



## **Newsletter**

**July 2013**

**Issue #7**

### **Ladies of the Lights Program**

Michigan has always had a special love for lighthouses, still numbering more than 120. Our "jewels of the light" are again shining brightly with historic groups now taking on the responsibility for their preservation. Sally Weaver, the Society's new museum co-director, will present a program called "Celebrating Michigan's Lighthouses & the Women Who Served" for one of our August events. Sally will start her presentation with a brief lighthouse history, take us on a tour around the state, then tell us about many of the "Ladies of the Lights."

During a time when these women kept a lighthouse household going in such close proximity to their husbands, they quickly learned the professional duties of a lighthouse keeper. Because of the knowledge they had gained, upon the death of their husbands they were allowed to become keepers themselves in what could be, many times, a harrowing job.

Sally will also touch upon Michigan's first lights, the different types, the famous Fresnel lens, the National Lighthouse Preservation Act, Coast Guard de-accessioning of many lights, the Confederate Lighthouse Service, and the groups taking on the challenging and daunting task of lighthouse preservation.

**When: Tuesday, August 13  
@ 7:00 p.m.**

**Where: The Depot**

Light refreshments will be served. No admission charge, but donations in support of the Society appreciated. Call Sally Monday-Wednesday between 9 and 4 at 547-0373 for more information.

### **SUMMER MUSEUM HOURS**

The Harsha House Museum will be open Monday — Saturday, 1-4 p.m. through August 31. The side office door facing the bank is open those days from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for anyone who needs to conduct Society business, see an exhibit, do research, or make a store purchase during off hours.

### **HUGE QUILT ON DISPLAY**

The Society recently acquired a huge friendship/signature quilt that measures 9 x 9 feet and contains seventy-two panels. It was made by former Charlevoix resident Kate Brady and donated to us by her daughter, Society member Joan Swanson of Tucson, Arizona. This delightful quilt is now in the museum and will be displayed until the end of the year.

### **SUNSET CRUISE THURSDAY, AUGUST 29**

The Society is again sponsoring a fundraising Sunset Cruise, this year on **Thursday, August 29 from 7 to 9 p.m.** aboard the *Keweenaw Star*. Boarding will be at 6:45 at the *Star's* Bridge Street Park dock next to the Beaver Island Boat Company dock. Tickets are \$25 per person, and with limited space we advise those wishing to take the cruise to obtain their tickets as early as possible. They are available at the museum store Monday through Saturday until August 29 between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., then at the dock that evening before the cruise. Call (231) 547-0373 to reserve tickets.

This year's cruise will be similar to last year's with your editor narrating historical descriptions of the sights we will pass along the way on Round Lake and whichever channels and shorelines we pass through and along on Lake Charlevoix and Lake Michigan during the evening. Last year we introduced our passengers to the contents of our latest booklet, "The Historic Shores of Charlevoix—A Mariner's Guide." Those who have the booklet might like to bring it along; those who don't might want to pick up a copy at the museum. It will also be available for purchase aboard the boat. This will be a good opportunity for those new to the community to acquaint themselves with the rich history which our town possesses, and for those who have been here for years to discover things about our past they never knew before. From the research we have done this year for our upcoming seventh publication "The Historic Vessels of Charlevoix," facts previously unknown will be brought to light during the cruise. Did you know: the northeast shore of Round Lake was once treated as a garbage disposal where boats that had outlived their usefulness were just hauled ashore and abandoned, even three-masted schooners?

One soft drink is included in the ticket price. A cash bar and snacks are available aboard the boat.

## NORWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY AUGUST PROGRAM

Sally Weaver will be presenting a program for the Norwood Historical Society on Wednesday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the renovated Norwood schoolhouse. Sally completed a master's degree in Historic Preservation from Eastern Michigan University in December of 2012, so her topic will be "Keeping Track of the Stuff" on curation and preservation. The small historical society/museum has the same obligations caring for its collections as that of the large organizations. She will discuss the 'how-to's' of proper curation of artifacts: the usefulness of Past Perfect software in managing all the items within a collection, procedures for curation and preservation of different types of materials, how to use technology for the scanning of paper items and photos, and then how to store it all. Many of the techniques Sally will discuss can be applied to items in a personal collection. So join the Norwood Historical Society and Sally as they present a program on learning how to preserve *your* history.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The summer is certainly turning into a glorious one and I hope you are enjoying it with family and friends. We had our first experience with three grandkids in the house under the age of 5. What joy, what fun, what exhaustion!

As many of you know, last year we changed our policy to allow use of the Depot by our patrons for certain events, on a fee basis. Our first event took place recently, and from what I understand it was a resounding success. If you would like more information on this policy, please contact me or Sally Weaver at the museum.

We have several functions coming up for August, starting with the program by Sally Weaver (see front page). Her talk on the women who served in Michigan lighthouses is a nice tie-in to our own lighthouse restoration, the third and final phase of which is presently underway (scraping and painting the interior). You may have seen the activity on the light in recent weeks.

On August 18, from 4 to 6 p.m., our patrons and Ralph Hamilton Society members will be treated to a sneak preview of large prints of the Society's intriguing glass plate images which Dr. Frank Korotney donated to us, at the annual Ralph Hamilton Society reception, to be held this year at the Depot.

And finally, we are looking forward to another lovely Sunset Cruise on the *Keweenaw Star* on August 29. Hope to see many of you at the upcoming events.

Denise Fate

The Society welcomes new Ralph Hamilton Circle member: *Life member Tad Malpass*

Donation received in memory of Shirley Haggard from: *Christel Gibbons*

Donations (unrestricted) received in honor of David Miles and Dale Boss from:

*Rosalyn Goldstick*

Donation (unrestricted) received from: *Jim Morgridge Turfworks*

