

“Freighters, Steamships and Sails”

...Museum Special Exhibit Formally Opened Memorial Day Weekend at the Celebration Event:

“Freighters, Steamships and Sails”, will feature artifacts, models, and items of interest from multiple perspectives.

What were Freighters like 150 years ago? How did they sound then and now? What has changed over the years? The exhibit will detail and answer these questions in a variety of ways.

David Addy, Chief Engineer and long time Islander, has provided photos from his days sailing the Great Lakes. The display features a number of David Addy’s photos from his days sailing on the Oglebay Norton Vessels.

Included are annotated photos to cover the timespan from the first sailing vessel (Griffon) on the Lakes thru commercial schooners, the transition from sail to steam, technological changes, and modern freighter designs.

You will find images of relevant wrecks and heavy weather photos. The exhibit presentations follow the progression of historical development.

In addition to the pictorial exhibit, also presented are six museum models of freighter types and styles, shipping line pennants, a comprehensive handout on the development of vessels on the Lakes and a live working exhibit of the building of a 60” scale model of the CEDARGLEN - currently in operation on the Lakes.

To supplement the live working model-building exhibit of the CEDARGLEN, there will also be ***Hands-on ‘Boat Knots for Kids’***, created by John Eidt. The Museum Shoppe will feature wood block freighters, kits, books and more. Short Talks, Video Presentations and a special space honoring our own ***“Flower Lady”***, Arlene Earl. Video topics include:

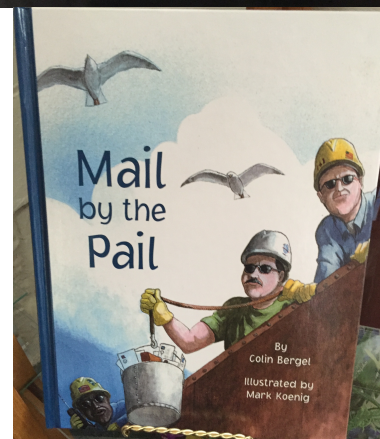
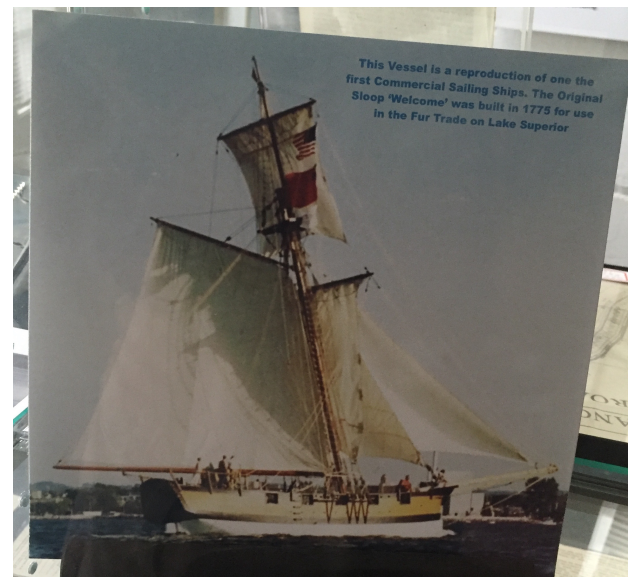
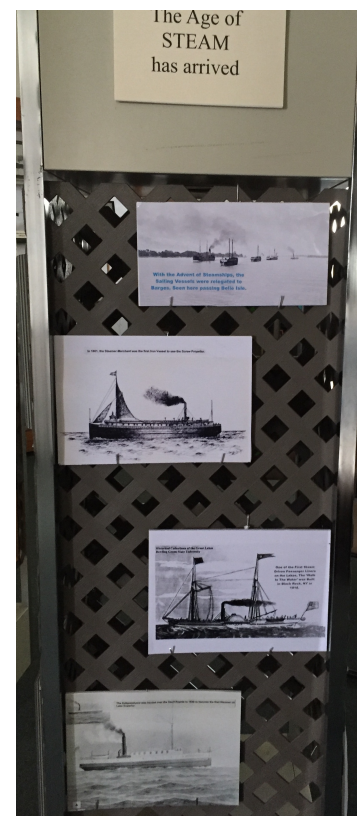
- “The Salvage of the Sydney Smith” - will run all summer.
- Videos on different topics will run each month.
 - May – “Ryerson and Duluth Harbor”.
 - June – “Working and living on a freighter”.
 - July – “Detroit River and a trip Huron to Erie by Freighter”.
 - August – “Overview of freighters”.
 - September – “Whalebacks and Caught in the Ice”.
 - A portion of the exhibit is dedicated to the Westcott mail boat and to Arlene Earl, “The Flower Lady” from Harsens Island, who for decades sent fresh flowers to the Captains and Crews of passing freighters via the Westcott.

Nancy Boulton has stocked the Gift Shoppe with special freighter related items including toy freighters, postcards, and books.

Volunteers will be available to answer questions.

The Museum is also attempting to establish a wifi connection in the building that will allow the addition of live video depicting the AIS ship location site for folks to see where vessels are located in the Great Lakes.

Be sure to schedule time at the Museum on Saturday May 28th and throughout the season for talks and interesting information on ***“Freighters, Steamships and Sails”*** of the Great Lakes.



CELEBRATION...continued from page 1

With this seed planted it began to grow. Generous / very large contributions from The Wayne and Joan Weber Foundation, the Corollo family of Harsens Island and a long list of major donors, this seed has emerged and has become a full-fledged Museum. You will find these private foundations, as well as individual and family names on plaques permanently affixed to the Commemorative Wall, under the brass porthole, as you enter the Museum. There you will see a plaque from our *first \$1,000 individual donor*, Linda Schoonover, along with many others.

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the ‘many, many others in the community’ who stepped-up to make this Museum a reality. This task could not have been completed without a myriad of supporters in the community who saw the potential for a Harsens Island Historical Society Museum as a worthwhile endeavor. Key community contributors were:

- The Community Foundation of St. Clair County,
- Michigan Council of Arts & Cultural Affairs,
- The Algonac / Clay Community Fund and
- Local business sponsors who helped The Society by supporting its fundraising, or supporting the cultural, educational and historic events such as First Nations Day and Tashmoo Days, to: **help The Society help itself**, to achieve its goals.
 - From large sponsorships, the likes of St. John Riverside Hospital in East China to Northstar Bank of St. Clair & Algonac to State Farm Insurance in Algonac, Dudek Insurance in New Baltimore, Baxter Insurance in Algonac, Zimmermans Meat Market in Marine City; and,
 - To smaller sponsors from the local Chiropractor, Dr. Chris Truax in Algonac, Chef David of Browns Bar, the Sans Souci Market and Bar to mention only a few; and, there were also individual sponsorship contributions as well.
 - And; many thanks to **area media sources**, extending to all of Southeast Michigan, who have reported on The Society’s growth and activities. From the Lecture Series, to Tashmoo Days, the First Nations Day and to Museum Openings. A very special thanks to Jeri Packer of the Voice; and, to Bob Gross of The Times Herald, The Detroit News & Free Press, Paul Dingeman of Channel 6 TV in St. Clair, Larry Boulrier of EBW TV, Paul Miller of Radio First Port Huron, the late Dennis Meiers of American Pride Radio Detroit and the channels 2, 4 and 7 TV news networks.

The contributions that make success come in many forms, **some you see and some you don’t**. Some arrives in cash donations, some as funding for an event, some in communications via the media; and, a lot of ‘**pro-bono**’ work. These are the contributor’s whose value is unseen, not even recognized on a plaque or noted elsewhere. They are noted below:

- The LOGO, image and branding services, the Lecture Series Posters, the weekly AD’s in the HI Flyer and more, provided pro-bono by Human Touch Graphics, Larry Zelensky; whose value, in untold hours donated, has likely exceeded many of our largest cash donors.
- The Korthals lawn cutting, trim & clean service, at no charge, since 2011.
- Clay Fire department who helped paint and provided EMS stand-by for large events.
- Bluewater Land Development, Lou Campbell and the Donald Dewulf, without whose generosity this celebration would not have happened.
- Clay Police department who managed traffic during the Return-to-Tashmoo Runs.
- ...and many, many more.

We also thank all those who quietly made contributions and all of those whose names are not listed or acknowledged.

The sum of these is the ‘community’ that caused The Society to gather and celebrate on the: 28th of May 2016.

As a member of the ‘greater community’, The Society and Museum have a responsibility to be ‘good non-profit corporate citizens’, by paying back and supporting those in the community, who by their multiple and varied forms of generosity, have helped The Society to a great start.

THANK YOU

To all those who said: **“It COULD be DONE”** and were here to help.

As a now permanently established member of the community we pledge to also support you going forward;

And, **“TOGETHER”** we will continue:

“Building for the Future and Preserving our Past”

Backward chronology: May 28, 2016 to the Original Dedication in 1938:



Museum Ownership Celebration – Memorial Day Weekend 2016



Museum Grand Opening Day Celebration – Memorial Day Weekend 2011



Original Dedication c. 1938

“Jacobs Island” ...The History of Harsens Island ...Lecture Series

Saturday June 18, Gary Grout will present: **“Jacobs Island” ...The History of Harsens Island** and its progression from Jacob Harsen through present day. Join us to learn more of the interesting history of: *Jacob Harsens Island*.



Gary & his companion Annie at the Readers Cove Library



...and in uniform

Gary is a genealogist and Harsens Island historian. Gary served from 1981 thru 1989 as a member of the U.S. Naval Reserve. He produced a Video, now a DVD on the Steamer Tashmoo and the Hotels of Harsens Island, which is available at the Museum Gift Shoppe. Gary is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, General Society for the War of 1812 and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He has served as Chairman of the Board and is a Past President of the Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Historical Society.

Tashmoo Steamer Artifact Acquisition - DONE

Tashmoo Silver Plated Tureen & Ladle and more, now on permanent exhibit:

The Tashmoo Steamer silver-plated serving tureen and ladle have been purchase and are now permanently ensconced in the Tashmoo Room. Thank you to all who contributed to this acquisition, and a special thanks to *Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Gordinier*.



In Tashmoo Room



Close-up of Artifact

A glass coffee cup souvenir of Tashmoo Park now also graces' the shelves of the Tashmoo Room. The collection continues to grow.





PO Box 44
Harsens Island MI 48028

Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Historical Society 2016 Calendar of Events

subject to change

Members are welcome to attend any Board Meeting listed as Board/Membership Meeting
(Location may change – See our website at: HarsensIslandHistory.org for latest information)

Museum Hours

January, February, March, April- CLOSED – Open by Appointment only

May – Saturdays – 10 AM – 3 PM and Sunday's – Noon – 4 PM

June, July, August, September – 2nd Friday's - 6 PM – 8 PM

Saturday's – 10 AM – 3 PM and Sunday's – Noon – 4 PM

Winter Hours- By Appointment: Phone a Board Member

- June**
- 4th – Saturday - 10:30 AM – Board/Membership Meeting at the Museum
 - 4th – Saturday - 9:30 AM & 3:00 PM – Museum '**Volunteer Orientation**' at the Museum
 - 10th – Friday – 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM - Social hour –at the Museum
 - 11th – Saturday – 11:00 AM – '**Postcard Collector's Meeting**', open to the public –at the Museum
 - 11th – Saturday – 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM - Chuck Miller: '**Building a Freighter Model**' –at the Museum
 - 18th – Saturday – 3:00 PM – Lecture: - '**Jacobs Island (Harsens History)**', Gary Grout - Schoolhouse Grille
 - 25th – Saturday – 1:00 PM - David Addy, Chief Engineer – Speaks on his '**Lake Freighter Experiences**' - Museum
- July**
- 1st – Saturday - 10:30 AM – Board/Membership Meeting at the Museum
 - 8th – Friday – 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM - Social hour –at the Museum
 - 10th – Sunday – 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM - Chuck Miller building Freighter Model – at the Museum
 - 10th to 15th – Camera's Ready - Be ALERT for TALL SHIPS on the South Channel
 - 23rd – Saturday – 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM – Photo Scanning Day - at the Museum