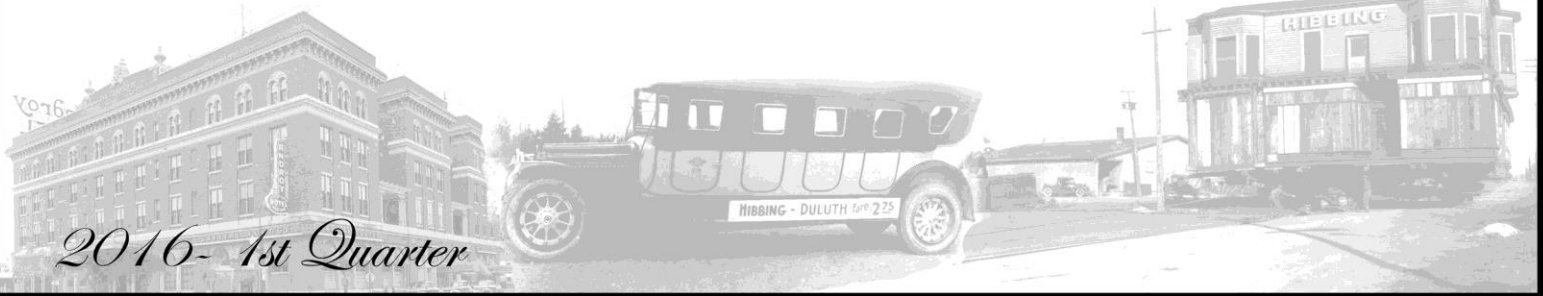


# Preserving the Past

## THE HIBBING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



2016- 1st Quarter

### A look back at 2015 ...

- Establishment of Ben Owens Endowment Fund
- “Love Your Museum” Valentines Open House
- Elementary School History Outreach
- “Salute to Service” Military Fundraiser
- Non-Profit of the Year Award
- Hibbing’s Annual Birthday Party
- “Celebration of Italy” Fall Membership Meeting
- Victorian Christmas Open House



## **Membership Drive 2016**

Join the Hibbing Historical Society and you will never be required to attend a monthly meeting! We simply provide you with the opportunity to participate in fun and exciting activities such as Hibbing's Birthday Party, and the successful Valentine's Day and Victorian Christmas Open Houses held this past year.

Membership in the Society includes admission to the museum and exclusive invitations to the opening of exhibits and other special activities. It also includes a \$5 discount off of your first photo reproduction from the collection. As a member, you may also nominate people for the Hall of Service.

Your membership fee allows us to continue our mission of sharing Hibbing's unique history!

## **Mystery Photo Update**

The Mystery Photo in the last newsletter showed what appeared to be a ground-breaking ceremony with many attendees. While no one was able to identify the event, Carol Ongaro identified 4 of the individuals in the photo: Carole Nara, Mrs. Egge, George Fisher and Ken Pederson's wife. Thanks, Carol, for your eagle eye and good memory!

## **Give to the Max Day**

Kudos to all those who contributed to the Hibbing Historical Society on "Give to the Max Day"—November 12, 2015:

Roy and Nadine Berg  
Elissa Degnan  
Carolann Ongaro

Henry and Sherry Djerlev  
Linda Suihkonen  
John Hendrickson  
Robert Thiel

Joe and Mary Keyes  
Nick Zubich  
Carol Larson

## **2016 Event Schedule**

\*February 29 - Leap Day Fundraiser at the Brickyard  
Have a "leaping" good time at The Brickyard! Owner Ray Davidson has graciously agreed to donate a portion of any food and beverage purchases from 4-7pm on Leap Day (Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup>). A slideshow of photographs from the historical society's collection will guide you down memory lane! Join us for dinner or a drink, and make the extra day this year count!

May 7-Annual Spring Event

August 9 - Hibbing's Birthday Party

October 22 - Fall Membership Luncheon and Exhibit Opening

December-Christmas Open House



## **Mesaba Co-op Park**

Located near Hibbing, Mesaba Co-op Park is one of the few remaining continuously operated cooperative parks in the country. A gathering place of the Finnish cooperative movement, the park served the ethnic political radicals who energized the Iron Range labor movement and Minnesota's Farmer-Labor party.



The park opened in 1929 after 40 Finnish-American organizations came together to purchase 160 acres (including a 52 acre lake), and began building recreation areas, a dance pavilion, and a school. Early festivals featured plays, track and field events, swimming, and dances.

The park's founding was, in part, a response to Finnish discrimination in the area that stemmed from the Finn's role in the 1907 and 1916 mining strikes. The park barely survived Communist controversy in the 1950's, but went on to celebrate its 85th anniversary operating as a cooperative park in 2014!

This information came from an article by Jason Scorich. Read the full article online at [www. MNOpedia.org](http://www.MNOpedia.org). Image courtesy Iron Range Research Center.

## **What's In Your Attic?**

Or your basement? Or tucked under the bed? Our curator is looking for photos, information and memorabilia related to the following:

- The North Hibbing Carnegie Library - (especially interior photos)
- The Hibbing Fire Department
- The Hibbing Daily Tribune (not newspapers)

As you may know, Lenora and Craig Jensen have founded the North Hibbing Cemetery Restoration Alliance and are looking for information and especially photos of the cemetery. One of our members is looking for a photo of the superintendent's house from the Webb Location, and another is looking for information and photos of the Stover House. Author Dan Lynch is still looking for photos of the Godfrey Location. As always, the museum can make scans of any material you are not ready to part with.

And, last but not least, your museum is in need of a copy machine. Our current one is on its last legs and, as we frequently make copies of photos and information for visitors, we would like to replace it. If you have any leads on where we might find an inexpensive one, please let us know!

## **Mining Locations Project**

Our Mining Locations Project is moving along at full steam! When complete, information, photos, maps and oral histories from the Agnew Location to the Webb Location will be available to visitors. We gratefully acknowledge the following who have recently donated toward this project:

- Henry and Sherry Djerlev
- Guye’s Plumbing
- Hibbing Taconite
- The Hilligoss Family Foundation
- Lake Country Power
- Sylvia Perell
- Security State Bank Foundation
- US Bank Foundation

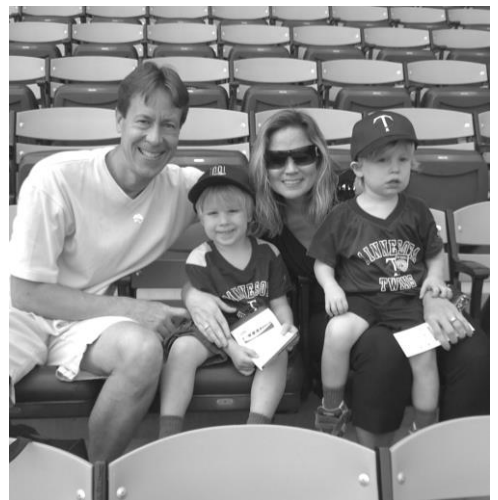
We are blessed to be supported by such individuals and companies who share our vision of preserving Hibbing’s unique history.

## **Officer Spotlight**

Charles “Chuck/Charlie” Cedar is the Secretary for the Hibbing Historical Society. In 1999, he was recruited by former librarian, Terry Moore, to a position on the Board when Rose Zyganski retired after many years of service. Chuck accepted because he has always had a passion for history.

Chuck is a 1986 graduate of Hibbing High School. He holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. For the last 24 years, he has been employed by L&M Radiator. He began there by mowing lawns!

Chuck and his wife, Brittany, are the proud--and BUSY—parents of three young boys. In addition to spending time with his family, Chuck likes all things outdoors. He hunts, fishes and gardens. He is also a loyal fan of Gopher hockey and enjoys going to the games.



## **Victorian Christmas Open House**

The Museum was the site of a very festive open house on December 11th. Visitors were able to take a step back in time as they viewed the Victorian Christmas decorations, and learned how many of our present day customs had their start during the era when Queen Victoria wed a German prince. Thank you to Jan Carey for donating the Christmas tree! Special guest, B. J. Carpenter, was on hand to sign copies of her new book, Come, You Taste! Nearly 100 people attended and were treated to cider and holiday goodies.