



Newsletter

September 2014

Issue #7

Annual Harvest Potluck!

A crispness is definitely in the air, Jack Frost is starting to experiment with his color palette here and there, and that wonderful time of year will soon be upon us. So, once again as we've been doing for many years now, the Society will celebrate the turning of the season with our annual Harvest Potluck just before the official climax of Charlevoix's tourist season—Applefest Weekend when the town is filled to overflowing. Hundreds upon hundreds of people will arrive to sample the local bounty and give one last hurrah before it comes time to hunker down before the snow flies.

**When: Tuesday, October 7
@ 6:00 p.m.**

Where: The Depot

Dig out your favorite hearty recipe and gather with us for this celebration. (Right here, by longstanding tradition, is where your editor pleads with you to go lightly with the squash. Squash gives him the heebie-jeebies. He *loathes* squash. Humorist Russell Baker said it for all time: "It tastes like it sounds." But don't let that influence you.)

Bring your own tableware, silver, plus a serving utensil for your dish if needed. We provide napkins, coffee, tea, and drinking cups. You are welcome to BYOB. The Depot provides microwaves, a fridge, a range and oven for a little preparatory work, plus electrical outlets for warming dishes.

Everyone is welcome to bring guests. The event is open to the public.

MUSEUM FALL HOURS

The Harsha House museum will be open Tuesday through Saturday 12-4 p.m. through January 3. 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.

NEW ROSALYN GOLDSTICK POETRY BOOK AVAILABLE

Life member Rosalyn Goldstick has just published her second book of Charlevoix reminiscences in verse, "I'll Never Forget," a sequel to her first volume, "Do You Remember?" which has also been reissued after selling out last year. Both books are available at the museum store, the first volume for \$12.95, the new one, with 196 pp., for \$14.95. Mrs. Goldstick (journalistic ethics require disclosure that she is your editor's aunt), recently celebrated her 95th birthday with the announcement she has already begun writing new poetry for the intended publication of a third volume in the near future.

NARRATED SUNSET CRUISE A SUCCESS, TWO MORE ON HORIZON

The fundraising Sunset Cruise aboard the local cruise boat *Keweenaw Star* in late August, narrated by your editor, welcomed well over seventy people, even vacationers from as far away as Texas and Arkansas who drove over from Petoskey after seeing the publicity in the Petoskey paper. They said after the *Star* docked that it was the highlight of their trip so far. Mother Nature cooperated with a blinding red climax on Lake Michigan.

The narration proved to be such an effective enhancement that the *Star* company has requested two more similar cruises be added to its autumn schedule. So on **Wednesday, September 24, from 6 to 8 p.m.**, another Sunset Cruise will take place that will duplicate the route, weather permitting, of the August cruise—Round Lake, Lake Charlevoix, and Lake Michigan. The second voyage, with different emphasis, will take place on **Apple Fest Saturday, October 11, from 3 to 5 p.m.** This one will be a color cruise down the South Arm of Lake Charlevoix as far as Ironton and Holy Island before returning north to Pine Point, Raspberry Bay, the depot area, and back into Round Lake. This cruise will emphasize the history of Ironton when it was once a booming iron smelter town, one of the largest in Charlevoix County before the smelter's owner destroyed the business in a fit of political pique, the unique Ironton ferry and the worldwide publicity it has enjoyed, and the importance of Holy Island to the early history of Charlevoix and Beaver Island.

Ticket price is \$25 per person with a portion of the proceeds coming to the Historical Society for its contribution. To reserve tickets, call the *Star* at (231) 237-9365. These cruises will be heavily promoted, so don't delay as space aboard the boat is limited. A cash bar and snacks are available on board. Dress very warmly should the occasion merit it because the lower enclosed area has limited seating space.

MUSEUM LIGHTING SYSTEM IN NEED OF UPDATING

The museum at the Harsha House was built in 1980, and after thirty plus years its recessed ceiling florescent lighting system has been gradually giving out. Professional assessment has advised us that it would be very expensive and difficult to replace. More effective ceiling track lighting should be installed instead to effectively accentuate the museum's displays. Any members who might be able to assist us to achieve this goal, please contact the Harsha House.

MUSEUM STORE CLEARANCE SALE

The museum store has been reconfigured, and many items have been chosen for clearance due to overstock or low sales history. Much new stock either has been or is going to be brought in and room has to be made for it. So a special table has been set up in the store featuring clearance items at substantial discount. Stop in to check them out—books, yellow Depot t-shirts, miscellaneous gift items. Great for holiday stocking stuffers.

EARL YOUNG STRUCTURES FEATURED ON TV

Within the past three weeks, your editor and Board member Marsha Braun were interviewed regarding legendary local builder Earl Young. For several years now, both have served as "step-on" guides for tour buses that arrive to see Castle Farms (Marsha's territory) and Earl's generically termed "Mushroom" stone houses plus much of the rest of Charlevoix. Both were interviewed for a "Destination Michigan" program from Central Michigan University's PBS station (Charter cable channel 6), and your editor for Minews 26 based in Cadillac, the local news service on Charter cable channel 13. We've been advised these programs will be aired beginning in late September and repeated frequently (initial broadcast dates unavailable as of this writing). Watch for them!

ASSITANCE NEEDED AT MUSEUM

HELP NEEDED! Come to YOUR museum and get involved! We can use any spare time you might have Tuesdays through Thursdays now and throughout the winter to work on several projects. We need to finish an inventory and list of all materials in the research library to share with the Charlevoix Public Library, inventory each museum room followed by a complete cleaning, and do other inventory of all store merchandise and organize the merchandise storage rooms upstairs. We also need help with data input on a computer. Please contact Harsha House co-director Sally Weaver at 547-0373 if you can help in any way and let her know which project you would be interested in. Thanks!

MURAL IN PLANNING STAGE FOR DOWNTOWN

An eye-catching mural of Charlevoix themes may be in the works for the Clinton Street corner. Central Drug Store owners John and Lani Ochs have agreed to let the Downtown Development Authority place a painted mural on the blank north streetside wall of their building, and plans are now in place to help make that happen. Artists' concepts have already been reviewed. Grant monies have been promised to help fund the project, but more is needed as soon as possible to reach the needed goal before for the grants can be finalized. For details and more information, contact Community Economic Development Director Bethany Pearson at 231-547-3257 or e-mail bpearson@cityofcharlevoix.org. Time is of the essence for this important project.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The time is fast approaching for our annual year-end events. The fundraising all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner this year is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5 at Patron Terry Left's Villager Pub. Our annual Christmas dinner at the Grey Gables will be on Tuesday, December 2.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to announce that we have added a new staff member to the Society: Mr. Gary Moore, who has assumed a new role of controller. Gary, a native of Charlevoix, brings to us some much needed accounting expertise. He is working part-time along with the two co-directors, Dave and Sally. We reallocated responsibilities and schedules such that the total hours between them are approximately the same as before.

Please join me in welcoming Gary to the organization.

The Board has been working on updating our strategic plans to help us prepare to move into the future in a much stronger position and be able to serve the community even better. We will share more details with you over the coming months.

Enjoy these last days of summer before fall sets in!

Denise Fate

Note: The new employee configuration mentioned above means a slightly different schedule than before. Co-director Sally Weaver will be working at the Harsha House Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; co-director David Miles will be working Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The Society welcomes new Patron: *Ali Huesman*

The Society welcomes new Ralph Hamilton Circle member: *Daniel Tukul*

The Society welcomes new members: *John & Joan Ureel, Susan Tukul*

A belated and apologetic welcome to: *Frank & Sally Campi*

Donations in memory of Suzanne Miles Miller received in August from:

David Miles, Gerald Gibbons

Special thank-yous to Patron Don Kelly of Don Kelly's Furniture Barn for the beautiful refinishing of the antique Railway Express baggage and freight wagon at the Depot, to Dave Robinson for his remodeling work at the Harsha House, and to Jim Tank for the museum store's new sales counter remodeling work at the Harsha House