



January 2013 Newsletter

Issue #1

Valentine Potluck! Silent Flick!

It's time for our annual Valentine's event! The past five Februarys the Society has hosted a potluck/silent film showing. We've already enjoyed Buster Keaton's "The General," Chaplin's "City Lights" and "The Kid," Douglas Fairbanks Sr.'s "The Mark of Zorro" (what a hoot that was), and Al Jolson's semi-talkie the immortal "Jazz Singer," all classics. This year our film buff Jack MacKenzie has selected one of the top 100 silents, Mary Pickford's 1926 "Sparrows," the harrowing, melodramatic saga of teenage Molly, forced to care for abandoned children on a Louisiana farm owned by the nefarious Mr. Grimes. After Grimes kidnaps the child of a wealthy family and threatens to throw it into the surrounding alligator-infested swamp, Molly escapes with the child through the waters and into adventures that a mere mortal should never be expected to endure!

Join us and our rolldown silver screen to see how it all turns out! Free popcorn!

When: Tuesday, February 5
@ 6:00 p.m. (movie circa 6:45)

Where: The Depot

Bring a dish to pass, a serving utensil, your own plates and tableware. We will supply coffee, tea, cups, and napkins plus microwaves if needed. BYOB if you prefer something a little stronger.

And, in keeping with the tradition of previous years, instead of a ticket price we ask everyone to bring a Valentine card or two, either signed personally or from "A Secret Admirer" as the entrance fee. They will later be distributed to shut-ins or the elderly who may not receive one, and are always deeply appreciated.

MUSEUM HOURS

The Harsha House is closed January and February. As always, the side office door facing the bank remains open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for anyone who needs to conduct Society business, wishes to see an exhibit, do research, or make a store purchase.

DUES RENEWALS

Annual dues in all categories have been coming in very well. If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to send in your 2013 renewal. Call the Harsha House (231-547-0373) if you have any questions.

PORTRAIT DONOR PLEASE STEP FORWARD?

On January 16 someone left a beautiful framed photo portrait of former dry goods merchant Meyer Levinson on the museum's front porch. Would the donor please step forward so we can thank them?

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT PEW

The Society deeply regrets the recent passing of Grand Rapids and Charlevoix summer resident Bob Pew, longtime patron and solid friend who donated the Chicago & West Michigan railroad depot to us on the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the first train in Charlevoix, June 26, 1992. Mr. Pew was one of Michigan's leading businessmen, responsible for building Steelcase Inc. into the world's largest office furniture company. He was an ardent supporter of many organizations both in this area and elsewhere, and will be missed by all.

CHARLEVOIXITES IN MICHIGAN HISTORY MAGAZINE

Charlevoix is well represented by two Society members in the Jan./Feb 2013 issue of *Michigan History* magazine. Resident Bob Morgridge wrote the cover article on the history of Smeltania, the smelt fishing "city" on the ice off Boyne City for years. And Geoffrey Reynolds, former Harsha House Museum director and now director of the Joint Archives of Holland at Hope College in Holland, MI, published the story of Bay City's "Hilda Mueller: The Queen of Speed," once the best female hydroplane racer in the world. In her first, and disastrous, race in 1929 she used a boat built by Charlevoix-based boat builder and racer Roy Brady.

Donations (unrestricted) received in December from: *Ted & Marilyn Dumbauld, Suzanne Godwin, Bruce & Joyce Herbert, David Rogers, Richard Weidinger, James Reamsnyder, Dale & Diane Herder, Toni Felter & Ann Gorney*

Donation in memory of Edward & Marie Olach received from: *Edith Olach Close*

Donation in memory of Bill Price received from: *Bill & Betsy Stewart*

The Society welcomes new members: *the Robert Christof family, Chuck & Joan MacGillivray, Charlevoix Screen Masters, Kilwin's Quality Confection*