



**Charlevoix Historical Society
Annual Report
2025**

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: Geoffrey Reynolds

Vice-President: Tom Darnton/Jamie McLane

Secretary: Janet Kohler

Treasurer: Ken Kranz

Interim Finance Chair: Denise Fate

Directors:

Term ending 2025: John Duerr, Susan Tukul

Term ending 2026: Ole Lyngklip III, Cheryl Shanahan

Term ending 2027: Jon Fogg

Term ending 2028: Gail DeMeyere, Susan Tukul

Advisory Board: Sarah Benitez, Lindsey Dotson, Tony Duerr,
Robert LaChance, Robert Molter, Amanda Wilkin

Manager of Operations: Trevor Dotson

Museum Curator and Editor: David L. Miles

Message from the President

Throughout 2025 the Society made steady progress in promoting its mission to our members, community members, and visitors. Thank you to all who have supported us this past year and have made significant contributions along with renewing your own and purchasing a membership for someone else. Memberships make up a major portion of our operating revenue each year and keep us strong for the future.

This past year was marked with an increased emphasis on marketing and developing more programs with the appointment of Ole Lyngklip as chair of the Publicity and Marketing Committee and Gail DeMeyere as newsletter editor and Program Committee chair. Their hard work will be reflected in the rich list of presentations and social media outreach efforts you will see in the coming months.

A major highlight of the year was being honored with a Governor's Award for Historic Preservation from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at the State Capitol in Lansing, MI in May. The Charlevoix Historical Society was one of seven recipients from across Michigan, and was recognized for long-term stewardship of Charlevoix historic sites: the Museum at Harsha House, historic Train Depot, and the South Pier Lighthouse.

We also said goodbye to board members Tom Darnton, Steve Paterka, and John Duerr after many years of service. We welcomed new board members Gail DeMeyere, Robert LaChance, and Cheryl Shanahan. Gail spent most of her career working in the arts at Crooked Tree Arts Center and the Charlevoix Circle of Arts. Robert and Cheryl were involved in business throughout their careers. Robert also spent several years as a teacher.

The event of the year was the Oktoberfest fundraiser at Shanahan's Barn in October, which was very well attended and loads of fun. An assortment of fine beverages was provided and plenty of dancing to an authentic German music band.

My thanks go out to all of our staff, board members, members, and contributors for their dedication and support throughout the year. All of you make the Society the strong and vibrant organization that it is today.

Geoffrey Reynolds, President



(l to r) Ryan Schumaker, Scott Ray, Lindsey Dotson, Trevor Dotson, Denise Fate, Mark Heydlauff, Michelle Smay, Robert Jess and Steve Seebohm



Oktoberfest at Shahanan's Barn

Manager of Operations Report

Like 2024, I started off 2025 hosting two trivia nights at the Library, both of which had strong attendance. My focus during the winter centered on organizational improvements, specifically better housing and labeling several years' worth of backlogged donations. While these items await full entry into our collections software, this organization ensures they are now easily accessible and properly protected until they can be fully catalogued. During this process, I catalogued the smaller, more manageable donations and found appropriate storage locations for each.

The middle of the year was defined by a major technological transition. I dedicated the spring to learning Neon One, our new Customer Relations Management (CRM) database. By July, we successfully integrated its membership renewal and donation features into our website. Navigating the system's complexities remained an ongoing priority through the year-end. During the peak summer season, my time shifted toward public service, where I assisted numerous visitors with specialized research requests—a part of my job I find particularly rewarding.

To wrap up the year, I returned to the *Charlevoix Courier* Collection photo project that had been paused during the busy spring and summer months. In November and December alone, I successfully catalogued over 300 photographs from the 1967 editions. I will continue to work on this collection during 2026. The Society already has a full calendar of events for 2026 and with the future publication of *The City on Three Lakes: A Maritime History of Charlevoix and the Surrounding Region*, it should be a busy and exciting year.

Trevor Dotson, Operations Manager

Curator's Report

2025 saw the continuation of the Society's latest exhibit, a highly comprehensive Maritime History of Charlevoix. The public feedback since it opened in 2023 has been nothing but sterling, with people returning more than once to absorb it all. The best news regarding the exhibit is that board member Ole Lyngklip and I have been turning the exhibit into a fully illustrated, and expanded, 700-page book, the intensive project underwritten by a few generous sponsors. This will be my eleventh publication for the Society, out in July 2026.

North Central Michigan College in Petoskey, for the fifth year, invited us to participate in its Lifelong Learning Club program twice, on Zoom, presenting programs related to Charlevoix's history. 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, at the Train Depot, and at the Charlevoix Public Library.

In September 2022 we received 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 never published 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. Beginning in 2024, Earl's great-niece Jennifer Harsha Carroll and I began preliminary work on converting Young's words into another form, significantly reduced in content where needed. This was done with the intent of publishing the result as a book with selected photos from his original content, supplemented by images from the Society's archives. The project was ongoing for much of 2025, with publication hoped for in 2027.

2025 also again saw our step-on bus tour guide business, covering the Earl Young Mushroom Houses and the town. Three step-on guides, myself included, are handling this highly rewarding activity. Buses arrived from as far away as California, spreading the word about Charlevoix nationwide.

The Historical Society continues to receive invaluable donations of documents, photos, and artifacts from local, area, and regional estates. Several of these have brought to us items that fit perfectly into our never-ending research into Charlevoix's never-ending history, resulting in many "eureka!" moments. We continue to produce a much altered "Looking Back" article that used to appear in the *Charlevoix Courier* newspaper, about 650 of them, until they were canceled by the Gannett Corporation in August of 2024. They are now located online, and fully illustrated, on the Charlevoix Historical Society website (chxhistory.com), home page.

Finally, Antiques Roadshow was at Castle Farms in July, and I took out our most treasured document, the original marriage license of Ernest Hemingway and his first wife, Hadley Richardson, the "Paris wife." To our disappointment, it could not be filmed because I didn't personally own it. But the off-the-cuff appraisal was substantial.

David L. Miles, Curator, Museum at Harsha House

Membership Report

We sincerely appreciate the continuing interest and support of our generous Historical Society members and donors. Membership dues alone provide critical funding to meet our operating costs, which continue to rise each year. Our work sustains key programs and projects, including exhibits and the ongoing maintenance of the Museum at Harsha House, the Train Depot, and the emerging priority for storage of our growing collections, including the recent acquisition of the entire *Charlevoix Sentinel* newspaper Collection, dated from 1869-1933 – an amazing contribution from the Madison family of Grand Rapids.

Friends and families often choose to honor loved ones and special events with tribute gifts and memorials. The Historical Society was honored to receive a number of such donations in 2025 and these are also a meaningful part of our income.

During the year, the Society launched our new online membership system, which provides members direct access to create their own personalized page to view, renew, and update their membership and/or donation status with the Historical Society.

For calendar year 2025, the Society welcomed 24 new members. Total membership included the following:

Membership Category:	Donation Level:	Members:
Life Members	One-time donation of \$1,000	83
Annual Members (Family counted as one member)	Individual or Family	136
	Ralph Hamilton Circle (Annual gift of \$175 and above)	58
	Diamond, Gold, Silver & Bronze Patrons Annual gifts of \$350 - \$5000+	48
Includes Ralph Hamilton Circle Membership and Patrons who are also Life Members		
Total Annual Membership		242

The Historical Society invites anyone with an interest or personal history in our community to join us as members. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to participate in our wide array of programs and activities throughout the year, celebrating the unique stories of all that is Charlevoix.

Janet Kohler, Membership Secretary

Museum Committee

The Museum Committee is charged with overseeing activities related to the Society's extensive collections, including acquisition, cataloging and organization, access, and preservation, and the creation of exhibits and other projects that serve to document and share Charlevoix area history. The goal is to preserve our physical artifacts and to make our resources readily accessible, both onsite and online, and to support new and varied projects that highlight the Museum at Harsha House as a leading resource for local history, and a place of learning, curiosity and connection.

This past year, the Committee's work has focused on preparing a major new publication: *The City on Three Lakes, A Maritime History of Charlevoix and the Surrounding Region*, which will appear in print this summer (July 2026). This richly illustrated large-format art book grew from the popular exhibition mounted at the Museum at Harsha House in 2022, and has involved significant curatorial efforts within both the museum, as well as collaborations with other institutions and experts, including the Charlevoix County Historic Preservation Society (CCHPS), the Little Traverse Historical Society in Petoskey, and the Clements Library at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Work has continued better organizing and caring for the collections both physically and digitally. Our volume of cataloging has fallen by about 20% this year, primarily due to an unanticipated decrease in supplemental staffing hours, and the absence of a summer intern this year. In 2025, 1156 new catalog entries were created (55 Library, 32 Objects, 339 Archives, 730 Photos), compared with 1461 in 2025. We expect a further, and possibly significant, decrease in cataloguing activity in 2026 due to staffing constraints.

A notable addition this year, and one occupying a significant amount of physical space, is the *Charlevoix Sentinel* Archive, a substantially complete collection of the entire run of the newspaper from its first edition in April 1869 through 1933. The museum committee is working to identify and prioritize funding to digitize as well as physically house this important collection, both through a direct appeal (chxhistory.com/sentinel), as well as through grant funding.

As noted elsewhere in this report, the Museum at Harsha House building is operating beyond its intended capacity, with collections now exceeding available storage and spilling into areas needed for daily work. At the same time, recently identified structural issues have required staff to relocate materials and workspaces into areas that were never designed to hold them, resulting in a crowded and difficult-to-navigate environment. This unplanned reshuffling has complicated everyday operations, making it harder to access, organize and store collections. The committee has been tasked with identifying potential solutions, including locating offsite locations that can support more efficient operations, while at the same time offering requisite conditions for secure archival storage. Staff and volunteers have nonetheless continued the process of evaluating and improving how and where collections are stored, moving large items to more effectively make use of space, consolidating boxed storage, and rehousing both new and existing accessions in archival containers. Initial work was begun this year to identify, move and rehouse large portions of the collection occupying the second floor of the Harsha House which must be relocated to accommodate required structural work. The third floor (attic) will also be affected.

Ole Lyngklip III, Museum Committee Chair

Publicity and Marketing Committee

The mission of the Publicity and Marketing Committee is to maintain an active presence in the community through strategic public relations and marketing initiatives for the Historical Society to remain relevant and accomplish its mission effectively. Douglas Peters led the committee for most of the year and brought many new ideas to the Society that will continue to be used in the future. Like in past years special recognition in the publicity domain goes to Dave Miles for his dedicated efforts in continuing to author books and the publish the very popular "Looking Back" articles which now appear exclusively on our Facebook page and website. Special recognition also goes to Denise Fate for continued crafting of our numerous press releases, notably highlighting the Historical Society's recent removal of old and replacing with new interior paint in the South Pier Lighthouse. Thanks also goes to Trevor Dotson for consistently updating our social media and website.

In 2025, we continued to engage in significant community outreach activities. Our step-on motor coach tours of the Mushroom Houses remained strong and was complemented by several walking tours led by Dave Miles. Sales of the Mushroom House guidebooks remained strong as the popularity of Earl Young's Mushroom Houses as a Charlevoix attraction continued to grow.

We continued our collaboration with the Charlevoix Cultural Corridor (CuCo) by co-sponsoring one of three free movie nights for attendees during the winter months.

Much of our member digital communications now occur through our new CRM system, Neon One. Social media presence and followers are growing with more regular postings, emphasizing the value of engagement through comments and shares.

The Society's website underwent periodic updates throughout the year, reflecting events and programs. We will continue to work on making the website attractive, interactive, and informative to both our members and the public.

In the museum store, sales remained solid even with older inventory and a slowdown in the highly successful book *Boulders*. An initiative to stock newer items focused on the maritime exhibit and related new book and promises to be successful in 2026.

In 2025 we continued a program of advertising to visitors and community members with the addition of large banners mounted on the City of Charlevoix in the designated area on the south side. These banners will highlight the days and hours the Museum at Harsha House is open during each of the four seasons accompanied by a colorful seasonal image.

Our ongoing marketing efforts continue to position the Charlevoix Historical Society prominently within the community and beyond but much work still needs to be done. We look forward to expanding our committee in 2026 with the addition of new members experienced in this work.

Ole Lyngklip III, Publicity and Marketing Committee Chair

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Few major improvements were made to the buildings and grounds in 2025, aside from the South Pier Lighthouse, which is detailed in a separate report. Volunteer Jon Fogg did a great restoration of the historic telegraph shack located on the Train Depot property which is used by the Charlevoix Area Garden Club for tool storage. Plans to make small repairs to the Harsha House porch and update the exterior painting on both the Harsha House and Train Depot are planned for 2026, including the Train Depot flag pole and signal tower.

At the Harsha House selected wall and floor areas were opened up to expose the framework of the building for inspection by engineers to see what was causing the floors to slightly slope. Identifying an off-site storage location for collections stored on the second and third floor was initiated to remove extra weight and stop further sagging. Repairs will be made once that major task is accomplished.

The committee looks forward to maintaining our three structures with the highest of preservation standards and continuing to make them welcoming to visitors and community members. Thank you to our volunteers that make our lawns and gardens beautiful and your financial donations to keep the buildings looking great for the community and visitors to enjoy. We really do get to live in a beautiful place.

Geoffrey Reynolds, Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair



The telegraph shack before and after restoration



South Pier Lighthouse

The major project undertaken at the South Pier Lighthouse during 2025 involved interior and exterior painting as well as repairs around the lantern. Blas Tek LLC of Shelbyville, MI, was selected to do this specialized work because of their expertise with blasting. Much of the interior paint and mill scale on the underlying metal was meticulously blasted off and re-coated with Tnemec paints. As work proceeded, there were a couple of areas discovered where the metal had deteriorated to a point that extra work was required to restore it and prepare it for painting. It looks almost like new inside now! The exterior was also repaired and touched up from top to bottom, using the same Tnemec coatings applied in 2016 on the body of the structure. Even with the harsh conditions at the pier, it is expected that it will be another 5-10 years before any major repainting will be needed.

The Historical Society is very grateful for the grants awarded to support the \$102,000 project, as well as the private donations. Grants were awarded from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP), Great Lakes Energy People Fund and the Charlevoix County Community Foundation.

Denise Fate, Lighthouse Committee Chair



Pictured above (l to r): Denise Fate, Eric Waddell, Michelle Smay and Zane Dulude.

Picture left (l to r): Mayor Lyle Gennett, Councilman Richard Spring, Ian Fillmore, Geno Wierckz, Zach Carlson, Denise Fate, Tom Darnton

Programs and Events Committee

In 2025, the Programs and Events Committee continued to offer in-person and online programs, which allowed us to reach a large audience across the country throughout the year. Many of our online programs can be seen on our YouTube channel, Charlevoix Historical Society.

For February programming we continued to work with the Charlevoix Public Library to host a trivia night filled with enthusiastic community members looking to shake off the cabin fever. We also hosted a free movie night for the community, as part of the Charlevoix Cultural Corridor, with a showing of *We Are Marshall*.

On June 3rd, we kicked off the formal summer program season with a presentation by Jon Fogg about his memories of Northern Michigan and the history of Fogg Towing & St. James Marine. We also began a series of Saturday afternoon hosted open houses at the Train Depot to give both community members and visitors a chance to see the interior of the depot, hear about rental options, and learn more about its important impact on Charlevoix, starting in 1892. Those open houses also allowed us to hear from both audiences and work to promote more community use of the building and grounds and create a new interpretive exhibit in 2026.

Programming in July began on the 10th with presentation by Ole Lyngklip with his first program on the history of Ironton, MI. It was followed by the July 15th presentation by David Miles and Cindy Whitley on the 100-year history of The Argonne House. We closed out July on the 25th with our annual Venetian Potluck at the Train Depot and stayed for the fireworks at one of the best viewing spots in Charlevoix.

August was full of entertaining programming. On the 9th we helped The Argonne House celebrate their 100th year of operation with a special dinner, music and slide show of historical photos. On the 11th, we were treated to a program by former *Times* correspondent Charles Eisendrath with his fond memories of his long tenure in the Charlevoix area. On the 28th, we hosted our annual Ralph Hamilton Circle Reception and celebrated our 2025 Governor's Award for Historic Preservation with our dedicated Circle friends.

We ushered in a beautiful fall season on October 18th with old and new friends with our fan favorite fundraiser at Shanahan's Barn. This year it was Oktoberfest in partnership with the Charlevoix Circle of Arts which helped make it a major success and gave the Society new energy in our future fundraising planning.

In December, David Miles continued our online programming with a well-attended program on the history of the Beach Hotel, which will be repeated in the summer of 2026. We finished the calendar year with our Holiday Dinner at The Argonne House to a capacity crowd to usher in the holiday season and conclude a very successful program year.

Thanks go to Sarah Benitez and Gail DeMeyere for all of their assistance.

Geoffrey Reynolds, Programs and Events Chair

Programs at the Library were very well attended.



Finance Committee

The Charlevoix Historical Society has remained financially stable over many years thanks to the generosity of our donors, members and grant providers. While we have experienced steady revenue growth, our expenses continue to increase as well, putting pressure on our operating budget. The complexity of the Historical Society leads to extensive costs to maintain our historic structures, cover payroll and collections care. In 2025, a number of process improvements and systems integrations were put in place to make the organization more efficient.

Financial Statements are on pages 15-16. Here are some highlights as compared to last year:

- Membership income slipped this year and efforts are underway to boost them
- Depot rentals were also down, however income from other areas was strong, namely gift shop sales and museum donations.
- The income statement and cash flow are impacted by gifts received and expenses paid for the new maritime history book, to be published in 2026, as well as the lighthouse expenses, leaving around \$40,000 for general operations.

Overall, the Society remains in a sound financial position, and the outlook is good to continue its mission 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 collaboration, which make our success possible.

Jamie McLane, Finance Committee Chair

Denise Fate, Interim Finance Committee Chair



EMBRACE. PRESERVE. CHERISH.

Capital Funding and Projects

Embrace.Preserve.Cherish (E.P.C.) Preservation funds were established at the Charlevoix County Community Foundation (C3F) in 2017 to support the long-term care and support of the Museum at Harsha House, the Train Depot, the South Pier Lighthouse and the collections of the Society (digital and physical). One fund is endowed and one fund is readily accessible for relevant projects. The fund balances are listed below. The major capital project completed during 2025 was the interior and exterior painting and repairs on the South Pier Lighthouse. The total project cost was \$102,164, and it was funded with grants awarded during 2024/25 along with private donations. Funds specifically for lighthouse preservation are also held in a separate, discreet Historical Society bank account established when the lighthouse was originally restored in the 2000s.

Embrace.Preserve.Cherish. (E.P.C.) and Lighthouse fund balances as of 12/31/2025

E.P.C. funds at the C3F:	Preservation Fund	\$111,707*
	Preservation Fund - Endowment	\$147,625
Funds on-hand at Charlevoix Historical Society:		
	Capital Funds (unrestricted)	\$ 3,436
	Lighthouse Funds	\$ 19,396**

*includes \$40,000 pledged from the Charles M. and Joan R. Taylor Foundation 5-year grant

**\$51,933 reimbursement from SHPO is pending as of 12/31/25

Gifts were received during 2025 from the following, for which we are extremely grateful:

Anonymous, Susan Burstein-Kahn, Joseph and Vera Dresner Foundation,

Gary & Denise Fate, William and Sandra Powel, Joan Robinson,

Charles M. and Joan R. Taylor Foundation

Denise Fate, Fundraising Committee Chair

2025 Members of the Charlevoix Historical Society,

as of record October 28, 2025

Diamond Patron (\$3,000+)

Dave & Paula Berry, Ole Lyngklip Jr., Ole Lyngklip III, Preston & Elisabeth Parish,
Mason & Lynne Rosenthal, Paul & Linda Weston, J.A. Woollam Foundation

Gold Patron (\$1000 - \$1999)

William & Erika Brewer*, Mike & Rhea Dow*, Pamela & Sam Himmelrich, Paul & Sally
Hoelderle, Robert & Melissa Kagle*, James & Mary Larimer, Craig & Deborah Mann,
Richard & Dianne Platt, Mike & Debbie Tirico

Silver Patron (\$500 - \$999)

Ace Hardware, Belvedere Club, William & Erika Brewer*, Deborah Buchanan, Patrick &
Beth Camilleri, Charlevoix Commercial Center, Charlevoix State Bank, Vincent & Mary
Ann Chew, Christopher & Beth Cowie, Denise & Gary Fate*, Grey Gables Inn, Ralph &
Mary Lynne Heid*, David & Darlene Heine, Don & Kay Heise, Dale & Diane Herder, Rich
& Perry Irish Hodgson, Tom and Sue Kirkpatrick, The Kohler Family*, Nu-Core, Inc., Karen
Pierce*, Bill & Sandra Powel*, Mike & Debbie Tirico, Susan Tukel, David & Judith Wilson,

Bronze Patron (\$350 — \$499)

Steve & Marsha Braun, Charlevoix Convention & Visitors Bureau, John & Jeri Duerr*, Mr.
& Mrs. Lynn Evans, Jan & Robert Grupp, Jon Hess, Sam & Pam Himmelrich*, Laurie
Hodgson*, Laura Jasurda, Joseph R. & Nancy Malloure, Tony & Diane Matye, Caroline
Miller, Grace Ochs, Don & Vicki Voisin*, Susan Van Wieren, Ronald & Jayne Winchester

Ralph Hamilton Circle

Sarah Benitez, Karen Benning, Charles Bingham, Katherine & Nik Bos, John R. Bradbury,
Richard Brewer & Keith Korth, John W. & Mary Lee Campbell, Stan & Jennifer Carroll*,
Roger & Sheila Christensen, James & Lori Dane, Tom Darnton, Tod Dickey, Gerard &
Alicia Doan, Janet Kohler & Dan Dueweke*, Ted & Marilyn Dumbauld, Randy Forester*,
Mike & Kim Foster, Dr. Reed & Janet Freidinger, Joanne Friedman, Katherine Liggett &
John Gaenssle, Bill & Pam Gnodtke, Ellen J. Goldstick, Bob & Margret Heath, Bernie &
deAnna Hellstrom, Bruce & Joyce Herbert, Carol & Jon Hisey, Thomas & Marjorie
Kirinovic, Tom & Sue Kirkpatrick, Ken & Nancy Kline, Carol & Ken Kranz*, Ron Kruse.
Jocelyn R. Laurent, Kathie & Steve Libert, Kip & Linda Linklater, David L. Miles, Elise
Nanos, Marilyn Novak, Chris & Ginger Payne, Doug & Karen Peters*, Kevin & Gay Peters,
Keith & Laura Podob, Dr. Jeffrey & Nancy Porter, Joy Ann & James Price*, Geoffrey &
Jennifer Reynolds, Connie Rogers, Mason & Lynn Rosenthal*, Cheryl Shanahan, Dr.
Jerome & Barbara Sitner, Mark & Valerie Snyder, Joseph & Philippa Spohr, Teri & Bud
Stout, Beth Strawbridge, Gretchen & Bob Tambellini, John & Anne Teesdale,
Tom Toomey, Ronald & Carolyn Weislik, Ingrid Wiemer, Joe W. Zeman

Family

Sherle Abramson-Bluhm, Leanne Ackert, Ruth Augustine, Eric Beck, Rick & Jean Belvin,
David & Martha Boprie, Julie Carmody, Dave & Julie Christiansen, Michael & Eileen
Chrzanowski, Sarah & Don Cohen, Geoffrey Coleman, David Cutler, Bill & Karen Dotson,
Charles A. & Jane Duerr, Dan Edson, Clint & Audrey Etienne, Jon & Sally Fogg, Jonathan
& Lynn Friendly, Peggy & David Gallinat, Keith Gehring, Toni Felter & Ann Gorney,
Carole & Dwayne Griffin, Dennis & Joy Halverson, Charles & Nancy Harpham, Gordon &
Sharon Hassing, Alan Havis, Joe & Kendall Hayes, Michael & Christine Heroy, Andrew &
Stephanie Hittle, J.B. Hoyt, Judith & Paul Ivan, Dawne Jordan, Mike & Linda Kozminski,
Ed O'Neill & Susan Kroll, Joe & Tammy Legenza, Joan & Chuck MacGillivray, Tim &
Calinda Mahoney, Marianne & Jim Mast, Suzanne Meyer, Loren & Paula Musilek, Russell

Newhouse, Joan Nowak, John & Lani Ochs, Joseph & Lorraine Osypczuk, Angelo & Marita Parrish, Mark Patterson, Meredith & Robert Patton, Roger & Leandra Peak, Laurie Pterneas, Richard Brandi & Maureen Radke, Carol Paxton & J. Garrett Rice, Tom Rothwell, Don & Judith Schneider, Cindy Scott, Larry Smith, Richard & Karen Spring, Mark & Anne Stanley, James & Elise Straus, Donald & Constance Swank, Daniel Tukel, Kathryn & Douglas Vance, Jerry & Sandy Willis, Joseph & Beatrice Wollam, John & Anna Young

Individual

Barbara Adams, Bev & Bill Barton, Renae Bennett, Cathy Benson, Susan Brochu-Hoshield, Randall & Sharon Bytwerk, Charlevoix Public Library, Aimee Cooper, Katherine Craig, Emily Crook, Dean Davenport, Ryan Deery, Edith DeMeyere, John & Gayle Dilley, Renee Durbin, Carolyn Fowler, David Fowler, Catherine Francis, John W. Fratrack, Larry Freedman, Pat Gaskin, Gretchen Grenell, Marsha & Steve Hall, Dr. Steven Hansen*, William P. & Dottie Holmes, Stephen Holmgren, Mark Hosmer, Michael Hurchick, Charles E. Ervin III, Ronna Katzman, Anne Kelly, Vicki Kienman, Allison B. Kitchen, Thomas C. Kohler, Judy Krzeszewski, Peggy Kusina, Kate Left, Betty Martin, Edward May III, Abbott McCartney, Tom & Janet McLane, Sarah Miller, Michele Miros, Georganna Monk, Robert Niemi, Edith Pair, Charles Paterka, Patty Pike, John Porter, Judith Primak, Rhoda Raider, James P. Reamsnyder, Jane Rodgers, Davonne Rogers, Sheryl Ryan, Gary Samuels, Jo-Ann Seitzinger*, Brian & Joanne Shenstone, Kim Simpson, Tamora Skelly, Mick Smith, W.C. & Linda Smith, John Soderman, Kate Stewart, Thomas Swanson, Mary Ann Throop, David Traitel, R.J. Waddell, Kitty Warner, Cindy Whitley, David Williams, Janet Williams

Life Memberships

Mary Adams, Jim & Patti Aikin, Patty Beck, Dr. Michael & Mona Bergeon, 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., Gail DeMeyere, Marjory Dinwiddie, Bruce Douglass, Joyce Duke, Charles & Julia Eisendrath, Vicki & Chip Emery, Virginia W. Ewing, Janet Kohler & Family, Sidney & Beth Feldman, Francis & Susan Flanders, Dr. Reed & Janet Freidinger, David & Cynthia Garland, Lynn Groves, George Haggard, John Phyllis Haggard, Murray Hanna, Ann Herzog Harsha, Hugh L. Harsha, Michael & Christine Heroy, Thomas & Diane Hess, Lou R. Hirschman, Tim & Wendy Ives, Robert & ZeZe Jess, Dr. Dennis M. Joy, Emmaline Weidman & Daniel Kantor, Frank S. Korotney M. D., Ellen J. Lange, Gary Leitner, Lexalite ALP Lighting Components, John & Susan Logiem, Paul Harsha & Jay Lordan, Melissa Makowski, DDS, Tad Malpass, Martha May, C. Jill McCabe, Jerilee McHard, Helen Merrill, Patricia C. Misrach, Sandra Moers, Drs. Robert & Kimberly Molter, Mary Ellen Morgridge, Glenn & Valerie Mueller, Shirley A. Newman, Sally Phelps, Donna J. Phillips, John & Jill Picha, Douglas Reynolds, Dave Robinson, Rochelle & Randolph Forester Foundation, Lorene F. Sakamoto, Virginia Scharschmidt, William & Karen Schuiling, Lore Silberman, Glenn & Mary Snider, William J. Stevens, Kermit & Jenny Sutton, Julia Taylor, Mary Taylor, Jon Terry, Robert & Alice Timms, Richard & Shirley Vance, Bill & Carrie Venema, Village Graphics, Nancy Walker, Jeannine Wallace, Alan Weston, Sam & Cass Williamson, John S. Wilson, Gordon Wilson, Robert Winchester, Todd & Pam Wyett

*Also a Life Member

**Charlevoix Historical Society
Income Statement
January - December 2025**

Revenue	
Grants Income	\$40,578
Contributions	38,098
Interest Income	1,072
Membership Dues & Assessments	47,254
Misc Sales	-
Shop Sales	12,416
Museum Admissions	9,209
Depot Usage	3,800
Special Programs and Events Income	153,897
Total Revenue	306,324
Cost of Goods Sold	5,020
Gross Profit	301,305
Expenditures	
Museum Collections Expenses	2,035
Communications and Marketing Expenses	10,710
Depot Building Expenses	11,860
Lighthouse Expenses	1,730
Special Program & Event Expenses	56,243
Harsha House Building Expenses	14,528
Operations Expense	23,711
Payroll	78,027
Depreciation Expense	41,914
Total Expenditures	240,757
Net Revenue	\$60,547

**Charlevoix Historical Society
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2025**

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash in Bank	171,041
Accounts Receivable	-
Other Current Assets	158,559
Total Current Assets	329,600
Fixed Assets	
Depot Building	492,837
Harsha House	418,931
Furniture & Equipment	100,438
Land - Operating	68,945
Lighthouse	86,696
Signage	20,929
Accumulated Depreciation	(654,619)
Total Fixed Assets	534,157
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 863,757
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	1,038
Accounts Payable	2,191
Long Term Liabilities	
Deferred Revenue - C3F Pledge	40,000
Total Liabilities	43,228
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	758,252
Net Revenue	62,277
Total Equity	820,529
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 863,757

Near Term Society Goals (2026-2028)

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 extensive communications to promote membership, including social media
- Solicit corporations for sponsorship or patronage
- 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 matter of 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
- New Zoom programs & YouTube content on CHS channel, NCMC programs

Buildings and Grounds:

- 2026: Implement maintenance and inspection plans for all properties
- 2026: Evaluate security systems

Depot

- 2026: Repairs and painting of pergola, flag pole, signal tower, exterior areas

Museum at Harsha House

- 2026/2028: Work on exhibit about the life and work of Earl A. Young
- Repair sagging internal structure
- Repair front porch railing and paint select exterior areas

Museum Operations:

- Collections Management:
 - Organize/Catalog/Inventory all photographs and artifacts in the collection in methodical fashion
 - Fund and purchase sufficient archival storage materials
- Secure funding for on-going needs to digitize and catalog the Society's large photographic collection
- Implement policies for accessioning and deaccessioning artifacts, as well as

Photo policy

- Work with Charlevoix DDA as advocates of historic preservation, in particular for Charlevoix's historic buildings
- Continue evolving as the leading center for historic research in Charlevoix
- Nomination of Harsha House for the national register of historic places, working with DDA/SHPO once downtown historic district approved
- Secure more off-site storage for artifacts currently in Harsha House

Financial:

- Promote the 1892 Legacy Society, for those who may be interested in considering the Historical Society in their estate planning
- Plan for the creation of an Operating Endowment in 2026-27
- Increase operating funds to meet expanding needs, in particular payroll, staffing, exhibit creation, and collections management

Staffing:

- Ensure proper HR tools available
- Put plans in place for expanding staff in line with new operating endowment
- Cross-train staff in functions of operation and develop for professional growth
- Board recruitment, including officer succession plan