



CHARLEVOIX HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bridging our past with our future

Newsletter

June 2013

Issue #6

Venetian Potluck at Depot!

Even though the June newsletter is coming out a little early, it is never too early to inform the membership about our July event, the annual Venetian Weekend Fireworks Potluck **at the Depot**, this year on **Friday, July 26 at 7:00 p.m.** The tables will be set up in the beautiful Heritage Garden area near the pergola and brick walkways with easy proximity to the Depot kitchen if microwaves, the refrigerator, and a little warm-up on the stove are needed.

Members and their guests are invited to bring a dish to pass, including serving utensil(s), plus your own tableware, cutlery, viewing chairs if needed (the Depot has folding chairs), and blankets. We supply hot dogs, buns, condiments, and lemonade. BYOB if you prefer something stronger. Volunteers for preparing, setting up, grilling, and taking down are welcome. Call the Harsha House if you can lend a hand.

Be sure to arrive on time to get a parking space since they will be at a premium not much later. Chicago Avenue leading down to the Depot is usually blocked off by the city once the time for the fireworks display nears. This display is always one of the most spectacular events of the entire year.

See you there!

SUMMER MUSEUM HOURS

The Harsha House Museum will be open through June 29 Tuesday — Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Beginning July 1 museum days will be Monday through Saturday through Labor Day weekend, same hours. 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.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The annual business meeting and election of officers will take place on Tuesday, July 9 at 4:00 p.m. at the Depot prior to the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors. The slate of nominated officers and directors is on the following page.

Society members are encouraged to attend to vote and ask any questions about the state of the Society, its operation, goals, and financial condition. Anyone who would like to serve on the Board or in an advisory capacity in the future is likewise encouraged to attend.

NOMINEES FOR SOCIETY OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2013-2014 ELECTION TO BE HELD AT ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING JULY 9, AT THE DEPOT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014

President: Denise Fate
Vice-President: Paul Hoelderle
Secretary: Kay Heise
Treasurer: Steve Paterka
Membership: Kay Heise
Finance Committee Chair: Paul Hoelderle

DIRECTORS TERM ENDINGS 2016

Chris Unbehaun and Chuck Cleland

NORWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Norwood Historical Society will be presenting three programs this summer, called the Summinar Series, that will be of interest to our membership. Two have been announced. On Wednesday, June 19 revered Native-American elder and *Petoskey News-Review* columnist Simon Otto will tell traditional Indian stories which illustrate the rich oral tradition of the Odawa people. Mr. Otto is the author of the popular book "Walk in Peace—The Legends and Stories of

Michigan Indians." 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Schoolhouse. \$5 admission for non-Norwood Historical Society members.

On Wednesday, July 17 Charlevoix Historical Society Board member and Norwood resident Chuck Cleland, retired MSU professor and expert on Native-American history and culture, will present a program on the native people of Northern Michigan, tracing their history since the arrival of the Europeans in the 17th century. He will cover such topics as the fur trade, treaties, land loss, Christianity, boarding schools, poverty, tribal sovereignty, and the casinos. Dr. Cleland is the author of many books and articles on Native Americans including "Rites of Conquest: the History and Culture of Michigan's Native People" and "Faith in Paper: the Ethnohistory and Litigation of Great Lakes Indian Treaties." Location, time, and admission fee same as above.

Dr. Cleland led the early 1970s MSU-sponsored excavation that brought to light a major Native-American site on the Lake Michigan shoreline bluff on West Dixon Avenue where the La Croft condominium is located. The items and settlement layout revealed during the dig uncovered the fact that the Charlevoix area was inhabited by seasonal hunter-gatherers and planters since as far back as 1500 B. C. E. The Pine River Channel Site, as it was called, held tens of thousands of artifacts in the 7650 cubic feet of earth the expedition was able to investigate before La Croft was constructed.

We encourage our members to attend both events.

GERANIUM SALE ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS

The Society's third annual fundraising geranium sale in May was again a success, a whisker shy of last year's \$1800 total, with \$1776 in the Society's coffers. 880 plants were sold. Many thanks to co-chairs Chris Unbehaun and Nancy Kline and their crew for a good job well done.

HISTORY OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY PROGRAM TO BE REPEATED

Our summer members and those who missed it first time around are invited to attend the second presentation of "The History of Charlevoix's Businesses and Industries" illustrated program given by your editor in early May. This presentation is sponsored by the Charlevoix Public Library as part of its summer lecture series. This repeat program will be given, again by your editor, in the library's Community Room on **Tuesday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m.** Call the Harsha House, or the library at 547-2651, for more information. No admission charge.

BEAVER ISLAND BOAT COMPANY LOOKING FOR MORE DOCENTS

The Beaver Island Boat Company is looking for more docent/guides for its historic walking tours of the downtown area that also encompass the Earl Young Park Avenue homes, the library and the Harsha House. This is a paid position. Anyone interested call Cathy Dewey at 547-2311.

KEWEENAW STAR CRUISE ON AUGUST 29

Mark your calendars. Again we have booked the *Keweenaw Star* for our annual Sunset Cruise, this year on Thursday, August 29, rain or shine. Last year's cruise was very well attended on a perfect night. Tickets will be \$25. More details in upcoming newsletters.

2014 HISTORIC PHOTOS CALENDAR AVAILABLE SOON

The Society's 15th historic photos calendar will be available by late June. This year's calendar will concentrate on the great variety of our historic vessels in conjunction with the Charlevoix Historical Society Press' sixth and second-largest publication, *Charlevoix's Historic Vessels*, that will be published later this year.

HARSHA HOUSE REAR ENTRY AREA PRIMED FOR RENOVATION

With the decaying oak tree gone from before the back door, its huge stump and branches recently removed from the property, and a brand new cement walk leading to the double doors of the museum, the Harsha House awaits only the finishing touches of the Charlevoix Area Garden Club to complete its total gardens revamp which, when finished, will be beautiful indeed.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members: What a fun, enlightening program Kay Heise and her friends presented Tuesday evening at the Depot on readings from the *Charlevoix Courier* over the decades. I haven't laughed out loud like that in a long while. Kudos to Kay for designing and orchestrating a splendid evening for the packed house to enjoy, and to the Friends of the Library for their support.

One of our more interesting summer projects—which is the culmination of many hours of tedious work by summer resident and member Dr. Frank Korotney of Jackson over the winter—is figuring out what to do with dozens of high quality large prints created from our collection of 350 glass plate negatives by Frank. Many of these photos have never been viewed before by anyone outside the museum staff. We have been astonished by the images taken and their quality, most of which date back to the late 1800s. Some are going to be put to use in an exhibit at the Belvedere Club casino on the occasion of their 135th anniversary this August, and we are currently planning the best way to display and offer them in our gift shop. Dr. Korotney provides his services to historical societies such as ours as a hobby. We are very fortunate to be the beneficiary of his talent and generosity. Stop by the museum to see some samples.

Denise Fate

The Society regrets the recent passing of members: *Janet Krulik Runyan, Shirley Haggard*