



Newsletter

November 2013

Issue #11

Annual Christmas Dinner at Grey Gables

A Christmas Gambol Oft Could Cheer—Sir Walter Scott

Once again members and their guests are invited to gather in the spirit of the season for the Historical Society Christmas dinner, always one of the nicest events of the year, and judging by the turnouts of the past few years, one of the most popular.

**When: Tuesday, December 3
at 6:00 p.m.**

**Where: The Grey Gables
308 Belvedere Avenue**

A holiday cheer cash bar and social hour with old friends will precede the Gables' quality offerings (menu and price inside). As in previous years, we would like to have a rough estimate of how many of each entrée will be ordered. So, if you can, we would appreciate a response by Saturday, November 30 informing us of the number in your party and your selections. Call 547-0373 Tuesday through Saturday, or leave a message.

Should circumstances prevent you from deciding or being able to call until the last minute, be assured you may appear at the appointed hour at the Gables with no problem.

No prior payment is needed. Someone will be on hand to collect your payment at a table located just outside the rear dining room.

FALL MUSEUM HOURS

The museum will be open Tuesday through Saturday (excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas) from 1-4 p.m. through January 4. The side office door facing the bank is open 11-4 for those who need to conduct Society business, do research or purchase a store item before opening hours.

DUES RENEWAL ENVELOPES

Dues renewal letters and envelopes for memberships are in the process of being mailed. Again they went out first class so we can discover which addresses are no longer valid. Call the Harsha House for information regarding an upgrade to other membership levels.

SPAGHETTI DINNER A SUCCESS!

The annual fundraising spaghetti dinner at the Villager Pub on November 6 was one of the best we've ever had, grossing \$2530. The Pub started to fill up about fifteen minutes after we opened at 5 and never let up until about 7:45. A huge thanks to all who came, and again a huge thanks to all who helped, especially to Mike Hinkle and his crew from the Charlevoix State Bank, to Terry Left and his always patient Pub crew, and to the stalwart Historical Society wait staff.

GLASS PLATE NEGATIVE REPRODUCTIONS AVAILABLE AT MUSEUM STORE

Over much of the past year, Society patron and summer resident Dr. Frank Korotney of Jackson digitally scanned almost our entire collection of 350 glass plate negatives that were given to Charlevoix photographer

Bob Miles in 1957 by the Burns family. The majority of them are classic scenes from local and area history. Frank, who is retired and works with glass plates as a hobby, spent countless hours photoshopping the images to pristine appearance, then printed them in an 11 x 17 format on high quality photo paper stock, and mounted the prints in custom-made albums. He also produced duplicates of many of the images, which are available for purchase. Others may be ordered for printing with a few days turnaround. These prints retail for \$35 each (unframed). A few were done in 30 x 20 format and retail for \$65 (unframed).

Stop by the Harsha House to leaf through and investigate this magnificent addition to our photo history, and choose one or several for yourself or for that perfect Christmas gift.

A TRIBUTE TO PAST SOCIETY PRESIDENT MARILYN BOSS

Charlevoix recently lost one of its most loyal boosters and community supporters, Marilyn Boss. Marilyn served many years on the Society's Board of Directors and as President over three terms from 1981 to 1984. Beginning in 1985 she began to clip articles, photos, and other items from the *Charlevoix Courier* for mounting in binders for the museum library, twenty-one invaluable years of reference history that stretch over eight feet of shelf space. In 2006 Marilyn relinquished responsibility for this project to former museum director Betsy Reynolds. Also, over many years at the end of the last century she wrote a regular column for the *Courier* on the downtown area as she and husband Dale remembered it during their years of growing up here, the merchants, residents, buildings, summer people, important events, etc. After this she began a series on who lived where and stories of what they did or what happened to them based on old telephone directories. For many of Charlevoix's residents, Marilyn's writings became more than a trip down memory lane.

Marilyn's presidency coincided with the completion and furnishing of the museum addition to the Harsha House in 1980, the construction of which was done by the Boss family. Marilyn and Dale, "Mr. Petunia," with whom she worked side by side throughout the town's now nationally known floral beautification project, were honored by the Society in April, 2007 for their years of dedication toward the good of both the Society and the town with the Bob Miles Award. This award, named after local photographer and historian Bob Miles, recognizes contributions "to Historical Research and Preservation of the Historical Record in the Charlevoix Area."

We recognize Marilyn for her decades of unstinting contribution. She will be greatly missed.

UPCOMING EXHIBIT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LIBRARY

For almost seven weeks this coming February and March, the Charlevoix Public Library will be hosting the Smithsonian Institution's "Journey Stories" exhibit, thanks to a Michigan Humanities Council grant. The focus of this exhibit will be on the incredible importance of the deeply ingrained need to move in the American psyche, from the first settlers who arrived to leave behind persecution or hardship in their European homelands, to how, why, and where they traveled once they got here, and how travel then evolved into a leisure time activity from a simple local camping trip to a cross-country holiday jaunt. Travel affected the continual development of new technologies to help fulfill our perpetual need to get from one place to another. As the exhibit pre-publicity states: "The freedom to move is the freedom to be curious—to *explore* new places, *try* new things, and *develop* new ways to get there. The pursuit of *adventure* is integral to American travel." Think the adventures of *Huckleberry Finn*, which Hemingway regarded as the seminal American novel, packed with events along the Mississippi before Huck lit out for the territory.

In partnership with the library, the Society will be mounting an exhibit at the Depot focusing on stories of travel to and from our town—how and why Pine River/Charlevoix became a focal point of our predecessors, and what happened along the way here. Over thirty area school classes will be brought in to see both exhibits. Details in upcoming newsletters.

MUSEUM FLOOR PLAN TO BE RECONFIGURED.

After the Harsha House closes on January 4 for two months, a major project will be undertaken to switch the museum store and the current exhibit space by the museum entrance ramp. This will provide an enlarged, updated and more accessible area for the store with more display capability, and integrate the exhibit area with the rest of the museum.

"GIFTS WITH A PURPOSE" CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITY

For the third year, the Society is partnering with the Charlevoix Public Library and seventeen other non-profit organizations to provide people a chance to give Christmas "Gifts with a Purpose" that will benefit the whole community. The event will take place on Saturday, December 7 from noon to 3 in the library's Community Rooms A & B. Instead of a traditional present, why not give a donation to your favorite non-profit? You will be given an envelope with a card to send that announces that a donation

has been made in your name. Representatives of the Society will be there to help you with your holiday shopping. We will have a selection of our best store items on hand for purchase. Think also about gifting a membership in the Society to someone you know who loves the town and its history. Come find that perfect thoughtful and lasting something for that special person and support the Historical Society at the same time! Three gift basket door prizes will be awarded.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members: We owe Terry Left, his Villager Pub staff, and all of the volunteer servers a big THANK YOU for a terrific Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser again this year. This is typically our biggest of the year and brings many people out in the community on a dreary November evening. The staff at the Charlevoix State Bank, also one of our loyal patrons, came out in force again to work, which is much appreciated. Thanks to all of you who attended and for your generous support.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Grey Gables Christmas dinner and Gifts with a Purpose event at the Charlevoix Library. In the meantime—enjoy our Thanksgiving holiday! Denise Fate

Winners of the door prizes at the Spaghetti Dinner are: Grand Prize, dinner for two at Terry's Place—Kathy Paterka; a 2014 Historic Photos Calendar--Jim Jerkatis; a 2013 Christmas bulb, the Beaver Islander vessel on a dark green background--Joy Price. Congratulations and thank yous to all!

The Society welcomes new member Joyce Pharriss (Ralph Hamilton Circle)

Donations in memory of Marilyn Boss received in October from:

Barry & Karen Pierce, Jeannine Wallace, Christel Gibbons, David Miles, Nancy Fowler, Ace Hardware, Fritz & Ann Puffpaff, Wilson & Judy Boss, Richard & Kathleen Stangis, Nathan & Kathryn Boss, Elaine Kurtz, Elizabeth Hoffmann, Renee Durbin, Charles & Sue Meier, George Haggard
Donation (unrestricted) received in October from: *Village Graphics*