

# *Window to the Past*

Publication of the Historical Society of Trenton, MI  
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<http://www.trentonhistoricalsociety.org>

*Come join us on Wednesday*

*January 31, 2007 7:30 p.m.*

*At the Westfield Activity Center for a historical,  
geographic and ecological perspective of the Detroit  
River*

*Robert Burns, the Detroit Riverkeeper, has put  
together a slide presentation that provides a historical  
and geographical tour of the Detroit River and its  
many islands, from its head at Lake St Clair to its  
mouth at Lake Erie. It is a combination of  
historical photos and current aerial perspectives that  
provides an overview of man's impact on this region  
from early pre-settlement to present day.*

### Board Members

*Pauline Arthurs  
Evelyn Chekan  
Dorothy Gay  
Carol Hendricks  
J. Edward Meharg  
Bill Olson  
Sharleen Stack,  
Jennifer Trzecienski  
Mary Ellen Wiber*

2007 calendars available for \$8 at Charlie's Marathon, City Clerk's Office, The Framery and West Grange Drugs  
Also by mail for \$10  
Contact a board member for information

Snug Harbor books are also available for \$15

### **Obituary**

Aina Olson  
1907-2006

Aina Linea Johanson Olson was born April 23, 1907 in small city called Vanersborg located on the shores of Lake Vanern of the west coast of Sweden. Her mother was Anna Carlotta, and her father was Johan Johanson. She was the third oldest of four children and the only girl. As hard times came to Europe and the Swedish emigration began, her father and two older brothers, Nels and Ragnar, left Sweden and the rest of the family behind to work in the iron mines of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. They settled in Iron River and it was ten years before they were able to send for 16 year Aina, her 14 year old brother Gustav, and her mother Anna Carlotta, to join them in Iron River.

Aina was always proud of her mother's hard work and even more so of her mother's efforts to pay off every cent the family owed before she would join her husband and sons in America as well as earning most of the cost of passage, while her husband and older sons bought the family farm on Ice Lake in Iron River. This work ethic and sense of pride and decency stayed with her all her life.

Aina attended High School with the express purpose of quickly learning English and also worked in the office of a local coal merchant, Down the road at Ice Lake was the Olson family farm and the Olson's second oldest son, Ted. Ted and Aina were married in June of 1926. They soon moved to Trenton where Ted worked at the Edison and the raised their family. They were members of the First Presbyterian Church for most of their married lives serving in many ways beginning in the Cherry Street Church. Trenton was a small town where everyone knew their neighbors and their neighbor's neighbors. People walked to the market, the Post Office, school and visited with each other on the front porches, They helped each other over the bad patches of life and gathered together for the good. Aina sang in the Church Choir for many years, belonged to various groups within the church as well as her Circle and Dorcas Society. She sang in the Detroit Edison Women's Glee Club, was active in Women's club, Questers, PTA and raised two sons, Bill and Karl. She was particularly fond of a part time job

she held at Bernice's Gift shop in Downtown Trenton while Bill was at Michigan Tech. Both Ted and Aina loved Trenton and were strong advocates of shopping locally and supporting your neighborhood. For 99 years she was good friend, a good neighbor and especially a good citizen.

### Wanted

#### Pictures-

- Do you have any old pictures of Trenton people or places? If so can we make a copy of them and return the originals to you
- Stories-short or long of your memories of Trenton.
- Trenton School Memorabilia.
- Abstracts of Trenton homes and business
- Old Trenton Business memorabilia, letterhead, receipts, and log books etc.

Our collection of the High School yearbooks is nearly complete and can be examined them at the local history Room at the Trenton Veterans Memorial Library. There is an abundance of resource materials at the library.

Come Visit the Trenton Veterans Memorial Library  
[www.trenton.lib.mi.us](http://www.trenton.lib.mi.us)

**Need Help with genealogy? We are at your service** at the Trenton Veterans Memorial Library in the Local history room.

First Tuesday of the month 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. and the fourth Saturday of the month 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

#### Volunteers Needed

**Please contact**  
**Pauline 676-3589 Or Carol 676-4375**