



The Gogebic Roots Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 4 Issue 2

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**The Gogebic
Roots
Quarterly
Newsletter**
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Historical
Pageant - 1920**

The Gogebic Roots Quarterly Newsletter is a publication of the Gogebic Range Genealogical Society, Inc. The Newsletter is published quarterly in January, April, July and September. We are located in Ironwood, Michigan, USA. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 23, Ironwood, MI 49938.

Your Newsletter editor is Joe Carlson
Our website is www.gogebicroots.com

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Membership dues are based on a calendar year starting with the date of enrollment. The expiration date of your membership is shown on your membership card. If renewal of the dues is not received by the expiration date a reminder is sent. The reason for this is twofold. First and foremost we value your membership and hope you continue to support us. Secondly, our Bylaws state that a member in arrears 30 days after the anniversary date shall be removed from the rolls. Please keep in mind that one reminder only is required in this same section of the Bylaws and is sent in hopes that your membership continues without a lapse. If any member has a question regarding this please feel free to contact us.

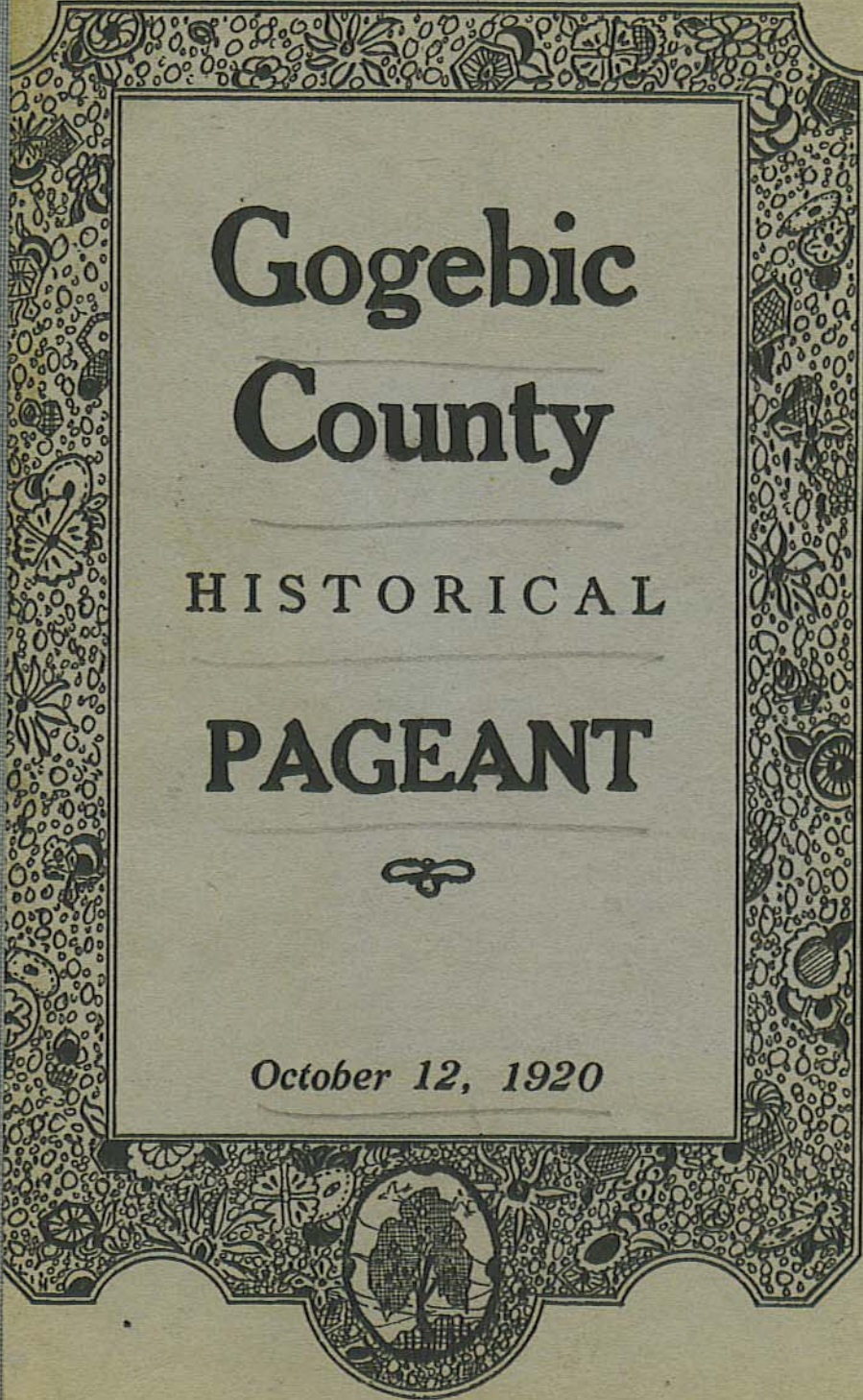
Thanks for your continued support.

The Gogebic County Pageant was held on Columbus Day, October 12, 1920 at the new Gogebic Country Club golf course between Bessemer and Ironwood. More than 3,000 people were involved in some way with the pageant. The 1,500 member cast rehearsed for weeks before the affair. Miss Nina Lamkin, author and director of the pageant made out the rehearsal schedule. Rehearsals were held at the Central school, the Olcott and Puritan schools, the Wakefield town hall, the Bessemer high school, Ramsay Community House and the Froebel Kindergarten. Finally, on October 9, all group leaders and special characters met at the Pageant Grounds for a dress rehearsal.

Admission was free and nearly all merchants and mines closed at noon on Tuesday, October 12th "to enable their patrons and help to promote and enjoy this First Reunion of Gogebic County." Schools in the county closed at noon so that students who were not cast members could witness the pageant, and the day was declared a holiday in Ironwood, Bessemer and Wakefield. A warning was issued to everyone to wear warm clothes.

The weather was a problem on the day of the pageant. Heavy winds and smoke darkened the sky, but, in spite of it, a crowd of close to 10,000 came to view the proceedings. Near the end, it started to rain, and most of the crowd left.

The program was scanned from an original at the Ironwood Carnegie Library. The Ironwood Daily Globe carried a day-by-day blow of the event.



Gogebic County

HISTORICAL

PAGEANT



October 12, 1920

AN HISTORICAL PAGEANT

“AMERICA
YESTERDAY
AND TODAY”



GIVEN UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

GOGEBIC COUNTY COMMUNITY
BOARD

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A Brief History of Gogebic County

In the early 70's, attention was first directed to the locality now known as "The Great Gogebic Range," a continuous chain of forested, rock-ribbed hills almost mountainous in size running a distance of fifty miles—from Lake Agogebic in Michigan, on the east, to the Bad River in Wisconsin on the west.

At that time, Ontonagon county embraced the entire western end of the Upper Peninsula with the village of Ontonagon as its county seat. Little was known concerning this country. It was generally thought of as far too cold and bleak for habitation.

In 1879, while in the employ of Sedgewick and Lieutenant-Governor McDonald of Michigan, Nathan Moore discovered ore on Section 16, Range 47, Township 46, located at what is now the Colby mine of Bessemer. Although there have been many claimants as first discoverers, it is now accredited to Mr. Moore.

Development quickly followed discovery and when in October, 1884, the Milwaukee Lakeshore and Western railway entered the southeastern corner of the county, there began a flood of immigration. Villages and towns sprang up where but a few weeks before had stood the dense wilderness. Seemingly, over night the towns of Bessemer, Wakefield and Ironwood sprang up from out of this wilderness.

The rapid growth of these towns necessitated a division of the county, as the increase of business made it quite impossible to travel such a distance to reach the county seat, especially during the winter months. For that reason, the county was divided. From the old Indian name Agogebic, which means "lake of the falling leaves," the "A" was dropped and the new county was named Gogebic. A bill was drafted and presented to the legislature and Feb. 2, 1887, it passed both houses and was put into immediate effect. Bessemer was made the county seat.

Today, Gogebic county proudly boasts of a population of 33,225 with Ironwood, its largest city, ranking first among all cities of the Upper Peninsula with a population of nearly 16,000. Bessemer, Wakefield and Ironwood now rank as three of the most progressive cities of the Peninsula.

GOGEBIC COUNTY COMMUNITY BOARD.

GEO. A. DRISCOLL, Ironwood.
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 WERNER LARSON, Ironwood.
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 MRS. A. E. ORMES, Marenisco.
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M. A. HAGERMAN, Chairman.

WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

W. J. DAVIES, Chairman.

**LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE MICHIGAN STATE COMMUNITY
 COMMISSION—MR. W. F. TRUETTNER.**

Pageant Written and Directed by

NINA B. LAMKIN,

State Director Pageantry and Recreation for Michigan
 Community Council Commission.

Associate Directors:

JEANNETTE GUTHRIE,

State Recreation Dept. Michigan Community Council Commission.

MRS. ETHELYN B. HART,

Secretary Gogebic County Community Board.

**MUSIC BY AMERICAN LEGION BAND, IRONWOOD, MICH.
 DIRECTOR—MARTIN HOLEMO.**

Director of Chorus

J. C. WATSON

PAGEANT COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

IRONWOOD—Mrs. F. E. Snavelly, Mrs. J. W. Oxnam, Mrs. Mary Tresise, Walter Olson, E. R. Oxnam, Mr. Max Wolfsfield, Magnus Olson, Mayor A. J. O'Neil.

BESSEMER—M. A. Hagerman, Mrs. C. F. Winkler, Mrs. W. H. Knight, Mrs. Mary Basket, Mrs. E. B. Hart, J. M. Johnston, Mrs. W. S. Baird, W. F. Truettner, T. B. Windross, Halften Hansen, Edwin Bayliss, Mayor Andy Byrne, Frank Duda, chairman, C. R. Cobb.

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CAST COMMITTEE.

IRONWOOD—Mrs. Robert King, Mrs. Belmont Waples, Mrs. Dr. E. E. Fox, Mrs. W. C. Connelly, Mrs. C. E. Bennet, Miss Jessica Bond, Mrs. Andrew Haapajo, Miss Alice Miller.

BESSEMER—Miss Alice Connelly, Mrs. C. E. Stevens, Mrs. Charles D. Fournier, Mrs. Harry Byrne, Miss Caroline Vomastak, Miss Nan Rund, Miss Marcella Rutiman, Miss Molly Stonemark.

WAKEFIELD—Mrs. Dan Raess, Mrs. H. A. Tressel, Miss Ida Olson, Miss Martha Brown, Mrs. R. I. C. Prout, Mr. O. F. Gennrich.

PURITAN—Jessie Jewell, Miss Rose Burt, Mr. Edward Auerswald.

ANVIL—Marcella Rutiman.

RAMSAY—Mr. Edwin Eels, Mrs. Edwin Eels.

MARENISCO—Mr. G. L. Blough, Mrs. G. L. Blough.

WATERSMEET—Mrs. Patrick Kelly.

GROUNDS SERVICE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Earl W. Chapman, Chairman.

GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

Walter Olson, Chairman—I. Henry Hoffman—B.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

C. R. Cobb, Chairman—B. James Tribilcock—W. George O'Connor—I.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

A. L. Rummel, Chairman—W. Edwin R. Bayliss—B. John Kluck—I.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

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W. J. Weston, Chairman—W. Mrs. J. J. Frick—B. Geo. Greenwood—I.

STAGE COMMITTEE.

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BAND COMMITTEE.

Frank Dwyer, Chairman—I. C. R. Cobb—B. Simon Fredrickson—W.

Story of the Gogebic County Pageant

The pageant opens with an Indian Episode. The Indian Prophet speaks, and there is a gathering of the tribes for a celebration ending with the Corn Dance at which time the tribe brought the last ear of their harvest and offered it as a sacrifice to the Great Spirit for the rain and the sun which had made the corn grow and made much food for the tribes.

During the dance the Winnebago tribe comes and they make the signs of peace and at the invitation of the Chippewas gather around the fire to smoke the peace pipe.

Indian customs, Indian traditions, Indian industries, and Indian games by groups of children make this episode reflect real Indian history.

The second episode shows scenes in the wilderness before the days of the pioneer. Symbolic groups dance in the forest; the trees grow tall and stately. Into the midst of this scene comes a group representing Progress who in a dance drama force back the forest group and makes way for the Pioneers.

The third episode marks the coming of the pioneers and the early settlement of Gogebic County. The real pioneers of the county live again the scenes of the early days.

A service of thanksgiving, a wedding scene, the oldtime school, the visit of the early postmaster, and old quadrilles and games of the early days make this a real celebration by the pioneers.

The fourth episode is distinctively civic. Symbolic groups representing Community Interests and Community Ideals, form the center of the picture.

The officials of the towns and of the county, Mayor and Council and County Board of Supervisors review the civic groups in the county.

The fifth episode is patriotic. It opens with a symbolic group representing Democracy, Spirit of Gogebic County, Liberty, Truth and Justice claiming our attention in the center field.

The G. A. R., symbolizing the Spirit of Yesterday, the American Legion and Red Cross symbolizing the Spirit of today, and the Boy Scouts, symbolizing the Spirit of tomorrow group themselves on the stage. They are followed by groups representing the various nationalities that help make up the population of Gogebic County. These groups in dance and song express their joy in their freedom under the American flag.

All unite in singing the Star Spangled Banner and join in a processional off stage.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Spirit of Gogebic.....F. E. Hook, Wakefield
 Chief.....N. J. Serro, Wakefield
 Harland Johnson, Wakefield
 Spirit of the Wilderness.....Jessica Bond, Ironwood
 Pioneer Bride and Groom.....Mr. and Mrs. Alex Strom, Bessemer
 Spirit of Patriotism.....Fiella Knoblock, Bessemer
 Spirit of State.....Nan Rund, Bessemer
 Little County Spirit.....Isabelle Fournier, Bessemer
 Little County Interests
 Church.....Chas. Cobb, Rachael Baird, Bessemer
 Rural.....Clayton Swanson, Marguerite Kendzella, Bessemer
 Town.....James Hilligan, Mary Basket, Bessemer
 School.....Walter Whitburn, Helen Hartley, Bessemer
 Grown County Spirit.....Mrs. W. F. Truettner, Bessemer
 Spirit of Ironwood.....Mrs. Jas. O'Neil, Ironwood
 Spirit of Wakefield.....Mrs. Al Rummel, Wakefield
 Spirit of Bessemer.....Mrs. Andy Byrne, Bessemer

Community Interests

Bessemer—

Christianity.....Mrs. Chas. Fournier, Caroline Vomestek, Ethel Johnson
 Education.....Mrs. W. A. O'Brien, Mrs. Sam Williams, Alice Connelly
 Community Service.....Mrs. M. A. Hagerman, Mary Springhetti
 Music.....Mrs. Sam. Simon, Esther Hansen, Mrs. J. M. Johnston
 Art.....Mrs. F. W. Truettner, Mrs. C. E. Stevens
 Drama.....Mrs. H. Heinrichs, Mrs. Edward Cochran, Elizabeth Mann
 Welfare—Mary McDonald, Bessemer; Mrs. Paul Massie, Bessie Mazanee
 Play—Calienetta Cobb, Apaline Knoblock, Doris Swanson, Alice Abelman
 Forest Preservation.....Vendla Johnson, Frances Petranek

County—

Red Cross.....Mrs. H. E. Fox, Ironwood

Community Ideals.

Bessemer—

Democracy.....Mrs. C. R. Cobb, Bessemer
 Loyalty.....Mrs. R. A. Paradis, Mrs. A. D. Johnston
 Truth.....Mrs. Chas. Fraser, Mrs. W. Pinkerton
 Service.....Mrs. U. Gaudette
 Justice.....Mrs. J. J. Frick, Mrs. Adolph Guyer
 Beauty.....Mrs. Pierce Graham, Mrs. J. W. Johnson
 Faith.....Mrs. Wm. McMinn, Mrs. Fred Knight
 Hope.....Mrs. Fred Whitburn, Mrs. E. Brown
 Charity.....Mrs. J. Scavarda, Mrs. Wallace Balduc
 Unity.....Mrs. John Kallander, Mrs. K. Stanaway
 Liberty.....Mrs. Harry Cummins

Ironton—

Peace.....Mrs. C. D. Pittman, Mrs. E. Roberts
 Courage.....Mrs. David McFarland, Mrs. Geo. W. Karanski

Bessemer—

Spirit of New America.....Mrs. Harry Byrne

Groups and Characters

In Order of Entrance, With Group Leaders

EPISODE 1.—INDIAN LIFE.

CHIPPEWA INDIANS—

Wakefield

Prophet	F. E. Hook
Chief	N. J. Serra
Men	F. E. Hook
Women	Mrs. Dominic LaVigne, Mrs. Dan Raess
Girls	Marie Cronk
Children—	Marie Hill, Lorena Steiner, Mrs. Leola Ramquist, Estelle Ma-
	son, Marguerite Ostrander, Cora Bullman, Mary Orser, Matilda
	Waara, Grace Morgan, Lula Moore, Marie Cronk.

WINNEBAGO INDIANS—

Chief	Harland Johnson
Men	O. F. Genrich

EPISODE II.—WILDERNESS.

Ironwood—

Spirit of Wilderness	Jessica Bond
Daisies	Florence Benedict
Roses	Elsema Nault
Butterflies	Marion Hathaway
Poppies	Marion Campbell, Isabelle Barry
Dryads	Verda Vogl
Grasshoppers	Inez McCormick
Bluebirds	Alice Miller
Mist Maidens.....	Marion Hathaway, Elsema Nault
Trees	Mr. G. J. Mason

Bessemer and Puritan—

Progress.....	Goldie Martin, Mrs. Jennie McDonald, Miss Jessie Jewell
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EPISODE III.—THE PIONEER DAYS.

Ironwood—

Pioneer Men	G. N. Olson
Pioneer Women.....	Mrs. J. W. Oxnam

Bessemer—

Pioneer Men	Mr. Edwin Bayliss
Pioneer Women	Mrs. Louis Holdorf, Mrs. James Proctor

Marenisco—

Pioneer Men	Mr. G. S. Blough
Pioneer Women.....	Mrs. A. E. Ormes, Mrs. G. L. Blough

Watersmeet—

Pioneer Men	Mr. Patrick Kelly
Pioneer Women	Mrs. Patrick Kelly

Anvil—

Country Dance Group—	Sylvia Hansen, B. A. Korinek, Anna Miesbauerer
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Groups and Characters

In Order of Entrance, With Group Leaders

EPISODE III.—Continued

Bessemer—

Pioneer Boys—
Pioneer Boys and Girls.....Esther Engel

Ramsay and Bessemer—

Butterfly Group.....Mrs. Edwin Eels, Miss Saima Sippila
Charivari Groups.....Edward Hart
Olcott School Boys.....Mary Koskey

EPISODE IV.—CIVIC INTERESTS.

Bessemer—

Spirit of Patriotism..... Fiella Knoblock
Spirit of State.....Nan Rund
Little County Spirit.....Isabelle Fournier
Little County Interests.....Ethel Carlson
Grown County Spirit.....Mrs. W. F. Truettner
Spirit of Ironwood.....Mrs. Jas. A. O'Neil
Spirit of Bessemer.....Mrs. Andy Byrne
Spirit of Wakefield.....Mrs. Al Rummel
Play Group.....Hazel Anderson, Alice Vogler

Bessemer—

Community Interests Group.....Mrs. M. A. Hagerman
Community Ideals Group.....Mrs. J. J. Frick

Ironwood—

Mayor and Council.....Jas. A. O'Neil
Miners Group—

Bessemer—

Mayor and Council.....Andy Byrne

Wakefield—

Mayor and Council.....Al Rummel
Ironwood Community Council.....Dr. G. F. Coons
Bessemer Community Council.....M. A. Hagerman
Wakefield Advisory Board.....W. J. Davies
County Board of Supervisors.....W. F. Truettner
Gogebic County Community Board.....C. R. Cobb

SOCIETIES AND LODGES.

Ironwood—Civic Groups led by Elks' Chorus.....Ed. Hedlund

Bessemer Civic Groups—

Wakefield Civic Groups—

Groups and Characters

In Order of Entrance, With Group Leaders

INTERLUDE—THE NATIONS AT PLAY.

Bessemer—

Spirit of New America.....	Mrs. Harry Byrne
French	Ada Strom
Bohemian	Mary Brach
Danish	Winnie Skinnard
English	Mary Donich
Finnish	Caroline Vomastek
Scotch	Fanny Emeis
Polish	Mrs. J. A. Wagner
Irish	Mrs. Alfred Roberts

EPISODE V.

Bessemer—

Patriotism	Fiella Knoblock
Democracy	Mrs. C. R. Cobb
Spirit of Gogebic County.....	Mrs. W. F. Truettner
Liberty	Mrs. H. Cummins
Truth	Mrs. Chas. Fraser, Mrs. W. M. Pinkerton
Justice.....	Mrs. J. J. Frick, Mrs. Adolph Guyer

Ironwood—

Flag Group	Marion Campbell, Isabelle Barry
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Patriotic Groups.

County—

- I. G. A. R.—
 - II. American Legion.....Mr. A. L. Rummel, Mr. J. M. Johnston
 - III. Red Cross—
 - IV. Boy Scouts.....Mr. Earl Chapman, Joe Macconi, Mr. Edwin Eels
1. Bohemian Group
 2. Polish
 3. Swedish
 4. Finnish Group
 5. Italian Group—Mrs. Redenta Bertolotti, Adelina Costa, Mrs. Fred Bertelli.



Our Officers are

Gary Harrington, President

Diane Egan, Vice President

Pam Bretall, Secretary

Eddie Sandene, Treasurer

Carol Schleker, Membership

Dwight Filippini, Cemeteries

Tim Egan, Librarian

**Our board meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month
from 10 am to noon
Everyone is invited to attend.**