

## **Voss' Birchwood Lodge Celebrates 100 Years**

By Frank DiLeonardi

This year marks the centennial of the main lodge of Voss' Birchwood Lodge. Built by Henry Voss and Palmer Hanson, the back bar at the lodge is still an active venue on summer evenings today. This brochure from 1924 was designed by Henry and his daughter Audrey to promote the new lodge. The cover painting was by Henry.

Besides running the resort with his wife Ruth (LaPorte), Henry was also a photojournalist, an engraver, an artist and an avid photographer. Many of his photographs are important historical shots of the area that you can find in the MWHS archives at <https://mwhistory.pastperfectonline.com/>.

Audrey (Voss) Dickerson and her daughter Ruth (Dickerson) Gardner were also artists, and Ruth has published two books. Audrey was an active patron of local artists with many paintings and sculptures in the lodge and cabins created by area artists.

Ruth also is a MWHS emeritus board member. Ruth, Audrey and Palmer are all members of the MWHS Leaders of Historical Preservation, with Ruth being a member of the inaugural class. Ruth is also mother of current MWHS board member Chris Gardner, who will be pouring drinks at the bar this summer to celebrate 100 years. Congratulations!