



Newsletter

May 2016

Issue #3

Painting the Past Exhibit

The Charlevoix Historical Society is very pleased to invite you to the Grand Opening Reception of our brand new exhibit *Painting the Past!* It will be held on Tuesday, June 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Depot. This one-of-a-kind exhibition will feature over three dozen beautiful works of art by over a dozen local artists. The paintings span from the late 1800s into the 1990s, and all of them are from the Society's extensive collection. Some have never been publicly exhibited before. The opening reception will feature catering by Parsons Farm, an open bar, jazz standards by the Younce Guitar Duo, and a brief presentation by local artist/storyteller Rebecca Glotfelty of the Cycling Salamander Gallery near Norwood. There will also be a *plein air* paint-out event of local scenes that day, after which those area artists participating will show their works for display and for sale during the reception.

The cost of this wonderful fundraising evening event is \$100 per person. Proceeds will support the preservation of the historic train depot, our museum at the Harsha House, and the total mission of the Charlevoix Historical Society. To reserve your place, or to help sponsor this reception, please return the response card you received a few weeks ago, call the Society at (231) 547-0373, or visit chxhistory.com. We would appreciate a response by May 31.

We hope that you will join us at the Depot on June 14 to help kick off a spectacular summer season in Charlevoix!

After the reception, the exhibit will be open to the public from June 15 to Sunday, July 3, Wednesday through Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m.

SPRING MUSEUM HOURS

The Historical Society Museum will be open May-June Tuesday through Saturday 12-4 p.m. As always, the side door facing the bank is open at 11 a.m. for those who need to conduct Society business or talk to a curator before regular hours. The museum will be open July-August six days a week Mon.-Sat.

EARL YOUNG & DOWNTOWN WALKING TOURS BEGIN MAY 28

Our newly instituted walking tours will begin Saturday, May 28 at 10:30 and 1:00. This Saturday schedule is in effect through June 25. Then the summer schedule of Thursday (10:30), Friday (10:30) and Saturday (again 10:30 and 1:00) will begin on June 30 and last through Apple Fest Saturday in October. Extra tours scheduled for Sundays May 29, July 3, and Sept 4 at 1. All tours begin and end at the Round Lake Gallery, 325 Bridge Street. \$12 per person.

“THE WORKING WORLD” OPENING RECEPTION AT HARSHA HOUSE

The opening reception for “The Working World—Business & Industry in Charlevoix” exhibit at the museum was very well attended and reported in the *Charlevoix Courier*. Response to the exhibit was overwhelmingly positive. We encourage all members to bring their families, friends, and summer guests to see it. A huge thanks to St Marys Cement for sponsoring both the exhibit and reception, and the contributions to the reception by the Charlevoix Country Club and Charlevoix Floral.

EARL YOUNG HISTORIC DISTRICT DESIGNATION SUCCEEDS!

It was a long time coming, but the Charlevoix Historic District Commission, with the assistance of the Historical Society, finally succeeded in having all but one of the eleven Earl Young houses on the Park Avenue/Grant Street/Clinton Street block placed under historic district protection. The Charlevoix City Council unanimously voted yea to the ordinance designating the area as a historic district on April 18. Special thanks go to Society members Amy Lalewicz and Mary Adams for being on both the first and second incarnations of the Commission. The first attempt a few years ago failed for various reasons, but house owner sentiment and realization of what could be lost shifted after the major, and controversial, alteration of Earl's first house at 304 Park Avenue (the lone, now noncontributing, structure not receiving exterior protection). Amy and Mary plus Society member Ken Polakowski, Site Planning head John Campbell, and Zach Panoff of the City Planning Office spearheaded the attempt through to success through uncounted hours of work.

A WELCOME TO SUMMER INTERN KATIE BURNS

Katie Burns, a junior in Western Michigan University's Public History Program, has joined our staff as an intern through late August. She is originally from the Charlevoix area. Katie will be assisting with the installation of the “Painting the Past” exhibit at the Depot, will serve as a docent both there and at the museum, assist with our new social media outreach, and help plan future exhibits for the Society. A warm welcome to Katie, and we hope our members will stop by and

introduce themselves.

MEMORIAL RECEPTION FOR KAREN LEWIS

A memorial reception for Karen Lewis, chair of the Society's Museum Committee who passed away in January, will be held at the Depot on Sunday, June 19 from 1 to 3 p.m. Karen's contributions were far too numerous to list here. We will honor her unceasing dedication over many years.

FATHER CHARLEVOIX ANSWER STUMPS "JEOPARDY" CONTESTANTS

Last January 19, attuned ears perked up across the country when Alex Trebek announced the Final Jeopardy answer: "In 1721, French explorer Father Charlevoix called a point at the border of these two states 'the finest confluence of rivers in the world.'" None of the contestants got it. A clue appears at the bottom of page two in the *Bob Miles Charlevoix II* book. A free Earl Young ruler to the first three who email or call us with the correct answer.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THROUGH SUMMER, 2016

Mark your calendars! It's going to be a full summer! Our schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, June 28 @ 7:00. "Practical Art: Artifacts & Design in the Charlevoix Historical Society" presented by Jacob Thomas, at the Depot (details will be included in the June newsletter)
- Tuesday, July 12 @ 6:30. A "History of the Charlevoix Public Library" presented by Board member Kay Heise, at the library
- Tuesday, July 19 @ 6:30. "The Life and Works of Earl Young, Charlevoix's Master Builder in Stone, Part I" presented by David Miles, at the library
- Friday, July 22 @ 7:00. The Society's annual Venetian Festival Fireworks Potluck, at the Depot, open to all members and their guests
- Tuesday, August 2 @ 7:00. "Fact or Fiction? Writing History" presented by Board member Chuck Cleland, at the Depot
- Tuesday, August 9 @ 6:30. "Resort Fashions" presented by Sally Gray, MSU Professor of Apparel and Textile Design, at the library
- Tuesday, August 16 @ 6:30. "The Coming of the Resorts" repeat showing, presented by David Miles, at the library
- Tuesday, August 23 @ 6:30. "The Life and Works of Earl Young, Charlevoix's Master Builder in Stone, Part II" presented by David Miles, at the library

All the programs at the Charlevoix Public Library are being presented in partnership with the library as part of its Summer History Lecture Series

DETROIT BROADCAST OF "THE WIZARD OF BOULDER PARK" ON PBS

Our co-sponsored documentary on Earl Young received its initial airing on Detroit public television on May 2. It reached an estimated 27,000 viewers. WCMU Central Michigan University's broadcast will take place this fall as one of the main features of its annual major PBS fundraising drive.

A REMINDER TO SUBSCRIBE

Again we would like to remind the membership to subscribe to our eNewsletter that will keep you abreast of all of our events as we reduce mailings of the paper newsletter to a planned quarterly cycle by year's end. This way we can keep you posted on what's happening and any up to date changes. The quarterly newsletter will provide more extensive coverage of events and Society news; the electronic version will keep you abreast of what's happening such as event reminders, late breaking news, or changes of times and venues or cancellations. Just go to our website (chxhistory.com) and find the subscribe button on the home page. 187 members are now taking advantage of this new offering. We'd like to get as many as possible on board.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Many thanks to those who turned out on a glorious warm and sunny evening on May 11 for the first exhibit opening held at the museum in a very long time. Our curators, Dave and Jacob, did a splendid job putting "The Working World" together with numerous fascinating and surprising photos, artifacts, and stories. I witnessed many memories being triggered as attendees worked their way through the exhibit.

As mentioned at the reception, we are embarking on a capital improvement plan for the Hasha House. Extensive repairs are needed to the exterior of the structure in addition to a new roof. It is critical that this work get done over the next couple of years to protect this wonderful 1891 Victorian home, our museum and headquarters, donated to us by Anne Harsha almost forty years ago. We are applying for grant funding from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA), which requires a 1:1 match. While we have reserves set aside for this purpose, we will need to raise an additional \$5,000 by the end of this year, and another \$20,000 in 2017.

I hope to see many of you at our June 14 Grand Opening Reception of "Painting the Past" at the Depot!

Denise

The Society welcomes new members: *Knights of Columbus, Ellen Lange (Life)*
The Society welcomes new Patron: *St Marys Cement, Inc.*

DONATIONS FOR JANUARY-MAY 2016:

Donations (unrestricted) received from: *Jonathan & Lynn Friendly,
Knights of Columbus,*

Timothy Newhouse, Tom & Maryalice Armstrong

Donation in memory of George Haggard, Jr. received from: *Marilyn Novak*

Donation in memory of Gary Schmidtke received from: *Katy Chrzanowski*

Donations in memory of Karen Lewis received from: *Anne Bandfield,*

Edith Olach Close, Carrie Venema,

Marilyn, Jeannette, and Nancy Novak, David Miles, Marilyn Gibbons,

Roger & Cynthia Postmus, Beta Sigma Phi of South Haven, MI,

Alberta Puhek Beyers, Mary Ann Puhek Kunkle, Diane Puhek