

Gogebic Range Genealogical Society Quarterly

October 2010

Hi again from the beautiful North Woods. Come join us. The Gogebic Range Gen. Soc. started about ten years ago. We're still motivated to help members and non-members in solving those burning family research issues they encounter. We try to help everyone, but go the extra mile for members.

We do encourage you to join the society—Not a lot of tangible benefits derive from doing so, but your involvement in the GRGS will help us help you and others in furthering our ability to promote genealogy on the Gogebic Range (Most of Gogebic County, MI and Iron County, Wis.) You may want to assist in responding to requests from folks from around the world who have an attachment to the Gogebic Range. We routinely respond to requests for assistance from just about anywhere in this country and abroad, recently assisting researchers in Cornwall, Finland, and Sweden, for example. Fun stuff! Membership dues also allow us to continue maintaining our website, Gogebicroots. We are truly a service organization. What sets the site apart from most other genealogy websites is the data bank of over 70,000 obits in which the name, date of death and date of obit publication in local newspapers are available for the nominal fee of \$2 per obit. That fee may or may not cover the expenses for the GRGS. Typically, Karen Bielawski, research coordinator receives a request, may or may not need to visit the Carnegie Library to retrieve the actual obit from the computer or microfilm, and mails or emails the obit to the requestor. That's when things go smoothly. Others of us help, but Karen bears the brunt of the obit workload and she does it well.

We are often so busy with helping others that we fall short on presenting programs. We would particularly encourage those of you who live on the Gogebic Range and have ideas for programs to give us a call or drop an email. You may even decide to join us as a GRGS board member! There's fun in helping others. There must be, because the present board remains intact as of the annual meeting Sept 16.

President—Gary Harrington

Vice President—Diane Egan

Acting secretary—Diane Egan

Acting Treasurer—Dwight Filippini

Research coordinator—Karen Bielawski

Website Coordinator—Gail Speer

Librarian—Tim Egan

Thanks to each one for a great job, day after day, year after year.

Mid 19th Century Voyage to the new World—John Burns, who does yeoman duty scanning old glass and other negatives for the Ironwood Area Hist. Soc. loaned me a transcription of his GG or G grand mother's journal. Eliza Bagster embarked on her journey from England to the United States August 20, 1849. A random glance at the daily happenings can't help but elicit the question, "How did they ever endure that journey." Many did not. The entries are somewhat cryptic but so descriptive and often humorous.

August 20—Entered the Sir Henry Smith, expecting to sail, but when the government officer came on board, there was not enough of anything. The passengers quite discontented. There was a regular row. I sat in my chair and arranged my things. The lady, very pleasant, gave me a cup of tea. Had tea with Dr. and Mate and Pilot. Not very nice company, but they behaved very well. After tea, walked on the quarter deck. Delightful. Had a candle and went to my own cabin. Retired to rest soon, but found the mattress very hard. Slept very middling. Got up about seven, had breakfast—beef steak and onions. Did not eat any coffee in fruit rings. No milk and very coarse sugar, salt, butter and sea biscuits. Went to my room to sulk. There was a great piece of work on board. That man, Branegan, on board all day. Mrs. Wilson hooted by all and nearly thrown overboard.

August 21—Breakfast about eight. The same, read and worked till dinner time. Fresh boiled beef, potatoes, carrots, and sticky rice pudding, and at tea, hot cake. No milk, but manage very well. Not able to go out today, as the doctor is not settled with government. Dr came, all examined, such a funny sight, he said all were healthy. Do not like the lady with the baby, they are vulgar. That horrid Branegan here all day and night in the cabin, with lady and baby all night drinking in bed, could hear all that passed—most vulgar, could not sleep for their noise.

August 22—Got up early. The captain came to my cabin and asked me how I felt. He is very attentive to me. We are expecting to sail every moment. Dr. Feore and I had not slept for the noise. Sailed at nine. Oh what I felt, leaving my native land and all my friends. It is a great trial, but I shall be rewarded in time, earning sufficient to enable me to return independent. The pilot left us at 4 in the afternoon, with that horrid man "B" and crew. I for the first time fell ill, and ill indeed I was, until 6. I then went to my cabin for the night, and took one teaspoonful of raw brandy and a small biscuit, which quite settled my stomach. Then got into bed, which was more comfortable as Dr. and I changed. He had my mattress, and I his feather bed.

Aug 23—Rose about 7 and had breakfast at 8. Mashed potatoes and chopped meat with onions—very nicely seasoned and browned. I have a saucer, but no one else. The water tastes as if an eau de cologne bottle has been washed in it. Not very pleasant, but yet drink it. Found out what the noise was—one of the berths gave way, in which a woman and child were sleeping, and came down on a great fat man underneath. They were not hurt but frightened. I walk on the quarter deck after every meal. Very calm, only going 5 knots an hour. All quiet on board and in health. I sit mostly in my cabin, either working, reading or sleeping and ? waits on me like a woman. My lamp is a great comfort, but fear I should run short of oil. I fear my journal will not interest all who read it, but it will, I know, those who I will it to.

Aug 24—Did not get up so early, feeling idle, but it was time for breakfast. Almost a dead calm, only going 1 knot an hour. Fear we will have a long voyage, still in the channel, but out of sight of land. Took my usual walk. The Dr. says I must get on deck before breakfast. Shall do so, as I do not feel well—not sick but heavy. I write my journal directly after I come from my walk. The Dr. called to attend a young man in Cholera, son of the woman that died before we sailed. We are barely moving, the wind contrary. Quite cold this afternoon, think we shall have rain. There are some very bad people on board. The man died about 8 o'clock. Strange, the people do not seem to feel it. I do not feel frightened, but serious. Retired to my cabin as soon as dark. It rained very much.

August 25—The steward called me at six. I was getting up, as I was tired, having had a bad night. The people in the next cabin very noisy. They are vulgar people. Walked on the deck before breakfast. A nice brisk wind, but still not in our favor, yet making more progress than yesterday. I like the sailing vessel much more than a steamer, the smell not near as bad. Another case of cholera, not near as bad as the last. God grant it may not spread. The person got quite well. All on board will begin to feel ill again.

To be continued

Enlistment Record for Company I, Third Infantry, Michigan National Guard, stationed in Ironwood. Just before and after the Spanish-American War. Continued from July newsletter.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Enlistment Date</u>	<u>Discharge Date</u>	<u>Cause of Discharge</u>
Houle, Arthur J.	22	Mar. 7, 1901	June 17, 1902	Business Engagement
Callaghan, Timothy	21	Mar. 4, 1901	Mar. 31, 1902	Removed from station
Vana, Francis	18	Mar. 4, 1901	Feb. 8, 1902	Removed from station
Falconer	18	June 10, 1901	Oct. 2, 1902	Removed from Station
Whiteside, Will	19	June 10, 1901	Oct. 2, 1902	Removed from Station
Jewell, Alfred	22	June 10, 1901	Dec. 26, 1903	Removed from Station
Grange, George	23	June 10, 1901	Aug. 13, 1903	Removed from Station
Lynn, Louis	23	June 10, 1901	Mar. 30, 1903	Removed from Station
LaFave, Nelson	28	June 10, 1901	Oct. 2, 1902	Removed from Station
Juellinen, Alex	18	June 10, 1901	Mar. 30, 1903	Removed from Station
Lochrieter, Mike	22	June 10, 1901	Oct. 2, 1902	Removed from Station
Iliff, Leonard	22	June 10, 1901	Aug. 13, 1903	Removed from Station
Mihelchich, F. John	29	June 10, 1901	Mar. 17, 1903	Removed from Station

Sandburg, Gust	23	June 10, 1901	blank	blank
Evans, Edgar	22	June 10, 1901	Mar. 17, 1903	Business Engagement
Aho, John	21	June 10, 1901	Mar. 29, 1903	Diobed. of orders—Dishon.
Isaacson, William	20	June 10, 1901	Mar. 17, 1903	Removed from Station
Garland, Charles	34	Mar. 31, 1902	Mar. 31, 1905	Expiration of Term
Vincent, George	19	Mar. 31, 1902	Aug. 13, 1903	Removed from Station
Johnson, John	21	June 2, 1902	Nov. 30, 1903	Removed from Station
Johnson, Isaac	21	June 2, 1902	Mar. 30, 1903	Removed from Station
Jackson, John	21	June 2, 1902	Aug. 13, 1903	Business Engagement
Martinson, Herman	25	June 2, 1902	Mar. 30, 1903	Removed from Station
Brewer, Roscoe V.	21	July 15, 1902	June 13, 1904	Removed from Station
Tresise, Frank	21	July 15, 1902	Feb. 28, 1903	Removed from Station
Nelson, Gust	24	July 15, 1902	Mar. 30, 1903	Removed from Station
Lahti, Mike	26	Nov. 24, 1902	Aug. 13, 1903	Removed from station
Kamum ?, Andrew	28	Nov. 24, 1902	Mar. 3, 1903	Removed from Station
Hagen, Nels	28	Nov. 24, 1902	Dec. 26, 1903	Removed from Station
LaBlond, Phillip	24	Nov. 24, 1902	Dec. 26, 1903	Removed from Station
Williams, Thomas B.	26	Nov. 24, 1902	Nov. 24, 1904	Expir. Term of Service
Cox, Harry	29	Feb. 19, 1903	blank	Business Engagement
Dixon, Robert J.	22	Feb. 19, 1903	Feb. 19, 1906	Expir. Term of Service

Searching

--Alfred Bartelli came to the area from Italy between 1900 and 1904 and lived in Bessemer until his death in 1947. His great grand son is looking for any info on his participation in the Eagles Lodge or the United Italian Mutual Societies or anything else that connects him to Bessemer.

--Ken Randen of Nykoping, Sweden is looking for info on his relative, John Anderson, who is listed in the 1901 city directory as owning a saloon along with Nels Ackerman, located at 218 McLeod Ave in Ironwood. Anything on the saloon would be welcomed.

--Tappio KeskiSaari of Lappeenranta, Finland is looking for her uncle, Elias Kalviainen, who she believes immigrated to Wakefield, date unknown.

Please contact the GRGS if you have any information concerning the above queries.

Gogebic Range points of contact for the genealogist

Gogebic County Clerk, County Court House in Bessemer—Phone 906-663-4518

--Death, birth, and marriage records

Ironwood City Clerk—Memorial building, Ironwood—906-932-5050

--Burial information for Riverside Cemetery, Ironwood

Iron County Court House, Register of Deeds, Hurley, Wis.—715-561-2945

--Death, birth, and marriage records

Hurley City Clerk, 405 5th Ave. North—715--561-4715

--Burial information for Hurley Cemetery

Websites of interest

--Mattsonworks.com—Information packed site—city directories, cemetery info, local history and much more

--Gogebicroots.com—You're on it

--Heritage Quest at the Carnegie Library, Ironwood, and other libraries. You can access local newspapers (Ironwood, Bessemer, and Wakefield) dating back to late 1800s.