museum of Mining**
 701 Lake St. W.
 Chisholm, MN 55719
 218.254.5543

Sisu Heritage Inc.
 P.O. Box 127
 Embarrass, MN 55732
 218.984.3048

**Tower-Soudan
 Historical Society**
 404 Pine St.
 P.O. Box 465
 Tower, MN 55790
 218.753.5021

**Virginia Area
 Historical Society**
 800 9th Ave N.
 P.O. Box 736
 Virginia, MN 55792
 218.741.1136

Society Receives Babe Ruth Baseball

By Ken Buehler

...”The best game in the world!” George Herman Ruth was referring to baseball. He played it well. George was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on February 6, 1895. He debuted in major league baseball on July 11, 1914, and played for twenty-two seasons. His last major league appearance was May 30, 1935, and he was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1939, after he retired. After that, the New York Yankees retired Ruth’s jersey, #3, forever. A full biography of Babe Ruth may be found on Baberuth.com. Babe Ruth had many names: the *Great Bambino*, the *Caliph of Clout*, the *Babe*, and the one that best suited his long ball prowess, the *Sultan of Swat*.

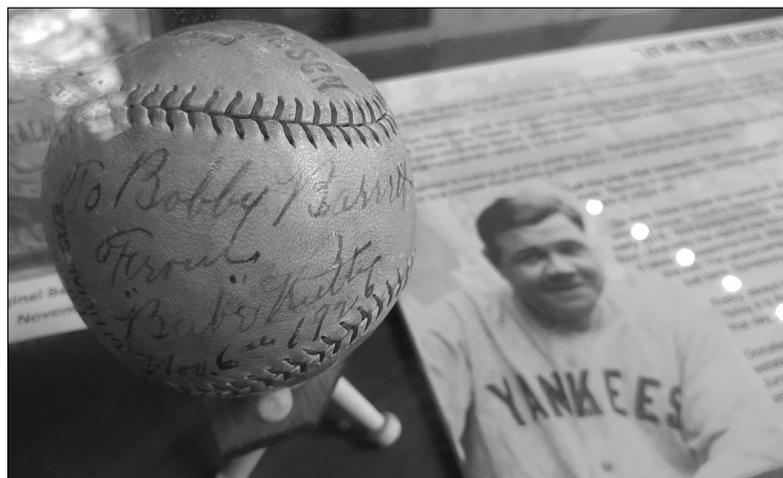
His connections to Duluth and to the St. Louis County area are quite unique for two very different reasons, one of which now involves the St. Louis County Historical Society and the installation of a baseball with his autograph.

This link with Babe occurred on November 6, 1926. Arriving by train, and most likely at Duluth’s Union Depot, Babe walked several blocks up to Superior Street and the Lyric Theatre, where the Holiday Inn is now located. There, he was part of a sold-out vaudeville review that had people lining the sidewalk, just on the hope they might catch a glimpse of him walking in or out of the theatre.

Bobby Barrett’s dad dropped a week’s salary to get tickets and buy his son a new suit. In the lob-

by before the show, Babe signed a baseball for the young boy with his name, Bobby’s name and the date. The ball never touched a bat and was a prized possession carefully preserved with the original wrapper, something that is as rare as the autographed baseball itself.

Bobby passed away and his nephew



Babe Ruth autographed baseball for Bobby Barrett, 1926, and donated to the St. Louis County Historical Society, 2018.

Steve Erickson decided to share the artifact with the public and donated it to the Society. Orchestrated with the help of Chuck Frederick of the *Duluth News Tribune*, Security Jewelers donated a locked display case, and Lake Superior Railroad Museum Volunteer John Marsaa built a pedestal for it. The autographed baseball is on exhibit in front of the replica of the Zelda Theatre in Depot Square adjacent to the trains in the Depot. Over a hundred people turned out on Saturday, June 9, to witness the dedication. Then they enjoyed a ballpark hotdog, Cracker Jacks, and a soft drink courtesy of the Depot

Continued on Page 10...



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

By JoAnne Combe

In late June, the Society's Collections Accessibility Initiative (CAI) received an award of \$2,792.00 from the **Minnesota Historical Society** through its Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Program. The funds were welcomed by grant writers Samantha Tubbs, Collections Manager/Exhibits Curator, and by Charlene Langowski, Collections Assistant. They have already ordered the PEM2 Datalogger for Preservation Monitoring! In addition, the Society was awarded \$4,631.00 from the **Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation** to fund the purchase of Proficio Elements software and licensing. The grant was written by Charlene Langowski, and will ground the Society's interns and museum assistants in their hands-on experience so vital to their success as emerging professionals. Proficio Elements database falls within the current CAI.

In April, the **Depot Foundation** awarded the Society \$5,000.00 for upgrades to Eli's Farm, a children's interactive exhibit, \$1,000.00 for Civil War re-enactors, and \$14,000.00 to hire Museum Assistants/Docents to interact with the public as they enjoy Eli's Farm and exhibits in the Lake Superior Ojibwe Gallery. The Foundation followed this up with an award in May of \$10,000.00 to fund the design and fabrication of a historically accurate wigwam for the children's Interactive Learning Station within the newly redesigned Lake Superior Ojibwe Gallery.

Finally, in June, the Foundation awarded the Society an addi-

tional \$10,000.00 to defray the cost of installing the *Hill of Three Waters* mural, painted by noted artist, John Michael Cook.

Jay Hagen, VMH Program Assistant, and Kathleen Cargill, Assistant to the Executive Director, submitted a Cartography Initiative grant proposal to the **Minnesota Historical Society** requesting \$8,908.00 for a map case and other equipment, as well as supplies to properly archive and preserve military related maps. The Initiative is integrally tied to the military history of veterans in St. Louis County. Nearly all of our veterans' stories are connected with a map outlining where their military experiences occurred. As a result, these maps are of historical significance and augment the Veterans Memorial Hall Oral History Program. This Initiative is a historic preservation project and dovetails with the Collections Accessibility Initiative. Calls for donations will be announced in late summer and fall.



JoAnne Coombe, Executive Director



Short Term Traveling Exhibits

With the assistance of Gary Lundstrom, Great Lake Design, the short term exhibit space just outside the Society's administrative offices, has been refreshed. He placed the Civil War exhibit entitled *The 18* in the space at the end of July and it will remain for viewing until November 1. The 1st Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Regiment was the first to volunteer for the Union side during the U. S. Civil War. There were eighteen St. Louis County men who served. Their individual stories are part of the Society's collection, and their service is chronicled on eight panels, available through the Society's Traveling Exhibits Program.



Events

Antique Appraisals-Third Wednesday of the month from January – November, Noon – 3 PM

Register in-person by 2:30 PM, free, limit: two items per person
August 15, 2018 – Great Hall
September 19, 2018 – Rotunda
October 17, 2018 – Great Hall
November 21, 2018 – Great Hall

Lunch with the History People – Ruth Maney Room, Noon – 1 PM

Free, seating: first-come, first-served
August 16, 2018, Chad Lewis: “UFO Minnesota - Watch the Sky”
September 20, 2018, Elizabeth Dorsey Hatle: The Ku Klux Klan in Minnesota
October 18, 2018, Barb Sommer: “The Fires of 1918 in Duluth”

Veterans Memorial Hall Remembrance Dinner

December 6, 2018 5-7 p.m. Speaker Ronald Hein, SLCHS Treasurer.

Exhibits

St. Louis County Historical Society Exhibits (located at SLCHS unless specified otherwise)

Generations of Service/VMH Gallery

Priley Woodcarving Collection/Fesler Gallery

Albin Zaverl **Art Installation**/Depot Board Room

Ballet Exhibit/Small Fesler Gallery

Old Country Memories Artwork/Fesler Gallery

County Built on Iron/2nd floor

Depot Square/Lake Superior Railroad Museum, ground floor

J.C. Ryan Forest History Photographs with 4 paintings by Dale Lyons/3rd floor

History of the Depot Great Hall/Great Hall

Crossroads of the Continent: The History of St. Louis County–1856 to Date/2nd floor

Eli’s Farm/2nd floor

The Immigrant Waiting Room/2nd floor

Lake Superior Ojibwe Gallery/4th floor
April 27, 2018

Ivy Vainio American Indian Photo Exhibit/stairway installation re-opened
April 27, 2018

Melheim/Woodcarving/Fesler Gallery

SLCHS Statues to Veterans

David Wheat/Vietnam, Duluth International Airport

Joseph P. Gomer/World War II, Duluth International Airport

Albert Woolson/Civil War, Depot Garden

Traveling Exhibits

Case exhibit/Hibbing Courthouse

Case exhibit/Virginia Courthouse

Albert Woolson/James L. Oberstar Terminal at Duluth International Airport

Return to the River/Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center

Desert Medics/477th Medical Company, Park Point

William Roleff Forest History Photographs/Ely-Winton Historical Society

The Plan, The People, The Promise and Perspectives: The History of the Erie Mining Company/St. Louis County Fair, then to Iron World Discovery Center.

Preserving the Old Country: the Experiences of Croations, Serbians and Slovenians in St. Louis County/Virginia Area Historical Society.

Rootprints Contributors

Rootprints staff:

JoAnne Coombe, *Project Manager*
Kathleen M. Cargill, *Editor*
Paul M. Gregersen, *Graphic Design*

Features:

Anthony Bush, *Historian/Society for American Baseball Research*
Ken Buehler, *SLCHS Representative in the Duluth Heritage Preservation Commission; Executive Director, Lake Superior Railroad Museum, and Historic Union Depot Corporation, General Manager, North Shore Scenic Railroad.*

SLCHS contributing staff:

JoAnne Coombe, *Executive Director*
Kathleen M. Cargill, *Administrative Asst.*
Julie A. Bolos, *Manager of Administrative Services*
Samantha M. Tubbs, *Collections Manager/Exhibits Curator*
Pippi Mayfield, *Veterans Memorial Hall Program Asst.*
Jay Hagen, *Veterans Memorial Hall Program Asst*
Tsgt Terry “Chopper” Jordan, *U.S. Army Veteran, Vietnam*

Alicia Tipcke, *Assistant Station Master, North Shore Scenic Railroad*
Charlene Langowski, *Collections Asst.*
Ryan Kuchta, *Collections Intern*

Affiliate contributors:

Minnesota Museum of Mining,
Matthew Marolt
Virginia Area Historical Society,
Mary Erickson

News from other Affiliates may be found on the St. Louis County website: www.thehistorypeople.org.





LUNCH WITH THE HISTORY PEOPLE

By Julie Bolos

Thirty years ago, an explosion of fireworks and burning debris rained down around me in Bayfront Festival Park. A small patch of grass on the ground next to my foot was smoldering, and I stomped it out. The crowd was panicking, trampling each other to get away. Terrified, confused and rushing towards safer ground, many people did not realize how many fires had ignited around them. Fortunately, the fires were quickly contained and did not spread too far.



Julie Bolos
Manager of Administrative Services

The memory of that day is forever burnt in my mind. The tragedy of a fire is never forgotten. The more traumatic, the deeper a fire etches itself into history.

Seventy years earlier, the residents of the Cloquet-Moose Lake area fled from a fire that filled the air with thick smoke and spread fiercely. Thousands of people made their way to neighboring communities by train, car, or on foot. Over 52,000 people were either injured or displaced by the fire. Many who escaped lost their homes to the consuming flames.

On October 18, author and historian Barbara Sommer revisits 1918. She will discuss the ramifications of that devastating fire. Her presentation is entitled *The Fires of 1918 in Duluth*, and examines the impact the fire had in the Duluth area, where many of the victims travelled for safety.

Lunch with the History People is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and first-come, first-served. Our upcoming lectures are listed below.

August 16, 2018, Chad Lewis: *UFO Minnesota - Watch the Sky*.

September 20, 2018, Elizabeth Dorsey Hatle: *The Ku Klux Klan in Minnesota*.

October 18, 2018, Barbara Sommer: *The Fires of 1918 in Duluth*

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the 1918 Fire in Cloquet. Several presentations are being held throughout the area. For a list of these programs, please visit our website: <https://www.thehistorypeople.org/news-and-resources>, or <https://www.facebook.com/stlouiscountyhistoricalsociety/>.



The Cloquet-Duluth Fire began on October 10, 1918 and was the worst natural disaster in Minnesota history, with over 450 dead and fifteen hundred square miles consumed.

Barbara Sommer

Barbara Sommer is a public historian with a specialty in oral history and is a descendent of Romansh immigrants to Minnesota. She has been director or co-director of numerous oral history projects and has been a presenter at state, national, and international oral history conferences. She is the author and co-author of several key publications in the field, most recently *The Oral History Manual* (third edition, 2018), *The Community Oral History Toolkit* (2013), *Practicing Oral History in Historical Organizations* (2015), and *Doing Veterans Oral History* (2015). She also is the author of *Hard Work and a Good Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Minnesota* (2008). She has degrees from Carleton College and the University of Minnesota. Barb and her husband Larry have three children—a daughter, with son-in-law and grandson, who live in Minneapolis; a son and daughter-in-law in New York City; and a daughter who lives in Brooklyn and works in New York City.



Barbara Sommer



Genealogy and Family History

The Second Most Popular Hobby in the United States

By Kathleen Cargill
and Jay Hagen

The Society's Genealogy Workshop was held a second time this year on July 12 in the Ruth Maney Room, ground floor of the Depot. Kathleen Cargill discussed the basic skills and techniques needed for organizing documents to be the basis for a presentation binder. Following this, Jay Hagen presented a PowerPoint to discuss advanced computer techniques for those who want to upload their data onto an electronic database by entwining Ancestry and Fold3. Each of the eleven workshop attendees received an Introduction to Genealogy: Toolkit for Beginners which contained local, state, and federal resources useful for both beginning and more experienced researchers. In addition, specialized information was given for those needing resources for specific ethnic and religious groups, as well as the military.

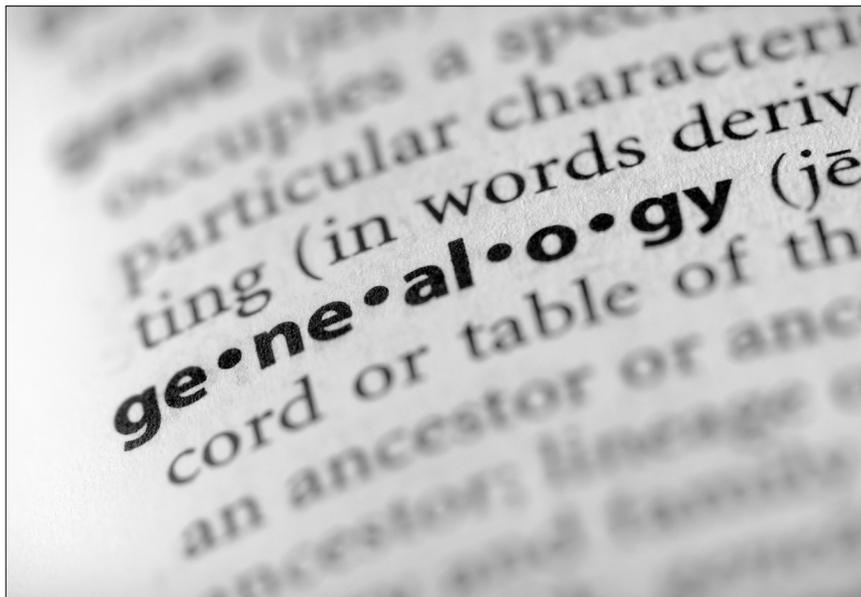
Kathleen and Jay repeated an abbreviated version of the workshop for an audience of about fifteen people on August 8 at



Kathleen Cargill
Administrative Assistant



Jay Hagen
Veterans Memorial Hall
Program Assistant



the regular meeting of the Ely-Winton Historical Society, held at Vermillion Community College, just down the hall from EWHS museum. On October 26, Kathleen will present the workshop material again to the members of the Duluth Woman's Club on Superior Street at their regular luncheon meeting.

What is the most popular hobby in the U. S.? Gardening. We think these hobbies probably shift position during Minnesota's winters!

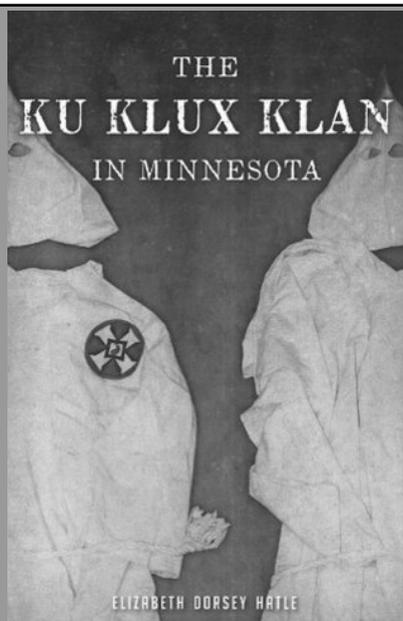
LUNCH WITH THE HISTORY PEOPLE

September 20, 2018

Elizabeth Dorsey Hatle:
The Ku Klux Klan in Minnesota

Minnesota might not seem like an obvious place to look for traces of Ku Klux Klan parade grounds, but this northern state was once home to fifty-one chapters of the KKK. Elizabeth Hatle tracks down the history of the Klan in Minnesota, beginning with the racially charged atmosphere that produced the tragic 1920 Duluth lynchings.

Fee and open to the public!
Seating is first-come, first-served.



DORSEY HATLE





VETERANS OPENING-UP ABOUT VIETNAM EXPERIENCES

By Pippi Mayfield

Last fall, the Historical Society received a grant from the **Minnesota Humanities Center** for \$20,000.00 to host multiple events throughout the county highlighting Vietnam veterans. The events center on the PBS *The Vietnam War*, a documentary produced by Ken Burns. The events also are designed to raise awareness about the impact of the Vietnam War on those who served in it, and on their families, and to bring veterans together for conversation.

So far, the Society has hosted *Minnesota Remembers Vietnam* three times, and they have been quite successful in many regards. Society staff members and volunteers have welcomed veterans, family members, and the general public to the American Legion Post #71 in West Duluth, to the American Indian Community Housing Organization (AICHO) in Duluth, and to the Bois Forte Indian Reservation in their community building on the shores of Lake Vermillion in Tower. After everyone was welcomed, they watched a brief clip of the documentary and participated a facilitated group discussion. Discussions continued over a meal in a smaller group setting around the dinner tables. To date, the Society has hosted nearly 20 people at the American Legion, nearly 20 at AICHO, and an additional 40 in Tower.

The Vet Center has been present at the events and gave a brief overview of what they do, who they serve, and how they are available at the events. They also brought along their mobile unit, giving people tours and letting event attendees know the



Pippi Mayfield
Veterans Memorial Hall Program Assistant

unit has a private space should someone become overwhelmed during the discussions and need time away.

Attendees have provided excellent feedback regarding their being able to open up about their war experiences – some for the first time. Some people reported they enjoyed the large group discussion, while others preferred opening up in the smaller group setting. Both opportunities are provided for people to share in a way that makes them the most comfortable.

The true success of these events is that the Society’s Veterans Memorial Hall Program (VMH) staff are building relationships with veterans throughout the county, which is a key goal of VMH. There are two more events scheduled this October: Hibbing on October 13 at the Hibbing Memorial Building, and last one at the American Legion Post 71 on October 27. More information may be found on the VMH website <http://www.vets-hall.org/>.

Hosting these events has also given the Historical Society the ability to promote its Oral History Program. Veterans are encouraged to sign up to be interviewed one-on-one and have their oral histories recorded, preserved, and stored in the archives of the Albert J. Amatuzio Research Center, located in the Depot.

Family members and members of the public are welcome at each of these events. Please consider attending one in October and sharing your involvement or your feelings about the Vietnam War.

The Society Executive Director, JoAnne Coombe, remarked that she has enjoyed meeting the veterans, hearing their stories, and looks forward to the two final events. She also thanks the staff at the American Legion #71, AICHO, and Bois Forte for their assistance in making the events successful and meaningful for those who shared their stories.

THANKS TO TANKS: PRESENTATION OUTLINES EVOLUTION AND VALUE OF THESE POWERFUL MILITARY VEHICLES

By Julie Bolos

The Society featured a fascinating Lunch With the History People presentation on July 19, when Ron Hein explained the “Evolution of United States Military Tanks.” He captivated the audience with explicit details about tanks from World War I through modern day tanks currently used in action. According to Ron, “The evolution was very slow until after World War II, when the military leadership finally understood the value of tanks on the battlefield.” For thirty-seven years, Brigadier General (Bvt) Ronald Hein (Ret) served as an Armor Officer in the Minnesota Army National Guard.

During his service he received several awards including the Army Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Legion of Merit, and Order of St.

George. He was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General (Bvt) in December 2016.

Ron serves as the Project Manager of the Erie Mining History Project, Treasurer of the St. Louis County Historical Society’s Board of Governors, and is a member of the Veterans Memorial Hall Advisory Committee.



Brigadier General Ronald Hein (Ret.)
Treasurer, SLCHS Board of Governors



Together, But Alone in Vietnam
By Tsgt Terry "Chopper" Jordan

196th Light Infantry Brigade, "The Chargers"

Read to those attending Minnesota Remembers Vietnam

I remember all those hot days and lonely nights.

The uncertainty and the fright.

For hours staring and listening, sometimes holding my breath.

The wind might blow and move the grass.

Your mind plays games and sometimes not.

How long can this night last?

Everyday that goes by, is another day in the past.

The rains come down, carrying part of a mortar and your pack,

You walk, but don't dare talk.

It's dark and wet, laying in mud, you try to rest.

Mosquitoes, spiders, snakes, and rats.

I can't wait to be home at last.

Every morning someone jumps up and says "I quit, I'm going home."

All of us are together, but we each feel so alone.

I never looked at the sky so much.

The sunsets, the stars, what's going on back home?

Damn, I feel so alone.

I hear the sound of a chopper in the distance.

It brings a smile to your face.

Supplies and maybe a letter or two.

I feel better now

I carry my letter and read it over and over.

Tears come to my eyes, but I can't let anyone see me cry.

Finally my day has come.

I hear the chopper in the distance

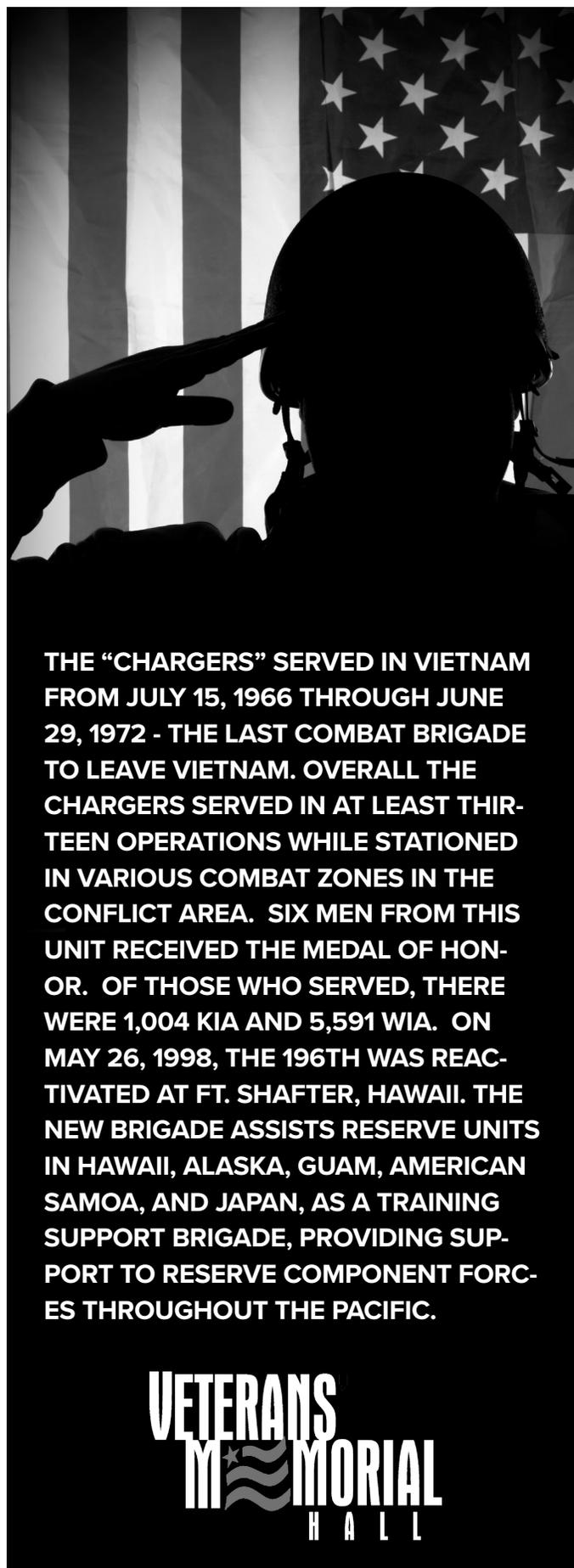
I grab my gear, ready to go

Leaving behind my buddies that I won't see anymore.

I'm still young, but feeling old.

I'm proud of what I've told.

I'm going home and never again do I want to feel alone.



THE "CHARGERS" SERVED IN VIETNAM FROM JULY 15, 1966 THROUGH JUNE 29, 1972 - THE LAST COMBAT BRIGADE TO LEAVE VIETNAM. OVERALL THE CHARGERS SERVED IN AT LEAST THIRTEEN OPERATIONS WHILE STATIONED IN VARIOUS COMBAT ZONES IN THE CONFLICT AREA. SIX MEN FROM THIS UNIT RECEIVED THE MEDAL OF HONOR. OF THOSE WHO SERVED, THERE WERE 1,004 KIA AND 5,591 WIA. ON MAY 26, 1998, THE 196TH WAS REACTIVATED AT FT. SHAFTER, HAWAII. THE NEW BRIGADE ASSISTS RESERVE UNITS IN HAWAII, ALASKA, GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, AND JAPAN, AS A TRAINING SUPPORT BRIGADE, PROVIDING SUPPORT TO RESERVE COMPONENT FORCES THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC.

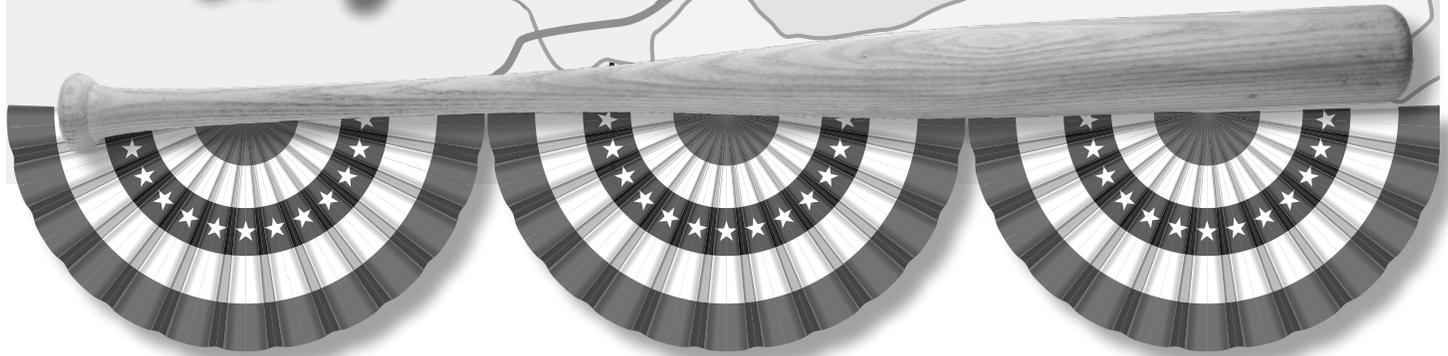
**VETERANS
MEMORIAL
HALL**



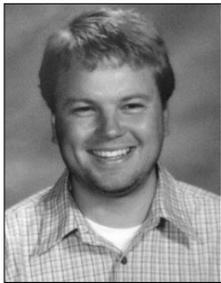
Duluth's Baseball Beginnings

Lake Superior

Duluth



by Anthony Bush



Anthony Bush, Historian Society for American Baseball Research Program

Duluth's first baseball team assembled for a one-off game at Superior on July 4, 1882. Pitcher Monroe Nichols tossed a one-hitter and Duluth won, 31-4.

It was said years later that

the only reason that Superior scored was because of errors committed by Alonzo J. Whiteman. But that same story told of Superior players thinking that Nichols was a wizard because he threw curveballs and that the Duluth team had to run back to their boat while being chased by angry, rock-hurling Superiorites.

The facts of the matter were that the teams remained on friendly terms despite the score and they retired to Superior's Kuykendall House for supper after the game. Nichols was a lawyer, not a wizard. Whiteman dabbled in pineland speculation. Errors of judgement later in life destroyed promising political careers for both men.

Duluth still did not have a regular

squad when this article appeared in 1884:

About thirty citizens, among whom are L. Mendenhall, Will A. Montague, Paul Ray, F. V. Doty, Will A. Sussmilch, A. J. Whiteman and J. F. Barrs, Jr., unaccompanied by ladies, will charter a boat and go up the river to Fond du Lac to quietly celebrate the Fourth of July in their own way. There will be players enough in the party to make two nines for a good game of base ball [two words at the time], there being good grounds there. Of course they will take along provisions and everything necessary to their comfort.

Nichols and Ray began eyeing a more convenient location for the city's first real baseball field: the grounds near the mouth of Chester Creek, owned by the St. Paul and Duluth railroad.

On February 10, 1885, the *Duluth News Tribune* (DNT) reported, *Residents*

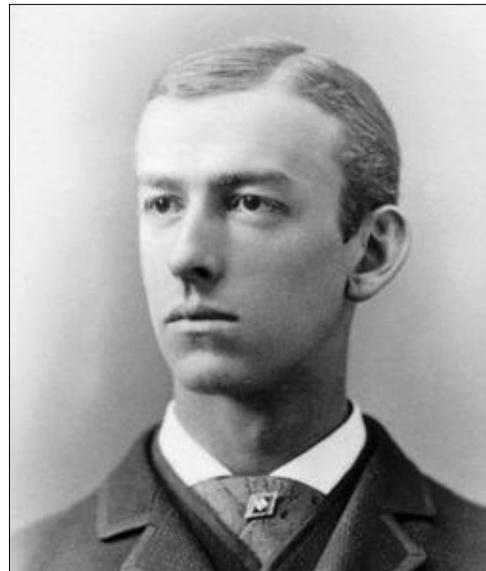
are talking of starting a cricket and base ball club in the spring. It will probably amount to just what all similar sporting movements have amounted to in Duluth—nothing but talk.

Talk turned to action in the spring of 1885. The baseball season is on in all its glory, and the city doctors are replenishing their stocks of bandages, arnica, etc.,

reported the DNT on April 23. A meeting on May 13 resulted in the formation of a baseball club, with the election of board members and the adoption of a constitution and by-laws. The club also spearheaded a \$500 project (about \$12,000 today) to create the first baseball field in Duluth.

Work began on the railroad's

land bounded by 15th and 17th Avenues East, London Road, and Lake Superior. A graded field with wooden fences and a



grandstand emerged after the removal of tree stumps.

The first real baseball game in Duluth took place on June 20, 1885. Duluth's club defeated a team sponsored by the city's Variety Theater, 23–1. This was the informal opening of the grounds. The formal opening took place on Independence Day.

The club's uniforms arrived on July 3. They consist[ed] of white canvas shoes, red stockings, white trousers, white shirt, trimmed with narrow red braid with the word 'Duluth' in red letters across the chest and white caps with red trimmings, according to the DNT. The newspaper then opined, *It looks very neat and pretty and will gain the favor of the ladies.*

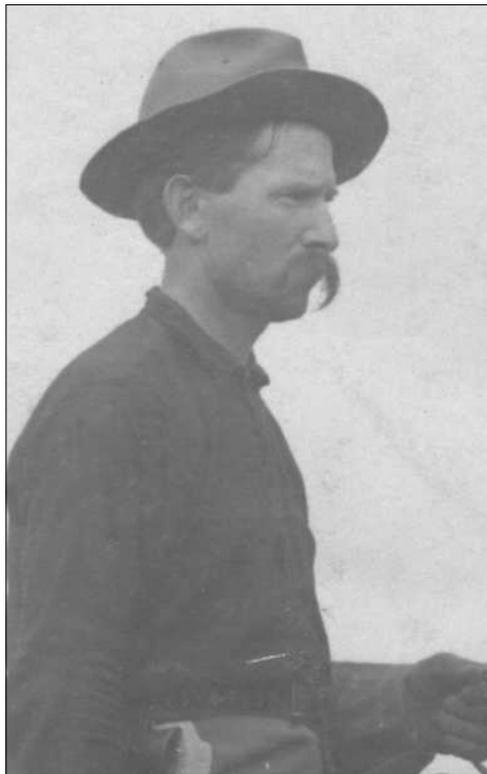
Brainerd sent its team to Duluth for the Fourth of July game. Roughly 1,000 people gathered for the 3 p.m. match. *The grounds are handsomely situated near the lake shore, well rolled and level (for Duluth), and dotted here and there by the players in their bright costumes, and lined by carriages, the scene was one of brilliancy and beauty,* stated the DNT. Duluth won, 13–11, due to Brainerd's nine errors.

The crème de la crème of Brainerd society accepted an invitation to watch the game. Their train left at 3:30 a.m. *The day was divided between a trip on the Dove to Two Harbors, and the base ball game, and the evening between the theater and the rink. They left for home at 11 p.m., tired but happy* according to the DNT.

Duluth hosted St. Paul on July 18. A rainy day left the field muddy and a mere three or four hundred people took to the grandstand to watch the home team lose,

15–2.

Brainerd returned to Duluth on July 25 and won, 17–12. Harry Newton of Superior played third base for Duluth. Newton became a lieutenant colonel in the Army and was one of five Americans who assisted in the daring capture of President Emilio Aguinaldo during the Philippine–American War in 1901. He died in 1946 and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



With the new field, a new method of sorting out old rivalries ensued. Among the baseball exhibitions, the *Herald* challenged the *Tribune* to a

game (the *Herald* scored 14 runs in the first inning and won, 38–14; Nichols umpired), and the wholesale liquor dealers challenged the dry goods salesmen (the liquor distributors won, 26–22). Also, starting on August 1, the DNT began reporting daily major-league scores.

Back in action on August 16, Duluth hosted and defeated Pine City, 29–6. Duluth then hosted and beat Hudson, 12–4, on August 21.

A momentous occurrence happened on August 27. William Lucas, borrowed from the Hudson club, scored Duluth's lone run in a 13–1 loss to Eau Claire, but broke his leg when

he slid into home plate.

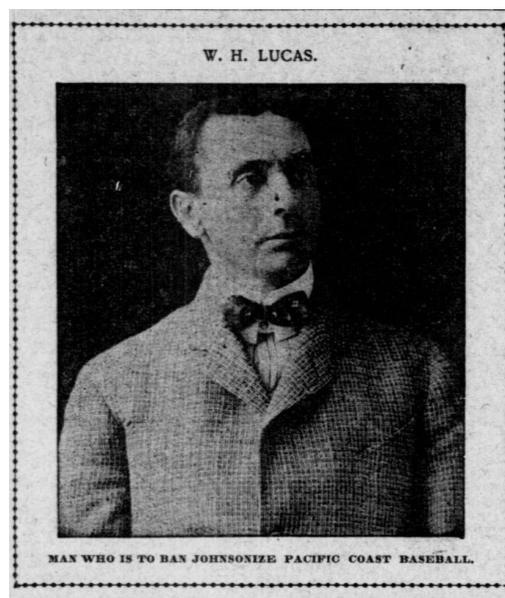
A benefit game took place on October 10, between Duluth and the Minnesota Point club, to raise funds for Lucas. Duluth won, 10–9. The game netted Lucas \$40 (about \$1,000 today); it likely would have been better attended except for the cold, windy fall weather.

Impressed with the hospitality provided by the citizens of Duluth, Lucas, from Cleveland, decided to stay and work toward bringing the Zenith City its first professional baseball club.

Lucas's efforts paid off as Duluth entered the Northwestern League in 1886. The city directory listed the new incorporation as such: "*Duluth Base Ball Association* (Limited) – 13 E. Superior. Incorporated 1886. Capital, \$10,000. D. G. Cash, president; A. J. Whiteman, secretary; J. B. Sutphin, treasurer; W. H. Lucas, manager."

The professional club played its home games at a new ballpark on Rice's Point, near the mouth of Miller Creek. Lucas's team captured the Northwestern League pennant in 1886 but sank to seventh place in 1887. The league disbanded after the '87 season. Lucas moved on to a long career as a minor-league manager and executive. He died in Missoula, Montana, in 1912.

Duluth's 1885 team captain, Fred Doty, from Geneseo, New York, once played for Jim Wadsworth's club in Geneseo. Wad-



sworth served ten terms in Congress starting in 1881. On July 3, 1885, the DNT mentioned that he *spent lavishly in early years supporting a nine of professional base-ballists of whom Capt. Doty was one and carrying them around the country in a Concord coach drawn by six horses, occasionally varying the programme by tours through Canada and South-*

ern Michigan. The Wadsworth Coach is now on display at the Livingston County

PHOTO INFORMATION

OPPOSITE: Alonzo Whiteman

ABOVE: Harry Newton

RIGHT: William Lucas



Continued on Page 10...

...Baseball in Duluth from Page 9.

Historical Society Museum in Geneseo.

Doty worked as a railroad ticket agent in Duluth. Back in 1881, the DNT submitted, *That the handsomest moustache in town, when waxed, is worn by F. V. Doty.* He undoubtedly played with a heavy heart in 1885 since his wife died 18 days after giving birth to an 11-pound-five-ounce baby that January. Doty moved to Buffalo, New York, circa 1887. He remarried in 1891 and later lived in Geneseo, where he died of a heart attack while visiting his wife's grave seven months after her death in 1925.

Doty's brother, Harry, also played baseball in Duluth. In fact, about 25 people from Livingston County adopted Duluth as their home in the 1880s. The list included baseball players James



Faulkner and Whiteman, Doty's Hamilton College classmate.

Whiteman, son of a wealthy timber baron, served in the Minnesota Senate and narrowly lost election to Congress in 1890. He had a gambling problem for which he compensated by turning to a life of crime. His escapades, from Chicago to New York to London to Mexico City, could fill volumes. A check forger aka "King of the Penmen," he died, penniless, in Georgia in 1921.

Nichols, born in Clinton, Massachusetts, served as a delegate at the 1896 Republican National Convention in St. Louis and was the only Minnesotan on the notification committee that presented the nomination to William McKinley in Canton, Ohio. Nichols fell ill in 1901. He spent months as an invalid at his residence at Duluth's Spalding Hotel before retiring to the Battle Creek Sanitarium in Michigan, where he died from locomotor ataxia—caused by tertiary syphilis—in 1908.

...Babe Ruth from Page 1.

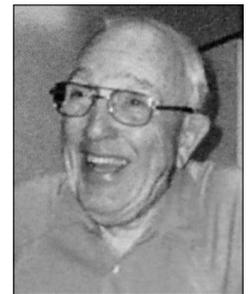
and the Train Museum. Mike Rosenzweig, owner of the Duluth Huskies, a minor league baseball team, was in attendance with *Harley D. Huskie*, the team's mascot. Anyone who wanted one got a free ticket to any upcoming Huskies home game. The event was a collaborative success!

The second reason is the beautiful and historic Naniboujou Lodge fourteen miles south of Grand Marais on the North Shore of Lake Superior in Cook County. The Lodge was a sportsman's paradise in a sportsman's paradise. It was built in the late 1920s by industrialists from around the country and spearheaded by Duluth banker Charles Kelly. It opened in 1929. The original membership included the 1919-1926 heavy weight champion, William Harrison "Jack" Dempsey, sports writer Ringgold Wilmer "Ring" Lardner, and their mutual good friend Babe Ruth.

Ruth knocked a total of 714 balls out of the park during his career, with 2,873 hits and 2,213 runs batted in. But the Babe's batting average was only 342. He is quoted as saying: *If I'd tried for them dinky singles I could have batted around six hundred.* He followed that up with some inspirational words that are iconic: *Never let the fear of striking out.....keep you from coming up to bat.*

Babe Ruth was an orphan and that may explain why he had a special place in his heart for all youngsters. In his acceptance speech into the Baseball Hall of Fame, he summed it all up as hard work. Referring to the wall of names in Cooperstown he said: *The old boys...they got on it....I worked hard and I got on it. And I hope that the coming generation, the young boys today, that they'll work hard and also be on it.*

Maybe that is why he chose a young boy, Bobby Barrett, on a cold November day in Duluth to get a baseball signed by a man the Associated Press would call the *Athlete of the Century*, Babe Ruth!





LYRIC VAUDEVILLE II
CONTINUOUS
FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

LAST TIMES TODAY
YOUR LAST CHANCE TO SEE

Finkelstein
and Ruben
Present
The Highest
Salaried
Attraction
in
Vaudeville



BAMBINO HIMSELF
* *
The Idol of
Every
Baseball Fan
* *
The Mightiest
Sluggler
of All Times

**'Babe' Ruth
in Person**

Appearing in Conjunction with a Banner Bill of
5-SELECTED ACTS-5

TIME OF SHOWS TODAY
2:30 — 4:30 — 7:10 — 9:20
—COME EARLY—

(ABOVE) A Duluth News Tribune advertisement for Babe Ruth's 1926 Vaudeville show in Duluth.

(RIGHT) Bob Barrett in the mid-1990s. Photo courtesy of Steve Erickson, Barrett's nephew.



NEWS FROM OUR AFFILLATES



Minnesota Museum of Mining

By Matthew Marolt

This year the Museum hosted the Iron Range Igneous Arts group again for an iron pour. We also were able to provide discounted moulds and discounted admissions for youth from area schools as a “scholarship.” This scholarship was done with the generous grant assistance of the **Arrowhead Regional Arts Council**. For large projects this year, MMM staff are restoring our large dump truck with the generous donations from the Society of **Metallurgical Engineers and Ellefson Off Highway**. The restoration will include lifting the truck up to place it on new supports, installing new tires, new glass on the cab, and a nice shiny paint job.



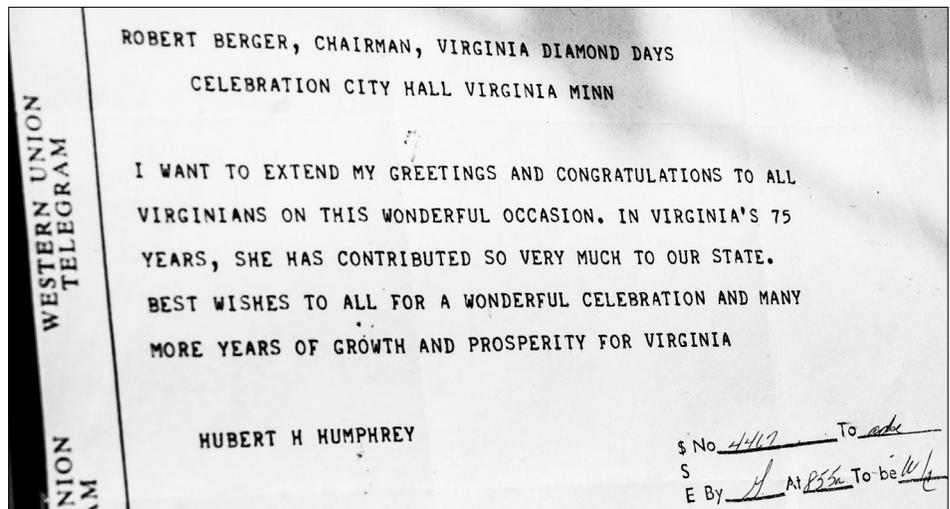
The Iron Range Igneous Arts group pours iron into moulds at the Minnesota Museum of Mining in Chisholm.

Virginia Area Historical Society

By Mary Erickson

The Virginia Area Historical Society continues a partnership with the **Friends of B’nai Abraham Cultural Center** in Virginia, which presents a history of Jewish life on the Iron Range. This summer’s exhibit on display on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 PM to 3 PM at the Center is on immigration from Yugoslavia. It includes the St. Louis County Historical Society’s traveling exhibit, *Preserving the Old Country: The Experiences of Croats, Serbians and Slovenians in St. Louis County*, as well as material from our archives and donated artifacts for the exhibit.

At the VAHS Heritage Museum, a new exhibit, *Downtown Virginia in the 1960s*, reflects on a time when our downtown was a vibrant commercial district and a “destination.” This display looks at the businesses serving the community and the



U.S. Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey telegraphed the citizens of Virginia to honor their 75-year Diamond Celebration in 1967. The telegram was in a time capsule (buried in 1967 and opened in 2017) and is on display at VAHS Heritage Museum.

merchandise available to shoppers.

Our exhibit on the 1967 time capsule buried in Virginia continues. Included among the objects displayed are inventions of Dr. Clelio Brunetti, a nationally known inventor from Virginia, and part of the Italian-American community in northern Minnesota. He invented the

two-way wrist radio, and was instrumental in the creation of the earliest printed circuits. The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) gives an annual international award for outstanding contributions to nanotechnology, and the miniaturization in the electronic arts. The prestigious award is named *The Clelio Brunetti Award*.



Mysteries At the Museum...



By Ken Buehler & Alicia Tipeke

Alicia Tipeke is the Assistant Station Master for the North Shore Scenic Railroad. She has been with the Lake Superior Railroad Museum Company at the Depot for several years while financing her college education in history and communication at The College of St. Scholastica. As part of a class assignment, which debuted during Duluth's Home Grown Music Festival, she produced her own video version of Don Wildman's popular TV show, *Mysteries at the Museum* viewed on the Travel Channel.

Her *Mysteries at the Museum* episode featured an artifact from the Train Museum's collection - a piece of finished hardwood measuring a couple of feet square. On it are mounted a "bug,"

a "key," and two receivers. There is an etched metal plaque that tells the story of Alvin A. Jordan and what he did not have to do on August 2, 1928, that is now a part of history.

In the summer of 1928, Washington D.C. was a swamp - even back then. Literally, it was a sweaty, hot, muggy, festering swamp. The Potomac River settled down to a slow crawl. Sanitation struggled and the wind shifted to dry. Then came the mosquitos and black flies. No wonder President Calvin Coolidge wanted to re-

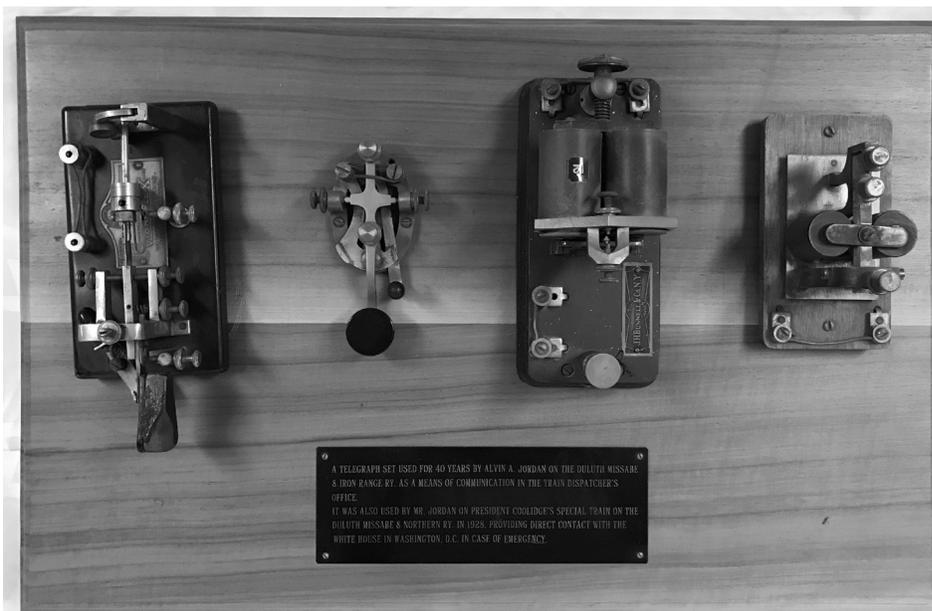
Wisconsin.

There aside the Brule's rushing, cold water, "Silent Cal" vacationed, relaxing and fly fishing from a wooden canoe with a guide. His summer White House was in the old Central School in Superior, but he was rarely there. Mail was flown in and out of the lodge daily. During this 1928 trip President Coolidge, accompanied by his wife and son, traveled to the Iron Range. As guests of U.S. Steel and the Duluth, Missabe & Northern Railroad (DM&N), they were hosted for a daytrip

on the beautiful Pullman-built *Car Northland*. The Presidential entourage boarded their special train in Superior and traveled to Hibbing to tour the Hull Rust Mine and to see firsthand the incredible growth and prosperity of the great Missabe.

Alvin Jordan, a telegrapher for the DM&N, went along for the ride. His job

was to be prepared, in case of a national emergency, to establish instant communication between the President's train and the White House in our nation's capital.



move his family to the opulent compound of his friends and supporters from the Ordway family on the banks of the Brule River located just outside of Superior,



The plan called for Jordan to ride in the baggage car with a lineman who wore spiked boots and was ready to climb the nearest telegraph pole along the tracks and hook up the wires for the connection to the waiting War Department telegrapher in Washington, D.C.

In case of an emergency, a train derailment, an attempt on the life of the President, a national disaster, a declaration of war, or foreign invasion, the lines of communication would be in place.

In the vernacular of the telegrapher, a “key” sends the dots and dashes, a “bug” sends those impulses faster and there are two receivers in case one of them should fail. Jordan’s devices were never used for anything but a test when the train reached Hibbing.

There were no disasters, no foreign entanglements, monumental calamities or historic events of any kind during the duration of the trip. However, the mementos of that trip, including the historic and beautiful train *Car Northland* are preserved in the Lake Superior Railroad Museum at the Depot.

In addition, please visit the Duluth & Iron Range Coach No. 19, constructed of wood, and built by Barney and Smith of Dayton, Ohio, about 1890. This car houses historical artifacts pertaining to the Missabe Road and its predecessor roads, the Duluth & Iron Range, and the Duluth, Missabe and Northern. No. 19 is filled with framed photos depicting the history of the railroads in northern Minnesota. Finally, visitors will find a 1928 photo of President Calvin Coolidge, seated in his car alongside the special train ready to take him to Tower.



PAGE 12 - TOP: Ken Buehler, General Manager of North Shore Scenic Railroad and Alicia Tipcke, Assistant Station Master. BOTTOM: A mounted key, bug and receivers that were featured as part of Tipcke’s “Mysteries at the Museum” which debuted during the Duluth Homegrown Music Festival.

PAGE 13 - TOP: The Duluth Missabe & Iron Range Northland Car. ABOVE: The Duluth & Iron Range Coach No. 19 car. BELOW: A plaque outlining the telegraph artifact utilized by Alvin A. Jordan as part of President Coolidge’s train.

A TELEGRAPH SET USED FOR 40 YEARS BY ALVIN A. JORDAN ON THE DULUTH MISSABE & IRON RANGE RY. AS A MEANS OF COMMUNICATION IN THE TRAIN DISPATCHER’S OFFICE.

IT WAS ALSO USED BY MR. JORDAN ON PRESIDENT COOLIDGE’S SPECIAL TRAIN ON THE DULUTH MISSABE & NORTHERN RY. IN 1928, PROVIDING DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE WHITE HOUSE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.



Lichens, Goats and Moss Oh My!

By Ryan Kuchta

In 1963 the St Louis Historical Society received a cowhide trunk dating from the late 19th Century. The trunk is covered in brown cow fur, and it is adorned with an intricate woven pattern. Donated by Sara Williams Diers, the trunk originally belonged to her Uncle Robert Statham Williams. He and his trunk would travel all across the Western Hemisphere researching and exploring along the way.

Robert Statham Williams was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 6, 1859. At the age of twenty Williams set out for Montana. When he left Minneapolis, his belongings included the trunk and a flock of goats. When he arrived in Montana, he began working as a miner, businessman, Pony Express rider, then went on to open the first library in Great Falls, Montana.

In 1898 Williams joined a party heading to the Yukon during the Klondike Gold Rush. During his time in the Yukon, he opened a business and collected botanical samples. These samples were the first extensive collection from the Yukon gathered by a naturalist. His time in the Yukon honed his skills and interests about lichens and mosses and his interests paved the way for his future endeavors and career.

In 1899, Williams began working for the New York Botanical Garden where he began as a Museum Aid. In 1901, he joined a British team in Bolivia and Peru and collected extensive samples of plants from those countries. Impressed with his work, the New York Botanical Garden sent him to the Philippines in 1903 and Panama in 1908 to collect mosses. In 1906 he was named Assistant Curator. After his work in bryology was published, he became the leading expert of lichens and mosses. However, during the Great Depression, his financial situation became unsustainable and he moved back to Minneapolis. Robert Statham Williams died in Minneapolis in 1945 at the age of eighty-six.



Robert Statham Williams



The trunk belonging to Robert Statham Williams was donated in 1963 by his niece Sara Williams.

OJIBWE STORIES: GAGANOONIDIDAA - THE STRUGGLE FOR A MORE JUST TREATY

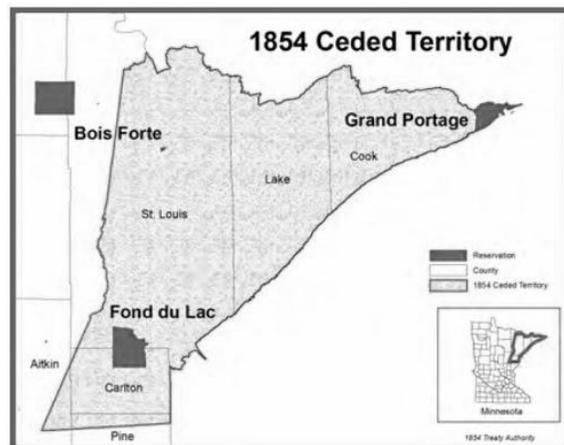
Michele Hakala-Beeksma is the Vice President of the St. Louis County Historical Society's Board of Governors and a member of the Society's American Indian Advisory Committee. For the past sixteen years, she has worked for the 1854 Treaty Authority. Michele is also a member of the Grand Portage Band of Chippewa.



Michele recently gave a talk titled, *Understanding Chippewa 1854 Treaty Rights in Northeast Minnesota, 1854 to the Present*. She discussed past events and individuals related to the 1854 Treaty and examined the legal and cultural viewpoints of how people are currently implementing their treaty rights. Her presentation also reviewed the role of the 1854 Treaty Authority, which is the agency responsible for cultural education, conducting surveys of fish and mammal populations, along with managing wild rice and invasive species.

Michele was also interviewed about her presentation on *Understanding Chippewa 1854 Treaty Rights in Northeast Minnesota-1854 to Present*.

To hear her interview with KUMD, visit <http://www.kumd.org/post/ojibwe-stories-gaganoonididaa-struggle-more-just-treaty#stream/0>.



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WE ARE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR. HOWEVER, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A STUDENT TO APPLY. WE ALSO WELCOME RECENT GRADUATES OR PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN MUSEUM STUDIES.

WE WILL BE INTERVIEWING AND SELECTING INTERNSHIP CANDIDATES IN MID-SEPTEMBER. PLEASE DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS AND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO SAMANTHA M. TUBBS.

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**St. Louis County Historical Society
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Receive membership appreciation coupons for these local attractions when you purchase a new or renewing membership in the St. Louis County Historical Society.



**Give a Society Membership
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A number of newsletters are sent to out-of-town members. Makes sense – they are separated from their roots and want to stay connected. Connection is cheap - only \$.58 a week for Individuals! That's only \$.38 a week for New Individual Memberships!

Join the St. Louis County Historical Society

Mail your check and completed form to SLCHS, 506 W. Michigan St., Duluth, Minnesota 55802.

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