



Message from the President . . .

Happy Autumn!

Warm temperatures and plenty of sunshine have made early fall wonderful, extending some of the summer activities. I went swimming October 6th, which is highly unusual for me that late in the year. . . a polar plunger I am not!! It also made putting the boat into winter storage hard, not easy leaving her for the winter when it is 80 and sunny with a light breeze. But the cold front with rain and much colder temperatures that moved in a couple days later was a reminder that the calendar was correct, it was time.

The Pie Sale had another successful year! Thanks to your generosity, we had 45 pies baked, donated and purchased, with many of you paying extra and making additional donations. A special thank you to our Board members Chris Knight, Corinne Trexler, and Ellen Probst who organize, set up for the sale, and clean up the museum after the last pie is gone.

Of course, the Edmund Fitzgerald Memorial and Cookie Walk are still ahead and hosted at the museum.

Remember, the museum can be opened by appointment for special groups or visits during the off season. If you have a request to see the museum, contact us through the website.

As always, thank you for your continued support!

Joyce

Joyce Hassen, President

THE FILM "Harsens Island Revenge"

You can watch the movie **Harsens Island Revenge** on Amazon Prime Video by renting or purchasing it, or by streaming it for free on Hoopla. It is available to rent or buy on Amazon, via its Prime Video platform and Fandango at Home (Vudu). The movie will also be available to watch on Barnes & Noble starting October 28, 2025.



Preserving Your History

We encourage, and would like to assist, islanders in getting their old photos, slides, negatives, and historical documents into digital format to preserve and/or display them. In addition, the Harsens Island Historical Society would like to collect digital copies of historical photos and documents of the island for the museum's collection.

You can bring photos, slides, negatives, or historical documents to the Museum to have them scanned and the digital copy put on a USB flash drive to take home along with the documents you brought for scanning. Some photos or documents may be of historic interest, and with the owner's permission, a digital copy would be retained by the Harsens Island Historical Society for the museum's collection.

The Harsens Island History Society is also looking for 8 mm or super 8 mm home movies taken on the island prior to 1960 for segments to be digitized and place in the archives. There would be **no fee for members**, but non-members would be asked to make a small donation.

You can make an appointment for scanning with Bob Williams at 248-388-0465 or email him at xharpspah@aol.com.




Harsens Island Fire Hall Dedication in 1938

SAVE THE DATES

HARSENS ISLAND / ST. CLAIR FLATS
Historical Society Museum

Invites you to the Edmund Fitzgerald Remembrance

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 9
1:00 PM



There will be a brief history of the Great Lakes most famous ship followed by a sounding of Michigan's only museum rooftop freighter horn.

Live Entertainment by "ON THE BORDER" featuring Gordon Lightfoot's haunting ballad "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald"
 With Special Guest Celtic Troubadour and Sailor JOHN O'GARA

Free Admission! | Donations to the HI Historical Society are appreciated
 Serving Mulled Wine, Chili, Corn Bread, Hot Dogs and Desserts

Harsens Island Historical Museum
 3058 South Channel, Harsens Island, MI

HARSENS ISLAND / ST. CLAIR FLATS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 BUILDING *the Future*
 PRESERVING *the PAST*

HARSENS ISLAND / ST. CLAIR FLATS
Historical Society Museum

Fundraiser



COOKIE WALK 2025

Saturday, December 6
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Wanted: Bakers and Buyers

Please drop off cookies between 9:00 AM and 9:45 AM
 For more information contact: Chris Knight (586) 242-4560

Harsens Island Historical Museum
 3058 South Channel, Harsens Island, MI

HARSENS ISLAND / ST. CLAIR FLATS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 BUILDING *the Future*
 PRESERVING *the PAST*

A Walk Down Memory Lane Submitted by Jerry Munro



My dad would NEVER let me out of the cottage without my life jacket. This was 1948 at the House that Jack Built. My dad, George Munro, owned the cottage. Been in the Munro family since 1905. 120 years old this year.

Museum Visitors in September



Algonac Class of 1965 came to the museum for a visit on September 5.

History of Harsens Island – Scheduled Events

Presented by Bob Williams

Monday Dec. 8, 2025

New Baltimore Historical Society
36551 Main St., New Baltimore Civic Center
7:00 PM

May 4, 2026

Macomb Community College
Center Campus UC-1, lecture hall B
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

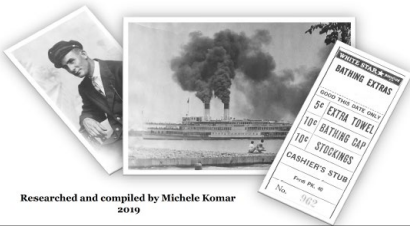


Tashmoo Park

Timeline

1896 - 1950

Harsens Island, Michigan



Researched and compiled by Michele Komar
2019

Tashmoo Park Timeline

The Tashmoo Park Timeline by Michele Komar is a chronological compilation of articles, booklets and photos that are mainly about Tashmoo Park, the White Star Line and its properties, people, and boats. Originally estimated to be 500 pages, it turned into 1,916 pages comprised of 4 volumes with thousands of articles and would take 2 ½ years from start to finish.

Interesting facts about some of the buildings and grounds at Tashmoo Park.

Looked through the articles in 1925 (100 years ago) and found some interesting ads and articles to share.

The White Star Line Offers **FOR SALE** The Steamer Tashmoo Also Tashmoo Park, located on Harsen's Island, St. Clair River

Bids for the above must be accompanied by a certified check for \$5,000.00 as a guarantee of good faith.

Satisfactory references as to the ability of the bidder to complete all payments also required to accompany each bid. Bids on above will be accepted up to and including March 31st, 1925, and will be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of The White Star Line.

In addition, the following property is offered for sale:

Wharf at foot of Griswold St., Detroit, Michigan, having two hundred feet frontage on the Detroit River, with buildings and warehouses thereon, extending back on Griswold St. to Atwater St. West.

Dock and warehouse at Algonac, Mich., two hundred and forty feet fronting on St. Clair River, and one hundred and eighty feet on the main highway, known as the White Star Line property.

Dock and warehouse at foot of Grand River Ave., Port Huron, having three hundred and seventy-five feet fronting on St. Clair River, with a depth of one hun-

dred feet facing on Grand River Avenue, and three hundred and sixty feet in the rear facing Commercial Street.

Dock and warehouse at South Park, Mich., having one hundred and ninety-nine feet frontage on St. Clair River.

Also the following named side-wheel steamers, which are in fine condition, fully equipped:

Steamer City of Toledo, 252 feet long, passenger capacity 1,954.

Steamer Owana, 200 feet long, passenger capacity 1,335.

Address All Bids to
THE WHITE STAR LINE, Foot of Griswold St.
DETROIT, MICH.

Continued on page 5 . . .

Continued from page 4 . . .

July 19, 1925 – *Detroit Free Press* - Page 14

FISHING AT FLATS REWARDS ANGLERS

Bass fishing at St. Clair Flats is especially good at this time, according to C. F. Bielman, Jr., general manager of the White Star Navigation company and most of the fishermen have little difficulty landing their quota within a few hours.

Muskellunge also are plentiful. Joe Marks, sporting goods dealer and Amos Springborn, president of the Detroit Sanitary Manufacturing company, each landed 20-pound specimens recently.

“The excursions to the Flats and Tashmo Park are proving more popular than ever this season,” said Mr. Bielman, “and we have the following important excursions booked for the current week. Hiram Walker & Sons, Ltd., 1,500 employes, Monday; Police Century club, Tuesday; St. Elizabeth’s church, Wednesday; Grand River Avenue Improvement association, which includes the business men on Grand River Avenue from Woodward Avenue to the boulevard, Thursday; the Lincoln Manufacturing company, Friday; Edison Power club, Saturday.

July 13, 1925 – *The Times Herald (Port Huron)* - Page 10

Fire Wrecks Cottage

Algonac, July 13—Fire complete destroyed the Rothchild cottage, on Harsen’s Island late Friday and endangered the Woods Hotel until employes at Tashmo Park had battled the flames through the danger period. The cottage was the property of

W. J. Burton, of Detroit, and was completely wrecked. The loss is estimated at \$600.

July 27, 1925 – *Detroit Free Press* - Page 14

HOME BUILDING BOOM HITS ST. CLAIR FLATS

More cottages are under construction at St. Clair Flats than in any previous summer for several years, according to C. F. Bielman, Jr., general manager of the White Star Navigation company.

“The cottages being built at the Flats this year are far more elaborate and costly than the type of cottages formerly constructed,” said Mr. Bielman, “in fact they are regular houses. Some of these so-called cottages under construction just beyond Tashmo Park on Harsens Island even have cellars—an unheard-of thing at the Flats in the old days. Dig down a few feet anywhere on the islands at the Flats and you will strike water, but with the cement construction now in vogue it is an easy matter to construct a good, waterproof cellar at a reasonable cost.

“Neil McMillan, president of the National Radiator company, and other prominent residents of Harsens Island, have constructed a fine nine-hole golf links just back of our Tashmo Park property, and construction work is being carried on this summer to extend the links to 18 holes. The course as it now stands is above the average, and visitors to the Flats are abandoning the usual pursuits of fishing and boating for golf.”

ENJOY YOUR SUNDAY

**BIG STR.
TASHMOO**
Leaves 9 a.m.
Back 8 p.m.

And Week Days at
**PORT HURON
TASHMOO PARK**
St. Clair Flats, Algonac, Sarnia



There is no need to plan days ahead whether you want to spend a day at a popular picnic ground, or take a pleasant all-day sail—you can decide this just before you secure your tickets at the Griswold St. dock. The big Str. Tashmo will carry you to Tashmo Park where you can swim, dance or use the immense picnic grounds; or if you prefer, you can dine and dance all the way to beautiful Port Huron. Free dancing on boat and at Tashmo Park. Dining room, lunch counter and private parlors aboard. Round trip fares—Port Huron or Sarnia 50c. Tashmo Park, week days 80c, Sunday \$1.25. St. Clair Flats Pointe, week days \$1, Sunday \$1.25. Algonac \$1.50.

DANCING MOONLIGHTS—SAT. & SUN.—8:30 P.M. BACK 11:30 P.M. 75c

WHITE STAR NAVIGATION CO.—FOOT OF GRISWOLD STREET

Harsens Island Historical Society Calendar 2025

Date	Day	Time	Event
October 18	Saturday	9:30 AM	Board Meeting at the Museum
November 9	Sunday	3:00 PM	Remembrance Edmund Fitzgerald
November 15	Saturday	9:30 AM	Board Planning Meeting via Zoom
December 6	Saturday	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Cookie Walk
December 20	Saturday	9:30 AM	Board Meeting via Zoom

Museum Hours

Summer Schedule (June, July, August)
Saturdays 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Sundays 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Winter Schedule (September through April)
Closed but Open by appointment





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

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 44
Harsens Island MI 48028

Museum Address:

3058 S. Channel Dr.

www.harsensislandhistory.org

HISCFHS Board of Directors 2025

Chairman of the Board

Bob Williams

President

Joyce Hassen

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Chris Knight

2nd Vice President

Ellen Probst

Treasurer and Secretary

Corinne Trexler

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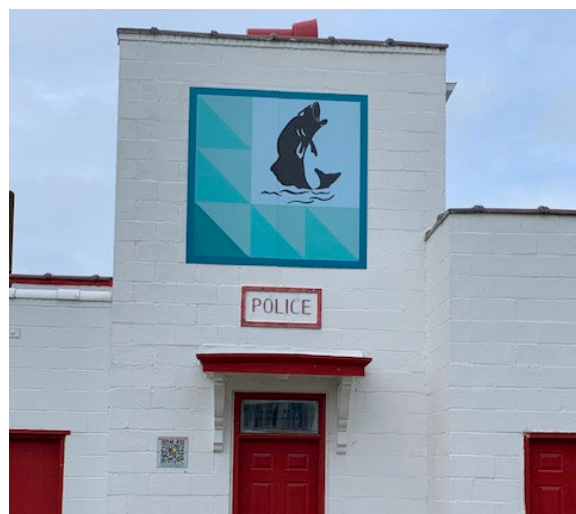
The historical society is looking to add to its collection. We accept donations of artifacts, photos, documents, and stories related to the Island and surrounding area. If you would like to add your family history to the museum archives, we can help you capture your memories for future generations.

Please contact our curator; Chris Knight at chris.knight@comcast.net

Harsens Island Historical Society

The Harsens Island St. Clair Flats History Society has a quilt block on the building and a QR code is mounted next to the side door. Using the camera app on your phone, scan the code and it will show the link to the Historical Museum page in the [Quilt Trail](#) site.

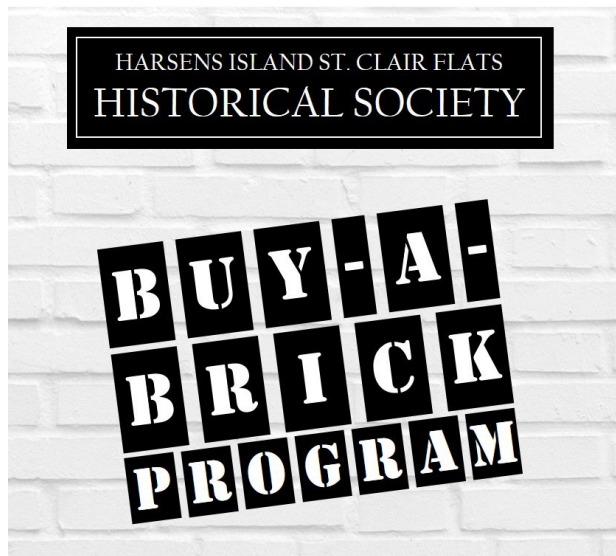
The [Historical Society of Michigan](#) published their 2024 Winter Issue of the Chronicle. The new Harsens Island Historical Society Quilt Block was mentioned in the magazine.



Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Historical Society Building Renovation BUY-A-BRICK Program

The past three years we celebrated the completion of several renovation projects; in 2020 the Clayton Evans Room Addition, in 2021 the Karen and Drew Peslar Library and in 2022 the large exhibit space at the entrance to the museum named the Nancy Boulton / Gary Grout Room.

To help maintain the museum's infrastructure and a healthy financial position for our Historical Society, we are reactivating our BUY-A-BRICK Program.



Members and friends can support the Historical Society and assure the continuance of the museum by donating \$350 to our BUY-A-BRICK program. Donors will be recognized or may designate a memorial on one of the bricks inside the museum. Of course, they may remain anonymous if they wish. Donations of any amount to support the renovation efforts are welcome and appreciated. To sign up, or if you have questions, contact Bob Williams at 248-388-0465 or xharpspah@aol.com.



BUY-A-BRICK Order Form is included below.



PO Box 44
 Harsens Island
 MI 48028
 www.harsensislandhistory.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2026

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Primary Mailing Address: _____ Member No. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Spouse Cell: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Spouse E-Mail: _____

Additional Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Additional Phone: _____ Membership Type: _____

Annual Renewal Dues:

- Individual (1 Member Only) \$20.00
- Family (1-2 Adults + Children < 18) \$30.00
- Business \$50.00

Lifetime Dues:

- Lifetime Individual \$300.00
- Lifetime Family \$500.00

Building Donation / Roof: \$ _____ Other Donation: \$ _____

(* The necessary roof replacement in 2024 has left reserve funds low) If desired, please specify use: _____

Newsletters are emailed to members. If you require newsletters via postal mail, please write a note on your returned application.

Please complete and send with a check made payable to: **Harsens Island Historical Society**.
 Mail to: Harsens Island St. Clair Historical Society, P.O. Box 44, Harsens Island, MI 48028

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date received: _____

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

I would be interested in volunteering as a museum host this summer (greeting visitors, answer questions, if possible, & record museum shop sales).