

The SOCIETY

PAGES

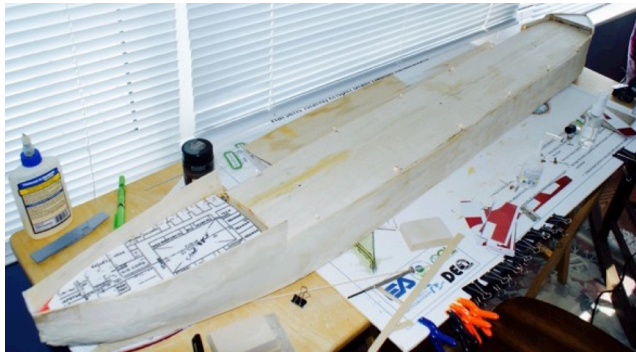
HARSENS ISLAND / ST. CLAIR FLATS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Modeling the Cedarglen

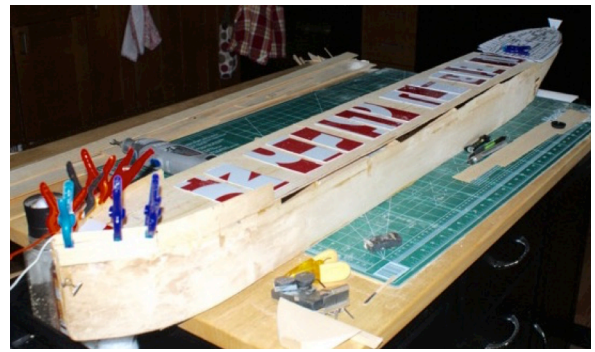
...an Ongoing Summer Project at the Historical Society Museum - by: Chuck Miller



The laying of the keel...and lots of planning...the order of build is critical to having a successful end product and quality model.

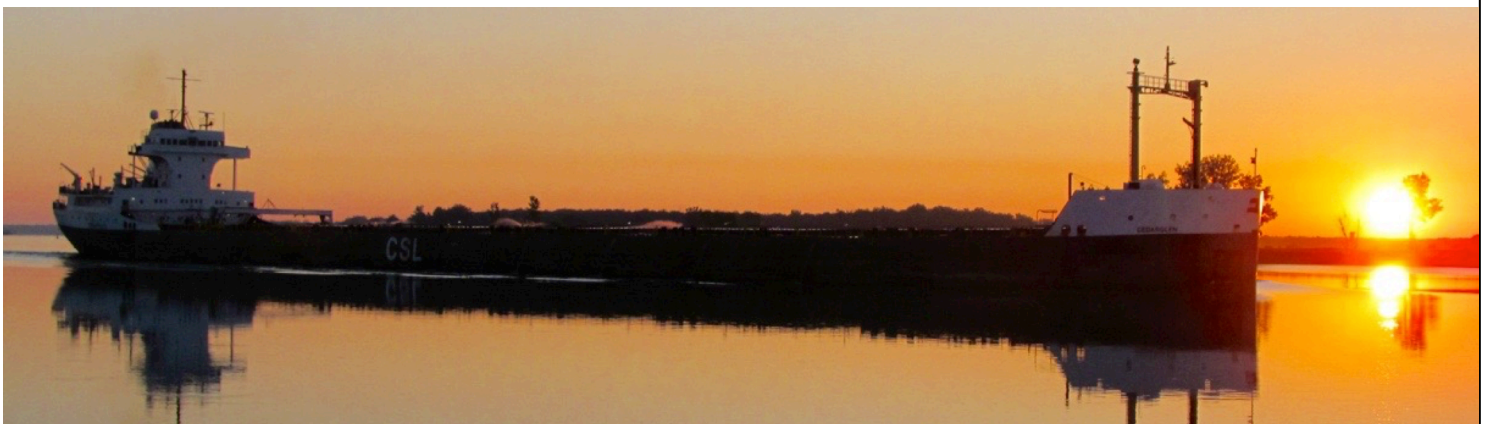


Build-out of hull and decks...



Hatches on-deck...lighting and other details wired below-decks...

I'm retired and I love to build models. I've wanted to try my luck building a model of the Canada Steamship Lines Vessel Cedarglen and the Museum 'crew' decided it might be fun for me to do the build at the Museum real time. We started in March. The effort coincides with our **"Freighters, Steamships and Sails"** 2016 Special Exhibit at the Museum and is intended to engage the younger visitors in an activity other than tapping and swiping an iPhone. [...continued on page 3](#)



The Society Pages

Volume 7 / Number 7 / July 2016

A publication of the Harsens Island St.
Clair Flats Historical Society

Mailing Address: PO Box 44
Harsens Island MI 48028

Museum Address:
3058 S. Channel Dr.
email@hiscfhs.org



www.HISCFS.org

scan the code to go to the HISCFS
website

July 2016

Editor: **Bernardo Licata**
586-530-7100
editor@hiscfhs.org

HISCFS Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board
Bernardo Licata – 586-530-7100
chairman@hiscfhs.org

President
Bob Williams – 248-388-0465
president@hiscfhs.org

1st Vice President
Nancy Boulton - 810-748-3802

2nd Vice President
Susan Wrobel – 810-748-3601

Treasurer
Joyce Hassen – 313-336-1735

Secretary
Nancy Bonacquisti – 248-840-3042

Directors
Kathy O'Connor - 810-748-3113
Nancy Licata - 810-748-1825
Charles Miller - 810-748-7209



Join us on Facebook!

Message from the President

Hi All,

Well, it seems that the summer is flying by. Only one month left until the Turkey Shoot signals the beginning of the end of another summer on the island. It's time for our Historical Society annual meeting. This year we will be meeting on Saturday August 20th at the museum instead of our usual dinner venue. Join us at the museum at 4:30 for wine and appetizers, followed by our meeting at 5 pm.

While you are at the museum be sure to check out how Chuck Miller is doing on his freighter model being built as part of our special exhibit, **"Freighters, Steamships and Sails", 150 years of changes in Great Lakes Shipping**. Also be sure to see the new items which have been added to the collection. More items come in every week and our collections committee has created a new display area for just the new items which came in during the past 30 days. This display will be constantly changing as new items arrive. You might want to make it a habit to stop by once a month just to check out this area.

Last month Joanne Shirkey brought in a trail marker post which she found in a friend's barn. It was originally used on the nature trail at the Boy's Club. What a great find. Clayton Evans from Washington state mailed us two big boxes of books, photos and articles about the island and the Great Lakes. Most of the material will either be added to our reference library or our research archives. In the last few weeks Nancy Eldridge donated some great documents and photos and Doug and Nancy Shugar brought us six framed photos and prints of ships. Thank you all for your continued donations.

I would also like to thank the three families who got together to donate a brand new color laser printer/scanner to the museum. It prints at almost 30 copies per minute and will save our committee members many hours of time running around getting copies made.

Looking forward to September we have firmed up two events on our schedule. On Sunday, September 11th at 1 pm we are offering a genealogy workshop to help members get started on, or expand, their family trees using traditional research or ancestry.com. And, on Saturday, September 17th at 3 pm we will have our third offering in our lecture series for the year. This one will be a roundtable of stories from Harsens Island history. While on this topic I would like to mention that we are looking for volunteers to video tape stories about the island to begin a collection of oral history. If you are interested in helping with that project, please contact me at 248-388-0465 or xharpspah@aol.com.

Cheers,

Bob Williams
President

...continued from page 1

The 730 ' Cedarglen is an active vessel operating on the lakes today, frequently passing our Island. She doesn't share the fame of the Roger Blough or the styling of the L. Tregurtha or the classic Alpena, but she has an interesting history and, to me, a unique sort of beauty.

An excellent and comprehensive history of the Cedarglen has been written by George Wharton on the Boatnerd site. I'll be quoting excerpts from his piece here. The full link may be found at :

<http://www.boatnerd.com/pictures/fleet/cedarglen.htm>

Originally constructed as the deep sea ore carrier Ems Ore; this vessel was built by Schlieker-Werft, Hamburg, West Germany as their hull # 535 and launched October 17, 1959. The Ems Ore was built with her pilothouse amidships. The Ems Ore, with her sister-ships Rhine Ore and Ruhr Ore were acquired by Hall Corporation Shipping Ltd., Montreal, QC in 1976 to carry Labrador ore from Gulf of St. Lawrence ports to the steel mills in Hamilton, ON. The Ems Ore was taken to Davie Shipbuilding Ltd., Lauzon, QC where a complete new forebody was installed from the engine room forward; her pilothouse and mid-ship cabins were modernized and moved to the stern (emphasis added). Halco renamed the vessel Montcliffe Hall in 1977 with the conversion work being completed during the winter of 1977/78.



The Montcliffe Hall began trading on the Great Lakes on April 18, 1979, passing up-bound through the Welland Canal April 19. The other two vessels similarly converted by Halco at that time were renamed Steelcliffe Hall (Rhine Ore) and Cartiercliffe Hall (Ruhr Ore). The Montcliffe Hall was acquired by N. M. Paterson & Sons Ltd. Marine Division, Thunder Bay, ON in 1988 following the liquidation of the Halco fleet. She was renamed Cartierdoc (2) at that time. Also acquired by the Paterson fleet was her sister Steelcliffe Hall which was renamed Windoc (2). (The third of the sisters Cartiercliffe Hall was acquired by Algoma Central Marine and was renamed Algontario.) The Cartierdoc name honors the early explorer Jacques Cartier who discovered the St. Lawrence River valley in 1534/35. The "doc" suffix followed a fleet tradition in Paterson's naming policy referring to the "Dominion of Canada".



On March 21, 2002 N. M. Paterson & Sons Marine Division ended their long family history of operating Great Lakes vessels and sold their active fleet of three ships to Canada Steamship Lines, Montreal, QC. The Cartierdoc was renamed Cedarglen (2), the Paterson becoming Pineglen (2), and the Mantadoc becoming the Teakglen. *...continued on page 4*

...continued from page 4

CSL's naming pattern has particular significance. The suffix "glen" identifies the ships as being bulk carriers. The "glen" connection dates back to 1926 when CSL acquired the Great Lakes Shipping Company whose vessels had names such as Gleneagles, Glenelg, and many others. The tree name prefix dates back to 1937 when CSL purchased Tree Line Navigation Co. Ltd.

On March 25, 2004 and March 23, 2005; the Cedarglen was honored at Lock 8 of the Welland Canal at Port Colborne, ON as the first down-bound vessel in the Welland Canal of the respective seasons. On May 16, 2005; the bulker loaded iron ore at Marquette, MI for the first time in her career on the Great Lakes. To fit under the loading chutes at Marquette, part of the Cedarglen's starboard 'wing bridge' had to be removed.



Our model will reflect all of these changes- from the bow structure to the truncated starboard bridge wing and the special addition of the beautiful and unique gothic 'arch' designs in the support structure of the bridge. This particular feature is my favorite and I know of no other vessel on the lakes with such an architectural touch.

Her fleet-mates are gone, and no one knows what her fate may be. She's a pretty old girl with a mixed heritage of saltwater and fresh and a long productive history. *She deserves to be our modeling project for this year.*

Genealogy Workshop

The Society will sponsor a Genealogy Workshop at 1:00 PM, Sunday September 11 at the Readers Cove Library.

The event is free to members. A \$10 fee is required for non-members. Pre-registration is required for all to insure admittance.

Those interested should contact Bob Williams at: 248-388-0465 or xharpaspah@aol.com.

Tall Ships Expected

... heading **DOWNBOUND**...be on the **ALERT**~ August 28 thru September 2



This '**Viking Ship**' caught on camera headed UPBOUND on the South Channel near the homes of the Victories and Millers in mid-July. *(She's a beauty.)*

Have your camera ready and look for her and others as they head DOWNBOUND sometime during the last days of August and the beginning of September.

Info provided by: Charles Miller
Photo by: Gerry Victory

A Little Diversion

...and a Little Humor

To expand upon the lore of the Great Lakes; and, to augment the Special Exhibit "***Freighters, Steamships and Sails***", Chuck Miller has uncovered a series of limerick's, poems and satire in the quarterly journal "***Inland Seas***" published by the Great Lakes Historical Society of Cleveland Ohio. Chuck has acquired permissions to reprint materials from Volume 68-Winter 2012-Number 4. The Society Pages will include a limerick or poem each month for the next several months.

Each year, officers of the marine division of Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company would gather in Cleveland, Ohio for an annual banquet. These events were hardly staid. Food, drink and camaraderie were the order of the day. The highlight of the evening was a performance of sorts often roasting particular captains and members of the marine division of the company. To encourage participation, booklets of verse were distributed to the crowd. The limericks, poems, and satire provide a special glimpse into the informal life of what was a corporate giant of that era. This material offers a unique opportunity to understand and appreciate the social customs and mores of the officer sailing class.

This month we will present the first of the Limericks:

A common thread in these limericks was the occupational skill of fleet captains. If a captain had a particular tendency in his work habits which had become common knowledge, it became fodder for the annual banquet. Captains who had a particularly difficult year in terms of minor groundings or collisions were not exempted. All were treated to a barrage of satire delivered in rhyme and syncopation.

Dedicated to Captain C.N. Bedell

***On the first trip out of Buffalo
He found an open streak,
Then slid his boat upon the ice
And stayed there for a week.***

***With such a sad beginning
One would expect a better end,
But the last trip he went aground
On the shore more time to spend.***

***After leaving Port Huron
He went on down the stream;
Let go his anchor for
The banks could not be seen.***

***He thought he'd wait for daylight,
And at five was on his way;
His eyes must be catlike
If could see that time of day.***

***When we were sick and tired
Cause his actions were so tough;
When told he might be fired
He said – "That's fair enough".***

Next month: *Poking fun at a captain for actual or perceived error in judgment was to be expected. However, the presence and nature of the commentary on various captains' **preoccupation with women** was surprising, considering the era, and more importantly, the age of some of the captains in attendance. Perhaps, attendees at the banquet assumed the limericks would never find their way into the collections of historical organizations. But they did. Look for the next limerick in September.*



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

August

6th – Saturday – 10:30 AM – Board/Membership Meeting at the Museum

12th – Friday – 6:00 to 8:00 PM – Social hour at the Museum

14th – Sunday – 1:00 to 3:00 - PM Chuck Miller **‘Freighter Model Building’**-at the Museum

20th – Saturday – 4:30 PM Wine and Appetizers at the museum.

5:00 to 6:00 PM Annual Membership meeting - at Museum. (Election results announced)

September

9th – Friday – 6:00 to 8:00 PM – Social hour at the Museum

11th – Sunday – 1:00 PM- Historical Society Genealogy Workshop - at Readers Cove Library

(Free to members, \$10 fee for non-members, Pre-registration required to insure admittance.)

17th – Saturday – 3:00 PM – Lecture Series – “Island Stories” - at Schoolhouse Grille