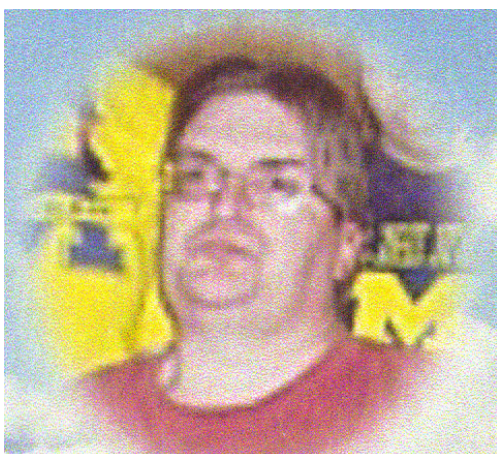




97 Michigan Avenue, Grayling, Michigan 49738

Crawford County Historical Society

JULY 2012 ISSUE



Lawrence (Bill) Nielson
May 24, 1965– June 23, 2012

The current President of the Historical Society, Lawrence “Bill” Nielson passed away on Saturday, June 23, 2012. Bill was diagnosed earlier this year with cancer and after bravely meeting that challenge he was called home to his Creator. Bill served on the historical society board for many years besides being a volunteer greeter and museum guide. He loved children, volunteered with the schools and various community projects involving children and was working toward a degree in teaching. He was a member of St. Mary’s Knights of Columbus, previously serving as a Grand Knight. He also served on the City of Grayling Planning Commission and was a very avid CUBS fan. Bill was a native of Grayling and graduated from Grayling High School in 1983. He is survived by his mother Helen Marie (Balch) Nielson, brothers, sister, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends. He will be missed by all who knew him.

The 65th Annual Canoe Marathon is Saturday, July 28, 2012

Crawford County is revving up for the Marathon. Serious canoe racers have been spotted practicing on the Au Sable for weeks. The weekend before the marathon is Spike’s Challenge Race and then the fun Hup Race. Be sure and pick up your Marathon Guide at the museum so you can follow all the activities. The museum will be open the usual schedule of Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 4 P.M. **We will be offering cold bottled water at the museum during this hot summer weather.** Remember there is no admission charge to the historical museum complex, but donations are always appreciated. Come down and check out the Canoe Marathon exhibit with photos from the earlier races starting in 1947 and other memorabilia.

Kathryn Skingley Garbe passed away on June 12, 2012 at the age 87. Mrs. Garbe was a descendent of the Skingley family of Beaver Creek in Crawford County. Her family very generously gifted the beautiful 13 room doll house replica of their 1902 family farm house to the Crawford County Historical Museum in 1989. Kathryn came to the museum and gave a talk about her life in the house during the Harvest Fest in 2009. Unfortunately the house was destroyed by fire in 1936.

In her youth, after 2 years of college Kathryn joined the Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II. Kathryn’s photo, in her uniform is on display in the Military Building at the museum complex.

Kathryn was a long time member and supporter of the society. On your next visit to the museum be sure to check out these bits of history that the Skingley family have left for us to enjoy.



Kathryn Skingley Garbe
1925-2012



Kathryn - Cadet Nurse
Corp. 1943-1945

Volunteers are very important to the Museum. Without them the museum complex would not exist. Besides all the terrific folks who have helped out through the years there are some great new people this year.

The Fraternal Order of the Police, AuSable Lodge has stepped forward to cover as Wednesday greeters: Headed by Tim Coe, FOP President Jim Boylan, Paul Hill and Dennis Long have all helped out so far.

Gail Thomas is covering Fridays as greeter and is full of information since her Gierke ancestors worked on the railroad for generations and she has been able to identify many photos of railroad crews. Gail joined the Historical Society Board at our July 3, 2012 meeting.

John Ward helps us out as a greeter on some Saturdays after a busy week as Branch Manager of North Central Area Credit Union.

Ray Folkmier has been paired up with Al Johnston for many years and are again your Thursday greeters.

Ray and Al have been loyal RSVP volunteers and Al has been greeting for about 17 years. Way to go guys!

Larry Akers, Society Vice President has served on the board for over a decade. Larry's parents played an important part in starting the museum. Larry's mother was secretary of the society and unable to attend a meeting due to illness about 13 years ago. She asked Larry to go to the monthly meeting and record the minutes for her. He was elected to the board and they would never let him go. Larry served at almost every position the board has. He was also a volunteer greeter at the museum with his cousin and good friend Bill Nielson for several years. Larry is a past Mayor of the City of Grayling and sits on various city committees besides his full time job as Emergency Management 911 Director for Crawford County.

Larry stepped down from the board earlier this month. Larry's calm manner will be missed at the meetings. His knowledge as parliamentarian and of the community is invaluable to all. Thank you to Larry, his dear mother Marie and his late father Leroy for their dedication to the Crawford County Historical Society.

The Crawford County Historical Society is very grateful to the Grayling Promotional Association for the \$2200 Grant that they recently awarded to the C.C.H.S. building fund for continued improvements to the exterior of the steel sided depot building. The GPA has been benefactor to the C.C.H.S. many times to help with improvements and upkeep. Thank you GPA from the C.C.H.S. membership.

The Crawford County Historical Society is in need of Board Members. If you are a resident of Crawford County, have an interest in the preservation of area history and a few hours a month available to devote to it, please attend our next board meeting on August 7, 2012 at the Visitors Center (former library at the city park) at 7 PM. The meeting is open to everyone.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

2012 dues start May 1, 2012

\$ 5.00 Senior Citizen

\$10.00 Single Individual

\$25.00 Family

\$50.00 Supporting Member

\$50.00 One Month Newsletter Sponsor

\$75.00 Season Room Sponsor

C. C. H. S. Foundation Membership pamphlet available at the depot museum building

\$100 MEMORIAL PLAQUE

(One or two names can be inscribed) and is displayed in the Museum Lobby or Military Building. The memorial can be done in memory of a loved one, as a special occasion gift or with your own name.

Please specify if the plaque is for military personnel, with rank to be in the military building or civilians in the lobby.

Please make checks payable to :

CC Historical Society

P.O. Box 218

Grayling, MI 49738-0218

Museum seasonal phone number:

(989) 348-4461

Email address:

cchs49738@yahoo.com

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