



**Charlevoix Historical Society
Annual Report
2015**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Charlevoix Historical Society is dedicated to the acquisition, preservation, and protection of objects and places of historical value, to the dissemination of information regarding these objects and places, and to the bringing together of all peoples interested in the history of the Charlevoix area.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Denise Fate

Vice-President: Lore Silberman

Secretary: Kay Heise

Treasurer: Steve Paterka

Finance Committee Chair: Craig Mann

Directors: Virginia Cash, Chuck Cleland, Phyllis Elzinga,
Edward O'Neill, Amanda Wilkin

Advisory Board: Julia Ann Bandfield, Marsha Braun,
Paul Hoelderle, Dr. Jack MacKenzie

Museum Curator and Editor: David L. Miles

Museum Curator: Jacob Thomas

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", 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 operational income.

Our multi-year project partnering with Bon Ami filmworks, LLC, to produce the "Wizard of Boulder Park" - a feature length, high-definition documentary on the life and art of Earl Young - came to fruition when it premiered at the Charlevoix Cinema III on June 8. The film and the response to it exceeded all expectations. On the night of the premiere, we had a sold-out gala reception at Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant and at the Cinema in all three theaters. All told, including five re-screenings in August and September - on the 100th wedding anniversary of Earl Young and Irene Harsha - over 700 people viewed the film. Enabling the completion of the film were grants awarded in 2015 by the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and the Michigan Architectural Foundation. Many thanks go to these organizations, as well as the Leo S. Guthman Family Foundation/Lynne and Mason Rosenthal, who generously provided funding for the film at the outset, and, along with Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant, supported the gala reception.

To complement the film, the Historical Society mounted a photo exhibit on Earl Young and his work in the lower level of Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant, in what was Earl's former office. It will continue to run for the foreseeable future.

The Society was awarded a grant this year from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) funding to repaint the exterior of the South Pier Lighthouse due to significant fading of the pigment. The work is scheduled to be completed summer of 2016.

In keeping with our mission of preservation, the Society partnered with Charlevoix's Historic District Commission on initiatives in support of their efforts to obtain approval for Historic District designation of the Earl Young buildings in the City. This will hopefully be achieved during 2016.

Significantly contributing to our bottom line this year was an expanding area of our income-generating events, which is providing tours of the area and the Earl Young structures. This included walking tours, step-on guides for visiting tour buses, and narrated tours on the water aboard the Keweenaw Star.

Another highlight for the year was the hiring of a new Curator, Jacob Thomas, who came to us with excellent educational credentials and experience in the field of museum studies and preservation. A grant received at year-end secured our ability to achieve a long-standing goal to expand his 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.

In summary, I am very proud and pleased to report that we have a strong board, staff and membership to carry us successfully into the future.

Denise Fate, President

Museum Curator's Report

2015 was a very productive year. It began with the final preparation for printing of two more books. The larger one was written and prepared by the book publication committee consisting of myself, former museum directors Betsy Reynolds and Steve Goslee, and Karen Lewis. It is titled "Charlevoix's Historic Vessels," an 88-page overview of the many types of boats that have either been based in or visited Charlevoix since the end of the 19th century. The book is illustrated by over 200 images, the majority of them from the Society's own photo and document collection. The second book is smaller, but very important in that it is filling a need that even the Society did not realize existed. This booklet was produced by myself with the assistance of Board member Marsha Braun, who initiated the idea of publishing it in 2014. The 28-page "A Guide to the Earl Young Structures in Charlevoix, the Beautiful" contains black and white photos of every surviving Earl Young structure plus a small description of each, and maps to the four areas where the houses stand. The initial run of 500 copies was introduced in June, ten downtown businesses agreed to help sell them, and within five weeks they were gone. Another run of 500 was almost sold out by Labor Day. A third printing of 200 lasted through the end of the year, and another 500 were ordered to start off 2016. These statistics reflect the importance of the Earl Young legacy to the town and the demand for information about his works that is now reaching from coast to coast.

In connection, in 2015 the Society determined to reach out to tour bus companies to bring groups to Charlevoix primarily to see the Earl Young works. By the end of the year, around twenty groups had signed up for 2016. We have been providing "step-on" guided tours since 2004, partnering with Castle Farms in recent years, however decided a more direct approach would be beneficial.

We also tested a walking tour program in October, in conjunction with the Round Lake Gallery of Art on Bridge Street. This proved to be very successful, averaging 22 participants per tour over five tours, so plans were formulated to begin a regular schedule lasting from the Memorial Day weekend through the annual Apple Fest in October. These tours are expected to bring in a few thousand dollars per year.

I also helped with the production of the documentary film and our latest DVD, "The Wizard of Boulder Park" on Earl Young, as historical consultant, adviser on vintage photos, and as a "talking head" in the film itself. The smashingly successful gala event that introduced the film in June was an evening never to be forgotten.

I presented my annual historic program, "The Coming of the Resorts," at the Depot to a large crowd in May. This history of the Belvedere and Chicago Clubs was repeated at the Charlevoix Public Library in July to an overflow crowd with so many people attending that many had to be turned away. The library said it was the largest crowd ever to appear for an event in its Community Room.

Our new Curator, Jacob Thomas, began work on June 29 and within a few weeks showed himself to be an invaluable member of the organization. His museum training and background, technical expertise, and enthusiasm will all prove to be major assets in the near future. It will be a pleasure to work with him. We began planning our latest exhibit on the history of Charlevoix's businesses and industries in December.

David L. Miles, Curator of Photos and Documents

Museum Curator's Report

Remember all the hullabaloo about *The Wizard of Boulder Park* gala and premiere in June? Well, I'm sorry to say that I do not. Not because I have short-term memory loss, but because my first week at the Charlevoix Historical Society just so happened to be the week after the big event. So, even before I moved to Charlevoix, I recognized how important Earl Young, his life, and his works are to the City of Charlevoix, and would be to my work at the Historical Society. So I quickly immersed myself in the Mushroom Kingdom, learning everything I could about, as the film's tagline promises, "How Mushroom Houses Grow". The Earl Young walking tour booklet, introduced slightly before I started, sold extremely well, so much so that we had to reprint several times over the summer. And when *The Wizard of Boulder Park* DVDs were released late in the year, they sold like hotcakes as well. We are currently working on expanding our ever-popular step-on bus tours, as well as our walking tours out of the Round Lake Gallery of Art, which were tested this summer to great success.

As the new Curator of Collections, I am very excited to have been able to work with our fine artifacts and documents here at the Charlevoix Historical Society. 2015 was a great year for donations; my first week on the job was actually capped with the excellent acquisition of a very handsome antique railroad trunk, generously donated by Geoffrey Coleman. This was only the first of many wonderful donations that I accessioned in 2015. To make all of our artifacts easier to track and store, I also updated the artifact cataloging system and location database at the Historical Society. After these much-needed improvements were in place, I had the opportunity to catalog hundreds of other artifacts in the museum, work that will certainly continue into 2016 and beyond.

I have taken on a large chunk of the graphic design and marketing work here at the CHS, including producing many of the posters and signage that were used by the Society in 2015. This will continue into 2016, along with the design of a new rack card to advertise our Earl Young Walking Tours. Also in 2016, keep an eye out for our new Facebook page, which will be up and running at the same time our 2016 program schedule hits. Finally, the Charlevoix Convention and Visitors Bureau is helping us redesign the longtime brochure map of Earl Young homes, so look for that in 2016 as well.

After over half a year with the Charlevoix Historical Society, I am able to look back fondly on how much I learned and what I have been able to accomplish, while still keeping an eye on the future. The early months of 2016 will be spent working hard on not one but two exhibits that will premiere next year, one each at the Charlevoix Historical Society Museum and the depot. Just as last summer held many firsts for me, so too will this summer: leading an Earl Young tour for the Historical Society, an educational program, and many others besides. I would like to thank all of you for welcoming me so warmly to the area; to those that I have not yet met, I hope to do so sooner rather than later.

Jacob Thomas, Curator of Collections

Museum Committee

The Museum Committee is made up of six subcommittees: Acquisition, Preservation, Restoration, Exhibit, Special Depot Exhibits, and Adopt-a-Painting. Its goal is to organize and preserve our artifacts and plan for the future. It also advises the Board of restoration needs and creates exhibits for the public.

Information pertaining to our ongoing art adoption and restoration program can be obtained from the Harsha House.

The committee was temporarily inactive during 2015 due to various circumstances. With the addition of Jacob Thomas as curator of collections, however, it will be reactivated with emphasis on an attempt to locate, identify, and properly catalog every artifact which the Society possesses, plus finding adequate and proper storage for all of them. It will also rearrange the second story former apartment rooms and basement into discrete purposed areas for artifact storage.

Membership Report

The membership secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate lists of current members by category, and for preparing annual membership renewal letters, as well as acknowledgement and thank-you letters to donors and members. Membership dues are a source of income for the Society which help to cover day-to-day expenses. They are paid on an annual basis for the calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31.

Life Members (Single \$300 or Couple \$500):	114
Annual Members (Individual \$25 or Family \$50 ¹):	214
Total membership:	328

Within our membership are those who wish to support the organization with additional donations and become:

Ralph Hamilton Circle Members ² :	54
Patrons ³ :	37
Total Ralph Hamilton Members	91

Often families and organizations choose to honor loved ones with honorary gifts or memorials. These donations are greatly appreciated and help us continue our work in preservation and restoration. These donors might or might not be members of the Charlevoix Historical Society.

Notes:

¹ Family memberships are counted as one member.

² Annual gift of \$125

³Annual gift of from \$350 to \$3000 or more which includes membership in the Ralph Hamilton Circle.

Kay Heise, Membership Secretary

Volunteer of the Year

Our Volunteer of the Year recognition went to Chuck Cleland, who is a Board Director and Program Chair for the Historical Society. Chuck has brought much curatorial expertise to our operation and has been terrific as our program chair, as well as on other special projects, such as emceeding "The Wizard of Boulder Park" panel discussion and taking part in the selection of our new employee, Jacob. It is a true pleasure for me to work with a talented individual of Chuck's caliber.

Denise Fate, President

Publicity

The Publicity chairperson has the responsibility of collecting information about all the programs and events the Society presents plus the projects it is involved in. This information is then given to the area newspapers: *Charlevoix Courier*, *Petoskey News-Review* publications, and occasionally the *Traverse City Record-Eagle*. Sometimes television and radio stations that carry public service announcements are contacted. Electronic calendars and newsletters of various organizations are also a good source of publicity and dissemination. Our website describes upcoming events as does our newly introduced eNewsletter, which is also used to inform of immediate changes to event schedules or cancellations. Society general information brochures are distributed to local motels, the Chamber of Commerce office and other venues. Events and program posters are often distributed throughout the downtown area and to outlying hotels, motels, and restaurants. Scrapbooks are kept of all news articles, event announcements, and paid advertising.

Marsha Braun and Phyllis Elzinga, Co-Publicity Chairs

Program and Events Committee

The year started with our annual Valentine Potluck dinner at the Depot on February 3, but instead of our traditional vintage film showing, we were treated to a slide show of President Denise Fate's round-the-world travels to Macchu Picchu, Petra (Jordan), Easter Island, Marrakech (Morocco), Siem Reap (Cambodia), and the Taj Mahal.

This was followed on April 7, again at the Depot, with a presentation by Board of Directors member Kay Heise titled "It Happened Every Spring," a recounting of the times when Charlevoix went baseball mad every year. Local teams not only played each other but traveled to neighboring towns to participate in what often turned into heated rivalries. The program started with the first team photo of 1887 and went up through the present school and city teams. Interspersed between stories were anecdotes of her quest to visit all thirty major league ballparks—twenty-five down, five to go and intended to be completed in 2015, which she in fact did.

On May 5, Curator David Miles presented a program at the Depot on "The Coming of the Resorts," a history of the founding of the Belvedere and Chicago Clubs in 1878 and 1880 respectively, and still going strong. The program was

repeated at the Charlevoix Public Library on July 14 to an overflow crowd of approximately 225 people.

June 8 saw the overwhelmingly successful gala reception for and showing of the new documentary "The Wizard of Boulder Park" at Cinema III. The reception was a fundraising event held on the Weathervane Restaurant's lower level that raised over \$14,000 for the Society. Five more showings of the film were presented over the summer. June also saw, on the 29th, a program in the East Park band shell with a musical group performing sea shanties and Curator David Miles giving a short program on the history of the Round Lake harbor.

A very well attended annual potluck evening at the Depot for the first night of the Venetian Festival fireworks occurred on July 24.

On August 4, the Society sponsored a program called "The Ongoing Quest for the Wreck of the *Griffon*" presented by State of Michigan Archaeologist Dean Anderson of the State Historic Preservation Office. Local resident Steve Libert has been trying to find the wreck for several years and thinks he has pinpointed it in western Lake Michigan near Wisconsin. Anderson presented his side of the controversy with an argument against the likelihood that what has been found could be the *Griffon*.

September 1 saw the annual narrated historic cruise aboard the *Keweenaw Star*, this time presented by Petoskey historian Rick Wiles. The cruise went into Lake Michigan and north four miles to Big Rock Point, site of Michigan's first nuclear plant from 1962 to 1997, and the exact location where a U. S. Air Force B-52 bomber on an electronic simulated target practice bombing run mysteriously blew up in midair. Mr. Wiles told of his extensive researches into the cause and aftermath of the tragedy that took nine lives.

The final Society events were David Miles' two narrated historical color cruises down Lake Charlevoix's South Arm aboard the *Keweenaw Star* on October 10, the annual All-You-Can-Eat spaghetti dinner at Terry Left's Villager pub on November 4, and the annual Christmas dinner at the Grey Gables Inn on December 1. As with previous Society dinners, the atmosphere was warm, the dinner delicious, and company very cordial with the best attendance we've ever had.

Chuck Cleland, Program Committee Chair

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING SPAGHETTI DINNER

This year's eighteenth annual all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner at the Villager Pub grossed \$2702 in tip money plus contributions to the Society's coffers. This was one of the best years ever, sweetened by a further \$1000 donation from a Society member. Pub owner and Patron Terry Left again generously donated the spaghetti portion of the menu from his receipts. Board and Society members, along with staff from Charlevoix State Bank, working as volunteer waiters and greeters alongside Villager Pub staff served well over 250 meals within a very busy three hours.

Mick Smith, Event Co-ordinator

South Pier Lighthouse

The Society was awarded a grant this spring from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) funding in the amount of \$12,700.00 to repaint exterior red surfaces of the South Pier Lighthouse with high performance, marine-grade paint.

The South Pier Lighthouse was painted its historically significant red color in 2009 as the second phase of a major restoration which began in 2006 with grant funding obtained from Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program. Unfortunately, the red pigment began to fade almost immediately. During 2015, paint specialists undertook a rigorous assessment of various high performance coating products. Samples of several alternative coatings were applied to the south-facing side of the lighthouse, which is the most impacted, to test for color retention and adhesion over the winter months.

The Charlevoix Historical Society is very fortunate to have been offered the services of Magni Industries, the leader in corrosion protection, to test the products under review in their laboratories in Detroit.

Resulting from the research, and in order to meet the timing of painting in 2016, revisions were made to the project scope and the grant was increased by \$4,290.00 to \$16,990.00 late in the year. The Historical Society share of the total project cost of \$32,150.00 is estimated to be \$15,160.00, which will be funded from existing lighthouse reserves. The work is scheduled to be completed summer of 2016.

Finance Committee

The Charlevoix Historical Society accomplished another positive year in 2015. Gross income exceeded \$140,000, which was \$20,000 more than in 2014. Net income from operations was over \$26,000, when excluding depreciation expense. On the Balance Sheet, our cash on hand exceeded the balance at the end of 2014 by \$24,000.

This success was made possible by our loyal and generous members, a significant number of new members, foundation and trust grants, and special events, including, "The Wizard of Boulder Park" premiere and theatre showings. Museum shop sales exceeded the prior year by \$6,000. Cruise ship tours and bus and walking tours added to our profitability.

There were no significant unexpected expenses. As planned, we paid the balance of our share of "The Wizard of Boulder Park" film expenses, which pertained to the production of the DVD.

Your Society is in excellent financial condition to pursue another successful year in 2016 and beyond.

Craig Mann, Finance Committee Chair

Charlevoix Historical Society		
Profit & Loss		
January through December 2015		
		<u>Jan - Dec 15</u>
ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE		
Income		
	Grants Income	38,500.00
	Contributions	6,140.00
	Investment Income	81.48
	Membership Dues & Assessments	36,206.00
	Shop Sales	22,094.28
	Museum Admissions	1,209.96
	Depot Useage	1,210.00
	Special Events Income	<u>34,613.00</u>
	Total Income	140,054.72
Cost of Goods Sold		
	Cost of Goods Sold H.S.	7,112.71
	Cost of Goods Sold - Lighthouse	760.18
	Quantity and value Adjustment	<u>-36.42</u>
	Total COGS	<u>7,836.47</u>
	GROSS PROFIT	132,218.25
Expense		
	Bon Ami Film	23,140.44
	Museum Expenses	915.89
	Membership expenses	1,829.30
	Facilities and Equipment	17,869.08
	Lighthouse expenses	1,875.00
	Fundraiser & Special Event Exp.	11,259.57
	Operations	15,489.21
	Historical Society Payroll Acct	33,377.36
	Depreciation Expense	<u>17,585.42</u>
	Total Expense	<u>123,341.27</u>
	NET ORDINARY INCOME	8,876.98
	NET INCOME	8,876.98

Charlevoix Historical Society		
Balance Sheet		
January through December 2015		
		Dec 31, 15
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		123,484.17
Accounts Receivable		452.50
Other Current Assets		34,679.36
Total Current Assets		158,616.03
Fixed Assets		
Depot Building		260,730.31
Harsha House		204,916.23
Furniture and Equipment		44,896.52
Land - Operating		68,945.00
Accum Depr - Investment Assets		-366,142.44
Total Fixed Assets		213,345.62
Other Assets		
Endowment CCCF		8,071.76
Total Other Assets		8,071.76
TOTAL ASSETS		380,033.41
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		17.75
Other Current Liabilities		303.89
Total Current Liabilities		321.64
Total Liabilities		321.64
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity		92,024.85
Temp. Restricted Net Assets		8,071.76
Unrestricted Net Assets		270,738.18
Net Income		8,876.98
Total Equity		379,711.77
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		380,033.41

Near Term Society Goals (2016-2018)

The goals were established as a result of workshops with the Board of Directors.

Membership:

- Engage DDA, civic leaders and Chamber of Commerce in our activities and encourage to join and support the Society
- Increase the share of Ralph Hamilton members and patrons
- More extensive communications to promote membership and welcome new members

Public Relations/Marketing:

- Develop a presence on social media
- Expand advertising, marketing and PR where appropriate
- Enhance retail operation, improve merchandise and better promote
- Ensure online store is up to date with merchandise

Programs and Events:

- Develop extended calendar of versatile programs
- Hold a fundraiser in conjunction with our art theme in 2016
- Replace and upgrade furniture at the depot used for programs
- Purchase a new HD projector

Buildings and Grounds:

Depot

- Semi-annual inspections and cleaning (on-going)
- Further promote usage of facility by patrons for private functions
- Install awnings per historical records when funding available
- Acquire caboose when available and funding procured
- Repaint exterior in 2017

Harsha House and Museum

- Semi-annual inspections for repair/maintenance (on-going)
- Develop renovation plan to optimize interior space for storage, office and exhibits, improve lighting and replace roof
- Seek grant monies for restoration

Lighthouse

- Repaint exterior summer 2016
- Develop long-range maintenance program and secure funding

Museum Operations:

- Develop a museum strategy, in particular for exhibit space
- Replace Journeys exhibit with new one (Charlevoix Business and Industry)
- Publish remaining few monographs from chapters of the *Bob Miles' Charlevoix II* book (ongoing)
- Create an updated photo file of the Charlevoix area historic buildings
- Continue evolving as the leading center for historic research in Charlevoix
- Review inventory of artifacts and ensure everything is properly cataloged
- Install necessary storage facilities and location system for artifacts

Near Term Society Goals (2016-2018) (cont'd)

Financial:

- Further develop planned giving program
- Define major financial needs
- Increase operating capital to meet expanding needs of operation
- Identify potential major donors

Staffing:

- Full-time Curator by end of 2016
- Improve HR toolkit
- Cross-train new Curator in all functions of operation

Sponsors of the Charlevoix Historical Society, 2015

Patrons:

Diamond Level (\$3000 or more)

Dr. Frank Korotney,

Platinum Level (\$2000 - \$2999)

Adrienne Osborne Ives, Craig & Deborah Mann, John S. Wilson

Gold Level (\$1000 - \$1999)

Mike & Rhea Dow, George Haggard, Paul & Sally Hoelderle,
Ole Lyngklip/Time Warner, Paul & Linda Weston, Villager Pub & Terry's Place

Silver Level (\$500 - \$999)

Ace Hardware, Virginia Cash, Central Drug Store,
Charlevoix Commercial Center Self-Service Storage, Charlevoix State Bank,
Don Kelly's Furniture Barn, John & Phyllis Elzinga, Chip & Vicki Emery,
Denise & Gary Fate, Don & Kay Heise, Dr. John W. & Carolyn MacKenzie,
Robert Pew, Barry & Karen Pierce, Lore Silberman, David & Judith Wilson

Bronze Level (\$350 - \$499)

Jim & Patti Aikin, Lawrence & Danielle Allan, Keith & Barbara Bales,
Harry Golski, Haggard's Plumbing & Heating, Elizabeth Hoffmann, Lisa Miller,
Susan Kroll & Ed O'Neill, Stafford's Hospitality, Jessa Van Guilder,
Don & Vicki Voisin, Todd & Pam Wyatt

Ralph Hamilton Circle Members, 2015:

(Patron Sponsorship includes Circle Membership)

Charles and Mary Adams, Thomas & Maryalice Armstrong, Dave & Paula Berry,
Walter & Lynn Bleakney, Steve & Marsha Braun, Robert & Marion Brewer,
William & Erika Brewer, Alberta Beyers, Frank & Sally Campi, Gene Ann Cansfield,
Stanley & Jennifer Harsha Carroll, Eugene & Nan Ruth Chardoul,
Vincent & Mary Ann Chew, Chuck & Nancy Cleland,
Chris & Brenda Coseo, Richard and Connie Dexter, Marjorie Dinwiddie,
Ted & Marilyn Dumbauld, Charles & Julia Eisendrath, Lynn & Janice Evans,
Sidney & Beth Feldman, Mike & Kim Foster, Jonathan and Lynne Friendly,
Joanne Friedman, F. Christine Gengle, James & Christel Gibbons,
William & Pamela Gnodtke, Steve & Sue Goslee, David Hamilton,
Dale & Diane Herder, Kilwin's Confections, Ken & Nancy Kline, Rick & Cindy Malamed,
Tad Malpass, Helen Merrill, David L. Miles, Paul & Joan Nowak,
Donald Nowland, James Ochs, Steve & Kathy Paterka, Ken & Shirley Polakowski,
Jeff & Nancy Porter, Roger & Cynthia Postmus, Joy Ann Price,
Alvin & Patricia Ranger, Dave & Joan Robinson, Jerry & Connie Rogers,
Mason & Lynne Rosenthal, Rudy & Virginia Scharschmidt,
Bill & Betsy Stewart, John & Anne Teesdale, Gordon & Susan Van Wieren,
Robert & Teri Walilko, Ron Zimmerman & Sue Livingston