



Newsletter

November-December 2016

Issue #7

Christmas Dinner at Weathervane

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 several years, one of the most popular.

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

***Where: Stafford's Weathervane
Restaurant, lower level***

A holiday cheer cash bar and social hour with old friends will precede the Weathervane's quality offerings (menu and price inside). As in previous years, we would like to have a count of how many of each entrée that will be ordered. So we would appreciate a response by Monday, November 28 informing us of the number in your party and your selections. Call 547-0373 Monday through Saturday, or leave a message. You can also email us at info@chxhistory.com.

Should circumstances prevent you from deciding by the 28th or being able to call until the last minute, be assured you may appear at the appointed hour at the Weathervane with no problem.

No prior payment is needed. Someone will be on hand to collect your payment that night.

FALL & WINTER MUSEUM HOURS

The Historical Society Museum will be open Tuesday through Saturday 12-4 p.m. through December 31. 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.

Beginning in January, the museum will be open Saturdays only, 12-4 p.m., through March. But a curator is on the premises every day except Sunday.

SPAGHETTI DINNER A ROUSING SUCCESS

The annual fundraising spaghetti dinner, our nineteenth, at Patron Terry Left's Villager Pub on November 2 broke all records. People began to arrive at 5, and from 5:30 to after 7:30 the place was packed. We served 188 spaghetti dinners, the proceeds from which Terry donated to the Society. Added to that, all the tips likewise came to us, for a grand total of \$3267.

Our deepest appreciation once again to Terry and his ever helpful and patient crew, to Mike Hinkle and his volunteer wait staff from the Charlevoix State Bank, another Society Patron, to the Society volunteers who waited on tables, and to everyone who turned out to help the Society continue its mission of preserving in many forms this town's priceless historical heritage.

Charlevoix Historical Society Christmas Dinner

**Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at Stafford's Weathervane Inn, Lower
Level**

6:00 p.m.

Social Hour

(Wine & Cocktails Available at the Cash Bar)

*Hot Spinach and Artichoke Dip with Crackers,
Swedish Meatballs*

7:00 p.m.

Dinner

Round Lake Salad with Dinner Rolls & Butter

*Choice of Three Entrees, Served with an
Appropriate Starch & Vegetable:*

**Chicken Wellington En Croute with Brie & Cranberry
Compote**

**The Weathervane's Famous Whitefish Grenoble
with Lemon Caper Sauce
Beef Brisket with Rosemary-Mushroom Bordelaise
Sauce**

**Vegetarian or Any Special Dietary Requirements: Please
contact Chef Rob directly at 547-4311 and he will
accommodate your needs.**

Dessert:

Chocolate Mousse

Fresh Brewed Coffee Price: \$40 per person, Tax & Tip Included

**Enjoy the Society's "Life and Works of Earl Young" Exhibit at the East End
of the Weathervane's Lower Level Prior to the Dinner**

“WIZARD OF BOULDER PARK” TO BE BROADCAST ON CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY PBS

The Society has received word that Central Michigan University PBS, Channel 6, intends to broadcast “The Wizard of Boulder Park” documentary that premiered here at a more than full Cinema III in June of 2015. The TV showing will take place on **December 1 at 9:30 p.m.** This 48-minute film is an interpretation of the life and works of our legendary builder in stone Earl Young with images and movie stock never shown before, created by three-time Emmy winning sister and brother team Anne and Brian Belanger of Rogers City and Royal Oak. The Society acted as co-producer, and your editor David Miles receives screen credit as “Historical Consultant” in addition to serving as an on-screen “talking head.” The “Wizard” received its broadcast premiere on Detroit PBS last May, with highly positive and appreciative reports coming to the Harsha House in subsequent months via summer visitors from southeast Michigan and a noticeable uptick in sales of the DVD. We are asking every member who might have family and friends within the CMU viewing area to notify them of this program, not only regarding the importance of what Charlevoix has to offer, but also as an example of what support of the Society is able to accomplish.

INVALUABLE DONATION RECEIVED FROM ADVANCED GEOMATICS

Late last spring, the Society received word from Larry and Fay Feindt of the surveying company Advanced Geomatics that they had sold their longtime home, the building across the alley from Cherry Republic in the Bridge Street 200 block, to Luther Kurtz, owner of Charlevoix Cinema III. They needed to clean out decades of documentation, and asked if we would take a look at some of their vintage collection for possible donation. Of about 160 items offered, we have just completed cataloging 144 and placing them in archival storage, all but one of them maps and documents. The lone item is a framed 45 x 37-inch Abrams Aerial Survey photograph of Charlevoix taken in 1938 (the same image used on the title page of our 2002 publication “Bob Miles’ Charlevoix II”). After a little restoration work, it will be hung in the Depot because it shows exactly where the train tracks ran on both sides of town.

The maps and documents date as far back as 1881 and the layout of the Chicago Club, which had begun purchasing its property the year before. Others show large, proposed recreational parks on the south side school property and north side Mercer Boulevard/U. S. 31 land from the mid 1930s; the sightlines available to the lower channel bridge tender when the bridge was both open and closed, taking into account the channel bends, 1929; a proposed layout of a brand new East Park in the mid 1930s; several maps of the original 18 holes of the Chicago Club golf course that later became the municipal course; the locations of the old city water wells near the Lake Michigan Beach and fish hatchery; the original blueprint of the Belvedere Golf Course circa 1926; a 1935 proposed building for the Beaver Island boat company, with warehouse, waiting room and office, that looked like a miniature towered brick castle; a proposed site for a city airport on Marion Center Road just south of Brookside Cemetery

abutting the Belvedere Golf Course, today's Vernida Road area, 1933; a map from 1892 showing the placement of the first water mains laid along Bridge Street from the new water works built just east of today's Ward Brothers; and an undated map from Division Street north past Mt. McSauba into an area called the "Village of Mount McSauba" which later became the North Point subdivision, with property owners' names everywhere.

It was like a Spanish conquistador actually finding El Dorado.

Message from the President

As our lovely fall season is coming to a close, I want to take the opportunity to thank the Charlevoix Area Garden Club members who contributed so much to the beauty of our grounds. It was a spectacular season that lasted well into the fall, and they did a splendid job with all of the flowers and gardens. Ralph Heid once again took on the mowing and raking at the Museum and kept the lawn looking terrific, which is greatly appreciated.

We are also delighted with the turnout at the spaghetti dinner at the Villager Pub again this year—and the proceeds. Many thanks to all who came and contributed. Thank you, Terry Left, for your generosity, and your staff for their patience. I also want to thank the servers: Society members John Elzinga, Larry Levengood and John Haggard, Charlevoix State Bank staff Mike Hinkle, Linda Whitley, Tammy La Fave, Sharon Russel, and Kendra Willett, plus from our own staff Jacob Thomas and Dave Miles. This is not so easy, and we are very grateful to them for their time and cheerful serving!

Hope to see many of you at the Weathervane for the Holiday Dinner.

Denise

Donations (unrestricted) received from: *Emmaline Weidman & Dan Kantor,
Charlevoix High School Class of 1950*

Happy Holidays to Everyone! Be sure to visit the museum store on Thanksgiving weekend and in December for that perfect Christmas gift! New this year: 11 x 17 high quality photo prints from our glass plate negative collection, or those that can be printed up to that size from any photo in our files. And an 1889 colored aerial view of Charlevoix on high quality stock paper. Plus our DVDs, Russ Bolt tiles and mugs, the classic Little Traverse map by Irene Young, our local history books, Mike Barton's color photo books, notecards, lighthouse t-shirts and sweatshirts, Charlevoix-themed Christmas bulbs, and more. Or go on-line to check out and order all our store items. Merry Christmas!