

THE LARSMONT LINE

Larsmont Community Club • Spring 2015



Home of the
Little Red Schoolhouse
Established 1914

If you are a resident
of Larsmont,
full time or visit part time,
we invite you to get more
involved in the
community and meet
your neighbors.
Join the Larsmont
Community Club for
only \$10 per year.
Paid members get
one free use of the
Little Red Schoolhouse
during the year.

Color versions of this and past
newsletters are located on the
Larsmont Website

www.Larsmont.org

Annual Meeting Scheduled for May 11



The **annual meeting** of the **Larsmont Community Club** is planned for **Monday, May 11 at the Schoolhouse at 7 p.m.** This Community Club serves all residents of the Larsmont community and all are invited to attend, whether you live here full time or only part of the year. Club participation helps to maintain the Schoolhouse building and grounds, so please come and give us your ideas and suggestions as to what you would like to see happen with your club and management of the property. The meeting should last less than an hour.

Donate to the Building Fund

In 2006, the Larsmont Community Club established the Building Maintenance Fund to accept donations from members to be used toward repairs and upkeep of the building. Donations to the Building Fund can be one of your most important contributions to your club. These funds are always needed. Those who donate are recognized through small certificates displayed in the Schoolhouse.

Donations in 2014 were received from Wayne Johnson, James Ortman, Karen and Steven Smith, Paul and Cindy Hayden, Judy and Len Beardsley and Charles and Carol Gunder. A 2015 donation has been made in memory of Jim Isackson.

You can make donations specifically to the Building Fund through Secretary/Treasurer, Marlys Wisch, at the Annual Meeting at the Schoolhouse on May 11, or send them to 489 Swanson Rd., Larsmont, MN 55616.

Thanks to those who pay your voluntary \$10 per household **membership dues** to help our Community Club. These annual dues allow you to use the Hall once a year for a function. Dues are used to pay insurance, electricity, gas, grass cutting, postage and miscellaneous repairs. Of course, an additional donation is always appreciated, especially for the Building Fund.

Please use the enclosed label for an envelope and mail membership dues and comments or suggestions if you will be unable to attend this meeting. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Huge Used Book Sale May 1-3

A huge book sale is scheduled in the Larsmont Schoolhouse on May 1-3. Michael Kahl will be selling the used book inventory from Windever Books, which operated in Duluth until 2002. It had a vast selection of largely hard cover and trade paperbacks. Its owner and his wife, Silva Mara, then pursued her education, graduating with a Masters degree in history. She passed away in 2012.

Michael will conduct the sale as Windever Books, with part of the proceeds going to help the Larsmont Community Club care for the Larsmont Schoolhouse.

"I will attempt to have a wide selection of quality used books at the sale, 2,000 to 3,000 at a minimum," he says.

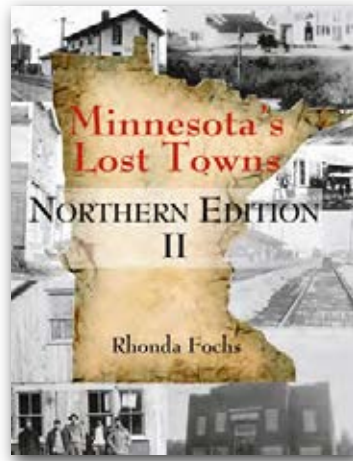
The sale will extend from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Credit cards will be accepted for debit and credit sales.

New Book Explores Minnesota Towns

Rhonda Fochs spent many years researching the history of Minnesota's lost towns. Her work was published in her first book, *Minnesota's Lost Towns, Northern Edition*. A history teacher, she never liked the memorization of dates that students and teachers were required to do, so she set about to write about 130 towns from Morrison County northward which no longer exist. Everywhere she traveled throughout the state, people shared their stories and their towns with her. Each new discovery led to more tales of northern Minnesota's lost towns.

Now she's published her second book of lost towns, sort of a son of Minnesota's Lost Towns. The book is filled with photos and tales that maintain her premise that history is in our own back yards. It has a nice section on Larsmont and the schoolhouse.

The book will be available in early May. Rhonda has promised to share \$1.00 of every book sale with the Larsmont Community Club. If you're interested in getting a copy, contact Marlys Wisch, who will be placing an order for the books once they are published. The cost of a copy is \$19.95 plus tax, shipping and handling. You can also visit the authors website at <http://rhondafochs.weebly.com/>.



1st Place: Up to 4 Years – Natalie Falk, age 3



1st Place: 5-7 Years – Claudia Pawloski, age 6



1st Place: 8-10 Years – Hailey Radle, age 9

Color Me 'Red'

As part of the 2014 Centennial Celebration of the Little Red Schoolhouse, the *Lake County News-Chronicle* published our coloring drawing of the Schoolhouse for children. There were three age divisions of competition. A first, second and third place were awarded in each division, with two Honorable Mentions also awarded.



Prizes: First Place – \$25 certificate donated by North Shore Pizza; Second Place – Book *Agate, What Good Is a Moose?* donated by *Lake Superior Magazine*; Third Place – Book *Uncle Ake's Field Guide to Infrequently Found Animals on the Shore of Lake Superior*, donated by Margaret Glass.

To see all of the winning drawings, go to www.Larsmont.org/ColoringContest.html. To print out your own copy of our Larsmont Schoolhouse Coloring Page, go to the image on our website at www.Larsmont.org/LarsmontSchoolhouseColorbook.pdf.

Larsmont Community Club

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Let's Have a Birthday (Party On) - A Photo Album

It's not every year that a community gets to celebrate a centennial, but last year the Larsmont Schoolhouse officially became 100 years old. On the weekend of August 23-24, 2014, Larsmont neighbors from near and far gathered to wish the old building a Happy Birthday.

Beginning with a float in the Two Harbor's Heritage Days parade and extending through the last horse-and-buggy ride on that August Sunday, all we could talk about was the Centennial. There were many ways the word got out, including a coloring contest in the *Lake County News-Chronicle*, a puzzle in the *North Shore Journal*, newsletters, posters, news stories in papers and on television, plus a hook-up with the North Shore

Scenic Railroad, which stopped at the Larsmont crossing both days to allow special visitors to disembark for the festivities.

The Schoolhouse was decked out in finery. There were displays of historic artifacts inside the building, including a mock-classroom setup that allowed even the youngest to experience how a one-room classroom would feel. Outside, there was all sorts of activity – food, a Civil War lecture, musical presentations, an antique sale and that impressive horse and buggy. This and the next few pages have photos from the events.

We're told that planning for the next Centennial has already begun, but perhaps committee meetings won't be necessary until we're closer to that celebration.



Gustav Mattsson
who named Larsmont



Anna Louise Wasberg (Ruths)
Gustav's Partner



Centennial Weekend, August 23 & 24, 2014

Visit the
Community
Website at:

www.Larsmont.org

- Community News
 - Calendar of Events
 - Links to Resources
 - Story Contributions
- Help keep the website active.

Send your info to:
info@larsmont.org

Party On - Continued



Photos by Paul L. Hayden



Centennial Weekend, August 23 & 24, 2014

Party On - Continued



Centennial Weekend, August 23 & 24, 2014

Larsmont Calendar

May -
Huge Book Sale - Windever Books
May 1-3 – Schoolhouse
8-8 Fri. & Sat., 8-6 Sun.
Credit Cards accepted

Larsmont Community Club
Annual Meeting
May 11 – 7 p.m. Schoolhouse

Pioneer School Day
May 19 – 9 a.m. Schoolhouse

Pioneer School Day
May 28 – 9 a.m. Schoolhouse

June -

July -
Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade
July 11 – 1 p.m.
Downtown Two Harbors

August -
Larsmont Schoolhouse Annual Picnic
August TBD Schoolhouse

Letters to the Schoolhouse

Does anyone have information on where the former Larsmont depot building is now located? My cousin, Dale Isackson, says it was moved to the Two Harbors Gun Club site and then sold and moved again.

My mother was Florence Isackson Kertzscher, Oliver Isackson's sister. My husband, Donald Bennett, is a railroad fan and model railroader. We want to scratch build the Larsmont depot for our train layout. We have the building plans from the DM&IR Historical Society, but would like to take photos of the depot – wherever it is.

Also, if anyone has photos of the depot and activities connected with the depot, any memories – we'd love to connect. I remember traveling by train to Larsmont June 1946 with my mother and brother Ernst Paul after wandering a year in war-torn Germany. We lived with my grandfather, Ole Haakon Isackson.

Mary Anne Bennett, Brainerd, Minnesota
mabennett937@outlook.com

We've done a little research to try to track down what happened to the old Larsmont Depot, which was a solid little building about 12 feet by 20 feet, built by the railroad in 1916. It was in service until December 1958. The building was donated by the DM&IR to the Two Harbors Gun Club in 1959 for use as their clubhouse. Later, it was moved to their new Gun Club site. In 1996, it was sold to a Two Harbors individual who converted it into a hunting shack and took it up to Toimi. In 2003, the depot was sold again, still in use as a hunting shack near Toimi.

According to some, the building continues to serve well as a hunting shack, although some modifications have been made. We hope to find some pictures for use in a future newsletter.

Some folks thought that the Gun Club clubhouse was not from Larsmont, but from Palmers, but Mel Sando at the Lake County Historical Society says the Palmers Depot still exists, back in the woods near its original location off North Shore Scenic Drive at Palmers. That building is in disrepair.



Larsmont Community Club's
Annual Meeting
At the Schoolhouse
May 11, 7 p.m.

Larsmont
Community Club
701 Larsmont Road
Larsmont, MN 55616



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