

# The SOCIETY PAGES

HARSENS ISLAND / ST. CLAIR FLATS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Turkey Shoot Parade

by John Chamberlain



The Historical Societies' entry in the Lions' Club Parade was a success. It would have been nice to have more walkers, but set up and notice time was short. I have to give special thanks to Castaway Bay IYC Marina, without whose outstanding efforts, my 14-foot Chris Craft outboard could not have been in the Antique Boat Parade and the general parade.

### *More thanks are in order:*

Denne and Peggy Osgood, who at the last minute, volunteered to carry the banner - which I had wired to two old oak oars...not an easy carry!



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## From the President

*"Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."*

**General George S. Patton**

### *With that said....*

We have a well fortified hill to climb (*building to purchase*) and the enemy is time. Each of you knows what you have to do. If you're reading these orders, each of you needs to identify a path up and find \$300, \$500 or \$1,000 or more to make this happen.

Our intelligence is reporting that the Capital Funds Building Committee has launched a Major Donor Campaign to ask for *larger donations* (big artillery to support you). Additionally, a number of foundations (battleships) have been invited to participate in our campaign. We are waiting for confirmation of their support. The committee is also working on a corporate sponsor campaign that should launch before you read these orders (i.e. air support).

Each of you knows that we do not win battles without the individuals on the ground. You are the key to our success.

We've not been in this battle for very long. We've taken the building....we've improved our space and have been receiving supplies (artifacts) to improve our position and well being. We need to take the hill and own the ground before our lease runs out.

### *Your orders are clear; you know what we have to do.*

I have confidence in each and every one of you, and your ingenuity; and know that you will do what needs to be done for your Historical Society.

As General George would say: **It's time to go get this job done...now get out there.... and do it.**

If you have any questions...I'm always available.

*-bernard*

## the Society Pages

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## Turkey Shoot Parade by John Chamberlain

*continued*



Bernard and Nancy Licata for entering their MG. It was, however a little conservative...BRIGHT yellow, signs, American flags mounted on the front, plus fancy dress on the occupants!

Bill and Bette Pausus and their daughters, Emily and Haley, in their true classic car, 1972 Monte Carlo. This vehicle was so polished that while lining up at St. Mark's, I saw a fly land on the hood and slide right off. The souped up engine created a special effect when the motor was occasionally gunned, which might have Bernard and Nancy concerned as the Monte Carlo was close behind their MG.

My Chris Craft was being pulled on a trailer by my two grandsons, Alex and Brendan. The truck they drove was borrowed from Ben and Shirley Pausus (Bill's parents).

Jean Weber and I rode in the Chris Craft on the trail, not by choice...we could not climb out of boat...nothing to do with age!!?

Lastly, but surely not least...Dave and Nancy Chamberlain, my brother and sister-in-law were the walkers. Dave will be 80 in October, he is challenging the Historical Society members to walk with him in next year's parade.

**Thanks again to everyone....see you IN next year's parade. ■**



## Herkamer The Seagull

by Gerald (Jerry) K. Munro Sr

Our cottage (The House That Jack Built, now called the House that George Re-Built) in front of UPMALS on LUG Island, (now the Riverside) was built in 1905. I'm the 4th generation, and all my grand kids (4 of them) are the 6th.

I spent ALL my summers on the Island. From kindergarten till tenth grade (1960), I spent every summer up there with my parents.

The day school was out my mom and dad (George & Hetty Munro) and I (only child) headed to the cottage. My mother spent all summer with me. My dad would come up on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday night to spend the weekend.

The two things I remember the most in my youth was the seagull (Herkamer) I raised from birth in the summer of 1956 and then going home every year on Monday (Labor Day night) to attend school the next day. I didn't even have clothes that fit me the next day. It always happened.

I used to yell to the Captains of all the freighters every time they went by and I ended up being friends with them. I had several trips with them on the freighters. Captain Hanson of the McKee Sons took me to the outer island in Calcite. We stole a baby gull from his mother. We had to run for our lives. ALL the birds were diving at us. I took it to the cottage, where it's a story in itself. Herk ate 80 minnows a day, which I had to catch. At the middle of the summer, he started eating about 4-6 perch a day. I was his fish market all summer. I saw Mort Neff at the Idle Hour with my parents for lunch one afternoon. I told him about the bird, and he invited me on his show. I was the first to go on that night.

My mother called the manager of the Detroit Zoo to donate him in the fall, but he took off 2 weeks before Labor Day. He did come back a few times before we closed. It was sad to let him go. ■

**The Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Historical Society**  
*Presents*  
**THE NIGHT THE FITZ  
WENT DOWN!**

**The story of Great Lakes Freighter Edmund Fitzgerald  
on Lake Superior during the storm of November 1975**

*featuring special guest speakers:*

**Malcom McAdam**  
Member of Shipmasters, board member of the Great Lakes Maritime Institute, and chairman of the Lost Mariners Remembrance program at the Dossin Museum on Belle Isle



**Captain Donald Erickson** of the SS William Clay Ford who on the night of November 10, 1975, with his crew, voluntarily left safe harbor during the furious storm to search for possible survivors of the Edmund Fitzgerald.

**Saturday October 8 2011** [4:00-5:30pm]  
Lions Hall / 262 Lacroix Road / Harsens Island MI 48028

HARSENS ISLAND  
ST. CLAIR FLATS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

BUILDING *for*  
THE *Future*  
PRESERVING  
*Our* PAST

Suggested Donation: **\$10.00**  
Please **RSVP** to: **248-770-2103**  
with number in your party so we can ensure sufficient seating.



## 2011 Activities & Events Calendar

*Dates and locations subject to change*

### Museum Open

**Saturday's 10am – 2pm**

**effective Oct 1 - March**

Volunteers are needed to staff the museum and should contact Nancy Boulton at 810-748-3802 for orientation and assignments. Visit our gift shop!

### General Membership Meetings held at the Old Fire Hall 3058 S Channel in downtown Sans Souci

- |     |           |   |
|-----|-----------|---|
| Oct | 8         | <b>The Night the Fitz Went Down – see page 3 for details.</b>                           |
|     | <i>22</i> | <i>2:00 PM General Membership Meeting</i>   |
| Nov | 19        | <b>Square Dance – Save the Date! <i>Dinner &amp; Square Dance at the Lions Hall</i></b> |
|     | <i>26</i> | <i>2:00 PM General Membership Meeting</i>   |
| Dec |           | <b>No General Membership Meeting</b>  |