

Ishpeming Area Historical Society • Newsletter • Winter 2023

2023 IAHS Summer Events & **Fundraising Home Tour Update**



The Mather, formerly The Mather Inn

We are pleased to announce that our Historic Places and Interesting Spaces Tour (Home Tour Fundraiser) is scheduled for Sunday, June 25, 2023. IAHS is working to firm up plans for several historic homes for the tour. We have confirmed the historic The Mather (formally The Mather Inn) will be included on the tour. If you have never toured The Mather, or wish to enjoy a return visit, don't miss this opportunity. Karen Kasper will once again offer her weekly Ishpeming Cemetery Tours during the summer months of 2023.

Business After Hours event will be held on April 10, 2023. This event will celebrate the sesquicentennial of the formation of the City of Ishpeming. The event will be held at the IAHS Museum. Refreshments will include cake and liquid libations.

A showing of the film "Anatomy of a Murder" based upon the number one selling novel of 1958, filmed entirely in Marquette County and written by Ishpeming native John Voelker (Robert Traver) will be offered on the anniversary of the original film preview (June 29, 1959) and John Voelker's birthday, on June 29, 2023.

A detailed schedule of the IAHS Summer Events will be included in our summer newsletter. Please check our website (www.ishpeminghistory.org) and/or our Facebook page for updates.

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A Daughter of Ishpeming Goldie Brita Corneliuson, M. D.

By David Lee White, IAHS Board Member

When Goldie Dr. Corneliuson Brita retired from her position with Michigan the Department of Health in 1966, she had served Michigan families. with an emphasis on children, for 33 The director years. of her department, E. Heustis, Albert following wrote the commendation: "The name of Dr. Goldie B. Corneliuson is

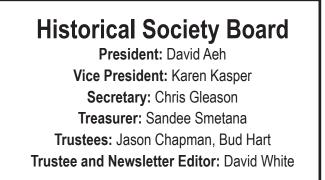
practically synonymous

the health of Michigan



Dr. Goldie Corneliuson with the concern for U of M Senior Photo - 1926

mothers and children. The many pioneering programs and services in maternal and child health, which have brought national recognition and acclaim to Michigan are a direct reflection of Dr. Corneliuson's personal



energy, dedication, and depth and breadth of vision."

Goldie's story begins in 1891 when her father, Carl Josef Alfred Corneliuson, at the age of 21, born and raised in Sweden, immigrated to the United States. Then in 1892, Goldie's mother, Augusta Wilhelmina Fasteen, at the age of 23, immigrated to the United States from Sweden with her parents, Fredricka and Reverend Karl Gustav Fasteen. As fate would have it, both Carl and Augusta found their way to Ishpeming, Michigan, found each other, and in April, 1894 were married. By 1900 Carl and Augusta had 3 children, Joseph the oldest, followed by Signe and Carl Jr. and resided at 416 E. North Street in Ishpeming. On July 17, 1901, Goldie Brita Corneliuson joined the family, followed by Philip in 1904 and Stanley in 1907. By 1910 the



Carl & Augusta Corneliuson Family Back Row: Signe, Joseph, Carl Jr., Front Row: Goldie, Carl Sr., Philip, Augusta, Stanley Photo Credit: Corny Corneliuson from the Ishpeming post office.

growing Corneliuson family had moved to a larger home in Ishpeming located at 415 Cleveland Avenue.



Goldie, Ishpeming High School Senior Photo - 1919

In 1899, Carl Sr. made his living as a baker working for the F. Braastad & Co. in Ishpeming. By 1903, Carl Sr. had gone into business with his friend, Gustav Sundlie and operated the Corneliusson & Sundlie Bakery located at the southeast corner of Bank and N. Second Street (today the parking lot for Jim's Jubilee Foods, and across the street from the Ishpeming post office). Gustav and Carl Sr. moved

their bakery a couple times, first to 112 Cleveland Avenue and by 1912, set up business at 208 Cleveland Avenue. By 1920, Carl Sr. had parted ways with Gustav and renamed his business the Star Bakery which was still located at 208 Cleveland Avenue. By 1925, Carl Sr. had moved his bakery back to the southeast corner of Bank and N. Second Street across from the street

As a child, Goldie was described as having golden blond hair with piercing blue eyes. Goldie attended primary and secondary school in Ishpeming and became a very talented piano player and as a teen gave many recitals at events in the Ishpeming, Negaunee and Marquette area. Goldie graduated from Ishpeming High School in 1919 as the valedictorian of 87 graduating seniors. Goldie was a member of the high school Glee Club, vice-president of the Girl's Literary Society and high school accompanist (piano). After high school, Goldie attended the Northern State Normal School in Marquette. While at the Normal School, Goldie was appointed the 1921 class treasurer, it was noted in the 1920 Echoes annual that Goldie was chosen as the 1921 class treasurer because "we had to pick someone we could trust, you know".

After Goldie completed two years of general classes at the Northern State Normal School, she applied to and was accepted by the Medical School at the University of Michigan and transferred to Ann Arbor in the fall of 1921. Later in life when asked why she chose a medical career, she is quoted as saying "I thought it would be a good way to give service." In what had to be a very exciting time for a small town girl from Ishpeming, Goldie did very well in her studies and as a sophomore was asked to join Iota Sigma Pi, the National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry and Alpha Epsilon Iota, the Professional Fraternity for Women in the Field of Medicine. As a Junior and Senior Goldie served as the secretary for her Medical School class and graduated with a degree in medicine in 1926, one of seven women in her class of over one hundred. Goldie completed her general internship at Grace Hospital in Detroit, then went on to complete a post graduate program in pediatrics and earned a public health degree from Columbia University in New York City.

After completing her work at Columbia University, Goldie moved back to Michigan and for a year had a private medical practice in the city of Pontiac. Goldie soon realized that public health work was her most satisfying work and in 1933 accepted a position with the Children's Fund of Michigan (forerunner to the Public Health Department) as a field physician on the children's health and parent education programs in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. During this time Goldie supervised many health clinics for children around the Upper Peninsula and presented many health education lectures to parents. One of Goldie's partners in bringing much needed health care to the children of the Upper Peninsula was Elba Morse, the nurse supervisor of the Northern Michigan Children's Clinic in Marquette. For years, Goldie and Elba traveled together throughout the Upper Peninsula teaching the ways of good nutrition to families and delivered much needed health care to children.

Traveling long distance together by automobile, Goldie and Elba began talking about the possibility of a children's camp where they could invite the Upper Peninsula's malnourished and underprivileged children and provide good food, fresh air and sunshine, along with a camping experience similar to experiences both Goldie and Elba enjoyed with their families when they were young. Goldie already had some ideas for organizing the camp, ideas she had picked up during the summer following her junior year at the University of Michigan when she had worked at a camp for the children of patients at a tuberculosis sanitorium near Detroit. Goldie is quoted as saying "Many of the children were poorly nourished" and "The camp provided good food, activities and rest. Years later, it gave me an idea of how we should plan Bay Cliff."

Elba believed she knew the perfect place for the camp, a recently abandoned dairy farm that had gone bankrupt near Big Bay, Michigan which was for sale and known as Baycliffs. Elba and Goldie began the vision for the camp while on a picnic at Baycliffs with Elba's young niece and nephews one summer day in 1933. While the children played in the summer sun, and after taking a good measure of Baycliffs farm buildings and grounds, including 170 acres, the two young dreamers made plans while eating their picnic lunch in the farm's apple orchard next to the steep cliffs on beautiful Lake Superior. The price of the farm was a steep \$8,500, quite a sum during the depression. Undaunted and excited by the possibilities, Elba and Goldie began mak-



Signe, Augusta (Mother), Dr. Goldie Photo Credit: Corny Corneliuson

ing plans to raise the funds necessary for the purchase. In the interim, the owners of Baycliffs were contacted and arrangements were made to rent some of the buildings and acreage for the following summer. Much of the operational expenses for the first summer of camp were contributed by The Children's Fund of Michigan, The Rackham Fund, and many Upper Peninsula city, county and peninsula-wide organizations. Elba did much of the organizing as Goldie was required to work in Lansing, but Goldie drafted the criteria for selection of campers, camp schedules and the development program. They sought out the most qualified elementary teachers to work with the children, and persuaded nurses to give up their summer vacations and days off to volunteer their services at the camp. Finally, Goldie scheduled her vacation to coincide with the activities at the newly named, Bay Cliff Health Camp, something Goldie did for many years.

At least 7 children between the ages of 8 and 12 were chosen from each county in the Upper Peninsula, a total of 107 children in need of help arrived on a warm sunny day in June 1934. Most of the children that gathered at Bay Cliff that day had never been so far from home, and with camp scheduled for 10 weeks, it would be a long time before they traveled back to their families at the end of August. The children were all brought to camp by volunteers, wide eyed and a bit wary, the children were greeted warmly by the assembled camp staff, and as best as they could the staff made the children feel welcome and loved. That first summer, most of the children bunked in two sections of the huge dairy barn and slept on cots, mattresses and blankets borrowed from the Marquette Branch Prison. The children soon realized this was to be an experience they would not soon forget.

The campers were encouraged to address all the staff with the prefix, Mr. or Miss., But it did not take long for the campers to affectionately use "Dr. Goldie", and due to the presence of Elba's nephew at camp, "Aunt Elba". These names stuck as well as did "Cookie" for Anna Engstrom, the beloved Bay Cliffs cook who supervised the preparation of on average 200 meals three times a day.

Aunt Elba and Dr. Goldie organized the second summer season of camp with 130 children from all 15 counties in the Upper Peninsula and once again, arranged another rental contract from the owners of the farm. Once the second season ended, they began searching in earnest for the funds needed to

purchase the farm as it had been for sale for several years, and they were afraid someone else might buy the farm who would not be so willing to host more than 100 children for the entire summer. In time, Dr. Goldie and Aunt Elba were successful in finding the needed funds. The Executive Director of The Children's Fund, William J. Norton, committed \$4,000 toward the purchase, and The McGregor Fund, a fund used primarily for health, committed a matching \$4,000, and an anonymous donation of \$500 gave Dr. Goldie and Aunt Elba the total they needed to purchase the farm and make their dream of a permanent home for the Bay Cliff Health Camp a reality. By 1938, Bay Cliff was incorporated as a non-profit organization governed by a board of directors composed of citizens of the area. Dr. Goldie served as director of Bay Cliff through 1938 and was succeeded in that role by Aunt Elba in 1939. Dr.

Goldie continued to serve the children at Bay Cliff as a member of the board of directors, and spent many of her vacations helping the children improve their health and lives.

1937 and 1938 were eventful years for Dr. Goldie, besides devoting as much time as she could to Bay Cliff Health Camp, she was working full time for the Michigan Department of Public Health and split her time between Lansing and the Upper Peninsula. In the fall of 1937, her family's bakery, Corneliuson and Son's, burned to the ground. Soon after, Dr. Goldie's father,

> Carl Corneliuson Sr., died suddenly at the age of 68 on May 4, 1938 of heart failure. Carl, who had worked as a baker in Ishpeming for more than 4 decades, had been rebuilding his bakery with his sons but never saw the opening of the new facility. The Corneliuson family picked themselves up after Carl's death, and completed the construction of the larger, more modern bakery on the same site as the old bakery on N. Second Street across from the Ishpeming Post Office. The Marquette Mining Journal announced that the grand opening of the new bakery was scheduled for 3:00 pm, June 2, 1938. The news article informed the public that the new bakery was built "of brick and tile construction and modern from front to back, top to bottom. The retail shop will be one of the principal attractions for women on the opening day. On modern-

istic lines, the cases are of clear glass, with specially constructed bakery displays and an onyx wrapping table. The rear cases are so constructed that when a pan of rolls comes from the oven it is placed on display in the rear cases without the front sliding doors being opened, assuring maximum service and sanitary control of the products. Floors are of inlaid linoleum in a blue design with gold striping along the borders." The Corneliuson's were especially proud of the new baking ovens "The ovens are of the traveling tray design, only ones of their kind in the Upper Peninsula. They have a capacity of 1,000 loaves of bread an hour. The bakery also has an automatic doughnut machine, an innovation which is described by Carl Corneliuson Jr. as one of those things where you put the dough in here and the doughnut comes out there."

In the 1940's, Dr. Goldie took on more responsibil-



Dr. Goldie Corneliuson

ity in the Michigan Department of Public Health. She served for a year as the assistant director of the bureau of maternal and children's health, she then became associate director under Dr. Lillian Smith. In 1946 Dr. Goldie was elevated to the position of director-in-chief of the section. Dr. Goldie was also selected to represent state maternal and health directors on a committee appointed by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers to consider policies connected with the expenditure of funds appropriated by congress for specialized health services, including maternal and child health services. Dr. Goldie also served as the president of the American Association of Maternal and Child Health and Crippled Children's Directors and chairman of the maternal and child health section of the American Public Health Association.

What the author of this article believes is a perfect reflection of Aunt Elba's and Dr. Goldie's dedication and love for the children of Bay Cliff Health Camp, and in general, the children of the Upper Peninsula, was well represented in a "recipe for children" which was written by Mirla Seid of Rockland, Michigan and appeared in the 1965 Bay Cliff Yearbook:

TO PRESERVE CHILDREN

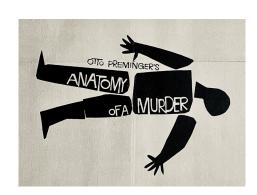
1 large grassy field 1/2 dozen children 3 dogs 1 long narrow brook Pebbly shore, if possible

Mix children and dogs and turn into field, stirring constantly. Sprinkle with fresh field flowers. Pour brook over pebbles. Cover with deep blue sky and bake in hot sun. When well browned, remove children to bathtub and scrub. Fill with wholesome food. Top with a prayer and a kiss and pour into a

clean bed. Such children will keep well for an eternity.

played the piano for her friends and family throughout her life, and collected small porcelain dogs and deer and antique glass. Her passion, besides her profession and her collecting hobbies, was gardening.

Signe Corneliuson preceded her beloved sister in death at the age of 88 in August, 1985 at their home in Fort Myers, Florida. Dr. Goldie Corneliuson also passed away at their home in Fort Myers at the age of 93 in November, 1994.



<u>Anatomy of a Murder</u> (Part Two, After Publication)

By David Lee White, IAHS Board Member

Fifth in a series concerning Robert Traver's (John Voelker) books

January 1958 found Grace Taylor Volker adding newspaper clippings to her "Anatomy" scrapbook, and dreaming about the possibility of a new house. January 1958 found John Donaldson Voelker in Lansing, Michigan earning his salary as a Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. While staying in Lansing John boarded at what he referred to as "that dreary hotel in East Lansing, The Kellogg Center." John made sure he had time away from his courtly duties so he could visit the bookstores in the Lansing vicinity to check on the sale of his recently published (January 6, 1958) novel, Anatomy of a Murder. In a letter dated January 20, 1958, John informed his editor at St. Martin's Press, Sherman Baker, that he had visited his friend, Chet Ellison, at the long-established Ellison Book Shop on Washtenaw Avenue, which was only a couple blocks from the Michigan State Capital, and "autographed scads for him (Chet) and also for Knapps (Department Store) across the street." John continued "Chet had in some of the new printings, though I notice the printer doesn't so label them. Mightn't this be psychologically a sound thing to do? I like the Fadiman quote on the jacket, you clever fellow." John must have seen the third printing of Anatomy of a Murder which states "Third Printing" on the front flap of the dust jacket, but does not state the printing on the copyright page. The

For many years, Dr. Goldie had been vacationing with her older sister, Signe, including trips to Mexico and Europe. Signe, a graduate of Marquette's Northern State Normal School, who also achieved a Master's degree in Education from the University of Chicago, taught in the schools of National Mine, Ishpeming and finally in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Later in life and into retirement, Dr. Goldie and Signe acquired a summer home on Drummond Island and a winter residence in Fort Myers, Florida. After lifetimes of "being of good service to families and children", both sisters enjoyed themselves by leading busy social lives together in their chosen summer and winter communities. Dr. Goldie



der of the three-color dust jackets was delayed until November 4, 1957 when St. Martin's Press ordered 30,000 dust jackets to be printed by H. Wolff Book Mfg. Co. On November 26, 1957 St. Martin's Press ordered 15,000 copies of the second printing, and on December 11, 1957 ordered 17,900 copies of the third printing. On December 31, 1957, 16,900 dust jackets with the Fadiman quote and "Third Printing" on the front flap was ordered. The first 3 print runs amounted to a total of 52,900 copies. Unfortunately, the first three print runs (first edition, second and third printing) are identical, the only difference being the dust jacket of the third printing.

On December 17, 1957, St. Martin's Press sent H. Wolff Book Mfg. Co. an order to make John's text corrections (eight in all) to the printing plates, to be completed before the fourth printing was run.

Anatomy of a Murder Publicity Poster - 1959

third printing is also the first printing to have the quote from the reviewer, Clifton Fadiman, on the top of the dust jacket's front panel.

(Note: the next two paragraphs contain bibliographic information for book collectors). The fourth printing, which was bound in mid-January 1958 and released soon after, has an added statement on the copyright page that reads "First, Second and Third Printings Before Publication, Fourth Printing January 1958." The earlier proposed initial publication date of September 15, 1957, which had been set in June 1957, had been delayed due to manufacturing delays, and had been further held up due to the selection of Anatomy of a Murder in August 1957 as a Book of the Month Club selection. St. Martin's Press wanted to coincide the release of the trade edition with the yet to be announced release of the book club edition. The Book of the Month Club announced in Mid-September that Anatomy of a Murder would be the January 1958 selection. On September 19, 1957, St. Martin's Press ordered 20,000 copies of the first edition to be printed by H. Wolff Book Mfg. Co. The orThe fourth printing of 15,000 copies was confirmed on January 9, 1958 along with 15,500 copies of the dust jacket with "Fourth Printing" on the front flap and the same Fadiman quote on the top front panel. The printing statement on the copyright page and on the front flap of the dust jacket would continue through all the remaining 16 printings.

<u>Anatomy of a Murder</u> first hit a major best seller list, third from the bottom, in the New York Sunday Herald Tribune on January 19, 1958, less than two weeks after the publication of the trade edition. The following week, January 26, 1958, "Anatomy" made it on the New York Times best seller list in 7th place. "Anatomy" would make it to 1st place on the New York Times best seller list on March 9, 1958 and would remain in 1st place until September 21, 1958. "Anatomy" would remain on the New York Times best seller list for a reported 65 weeks.

Back home from Lansing, John penned a letter on February 6, 1958 to Ian MacKenzie, Managing Direc-

tor of St. Martin's Press, John wrote: "For two days I have been going from morning till night with the two Life men who were sent up here. They have already taken more than 350 pictures of the Judge and the author, in an endless variety of situations – only 6 to 9 of which will finally appear in the magazine! We must meet again this afternoon to clean up one or two situations still undone (which will doubtless mean another 100-odd pictures) and they will take off tonight." The "6 to 9" pictures to be included in the magazine, turned into 2 photographs, on a one-page article in the March 31, 1958 issue of Life magazine. St. Martin's Press used the publicity from the Life magazine piece and the 2 photographs in a poster sent out to booksellers nation-wide in an effort to keep the novel selling.

As the sales of "Anatomy" soared, St. Martin's Press began getting inquiries as to the Broadway play and film rights. St. Martin's Press began to realize that the previous agreement for the film rights, although not concluded, with Eliot Hyman and Ray Stark were, if not unwise, certainly premature. In early February 1958, a representative of Alfred Hitchcock wanted to know what their terms were for a film sale and for a Broadway production. Apparently, there had been discussion in the film industry that Gregory Peck would be well suited to play the lead in "Anatomy." As a sales pitch, the Hitchcock representative told St. Martin's Press "The Hitchcock view is that there are better actors than Gregory Peck and that many of the stars who are now more in the ascendant than he, and who are represented by the MCA for example, would be only too willing to make a film with Hitchcock." St. Martin's Press saw both sides of the coin with Hitchcock. One of Hitchcock's weaknesses was that had not at the time, done any Broadway productions. One of his strengths was that, on his last good film (Rear Window) he had grossed \$5,300,000 (as of early February, 1958).

In a letter dated February 10, 1958 from Jacek Galazka of St. Martin's Press, Jacek informed John that total sales of "Anatomy" stood at 43,000 copies (not counting Book of the Month Club editions), and his ratings were 1st place in the Chicago Tribune, 2nd place in the New York Herald Tribune, 3rd place in the New York Times, and 3rd place on the West Coast.

In a letter to St. Martin's Press dated February 14, 1958, John brought up the Life magazine article, hoping that when it came out it might help elevate "Anatomy" on the various best seller lists and for the first time mentioned to his publisher the idea of buying a new house. John wrote: "I never thought I'd be watching literary box scores, but I'm as avid as a Dodger fan. Furthermore, Grace now has me cornered into buying a new house. And here I thought she'd settle for a new fly rod." By March 14, 1958, John and Grace must



Dutch Language Edition of Anatomy of a Murder

have closed on the new house on Deer Lake Road as in a letter of the same date John writes: "Grace is simply radiant over the new house. She got back from Chicago Tuesday night from a buying trip, and I have since been a dray horse hauling boxes and packages home from the post office from Marshall Fields.Grace had to wait a few minutes for her train in Chicago last week and she saw quite a number of people going by clutching the tome."

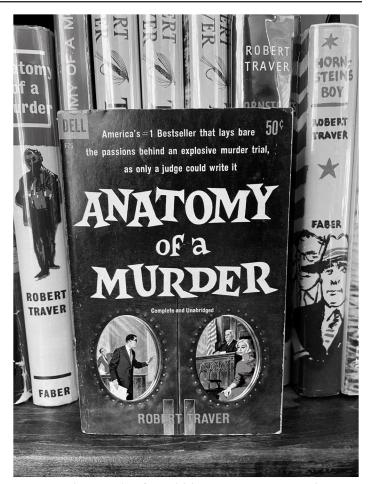
On March 21, 1958, John penned a letter to Ian MacKenzie in which he requested an advance upon earned royalties of \$20,000.00. John wrote: The roof has fallen in – I have just learned that my income tax which I must pay by April 15 is \$16,129.45. I have also just learned that I must pay an additional \$4,000 as a quarterly payment on my estimate of this year's tax." John ended the letter by asking for the advance to arrive "before I leave for Lansing on April 6, so please let me hear from you one way or the other as soon as possible. It would seem a pity for the nation's number one best seller to land in Leavenworth." Ian MacKenzie called John to assure him that he would be receiving the requested advance of \$20,000 in time to pay his income tax bill. On March 25, 1958 Ian confirmed what was agreed to during the phone call in writing, and suggested that in the future "....when we are due to make any large payment, we retain part of that sum at least, as a reserve against tax, until the following March." Ian ended the paragraph in jest by saying "Be assured, however, that rather than let you go to Leavenworth yourself we shall surrender ourselves to the Federal authorities as hostages."

Ian MacKenzie wrote a letter to his home office in London on March 25, 1958. Ian explained John's reasons for the requested \$20,000 advance and argued "We shall owe him something in that region by July 31st of this year since we are due to receive another \$20,000 (of which he receives 50%) from the Book of the Month Club, apart from any royalty payments on trade sales. Our trade sales at present, with the book still at the top of the bestseller list, amount to 63,000 copies. Even allowing for returns at 10% these sales should yield \$35,000 in royalty."

In a letter written on March 25, 1958 to Ian MacKenzie, John tried to close the door on Ray Stark having anything to do with the making of the "Anatomy" film or the Broadway play "This will confirm our phone conversation of yesterday in which I expressed the wish that we have no further truck with Stark, for reasons which I shall not repeat. It is my feeling that there would be no peace with this man; that he is volatile, unreliable, and litigious, and will bolt his undertakings when he sees the slightest advantage to himself."

John and Ian MacKenzie had a long phone conversation on April 4, 1958 concerning the film rights and the Broadway play. Ian had the notes of the conversation written up as a matter of record. Ian felt that they might have to work with Ray Stark on the film rights, and that if this was the case, that "John Voelker's view was that Ray Stark should be kept out of the Judge's hair..." At the time they thought they might be working with United Artists for the film rights and came up with the following "The price of the film would be \$100,000 down and an additional \$150,000 guaranteed against 5% of the distributor's gross." After typing out the agreed upon conditions for the film rights, at the end of the last page, there is a handwritten note in large bold print "STOP PRESS, Otto Preminger is making a written offer -- \$100,000 down, \$200,000 guarantee + 5% of the distributor's gross."

William C. Lengel, Editor with Fawcett Publications had been writing John for a month or two and had nailed down an agreement to publish a paperback of <u>Small Town D.A.</u> Now, Lengel was hoping to snare the paperback rights for "Anatomy". On April 8, 1958, John had responded to one of his letters, telling him he was too busy to reply as he had just started a supreme



court session, and referred him to Ian MacKenzie at St. Martin's. On April 15, 1958, Lengel sent Ian MacKenzie a bid "for the right to reprint your excellent book, <u>Anatomy of a Murder</u>." In the bid, Lengel offered "an advance against royalty in the amount of \$55,550 for the privilege of reprinting <u>Anatomy of a Murder</u>, fifty percent of this amount to be paid upon signing and fifty percent to be paid upon the date of printing." In addition, Lengel also offered as the book would be priced at 50 cents, a royalty of 2 cents for the first 150,000 copies sold and 3 cents per book over 150,000 copies.

It just so happened that Ian MacKenzie received another offer for the paperback edition dated April 15, 1958, from Dell Books. Frank Taylor of Dell Books offered an advance guarantee of \$75,650 against royalties with the royalty set at 3 cents per copy from the first copy sold. They also offered an additional advance guarantee of \$10,000 when the dell printing reached 2,700,000 copies, and an additional \$10,000 when the dell printings reached 3,000,000 copies. St. Martin's had received another offer from Pocket Books that was similar to the Fawcett offer. Ian MacKenzie penned a letter to Justice Voelker dated April 16, 1958 where he laid out the different offers, with the Dell offer being the best. However, being that a paperback printing would have to wait at least another year before it could be released, there was no hurry to finalize an agreement.

One must assume that due to competition from other producers, and the fact that he had read and loved the novel, Otto Preminger was determined to purchase the film rights of "Anatomy", he sent Ian MacKenzie at St. Martin's Press a telegram dated April 13, 1958, with a new offer:

• CHANGING OFFER PICTURE RIGHTS ANATOMY TO THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOU-SAND DOLLARS AGAINST FIVE PERCENT DISTRIBUTORS GROSS STOP ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PAYABLE UPON SIGNA-TURE CONTRACT TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND UPON RELEASE OF PICTURE REGARDS OTTO PREMINGER

Otto Preminger who had been in Paris when the above telegram was sent, hurried home and made an appointment to meet with Ian MacKenzie of St. Martin's Press. Ian MacKenzie wrote a summary for John from his first face-to-face meeting with Otto Preminger that took place on April 18, 1958 in New York. Some details concerning the Broadway play were discussed, including that Preminger's offer would be for the sale of the film and the dramatic rights together. It was Preminger's view, if St. Martin's Press and John accepted his offer, that the Broadway play script would be an adaptation of the film script. Preminger also held out a carrot by conveying that his "ideas on casting of the film would provide for William Holden, Spencer Tracy, and Richard Widmark as the principal figures." Preminger asked Ian for a lunch meeting the following Monday, April 21, and asked Ian to bring a lawyer along so that Preminger "can dictate and submit a new written bid in a form which accords with our wishes."

John found time to write a "catch-up" letter to his good friend and editor, Sherman Baker, on April 24, 1958. The editor of this newsletter personally loves this side of John and had to include a few excerpts from the letter.

• "I get from 1 to 3 million letters daily, about what God only knows. Plain fan letters, letters from crackpots, moochers, sentimental ladies, writing clubs, disciples of Helen Hokinson, judges, lawyers, Indian chiefs....."

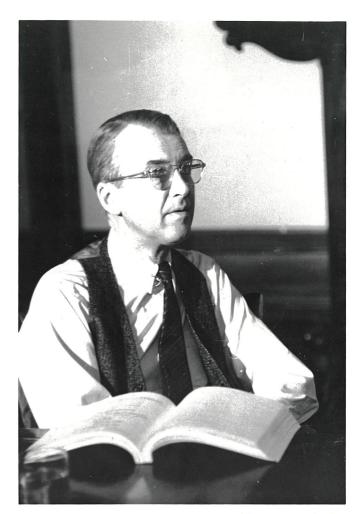
• "I want to write a book but can't on this job (Supreme Court Justice), and to help me appraise my chances of quietly quitting I wish someday you or Ian or Jacek or all of you would write me an informal letter estimating in a broad general way the swag I have or may expect to realize from all sources from the book. It seems silly to work like I am, and practically for nothing (because of the tax bracket my judge salary put me in) when I could be fishing and planning my book."



Lee Remick (Laura Manion)

• "Trout fishing starts this Saturday, and few children in the world could approach Christmas with more star dust in their eyes than the craggy old judge. I guess when I lose that I will be old. I dream about it; I've combed and curried the Jeep till it looks and sounds like a rumbling brewery horse; I've checked my flies and rods and caches of booze. I've taken barometric pressures and wind velocities and consulted the Zodiac. In other words, everything is normal and the miraculous season of madness is once again upon me."

Ian MacKenzie wrote a very business-like letter to John on April 26, 1958. The offers for the film rights from Columbia Pictures/Goetz Productions, MGM, and Otto Preminger were discussed in detail. Ian argued that he felt the Preminger offer was the best and suggested that they make a decision soon as Preminger was leaving for Singapore around May 6 and would like an answer before he leaves. Ian had traveled to London, so on April 30, 1958, John sent a telegram to Sherman Baker at the St. Martin's Press office in New York and said "Have decided to accept Preminger offer." On May 15, 1958, the law firm representing St. Martin's Press and John D. Voelker received a letter from the law firm



Jimmy Stewart (Paul Biegler)

representing Otto Preminger and Carlyle Productions, Inc., the letter was accompanied by the legal contracts John needed to sign to sell the motion picture rights for "Anatomy" to Otto Preminger. John Donaldson Voelker signed the contracts in front of Donna A. Snyder, Notary Public, on May 19, 1958.

John received a letter from Sherman's Baker's secretary Diane on June 5, 1958. Diane communicated with John on a regular basis advising him on the status of "Anatomy" on the bestseller lists and mailing him reviews. The handwritten postscript for this letter read "Had lunch with someone from Preminger's office who told me that they are going to film Anatomy in Michigan." John received a letter from Otto Preminger dated June 18, 1958, in which Otto informed John he would be arriving in Marquette on Wednesday, June 25 at 5:00 p.m., Otto would be returning to New York City the next day. The purpose of the quick visit was so Otto and John could become acquainted and go over some details in person. John reserved a room for Otto at The Mather Inn for Wednesday night, and advised Otto to arrive with an appetite. John wrote to his editor, Sherman Baker on June 25, 1958, the last paragraph reads

"I'm meeting Otto Preminger this afternoon and we are whisking him out to Salvador's to fill him full of wine and polenta -- prior to my applying to play the part of Parnell. We were out last night and I feel like Parnell." The restaurant "Salvador's" mentioned was Salvador's Tourist Club, west of Ishpeming on US 41 near Three Lakes.

The sale of the motion picture rights to Otto Preminger, a sale that St. Martin's Press and John Voelker felt was well within their rights, was met with anger from Ray Stark. Stark, along with Eliot Hyman had founded Seven Arts Productions, an independent movie production company in 1957. In the fall of 1957, St. Martin's Press, with John's agreement, had entered into an agreement with Stark to allow him to arrange for a motion picture to be made at a future date from the yet unpublished novel Anatomy of a Murder. St. Martin's Press insisted that the agreement with Stark was never finalized and felt that Stark had no right to "Anatomy". Stark filed a lawsuit regardless. Otto Preminger went to work to settle the lawsuit, the first of at least three lawsuits he would have to handle in connection with "Anatomy". Stark was allied with United Artists, and Otto Preminger with Columbia. While Stark was in Hawaii working on another project, Otto made an agreement with both motion picture financers/distributors to allow him to continue the necessary planning and to make the film while Stark's lawsuit was still in play. It was felt that Stark, relatively new to the motion picture business would need to fall in line with the agreement made between to the two giants, United Artists and Columbia, if he ever wanted to be a success in the movie making business. Stark however, persisted, in a letter to his editor, Sherman Baker dated July 29, 1958, John writes "Preminger phoned yesterday that the lovable Stark says no to everything, in seven languages, and that the movie will consequently not be made until next fall. My private guess is that it will be several years before a movie is made. He also added that Stark threatens to get the original lieutenant of a murder case I once defended to start a big lawsuit for invasion of privacy."

St. Martin's Press was in possession of the manuscript for <u>Trout Madness</u>, a book about John's passion for fishing, which had been waiting for publication since May 1953, and which never received a bite from the publishers John submitted it to. Sherman Baker liked the manuscript, and now that "Anatomy" was a bestseller, St. Martin's Press planned on publishing it when the time was right. In a letter dated August 4, 1958 to Macmillan & Company, his parent company in London, Ian MacKenzie explained that St. Martin's Press had arranged to pay John Voelker an advance of \$10,000 for <u>Trout Madness</u> and a yet unwritten novel that "again was about the law and politics in the Midwest."

The New York Times best seller list for August 24, 1958, more than six months after publication, still had "Anatomy" at number one, a total of thirty-one weeks on the list. A letter from Faber and Faber LTD Publishers, London, to Sherman Baker dated August 13,

ties will have an interest in the film production to be directed and produced by Preminger for release by Columbia. The terms provide for Seven Arts and United Artists to receive a cash payment, reported to be about \$100,000, be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with the dispute over the rights and have a 25% participation in profits earned by the movie." Ray

1958, informed St. Martin's Press that "We are all getting very excited about forthcoming the publication of Anatomy of a Murder; publication date is September 12 and all the preliminary signs are very encouraging."

As this editor has stated previously, John Voelker wrote all his letters in longhand, and his secretary, Donna Snyder, would type and mail them out. Reviewing John's letters, I



Ben Gazzara (Lt. Frederick Manion)

ran across a couple postscripts that I wanted to share with you. Apparently, Otto Preminger had asked John when the leaves turned in the fall in Marquette. In a letter dated July 17, 1958 to Otto, John wrote "The leaves turn color earlier some years than others. Sometimes they are at their peak in September. Might you want me to keep you posted to the end of taking some scenic color shots possibly earlier than October?" The postscript for this letter reads "Mr. Preminger: For the past two years the leaves have been at their best the third week in September and they are at their peak for about a week or ten days. I'm afraid if you wait until October, you will be too late. Donna." In a letter dated September 12, 1958 to Otto, John wrote "The leaves are already turning red and they should be at their peak in 10 days.* I thought I would tell you this for next years figuring." The postscript for this letter reads "*Which makes it the third week in September as in the past two years. Donna."

The headline of a Mining Journal (Marquette, Michigan) article dated October 20, 1958 read "Movie Firms Clear Hurdle on Justice Voelker's Book." Ray Stark and Eliot Hyman, partners in Seven Arts Productions, had just announced that a settlement had been reached with Otto Preminger and Carlyle Productions. In part the article read "Under the settlement terms, all the par-

Stark would move on from "Anatomy" and become one of the most successful independent film producers in postwar Hollywood. Among others, Stark would produce West Side Story (1961), The Misfits (1961), The Night of the Iguana (1964), Funny Girl (1968), Annie (1982), and Steel Magnolias (1989).

When 1958 came to a close, John D. Voelker could reflect back on a remarkable year. He

finished his second year as a justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. He saw his first published novel sit on the NYT Best Seller List for 49 weeks, 29 weeks of which in the number one spot. Through 13 printings, the 13th being released in November 1958, St. Martin's Press had printed and bound 207,000 hardcover copies of "Anatomy". In December John had the pleasure to read and write seven pages of suggestions for the "Anatomy" screenplay written by Wendall Mayes in collaboration with Otto Preminger, and in a few short months, he would bring Hollywood to Marquette County to produce the film version of "Anatomy", entirely on location. Not bad for an aspiring new novelist at the tender age of 55. John had received a new set of books from St. Martin's Press for Christmas and in a telegram dated December 24, 1958 sent to his publisher, he wrote "Building new wing on house to accommodate wonderful set of books. Bless you one and all."

1959 started out with John answering a never-ending stream of fan mail and working with a crew of men scouting locations for the film. John's letters make it clear that he felt he had too many irons on the fire. In addition to the new house, his duties as justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, a political campaign that would require his presence below the Bridge, and the expectation of a large film making crew arriving in a few months, St. Martin's Press was expecting John to be writing a new novel. A novel about which John had told his publisher that he had ideas about the plot, and hoped to begin writing soon, a project that he started to refer to as "project unmentionable." In a letter to Sherman dated January 26, 1959, John wrote "Project unmentionable grows more unmentionable than ever. I have simply banished the thing from my mind until I can find the time and repose to discover whether I have a book." By the end of January John received his annual installment Preminger dated January 30, 1959 he wrote "Present campaign plans have me leaving here on March 27 and remaining away through April 6. I am also supposed to go into a two-week term of court in Lansing beginning April 7, but I am now working on shortening that to one day." John was campaigning for a full eight-year term on the Michigan Supreme Court. The election, which saw five candidates running for 2 supreme court seats, was held on Monday, April 6, 1959. The nominees backed by the democratic party, George Edwards and

of \$24,000 due from book publication receipts of "Anatomy". John hoped to use some of the annual payment to pay off the land contract on their new house. As he states in a letter to Sherman Baker dated January 26, 1959 "I observed that I am paying more per month in interest than I am on principal, and the thought occurs to me that it would be good business for me to pay it off and divert the money to bourbon... Donna agrees."



Arthur O'Connell (Parnell Emmett McCarthy) Eve Arden (Maida Rutledge)

The end of January 1959 brought news that Otto Preminger's publicity staff had approached St. Martin's Press with what they felt was a wonderful idea, a book called <u>Anatomy of a Motion Picture</u>. In a letter dated January 30, 1959 from Sherman Baker to John, Sherman wrote that the book would have "Stills of all major phases of making Anatomy from conferences with author to set and costume design. Pictures – about a hundred – text and captions by Preminger and Kenneth Macgowan. They were talking in thousands and thousands and I had to disillusion them – probable market at \$4.95 - 4-5 thousand maximum. Obviously, this is a puff for Preminger and I see little in it for us except production and other headaches."

On February 9, 1959, Otto Preminger sent John a letter which read "We will arrive in Ishpeming in various groups between the 13th and 21st of March. We want to start shooting on the 23rd of March in the Courtroom. Naturally, I hope that it will be possible for you to be there with us and give us your legal advice." John was trying his best to be on site during the filming, but his obligations in Lansing would intrude, in a letter to Otto John D. Voelker, outpaced the three other candidates in vote totals by a two to one margin. These victories gave democratic Governor G. Mennen Williams, who had appointed John to the Michigan Supreme Court in January 1957, a five to three margin on the non-partisan state supreme court.

Before John left for the downstate campaign period, John helped organize an event of local flavor for the Holly-

wood folks. John had arranged for Governor Williams to be present and to greet the newly arrived visitors to Ishpeming at a Ski Jump competition on March 22. In a letter dated March 18, 1959 John wrote "Dear Governor: I have told the ski club people that you will attend the meet Sunday afternoon (it begins about 2:00) and plans are afoot to have you welcome the Hollywood people on behalf of the State and conduct a little ceremony. I have not told anyone of what you plan to do about presenting a bow tie to Joseph Welch (Welch played the judge in the film), as I did not want to spoil the fun. It is possible that you may wish to present some other tokens to others in the Hollywood group, although it is my thought that the bow tie presentation should be saved exclusively for Joe Welch. There will probably be upwards of 50 people from Hollywood in attendance at the meet, roughly half of them men. It is probable that the best arrangement is for you to come directly to the Mather Inn, where I will try to wrangle some sort of room for you to freshen up in, and then the entire party proceed together to the meet. You would probably be in the same car with Joseph Welch, Otto Preminger and possibly Jimmy Stewart and Lee

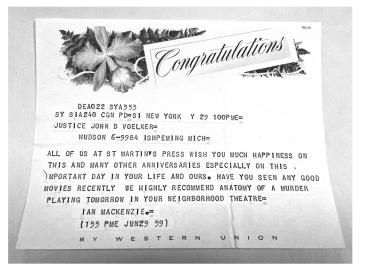
Remick. I will ride on the bumper..." As plans firmed up John sent Governor Williams a telegram on Friday, March 20, 1959 "Please proceed to Mather Inn Sunday for a 12:30 luncheon with Hollywood and 2:00 drive to ski hill with principals. It's a big deal. Regards John Voelker."

St. Martin's Press had two additional hardcover printings bound in 1959, the 14th printing of 2,500 copies in February and the 15th printing of 2,000 copies in March. The St. Martin's Press papers housed at the archives at Brown University reveal that there was also a 16th hardcover printing of 1,500 copies in 1969. With the sales of the hardcover trade editions and the Book of the Month Club editions slowing down by April 1959, St. Martin's Press did not object to Dell Publishing Company releasing the paperback edition on April 7, 1959. Dell had agreed to increase their offer for the rights to publish the paperback reprint to \$100,000. This release date seemed to make all parties happy as with the release of what was expected to be a blockbuster film, with previews in San Francisco on June 20, 1959 and Ishpeming and Marquette on June 29, 1959, many the remaining hardcovers would likely sell. By mid-April 1959 over 185,000 trade hardcover editions had sold, and Dell would be able to take advantage of the film release to sell their paperback edition. Dell was expecting a large sale of America's number one bestseller at 50 cents each as they printed 1,100,000 copies in the first printing. By July 1, 1959, Dell had printed over two million paperback copies of "Anatomy". Ian MacKenzie wrote to John on August 21, 1959, and informed him that "Dell has now reached 2,700,000 in print, which means that a bonus of \$10,000, to be divided between author and publisher, is now due and should be paid shortly." Sales of the Anatomy of a Murder paperback would soon top 3,000,000 copies, which would bring John and St. Martin's Press another \$10,000 bonus, and would go on to be the top single bestselling paperback in 1959. Dell had nine print runs in 1959, with a tenth printing in March of 1963 priced at 75 cents.

Otto Preminger settled a second lawsuit that was connected with the "Anatomy" novel and film on April 3, 1959. Charlotte A. Carey, formerly Mrs. Charlotte Peterson, wife of Lt. Coleman A. Peterson had filed a lawsuit claiming that both the novel and the film violated her rights as the character of Laura Manion was based upon her experiences revolving around the 1952 murder of her husband Maurice (Mike) Chenoweth and the subsequent murder trial in which Lt. Peterson was successfully defended by John D. Voelker. Charlotte's lawsuit was settled out of court for \$30,000. The settlement called for half to be paid by Preminger and half by Voelker, Preminger ended up paying the whole amount. The third lawsuit Otto Preminger and John D. Voelker delt with was a nine-million-dollar lawsuit for defamation of character filed by Maurice (Mike) Chenoweth's wife, Hazel A. Wheeler and his daughter Terry Ann Chenoweth. The lawsuit was not successful.

By June 1959, <u>Anatomy of a Murder</u> had been published and released in nine foreign countries, including: France, Italy, Japan, Germany, Brazil, Finland, Sweden, Holland and England.

On Monday, June 29, 1959, John D. Voelker's 56th birthday, he received a colorful congratulations telegram which read: "All of us at St. Martin's Press wish you much happiness on this and many other anniversaries especially on this important day in your life and ours. Have you seen and good movies recently? We highly recommend <u>Anatomy of a Murder</u> playing in



your neighborhood theatre. Ian MacKenzie."

The editor of this newsletter writes this paragraph only because I myself am guilty of this transgression, and my wife Peggy insisted. Apparently, John D. Voelker was known to forget, or did not bother with putting his lawn hose away until it began to freeze solid. John's New York editor and good friend, Sherman Baker, wrote him a letter on September 25, 1959 "Dear John: It has occurred to me that you may be getting frost very soon (I seem to remember two inches of snow on September 29th last) and I know that you are incapable of putting away Grace's lawn hose correctly. Don't despair. Whether you like it or not one of these days when it is frozen solid, along about the middle of October, I will come along to thaw it out, drain it and put it neatly in the basement. All the best, F. Sherman Baker." Then three days later, Ian MacKenzie, St. Martin's Press New York office managing director, and Sherman's boss wrote John a serious business letter. Ian's last paragraph reads "I hope Sherman

may be visiting your territory shortly. He tells me that he should go to put away your hose for the winter." Sherman Baker received a telegram dated November 2, 1959 "Our hose lies coiled like a frozen serpent awaiting the master. When are you coming? Warm regards to all. John." Sherman finally showed up in Ishpeming with the premise of putting away the hose near the end of November.

In a letter to Otto Preminger dated December 1, 1959, the post script reads "Our first grandchild was born last Tuesday, Ellen Elizabeth Tsaloff, and I celebrated the occasion by quitting the court so I could write a book. John." A letter John wrote to Governor G. Mennen Williams dated September 5, 1958, included his willingness to run for a full 8-year term, but was qualified with "...it is fair to tell you that my willingness to run should not be construed as a firm commitment to serve a full 8-year term." During the week of November 23, 1959, John announced to the Michigan Supreme Court that he planned to resign from the court. His resignation was effective the day before the new January court term,

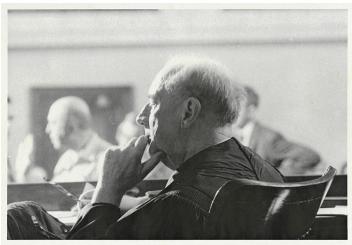


Monday, January 4, 1960. John had served on the court for three years.

Enclosed with а letter dated January 8, 1960 from Ian MacKenzie was John's annual installment payment of \$24,000 from the accumulating proceeds from both the book and movie, Anatomy of a Murder. In the same letter Ian informed John

Kathryn Grant (Mary Pilant) that "the present domestic gross of the film was \$5,200,000."

The new year brought many life changes for Grace and John D. Voelker. Having retired from his seat on the Michigan Supreme Court, John had time to begin writing "project unmentionable", the new novel he had promised St. Martin's Press. At least that was the plan. Many speaking requests, time spent returning fan letters and letters to friends, and of course the upcoming trout season would take precedence. At least that was the plan. Otto Preminger had invited and encouraged John and Grace to join Joseph and Agnes Welch in attending a few of the <u>Anatomy of a Murder</u> movie pre-



Joseph N. Welch (Judge Weaver)

miers in Europe. At the time, John's court duties kept the Voelkers in Michigan. In November 1959, Otto Preminger once again invited John and Grace to be his guest and visit the movie set of Exodus in Israel the following spring. This time, John and Grace accepted and made travel plans with Joseph and Agnes Welch. Preferring not to fly, John and Grace made plans to take a passenger ship across the Atlantic and through the Mediterranean to Israel. John told St. Martin's Press that the time spent on the ship would give him time to make some progress on "project unmentionable". They would leave New York on the Jerusalem on March 28, 1960, and arrive in Haifa, Israel on April 10 where they would meet the Welchs who had flown commercial airlines to Israel. After spending time on the film set and touring Israel, the Voelkers and Welchs would sail for Naples, Italy on April 19th.

The next installment in this series, to be included in the summer 2023 issue of this newsletter, will comprise the beginning of life for the Voelker's after "Anatomy", the publication of <u>Trout Madness</u> and the struggle to write and publish John's second novel, <u>Hornstein's Boy</u>.

Research for this article conducted at the NMU archives.

The editor of this newsletter is grateful for the NMU archives assistance!

Volunteers needed at the Museum

Would you like to spend a pleasant afternoon surrounded by Ishpeming history? Do you have a few hours to spare, not necessarily every week, but even once a month during the summer? If so, please contact us and volunteer as a host at the Ishpeming Area Historical Museum. Anyone interested in helping to preserve the history of our town is welcome. We offer training for those interested in becoming a volunteer. If you are interested, please contact David Aeh at the Main Street Antique Mall, 121 South Main Street, Ishpeming, Michigan 49849. Phone 906-486-8680.

Our newsletter is sponsored in part by Globe Printing and our members.

Please become a member or renew your membership

While we do several fundraisers throughout the year, our memberships are the backbone of the historical society. Through yearly and lifetime memberships, we keep the doors open. We pay for insurance and memberships in organizations such as the Historical Society of Michigan, the Greater Ishpeming Chamber of Commerce and more. We pay for our newsletter and the flyers to help us publicize our events. Those yearly memberships keep us going and they are important to us.

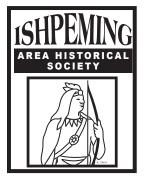
If you are not a member, please consider becoming one. Annual membership is just \$10 per year for an individual. We also have business and family memberships. If you are a member, please renew your membership on a yearly basis. Every membership helps us in our mission of preserving the history of Ishpeming and making it available to everyone. Our membership application is included in this newsletter.

Thank You!

Become a member: Ishpeming Area Historical Society

The Ishpeming Area Historical Society is a 501(c)3 Michigan Non-Profit Organization. Our mission is to promote and encourage a better appreciation for and a sustained interest in the history of the Ishpeming area. Your membership allows us to carry out this mission. (We send out newsletters in the winter and summer)

Yearly n	nembership (Renew	able January 1st)	
_\$5 Student (high school-College)	Additional donation		
_\$10 Individual	\$20 Family (One household)		
_\$25 Non-Profit Business	\$35 Business		
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Phone #	Email:		
In memory/honor of (if applicable	e)		
I do NOT wish my nan	ne to be used in any p	publicity or on a membe	ership plaque.
Is this aN	ew Membership	Renewal Membershi	р
Is this address my/our year	-round address? If no	ot, what months do I/w	e reside here?



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John Voelker & Cast of Anatomy of a Murder - 1959