



Newsletter

June 2016

Issue #4

Artifacts & Design Program

Every year, people from around the country and abroad visit our grand Harsha House. Its colored window panels, full front surround porch, rounded peaked turret, and fish scale adornments make the Queen Anne-style house a striking example of Victorian-era architecture. Inside, the three restored and fully furnished parlors reflect an upscale turn-of-the-19th century sensibility. But how often do we stop and wonder why it looks the way it does? What was going on in the world when the house was built to influence its style, and how is that reflected and retained in our lives today?

Museum Curator of Collections Jacob Thomas will attempt to answer these and more questions in his program ***“Practical Art: Artifacts and Design in the Charlevoix Historical Society’s Harsha House.”*** Working with exemplary artifacts from the Society’s collection, including several that will be on display the night of the program, Jacob will explore for us how form and function went hand in hand, how every artifact is a product of its time, no matter how exotic, even perplexing, it might look today, and how beauty and history can be found in even the most common household trinket.

**When: Tuesday, June 28
at 7:00 p.m.**

**Where: the Depot,
Depot Beach**

SPRING MUSEUM HOURS

The Historical Society Museum will be open in June Tuesday through Saturday 12-4 p.m. As always, the side door facing the bank is open at 11 a.m. for those who need to conduct Society business or talk to a curator before regular hours. The museum will be open July through September 3 six days a week Mon.-Sat.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The annual business meeting and election of officers will take place on Tuesday, July 12 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 as follows:

Vice President: Chuck Cleland

Board of Directors term ending 2017: Lore Silberman
(filling vacancy)

Term ending 2019:
Phyllis Elzinga and Robert Molter

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.

***Painting the Past* Exhibit at Depot**

The Society will be presenting a grand kick-off to the summer season with a one-of-a-kind three-week exhibit at the Depot, Depot Beach, titled "*Painting the Past.*" This exhibit focuses on works of art solely in the Society's collection, many of which have never been shown to the public before. Almost all of the featured artists had local ties, and their subjects were mainly the town and the Charlevoix area. The works, in various media, range in age from the late 1800s into the 1990s; many have been beautifully restored and preserved.

The exhibit opens to the public on Wednesday, June 15 at 12 noon. Scheduled days and hours are Wednesday through Sunday, June 15 up to Wednesday, July 6, 12 to 4 p.m. Admission is free, donations always appreciated.

This exhibit is dedicated to the late Karen Lewis, the Society's Museum chair, who passed away unexpectedly in January. Karen would have been joyfully and unhesitatingly in the thick of planning and mounting this exhibit, as she had so many others at the Depot. All the selected works had been under her watchful and scrupulous care for years. Members are invited to an informal memorial reception in her honor, at the Depot, on Sunday, June 19, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Special Message from the President—South Pier Lighthouse Painting to Get Underway Soon!

I am very pleased to announce that the repainting of the South Pier Lighthouse to its bright red original color will indeed take place this summer. The necessary approvals and funding are in place and the contractor selected. A rigorous process was followed to determine the best preparation of the structure prior to painting and the best coating to use for color retention and adhesion. Sincere thanks to our architect, Michelle Smay, for leading this effort, as well as Mary Adams and Mike Bergeon of the Lighthouse Committee for their support.
Denise