

## The City on Three Lakes, Charlevoix's Maritime History Exhibit Debuting Early July

For the past thirteen months, the staff at the Museum at Harsha House has been planning and building our latest exhibit, A Maritime History of Charlevoix. This exploration of the major element, our water, that has governed the town's existence and development for the past seventeen decades focuses not only on the many types of vessels that have graced our waters, from canoes to gigantic lake freighters, but on much of what has made Charlevoix Charlevoix. Our bridges, channels, piers, lighthouses, the Coast Guard, industries reliant on the water, ships' captains, shipwrecks and survivals, maritime recreation opportunities, boat builders, and a circular tour of Round Lake through the years, complemented by unique maritime artifacts—all will contribute to explain what happened to make our town known around the world. (Did you know that, for its 2009 honors list, the American Planning Association designated Charlevoix's re-done East Park and marina expansion as one of the ten best public spaces in the United States? That in 2021 usharbors.com designated Round Lake as the best harbor in the United States?) Many of the photos used for this exhibit have never been seen by the public.

Do not miss this newest investigation into another facet of Charlevoix's boundless history. The front portion of Harsha House, plus the museum store area, will remain open during the preparation and mounting of the exhibit. As of now, the plan for reopening the exhibit area is early July.

We wish to thank our sponsors who made this exhibit possible: Vicky & Chip Emery, Linda & Paul Weston, John & Zita Winn, Macy Chionsini, Irish Boat Shop, and the Charlevoix County Community Foundation.

We are also extremely grateful for the generous in-kind contributions from the following: Ole Lyngklip, design & production services; Geoff Reynolds, carpentry and repairs in the museum; Jim Lewis, painting in the museum.



## DENISE FATE TO BECOME PRESIDENT EMERITA IN JULY

Denise Fate is stepping down after serving twelve years as the Charlevoix Historical Society President, and previous two years as Treasurer.

Denise lent her talents from a career as an automotive executive while in the capacity of president, strengthening the fiscal health of the organization in the process and building trust with donors and grantors. She will continue as President Emerita. In that capacity she will Chair the Lighthouse and Capital Campaign Committees to ensure continuity.

Under her leadership the Charlevoix Historical Society was transformed with a new branding logo and mission and vision statement. The mission statement reinforces clarity and recognition of the Historical Society's wide scope of activities. Many are experiential, including enhanced exhibits and interpretive events. Strategic planning and specific actions over the years enabled these, and assured preservation of the Society's historic facilities and collections.

- The staff was expanded to include a full-time manager, a controller and museum assistant, bringing the number of employees to four.
- Membership dues income grew from \$25-30,000 to close to \$50,000 per year.
- The Embrace.Preserve.Cherish. capital campaign was launched in 2017. Over \$390,000 has been raised in capital funds and grants since 2016.

"I'm proud of what we have been able to accomplish," Denise said. "It has been my honor to serve, and I am extremely grateful for all of the support I have had over the years, from the board, patrons, members and staff. I am confident that a strong board is being put in place to ensure that the organization continues to thrive."

Denise's passion for the beloved South Pier Lighthouse emerged as she worked with the committee on restoration and grants starting in 2008, then again in 2016 for the repainting.

Selected to succeed Denise is Geoffrey Reynolds, who joined the Historical Society at age 11 and became the Society's first director in 1989. During this time, he was instrumental in getting the Harsha House placed on the State Historical Register.

Geoffrey's election as president will take place at the Annual Meeting on July 11, 2023 at the Depot. Geoff left Charlevoix in 1993 to pursue his education at Wayne State University and career as an archivist at Hope College. He and his wife, Jennifer, retired back to Charlevoix in June 2022.

Tom Darnton, Vice President

### Major successes during Denise Fate's tenure include:

- The Smithsonian *Journeys* exhibit, in the middle of winter in 2014, which drew 2000 visitors, including 1800 students.
- *The Wizard of Boulder Park*, an Emmy-winning documentary in 2016.
- "Depot 125" in 2017, which re-created 1892 Charlevoix and was attended by around 1000 guests over two days.
- Renovation of the Train Depot in 2018, restoring it to its original colors; and the Harsha House exterior and interior from 2017-21.
- Publication of the award-winning *Boulders* in 2020, authored by David Miles.
- Renewed focus on the history of Indigenous people of the area in 2021 with events, exhibit and an interpretive sign. These were done in partnership with the Charlevoix Cultural Corridor (est. 2016) and the Charlevoix DDA.



Receiving the 2019 Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award from the Chamber of Commerce

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the last "President's Message" I will write for this newsletter. It has been an enjoyable 'blog' of sorts to share my thoughts on what's happening at the Society. While I will miss the duties of President, I look forward to being more focused on certain areas of the Society - and my life. It has been a great honor, and very gratifying to serve as your President for the last 12 years. Please know that the Society will be in good hands with the board and slate of officers assembled to carry it into the future. In the meantime - we have lots to celebrate and look forward to this summer. I hope to see many of you.

Lastly, our thoughts and prayers have been with Deb and Craig Mann, as Craig has experienced health issues over recent months. We also want to thank Craig for his nine years of dedicated service as our Finance Chair, along with many other contributions. He plans to return to Charlevoix this summer, and to join our Advisory Board.

With sincerest gratitude, Denise

## ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS July 11, 2023

The annual business meeting and election of officers will take place on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Depot prior to the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors. Plan to attend to learn about the current state of the Society, ask any questions, and meet the new board members.

### Board Nominees:

- President - Geoff Reynolds (1st term, ending 2026)
- Vice President - Tom Darnton (2nd term, ending 2025)
- Secretary - Janet Kohler (1st term, ending 2026)
- Finance Chair - Jamie McLane (1st term, ending 2026)
- Treasurer - Ken Kranz (1st term, ending 2026)
- Ole Lyngklip - (2nd term, ending 2026)

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Wed., June 28 @ 7:00 pm, Depot: "Documenting Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes with Chris Roxburgh" by northern Michigan diver Chris Roxburgh.
- Tues., August 1 @ 7:00 pm, Depot: "Great Lakes Steamships *South American* and *North American*" by Charlevoix Historical Society Manager of Operations Trevor Dotson
- Wed., September 13 @ 6:00 pm, Charlevoix Public Library: "A History of the Charlevoix Lighthouse" by Charlevoix Historical Society curator David L. Miles

The annual Venetian Festival Fireworks Potluck at the Depot for Society members and their guests will be held on Friday, July 21 at 7:00 pm. Bring a dish to pass with serving utensil(s) if needed, your own cutlery and tableware, plus blanket and/or personal viewing chairs. We provide hot dogs, buns, condiments, lemonade and styrofoam cups. BYOB if you prefer something stronger.

## "BOULDERS" SALES SUCCESS

The Society's latest, and award-winning publication, "*Boulders. The Life and Creations of Earl A. Young in Charlevoix, Michigan*" has passed the 1000 mark in sales, and is in its second printing.

**Diamond Patron (\$3,000+)**

Dave & Paula Berry  
Ole Lyngklip III  
Lynne & Mason Rosenthal

**Platinum Patron (\$2000 - \$2999)**

Robert & Marissa Kagle  
Craig & Deborah Mann  
Paul & Linda Weston

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Paul & Sally Hoelderle  
Jonathan & Katherine Weber

**Silver Patron (\$500 - \$999)**

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Patrick & Beth Camilleri  
Charlevoix Commercial  
Center  
Charlevoix State Bank  
Vincent & Mary Ann Chew  
Richard Donaldson Jr.  
Gary & Denise Fate  
Randy & Rochelle Forester  
Grey Gables Inn  
Ralph & Mary Lynn Heid  
Kay & Don Heise  
Dale & Diane Herder  
Rich & Perry Irish Hodgson

Tom & Sue Kirkpatrick  
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Nu-Core, Inc.  
Edward O'Neill & Susan Kroll  
Richard & Diane Platt  
Bill & Sandra Powel  
Susan van Wieren  
David & Judith Wilson

**Bronze Patron (\$350 — \$499)**

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Tom & Maryalice Armstrong  
Cindi Ann Baird  
Jennifer Belanger  
Stephen & Marsha Braun  
William & Erika Brewer  
Beth & Christopher Cowie  
Connie Cunningham  
John & Jeri Duerr  
Phyllis Elzinga  
Stefany Freeman  
Harry Golski  
Bob & Jan Grupp  
Jennifer Haf  
Ken & Nancy Kline  
Denise Leduc  
Michael Lindley  
Joseph R. & Nancy Malloure  
Daniel Mann & Jennifer Armstrong  
Amanda Stolcenburg  
Susan Tukul & Michael Balloch  
Don & Vicki Voisin

**The Society welcomes new members:**

Bernie & deAnna Hellstrom  
David Hermann

**Donations Given in Memory of:**

Katherine Sneathen  
from Haggards Plumbing & Heating  
Alva Noirot  
from Haggard's Plumbing & Heating

**The Society deeply regrets the recent passing of members:**

David Arnold  
Judy Carey  
Joyce Davenport  
MaryAnn Stephan



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