

*Our  
future masthead  
will go here!*

# HARSENS ISLAND – ST CLAIR FLATS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1 No. 3

October 2010

PO Box 44  
Harsens Island MI 48028  
www.HISCFHS.org  
Email@hiscfhs.org  
Editor: Michele Komar

## HISCFHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Gary Grout - 810-748-3320

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Nancy Boulton - 810-748-3802

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

John Chamberlain  
810-748-3519

### Treasurer

Chris Wludyka - 810-748-8815

### Secretary

Nancy Licata - 810-748-1825

### Members at Large

Bernard Licata - 810-748-1825  
Chuck Miller - 810-748-7209  
Michele Komar - 734-620-3769

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOV 27**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
**2PM @ LIONS HALL**

## from the president

September is coming to a close; it has been a very busy month for your Society and its Officers. Your Board of Directors held its regularly scheduled meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup> as well as two special meetings to plan for the Lions Turkey Shoot Parade & Kids' Games and the September General Meeting and Awards Dinner.

This was the first year that the Society had taken part in the Lions Turkey Shoot events. Our free use of the Lions Hall for our general meetings had ended and we were offered continued free use if the Historical Society supplied workers for the Kids' games. Twelve of our members volunteered to assist Lion Michael Barry with the games. They worked shifts of four hours each on Saturday and Sunday. Speaking for myself I had a blast, and I never knew there were so many kids here on our island! At this writing I do not have the final numbers but we helped raise about \$1,500 for the Lions. Each game costs a quarter to play and that's a lot of quarters! Our volunteers were rewarded with an invitation to the Lions Appreciation Dinner on the following Saturday evening. I am looking forward to helping again next year. For all who watched the Lions parade they saw our Historical Society march for the first time (see pg 2). We carried our new banner from St. Mark to the Lions Field and next year I hope we have time to build a float and more of our members take part.

On September 25<sup>th</sup> we held our General Meeting and Awards Dinner at the Schoolhouse Grille. Thirty eight members and guests attended. The evening started with a social hour in an upstairs schoolroom, not sure which grades used that room, then dinner was served in the other upstairs schoolroom. Bob Coulter was seated at my table and told my group how he had attended school there from K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I am sure that same conversation went on at most of the other tables. The meeting was very informal with no minutes approved and no treasurer's report given. The charter members received a special thank you in the form of an original artwork certificate (suitable for framing!) designed by Larry Zelensky. Each was personalized with the Charter Member's name. Mine, when framed, will hang with my other Harsens Island treasures.

*cont. pg 2*

## special THANK YOU to our members

The HISCFHS is grateful that so many folks have supported our endeavors to start a Historical Society on the Island. We appreciate the volunteers that donate their time and those that support us financially through donations, membership dues and the special Charter Memberships.

We were fortunate to find Larry Zelensky, the artist that designed our Charter Member certificates as shown on the right. He incorporated the roofline of the old Tashmoo pavilion, the Sans Souci Bar and the old Fire Hall. Also featured in the center is a very old map of "Herson Isl.", a compass and the Tashmoo boat in the lower corner. The personalization is there but perfectly blends with the rest.

Larry owns his own graphic arts company called Human Touch Graphic Design in St. Clair Shores. Larry has graciously offered to design a masthead for the newsletter. I can't wait to see it!



## from the president *cont. from page 1*

Our current membership stands at 98 of which 53 are Charter Members. We have come a long way since that first meeting at the Readers Cove on December 5, 2009. Although Charter Memberships are no longer available, we need your help to find new members and continue to grow. Talk to your friends or relatives about our Historical Society. Applications for membership are available on our web site: [www.HISCFHS.org](http://www.HISCFHS.org). For those Charter Members who could not attend, your personalized certificate will be available at our next General Meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup> at the Lions Hall as there is no meeting in October.

To our members who leave for warmer places during the winter, have a wonderful winter. We will keep in touch with you through our newsletter and our website. Your Board will continue to meet monthly during the winter and work toward our goal of finding a HOME for our Society.

*- Gary Grout*

## new members for sept 2010

Carol Ann & Thomas Hogg\*  
Carol Johanson  
Lori & Mark Kosanke\*  
Sue & John Masters  
Cheryl & John Dewley  
Mary Ann McLane  
Debbie & Eric Mehl\*  
Karen & Larry Ortel\*  
Karen & Drew Peslar\*  
Laura & Don Carnaghi\*  
Debbie & Bill Demunnik\*  
Kathleen & Michael Hilla\*  
Frank McGeorge & Sara Rector\*  
Karen McIntosh\*  
Mary & James Nicolai\*  
Jane O'Halloran  
Jane Wright\*  
John Dion\*  
Lillian & Neal Stoneback  
Carol & John Hackett  
Barbara and Edward Shaw\*  
Larry Zelensky & Deborah Powell\*

*\*denotes charter members*

## members in action



1924 Ford Model T  
owned by Joe Michalek



Lions Club Turkey Shoot Parade  
Labor Day Weekend

# things I found on the way to something else . . .

Sometimes I run across amusing items while researching bits to put in the newsletter. I thought I would share this as it is football season. From the 1908 Sears Roebuck Catalog.

**FOOTBALL SUNDRIES.**

**Rubber Nose Mask.**



No. 6K7122 Made of finest rubber. Fastens around the head. Gives absolute protection to nose and teeth, and hangs by neck band when not in use. Price.....\$1.40  
If by mail, postage extra, 14 cents.

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**The Favorite Head Harness.**



No. 6K7123 The Favorite Head Harness is made of heavy, tanned sewed leather strips, and is lined with all wool soft white felt padding. It is so constructed as to afford full protection to the head and ears, and at the same time permit free circulation of air around the head. The ear pad surrounds the ear, protecting it fully, and does not obstruct the hearing. The head band is made self-adjusting, so that the helmet always fits snugly. Price.....\$1.10  
If by mail, postage extra, 13 cents.

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**Shin Guards.**



No. 6K7124 Boys' Shin Guards, 9 inches long, made of light weight canvas, padded and stiffened with reeds. A good, well made, durable shin guard. Price, per pair... 35c  
If by mail, postage extra, per pair, 8 cents.

No. 6K7125 Men's Shin Guards, 12 inches long, made of heavy weight canvas, leather bound, leather straps, padded and stiffened with reeds. A first class shin guard and very substantial in every respect. Price, per pair..... 58c  
If by mail, postage extra, per pair, 15 cents.

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**Football Stockings.**

No. 6K7134 Medium Weight Ribbed Cotton Stockings, black only. State size wanted. Price, per pair..... 23c

No. 6K7135 Heavy Ribbed Cotton Stockings, colors, black, navy or maroon. State size and color wanted. Per pair. 30c

No. 6K7136 Medium Weight Wool Ribbed Stockings with cotton feet. Colors, black, navy or maroon. State size and color wanted. Price, per pair..... 50c

No. 6K7137 Fine Heavy Wool Ribbed Stockings, black, navy or maroon. State size and color wanted. Price, per pair..... 60c

No. 6K7138 Very Fine Worsted Ribbed Stockings, black, navy or maroon. State size and color wanted. Price, per pair..... 75c  
If by mail, postage extra, per pair, 6 to 8 cents.

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**Morton's Supporters.**



No. 6K7139 Improved Morton Supporter. Made of canton flannel, lace front. Give waist measure when ordering. Price, each..... 18c  
3 for..... 50c  
If by mail, postage extra, each, 5 cents.

ebay® Watch



Cobalt blue with gold gilt antique toothpick holder with the White Star Line of Detroit Steamer Tashmo on the St. Clair River in beautiful colors. "Made In Germany for J. B. Sporty & Co., Port Huron, Mich." in red ink on the bottom. Stands 1 5/8" tall and measures 3" at its widest point. Sold 9/25/10 for \$37.00.



Steamer Tashmo 1911 Postcard selling for \$5.99 in an ebay store.



For bid until 10-4-10, a real photo of the Steamer Tashmo sunk at the dock in Amherstburg in 1936.

## What's Your Story?

This column shares readers' thoughts and opinions on a range of Harsens Island-related topics. To join the discussion – either as a participant or to suggest a question – send an email message to Email@hiscfhs.org or write to HISCFHS, PO Box 44, Harsens Island MI 48028. We would love to hear from you! See below for the November Query.

### For October, we asked our readers to share their memories of Fall and Halloween.

**A Halloween Memory:** In the early 60's, my sister and I begged our mother to let us soap someone, anyone's windows for Halloween. Well, on Halloween night mom gave us bars of ivory soap and drove us up to Sans Souci where she actually let us soap the windows on Haschker's Bakery. We went wild and thought it was the greatest thing ever.

Well, unbeknownst to us, mom had made arrangements with Mr. Haschker asking his permission to soap the windows with the guarantee that my sister and I would wash the windows the next day, which we did.

I've never had another urge to soap a window!

**An End of Summer Memory:** We lived on the corner of Coney Avenue and South Channel Drive year round. In those days there weren't a lot of year round people so many of our friends were those that summered on the island particularly those on Coney Avenue. On Labor Day weekend when the big move outs happened, my sister and I would sit at the corner and sing "We wish you a Merry Christmas" to our friends as they drove away for the winter.

Simpler times and happy memories - *William Gray*

## November Query

**November brings thoughts of hunting and Thanksgiving and they are the topics for the next newsletter. Please share with us! Write about anything you like. Here are some questions to jog your memory:**

1. How did you get started hunting/trapping?
2. What was your earliest hunting experience?
3. Who inspired you?
4. Every hunter has a good story – share one!
5. Any Thanksgiving stories, traditions or hunting stories about the big turkey that got away?
6. What are your favorite holiday foods?

**Deadline for submission is Oct. 24**

## from the september annual dinner meeting



Ginger Terrien receives her Charter Membership certificate from HISCFHS President, Gary Grout



Artist Larry Zelensky and Doreen Miller

# HISCFHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SUMMER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: Harsens Island STATE: MI ZIP: 48028

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

WINTER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

WINTER PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND SEND WITH CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO:**

HISCFHS

P.O. BOX 44

HARSENS ISLAND, MI 48028

A drop box is available at Reader's Cove Library

## General Membership Dues:

\_\_\_ Individual: \$15.00

\_\_\_ Life Individual: \$150.00

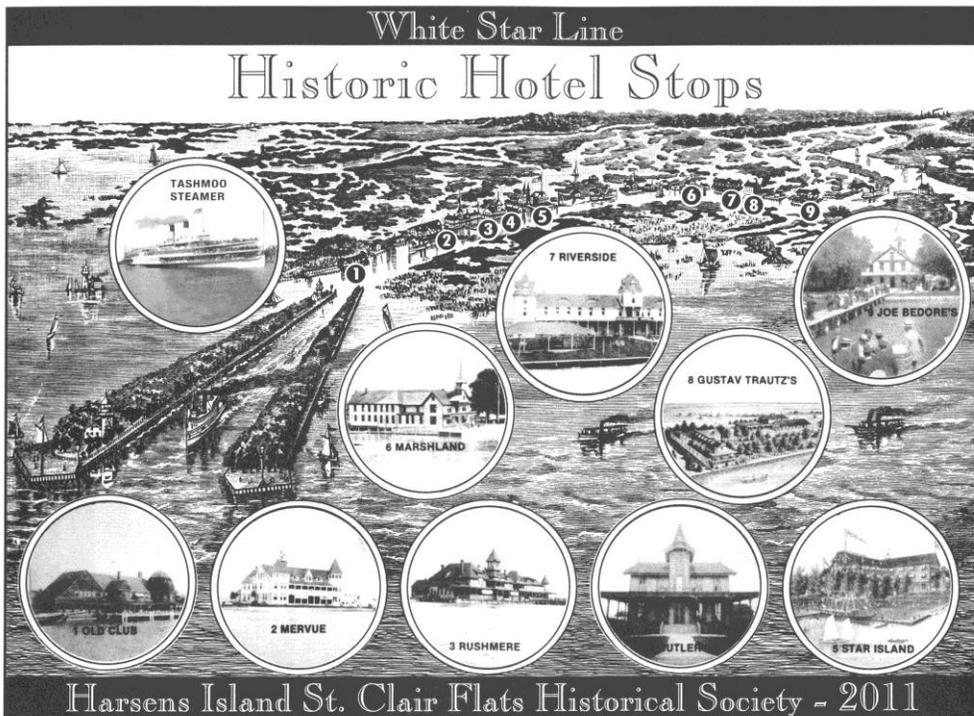
\_\_\_ Family: \$20.00

\_\_\_ Life Family: \$200.00

\_\_\_ Business: \$25.00

\_\_\_ Patron: \$25.00

**Members** – you joined because of your passion to preserve the history of Harsens Island. Please ask your family, friends and neighbors if they would like to join as well.



## HISTORIC HARSENS ISLAND 2011 CALENDAR

**ONLY \$10.00**

**EACH MONTH FEATURES A  
DIFFERENT ST. CLAIR FLATS  
STOP THE STEAMER TASHMOO  
MADE ON THE RUN UP THE  
ST. CLAIR RIVER.**

**LIMITED QUANTITIES  
AVAILABLE.**

**CONTACT NANCY BOULTON  
810-748-1825**

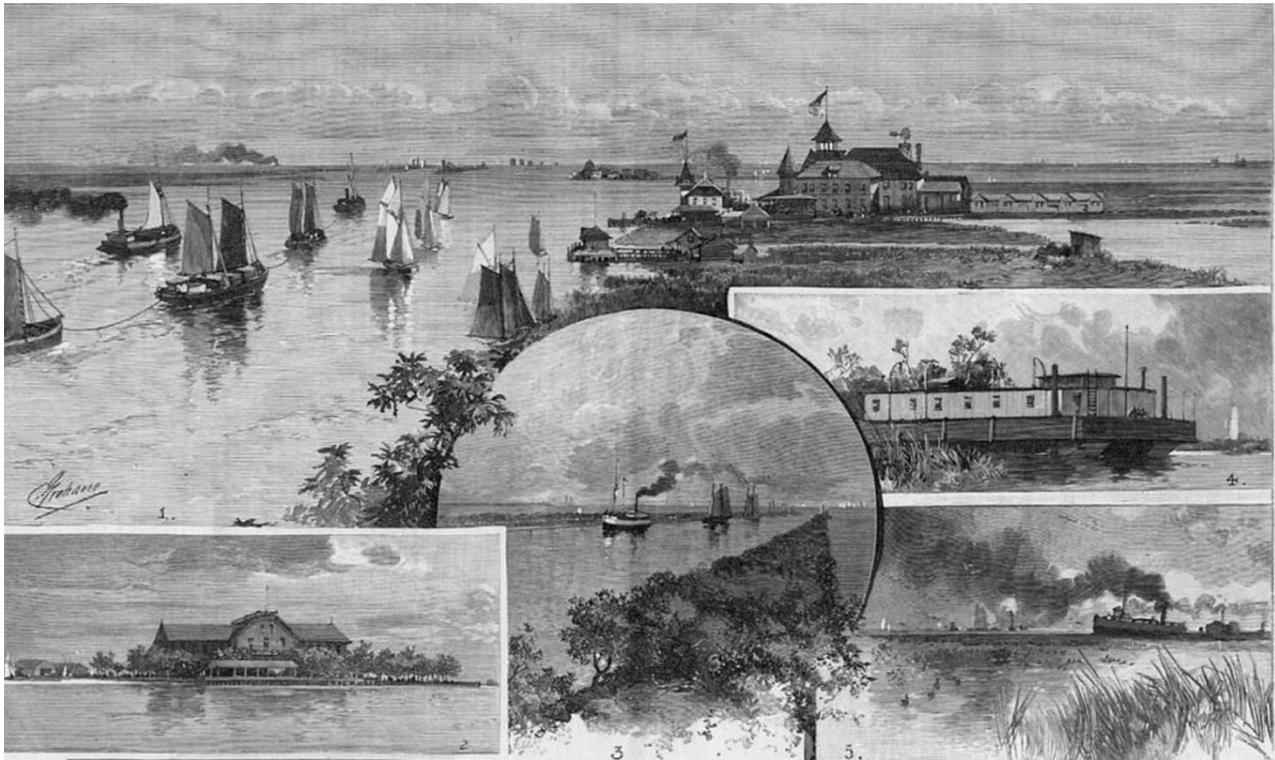
The cover to the calendar is from the Special/Patrons edition of Mike Dixon's first book. It was a labor of love that he commissioned an artist to compile it with illustrations from his collection.

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### Calling All Aspiring Storytellers

Do you have a family story to tell?  
Any skeletons to rattle? Do you have a  
passion for the Island you want to share?  
Maybe some old time photos?  
Email us at [Email@hiscfhs.org](mailto:Email@hiscfhs.org)



THE ST. CLAIR RIVER AND LAKE – drawn by Charles Graham

1. The St. Clair River and Flats 2. Star Island 3. The Ship Canal 4. Catamaran Boat for Shooting Club 5. Looking over the Flats