



Newsletter

January - February 2016
Issue #1

Valentine Potluck! Film Showing!

Happy Valentine's Day from the Charlevoix Historical Society! In what has become an annual tradition, the Historical Society will once again be hosting a Valentine potluck, complete with a showing of a cinematic classic! This year we will be screening the 1930 "talkie" ***The Silver Horde***. In addition to being a classic film, the movie also has rich local ties, as Rex Beach, who wrote the novel of the same title, was a native of Atwood. The film stars Joel McCrae as Boyd Emerson, a hapless prospector who inadvertently gets caught between two rival Alaskan fisheries led by Cherry Melotte (Evelyn Brent) and Fred Marsh (Gavin Gordon). Working for Cherry, Boyd travels to Seattle where he reconnects with his fiancé Mildred. Meanwhile, Mildred's corrupt father is determined to have his daughter marry Boyd's rival Fred Marsh (who else?), and all the while Boyd is unaware that Cherry is developing feelings for him. Deceptions, drama, and multiple saucy love triangles (plus free popcorn): What else does a film need?!?

When: Tuesday, February 2
at 6:00 p.m.
Where: Railroad Depot

Bring a dish to pass, a serving utensil, and your own plates and tableware. We will supply cups, coffee, tea, napkins, and microwave usage if needed. BYOB if you prefer something a little stronger.

In keeping with the tradition of previous years, instead of charging a ticket price, we ask that everyone bring a Valentine card or two, either signed personally or from "A Secret Admirer". These cards will be distributed to shut-ins or the elderly who may not receive one, and are always deeply appreciated.

WINTER MUSEUM HOURS

The Historical Society museum will be closed through February. Either or both curators will be available throughout the closed period Tues.-Fri. 11-4 for those who need to conduct Society business, do research, or purchase a store item. Enter through the side door. The museum will reopen three days a week beginning Thursday, March 3.

LIBRARY ODAWA PROGRAM

The Friends of the Library will be hosting Eric Hemenway at their annual meeting. Eric is a most engaging speaker and serves as the Director of Repatriation, Archives, and Records for the Little Traverse bay Bands of Odawa Indians. He will draw upon primary resources to share some of the fascinating local Odawa history with us. He will be speaking on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at 6:30 in the Community Room at the Library.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A year of records - that's what 2015 became for us. We had record attendance for an event, "The Wizard of Boulder Park" premiere, record proceeds for the Spaghetti Dinner at the Villager Pub, and record attendance at the Grey Gables Christmas Dinner. When combined with outstanding merchandise sales and the generosity of our members, we also had noteworthy income. A grant received at year-end secured our ability to achieve a long-standing goal to expand Jacob Thomas's Curator position into a more full-time one. This will enable him to make significant headway at the museum curating our artifacts, enhancing the gift shop, and creating a social media presence. These activities help strengthen our museum operation and broaden our reach and exposure. All contribute to our mission of preservation and enlightening people on the history of Charlevoix, as well as our financial stability.

Of course, we cannot rest on our laurels. This year's main project is repainting the South Pier Lighthouse, which is on track to be completed this summer. We are also planning renovations at the Harsha House and Museum. We are working with Bob Jess of Freshwater Church on plans which include office improvements, museum lighting, and roof and exterior repairs. We have reserves put aside for this purpose and will also seek grant monies to fund it.

A new exhibit will be mounted this spring, which along with our program and event plans, will be announced soon. We will also continue our highly successful walking tours based on the demand we saw last fall, and are working to expand our step-on guide bus tours.

Thank you for a wonderful 2015! We're looking forward to another great year.

Denise

Donations (unrestricted) received from: Charlevoix County Community Foundation,
Grand Rapids Community Foundation, Steve & Kathy Paterka, Marshall & Jane Cossman,
Kilwin's Quality Confections, Mason & Lynn Rosenthal, Denise & Gary Fate
The Society welcomes new members: Tom Darnton, Leandra Peak,
Marshall & Jane Cossman