

# THE LARSMONT LINE

Larsmont Community Club • Summer 2014

## Celebrate the Schoolhouse Centennial

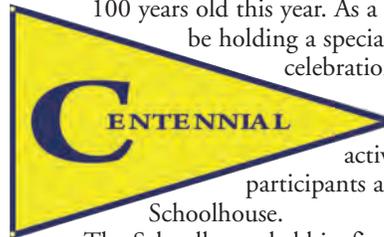


Home of the  
Little Red Schoolhouse  
Established 1914



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.

Happy Birthday, Larsmont Schoolhouse. Our beloved Little Red Schoolhouse turns 100 years old this year. As a result, we'll be holding a special two-day celebration on August 23 and 24, with many activities and participants at the Schoolhouse.



The Schoolhouse held its first classes in the fall of 1914, the same year a road was created up the hillside from the Old North Shore Road. Classes had been held in area homes prior to that. It was a year before phones came to Larsmont.

The summer has been full of Centennial activities, including rummage sales, presentations and other events at the

Schoolhouse. The celebration on August 23-24 will include arts and crafts demos, music, vendors and sales and announcement of the winners of the Centennial Coloring Contest in the *Lake County News-Chronicle*. Of course, it's basically an ice cream social, so food and ice cream will also be present. Optional dress will be the costume of the day (1914-1925'ish). (See calendar for times.)

An additional feature will be an ecumenical church service on August 23 by the Living Waters Fellowship.

For out-of-towners, the North Shore Scenic Railroad will offer service from Duluth with a special stop in Larsmont for anyone wishing to attend (see separate story below).

Put the weekend on your calendar (NOW!), and we'll see you there to help celebrate Larsmont's iconic Schoolhouse.

## Ride the Scenic Train to the Centennial

Everyone loves a train ride. As the Larsmont Schoolhouse celebrates its Centennial, the North Shore Scenic Railroad (NSSRR) has made it possible to attend the celebration and also Ride the Train from Duluth to the event. On both August 23rd and 24th, the regular Scenic Railroad excursions will stop twice in Larsmont: once at Larsmont Cottages and once at the location of the former Larsmont Depot, across from the Mocha Moose.

Ken Buehler, executive director of NSSRR, has made special arrangements for the train to drop passengers at the Depot's original crossing. "This will be an ideal situation for

anyone visiting the area to get to Larsmont for your Centennial events," Buehler says. "It's a great way for relatives to arrive in Larsmont."



The train will arrive in Larsmont shortly before noon. One-way (\$20) and two-way (\$29) fares are available. Later between 2:30 and 3 p.m., the train returns to Duluth and will pick up returning passengers at that time.

Make arrangements for passage at [www.dynamicticketsolutions.com/nssr](http://www.dynamicticketsolutions.com/nssr) or by calling 218-722-1273/800-423-1273.

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

[www.Larsmont.org](http://www.Larsmont.org)

# Ding Dong, Saved the School Bell

## Larsmont Community Club

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Paul L. Hayden

It didn't take Larsmont Community Club president Bill Tranah long to say "Yes" when he was offered the chance to acquire the school bell from an old Iron Range school by Tom Anderson. The bell was targeted for the scrap heap when the school was being deconstructed, but Bill thought it would make the perfect addition to our Larsmont Schoolhouse's persona.

After he got the bell, the board of the Community Club discussed just how to display the bell. Because the Schoolhouse is on the list of National Historical Sites, no permanent change can be made to the structure. The next best bet was to display it on the grounds.

Earlier this spring, after minor repairs were done by Dale Burton, the bell was installed in its own housing at the southwest corner of the Schoolhouse. Several volunteers, including Larry



Ronning and Randy Ellestad, assisted in the work.

Later, the Memorial Garden was constructed around the base of the bell (see separate story). Although the bell does have a distinctive ring, dampers have been placed around the clapper to keep peace in the neighborhood.

Media turned out to cover the installation process, including television stations and newspapers.

Visit the  
Community  
Website at:

[www.Larsmont.org](http://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](mailto:info@larsmont.org)



Top, left to right: The bell arrives, lifting from the trailer, swinging into place. Bottom, left to right: final adjustments, a smiling crew of volunteers – Bill Tranah, Larry Ronning, Randy Ellestad.

Photos by David Glass



# Larsmont Calendar of Events

## August -

*Larsmont Schoolhouse Centennial Celebration Weekend*

### August 23-24 Schoolhouse

9 a.m. Vendor Set-up

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Schoolhouse & Grounds Open

**Both Days:** • Results of Coloring Contest (Lake County News-Chronicle)

• Arts & Crafts • Jewelry • Antiques • Musical performers • Demonstrations

• Food by North Shore Pizza • Ice Cream by North Shore Pizza • Horse Carriage Rides • Pony Rides • Meet the Author

• Olde Time Photos • Civil War stories • Historic Displays • Tour the Schoolhouse

10:30 a.m. Larsmont Special - North Shore Scenic Railroad, Departs Duluth's Historic Depot (tell your friends & relatives)

11:45 a.m.-noon North Shore Scenic Railroad arrival, free horse carriage rides to the Schoolhouse

1 p.m. Musical program

2:30-3 p.m. North Shore Scenic Railroad departure

3 p.m. Musical program

7 p.m. Ecumenical Church Service - Living Waters Fellowship

### August 24, Sunday - Schoolhouse

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Schoolhouse & Grounds Open (*see above for events*)

10:30 a.m. Larsmont Special - North Shore Scenic Railroad, Departs Duluth's Historic Depot

11:45 a.m.-noon North Shore Scenic Railroad arrival

1 p.m. Musical program

2:30-3 p.m. North Shore Scenic Railroad departure

3 p.m. Musical program

## September -

*20/20 Art Show*, Sept. 19-21 – Schoolhouse

*20/20 Art Show*, September 26-28 – Schoolhouse

## October -

*Craft Show* - Diane Isackson, October 3-5 – Schoolhouse

## November -

*Election Day* - Polling Place, November 4 – Schoolhouse



## Larsmont Memorial Garden & Great Mulch Giveaway

At the base of the Schoolhouse bell stantons is the new Memorial Garden, approved by the Community Club board in 2013 and constructed this spring. The garden commemorates past Larsmont residents who have contributed to the community. A list of donors is on display inside the Schoolhouse.

Volunteer efforts for construction of the garden were contributed by MeLisa Swanson, Deb Aho, Tyler Housey, Gary Swanson and Marlys Wisch. Some flowers were donated by Anderson's Greenhouse. Chris Bark of Bark's Tree Service contributed mulch.

The mulch that was donated was larger than the amount needed, so secretary/ treasurer Marlys Wisch has put up a sign advertising that anyone needing the extra mulch is welcome to take some, until gone.



# Let's Have a Parade

Two Harbor's annual Heritage Day Parade had a new participant this year – the Larsmont Community Club. The reason was to promote the upcoming Larsmont Schoolhouse Centennial celebration.

Held on the second weekend of July every year, Heritage Days is Two Harbor's major festival. The parade flows from uptown through the downtown area, involving almost a hundred floats, bands and marching units. This year was no exception.

Larsmont's modest entry represented the Schoolhouse of years gone by. Construction by Jim Rippberger, Bill Tranah and Gary Swanson, with the painting skills of Vivian Sande and her daughter Kendra, it represented the old schoolroom, complete with student desks (on loan from Margaret Larson) and a dunce hat to boot. Marlys Wisch also contributed to the design.

On the rear end of the float, a model of the Little Red Schoolhouse stood out as the key exhibit on the float. Built by Tom Anderson for an all-school reunion, it was donated by the Lake County Historical Society.

It's hoped that many will turn out for the Centennial Celebration on August 23-24. Whether it was the float that spurred attendance, at least Two Harbors knows that Larsmont has a place in the sun.

Photos by Paul L. Hayden



## 2014 Project Day

A number of members turned out at the Little Red Schoolhouse for the annual Larsmont Community Club Project Day on July 25. Among the projects completed were painting of the window frames on the front of the Schoolhouse (Margaret Glass, David Glass), trimming and sprucing up the garden areas near the dedication plaque, around the flagpole and highway ditch (Marlys Wisch, Kathleen Falk, David Falk, Paul Hayden) and opening and siding of the area under the side porch for ventilation (Bill Tranah).

*Photos by Paul L. Hayden*



*Come to the Centennial Weekend, August 23 & 24*



## *Throwing a New Light on Things*

The next time that you visit the Little Red Schoolhouse, be sure to check out the large windows in the main schoolroom. The glazing has been rebuilt, since the original work has been slowly deteriorating.

With funding through the Larsmont Community Club Building Maintenance Funds and other grant monies, Old World Windows of Duluth was hired to repair the windows. One of the stipulations on the repair was to preserve the original irreplaceable glass panels in the windows. Old World also replaced the ropes and weights to lift and close the windows, allowing the opening of the windows for ventilation for the first time in a while.

An added benefit of the reconstruction was the cleaning of the original bronze handles on the windows, which had long ago been painted over. After the repair and before reinstallation, they also painted the windows inside and out.



Larsmont Schoolhouse windows in 2013, prior to rebuilding.

Marlys Wisch, secretary/treasurer, says, "They did a beautiful job of repairing the windows. We couldn't be happier."

*Celebrate 100 Years of Larsmont's  
Little Red Schoolhouse*

*Come to the Centennial Weekend  
August 23 & 24*

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