



INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER NEWS

CHICAGO MARITIME SOCIETY

Over the past year, the Chicago Maritime Society has completed or continued a number of major projects including the publication of a new book entitled **Schooner Passage** and restoration of a former Coast Guard surf craft. At its recent annual meeting, the Society elected Bob Kyle as its new president replacing Deane Tank who served as president during the past four years.

At its March 10 meeting, Donald J. Terras presented a program on the Grosse Point Lighthouse, which was recently designated a National Historic Landmark. Terras has managed the historic site and museum operations at the light station since 1984, and was the recipient of the Professional of the Year Award from the Illinois Association of Museums in 1998.

DOOR COUNTY MARITIME MUSEUM

On June 25, the Door County Maritime Museum will open a new exhibit entitled "Great Lakes Shipwrecks" in the museum's mezzanine gallery. The gallery is currently hosting a temporary exhibit on the 200-year history of the U.S. Coast Guard whose exhibition has been extended thru June 13.

In conjunction with the exhibit, a Coast Guard Maine Safety Detachment recently held a Sea Partners "family day" event at the Maritime Museum. The Sea Partners program is designed to make the public aware of efforts to protect the marine environment with a variety of hands-on activities.

On July 9, two new exhibits will open at the Maritime Museum: "Sweat and Steel: Photographs of Bay Shipbuilding" and a display of maritime art by Charles Peterson. In addition, the annual meeting of the Door County Maritime Museum will be held on July 21 at the Wagon Trail Resort in Rowleys Bay, Wis.

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Board changes Canadian dues and reviews awards program



The Michigan Library and Historical Center, home to the Michigan Historical Museum, an AGLMH institutional member, was the site of the mid-year board of directors meeting (photo by John Penrod).

Financial relief for our Canadian members was one issue addressed during the annual mid-year business meeting of the Association for Great Lakes Maritime History which was held on March 13, 1999 at the Michigan Library & Historical Center in Lansing.

During the meeting, the board of directors approved a motion that allows Association members in Canada to pay their dues in Canadian funds.

The sustained drop in the Canadian dollar against the U.S. dollar during the past year has resulted in some members seeing a 40% increase in their dues. Canadian and U.S. funds will now be accepted at par value.

BOARD CHANGES

Fourteen Association directors, representing individual members and nine sponsoring institutions, were

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Heritage Centre plans move ahead

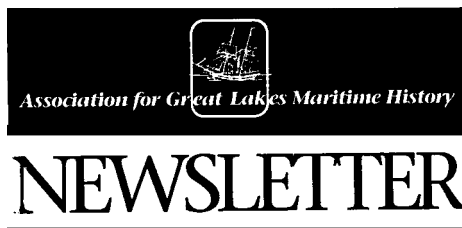
Although fundraising remains a major challenge, officials of the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston are pressing forward with plans for a C\$3.4 million Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Centre.

The goal of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Centre project is to provide a focal point for the Marine Museum complex and, in the process, enhance the historic waterfront of Kingston,

Ontario. Engineering and marketing plans have been completed for the project, the first phase of which involves restoring the museum complex's 1890 drydock.

Last fall and early winter, volunteers assisted museum officials in the time consuming process of drying, inspecting and removing the drydock's gate or caisson. After much effort, the gate

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The Association for Great Lakes Maritime History is an international organization of institutions, museums, societies, and individuals interested in preserving Great Lakes maritime history. Membership includes a subscription to this newsletter and the opportunity to participate in Association activities.

In addition to publishing the newsletter, the Association sponsors an annual meeting and encourages research, the exchange of information, and the publication of materials on Great Lakes maritime history.

Annual individual membership is \$35.
Annual institutional membership is \$50.

To become a member or for a brochure containing more information about the Association, write to:

Association for Great Lakes Maritime History
P.O. Box 7365
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The Association is incorporated as a nonstock, nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Wisconsin. The United States Internal Revenue Service has ruled the Association to be under Sections 507(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(v) – EIN 39-148496.

The AGLMH Newsletter (ISSN 1081-4744) is published bi-monthly by the Association for Great Lakes Maritime History. The submittal of articles, letters, news, photos, drawings, research requests, etc. that pertain to the maritime history of the Great Lakes is welcomed from members or nonmembers.

All items will be considered for possible publication and should be sent to the editor. Written material may be submitted as text or in a Macintosh-compatible or IBM-ASCII format on 3-1/2" computer disk.

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DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM

A new exhibit entitled "Maritime Folk Art" opened at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum in April. The exhibit contains what is referred to as an "eclectic collection" of sailor's art including paintings, models, knot-tying, ships-in-bottles, poetry and other nautical pieces.

Recent Great Lakes Maritime Institute programs at the Dossin Museum have included a presentation on tetherboats and Belle Isle by Kent Lund; and "Slide-O-Rama" at which the public was invited to select and view their favorite Great Lakes vessel photo. The latter event was organized by Al Jackman who indexed the Harry Wolf Collection of Great Lakes vessels.

In March, the Maritime Institute sponsored a presentation entitled "Safe Sailing" by the American Sailing Institute. The presentation included hands-on materials that tied into the current exhibit "Racing the Wind" at

the Dossin Museum. Also in March, the Museum held its annual Hydro Movie Madness event which featured newsreels of the 1930s and 1940s.

The Maritime Institute's artist shows and sales at the Dossin Museum have recently highlighted the Great Lakes lighthouse paintings by Leo Kuschel, the detailed ship models of Harvey Nissley and the photography work of Capt. William Gray. An upcoming show on June 26 will include a display of Great Lakes vessel photographs by Dave Maize.

GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Following the success of its recent Lake Michigan Conference in Grand Haven, Mich.; the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association will hold its Lake Superior Conference on July 23-24 in Bayfield, Wis. The conference will include a cruise through the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

Other activities being planned for the Lakes Superior Conference include a performance of "Keeper of the Light" at the Big Top Chautauqua canvas theater. In other news, "Back in Time

Great Lakes Heritage Centre

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was found to be worth preserving and was recently towed to Metalcraft Marine in Kingston for repair, and should be reinstalled some time this spring.

By the year 2000, officials hope to de-water the drydock which would then be used as a permanent berth for the former Canadian Coast Guard ice-breaker **Alexander Henry**. Phase one also calls for a new visitors orientation centre to be built at the head of the restored drydock to provide visitors with access to the facility which is a National Historic site.

The new visitors centre would also include a multi-media theater and displays about the ships, sailors and shipping of the Great Lakes. The second phase of the Heritage Centre project involves construction of a landscaped waterfront walkway connecting the visitors centre with the Pump House Steam Museum and other Marine Museum buildings.

The walkway, which is currently referred to as the Navigators Walk-

way, would significantly improve access to the museum complex by people of all abilities. The third phase of the project involves upgrading the exhibit content and appeal of the Pump House Steam Museum by re-activating the existing display with a modern modular steam generator.

An addition to the museum would also be built, as part of this phase of the project, to house the steam launch **Phoebe**, which is currently being restored by museum volunteers. In construction of the new visitors centre and upgrading of the Pump House building, museum officials are also incorporating space for private sector involvement in the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Centre.

In seeking support from city officials, representatives of the Marine Museum noted that the Maritime Heritage Centre would not only attract more visitors to the museum, but would also attract new commercial waterfront district ventures. To learn more about the project, visit the Museum's Web site at www.marmus.ca

to a Victorian Lighthouse Christmas" will be the theme of the GLLKA's 11th annual Maritime Heritage Education Workshop at the St. Helena Lighthouse in August.

On August 14, there will be a cruise of lights and lighthouses in the Buffalo and Niagara River areas as part of the GLLKA's Lake Erie Conference. The conference will also include a tour of the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park, which includes the cruiser **U.S.S. Little Rock**, destroyer **U.S.S. Five Sullivans** and submarine **U.S.S. Croaker**.

GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM

In October, the Great Lakes Lighthouse Museum held its first annual meeting at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. The meeting included a premier of a new episode of the PBS *Legendary Lighthouses* series entitled "Lighthouses of the Western Great Lakes" and a talk by John Grant, the author of the companion book to the series.

At the annual meeting, officials also discussed their continuing efforts to raise \$20 million to construct a 53,000 square-foot museum facility on the site of the former state ferry docks in Mackinac City, Mich. According to the facility's architect, William Kessler, current plans call for the museum to be built and operational by 2001.

In February, the Great Lakes Lighthouse Museum co-sponsored a Lighthouse Winter Fun event in Mackinac City, in conjunction with the Mackinac State Historic Parks and the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association. Museum officials are also working with the GLLKA on other joint events for the endowment funds of both the museum and the Association's St. Helena Lighthouse.

One of those joint fundraising efforts involves the production of a series of lighthouse trading cards entitled "Keepers of the Lights" by a Michigan-based company. The project's goal is to produce trading cards for all 316 U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes lighthouses and, in the process, raise \$100,000 for the museum.

GREAT LAKES SHIPWRECK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Along with beginning restoration work on the Crews Quarters building at Whitefish Point, the Great Lakes

Shipwreck Historical Society also plans to begin construction of a new museum store at the site this spring. Both projects are part of the Historical Society's \$4 million Great Lakes Mariners Memorial capital campaign.

The Crews Quarters project is being funded, in part, with a grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Culture and involves the installation of a new roof and exterior windows on the 76-year-old building along with restoring its historic porches. Officials expect the new museum store to increase Society revenues by more than 20%.

In related news, an article on the Great Lakes Mariners Memorial capital campaign appeared in the *Detroit Free Press* on Nov. 30, 1998. Also in 1998, the Society participated in the federal Institute for Museum and Library Service's Museum Assessment Program (MAP). The three-part program involves peer reviewers assessing

and providing guidance to the group on governance issues, collections issues, and public involvement and interaction.

GREAT LAKES HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fifty years after its donation to the Great Lakes Historical Society's Inland Seas Museum, a collection of American Ship Building Co. engineering and construction drawings is being scanned and transferred to CD-ROM. Reproductions of the drawings will then be made, on demand, from the CD-ROM.

The Society also plans to begin issuing a quarterly series of softcover books, each containing reproductions of the drawings for 12 ships from the collection.

The first volume of the series will feature the barge **Amazon** (1891), schooner **Clarence A. Filmore** (1889), steamer **Harvard** (1909), tug **Illinois** (1898), passenger steamer **Illinois** (1898), fire tug **Illinois** (1898), package steamer **Kearsarge** (1894), and steamer **Grant W. Morden** (1914).

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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| June 27 | Riverwalk Festival. Site: Manitowoc, Wis. For more info., contact the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, 75 Maritime Dr., Manitowoc, WI 54220; (920) 684-0219. |
| June 31 | Ninth Annual Great Lakes Tall Ship Festival. Site: Traverse City, Mich. For more info., contact Traverse City Chamber of Commerce at (616) 947-5075. |
| July 5-9 | St. Helena/Beaver Island Cruise. For more info., contact Sandy Planisek of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Museum, P.O. Box 712, Mackinaw City, MI 40701; (616) 436-7870. |
| July 10 | 18th Annual Heritage Boat Gathering. Site: South Haven, Mich. For info., contact the Michigan Maritime Museum, P.O. Box 534, South Haven, Mich. 49090; (800) 747-3810 or (616) 637-8078. |
| July 23-24 | Lake Superior Conference of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association. Site: Bayfield, Wis. For more info., contact the GLLKA c/o Ford Estates, 4901 Evergreen Rd., Dearborn, MI 48128; (313) 436-9150. |
| July 31-Aug. 1 | Canal Days Maritime Heritage Festival. Site: Port Colborne, Ontario. For more info., contact the Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum, P.O. Box 572, Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 5X8; (905) 834-7604. |

Information on upcoming events should be sent as soon in advance as possible to: Bob O'Donnell, AGLMH Newsletter Editor, 1406 Prospect Ave., Wausau, WI 54403; e-mail: rodonnel@uwc.edu; fax: (715) 261-6333.

Other vessels in the first volume include the package steamer **John M. Nicol** (1888), tug **Naramata** (1913), passenger steamer **Octorora** (1910), lumber steamer **I. Watson Stephenson** (1895), and the steamer **Zenith City** (1895). A four-boat sample booklet is available at no charge by writing to the Inland Seas Ship's Store, P.O. Box 435, Vermilion, OH 44089.

Among items recently donated to the Great Lakes Historical Society are a number of logbooks from early 20th century steamers including the **Volunteer, Massachusetts**, and **R.E. Schuck**; a scale model of the steamer **Shenango II** along with a silver commemorative cigar box from the steamer's christening; and the brass bell from the steamer **Col. James M. Schoonmaker**.

H. LEE WHITE MARINE MUSEUM

During this past winter, the unused grain storage elevator behind the H. Lee White Marine Museum was demolished, along with a nearby abandoned warehouse. Until 1984, the elevator was used to store grain, barley and corn transported from Duluth, Minn. to Oswego, N.Y. by Steinbrenner's Kinsman fleet.

In other news, the Marine Museum's historic tug **LT-5** recently visited the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston, Ontario. The port call was a new event for the tug and was part of an effort by museum officials and volunteers raise \$60,000 in funding to undertake the tug's first dry docking in almost twenty years.

HURONIA MUSEUM

In a new fundraising venture, the Huronia Museum is selling raffle tickets for a week-long trip for four aboard the one of the ships of the Algoma Central Corp.'s Marine Division. The drawing will be held on July 16, and several former Algoma Central ship captains and crew members, who live in the Midland (Ontario) area, assisted the museum in arranging the trip.

In a related note, Vern Sweeting, a Huronia Museum volunteer, was recently the winner of a similar trip for four aboard an American laker that was conducted by the Port Huron Museum. In addition to raising needed funds for the Huronia Museum, the fundraiser is also a celebration of Algoma Central's 100th year of service on the Great Lakes in 1999.

KEWEENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At its annual meeting in January, the Keweenaw County Historical Society presented its Lauri W. Leskinen Award to Mark Rowe of Calumet, Mich. Rowe has served as a Society trustee for 18 years and was instrumental in the relocation of a 36-foot Coast Guard lifeboat from Canal Park in Duluth to Eagle Harbor in 1995.

The Historical Society's museum complex at the Eagle Harbor (Mich.) Light Station will open for the 1999 season on June 13. Following the recent passage of federal enabling legislation, the Society hopes to officially receive title to the light station sometime this summer, hopefully in time for its annual open house on August 1.

Also in June, the Historical Society is opening its new Keweenaw Commercial Fishing Museum in the Eagle Harbor light station's former resident quarters. For the new museum, the Society is looking for a photograph of the fishing tug **LaBelle** which was operated out of Eagle Harbor by the Brown Fisheries of Whitefish Point, Mich., beginning in 1937.

LAKE SUPERIOR MARINE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

In December, the former U.S. Army Corps of Engineer tug **Bayfield** was placed on permanent display outside the Lake Superior Maritime Visitors Center in Duluth. During its 40-year career with the Corps, the tug was used primarily to move mud scows around the Duluth-Superior harbor for the dipper dredge **Gaillard**.

Recent Lake Superior Marine Museum Associations programs have included a presentation on the Great Lakes Maritime Academy and its cadet program; and a talk entitled "Proposed Repowering of the USS steamers **Anderson, Callaway, Clarke and Munson**" by James D. Sharrow, director of engineering and maintenance for the USS Great Lakes Fleet.

In other news, a Minneapolis investor recently donated a silver bar and sixteen silver "cobs" from the wreck of the Spanish treasure ship **Nuestra Senora de Atocha** to the Lake Superior Maritime Visitors Center. The museum plans to sell the items, which are valued at between \$8,000 to \$10,000, with the proceeds going to the center's endowment fund.

MARINE MUSEUM OF THE GREAT LAKES

In addition to its Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Centre project (see front page of this issue), the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes is also considering an effort to restore the historic steam launch **Phoebe** which is currently located behind the Pumphouse Steam Museum. Last November, a group of volunteers presented a restoration plan for the turn-of-the-century vessel to the Museum's board of directors.

Supporters would like to see the **Phoebe** restored and incorporated into a display on the Edwardian Era as part of the proposed Shipwrights Hall in the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Centre. To aid in the short-term conservation of the steam launch, volunteers would also like to modify the boathouse which currently houses the vessel so that that it can be raised out of the water.

MARITIME HERITAGE ALLIANCE

In November, the Maritime Heritage Alliance held its annual meeting at the Grand Traverse (Mich.) Yacht Club. During the meeting, the results of a recently completed survey of Heritage Alliance members on long-range planning issues were presented.

As a follow-up to the presentation, over 20 people participated in a day-long planning session on November 7. Among the long range goals identified at the session were the establishment of a seaport-type of location to consolidate all of the facilities and activities of the Maritime Heritage Alliance, including the schooner **Madeline** and sloop **Welcome**.

Work is continuing on the **Welcome** whose hull is now two-thirds caulked and primed. In December, several MHA members traveled to the Menominee Indian Reservation in Wisconsin to select five large pine trees for new masts for both the **Welcome** and the **Madeline**. Volunteers have also started doing repair work on another Heritage Alliance vessel, the **Gracie L**.

MARINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DETROIT

The Marine Historical Society of Detroit held its annual dinner meeting and program on April 24 at the St. Clair Inn in St. Clair, Mich. The featured speaker was Capt. Al. Nelson

who shared his experiences aboard the vessels of the U.S. Steel fleet, including several years as captain of the 1,000-foot freighter **Edwin H. Gott**.

Following a successful series of meetings at the Port Huron Museum in 1998, the Marine Historical Society is continuing its agreement to hold several Saturday evening meetings each year at the museum in Port Huron, Mich. The next meeting at the museum will be October 2, and will be a joint meeting with the Lake Huron Lore Marine Society.

MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM

In October, the Great Lakes Center for Maritime Studies (GLCMS) was awarded a \$198,700 federal grant for its "Fish for All: The History of Lake Michigan Fisheries Management and Conservation" project. GLCMS is a joint program of the Michigan Maritime Museum and Western Michigan University (WMU).

During the two-year "Fish for All" project, the GLCMS will produce a traveling exhibit and an exhibition catalog. The research and conceptualizing phase of the project will be completed in October 1999 with the exhibition catalog to be completed several months later. The tentative date for the traveling exhibit's opening is March 2000.

In June, the Great Lakes Center will reconvene its field history school which is gathering oral histories of Lake Michigan fisheries conservation and management efforts. The Center has also committed itself to the restoration and addition project proposed for the historic South Haven Lightkeeper's House which was recently acquired by the City of South Haven.

The Michigan Maritime Museum has leased the house for storage and administrative space for several years, and will continue to use it under a new lease with the city. Museum officials would like to enlarge and update the building to serve as a public research and education facility; and have received a pledge of support from WMU to assist in project fundraising.

MOORE MUSEUM

During the Fall of 1998, the number of historic structures in the Moore Museum's complex increased by two when the former Trinity Anglican

Church and a wooden railroad caboose were moved to the site. Also last fall, officials celebrated the opening of the recreated Basswood Block which now houses exhibits of carpentry and harness-making tools.

In other news, Ella Norton, who has served on the Moore Museum's board of directors for 14 years, was recently awarded an achievement award as part of the Ontario Heritage Foundation's Community Recognition Program. The program highlights the work of individuals who have made important contributions to the preservation, protection and promotion of the province's heritage.

OWEN SOUND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Owen Sound Historical Society's Marine-Rail Heritage Museum and Owen Sound Tourist Office have shared quarters in a former CN rail depot for several years. The City of Owen Sound recently decided to fund a new doorway to connect the groups' sections of the depot.

According to Historical Society officials, that decision will lead to increased public access to the Historical Society's collections. Due to volunteer staff retirements and transfers, the Society has had to cut back significantly on the hours of the Heritage Museum in recent months.

The Historical Society is currently conducted a campaign to recruit new volunteers as museum guides, and to perform a variety of operating and administrative tasks. The Society is also continuing to work with the Tourist Office to attract even more visitors to the waterfront depot.

PORT COLBORNE HISTORICAL & MARINE MUSEUM

On July 19, the Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum will open a special exhibit entitled "Ship Shape" which will feature local and international post cards depicting a variety of marine vessels. The exhibit will be a temporary addition to its permanent Marine Exhibit which was recently renovated.

The museum's new seasonal exhibit is entitled "Almost Too Grand" and features 1,999 items from the museum's collection of over 14,000 historic artifacts. In other news, Lower Lake Towing recently donated a pair of tickets for a trip aboard the **S.S.**

Cuyahoga to the Port Colborne Museum as a fundraising event.

PORT HURON MUSEUM

Recent meetings of the Lake Huron Lore Marine Society at the Port Huron Museum have included presentations by Bob Campbell of Grand Ledge, Mich. and Terry Doyon of Sarnia, Ontario. In addition, the Museum also recently hosted a joint meeting of the Marine Society and the Marine Historical Society of Detroit.

The Lake Huron Lore Marine Society will hold its annual Marine Mart flea market at Port Huron on Saturday, June 5. Other upcoming events include the Society's annual river cruise on August 14 which gives participants an opportunity to view the waterside activities of the annual Wallaceburg Antique Motor and Boat Outing (WAMBO) in Wallaceburg, Ontario.

SAVE ONTARIO SHIPWRECKS

In December, officials of Save Ontario Shipwrecks and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation (MCCR) met to discuss the group's future as a Provincial Heritage Organization (PHO). With such status, SOS has been able to receive its core funding from the ministry for many years.

One of the issues of concern to the MCCR, and others, is the increased focus on dive tourism promotion by some SOS chapters in preference to the Society's traditional role as a maritime heritage organization. As a result of those concerns, according to Society officials, the SOS board will need to reassess the organization's current and future direction.

That reassessment process began, in part, during the 1999 SOS Annual Meeting which was held on February 27 at the Plaza Hotel in Toronto, in conjunction with Underwater Canada '99. As a result of that meeting and others, SOS will be making a stronger effort to insure that its various chapters first document shipwreck sites before promoting them for dive tourism purposes.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

In February, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin sponsored a presentation entitled "The

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Sunken Ships and Planes of Pearl Harbor" by Dr. Bradley Rodgers of East Carolina University. Following the presentation, Dr. Rodgers signed copies of his latest book **Guardian of the Lakes: The U.S. Paddle Frigate Michigan**.

In other news, the National Sea Grant College Program recently awarded a joint grant to the State Historical Society and the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Program to create a series of plastic diving guides and a web site for historic Lake Michigan shipwrecks.

The project will be based on the two groups' previous work on Lake Superior shipwrecks which resulted in the creation of a series of diving guides and the "Ice Water Mansions" web site (www.seagrant.wisc.edu/shipwrecks).

STEAMER COLUMBIA FOUNDATION

In an effort to raise funds for alarm and insurance protection for the former Bob-Lo steamers **Columbia** and **Ste. Claire**, the Steamer Columbia Foundation recently conducted a new charter membership campaign. Charter memberships ranged in price from \$30 per year for an individual to \$500 per year for a patron.

The 97-year-old **Columbia** is the older of the two remaining Bob-Lo vessels and has been designated a National Historical Landmark. The Foundation is conducting a number of fundraising activities aimed at returning the steamer to Detroit River excursion service by the 300th anniversary of the founding of Detroit in 2001.

STEAMSHIP WILLIAM G. MATHER MUSEUM

In December, the Steamship **William G. Mather** Museum's staff and volunteers gathered for a Christmas party at the new Great Lakes Science Center, which is also located in Cleveland's North Coast Harbor district.

For the season, the **Mather** was decked out with 1,500 colored lights which were clearly visible through the Science Center's five story Gund Wintergarten window.

In April, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineer dredging barge broke loose during high winds and collided with the 618-foot **Mather** which apparently did not suffer any significant damage

since the vessel is now officially in its ninth year of operation. The barge went on to collide with the East Ninth Street pier, but was eventually recovered.

WISCONSIN MARINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Harry Anderson was the featured speaker at the Wisconsin Marine Historical Society's 40th annual meeting on January 30. Recently retired after 35 years as executive director of the Milwaukee County Historical Society, Anderson's presentation was entitled "Vikings in Early Milwaukee: The Norwegian Presence in the Local Maritime World."

During the business portion of the meeting, WMHS President Hub Ranger said that the Society's organizational focus for the coming year will be to strengthen its membership base and improve its fundraising activities. Society officials hope to use increased funds for expanding publishing, promotion and public education programs in the coming years.

In related news, the Historical Society recently announced that it was starting a summer program for the Milwaukee Public Library. The program will be designed to teach children, between the ages of 7 and 11 years old, about the various types of sailing ships that have been used on the Great Lakes, and to encourage them to read and learn more about these ships.

WISCONSIN MARITIME MUSEUM

The 1999 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum was held on February 25. The guest speaker for the meeting was Dr. Bradley Rodgers who presented a program entitled "Guardian of the Great Lakes: The U.S. Paddle Frigate **Michigan**" based on his latest book of the same title.

Launched in 1843, the **Michigan** was the U.S. Navy's first iron-hulled steamer and played an important role in the Civil War. The steamer went on to become an icon of the mid-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries on the Great Lakes, and its beakhead is now on display at the new Erie Maritime Museum in Erie, Pa.

The Wisconsin Maritime Museum's spring Family Program series included a number of Great Lakes topics including a slide documentary entitled "Come Aboard the **Edward L.**

Ryerson" which was the last Great Lakes freighter built in Manitowoc. Other programs included "Fairbanks Morris of Beloit" by John Bottorf, and "Control of Great Lakes Transportation: 1915-1940" by Dr. Jerome Laurent of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

WISCONSIN UNDERWATER ARCHEOLOGY ASSOCIATION

In conjunction with the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, the Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association sponsored a workshop entitled "Sail, Steam and the Profit Margin: An Examination of Great Lakes Shipping" on February 27.

Leading the program was Dr. Bradley Rodgers of the Maritime History and Underwater Archeology Program at East Carolina University. Based on the success of the February workshop, the WUAA is planning for a future workshop that will focus on the steam engine technology of early Great Lakes steamers.

During its recent spring meeting at the Door County Maritime Museum, the WUAA discussed its plans for the upcoming summer fieldwork season. Documentation projects that are already in the works for the 1999 season include continued work on the wrecks at Bullhead Point in Sturgeon Bay and the wreck of the **Christiana Nielson** in Bailey's Harbor.

PERSONNEL NEWS

Jon Gast has joined the staff of the **Door County Maritime Museum** as operations director. Jon was formerly with the *Door County Advocate*, and has served on the Maritime Museum's board of directors for several years.

Bob Kyle has been elected president of the **Chicago Maritime Society** replacing Deane Tank who has served as the Society's president for the past four years. Bob is also on the board of directors of Mystic Seaport and is chair of its publishing committee.

Carol Hale is the new office manager for the **Maritime Heritage Alliance**. Carol is a long-time member of the Heritage Alliance, and replaces Joni Robb who served as office manager for the past two years.

John Jensen, formerly an underwater archeologist with the **State Historical Society of Wisconsin**, has accepted a two-year faculty position at Williams

College in Mystic, Conn. The appointment is a Robert G. Stone Fellowship which will involve teaching a seminar in American maritime history at the college each semester, along with research and writing.

Margaret Falise has stepped down as museum shop manager for the **H. Lee White Marine Museum** but has not left the museum's staff. Margaret will now assist associate director Rosemary Nesbitt with a variety of projects.

RECENT ARTICLES

The following is a brief listing of recent articles that may be of interest to Great Lakes maritime historians and researchers:

In the Winter 1998 issue of *Inland Seas*® published by the Great Lakes Historical Society (for more info., call (216) 835-9930): "Heroes of the **Clarion**: the **Monroe** and the **Hanna**" by Lou Rauh; "Lake Michigan's Fall Fury" by Kathy Warnes; "Caribou Lighthouse: The Most Isolated Lighthouse on the Great Lakes" by Barbara Chisholm and Andrea Gutsche; "Great Lakes Shipping and Shipbuilding: 1796-1996" by Jane Hutchinson Cauffield; "British Personnel at the Battle of Lake Erie" by Douglas L. Hendry, Charles C. Morrisey and David Curtis Skaggs; and "Michigan Shipbuilding Cities: 1800-1900" by Edward Chaput.

In the Winter 1999 issue of the *Shipwreck Journal* published by the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society (for more info., call (906) 635-1742) is an article on the loss of the steamer **Cyprus** on Lake Superior in 1907.

In the October/November/December 1998 issue of *Anchor News* published by the Wisconsin Maritime Museum (for more info., call (920) 684-0218) is a ship profile of the propeller **Middleton**.

In the November-December 1998 issue of the *Nor'Easter* published by the Lake Superior Maritime Museum Association (for more info., call (218) 727-2497): "What the Heck is a Bum Boat?" by Franz VonRiedel.

In the December 1998-January 1999 issue of *Lake Superior Magazine*, an associate AGLMH member (for more info., call (218) 722-5002): "The Port Name Game" which discusses the recent changes in names of several

Duluth waterfront landmarks; "The Port's Leading Authority" by Bill Beck which profiles the 20-year career of Davis Helberg, executive director of the Seaway Port Authority of Duluth; and an "About the Boat" profile of the R/V **L.L. Smith Jr.**

In the Winter 1999 issue of *Soundings* published by the Wisconsin Marine Historical Society (for more info., call (414) 286-3074): "A Tale of Two Ships" by Brendon Baillod; "Ship Welding on the Great Lakes during World War II" by Omer W. Bloodgett; "Steel Bulk Carrier History: Part 28" by Victor Plantico; "The Launching of the **U.S.S. Wisconsin**: Beer Meets Brine" by John C. Eastberg; and "**Wolverine** and **Sable**: Great Lakes Training Aircraft Carriers of World War II" by Thomas J. Fritz.

In the January-February 1999 issue of the *Nor'Easter* published by the Lake Superior Maritime Museum Association (for more info., call (218) 727-2497): "Tribute to a Twin Ports Legend" by Patrick Lapinski which profiles the career of vessel agent Gerald Grandmaison who recently retired after 39 years of service to the port of Duluth-Superior.

In the January-March 1999 issue of *Great Lakes/Seaway Review* published by Harbor House Publishers Inc. (for more info., call (616) 582-2814) are articles on the 40th anniversary of the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway, including a collection of personal recollections and historic photographs; the construction of the 714-foot, self-unloading barge **Great Lakes Trader**; a preview of the 1999 Great Lakes cruising season; a fleet profile of Great Lakes European Shipping; and a port profile of Indiana's International Port/Burns Harbor at Portage.

In the February 1999 issue of *The Superior Signal* published by the Keweenaw County Historical Society (for more info., call (906) 482-6560): "Granite Island Lighthouse" by Donald L. Nelson; and the first part of an autobiographical series by Capt. Russell H. Bergh of Jacobsville, Mich.

In the February-March 1999 issue of *Lake Superior Magazine*, an associate AGLMH member (for more info., call (218) 722-5002): "DM&IR: Port Fixture is Forward Thinker" which discusses the transportation and ore dock operations of the Duluth, Missabie & Iron Range railroad.

In the March 1999 issue of *Wisconsin's Underwater Heritage* published by the Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association (for more info., write WUAA, P.O. Box 6081, Madison, WI 53716): "When Resources Collide: Archeology in the Mississippi River Valley" by Andy Jabert; and "The Search for the **Linda E**" by Paul J. Creviere, Jr.

In the Spring 1999 issue of *Inland Seas*® published by the Great Lakes Historical Society (for more info., call (216) 835-9930): "Business of Oswego Ship Building in 1855" edited by Richard F. Palmer; "Wreck of the Steamboat **Martha Ogden**" by Richard F. Palmer; "Ship Fires on Lake Superior - Conclusion" by Dr. Julius F. Wolff, Jr.; "Workhorses and White Flyers: the Northern Steamship Company" by Al Miller; "You're Always in a Pinch on the **Philip Minch** - Part I" by Edward A. Perrine; "Fitting Out on the Great Lakes" by Richard F. Palmer; and "Raising the **Niagara**" edited by John A. Burke.

In the Spring 1999 issue of *Sea History* published by the National Maritime Historical Society (for more info., call (800) 221-6647): "Ships of the Irish Diaspora" with articles by Thad Koza, Aude Bates and Anthony McLoughlin; and "Technology and Archeology in the Deep Sea" by David B. Allen.

In the Spring 1999 issue of the *Chicago Maritime Society Newsletter* (for more info., call (312) 421-9096): a contemporary account entitled "The Great Flood of 1849" and its affect on docks and shipping in the Chicago Harbor.

Mid-year meeting

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present for the mid-year meeting along with six regular members. Bob O'Donnell was elected to the board to replace John Summers who has left Heritage Toronto for a position with the International Yacht Restoration School in Newport, R.I.

In other action, John Karry was elected vice president replacing Stan McClellan who has retired recently from the Fathom Five National Marine Park. Jay Martin was also recognized as the new board member from the Wisconsin Maritime Museum replacing Isacco Valli. The board then

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approved a resolution thanking Isco for his many years of service to the Association.

ANNUAL MEETING

Details of the 1999 Annual Meeting at the Door County Maritime Museum in Sturgeon Bay, Wis. are being finalized. The date has been confirmed as September 10-12 and members are encouraged to make their room reservations as soon as possible.

September 11-12 is the 20th Annual Door County Century Bicycle Tour which attracts up to 2,000 riders to the area. A block of rooms has been reserved for Association members at the new, waterfront Stone Harbor Resort & Conference Center (tel. 877-746-0700). The rate is \$72 per night.

Additional lodging information is available from the Door County Chamber of Commerce (tel. 920-743-4456). Members interested in making presentations during the program portion of the meeting should contact Doug Henderson of the Door County Maritime Museum (tel. 920-743-5958).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bob Graham reported that the Association's National Maritime Heritage Grant project was not funded by the program's first round of grants (see September/October 1998 *Newsletter* for project details). Two Great Lakes projects, however, were among the 39 grants awarded in the first round and include: \$4,000 to the Inland Seas Education Association, and \$24,850 to the Historical Collections of the Great Lakes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

In response to a proposal by Fred Neuschel, chair of the Research & Publications Committee, the board approved a draft of a new Association research awards program. The awards program is designed to encourage new research on Great Lakes maritime history using original materials, with the final details worked out in time for the 1999 Annual Meeting.

Since it is unlikely that the U.S. National Maritime Heritage Grants program will be able to fund any additional rounds of grants, John Karry reported that the Arts Inventory Project Committee is considering applying for Canadian funding of the project. To that end, the board approved \$500 to cover the expenses

associated with new grant applications.

Bob Graham reported that Bob O'Donnell has informed the World Wide Web Committee that it is now possible for copies of the newsletter to be posted directly to our Web site without retyping. This was made possible by the Association's previous decision to fund an upgrade to the desktop publishing software that Bob's uses to produce the Association's newsletter.

Our web site (www.aglmh.org) currently has general and membership information, along with a directory of institutional members and links to their web sites. After a lengthy discussion of posting newsletters on-line, the board was unable to reach a consensus and will reconsider the idea at the annual meeting in September.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

In his report, Bob O'Donnell noted that the new desktop publishing software that the Association helped him to purchase will soon reduce our newsletter publishing costs by \$70 or more per issue by allowing the printer to go direct-to-plate. For the four newsletters published since the 1998 Annual Meeting last September, the average cost per issue was \$585 including printing and mailing.

Given the difficulty of folding issues that are more than ten pages in length, Bob provided a cost estimate for mailing our newsletters flat to the board. Such a change would increase costs by \$181 per issue, which may be partially offset if we use bulk mailing rates. The consensus of the board was that if we can lower the cost, the editor may try mailing future issues flat rather than folded.

Bob has also developed a new membership directory which would contain detailed contact information on both institutional and individual Association members. Copies of the 8-1/2x11 directory, which would cost \$541 to print and mail to all members, were distributed to the board members present. The board reached no consensus on the new directory.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of Dec. 31, 1998, the end of our fiscal year, Bill O'Brien reported that the Association had total income of \$7,037 and total expenses of \$6,790 resulting in a surplus for the year of

\$247. As a result of that surplus, our total cash on hand was \$22,093 as of December 31.

The final budget for the Association's 1999 fiscal year projects income of \$10,500 and expenses of \$9,050 which will result in a surplus of \$1,450. After a discussion of corporate giving, the board approved both the final financial report for 1998 and the projected budget for 1999.

OTHER BUSINESS

In conjunction with the 300th anniversary of the founding of Detroit, the possibility of holding the Association's annual meeting there in 2001, with the Marine Historical Society of Detroit as a host, was discussed. There is also a proposal to hold the 2000 Annual Meeting in Amherstburg, Ontario just south of Detroit, with a final decision to be made this September.

In discussing efforts to promote the Association, it was the consensus of the board that the Association membership/institutional guide brochure continue to be published, and the traveling exhibit be kept current as possible. A new slide program was also discussed.

In regards to the revised proposal for an Association diver manual, action was deferred to the annual meeting since Joyce Hayward and Eddie Herdendorf were unable to attend the mid-year meeting. The board also discussed moving future mid-year meetings to April to avoid unpredictable Great Lakes winter weather.

Other items discussed were the Art Project Committee's paper entitled "General Guidelines for Photographing Works of Art" which was presented by John Karry and Henry Barkhausen. The Historical Collections of the Great Lakes' imaging project and its funding by the National Maritime Heritage Grant program were also briefly reviewed and discussed.

The board also discussed the status of the Wisconsin Marine Historical Society's computer enrollment project which now has 95,000 enrollments on-line through the Milwaukee Public Library. In related news, it was noted that Mystic Seaport Museum has placed its collection of Lloyd's Registers on-line, and the possibility of making Inland Lloyd's available on-line was discussed.