

**LAKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
AND  
LIGHTHOUSE BED AND BREAKFAST**

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**Summer Hours May 24th - October 20th:**

Museums	Mon. to Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Depot	9-5	9-5	10-4
3M	12-5	11-5	11-4
Lighthouse	10-6	10-6	10-4

**Second Saturdays**

September 15th: Engineering Boats  
October 12th: Haunted Harbors  
November 9th: Gales of November  
December 14th: Depot Open House

*The mission of Lake County Historical Society is to preserve the history of Lake County, Minnesota through the study and interpretation of artifacts, documents, and photographs that tell the story of our past and present culture.*

Lake County Historical Society  
520 Waterfront Drive  
Two Harbors, MN 55616

Lake County Historical Society

# The Iron Port

Summer 2019



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## Museum Happenings

The summer season is in full swing! The steam trains have returned to Two Harbors and visitors have been flocking to our historic sites. So far this season we have welcomed over 5,600 paid admissions and continue to see strong visitation to all museums.

The inventory of LCHS 3-D artifacts is a little over 35% complete. Funded by a Legacy Grant through the Minnesota Historical Society, Katie and Nick have logged 3,500 artifacts into our collections database and have re-organized the collections storage areas.

Only with member and community support can we



Steam Train at Depot during Heritage Days. Steam trains will run Fri, Sat, and Sun through September 15th.

continue to operate our historic sites. Managing 3 historic landmarks comes with its own set of challenges and inevitably requires expensive fixes from time to time.

The Depot Museum's boiler is in urgent need of replacement. It has served the museum well for over 35 years, but the past few years

have been a struggle to keep it going. In order to keep the Depot Museum open for the winter and our artifacts safe the Society needs to replace the boiler.

We appealed to the Lake County Board of Commissioners to help the Society fund the nearly \$40,000 project. The board of commissioners has pledged to help with 1/3 of the anticipated cost at \$13,330. Fortunately, the Society has a reserve fund that can cover a portion of the cost of the boiler, but at this time the Society is exploring additional resources to cover the remaining cost.

## Introducing Second Saturdays

Every second Saturday of each month the historical society will host a themed program at one of its 3 sites. Most programs are included with museum admission, \$5 for the general public and free for members of the Historical Society.

The program had a soft launch May 18th with a book signing by local artist Jonathan Thunder.

In remembrance of the 75th anniversary of D-Day the society compiled a

slideshow of WWII veterans and welcomed Chet Bianco to the Depot Museum on June 8th to share his experiences during the war.

For Heritage Days, blacksmith Dale Burton shared the process of blacksmithing and brought samples of his beautiful art.

In celebration of Tall Ships, the Society hosted Picnic on the Point which encouraged people to linger on the lighthouse grounds. Lawn games were played and

lighthouse keeper Ed Maki talked about the keeper's duties.

The next Second Saturday will take place September 15th from 1-3 PM. The Duluth Children's Museum will bring the program Engineering Ships to the Lighthouse Museum. Kids and adults alike can get hands on experience building small model boats and test their creations in a small pool.

## Development of Lake Superior Highway



As part of a 1924 effort to promote travel to Northeast Minnesota, the

North East Minnesota Civic and Commerce Association, based in Duluth, offered a cash prize of \$500 in a nationwide contest to name the Northeast region of Minnesota. Travel by car had become increasingly popular, and the Association wanted to capitalize on the rise of the automobile industry.

Odin MacCrikart of Pittsburg was the winner of the contest with the name for Arrowhead Region. MacCrikart came up with the name because the region on a map resembles the natural shape of an arrowhead. Trunk Highway 1, running through the Iowa Minnesota border North to Canada, became known as Arrowhead Trail.

The Lake Superior Highway Association was formed in 1925 with the primary objective to beautify the highway, improve signage to help public enjoy the route, and foster cooperation among communities along the highway. Annual membership fee of \$1.00 was collected to fund the Association's activities. Representatives from Two Harbors included Dr. Rush L. Burns, J.A. Walstrom, and Thomas Owens. Duluth representatives included

Edwin C. Cogdon, Jasper H. Harper, and Judge C.R. Magney. Hans Engleson of Tofte represented interests north of Two Harbors.

During the dedication celebration of Trunk Highway 1 in Two Harbors at Lakeview Park, Dr. Burns proposed the portion of Trunk Highway 1 from Duluth north to the Canadian Border be re-named as "Lake Superior International Highway." Initially, only the portion from Lester River to St. Louis County Line near Knife River was paved and was known as Cogdon Boulevard. It took another 3 years before the Minnesota Department of Transportation paved the 8.5 mile stretch between Knife River and through Two Harbors.

September 27th, 1929 a holiday was declared in Two Harbors that closed businesses and schools at 2:30 PM. The holiday celebrated the paving of Trunk Highway 1 reaching Two Harbors. At 2:00 a convoy of cars



00.1583: Overland Freight Float in Pageant Parade 1929



00.1583: Canadian Delegation celebrating dedication of concrete pavement west of Two Harbors c. 1932

drove from Two Harbors south to Knife River where they met a delegation from Duluth. The group

drove the paved route North together, ending in Two Harbors with a large parade with a transportation theme. The parade consisted of 25 distinct units celebrating transportation from horse and cart through air travel. The parade ended at Lakeview Park with a program celebrating the opening of the new road.

Schroder to Port Arthur, Canada was paved in the 1930s. The remaining portion of the Superior International Highway from Two Harbors to Schroder did not get paved until 1940. Efforts continue to protect Scenic 61 through the North Shore Scenic Drive Council. Even 104 years later, the mission of the group remains relatively unchanged.

## Duluth News Tribune 9/28/1929

Despite cold weather and a drizzling rain, nearly 5,000 persons including a delegation from Duluth, participated in a pageant and program held here today in celebration of completion of the paving of highway no. 1 connecting Two Harbors with Duluth and the Iowa state line by a continuous stretch of concrete. The program, one of the most colorful held in Two Harbors, started immediately upon arrival of the

Duluth delegation headed by Mayor Snively and escorted here from Knife River by a motorcade from this city. The pageant-parade was formed on seventh street and marched to the high school where the programs of talks and entertainment was given. The parade was composed of 26 individual units, each representing a specific phase of transportation from the earliest modes used here to

the airplane of today. Indians trudged along the line of march bearing packsacks, horse carts rolled slowly along as they did years ago and through various stages of transportation the parade passed. To cap the climax, an airplane circled above, roaring an accompaniment to the clatter of horses' hooves and the drone of motor cars.

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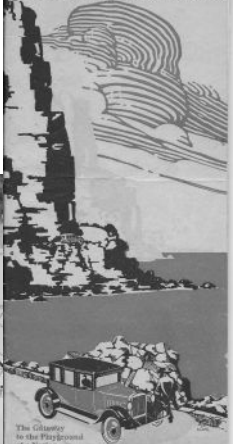
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### North Shore Scenic Drive



The first map for the North Shore Scenic drive was published by the Two Harbors Automobile Club in the 1930s. It provided a map of Highway 1, photographs of scenic points, and advertisements from local businesses. Map to right 00.104.02.

