

**75th Annual  
Copper Country  
Strawberry  
Festival**



**July 7 & 8, 2023**  
**Chassell, Michigan**  
*"The Strawberry Capital"*

**Sponsored by  
The Chassell Lions Club**

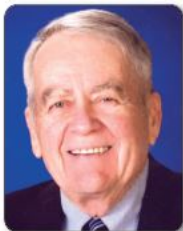
# Dedication



**John C. Mackrain**

**November 1, 1941 – June 8, 2022**

Biography - See Page 1



**Ronald "Ron" Helman**

**July 13, 1933 – July 27, 2022**

Biography - See Page 2



**Lydia Marie Godell Fowler**

**August 8, 1933 – September 12, 2022**

Biography - See Page 3

## ~ Dedications ~

### **John C. Mackrain**

**November 9, 1941 – June 8, 2022**

John C. Mackrain moved to Chassell, MI with his family shortly after his birth to manage their dairy farm. Chassell left an indelible mark on John's heart. John spoke fondly of his time on the farm, riding a sled to the school bus stop and caring for his pet crow named Joey. John was an active student at Chassell High School, participating on several sports teams and portraying Orestes in the play, The Nutt Family. After high school, John joined the US Navy where he served his country as a Deep Sea Diver. His duties included providing underwater protection in Cuba during the Bay of Pigs Invasion.

Upon leaving the US Navy, John started his education on the west coast. He returned to his home state and began his career. John worked in manufacturing engineering for the majority of his career at Acme Manufacturing. His job was a passport to the world, spending time working on a majority of the continents. John embraced other cultures and lived the belief "When in Rome..." John shared his passion for travel with his family, frequently playing tour guide around the world. Travel adventures with his family include glacier hiking in Alaska, kayaking in Hawaii and mountain peak summitting (Kilimanjaro) in Africa.

Upon retiring, John quickly returned to his beloved UP, fittingly purchasing a home on Paradise Road. Here is where he continued the creation of adventures, but this time for his five grandchildren. Their winters were filled with sledding and playing on enormous snow mounds designed by John's plowing. Their summer days were filled with picking cherries for pie and running in fields.

John was a dedicated member of the Chassell community. He sipped coffee and talked with friends regularly at the VFW Hall. He gave back to the community, serving as a member and President of the Lions Club of Chassell, MI. He spoke warmly about preparing the docks for the arrival of Michigan Tech's research vessel, Agassiz. He cheerfully served strawberry shortcake for the captain and crew. The Strawberry Festival Parade was a highlight of his summer.

Throughout his life, nothing brought John more joy than being with dear friends and family. He always brought rays of sunshine wherever he went. He showered everyone with love and his sense of humor.

## ~ Dedications ~

### **Ronald “Ron” Helman**

**July 13, 1933 – July 27, 2022**

Ron Helman loved Chassell and loved living on Pike Bay. He felt fortunate to call the original Hamar cottage, built in 1933, home. And, he loved the Chassell Lions Club, its members and its community project, The Strawberry Festival.

After retiring as Michigan Tech’s Vice President for Advancement in 1996, Ron and Lou decided to make this cottage their permanent home. As they would relax on their deck, they cherished every bird, Eagle, duck, deer and squirrel that greeted them, and they marveled at the gorgeous sunsets and all the natural beauty that God provides.

Soon after moving to Chassell, Ron joined The Lions Club and eventually served as the Club’s President. Ron was a dedicated member, never missing a meeting or working at the Strawberry Festival. He particularly enjoyed working in the kitchen, making the shortcakes and serving the public.

During his years a Tech and later throughout retirement, Ron served on various boards in the community, raising money for the Little Brothers office building in Hancock, the Humane Society building, and the campaign to furnish the Portage Lake District Library. He also was the founder of the Center Court Connection, a support organization for Tech Women’s Basketball. He raised money for every good cause and always marveled at the generosity of the community.

While on vacation one year, Lou noticed children having fun on a playground and wished Chassell had one. So, when they returned home, they talked with Township Superintendent Bill Leonard. He said they could build one on the waterfront. Working with the Chassell Board, a playground company was selected. All that was needed was the funding, so Ron and Lou donated half the funds, and he raised the other half through community members. The day for construction finally arrived! Watching the volunteers construct and build the playground equipment was one of the most exciting days of her life, Lou recalls. It truly was a community effort and it was so thrilling to watch the children enjoy it for so many, many years. (As a result of this project, the Helman’s were honored as Outstanding Citizens of the Year, 2003.)

Ron’s firm belief in education led him to establish many scholarships at various universities where he had been involved one way or another. Miami University, Berea College, Toledo University, Central Michigan, University of Michigan, Finlandia, and Michigan Tech. He also felt that graduation was the ultimate dream of every college student and wanting to lend his support, he attended 86 consecutive Michigan Tech graduations. At the most recent graduation, Tech honored his loyal support!

Ron passed away after a brief stay at The Omega House on July 27, 2022, one week following his 89th birthday. The family held a private service at the Chassell Cemetery and later gathered around a firepit on the shore by their cottage and watched another spectacular sunset on Pike Bay.

## ~ Dedications ~

### **Lydia Marie Godell Fowler**

**August 8, 1933 – Sept. 12, 2022**

Lydia Marie (Godell) Fowler, at age 89, passed away on Monday, September 12, 2022. Marie was born in Baraga, MI and, in 1941, at the age of 8 years old, the family moved to Chassell from Watton, MI. Marie attended Chassell Schools, graduating from Chassell High School in 1951. She and her classmates remained the best of friends throughout her life. Marie never missed a class reunion or a Chassell All-School Reunion.

After high school graduation, she worked for the FBI in Washington DC for a few years. Marie was a graduate of Northern Michigan University with a bachelors and a master's degree. Marie taught kindergarten for 43 years in Fruitport Schools, retiring in 1998. She was an advocate for children and educators. Her heart was always in the U.P. Her parents were 100% Finnish ancestry and she was very proud of this. Marie lived her life with Sisu to the fullest. She lived a full and active life with traveling, was active in the Finnish American Society and served on the board of directors of Best Financial Credit Union for 31 years. Marie traveled throughout the United States as well as many places abroad, her favorite being Finland. She went to Alaska many times to see the Iditarod races.

Marie was preceded in death by her parents, Swande and Alma (Kauranen) Godell, husband Burton Fowler, sister Dorothy (Carl) Carter, brothers Donald (Audrey) Godell and James (Lois) Godell; nephews Randy Carter, Bruce Carter and Don Godell, Jr. She had many dogs throughout her lifetime that had a special place in her heart, especially Rikas.

Marie will be deeply missed by her nieces, Lisa Sperka, Beverly Krause Bell, Carla Safie, Penny Carter-Lockert, Karen Carter, Susan Godell and Kari Brennan; nephew Mark Godell, close friend Carol Wagner and many others at Lincoln Square; and dearest lifelong friends Ruth Ann Wisti and Jean Pekkala

Marie's father, Swande, the Chassell Lions Club founder, along with 28 other men from the Chassell area, were instrumental in chartering the Chassell Lions Club on May 20, 1946. Swande was a Chassell Lions Club president, also served as Lions District 10 Governor and Lions Zone chairman. Shortly after Marie's father passed away, she too became a dedicated Chassell Lion, never missing a Chassell Strawberry Festival.

# ~ Schedule of Events ~

## Friday, July 7, 2023

- 9:00 am - 9:00 pm** Serving of Strawberry Shortcake, Brats, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Fresh Cut French Fries, Cotton Candy, Pop/Soda.
- 10:00 am - 8:00 pm** Exhibits & Sale of Arts & Crafts
- 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm** Chassell Heritage Center Open House
- 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm** Old Fashioned Cake Walk (at the Park)
- 4:00 pm - 'til sold out** Fish Boil Dinner (Lake Trout, Potato, Carrots, Onion, Roll & Beverage). *Sponsored by Aire Care*
- 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm** Horse Drawn Wagon Rides, *Sponsored by LJJ Construction*
- 5:00 pm** Judging of Strawberries, etc.
- 6:00 pm** Children's Parade in the Open Pavilion  
*Sponsored by Lou Ellyn & Ron Helman*
- 7:00 pm** Introduction of Queen Candidates, Evening Gown Competition, Citizen of the Year Award, Youth Citizen of the Year Award & Strawberry Auction *Sponsored by Keweenaw Chevrolet*
- 8:00 pm** Queen Crowning (time is approximate)
- 9:00 pm - Midnight** Dance at the Chassell VFW Post - music by "Rewind"

## Saturday, July 8, 2023

- 7:00 am - 10:00 am** Breakfast at the Chassell School by the Chassell High School Student Group
- 9:00 am - 4:00 pm** Serving of Strawberry Shortcake, Brats, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Fresh Cut French Fries, Cotton Candy, Pop/Soda.
- 9:00 am - 4:00 pm** Exhibits & Sale of Arts & Crafts
- 11:00 am** Strawberry Festival Parade *Sponsored by Ojibwa Casino Baraga & Marquette*
- After Parade** BBQ Chicken by Chassell Firefighters and First Responders
- 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm** Live Music by Lightning Ridge in the open pavilion *Sponsored by Keweenaw Petroleum Services*
- 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm** Horse Drawn Wagon Rides *Sponsored by Dairy Queen*
- 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm** Chassell Heritage Center Open House
- 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm** At the Chassell Boat Launch, Great Lakes Education Programs for all ages – view aquatic organisms! **Michigan Tech's Research Vessel Agassiz will depart every half hour starting at 1:00 PM** (learn how the Great Lakes are studied by scientists) Children 7 yrs. & up.
- 2:00 pm** Children's Activities in the Park *Sponsored by Barbara Worrall in Memory of Gary Worrall*
- 2:00 pm** Parade Winners Announced (Pavilion)

**[www.CopperCountryStrawberryFestival.com](http://www.CopperCountryStrawberryFestival.com)**

# ~ Activities ~

## In the Park...

**STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE** is the tastiest tradition at the Festival. The dessert is prepared and served throughout the weekend by the Chassell Lions.

**BRATS, HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS, CHEESEBURGERS, & FRESH CUT FRENCH FRIES** are available at the Chassell School Sports Booster Club booth.

**FISH BOIL** featuring Lake Trout will be prepared by the Chassell Lions. Dinner will be served starting at 4:00 pm on Friday.

**ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW AND SALE** will be held in the Centennial Park. Featured items often include hand-woven rugs, baskets, paintings and dried arrangements.

## Parades...

**THE CHILDREN'S PARADE** is held at 6:00 on Friday evening. The parade takes place in the Park Pavilion. Various prizes are given for the most creative entries.

**THE STRAWBERRY PARADE** begins at 11:00 am on Saturday at the south edge of Chassell and moves north along U.S. 41. Participation is open to all, with cash prizes awarded to the most creative entries in various categories.

## Music & Dance...

**THE FRIDAY EVENING DANCE** will be sponsored by the VFW. The Dance begins at 9:00 pm (after the Queen Crowning) at the Chassell VFW and is open to the public. Music will be provided by Rewind.

**PARADE BANDS** from Chassell, Lake Linden-Hubbell and Dollar Bay High Schools will be featured.

**MUSIC AFTER THE PARADE** - Lightning Ridge was formed four years ago. The band plays everything from class country to old time rock-n-roll. We insist on having a good time and pleasing our audience. The band is made up of four seasoned musicians — Mike Urbis, Bill Kautto, Chuck Peterson, and Charley Christensen. We had a great time playing at Festival last year and in previous years. So, mark your calendar for July 8th and come join us for a fun afternoon of music in the park. There will be plenty of room to dance or sit back and enjoy some of your favorite songs. We will see you there!

## At the School...

**ON SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 8TH**, the Chassell High School Student Group will serve breakfast at the Chassell School from 7:00 am - 10:00 am.



# At the Museum, “The Old School”...

## **Friends of Fashion Show July 30, 2023: “Secrets of Portage Entry”**

The Friends of Fashion will not perform during Strawberry Festival but are excited about presenting their new historical show at the Chassell Heritage Center, July 30, Sunday afternoon at 2:00, sharing the rich **history of Portage Entry**. We will share the stories and struggles about “Life in a fishing village” as early as the 1870’s. Here several Finnish families came together, making their living by fishing on the Superior Waters. In our presentation you will learn about the “Keweenaw Waterway” and how it made an impact on their lives, some of them were even skilled in boat building. You will have fun visiting the time period when “White City” was in its hay-day sporting a hotel, saloon, and dance pavilion. There one could ride a roller coaster or merry-go-round for five cents. Beautiful excursion boats transported guests to and fro for fifty cents round trip from Hancock or Houghton. On the trip out they passed the historic Messner Farm so we threw in a little history of their buildings.



*FoF Youth Performers*

Of course there will be lovely vintage costumes with live models, music from the Summersett sisters, Mike Irish on the guitar, Mark Oliver with Dave Bezotte on the piano and accordion. As always, this will all include many historical photos and guest narrators.

The first photo shows our young performers in vintage. They could be aboard the *Plowboy* (out of Duluth) traveling to White City as in our next photo. The “Chassell Lumber Company” sponsored a Sunday School picnic at “White City” yearly, chartering “*The Plowboy*” to stop at their dock via White City. It was Chassell’s big event of the summer season and was open to every church in the community, often 100 people attended.



*The Plowboy*



# Area Berry Farms



## Circle K Farm

37870 Tapiola Road, Chassell

906-231-5813

Fresh Picked Strawberries



## Crane Berry Farm

44416 Paradise Road, Chassell

906-523-6191

U-Pick/Fresh Picked Strawberries



## Gierke Blueberry Farm

37915 Klingville Road, Chassell

906-523-6112, Chassell

U-Pick Blueberries



## Henry Ohtonen

Klingville Road, Chassell

906-523-4377

U-Pick/Strawberries



## Mackrain Berry Farm

21937 Massie Road, Chassell

906-523-4705

Fresh Picked Strawberries



## Makinen Farm/A & J Raspberries

40326 Lower Worham Rd, Chassell

906-523-9018

U-Pick/Raspberries



## Niemela Family Growers

39466 North Tapiola Road, Chassell

906-523-4362

U-Pick/Fresh Picked Strawberries



## Opa's Berry Farm

38554 Klingville Rd

906-523-4679

U-Pick Blueberries



## Rautio Berry Farm

15245 Walstrom Rd, Atlantic Mine

906-231-4895

U-Pick/Fresh Picked Strawberries



# 2022 Parade Results

## **COMMERCIAL**

1st – Palosaari Corn Maze and 4-H

2nd – Amy J's Bakery

## **PATRIOTIC**

1st – Yoopers for Ukraine

2nd – Manninen's Cabins - Otter Lake

## **HUMOROUS**

1st – Joey

## **STRAWBERRY**

1st – Ohtonen Family Farm - 100 year Anniversary

2nd – Young Anglers Fishing Tournament

## **ANTIQUE**

1st – Hanka Homestead

2nd – 280 ZX 10th Anniversary

## **EQUESTRIAN**

1st – Lisa Anderson - Horse and Cart

2nd – Audrey Hiner - Palomino Horse

## **MUSIC**

1st – Lake Linden/Dollar Bay Band

2nd – Clint Kyro - WOLF Class of '92

**BEST IN SHOW** – Kingsford - Norway - Florence  
Marching Band



# 2022 Children's Parade Results

## INFANTS/TODDLERS

1st – Riverlyn Cowell

2nd – Howard Daavetilla & Manny Wittanen

3rd – Ashton Wimmer & Tempy Kuehn

## PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN

1st – Kinsley & Delaney Deyaert

2nd – Harak Peltó

3rd – Hannah Masoud

## 1ST/2ND GRADE

1st – Ada & Eero Maki

2nd – Aaron Nitz

## 3RD/4TH GRADE

1st – Lila Byrd

2nd – Jessalyn Pietala

3rd – Josie Dunn



## 5TH/6TH GRADE

1st – Stormy Peltó

2nd – Emma Liimatta

## FAMILY/GROUP

1st – Soumis Descendants

2nd – Geshel & Wadaga Family

3rd – Kristofer Family

**BEST IN SHOW** – Kinsley & Delaney Deyaert





**SHELBY TURNQUIST**  
**Chassell's Outstanding**  
**Citizen of the Year - 2022**

1968 Peter Collins	1995 Art & June Michaelson
1969 John Karppi	1996 Jim Tervo
1970 William Soumis	1997 Francis & Yvonne Lancour
1971 Frank Misslitz	1998 Sandra Engel
1972 Swande Godell	1999 Albert Chaput
1973 Allen Durham	2000 Ernie Griff
1974 Elmer Hill	2001 Joyce & John VanWestenburg
1975 H. Ken Hamar	2002 Hazel Tepsa
1976 Mildred Destrampe	2003 Ron & Lou Helman
1977 Joe St. Amour	2004 Jim Belleville
1978 Harry Carlson	2005 Paulette Archambeau
1979 Raymond L. Smith	2006 Peter & Marlene Houle
1980 W.W. "Swede" Intermill	2007 David Bezotte
1981 Bruce Buell	2008 Judy Ojanen Evert
1982 Henry W. Ohtonen	2009 Bill & Nancy Johnson
1983 Earle & Anne Warner	2010 Walt & Dave Kalliainen
1984 Harold Haapala	2011 Dan Crane
1985 Esther Intermill	2012 Doug Hamar
1986 Mildred Pyorala	2013 Luanne Hamel
1987 Bill & Nancy Leonard	2014 Harold & Donna Byykkonen
1988 Marvyl Wilson	2015 Dorthey Behrend
1989 Walter & Joanne Kuntze	2016 Bill & Sunny Cole
1990 John & Joan Hamar	2017 Al & Mary Eckhart
1991 Evelyn Palosaari	2018 Dean Latendresse
1992 Butch & Erma Burkman	2019 Lois Berg
1993 Walter Soumis	2020 - COVID
1994 Steve Palosaari	2021 Pam Hiltunen



**Ally Etelamaki**  
**Chassell's Outstanding Youth**  
**Citizen of the Year - 2022**

# Parade of Royalty

<b>1949</b>	Lucille Tormala	<b>1987</b>	Lynne Shetron
<b>1950</b>	Marilyn Francois	<b>1988</b>	Kimberly Brogan
<b>1951</b>	Joanne Peterson*	<b>1989</b>	Raeanne Gourneau
<b>1952</b>	Jane Kaiser	<b>1990</b>	Karen Hietala
<b>1953</b>	Jo Ann Drake	<b>1991</b>	Jennifer Kangas
<b>1954</b>	Margaret Mackrain*	<b>1992</b>	Shannon Burcar
<b>1955</b>	Marvyl Intermll	<b>1993</b>	Georgina Gill
<b>1956</b>	Sandra Vivian*	<b>1994</b>	Heather Van Hoey
<b>1957</b>	Mary Ellen Bernard*	<b>1995</b>	Ashley Stevens
<b>1958</b>	Gemma Lou Guidotti	<b>1996</b>	Christina Zimmerman
<b>1959</b>	Rose Marie Johnson	<b>1997</b>	Cynthia Sever
<b>1960</b>	Marlaine Cossette	<b>1998</b>	Katie Stanaway
<b>1961</b>	Sarah Lantto*	<b>1999</b>	Jessica Hansen
<b>1962</b>	Eva McIntyre	<b>2000</b>	Anna Baker
<b>1963</b>	Linda Pokela	<b>2001</b>	Rebecca Ann Weber
<b>1964</b>	Linda Mikkola	<b>2002</b>	Nicole Roth
<b>1965</b>	Susan M. Makela	<b>2003</b>	Marta Loman
<b>1966</b>	Anita M. Koivunen	<b>2004</b>	Samantha Rogers
<b>1967</b>	Olivia K. Kokko	<b>2005</b>	Autumn Winsor
<b>1968</b>	Camille L. LaTendresse	<b>2006</b>	Tara Sotirin
<b>1969</b>	J. Lyn Swanson	<b>2007</b>	Kiersten Birondo
<b>1970</b>	Mary Lynn Johnson	<b>2008</b>	Helen Richards
<b>1971</b>	Sara Rankinen	<b>2009</b>	Rosanna Chopp
<b>1972</b>	Marilyn Frennette	<b>2010</b>	Ellie Lesatz
<b>1973</b>	Joni Andreini	<b>2011</b>	Rachel Crane
<b>1974</b>	Jaye Coon	<b>2012</b>	Alisha Tilson
<b>1975</b>	Shirley Ross	<b>2013</b>	Kaitlyn Hietala
<b>1976</b>	Donna Kuusisto	<b>2014</b>	Shawnia Taisto
<b>1977</b>	Susan Rossberg	<b>2015</b>	Maria Sliva
<b>1978</b>	Valerie LaTendresse	<b>2016</b>	Jessica Berryman
<b>1979</b>	Kristine Kyro	<b>2017</b>	Emilie Jacques
<b>1980</b>	Deborah Ohtonen	<b>2018</b>	Sydney Danison
<b>1981</b>	Darlene Hakala	<b>2019</b>	Lily Ashburn
<b>1982</b>	Juliann Jenkins	<b>2020</b>	Annika Siegel
<b>1983</b>	Tamara Huhta	<b>2021</b>	Madison Mattila
<b>1984</b>	Amy Ryan	<b>2022</b>	Micaela Geborkoff
<b>1985</b>	Amy Briggs		
<b>1986</b>	Kristin Jacobson		

\*Denotes U.P. Queen as well.

# Sweeptakes Winners

<b>1949</b> James Sorvala	<b>1986</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1950</b> Harold Peterson	<b>1987</b> Albert Chaput
<b>1951</b> Waino Palo	<b>1988</b> Ken Tervo
<b>1952</b> Edward Lahti	<b>1989</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1953</b> Mike Fasana	<b>1990</b> Ken & Esther Tervo
<b>1954</b> Oscar Romppainen	<b>1991</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1955</b> James Sorvala	<b>1992</b> Norman & May Forsman
<b>1956</b> Frank Jarvi	<b>1993</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1957</b> Allan Tapani	<b>1994</b> Dennis & Martha Sohlden
<b>1958</b> Allan Tapani	<b>1995</b> Henry Ohtonen
<b>1959</b> Frank Jarvii	<b>1996</b> Dennis & Martha Sohlden
<b>1960</b> Robert Baccus	<b>1997</b> Albert Chaput
<b>1961</b> Allan Tapani	<b>1998</b> Henry Ohtonen
<b>1962</b> Ray Jarvi	<b>1999</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1963</b> Ed Lahti	<b>2000</b> Albert Chaput
<b>1964</b> Ed Lahti	<b>2001</b> Henry Ohtonen
<b>1965</b> Rudy & Ann Jarvi	<b>2002</b> Henry Ohtonen
<b>1966</b> Ed Lahti	<b>2003</b> Henry Ohtonen
<b>1967</b> Earle Sohlden	<b>2004</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1968</b> Ken Tervo	<b>2005</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1969</b> Rudy Jarvi	<b>2006</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1970</b> Rudy & Ann Jarvi	<b>2007</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1971</b> Rudy & Ann Jarvi	<b>2008</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1972</b> Roy Bakkila	<b>2009</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1973</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen	<b>2010</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1974</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen	<b>2011</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1975</b> Ed & Ruth Lindgren	<b>2012</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1976</b> Roy & Mary Ellen Bakkila	<b>2013</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1977</b> Roy & Mary Ellen Bakkila	<b>2014</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1978</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen	<b>2015</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1979</b> Roy & Mary Ellen Bakkila	<b>2016</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1980</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen	<b>2017</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1981</b> John & Beverly Tapani	<b>2018</b> Crane Berry Farm
<b>1982</b> Albert Chaput	<b>2019</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1983</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen	<b>2020</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1984</b> Gary Swagart	<b>2021</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen
<b>1985</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen	<b>2022</b> Henry & Cathy Ohtonen

## Strawberry Queen '22



**MICAELA GEBORKOFF**

2022 First Attendant:

**BREIGH LAWRENCE**

2022 Miss Congeniality:

**ALETHEA OAKLEY**

## 2023 Queen Candidates

**Kierah Hietala** is the daughter of Steven and Lindsay Hietala. She is employed at the Quality Inn & Suites and Chassell General Store. A recent graduate of Chassell Township School, Kierah was active with the National Honor Society, basketball, and volleyball. She served as captain of the varsity volleyball team and received awards in the VFW Patriotic Art Contest and HOSA-Forensic Sciences.

Kierah was also awarded Chassell's Panther Award for volleyball leadership and sportsmanship. She has donated more than fifty hours to community service and volunteer work through the NHS. Kierah volunteered as a VBS leader at Saint Peter and Paul Lutheran Church. She has also helped with the Old-Fashioned Christmas in Chassell, Strawberry Festival and Copper Dog. In her free time Kierah enjoys hiking, reading, camping, baking, and walking. She loves traveling and experiencing new cultures. Her future plans include attending college to obtain an associate degree in nursing and she intends to pursue travel nursing. Chassell VFW Post 6507 and Auxiliary sponsor Kierah.



**Kierah**



## 2023 Queen Candidates

Dan and Sharon Kiesel are the parents of **Robin Kiesel** who will be a senior at Houghton High School. She was on the Blood Drive Committee with the National Honor Society. Robin received the Most Studious Award for the 22/23 ski season. She enjoys volunteering in the winter by skiing with young children. Robin also served as a



*Robin*

camp counselor for Houghton Middle School for the past two years. As captain of the ski team, she experienced a state championship. Robin also served as captain of the Houghton Girls Soccer Team. Some of her hobbies include cross country skiing and enjoying Strawberry Festival, even though she is slightly allergic to strawberries. Robin went to her first international ski race when she traveled to Canada for Canadian Nationals. Robin plans to go to nursing school with the eventual goal of becoming a nurse practitioner in a pediatric care setting. She babysits and is employed by Portage Paddle who also serve as Robin's sponsor.

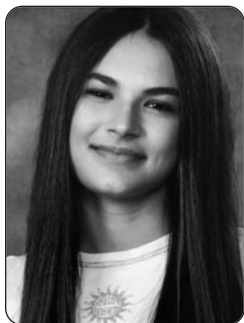


*Kaci*

**Kaci Dewar** is the daughter of Julie Dewar and Scot Dewar. She is employed as a retail associate at Surplus Outlet in Houghton. Kaci recently graduated from Houghton High School where she was a member of the Student Council. She also served as secretary of the Interact Club and is a member of the National Honor Society. Kaci was the captain of the varsity

volleyball team. Some of Kaci's hobbies include reading, traveling, and spending time with friends. Kaci is a lifetime VFW Auxiliary Member and volunteers at various community events held at the Chassell VFW. She plans to attend Grand Valley State University to become an elementary school teacher. Iverson Snowshoes is Kaci's sponsor.

## 2023 Queen Candidates



*Giselle*

**Giselle Wiitanen** is sponsored by Campioni's. She will be a graduate of Mount Pleasant High School in 2024 where she is a member of the Student Senate. She is also a COOP assistant in the principal's office where she is responsible for substitute teacher folders, mail, and weekly announcements. She has taken AP classes and was named All

Academic for the Saginaw Valley League for both basketball and volleyball. She was also awarded Saginaw Valley League-1st Team All-Conference athlete of the month for volleyball. Giselle has assisted with middle school track meets, summer volleyball camps and has been a soccer referee. She enjoys playing volleyball, basketball, soccer and participating in track. She is employed at Tropical Smoothie. Giselle lived in Houghton for many years and loves spending time in the strawberry fields. She has considered pursuing a business and finance degree or a career in the medical field. She also hopes to play collegiate volleyball. Giselle is the daughter of Heather Wiitanen Kullman.

**Romy Kus** is the daughter of John and Molly Kus. Romy is a 2023 graduate of Marquette Senior High School. She was in Student Council and served as vice president. She was also president of HOSA and a Region 1 HOSA state officer. Romy was a member of the MSHS Varsity Dance Team and a member of the MSHS Golf Team. She is a member of the National

Honor Society and was a Kaufman Award Recipient. She is an elementary school dance volunteer and assisted with 8th Grade Orientation. Romy has served on the Youth Advisory Committee of Marquette. She also volunteers with Hope Starts Here and Ore to Shore. Her future plans include attending Grand Valley State University to major in pre-med and she hopes to work in anesthesiology. Romy is employed by Iron Bay as a Host. Citrus Salon is Romy's sponsor.



*Romy*

## 2023 Queen Candidates

**Ingrid Seagren** is sponsored by the Gierke Blueberry Farm. She will be a sophomore at Michigan Tech this Fall where she is majoring in human biology and working toward minors in pre-health and German. She has been named to the MTU Dean's List both semesters and was recognized as a member of the Fall 2022 GLIAC Academic All Excellence Team. In



*Ingrid*

high school Ingrid was a member of the National Honor Society. She has volunteered with Let's Eat Community Meals through her church. While at Houghton High School Ingrid was in the Interact Club where she was involved with numerous service activities such as making Veteran's Day Baskets and hosting Fun Days for elementary school students. Ingrid is a member of the Michigan Tech cross country and track teams. In her free time, she enjoys Nordic skiing, waterskiing, hiking, and spending time with friends and family. Ingrid's plan is to attend medical school. Her parents are Eric Seagren and Jennifer Becker.



*Grace*

**Grace Gardner** is the daughter of Glen and Christa Gardner. She is employed as a waitress at Sky Sushi. Grace was homeschooled and participated with the Homeschool Drama Club. She was also a member of the Crafts & Critters 4-H Club where she served as secretary and president. She was a member of the Houghton-Keweenaw County 4-H Council for

three years where she served as trustee and president. She received the Teen Leader Award for her leadership and initiative. Grace has run the concession stand at the Iron Dog Race in Iron River and has participated in Relay for Life. She did a summer internship at the Houghton County Courthouse with the County Clerk. As a certified election inspector, she has worked at elections for Osceola Township. Her hobbies include reading, spending time with friends, acting and going for walks. Grace has been in many plays and musicals including The Miracle Worker at the Calumet Theatre. This summer she will be traveling to South Korea as part of the 4-H States' Outbound Program. Grace plans to receive an associate degree in general education. Her sponsor is Sky Sushi.

## 2023 Queen Candidates



*Katie*

**Katie Sarau** is sponsored by First Choice Auto Body. Katie will graduate from Houghton High School in 2025. At school Katie participates in the Student Council. She will also be vice president of Interact next year. Katie volunteers at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. She has also delivered meals and helped at the Humane Society. In middle school Katie helped with the

band. Katie participates in cross country, swimming, and track. Some of her hobbies include camping, hiking, bonfires and going for walks. She also enjoys spending time with friends and going on adventures to try new things. Katie likes spending time outdoors. She plans to go to NMU or Michigan Tech to become a registered nurse. She is interested in becoming a travel nurse. Katie is the daughter of Richard and Kristy Sarau.

**Stella Wickstrom** is the daughter of Jim and Janelle Cone. She is employed at Portage Paddle Sports and The Forge. A 2023 graduate of Houghton High School, she was the president of the Prom committee and vice president of the Student Council. Stella was a member of the National Honor Society and helped plan the Copper Country Snowball which was an all-

school fundraiser for mental health support in our community. Stella played varsity volleyball, varsity basketball and participated in track and field. She enjoys spending time with friends and family and traveling. Stella will be competing on the Womens Rowing Team at the University of Michigan where she plans to study kinesiology. The Bob Hager Insurance Agency is Stella's sponsor.



*Stella*

# 2023 Queen Candidates

**Saige Elizabeth Hietala** is sponsored by the Chassell Womens Club. A 2023 graduate of Chassell Township School, Saige was captain of the Volleyball Team for three years. She received an honorable mention for the Copper Mountain Conference All Stars Volleyball in 2021. In 2022 she received the Copper Mountain Conference 2nd Team Award. She



*Saige*

was elected secretary for the NHS last year. Saige was a member of the Quiz Bowl. She attended the HOSA Regional Leadership Conference in Escanaba and was named as a finalist in the Forensic Science category. Saige volunteered at the Chassell Heritage Center. She also helped with Old Fashioned Christmas and Strawberry Festival. She has helped with the Junior High volleyball team. Saige loves volleyball and spending time at the beach. She enjoys helping her grandpa, reading, and traveling. Her bucket list goal is to travel all around Europe. She took a Nurses Aide Class at the Canal View Nursing Home and loves to visit with the residents. Saige is employed at the Quality Inn and Suites. Her parents are Heidi Hietala and Gary Conley Jr.



# 2023 Queen Sponsors

## **Portage Paddle Sports**

<https://portagepaddlesports.com>

Sponsoring Robin Kisiel

## **Citrus Salon**

<https://www.vagaro.com/citrussalonhoughton>

Sponsoring Romy Kus

## **First Choice Auto Body, L'Anse**

Sponsoring Katie Sarau

## **Bob Hager Insurance, Chassell**

Sponsoring Stella Wickstrom

## **Chassell Women's Club**

Sponsoring Saige Hietala

## **Chassell VFW**

Sponsoring Kierah Hietala

## **Sky Sushi, Houghton**

Sponsoring Grace Gardner

## **Gierke Blueberry Farm**

Sponsoring Ingrid Seagren

## **Pat's Foods**

<https://www.patsfoodsigas.com>

Sponsoring Giselle Wiitanen

## **Iverson Snowshoes**

<https://iversonssnowshoes.com>

Sponsoring Kaci Dewar

# **75th Anniversary Special Sponsors**

**A & S Industrial. LLC**

**Auto-Pro Glass & Tire**

**Chassell VFW Post  
6507 and Auxiliary**

**DP Construction, Inc.**

**Erickson Feed, Seed &  
Pet Supply**

**Gino's Restaurant**

**Bob Hager Agency**

**Memorial Chapel &  
Cremation Service**

**Superior Family  
Chiropractic**

**Superior National Bank**

**Thrivent Financial**

**UP Health System -  
Portage**



# Scientific Excursion

'How scientists investigate the health of Lake Superior' is the focus of a scientific excursion experience aboard Michigan Tech's research vessel, "Agassiz," that will be offered at the Strawberry Festival from 12:30 - 6:00 pm, Saturday, July 8, departing from the Chassell marina.

The public is invited to reserve a space by going to the MTU Events page or by using this link (<https://blogs.mtu.edu/cseo/strawberry-rtw/>).

People are also welcome to come to the Chassell Marina dock on Saturday to reserve a space. Excursions will depart at 12:30, 1:15, 2:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:15 and 5:00 pm from the Chassell Marina. Each excursion has room for 18 participants and due to the popularity of this activity, the spaces go quickly. Half of all available spaces will be saved for onsite participants.

On each scientific excursion, Kenny Larsen, a Michigan Tech scientist in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geospatial Engineering and the Great Lakes Research Center, will show how data is collected on water clarity, temperature, and turbidity and explain what that tells us about the health of Lake Superior and Chassell Bay. He will also explain the link between current and past land uses and the health of the Great Lakes.

Children must be at least 7 years of age. All youth younger than 15 years must be accompanied by an adult. Personal floatation devices are available for all passengers. All participants must wear closed toe shoes.

"Joining this excursion gives people the chance to learn how scientists study the Great Lakes and how lake health is measured" explains Tom Oliver, director of the Center for Science & Environmental Outreach. "These scientific excursions continue to be extremely popular, giving youth and adults the chance to interact directly with Michigan Tech scientists," adds Oliver.

The Agassiz is funded by the General Motors' Ride the Waves Program which puts more than 600 Copper Country youth and adults on the water each year to learn about the health of the Great Lakes and Lake Superior, and to promote Great Lakes stewardship. Additional financial support for the Agassiz at the Strawberry Festival is provided by the Chassell Lions Club.

For more information on the scientific excursions aboard MTU's Agassiz at the Strawberry Festival, contact: Tom Oliver at 906-487-2412 or [teoliver@mtu.edu](mailto:teoliver@mtu.edu).

MTU Center for Science & Environmental Outreach  
<https://blogs.mtu.edu/cseo/>

Michigan Tech's Great Lakes Research Center  
<http://greatlakes.mtu.edu/>

Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative  
<http://lakesuperiorstewardship.org/>



**Free 30-minute scientific excursions will be conducted aboard the MTU Research Vessel Agassiz on Saturday, July 8, 2023. Children 7 years & up will learn how the Great Lakes are studied by scientists. Departures from the Chassell boat launch will be every 30 minutes starting at 12:30 pm.**

# Penny Scramble

Sponsored by the family in memory of King Lion Gary Worrall

The Strawberry Festival again returns to an old favorite "The Penny Scramble". During the early Festival years, pennies were hidden in sawdust outside of the community center. Seventy years later I can still feel the excitement of 10 pennies to spend at Mr. Friday's candy store for a WHOLE BAG of candy! As prices have risen, so has the Scramble coin amount. And there's more....there are small toys, some earning special prizes or dollars, bags of quarters, and eggs with surprises.

We will also have face painting, coloring sheets, guessing games, a cupcake/candy walk - all free! There will even be a strawberry recipe challenge to be done at home: "Can you bake like a 12-year old?" based on a recipe submitted by a young woman of that age.

We thank Bob Hager Meemic Insurance for the donation of coins and eggs, and Culver's of Houghton for tokens for free ice cream.



## ***The Lightning Ridge Band!***

***Bill Kautto, Mike Urbis, Chuck Peterson and Charley Christensen playing some good ole classic country, folk, bluegrass, and rock & roll***

***A little something for everyone.***

# 2023 Scholarship Winners



*Kierah Hietala*



*Saige Hietala*



*Hunter Kinnunen*



*Trisha Pietila*



*Shannon Torola*

When Ralph Hietala passed away, he and his wife Beverly donated money to be used for the 2021, 2022 and 2023 Lions Scholarship. As a result, the scholarships were increased to \$1000 for all three years. The Lions thank the Hietala family for their generous gift that has benefited the twelve Chassell graduates.

# Chassell Historic Trail

From 1888 to 1902 and 1902 to 1928, The Sturgeon River Lumber Company and Worcester Lumber Company, respectively, operated along Pike Bay in Chassell. The sawmill, shingle mill, lathe mill, and planing mill produced between twenty and thirty million board feet of lumber per year. The cut timber from the Sturgeon River Valley was floated by river to the mill via the cut. The timber cut in the camps to the southwest of Chassell was transported by narrow gauge railroad to the mill.



A broad partnership was formed between the Chassell Historical Organization, Chassell Township, the mill site landowner Doug Hamar, Chassell Township Schools, Michigan Technological University, DP Construction, Industrial Graphics, and North Country Trail volunteer sawyers. This partnership captured the important basis of Chassell's founding and developed this interpretive trail telling its history. The Historic Trail features boardwalks and interpretive signs made possible by generous funding from the John & Melissa Besse Foundation.



The trailhead can be found at the southwest corner of the parking lot to the south of the Centennial Park Pavilion. Trail maps for this 4/10-mile trail can be found in a box at the trailhead sign. If you have a smartphone, bring up the Keweenaw Time Traveler website. Go to the 1908 Sanborn Map and tap on the compass in the lower righthand corner to ping yourself against this historic map of the mill site. The nine interpretive signs along the trail will provide you with the opportunity to learn more about this industrial complex which was an integral part of our community's history.

If you would like to learn more about the mill and Chassell history, stop by the Chassell Heritage Center at 42373 Hancock Street!





# Recipes

## **Strawberry Romaine Salad** with Homemade Poppy Seed Dressing

10 oz bag of romaine lettuce torn, NOT cut with scissors

1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced

2-3 cups of strawberries halved



### **Poppy Seed Dressing**

In a separate bowl, whisk together 3/4 cup of mayonnaise, 1/4 cup milk, 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar, 3 tablespoons sugar, 2 tablespoons poppy seeds

*Recipe in Memory of  
Chassell's beloved  
Marvyl Wilson*

Drizzle dressing over salad and it's ready to enjoy.

## **Strawberry Chocolate Pie**

**Crust:** 4 c. flour, 1 3/4 c. shortening, 1 T. sugar, 2 tsp. salt, 1 T. apple cider vinegar, 1 egg, 1/2 c. cold water.

Refrigerate 30 minutes before using.

Bake crust 15-20 minutes then fill.

**Filling:** Mix 2 c. strawberries (if using frozen, add corn starch to thicken) with 1 c. sugar and let stand 20 minutes. Add 2 eggs, 3/4 c. flour.

Fill and bake until set 20-30 min.

Cool completely. Melt chocolate (chips or bars) of choice - milk, semi-sweet, dark. Drizzle over top to taste. Serve with ice cream or whipped cream.



*Thanks to the MTU Womens Basketball team for judging the kids parade.*

# 2022 Lions Halloween Party Winners

## **Infant to 2 Years Old:**

- 1st: Riverland Cowell
- 2nd: Avery Steffens
- 3rd: Foster Lyberg

## **3 & 4 Year Olds:**

- 1st: Warren Wadaga
- 2nd: Caleb Danielson
- 3rd: Jada Aho

## **Kindergarten - 2nd Grade:**

- 1st: Sophia Tarvainen
- 2nd: Coulter Lyberg
- 3rd: Ambrose Hoehn

## **3rd - 4th Grade:**

- 1st: Eero Maki
- 2nd: Karl Zimmer
- 3rd: Susanna Narwold

## **5th - 6th Grade:**

- 1st: Kayla Aho
- 2nd: Isabella Edwards
- 3rd: Eleanor Wicks

## **7th - 8th Grade:**

- 1st: Reagan Aho
- 2nd: Tanner Elenich
- 3rd: Clare Zimmer

## **9th Grade - Adult:**

- 1st: Alex Kunich and Drew Corrigan
- 2nd: Dawn Edwards
- 3rd: Jake Zadorecky

## **Overall Winners:**

- 1st: Reagan Aho
- 2nd: Sophia Tarvainen
- 3rd: Avery Steffens





# Chassell Heritage Center

42373 N. Hancock St., Chassell, MI 49916  
Phone 523-1155

## Chassell Heritage Center Summer 2023

Free Admission - Donations Welcome

We are pleased to announce that the Chassell Heritage Center will be open for the summer season this year.

We will be open July and August and our hours will be as follows: Tuesday 1-4 PM, Thursday 4-9 PM and Saturday 1-4 PM. The first Tuesday open is July 5th.

**Our opening day is Saturday, July 1st**

**Strawberry Festival Open House at the  
Chassell Heritage Center:**

Closed on Thursday, July 6th for the community strawberry cleaning at the Chassell Pavilion

Open Friday, July 7th, from 12 Noon to 6 PM

Open Saturday, July 8th from Noon to 4 PM

There will be no Friends of Fashion Show on the Saturday of Festival, but it will be held on Sunday, July 30th at 2:00 PM

— Thank you.



# **Chassell Heritage Center Summer Programs 2023 Thursdays at 7:00 pm**

**July 13** – Trio Tumpelot and Majority Finn (a.k.a. the Lautala Boys). Trio Tumpelot plays folk and dance hall music from Finland and elsewhere. The trio consists of Pasi Lautala on accordion and vocal, Meg Pachmeyer on bass, and Anna Gawboy on concertina. Also performing for the first time under the name is Majority Finn (a.k.a. the Lautala Boys). Finnish music from last century to today, including originals written by the band members.

**July 20** – The Beautiful Mysterious World of Mushrooms by Dana Richter. This presentation will describe the roles that mushrooms play in the health of forests, showing many colorful examples of the hundreds of mushroom types that occur with trees and downed wood in the UP. Dana Richter conducted research on mushrooms, tree diseases and wood decay for over 30 years in the College of Forestry, Michigan Technological University.

**July 27** - From Rock to Rail. Railroad historian Mark Worrall presents an introduction to the relationship between the mining industry and the rail industry in Michigan.

**August 3** – Music by Courtney Clisch & Anne Linja. Courtney has delighted Copper Country audiences with her vocal talent since childhood. Join Courtney and her talented piano accompanist Anne Linja for an evening of musical treasures.

**August 10** - Border to Border Ski Across Finland. Chassell Historical Organization President Keith Meyers will discuss his experience skiing from the Russian border to the Swedish border in seven days this past March as part of the 38th Border to Border Ski across Finland. Keith will also touch on his and his wife Julie's travels to see communities where Keith's Finnish ancestors came from and visits with Finnish cousins.

**August 17** – Country music by Bill Kautto & Friends. An entertaining evening of country music favorites old and new.

**August 24** – Ships in the Keweenaw: Great Lakes Freighters - Passenger Ships. A video and pictorial presentation by Roger Hewlett, Mariner – Engineer.

**August 31** – Back from the Brink - The return of Trumpeter Swans and Peregrine Falcons to the Keweenaw. Joe Youngman, Chassell's bird expert, presents this informative talk enhanced with lots of colorful photos.

**[www.chassellhistory.org](http://www.chassellhistory.org)**

# Compliments of the Chassell Lions Club

## Copper Country Strawberry Festival



**We Serve**

The Chassell Lions Club  
celebrates its 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary

### LIONS CLUB OFFICERS

Ross Rinkinen.....	President
Neil Ahola.....	Past President
Steve Palosaari.....	First Vice President
George Stockero.....	Second Vice President
Christina Smigowski.....	Treasurer
Dan Crane .....	Secretary
Judy Evert .....	Recording Secretary/Membership Director
Shari Stockero .....	Director & Festival Treasurer
Lois Berg .....	Director
Lynn Gierke .....	Director
Pam Hiltunen.....	Director
Barb Worall.....	Director

### LIONS CLUB ROSTER

Ahola, Neil	Holmes, Chris	Raymond, Paul
Bates, Erica	Johnson, Bill	Reed, Nancy
Beck, Julie	Karvakko, Dennis	Rinkinen, Ross
Bender, Kevin	Kerban, Michele	Schmidt, Soren
Berg, Lois	Kuntze, Walt	Schreiner, Kathy
Binroth, William	Lawrence, Annette	Smigowski, Christina
Bosley, Kriss	Lawrence, Weston	Smith, Richard
Crane, Dan	Lehman, John	Smith, Sally Tapio
Crane, Mary	Leukuma, Naomi	Spahn, Steve
Croze, Mike	Makela, Paul	Staley, Melissa
Eckhart, Al	Manderfield, James	Stockero, George
Eckhart, Mary	Meyers, Julie	Stockero, Shari
Evert, Judy	Meyers, Keith	Strong, David
Evert, Nick	Michaelson-Haataja, June	Tepsa, Hazel
Fraser, Karen	Moore, Mat	Tervo, Naomi
Gierke, Lynn	Moore, Dennis	Trewartha, Mollie
Gillis, Michelle	Moros, Joanne	Uponen, Lori
Gorcowski, Brian	Morrissey, Arleen	Van Westenburg, John
Graef, Stephanie	Nakamura, Asako	Wall, Jennifer
Haataja, Severi	Neves, Lara	Wilson, Fritz
Hackman, Wendy	Palosaari, Steve	Worrall, Barb
Hazellief, Gerard	Palossari, Dan	Yarina, Kirk
Hazellief, Jeannie	Parker, Gerald	Zadorecky, Eric
Helman, Lou Elyn	Pietila, Jeff	Zadorecky, Jake
Hiltunen, Pam	Pleshe, Judy	

