



Newsletter

November 2014

Issue #9

Annual Christmas Dinner at the Grey Gables!

*We'll keep our Christmas merry still—
Sir Walter Scott*

Once again members and their guests are invited to gather in the spirit of the season for the Historical Society Christmas dinner, always one of the nicest events of the year, and judging by the turnouts of the past few years, one of the most popular.

**When: Tuesday, December 2
at 6:00 p.m.**

**Where: The Grey Gables
308 Belvedere Avenue**

A holiday cheer cash bar and social hour with old friends will precede the Gables' quality offerings (call the Harsha House for menu selections and price). As in previous years, we would like to have a rough estimate of how many of each entrée will be ordered. So, if you can, we would appreciate a response by Saturday, November 29 informing us of the number in your party and your selections. Call 231-547-0373 Tuesday through Saturday, or leave a message.

Should circumstances prevent you from deciding or being able to call until the last minute, be assured you may appear at the appointed hour at the Gables with no problem.

No prior payment is needed. Someone will be on hand to collect your payment at a table located just outside the rear dining room door.

FALL MUSEUM HOURS

The Harsha House museum will be open Tuesday through Saturday 12-4 p.m. through January 3. The side office door facing the bank is open 11-4 for those who need to conduct Society business, do research, or purchase a store item before opening hours.

HARSHA HOUSE OAK TREE TRANSFORMED!

The huge oak tree that long stood in front of the rear double doors of the museum at the Harsha House had to be taken out not long ago. While the decaying upper branches posed a threat to the building, the massive trunk was salvageable. So new products are coming from our beloved old tree! Patron and master woodworker Jim Tank of Kitchens North has completed samples of products available to be ordered in time for Christmas! A variety of picture frames are on display at the museum to showcase your historic photos. Please stop by and have a look. Other furniture products are available through special order from Jim, and more items will follow next year.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since Dave shared with you my world travels in October, I'll just briefly mention that it was an incredible experience seeing World Heritage sites and Wonders of the World throughout nine countries from Peru to Morocco. I lived and worked in Germany and Asia, but boy did I learn a lot about humanity, culture, archaeology and the environmental impact over the centuries. One common theme was builders in stone—which reminded me of Earl Young and Charlevoix.

I want to thank all of those involved with our spaghetti dinner at Terry Left's Villager Pub, which was another fun night and successful fundraiser.

As an update to the Board of Director's ongoing strategy work, it has become clear that to continue progressing as an organization we need more resources. As an example, with all of the acquisitions at the museum, there is much work to be done to ensure everything is properly accessioned and catalogued. This means, in addition to the efforts of volunteers and three part-time employees, which equate to one fulltime staff, we want to increase paid staff over the next year. Additionally, we are facing repairs at the Depot and Harsha House. Our new

Finance Chair, Craig Mann, is exploring ways to raise additional funds for the Society.

By now you should have received your membership campaign. I hope you will continue to support us, and might consider becoming a Ralph Hamilton Circle member, if you are not already, and if you are, perhaps becoming a Patron.

I look forward to seeing you at Grey Gables on December 2 to celebrate the season.

Denise

SPAGHETTI DINNER ANOTHER SUCCESS

Our seventeenth annual fundraising spaghetti dinner at the Villager Pub was another important addition to our coffers, grossing over \$2300. Since its inception, the event has well passed the \$30,000 mark thanks to Villager Pub owner Terry Left, who brought the idea to us in 1998 and so generously donates all the spaghetti proceeds to the Society. So again a huge thank you to Terry and his excellent crew, to all the Society volunteers who acted as greeters and wait staff, and to Mike Hinkle and his crew from the Charlevoix State Bank for again pitching in to help. The door prize of dinner for two at Terry's Restaurant was won by Charlevoix resident and Society member Deb Mann.

NEW PIECES OF HISTORY GIVEN TO THE SOCIETY

We are so appreciative of those of you who are donating important Charlevoix historic items, known to us as artifacts. Charlevoix has a rich and culturally important history that we need to preserve. Your gifts allow us to preserve and share these items now and far into the future for generations to come.

We now have: the first Charlevoix Homecoming Queen crown made of aluminum foil, watercolor paintings by Eleanor Freedman, a beautiful wooden steamer trunk with ornate papering inside full of documents and memorabilia of the Meggison family, a black 2-piece peignoir and slippers worn by Irene Young, a set of early 1900s holiday postcards, a wooden paddle that says "Charlevoix Yacht Club," 1999 and 2002 Charlevoix High School yearbooks, a log book from the steamer *Fanny M. Rose*, 1915, and over 100 items from the Earl Young family including photo images of the insides of some of the mushroom houses along with various blueprints.

NEW ITEMS/CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT THE MUSEUM STORE

Come visit the museum store at the Harsha House for your Christmas shopping needs. We have some wonderful new lighthouse items: a knit cap, in royal blue or gray with the red lighthouse and 'CHARLEVOIX' on the front brim. There is a fleece headband with built-in flaps over the ears, also in royal blue and gray with a red lighthouse and 'CHARLEVOIX.' For those cold evenings when you need to cover up, our heavy forest green throw with fleece underside sports the red lighthouse and 'CHARLEVOIX' again on one corner. All these items are made locally and proceeds from their sale will go support our Charlevoix Pier Light which again needs restoration work. The hats and headbands are \$16 each and throw is \$36.

For the poetry lover, we have a brand new book of Charlevoix-themed poetry by our own Rosalyn Goldstick called "I'll Never Forget." Plus many other wonderful items—local history in a variety of books, 13 x 19 photos, Christmas ornaments, lighthouse magnets, postcards, and more. Share the history of the town with our Earl Young and Charlevoix DVDs. Don't miss our sale table!

E-MAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED PLEASE!!

We are moving into the 21st century and want to be good stewards of the funds you give us. PLEASE make sure that we have your email address, if you do have one, so that we might communicate with you more economically and keep you up to date on the many things we're doing and the activities you might want to participate in. There is a line for that purpose on the membership envelope that every member should have received by now. If you are unsure whether you have already provided us with your address, just give a call and we can check immediately. If you haven't, we can enter it on the spot. Thanks for your cooperation.

The Society welcomes new members: *Keith & Laura Polob*
Donation (unrestricted) received in October from: *Thomas & Martha May*

A Morsel of Genuine History Is a Thing So Rare as To Be Always Valuable.

*Thomas Jefferson to
John Adams, 1817*