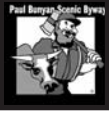



Paul & Babe's GeoHunt **#1**  *Printing supported by: American Lodge & Suites*





2010

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL & CULTURAL GRANTS

This project has been financed in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt **#2**  *Printing supported by: Echo Publishing & Printing*



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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL & CULTURAL GRANTS

This project has been financed in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe 2010: Rails to Trails

The Paul Bunyan Trail (biking trail) intersects the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway (driving route) in four locations. The trail pathway follows the original railroad line built in 1893 by M&I Railroad (Minneapolis to International Falls) which was abandoned by Burlington Northern in 1983. Construction of the paved trail began in June 1995.

The Paul Bunyan Trail is fully accessible for persons with disabilities and showcases area pine forests, sparkling lakes, colorful wildflowers and wildlife between Brainerd and Bemidji. Trail users will pass along the shorelines of 21 lakes, through scenic wetlands, and cross bridges over streams and rivers. It is one of the longest paved "Rails to Trails" in the nation.


Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org


Paul & Babe 2010: Memorial to Museum

Family of A.L. Cole donated the land for this building to the city of Pequot Lakes and the Cole Memorial Building was constructed in 1937. Over the years, the building has been used for dozens of things — high school graduations and a variety of performances. The Lakes Theater opened in the building on Dec 19, 1941 and operated there until the 1960s.

The Pequot Lakes Area Historical Society formed in 1997 and created the current museum, which is located in the basement of the Cole Memorial Building, in 1999. The museum highlights the Depression and World War II Eras.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt **#3**  *Printing supported by: Black Pine Beach Resort*



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Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org


Paul & Babe 2010: Retail Retro

The first modern building in the town of Pequot Lakes was the Thurlow Hardware Store. This small trade business was established prior to 1895, and the present building was constructed in 1914. Owner James Thurlow was on the first Pequot Lakes City Council in the year 1901. The family lived above the store. Aside from being the lifeblood of the community for many years, most early residents remember the store as a place where trophy big game mountings were displayed on the walls throughout the store.

This cache is near the site of the first motel in Pequot Lakes, located on the main road into town during that time.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt **#4**  *Printing supported by: Boyd Lodge*



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Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org


Paul & Babe 2010: Standing Tall


Fire lookouts are a proud symbol of forest conservation in America and are well recognized by the general public. They also often continue to perform an invaluable role in early detection, so important in keeping wildfires manageable.

It is estimated that Minnesota was home to 170 towers, with 121 of these towers still standing, and 10 that are still staffed. Idaho had the most known lookout sites (989); 196 of them still exist, with roughly 60 staffed each summer.

Kansas was the only U.S. state that has never had a lookout.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #5  *Printing supported by: Lakes Area Gallery and Frame Shoppe*





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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #6  *Printing supported by: Maucieri's Italian Bistro, Bar & Deli*



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Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe 2010: Look up? Lookout!

The Historic DNR Fire Tower is one of the few remaining useable fire towers in Minnesota. Built in 1934 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Minnesota Department of Forestry, this tower was a part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's National Recovery Act. It stands 100 feet tall with a 7 foot by 7 foot cabin on top. A 3-room cabin at the base of the tower was occupied by the forest ranger and his family from 1939 to 1947. Remains of the foundation are still evident.

This Fire Tower is listed on the National Register of Historic Lookouts.


Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org


Paul & Babe 2010: Rock Solid

Charley Skoog, a well-known stonemason from Pequot Lakes, was commissioned by "Captain Billy" Fawcett in 1926 to create an impressive gateway of his estate – the current day Breezy Point Resort property. Rocks were selected from area farms. Skoog had the gate half done when Mrs. Fawcett instructed Charley to tear it down. This had to be done with dynamite (which was purchased over the counter at the Pequot Lakes hardware store). After the explosion, Mr. Fawcett ordered Charley to ignore his wife and rebuild the gate — which he did.

In addition to the Breezy Point gate, Charley Skoog's lasting stonework is evident in the stairs and retaining walls at the Fawcett House as well as in front of the Breezy Chapel.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #7  *Printing supported by: Bait Box*



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Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org


Paul & Babe 2010: Not Too Deep

A more than 8,000 acre lake in Crow Wing County, Pelican Lake's maximum depth is 104 feet, but nearly 50% of the lake is 15 feet or less. This shallow part of the lake also provides the essential spawning habitat for most warmwater fish (e.g. bass, walleye, and panfish).

Pelican Lake is one of about 25% of Minnesota's fishing lakes that are annually stocked by the MN DNR's Fishery division. Newly hatched walleye fry – only 1/3 of an inch long -- are the most commonly stocked fish for this lake.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #8 



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Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe 2010: Follow the Flow

The summer of 1936 was a year of a series of summers known as the "dirty thirties" due to the lack of rain. Pelican Lake was severely affected by the drought — it was 7 feet below the normal lake level.

By the summer of 1937, "Captain Billy" Fawcett (Breezy Point Lodge owner) set a plan to dig a channel between Lake Ossawinnamakee and Pelican. A crew of 35 laborers, heavy machines and a few dynamite blasts finished the project in two months. But after the installation of a culvert under County Road 11, Fawcett realized that the water was running in the wrong direction! A hastily built dam was erected to stop the flow.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #9    **2010**

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Printing supported by:
Northern Lakes Embroidery

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #10    **2010**

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Printing supported by:
Black Pine Beach Resort

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe 2010: Water Always Wins

Big Pine Lake is connected to the Whitefish and Ossawinamakee Chains through creeks and streams only. Water flow has always been an important element of history in the Lakes Area.

Not far up the road, in 1896, the dam keeper noticed the water was not going over the Crosslake Dam, but pulling away from it. He headed south to Pelican Creek (on Country Road 3) to warn Cod Kimball that the dam was about to break. Kimball chained his barn to trees and moved his possessions to higher ground. When the dam broke, Kimball's house was completely turned around on its foundation before the rushing water eventually destroyed it.




Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe 2010: Early Days

The Crosslake Historical Society Museum and Historic Village, showcases the lakes area's first residents. The restored buildings include the Ideal Schoolhouse, erected in 1897, the first Crosslake Town Hall, built in 1923, and several log homesteads that have been restored and furnished by volunteers.

Other buildings include replicas of the 1904 Crosslake Store, a loggers saloon and an early resort cabin. A livery building is the current work-in-progress and will house two old buggies, and the historic mail boat.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #11    **2010**

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Paul & Babe 2010: Depots & Supplies

The Village of Jenkins began as a collection point for goods that loggers needed at camp in Crosslake. George and Isabella Jenkins stockpiled the supplies, hauled by horse and wagon from Brainerd. Later loads were taken by 'tote' from Jenkins Depot near Upper Hay Lake and delivered to camp. This building was once a depot for the railroad, which supplied 'big logging' until the white pine forests and loggers were gone.

Losing their customers, farmers formed cooperatives, shipping products on railcars from Jenkins.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #12    **2010**

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Paul & Babe 2010: School District 66

Following the 1900 US Census, Minnesota School District 66 was established. Earl (Mike) Schultz recounts in his memoirs that his "Grandad Miller" had built a schoolhouse north of the cemetery. "Later this school house was moved to Jenkins and became the big room of the old school house..." There was also a "little" room.

Grades 1-4 were in one room and 5-8 in the other. In 1920, a stately brick school was built, adding 9th grade. From 1920 until 1964, its young students, many who still live in the area, played in the schoolyard just east of this ball field, although during the later years this small town school only served grades 1-4.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #13  



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Printing supported by:
Pine River Bakery

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #14  

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Paul & Babe 2010: Depot

The original Pine River Railroad Depot was built in 1894 and was located beside Barclay's Ranch, owned by George Barclay, Pine River's founder. The original railroad was called the M & I, the Minneapolis to International Falls Railroad. The railroad was later operated by Northern Pacific and finally by Burlington Northern.

The last train ran through Pine River in June, 1984. The Paul Bunyan Trail now occupies the former railroad line right-of-way. The Depot, restored to its 1913 appearance, was recently moved to this new (old) site in Pine River.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org



Paul & Babe 2010: Real City Site



Hassman Hill Road, a partially graveled and partially blacktopped road two miles south of Pine River, is a remnant of the original "Government Road" which was used before Highway 371 was built.

The road was also a main thoroughfare for loggers and homesteaders in the Pine River area. An iron bridge is located near the northern end of the road and it is the original site for the City of Pine River.

The city was moved further northeast when George Barclay, Pine River's founder, found out the railroad would not pass by this bridge, but instead where the present Pine River Depot is located.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #15  

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Paul & Babe 2010: Footsteps



Originally built as a schoolhouse, this building is typical of many that dotted the landscape around Pine River and the rest of rural Minnesota. Schools were located approximately two miles from each other to ensure that kids could attend by foot.

Today, you can see a set of footprints left by Paul Bunyan himself, though he wasn't much for schoolin'.

Some of these schoolhouses were retained to serve as meeting halls, but many were removed or destroyed. This building is currently used by Barclay Township as a township meeting hall.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #16  

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Paul & Babe 2010: Go Fish


Located on the Pine River, just before it enters Whitefish Lake, this walleye stripping station is used annually to extract walleye eggs and provide them to state-owned hatcheries.

The walleye run usually occurs during the first to third week in April and millions of eggs are harvested, fertilized and sent to hatcheries where the fry are hatched and either returned directly to the lake in fry stage or provided to rearing ponds where they grow to about six inches over the summer and then are released into area lakes.

Many are released back into Whitefish Lake to ensure good populations.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #17 





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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #18 



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Paul & Babe 2010: Small But Not Tiny

The Swanburg School was built in 1905. The original black boards and chalk trays are still on the walls. A picture of it was included in Ohman & Heynen's "Schoolhouses of Minnesota." In 1947, the building was converted into the Timothy Township Town Hall.

This jurisdiction is one of the smallest units of government in the state of Minnesota, with approximate 155 residents of Timothy Township or 62 households. The town board consists of three supervisors, a clerk, and a treasurer. Though the voting booths are still in the building, the township now utilizes a "vote by mail" system because the building isn't handicapped accessible.


Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org


Paul & Babe 2010: Nuts & Bolts

This metal sculpture of two horses pulling an old covered wagon offers a great representation of the region's earliest settlers – nearly all of whom were farmers. The wagon was created in 1992 and used in the Itasca wagon train. The iron horses, Nuts and Bolts, were crafted by a Pine River native.

One area farmer, Fred Wefelmeyer started a pickle factory in Pine River in 1918. Area farmers grew 150 acres of cucumbers, with 1925, generating the largest crop of cucumbers ever. The factory lasted until the late 1940s when competition from areas that have longer growing seasons cut into sales.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #19 



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Paul & Babe 2010: Moonshine


During the Prohibition Days of the 1920's and 30's, bootlegging moonshine was common in this region. It's said that right here on the Veterans Trail (at what is known today as 'Whiskey Island') there was quite the moonshining going on. Some folks, even today, keep their eyes peeled for remnants of that long-ago still.

A few area roads are still named for the activities that once took place in their location such as Bourbon Lane and Old Whiskey Road (formerly known as "Moonshine Alley").

To learn more, log onto PaulBunyanScenicByway.org, click on Audio Podcasts and click on the "Drunk cows" story.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #20 



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Paul & Babe 2010: Regrowth


A disastrous fire in 1958 burned nearly 800 acres of timber at this spot now home to the area's newest walking trail.

Right now, the condition of this new forest regrowth is known as shrub swamp. Over time, this will transition to forested swamp and finally back into a dry forest. Read more about this on informational panels along the pedestrian bridge that also offers scenic views of Hay Creek.

Within the trail system, a 500-foot wetlands walk ends at an island. The 1/4 mile 'Island Loop' includes a resting bench at the top of an overlook— purportedly used by native Americans and early explorers such as Zebulon Pike to assess the surroundings.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #21 





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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #22 



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Paul & Babe 2010: Wayside Wonder

The City of Crosslake manages this unique undeveloped natural park on the southerly shores of Cross Lake. The parcel is owned by the US Army Corp of Engineers. A wide, mowed walking trail wraps around the entire site, taking walkers past a great view of the water. Enjoy the song birds and the scent of wild flowers. It's a great spot to picnic or take a nature hike.

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Paul & Babe 2010: Tent Time


The US Army Corps of Engineers Dam and Recreational Park is Crosslake's oldest historical site and was surveyed by Joseph N. Nicollet in 1836. In 1880 Congress appropriated money, made the necessary settlements with the Indians, and work began on the Pine River Dam to raise water levels to ease the transport of logs.

Today, the higher water level is maintained for recreational purposes.

See memorabilia and artifacts like the 'World's Largest Paul Bunyan Rag Doll' at the Byway Exhibit Display located in the Corps of Engineers administrative building.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #23 





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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #24 



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Paul & Babe 2010: Trash to Treasure

The current site of the Crosslake City Park was once home to the City Dump. This area was later converted into Crosslake's first baseball field which was created by Bill Schliek, who built the field by himself out of the back of his pick up.

Today, the Park includes a Community Center which sits on 146 acres. The Center features a gym, fitness room and meeting rooms. Outside, residents can enjoy ball fields, a playground, picnic shelter, tennis, frisbee golf, 3 miles of hiking/X-ski trails, and pond skating in the winter.

The Crosslake Area Library is the newest addition to the park. Volunteers staff and host a variety of programs including a weekly children's story hour.


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Paul & Babe 2010: Headquarters

Across County Road 66 from the Sundance Townhomes is the area where the logging company, referred to as "Headquarters," was located. A group of log cabins stood there to house and feed the group of loggers, their horses, and equipment.

The harvested logs were rolled down the hill into Moonlite Bay in the area of the restaurant of the same name. They were then bundled together and driven via the Pine River, to the Mississippi, and ultimately to saw mills.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #25 





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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #26 



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Paul & Babe 2010: Battles at the Bay

In 1801, a battle between the Ojibwe and Sioux took place on the ice in Moonlite Bay. The Ojibwe were camped on the north side of the peninsula between Cross and Rush Lakes, east of Ye Old Wharf.

The Sioux approached from the south, crouched and covered with wolf hides. The 300 Sioux attacked the Ojibwe (a group of 200, but many were away at the time), leaving only 14 survivors.

This was the first of nearly three years of war between the two tribes.


Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org


Paul & Babe 2010: Best for Butterflies

This 110-acre tract of land was donated to the DNR by the Uppgaard family in 1987. As Minnesota's first "Landscaping for Wildlife" demonstration project, the Uppgaard Wildlife Management Area uses plants, nest boxes, feeders, dust beds, brush and rock piles and snags to attract wildlife from deer to butterflies.

Wide, well-marked walking trails with benches and interpretive signage make it perfect for walking, biking, horseback riding and even cross country skiing. Go on a free guided tour every Wed. at 9:30 am, May - Aug.

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Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #27 



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Paul & Babe 2010: An Ideal Place

When John Knebel moved to the area in 1898 for health reasons, he found this the "Ideal" place to live and thus the township was named. Ideal Township became a center of the family resort industry by the 1920s and 1930s. During the "baby-boom" years, resorts popped up everywhere in an effort to make room for the large numbers of vacationing families. It was estimated that during this time there were over 2000 resorts in Minnesota.

John Knebel's son, Ben, was a mailcarrier. In the summer, he carried mail by boat on the Whitefish Chain of Lakes from 1930 to 1969. He never missed a day of work!

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe's GeoHunt #28 



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Paul & Babe 2010: Roadside Concerts

Across County Road 66 from Manhattan Beach Lodge is an area with a scooped out hill. This location once contained a post office, grocery store, motel, liquor store, and bowling alley. "Wally A-Frame," the former caretaker of Manhattan Beach Lodge, lived in the motel until his death. Several months after his death, the complex burned to the ground. Firefighters at the scene reported seeing the image of Wally seated in a rocking chair smoking a pipe within the flames.

A short time later, this site was the scene of a concert of legendary 50s rock stars. A flatbed truck acted as a stage for singers Fabian, Dell Shannon, and the Diamonds.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

**Paul & Babe's
GeoHunt** **#29** 





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**Paul & Babe's
GeoHunt** **#30** 



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Paul & Babe 2010: POW

Up the Old Grade Road off Highway #1 was once a German POW camp during WWII. It was located south of Longville, just southeast of Little Boy Lake. The prisoners were used for timber cutting and roadwork while under guard. They were well-treated and allowed to attend local churches. They were reported to be quite good-looking, often exchanging waves with the local girls. The camp was later dismantled, leaving no sign of its former existence.

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org

Paul & Babe 2010: Country Fun

A few miles east of the intersection of County Road 66 and Country Road 1 is the site of the old Fifty Lakes garbage dump. During the 60s & 70s, this spot was a favorite gathering area for teens and families alike. Cars would pull off into the ditch on both sides of the road and people would gather at the gate to watch all the bears digging through the garbage! That's true Northwoods entertainment!

Explore the Lore at PaulBunyanScenicByway.org