



**Charlevoix Historical Society
Annual Report
2023**

VISION

A vibrant Charlevoix inspired by its history

MISSION STATEMENT

*Enriching Charlevoix culture through preservation, education
and engaging experiences celebrating our history*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Denise Fate / Geoffrey Reynolds

Vice-President: Tom Darnton

Secretary: Janet Kohler

Treasurer: Jamie McLane / Ken Kranz

Finance Chair: Craig Mann / Jamie McLane

Directors: Term ended 2023: Ole Lyngklip III, Robert Molter

Term ending 2024: Ed O'Neill (resigned 11/23), Amanda Wilkin

Term ending 2025: John Duerr and Susan Tukul

Term ending 2026: Ole Lyngklip III, vacant

Advisory Board: Lindsey Dotson and Steve Paterka

Manager of Operations: Trevor Dotson

Museum Curator and Editor: David L. Miles

Controller: Gary Moore

Message from the Presidents

2023 was a pivotal year for the Society in several ways. In July, the board went through key officer transitions and a major new exhibit, "A Maritime History of Charlevoix: The City on Three Lakes" opened at the museum to very positive accolades. After 12 years as President, I stepped down and handed the reins over to Geoffrey Reynolds. Also ending his 9-year term was Finance Chair Craig Mann. I valued Craig's sage advice and many contributions over these years.

Throughout 2023, we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the South Pier Lighthouse with fundraising activities which proved to be quite successful, raising well over \$50,000 for future maintenance and repairs.

The programs conducted along the maritime theme were very well attended, indicating that we definitely struck a chord with this topic.

Let me close by saying what an honor and a privilege it was to serve as your President. I was happy to apply my skills while learning so much, and thoroughly enjoyed getting to know many of our members, and working with our varied partners. I am so grateful for the support over the years, and am pleased to stay on as President Emerita as a board advisor, and also as Lighthouse Committee Chair and Capital Campaign Chair. I'm confident that we have a good team in place to keep the Historical Society strong. Thank you all.

Denise Fate, President 1st half of 2023

I am thankful to be back living in my hometown of Charlevoix and serving as your president. For more than a decade Denise and the board created a firm foundation on which the Society can continue to grow and I am proud that you have provided me with the opportunity to serve and lead it into the future.

The last half of 2023 Denise spent time mentoring me and letting me learn the duties of your president. That time has also allowed me to listen to members, observe activities, work with staff and the board, and plan for the future. Many of my goals will focus on the invaluable collections we have been entrusted with and the spaces they occupy in the Museum at Harsha House and Charlevoix Historic Train Depot. It is my hope to maximize our current spaces and continue the work staff has done to better organize those collections for future use.

I hope to meet all of you in the future and learn why the Society is important to you and how we can become better.

Geoffrey Reynolds, President 2nd half of 2023



'Passing the Torch' ceremony July with Mayor Lyle Gennett and Denise Fate

Geoff Reynolds, Trevor Dotson and David Miles at the exhibit opening



Manager of Operations Report

2023 was a year full of physical changes at the Museum at Harsha House. The first of these occurred during the first quarter on the second floor of the house, where employee Jessica Dominic and I put together storage shelving units purchased through grant funding from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation. Once the shelving was in place, it allowed us to better house and organize our collection of objects. This work is ongoing and will make cataloguing and locating objects much easier.

In January and February, the Society collaborated with the Charlevoix Public Library to host two trivia nights at the Library, with questions pertaining to literature, Michigan history, and local history. Curator David Miles and I, with assistance from Library staff, ran the programs. Both nights were well attended and received good reviews.

During the winter months, I collected artifacts pertaining to Charlevoix's maritime history for consideration in the Society's new exhibit, *A Maritime History of Charlevoix: The City on Three Lakes*, which debuted in early July. In addition, I digitized over 150 photographs for proposed use while also coordinating approval to use loaned images from other institutions and members of the Charlevoix Photography Club. In early spring, board member Ole Lyngklip, David Miles, and I reviewed the exhibit panels designed by Lyngklip and proofread the exhibit text, a task which took many weeks to complete.

During this time I also disassembled and boxed the previous exhibit. Jessica Dominic helped immensely with this task. I also worked with local contractors to prepare the space for the new exhibit. At this time, Geoffrey Reynolds and I began the long overdue task of cleaning the Harsha House basement. Together we removed old exhibit panels that were on foam core board that had warped over the years. Before anything was thrown away, we ensured the content of those past exhibits was still retained in a digital file in our collection. Work on cleaning the basement continued throughout the year, with much assistance from Reynolds and Lyngklip.

The main focus for the first half of the year was finalization of the maritime exhibit and its installation. Thank you to all who assisted in this process. The exhibit received high praise throughout the year, with many visitors commenting on its professional look and content.

In August, I presented a program on the history of the *S.S. North American* and *S.S. South American* passenger vessels that frequented Charlevoix in the first half of the twentieth century. I enjoyed putting the program together and it was well attended and received.

Last fall, I worked to prepare our controller's old office to function as a shared office for me and David Miles. This required removing unneeded furniture and office materials and rearranging the layout. Time was also spent purging old paperwork from the filing cabinets that was no longer needed. Numerous days were also spent working remotely with IT company Common Angle to properly set up our two new computer workstations and server, which together help us work more efficiently, and ensures our digital collection of photographs and records are backed up appropriately.

Trevor Dotson, Manager of Operations

Curator's Report

2023 began with the final thrust of getting our latest exhibit, *A Maritime History of Charlevoix*, up and running. In conjunction with museum manager Trevor Dotson and Board member Ole Lyngklip, the former exhibit on the first photographers of Charlevoix came down after five unanticipated years, because of Covid, and was placed into storage while the replacement exhibit went into its final production phases. We had everything ready by the grand opening on July 9, the result of fifteen months of non-stop research and work. The feedback has been nothing but sterling, with people returning more than once to absorb it all. Attendance at the museum, as a result, was about 400 more visitors than in 2022.

North Central Michigan College in Petoskey, for the third year, invited us to participate in its Lifelong Learning Club program twice, on Zoom. Both events were logged onto from coast to coast. I also presented Charlevoix historical programs on Zoom from the Society's Harsha House, again with satisfactory results.

Once the exhibit was done, attention was immediately focused on the celebration of the 75th anniversary of Charlevoix's lighthouse on September 30, kicked off with a fully illustrated program on the channel, piers and the town's four lighthouses I presented at the Charlevoix Public Library in August.

In September 2022 came the surprise arrival of the once-thought-to-be-long-lost memoirs of Earl A. Young, designer and builder of Charlevoix's famous stone mushroom structures. At first the unedited manuscript was designated as a loan, whose texts and accompanying photographs we copied and scanned; in 2023, the entire contents were turned over to the Society as a donation. Late in the year, preliminary work started on converting Mr. Young's words into another form, significantly reduced in content where needed, with the intent of publishing the work as a book with selected photos from his original content, supplemented by images from the Society's archives. This project will be ongoing for the rest of 2024.

2023 saw our step-on bus tour guide business, covering the Earl Young Mushroom Houses and the town, stay at a healthy level, with three step-on guides, myself included, on the job. Buses arrived here from as far away as California, spreading word about Charlevoix nationwide.

The year was capped by the enormously gratifying statistic for sales/distribution of our self-published, self-distributed award-winning book on Earl Young, *Boulders*, almost reaching the 1200 mark by December 31. A third printing is scheduled in 2024.

The weekly Looking Back illustrated historical column I have been doing since June of 2011 for the *Charlevoix Courier* passed beyond the 600 mark in 2023.

David L. Miles, Curator, Museum at Harsha House



Left: Exhibit: A Maritime History of Charlevoix: The City on Three Lakes

Right: David Miles serving beer at Celebrity Bartending Fundraiser for lighthouse maintenance and preservation



Membership Report

The Membership Secretary plans and executes the annual membership renewal campaign, and sends correspondence and acknowledgements for renewals and donations.

Annual membership dues provide a significant source of income for the Society. We sincerely thank all members and donors for their generous ongoing contributions. Within our general membership are those who also support the organization each year by becoming Ralph Hamilton Circle Members and Patrons, including Life Members who make additional annual gifts. This year, we renewed 226 members and welcomed 8 new individuals, 6 new couples, a Ralph Hamilton Circle member and 6 new Bronze Patrons.

<u>Membership Category:</u>	<u>Donation Level:</u>	<u>Members:</u>
Life Members	One-time donation of \$1,000	93
Annual Members	Individual or Family <i>(Family Counted as One Member)</i>	124
	Ralph Hamilton Circle <i>(Annual gift of \$150)</i>	40
	Gold, Silver and Bronze Patrons <i>(Annual gift of \$350-\$3,000+ Includes Ralph Hamilton Circle Membership)</i>	49
	Total Membership:	306

Membership dues received in 2023 totaled \$54,941 - a 12% increase over the prior year, with thanks to our generous new Patron members.

Friends and families often choose to honor loved ones with tribute gifts and memorials. The Historical Society greatly appreciates these donations, which support various projects, and help to fund our growing operational expenses. Such thoughtful donors contributed \$4,000 in honorary and memorial gifts to the Society within 2023.

The Charlevoix Historical Society invites anyone with an interest and/or personal history in our community, to join us as members. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in a multitude of events and programs as we keep history alive in Charlevoix.

Museum Committee

The Museum Committee is charged with overseeing activities related to the collection including acquisition, cataloging and organization, access, preservation and restoration, and the creation of exhibits. The goal is to preserve our physical artifacts and to make our digital resources readily accessible, both onsite and online and to support new and varied exhibitions that highlight the museum's historical resources, including its growing collections.

This past year, the Committee's work continued on choosing a collection management system to better organize the collections physically and digitally, as well give us an improved membership software tool. After many months of meetings and deliberation, the Committee voted to defer this decision until more information on the current state of the collection is gathered and a museum professional retained to assist in choosing and implementing the right system for the Society. The Committee also choose a new chairperson, Ole Lyngklip III, when Ed O'Neill vacated the position after years of faithful service and expertise.

Museum staff and volunteers were very productive during 2023 with digitizing and cataloguing items donated to the museum. The Society received grant funding to allow museum assistant Jessica Dominic to continue working part-time, and her work helped greatly with cataloging and the overall organization of the collection.

Members of the Committee also worked on completing some of the many tasks outlined by the board. This included cleaning the basement storage area and accessioning and cataloging the backlog of wonderful collections in our care. We also planned for the removal of the kitchen and bathroom fixtures on the second floor to make way for new storage shelves that were not covered in the first phase of the important 2nd floor renovation project. Discussions also continued concerning the fire proof vault addition that we hope to construct on the west side of the museum sometime in the future to house our invaluable photographs and other rare items in the collection.

Following over a year and a half of planning, members of the museum committee David Miles, Trevor Dotson and Ole Lyngklip also successfully planned and produced our new exhibition, *A Maritime History of Charlevoix: The City on Three Lakes*, which opened in July 2023 to outstanding visitor response.

Another milestone was reached in December when the last of the computer system and storage upgrades were completed by our vendor Common Angle. Staff are now enjoying new computers, faster speeds, and much more storage for digitized photographs and ephemera. In addition, the digitized files are backed up in the cloud.

In the future the committee will work with staff and volunteers to increase the amount of archival collections and artifacts accessioned and cataloged for public use, and continue to improve storage options within the Museum at Harsha House and Historic Train Depot.

Geoffrey Reynolds, Interim Committee Chair
Ole Lyngklip III, Museum Committee Chair

Publicity and Marketing

Maintaining an active presence in the community through strategic public relations and marketing initiatives is vital for the Historical Society to remain relevant and accomplish its mission effectively. Special recognition in the publicity and marketing domain goes to Dave Miles for his dedicated efforts in authoring books and the "Looking Back" articles, Denise Fate for crafting numerous press releases highlighting Historical Society events, and Trevor Dotson for consistently updating social media and our website.

In 2023, we successfully re-engaged in significant community outreach activities. Our step-on motor coach tours of the Mushroom Houses gained momentum with 80 tours, complemented by seven walking tours led by Dave Miles. We also sold nearly 200 Mushroom House guidebooks during the year.

Despite the popularity of Earl Young's Mushroom Houses as a Charlevoix attraction, we acknowledge the economic boon but understand the frustrations of some community members with the influx of spectators. We continue to educate the public about the private ownership of these homes, emphasizing this through the widely distributed Mushroom House self-guided tour brochures.

Collaborating with the Charlevoix Cultural Corridor (CuCo), we placed a joint advertisement in the Charlevoix Guide, reaching a broad audience with 55,000 printed copies and over 50,000 views of the digital version.

Our email newsletter concluded 2023 with 442 subscribers, boasting a higher-than-average open rate of 60% or more, ensuring the Society's offerings remain top of mind. Social media presence also thrived, with the Facebook page gaining 495 followers and the Instagram account growing by over 20%, emphasizing the value of engagement through comments and shares. The Society's website underwent periodic updates throughout the year, reflecting events, exhibits, and maintaining a fresh appearance.

In the Museum store at Harsha House, sales remained solid, although they dipped below the previous year's levels due to a slowdown in the highly successful book *Boulders*. Our ongoing marketing efforts continue to position the Charlevoix Historical Society prominently within the community and beyond.

Amanda Wilkin, Marketing and Publicity Chair



Advertisements promoting the Society's new maritime exhibit were displayed on 9&10 News' website and app, MyNorth.com, and the City of Charlevoix website

Buildings and Grounds

Significant improvements were made to the buildings and grounds in 2023 and plans for more are in store for 2024.

At the Harsha House, equipment and furnishings acquired the previous year were installed to relocate and organize artifacts and artwork in the newly remodeled space on the second floor. The controller was moved from the first floor into a new office space created on the second floor, so that the manager of operations and curator could be relocated in his previous office space. Eliminating the curator's work cubicle in the museum exhibit area created much-needed additional exhibition space. President Geoffrey Reynolds, board member Ole Lyngklip, and staff began the process of cleaning out the basement which will provide more storage for non-collection related items.

Plans were also made for tree and hedge trimming, front porch repairs, and basement and 2nd-floor storage improvements in 2024.

Funding for the roof replacement at the Depot was raised, largely through grants, and will be used in 2024. This project had been deferred for the last few years, as other projects took priority, and the Society was advised by an architect that the roof would suffice until then.

The pergola at the Depot Heritage Garden needed repairs and funding was secured to repair rotten portions and repaint. Fabrication began in late 2023, and the work will be completed in 2024 by a local contractor. Significant improvements to the lawn, beds and drainage system in Depot Heritage Garden were made by Site Planning and fully funded, thanks to an anonymous donor. This fall invasive plants were removed from the north side of the property and plans to repair the historic switching house were discussed.

Lindsey J. Dotson, Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair



Exhibit space when the curator's cubicle was present behind the Fresnel lens and photo case.



The current exhibit space now that the cubicle has been removed, allows for more exhibit content and open flow.

South Pier Lighthouse

The current structure of Charlevoix's lighthouse - known as the South Pier Lighthouse - was built in 1948. The Society celebrated its 75th anniversary, dubbed "Lighthouse 75", with the community throughout the year. With the support of local business owner Rich Bergmann, a variety of activities were conducted. These included celebrity bartending, an online auction of photos generously donated by members of the Charlevoix Photography Club, and a sunset cruise on board the *Beaver Islander* on the exact date the structure became operational, September 30. The cruise was sold-out. We are grateful to the Beaver Island Boat Company for their support and a wonderful evening.

We would also like to thank our sponsors VUE Wine Bar and Charlevoix Auto. In total, over \$50,000 was raised through gifts and fundraising events.

The Lighthouse Committee has been formally reactivated. The Society now has a signed addendum to the contract with the City of Charlevoix for maintenance of the South Pier Lighthouse. Included in this is City representation on the committee. Mayor Lyle Gennett and Councilman Richard Spring were designated to serve. Lindsey Dotson and Tom Darnton are also members of the committee. Meetings commenced in July.

Some initial work was completed, including repairs to concrete cracking in the base, threshold repair and painting in the gallery and other interior clean-up. A plan is being developed with preservation architect Michelle Smay to complete the remaining repairs, mostly interior painting to remediate peeling, in the most efficient and cost-effective way feasible.

Denise Fate, Lighthouse Committee Chair



Replica Lighthouse courtesy of Ed Whitley
on display at the Venetian Parade



A beautiful, calm evening to cruise on
September 30

Programs and Events

In 2023 the Society continued a hybrid of in-person and online programs, which allowed us to reach an audience across the country during the off season.

January and February programming included something different for us, but very popular locally when David Miles and Trevor Dotson worked with the Charlevoix Public Library to host two trivia nights. Both nights were filled with enthusiastic community members.

David Miles continued offering online Zoom programs early in the year when he presented "Charlevoix - What Makes it so Unique" on February 16 to North Central Michigan College's Lifelong Learning Club. A second Zoom presentation was hosted by the Society called "A Few Facts I Never Knew about Charlevoix Until..." on March 21.

Programming returned to the Depot on May 23 when Geoffrey Reynolds presented "Ordeal on the Ice," the harrowing story of an attempted rescue of local fisherman on Lake Michigan that ended tragically.

On June 8, 2023, the Museum at Harsha House staff continued their efforts to promote the arts and culture in the area when they served as a host for the Cultural Corridor Open House event.

Programming continued at the Depot on June 28 when local shipwreck diver and photographer Chris Roxburgh presented his program "Documenting Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes" to a capacity crowd.

On April 20, we hosted the first of three South Pier Lighthouse fundraisers at the Bridge Street Tap Room with celebrity bartenders from our board and David Miles answering lighthouse questions for patrons. We followed up at the Boyne City Tap Room on June 22, and back to the Charlevoix on July 27. During the three events tips and other gifts were donated to the Society by guests.

The Society opened a new exhibit titled "*A Maritime History of Charlevoix: The City on Three Lakes*," at its annual Ralph Hamilton Circle event on July 9. The exhibit was met with enthusiastic approval from a capacity crowd.

On July 11, we hosted the Annual Meeting at the Depot to welcome new board members and officers and heartily thank those that had served.

We closed out July on the 21st with our annual Venetian Potluck at the Depot and stayed for the fireworks at one of the best viewing spots in Charlevoix.

On August 1, 2023, Manager of Operations and historian Trevor Dotson, presented a program on the history of the *S.S. North American* and *S.S. South American* passenger ships at the Depot to a large crowd.

Society members and guests honored President Emerita Denise Fate and welcomed newly minted President Geoffrey Reynolds on August 17 on a beautiful Charlevoix afternoon.

Our fall events included David Miles's presentation on the history of our lighthouses on September 13 to a very large audience at the Charlevoix Public Library. We finished up the month with the afternoon celebration of the 75th anniversary of the South Pier Lighthouse at Lake Michigan beach with cake and activities followed by a sunset cruise aboard the historic *Beaver Islander* ferry full to capacity.

In December, our Holiday Dinner was held at the Grey Gables with a relatively small, but enthusiastic crowd to usher in the holiday season and conclude a very successful program year.

Geoffrey Reynolds, Programs Committee Chair

Finance Committee

The Charlevoix Historical Society was again financially successful in 2023. Net revenue exceeded expenses by \$23,823 before depreciation. Total assets increased in value to \$680,262, with only minimal short-term liabilities.

Here are some highlights:

- Grants income totaled in excess of \$61,000, which is very similar to last year
- Contributions were close to \$54,000, a 41% increase over last year
- Store sales remained strong at \$13,000
- Special events and bus and walking tours generated approximately \$20,000, a 3% increase over last year.

We ended the year with a cash balance of approximately \$129,000, which includes over \$84,000 in capital funds reserved for the Lighthouse and other special projects. The Society remains in a very good financial position to continue its mission well into the future. Many thanks to our generous members and patrons for their gifts. Also, many thanks to our employees, officers, and board members for their hard work and teamwork, which made our success possible.

Jamie McLane Finance Committee Chair

Volunteer of the Year

The Volunteer of the Year was announced and presented at our September 13 history presentation at Charlevoix Public Library. The recipient for 2023 was Ole Lyngklip. Ole was honored for the thousands of hours spent on the research, design, and production of our latest exhibit, *A Maritime History of Charlevoix: The City on Three Lakes*. Ole was lauded for his experience with design software and a diligent desire for using the best images at the best quality and placing them along informative and accurate text from David Miles and Trevor Dotson. I am looking forward to working with him on future projects.

Geoffrey Reynolds, President



Society board member and Volunteer of the Year Ole Lyngklip (left) discusses the new exhibit *A Maritime History of Charlevoix: The City on Three Lakes* with guests during its grand opening on July 9, 2023.

Embrace. Preserve. Cherish. Capital Campaign

In 2023 the Society continued to raise funds for upcoming capital projects identified in a campaign initiative at the end of 2022. Below is the status of the fundraising and the projects.

	Goal	Raised thru 12/31/23**	Project Status
• I/T Upgrades*	\$30,000	\$31,600	completed Fall 2023
• Collections Management System	20,000	-0-	deferred
• Fire-resistant Archival Vault	75,000	-0-	awaiting final plans
• Depot roof and pergola repair*	92,000	92,000	pergola -Fall/Spring roof - Summer 2024
• South Pier Lighthouse repairs	<u>60,000</u>	<u>51,000</u>	In-progress
	<u>\$277,000</u>	<u>\$174,600</u>	

*updated cost and goal

**also includes gifts from prior years

The following grants were awarded to help fund the Depot roof and pergola repair: MI State Historic Preservation Office (Certified Local Government) \$20,000, Michigan Arts and Culture Council \$17,500, Charlevoix County Community Foundation \$1,000 (pergola) and \$9,000 (roof), Great Lakes Energy People Fund \$7,000 and Frey Foundation \$4,400. We are very grateful to all of these grantor organizations.

Fund Balances at the end of 2023: Non-endowed \$96,700 Endowed: \$120,106

For the gifts received in 2023, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all donors.

Denise Fate, Chair

2023 Donors:

Anonymous, Bridge Street Tap Room, Patrick Camilleri, Charlevoix Auto,
Roger & Sheila Christensen, Mr. & Mrs. Richard DeVore, Vera & Joseph Dresner Foundation,
Gary & Denise Fate, Jon B. and Lisa Mower Gandelot, Lyle Gennett,
Bill and Pam Gnodtke, Pam Himmelrich, Ralph & Mary Lynn Heid,
Paul & Sally Hoelderle, Judith Ivan, Jim & Mary Larimer, Jocelyn Laurent,
Dave Mordis, M.D., Edward Nahem, Steve & Kathleen Paterka, Mark Patterson,
David & Joan Robinson, Debbie Tirico, David Traitel, Susan Van Wieren, Julia Taylor,
Kevin Vega, William and Carol Venema, VUE Wine Bar



EMBRACE. PRESERVE. CHERISH.

Members of the Charlevoix Historical Society, October 28, 2023

Diamond Patron (\$3,000+)

Dave & Paula Berry, Ole Lyngklip III, Mason & Lynne Rosenthal

Platinum Patron (\$2000 - \$2999)

Robert & Marissa Kagle*, Craig & Deborah Mann, Paul & Linda Weston

Gold Patron (\$1000 - \$1999)

Mike & Rhea Dow*, David & Darlene Heine, Paul & Sally Hoelderle,
Mike & Debbie Tirico, Jonathan and Katherine Weber

Silver Patron (\$500 - \$999)

Ace Hardware, Belvedere Club, Patrick & Beth Camilleri, Charlevoix Commercial Center, Charlevoix State Bank, Vincent & Mary Ann Chew, Denise & Gary Fate*, Bill & Karen Foss, Grey Gables Inn, Ralph & Mary Lynne Heid*, Don & Kay Heise, Dale & Diane Herder, Rich & Perry Irish Hodgson, Tom and Sue Kirkpatrick, The Kohler Family*, Nu-Core, Inc., Ed O'Neill and Susan Kroll, Karen Pierce*, Richard & Diane Platt, Bill & Sandra Powel*, Susan Van Wieren, David & Judith Wilson

Bronze Patron (\$350 — \$499)

Tom & Maryalice Armstrong, Jennifer Belanger, Steve & Marsha Braun, William & Erika Brewer*, Josh & Megan Cassada, Beth and Christopher Cowie, John & Jeri Duerr*, Phyllis Elzinga, Jan & Robert Grupp, Jennifer Haf, Joseph R. & Nancy Malloure, Daniel & Jennifer Mann, Teri & Bud Stout, Susan Tukul & Michael Balloch, Don & Vicki Voisin*, Amy Waldron

Ralph Hamilton Circle

Charles Bingham, John R. Bradbury, Stan & Jennifer Carroll*, Roger and Sheila Christensen, Chuck & Nancy Cleland, James & Lori Dane, Tom Darnton, Ted & Marilyn Dumbauld, Lynn & Janice Evans, Mike & Kim Foster, Bill & Pam Gnodtke, Ellen J. Goldstick, Steve & Sue Goslee, Bob & Margaret Heath, Bruce & Joyce Herbert, Pamela Himmelrich, Carol & Jon Hisey, Dan Kantor & Emmaline Weidman*, Kathie and Steve Libert, Katherine Liggett, Kip & Linda Linklater, Alene & Jeff Lipshaw, David L. Miles, Marilyn Novak, Angelo & Marita Parrish, Steve & Kathleen Paterka, Chris & Ginger Payne, Keith & Laura Podob, Dr. Jeffrey & Nancy Porter, Joy Ann & James Price*, Geoffrey & Jennifer Reynolds, Connie Rogers, Cindy Scott, Wade & Danna Segrest, Mark & Valerie Snyder, John & Anne Teesdale, Tom Toomey, Murphy Watts, Ronald & Carolyn Weislik, David Williams

Family

Ruth Augustine, Rick & Jean Belvin, Wenche Borgnakke, Richard Brandi & Maureen Radke, Jeff Brown, Pat & Mike Carland, Kelly & Denis F. Cash Jr., Dave & Julie Christiansen, Michael & Eileen Chrzanowski, Sarah Cohen, Peter Coleman, David Cutler, Richard & Connie Dexter, Tod Dickey, David & Libby Domann, Bill and Karen Dotson, Charles A. and Jane Duerr, Nick J. Easton & Jozef Spiegel, Toni Felter & Ann Gorney, Jon & Sally Fogg, Dr. Reed & Janet Freidinger*, Jonathan & Lynn Friendly, Peggy & David Gallinat, Keith Gehring, Carole and Dwayne Griffin, Marsha & Steve Hall, Dennis & Joy Halverson, Charles & Nancy Harpham, Gordon & Sharon Hassing, Bernie & deAnna

Hellstrom, Michael & Sandy Hermanoff, Andrew & Stephanie Hittle, J.B. Hoyt, Bill and Jill Kurzava, Joe & Tammy Legenza, Jamie McLane, Tom & Janet McLane, Loren & Paula Musilek, Michael & Laurie Nedelman, Paul & Joan Nowak, Joseph & Lorraine Osypczuk, Meredith and Robert Patton, Douglas S. & Karen Peters, Kevin & Gay Peters, Laurie Pterneas, Dave & Joan Robinson*, Amanda Roeth, Candace Sucher Savage, Don & Judith Schneider, Dr. Jerome & Barbara Sitner, Larry & Dorothea Smith, W.C. & Linda Smith, Bill & Betsy Stewart, Jim & Elise Straus, Donald & Constance Swank, Kathryn and Doughlas Vance, Joseph & Beatrice Wollam, John & Anna Young

Individual

Leanne Ackert, Barbara Adams, Lillian Arnold, Bev Barton, John & Debbie Belfy, Renae Bennett, Cathy Benson, Susan Brochu-Hoshield, Varina Buntin, Randall & Sharon Bytwerk, Julie Carmody, Charlevoix Public Library, Geoffrey Coleman, Aimee Cooper, Thomas Cooper, Katherine Craig, Emily Crook, Dean Davenport, Ryan Deery, Renee Durbin, Dan Edson, Charles E. Ervin III, David Fowler, John W. Fratrack, Larry Freedman, Gretchen Grenell, Dr. Steve Hansen*, David Hermann, Jon Hess, Tina Heugh, Mark Hosmer, Michael Hurchick, Judith & Paul Ivan, H. Daniel Jones III, Bradley L. Jones, Anne, Kelly, Allison B. Kitchen, Ron Kruse, Jacqueline Krutsch, Peggy Kusina, Amy Lalewicz, Larry & Gayle Levengood, Lois Lewis, Steve Little & Barb Wotila, Alice McGinty, Vera McKown, Jean Morrow, Charles Paterka, John Porter, Judith Primak, Rhoda Raider, James P. Reamsnyder, Jane Rodgers, Davonne Rogers, Will Shapton, Tamora Skelly, Mick Smith, John Soderman, Paul Stephan, Kate Stewart, Wayne C. Sundberg, Sally Suomela, Mary Ann Throop, R.J. Waddell, Kitty Warner, Janet Williams

Life Memberships

Mary Adams, Jim & Patti Aikin, Rebecca Allard, Julia Anne Bandfield, Patty Beck, Dr. Michael & Mona Bergeon, Thomas & Maureen Bickersteth, Walter & Lynn Bleakney, Thomas Bleha, Lowell Blossom, Dick & Sheilah Bogart, Michael Brode, Sylvia W. Burns, Virginia Cash, Patricia Chamberlin, Rob & Annie Cohen, Barbara Danly, Pat & Nancy DeCastro, Thomas B. DeKorte, D.P.M., Marjory Dinwiddie, Bruce Douglass, Joyce Duke, Charles & Julia Eisendrath, Virginia W. Ewing, Sidney & Beth Feldman, Francis & Susan Flanders, Rochelle & Randolph Forester Foundation, David Garland, Lynn Groves, Haggard's Plumbing & Heating, Murray Hanna, Hugh L. Harsha, Paul Harsha & Jay Lordan, Ann Herzog Harsha, Michael & Christine Heroy, Thomas & Diane Hess, Lou R. Hirschman, Laurie Lesser Hodgson, Tim & Wendy Ives, Robert J. Jess, Dr. Dennis M. & Karen Joy, Frank S. Korotney M. D., Ken & Carol J. Kranz, Ellen J. Lange, Gary Leitner, Dr. Melvin Lester, Lexalite ALP Lighting Components, Susan, Ole Lyngklip Jr., Melissa Makowski, DDS, Tad Malpass, C. Jill McCabe, Helen Merrill, Patricia C. Misrach, Sandra Moers, Drs. Robert & Kimberly Molter, Mary Ellen Morgridge, Richard & Linda Mueller, Glenn & Valerie Mueller, Marianne Mundy, Shirley A. Newman, Joseph A. Paradis III, Sally Phelps, Donna J. Phillips, John & Jill Picha, Dr. Roger Postmus, Kitty Rammacher, Patricia Ranger, Douglas Reynolds, Douglas W.P. Reynolds, Carl & Barbara Roehling, Lorene F. Sakamoto, Rudolph & Virginia Scharschmidt, Bill & Karen Schuiling, Jo-Ann Seitzinger, Lore Silberman, Glenn & Mary Snider, David Strawbridge, Kermit & Jenny Sutton, Joan B. Swanson, Mary Taylor, Robert & Alice Timms, Richard & Shirley Vance, Bill and Carrie Venema, Village Graphics, Quintin A. Walker, Alan Weston, Sam & Cass Williamson, John S. Wilson, Gordon Wilson, Robert Winchester, Todd & Pam Wyett, Betty Zipp.

*Also a Life Member Bold indicates new members



Maritime Exhibit Opening July 9, 2023



'Passing the Torch' at the Depot August 17, 2023



Lighthouse 75 Sunset Cruise September 30th
(Kip and Linda Linklater and Sally Fogg)

Near Term Society Goals (2024-2026)

The goals were established by the Board of Directors and staff.

Membership:

- Increase number of members to over 400
- Add new Ralph Hamilton and patron members each year
- Steadily increase dues income to \$50,000 or more
- More communications to promote membership, including social media
- Solicit corporations for sponsorship or patronage
- Implement CRM system for auto-renewal and sustaining memberships
- Engage students

Public Relations/Marketing:

- Enhance retail operation, focus on marketing of unique merchandise
- Social Media and Website: continuous improvement of content
- Continue support of bus and walking tours
- Widespread promotion for maritime exhibit

Programs and Events:

- As a practice, integrate diversity, equity, inclusiveness into programming
- Engage youth in our activities whenever possible
- Plan creative and engaging fundraising events
- Programs to complement the exhibit
- Partner with Cultural Corridor on engaging seasonal events

Buildings and Grounds:

- 2024: Develop maintenance and inspection plans for all properties
- 2024: Evaluate security systems

Depot

- 2024: Exterior repairs and restoration - chimney, roof, gutters
- 2024: Repairs and painting of pergola
- 2024: Repairs and painting of switch house

Museum at Harsha House

- 2024: Decide on suitable Collections Management System, online access
- 2024/2026: Work on exhibit about the life and work of Earl A. Young
- Construct fire-resistant collections vault & replace membrane roof
- Relocate gift store to rear entrance when feasible
- Improve interior ramp for accessibility when feasible

Lighthouse: 2025: Interior paint repair

Museum Operations:

- Collections Management:
 - Replace Collections Management System
 - Methodically organize/Catalog/Inventory all photographs and artifacts
 - Fund and purchase sufficient archival materials
- Secure funding and manpower to digitize and catalog the photographs
- Construct fire resistant storage vault for photograph collection
- Revisit policies for accessioning & deaccessioning artifacts, and photo policy
- Continue evolving as the leading center for historic research in Charlevoix

- Work with DDA to advocate for historic preservation in City
- Nomination of Harsha House for the national register of historic places, working with DDA/SHPO once downtown historic district approved

Financial:

- Promote the 1892 Legacy Society, for those who may be interested in considering the Historical Society in their estate planning
- Stay ahead of major financial needs for each property and raise sufficient capital funds through grants and donations
- Increase operating funds to meet expanding needs, in particular payroll, staffing and collections management
- Initiative to raise funds from national corporations with area presence

Staffing:

- Ensure proper HR tools available
- Cross-train staff in functions of operation and develop for professional growth
- Board recruitment, including officer succession plan

Charlevoix Historical Society

Statement of Activity

January - December 2023

	Total
Revenue	
Grants Income	61,661
Contributions	53,880
Investment Income	489
Membership Dues & Assessments	54,941
Misc Sales	220
Shop Sales	13,102
Museum Admissions	2,935
Depot Usage	4,275
Special Events Income	20,338
Total Revenue	\$ 211,841
Total Cost of Goods Sold	5,660
Gross Profit	206,181
Expenditures	
Museum Expenses	31,022
Membership expenses	4,897
Depot Building	9,395
Lighthouse expenses	9,547
Fundraiser & Special Event Expenses	8,204
Harsha House Building Expenses	7,780
Operations	32,545
Historical Society Payroll Acct	78,958
Depreciation Expense	33,223
Total Expenditures	\$ 215,571
Net Revenue	-\$ 9,390

Charlevoix Historical Society
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2023

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash in Bank Accounts	128,933
Accounts Receivable	285
Other Current Assets	118,670
Total Current Assets	247,888
Fixed Assets	
Depot Building	404,677
Harsha House	418,931
Furniture and Equipment	92,504
Land - Operating	68,945
Signage	20,929
Accum Depreciation - Investment Assets	-573,613
Total Fixed Assets	432,373
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 680,261
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	204
Other Current Liabilities	138
Total Liabilities	342
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	92,028
Unrestricted Net Assets	597,281
Net Revenue	-9,390
Total Equity	679,919
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 680,261