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SOUTH HAVEN

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South Haven, MI 49090

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A MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM PUBLICATION

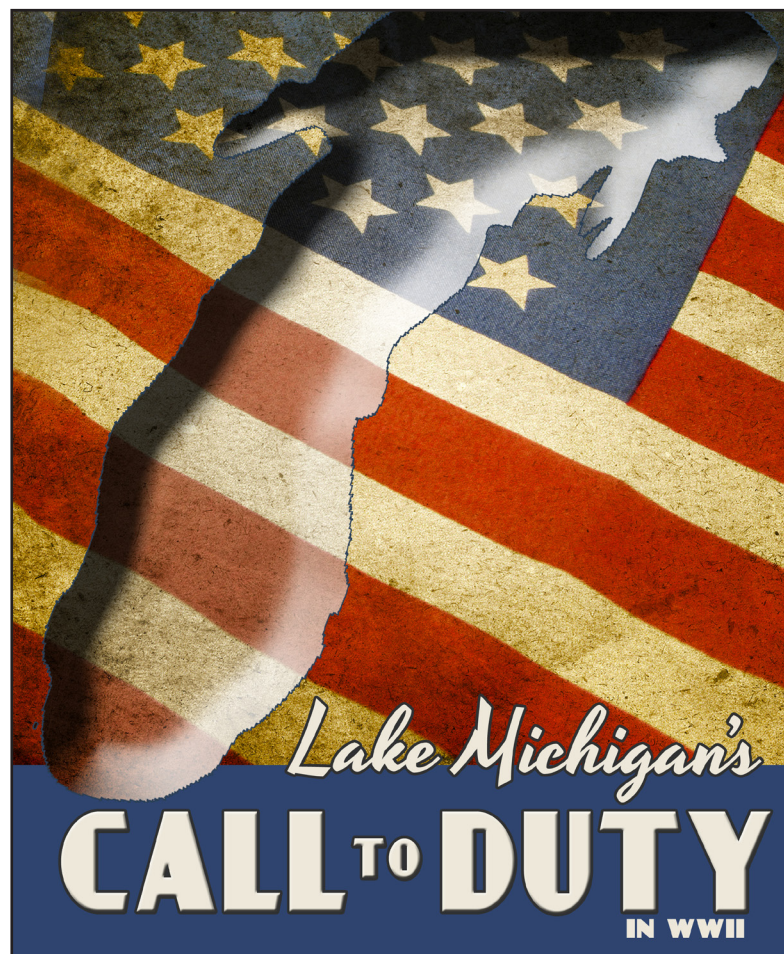
FALL 2016
VOLUME XXXIII No. II

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- Annual Appeal for the MMM
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NEW EXHIBIT COMING APRIL 2017!

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the United States found itself suddenly plunged into what would become a second world war. In response, the nation undertook the greatest industrial, social, and military mobilization the world has ever witnessed, and Lake Michigan played a critical role in its call to duty. Palatial Great Lakes passenger steamers became aircraft carriers working off Chicago to train desperately needed Navy and Marine pilots. Shipbuilders began turning out essential submarines, minesweepers, sub chasers, and tugs for the Army and Navy. Sailors transported iron ore, stone, and coal for use in the steel industry. Civilians replaced Coast Guard personnel called to military duty. And, commercial fishermen provided necessary food for the troops. This exhibit highlights this vast mobilization for war embraced by the Lake Michigan region.



We rounded off our 2016 on-water education programs with over 80 students from Quincy Elementary in Zeeland this September. What a way to end our season!

MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM
260 DYCKMAN AVENUE
SOUTH HAVEN, MICHIGAN 49090
A NON-PROFIT 501(C)(3)



MARITIME DISTRICT
SOUTH HAVEN



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Mission Statement

Volunteers and staff welcome members and the public to experience and appreciate Great Lakes maritime history in a unique, exciting and thought provoking manner.

Vision Statement

The Michigan Maritime Museum, as a premier destination, will preserve and interpret the rich heritage of the Great Lakes while enhancing the South Haven Maritime District.

MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM
260 Dyckman Avenue
Maritime District South Haven, MI 49090
(269) 637-8078
www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org
A Non-Profit 501(c)(3)



/michiganmaritimemuseum



@MMaritimeMuseum



michiganmaritimemuseum

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Executive Director

Patti Montgomery Reinert

Thank you.... two very simple words we are taught at a very young age. A gesture to express appreciation for an act of kindness or thoughtfulness. It seems that in the hustle and bustle in today's world, we often become so wrapped up in our own day to day lives that we often don't take the time to reach out to others who impact our lives in such a positive light. This is the perfect time of year to make a conscious effort to do better....to take the time to express gratitude in a meaningful way.

Please allow me to say:

Thank You for making history come alive and proving that children can learn beyond the classroom and text books, and providing them with an experience of a lifetime.

You have a gift of making visitors feel so welcome and excited about being here, thank you!

Thank you for giving up precious days of your summer so that others enjoy a vacation they will always remember.

Thank you for demonstrating leadership and guidance to secure a prosperous and solid future for the Museum and for spending unlimited hours corresponding through emails and meetings, somehow finding the time to do it all. Not because you must, but because it's the right thing to do.

You are always pitching in, lending a hand, no matter how big or small the task! Often you just check in just to make sure we are ok, the campus is ok, the boats are ok. Perhaps share a kind word of encouragement when days seem a bit overwhelming.... thank you!

Thank you for caring so much about an old boat that is one of a kind and your willingness to nurture, care for her and keep her story alive and exciting for those who board her and for those who are captured by her story and her beauty.

Thank you for showing all of us that there are endless opportunities beyond our expectations and that time spent on social media can be our friend!

For being there to clean up after hundreds of visitors spend time enjoying the campus. For helping with flowers and offering special touches to make our world at the MMM bright and beautiful.... thank you!

Thank you for dressing up in costumes from the past to bring laughter, smiles and treasures to children and adults alike!

Thank you for unselfishly giving up something as valuable as time, energy, and financial support so to make the Museum a better place. For being part of a team that wants only the best for the MMM.... for caring for each other as if we were a family.

Thank you for still being here, believing in the Michigan Maritime Museum, even on days when you didn't get a thank you! I promise, I'll do better!



MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM

2016-2017 Annual Appeal

Every Gift Counts-Every Gift Makes A Difference!

☐\$25 ☐\$50 ☐\$100 ☐\$250 ☐\$500 ☐\$1000 ☐Other \$_____

☐Yes, I/We have named the Museum as a beneficiary of my/our will, trust, IRA, 401K, annuity, or life insurance

Donations may be made online through our website at: www.MichiganMaritimeMuseum.org

Make checks payable to **Michigan Maritime Museum**

Charge my credit card: ☐MasterCard ☐Visa ☐American Express

Account # _____ / _____ / _____ Exp. Date ____/____ Billing Zip _____ CCV _____

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MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM

260 Dyckman Avenue

South Haven, MI 49090

(269) 637-8078

A Non-Profit 501(c)(3)

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

The tug, *Wilhelm Baum*, was purchased by the SHOUT organization and gifted to the Museum. She is now back where she belongs, moored and welcoming visitors for dockside tours. We hope to get the engine running next!

USCG Motor Lifeboat *36460*, which played a starring role in the Disney Movie, *The Finest Hours*, is now licensed and available at the Museum for shoreline cruises. A full schedule will be offered for the 2017 season, offering our visitors yet another on-water experience.

The Keeper's House has a new authentic cedar shake roof and reinforced front porch thanks to a matching grant from the State Historic Preservation Office. They congratulated us on a job well done and have encouraged us to work towards another phase of improvements which will further the restoration of this historic property.

Our educational programs have expanded to cover more of the shoulder seasons and we have welcomed onboard a third

full time employee who will split time between collections management and administrative support. Also in the works is a brand new exhibition highlighting the role that Lake Michigan played during the WWII period. This will replace our now 3-year-old exhibit, *Mysteries Beneath the Waves*.

Though we are extremely proud of the fact that we generate 80% of our income from admission fees, tickets, retail sales, and membership dues, we depend on generous people like you for the remaining 20% to help cover operating expenses like salaries, matching grants, volunteer support, student assistance, speaker fees and a myriad of other expenses that help keep the Museum afloat.

Last year we raised just under \$100,000 during our Annual Appeal. We're setting the same goal for this year and with help from you, we know we can make it.

We hope we can count on you!



A MARITIME HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA



We know what you're thinking, "it's not even Thanksgiving and it's starting already!" Well, you are correct, it is starting already. We want to give you a rather unique holiday gift suggestion, the gift of a one-year Museum membership for a relative, a dear friend or, a valued employee.

This holiday season the Museum is making a special offer of five (5) one-year Family Memberships, usually \$50.00 apiece, for only \$200. A savings of \$50.00. Individual sales of gift Family Memberships are available for \$45.00, a \$5.00 savings!

Each membership provides:

- Free admission to the Museum, including lectures, exhibits, programs, and selected classes;
- A 10% discount in the creatively stocked Museum store;
- A year's subscription to the Museum's newsletter, *The Ship's Lamp* and our e-newsletter, *The Ship's Bell*;
- Invitations to Members' Only functions and,
- Continuing support of the Michigan Maritime Museum's educational mission.

We already know you like the Museum or you wouldn't be a member, why not share the Museum this holiday season?

PS: Buying the 5 membership package will also let you check off five names on your holiday gift list!



Cluett and crew docking the boat after winning the North American Championship. Veteran sailors discovered he had tuned the mast slightly differently to gain speed—a practice still used today. (photo credit: Dave Cluett Jr.)

Allen Dickerson, however, kept racing Lightnings. A mainstay of the fleet throughout the ‘60s and ‘70s, he owned boat number 12033, and qualified for several national championships, including one on Lake Ponchartrain in the late ‘70s.

“We trailed it down to New Orleans,” he recalls. “I liked the Lightning for its portability.”

“Another thing we liked about the Lightning class, were the people,” Allen’s wife Arlene adds. “There are no jerks among Lightning sailors.”

So remember the Lightning when you see the South Haven Yacht Club burgee rippling in the wind.

Better yet, take out *Flashback*, one of the many craft in the water at the Michigan Maritime Museum. Feel her jump ahead as air fills the sails and the spinnaker billows above. Hear the slap of the waves as she carves into the wind and your crew hikes out to keep her flat and flying. It’s every bit as exhilarating today as it was in 1942.

MMM Ships Passport

Introducing the MMM Ships Passport! This passport gives one passenger 3 different On-Water experiences aboard our tall ship *Friends Good Will*, river cruiser *Lindy Lou*, and the Disney movie star USCG Motor Lifeboat *36460*. A total individual ticket price of \$70, all 3 vessels together with a passport is only \$55! This offer is good for the 2017 season and some restrictions apply. Please contact the Museum for details at 269-637-8078.



Ship Passports make great holiday gifts for all of the maritime enthusiasts on your list. Get yours now in time for the holiday season!

Ship Shape *By Maggie Woodruff*

Ahoy! The Season sure does know how to sail by...! It was a magical Season...and it is with great satisfaction we come to the end of Season 2016. The Ship’s Store staff greeted and processed the desires of a record number of guests over the summer. Our shelves were being restocked daily, and this kept our buyer very busy with reorders of our outstanding selections. The arrival of the “Disney Boat” USCG Motor Lifeboat *36460*, that starred in the movie *The Finest Hours*, caused great excitement all around, and we are most proud and honored that this sturdy beauty is moored at our Museum docks. Check out our popular, attractive Coast Guard items while you’re here for the matinee of the movie on November 19th!

Keep in mind our smartly styled outerwear, ship or shore, warm and weather beating, these are just for your Fall comforts. Also, the Holidays bring special pleasure when “it’s nautical!” Shop the Ship’s Store!

Christmas Tree Ship Sugar Cookie Recipe

We’ll be baking some of these delicious cookies at our Christmas Tree Ship children’s book reading event December 17th at the historic Keeper’s House. Come by and enjoy or make them at home with your family for the holidays!

INGREDIENTS

For the Cookies

- 1½ cups unsalted butter (3 sticks), softened
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- 5 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling
- 2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- For the Frosting*
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 2-4 tbsp. milk
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Green food coloring

INSTRUCTIONS

In the bowl of a mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together butter and sugar. Mix in eggs and extract until well-combined.

In a separate bowl, whisk together remainder of cookie ingredients. Add dry ingredients to wet in batches until combined.

Divide dough into quarters, form into discs, and wrap in plastic wrap and chill for at least 2 hours. Preheat oven to 400°.

Removed one disc from fridge and roll out on floured surface until dough is ⅛”-1/4” thick.

Cut with cookie cutter and baked on an ungreased cookie sheet for 6-8 minutes, watching closely. Cookies are done when bottoms are just barely golden brown. Let cool completely on wire racks before frosting. Make sure cookie sheets are cool to touch before place more cookie dough on them.

For frosting, combine sugar, two tablespoons milk, and honey, adding more milk until frosting reaches desired consistency. For piping and spreading, you’re looking for a thicker frosting (like cake frosting), for dipping cookies, you’ll want something a little bit thinner.

Pipe, spread or dip onto cookies. Will dry to a soft frosting with a glossy coating. If you’d like to use sprinkles, apply them before the frosting dries.



Sailing Through the Season with Students

Another great year for our education and outreach programs both at the Museum and off campus. We had 6 different schools visit us this year with over 400 students in total that participated in our educational programming on water and on land. This includes South Haven’s North Shore Elementary who went sailing on *Friends Good Will* with 156 fifth graders over three days!

We saw an increase in community groups visiting for



Students from Bloomingdale Elementary aboard FGW in May 2016

Maritime Science is Fun!

Our second Kids’ STEM Summer Camp was held in July of this year and we had so much fun learning about maritime science! Eights students from South Haven, Chicago, and even Texas had lessons aboard *Friends Good Will*, *Evelyn S*, *Elsie J*, and all over our campus. The hands-on activities touched on sail power, commercial fishing, buoyancy, and underwater archaeology. The students ended their week with a trip up the Black River on the *Lindy Lou*. Many thanks to Museum member Joan Bemis for sponsoring a student at this year’s camp! Thank you to our education volunteers Joe Vetere, Sharon Guiltan, Celia Kuick, Don Kitchin, and summer intern Jack Greve for all of your help and enthusiasim for maritime education. A special thank you to Bob and Kathy Jensen for giving the students a tour of *Elsie J*.



2016 STEM Kid’s Summer Camp students

Interning at the MMM Takes You Places

This summer we were fortunate to have Jack Greve as our summer intern. Jack recently graduated from Western Michigan University with a degree in public history. Jack arrived at the MMM in late June, he helped us with a great many projects, events, and programs in all areas of the Museum. These included our STEM Summer Camp, Boat Building Class, special events and everyday programming. Shortly after Jack finished his internship with us, he was offered the Executive Director/Curator position at the North Berrien Historical Museum in Coloma, MI. Congratulations on your new position, Jack and thank you for your hard work and dedication this 2016 season. We’re proud to be able to offer internship opportunities at the MMM to exceptional students like Jack and help them on their career paths.



2016 Summer Intern Jack Greve

Emily Stap Joins MMM Staff

The Museum is pleased to welcome and promote Emily Stap to the full time position of Collections & Office Manager. Many of you may know Emily as one of the cheerful front desk retail associates who has greeted thousands of visitors to the MMM! She started working part-time in the Museum gift shop and this fall marked her third consecutive season.

Emily received her Associates Degree in Arts from Lake Michigan Community College and has been pursuing her passion for history while attending Western Michigan University and working towards her degree in Public History with a focus in archives and a minor in English in 2017. She completed her internship last year through the MMM and was able to get first hand experiences in grant writing, answer research requests, and lead the efforts in getting the archives/collections improved to current archival standards. Additional valuable experiences include volunteer work in the Genealogy Department of the Allegan Public Library and the Zhang Legacy Center, Archives & Regional History Collections of Western Michigan University.

This position will provide tremendous administrative support to current staff and will also fill a void and expand collections care that has been unavailable for a number of years. Please join us in welcoming Emily to her new year-round position!



Keeper's House Project Part I Complete



Keeper's House Grant project committee view the results of the new roof with pride. (Pictured L to R: Carol Bryson, Sandy Bryson, Guy Calboun, Patti Montgomery Reinert, and Joelle Letts)

story time of the *Christmas Tree Ship* in our cozy research library. Check out our event calendar online for more details and our Christmas Tree Ship cookie recipe later in this issue.

Early this season the new roof was completed on the historic Lighthouse Keeper's Dwelling! With a matching grant from the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program through the State Historic Preservation Office. A new cedar roof was installed that is historically accurate in accordance to the late 1800s, when the house was originally built. The Museum would like to thank the contractor Save-A-Shake for a job well done. Now that Phase 1 of the project is accomplished, the Museum hopes to reapply for a grant for a second phase to restore the porch, front door, and rain gutters.

Since this much needed new roof is now protecting this historic house, and a part-time Collections Manager has been hired devoting time to the library and archives, the Museum plans to use the Keeper's House more frequently. This will enable the Museum to fulfill more research requests and offer more opportunities to open this historic landmark to the public for selected events.

Come see the new roof on December 17th (snow permitting) and get a peek inside the Keeper's House at our children's book reading holiday event. Bring the whole family to enjoy hot chocolate, Christmas cookies, sledding (if there's snow), holiday gift shopping and kids'

South Haven Lighthouse Shines Again

Many congratulations to our friends at the Historical Association of South Haven (HASH) for raising enough funds to complete the restoration of the South Haven light both inside and out. HASH raised over \$300,000 dollars for the restoration process. The exterior was sandblasted and areas of rust removed and restored. The light was then coated with 52 gallons of its signature red paint. She can stand a little prouder as she watches over South Haven's pier for another century.



Right: The light after complete restoration and scaffolding removed at the unveiling on October 7, 2016.

Left: The Coast Guard reinstalled the South Haven light to shine again after many years.



South Haven and the Lightning *by Jim Force*

Had it not been for gasoline shortages during World War II, South Haven and the Lightning sailboat might never have formed their lasting bond.

In 1942, gas rationing forced the International Lightning Class Association to cancel plans to hold its national championship regatta in Buffalo, New York. Trailering boats long distances was out of the question.

But at the last minute, Lightning sailors at South Haven suggested they could host the regatta and participants could use boats owned by members of the local Lightning Fleet 30.



Lightning #131- Butch II, ran in the South Haven Fleet. Dave Cluett sailed it to victory in the North American Championship regatta (photo credit: Dave Cluett Jr.)

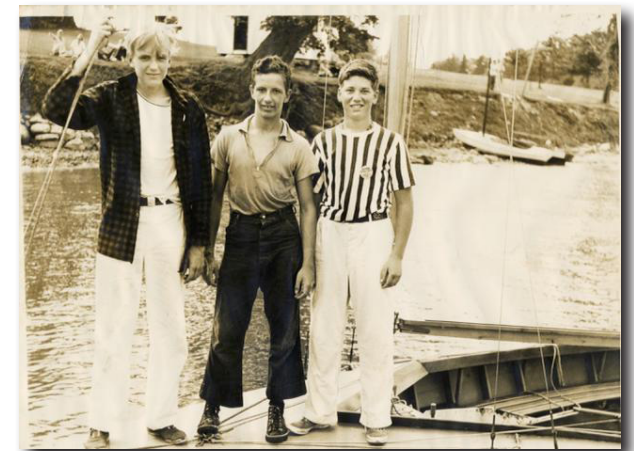
Two races followed on the second day in ideal conditions. For the regatta, Cluett racked up a fifth and two firsts—just enough to win. His young crew had to hang onto one of the wire shrouds supporting the mast which snapped during the first race.

The teenager was no flash in the pan. The sailing acumen he demonstrated at South Haven presaged a career that included captaining the sailing team at the U.S. Naval Academy and designing and building world-class sailing yachts, including multi-hulls that won major races in the 1950s at speeds of 25 knots or more. He was a skilled aviator as well, flying naval attack fighters in Korea.

Cluett may have also initiated the art of tuning Lightnings to improve speed. David Cluett, Jr., recalls that race officials examined his dad's boat after the races only to discover that the young skipper had made adjustments to the backward slant of the mast and the tension of the shrouds—all perfectly legal and very effective. "Dad was always talking about sail trim," his son remembers.

Fleet 30 continued to sail for pleasure and race for trophies on Lake Michigan throughout the 1940s and '50s; Ladenburger served as Class president in 1946. The fleet went all out again for the Michigan district championship regatta in 1967, organized by Frank Overton, Marty Benaker, Don Goodwillie and others. Just as it had in '42, the Big Lake gave the racers something to think about. High winds halted the second race prematurely and left several boats beached and broken south of town. The '67 regatta marked a high point for Fleet 30. Young sailors moved away; others purchased larger boats. The hoist which lowered the boats into the water was dismantled. The Class office—ably staffed here for many years by Margaret Teske—moved to Ohio.

(Continues next page)



Dave Cluett, who skippered the championship boat (left) with his crew of teens Wolcott Roosevelt and William Chisholm from Long Island. Not exactly the sailing outfits we see today! (photo credit: Dave Cluett Jr.)

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic and Awards

We couldn't do what we do without all of the amazing volunteers who log an incredible amount of hours with us. Time logged on our campus and boats reached close to 5500 hours from January to the end of September! We recognized a few of the people and organizations who stood out this year during our Membership Appreciation Picnic on September 30th. Here is a list of our award winners from 2016. Thank you to everyone who volunteers for the MMM!

New Ship's Co. Award – Leslie Wolfe

Day Sail Dedication Award – Mary Helen Price

Going the Distance – Rocky Frees

Bravest Pirate Chaser Award – Deanne Fridley

Windy City Award – John Degoede

50+ Sails – Marilyn Powell, Tom Jett, Rocky Frees, John Degoede, Leslie Wolfe, Maryhelen Price, Robert Pustelnik

Multi-Vessel Award – Steve & Sarah Stryd

Best Newbie Award – Tom Bantle

Education Award – Sharon Guiltinan

Most Dependable Award – Tom Smith

Museum Ambassador Award – Dave Bugge

Viking Awards – Deanne Fridley, Diane Williams, Bill Durant, Dave Bugge

Friendly Business Award – All Seasons (Tim and Aaron Giesler)

Helping Hand Award – Steelheaders

Our Hero Award – Jeff Shook

200+ Hours – Mary Dezelsky, Rocky Frees, Robert Pustelnik, Marilyn Powell, John Degoede, Tom Jett, Leslie Wolfe, Eric Standen

Eric Standen Award – Mary Dezelsky

Volunteer of the Year Award – Eric Standen (*546 Hours!*)



2016 Volunteer Award Winners

Upcoming Events



April 22nd - 23rd Annual Coast Guard Clean Up 9am-1pm

April 22nd - Grand Opening for the public of the new exhibit *Lake Michigan's Call to Duty in WWII* 10am-5pm

April 22nd - MMM Lecture Series 1pm

November 19th - *The Finest Hours Matinee* movie showing at the MMM beginning at 1pm. Bring the whole family for popcorn and the Disney film starring our very own USCG Motor Lifeboat 36460!

December 10th - Lecture on our 1921 R Class racing yacht *Bernida*

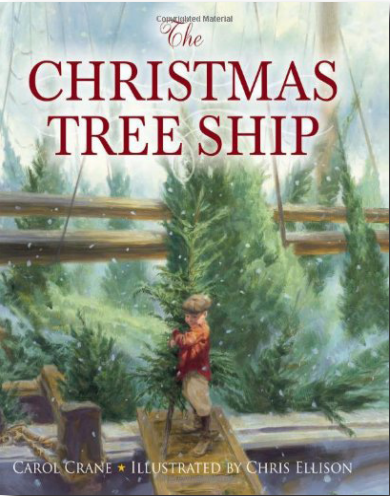
December 17th - Children's book reading of the *Christmas Tree Ship* at the historic Keeper's House from 11am to 12pm. Hot chocolate, Christmas cookies, holiday shopping, and a chance to peek inside this historic landmark.

January 21st - MMM Lecture Series 11am

February 18th - MMM Lecture Series 11am

March 18th - MMM Lecture Series 11am

April 21st - Members Only preview event of the new exhibit *Lake Michigan's Call to Duty in WWII* 5pm-7pm



USCG 36460 Licensed for Passengers

We are thrilled to announce that the 36460 has passed inspection and will be ready for public on-water experiences in 2017. The 30-minute voyage costs only \$15 per person (limit 6 passengers) and will leave the dock 5 times a day. Tickets will be available online and in our store at the beginning of 2017. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity aboard this historic vessel!



South Haven Life Saving Service/Coast Guard *By George D. Jepson*

On a mild winter morning in 1887, Captain Barney Alonzo Cross awoke early in the new South Haven life saving station on the north side of the Black River. Across the channel, the wooden south pier jugged into Lake Michigan, where the white wooden light tower stood sentinel under a pewter sky. The station's thermometer hovered near thirty degrees, with the promise of rain or snow showers in the air.

It was February 11, the historic day that the station would be commissioned by the United States Life Saving Service to help those in peril on the surrounding freshwater seas. Along with Captain Cross, the station was manned by men who risked their lives to save others. Newspapers called them "storm fighters" and "storm warriors."

When violent weather swept across the Great Lakes, the life savers wearing oil-skin foul weather gear and cork life jackets, launched wooden pulling boats into Lake Michigan's turbulent waters in efforts to save the lives of shipwreck victims. The station crew also conducted beach patrols each evening, which continued until the next morning, walking two miles north and south of the river entrance looking for anyone in danger.

In the decades after the Civil War, Great Lakes commercial shipping dramatically increased. On clear days, South Haven villagers looking westward from the sandy bluffs overlooking the lake could see the sails of schooners and the black smoke trailing steamers on the horizon. On stormy days, with treacherous seas, the life saving crew was vigilant, keeping watch from the enclosed tower atop the station, while beach patrols trudged through sand against rising winds.

The Great Lakes were America's super highways in the second half of the nineteenth century, critical trade routes between the east and the heartland. Entrepreneurs relied on shipping to get their goods to market. Shipmasters often braved the elements, even sailing well into winter months, at the risk of their lives and vessels. Shipwrecks were common. Nearly 6,000 vessels wrecked

Save Our Lights!



With its endless Great Lakes shoreline, Michigan has a lot of lighthouses to preserve. Your purchase of a Save Our Lights license plate funds lighthouse preservation through the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) under the State Historic Preservation Office. Visit michigan.gov/saveourlights for details.

It is thanks to MLAP that our Keeper's House has a new roof! Your support helps fund projects like ours.

on the Lakes between 1878 and 1898, keeping life saving crews active.

Captain Cross resigned in December, 1887, but the service in South Haven was established, serving those in distress into the twenty-first century. The station was moved to the south side of the river in 1908, across from its original location. In 1915, the government merged the Life Saving Service with the Revenue Cutter Service to form the Coast Guard. In September 1940, the Lighthouse Service was abolished and responsibility for South Haven Light was transferred to the Coast Guard. The station was deactivated in 1973 and converted into an Auxiliary unit.

Sadly, the building burned in 1983.

Today the Herbert Van Oort Boathouse on the Museum campus, with its collection of life saving vessels and displays, honors the brave men of the United States Life Saving Service and Coast Guard, who have risked their lives to save others.



South Haven USLSS station in 1900. Six surfmen posed with pulling surfboat on boathouse ramp. One crewman on lookout tower deck. (MMM Collection)



OUR 2016 SEASON



The MMM had an incredible season this year with a record number of visitors and events. From our season opening BBQ and Blessing of the Fleet to our Haunted Campus event, we have not slowed down all year! Here are some highlights from the season showcasing just a few of the many things we have been up to all year long.



Paddle Board Building Class

Right: We had a full class for our first ever Paddle Board Building Class this July. Three students worked on building their own paddle boards from a kit from start to finish in the week-long class offered by our staff. We hope to be able to offer this course again in 2017. Check our events calendar for more details on future classes. Great work students. Can't wait to see you on the water!

Wilhelm Baum Returns Home

Left: Previous owners and restorers Mike and Bridget Miles rechristen the Wilhelm Baum at our Blessing of the Fleet after SHOUT purchased the boat and gifted it to the MMM. The Miles' purchased the Baum from owner Jim Bradley and subsequently restored the 95-year old South Haven tug after an unfortunate sinking event in 2013. The Baum is once again at home at the Museum docks and is a most welcome addition to our fleet.



The 36460 Arrives!

Right: After its long awaited arrival, the USCG Motor Lifeboat 36460 arrived at the Museum on July 11th. The 36460 played the role of the 36500 in the true story of the largest Coast Guard rescue in history in Disney's film, The Finest Hours. This Hollywood star was escorted by a flotilla of boats from US Coast Guard St. Joseph Station and Auxiliary boats from South Haven. Other boaters wanting to join the parade followed the flotilla as the 36460 made its way into the heart of South Haven's Maritime District. The 36460 was met at the Museum docks by a patriotic crowd of nearly 100 people, music, fanfare and a red carpet dock reception fit for its Hollywood status.

Many thanks to the boat's owner Jeff Shook (who captained the 36460 from Saugatuck) and his family for generously giving the Museum this historic vessel on a long-term loan. The boat is now licensed to carry passengers and tickets will be available for the 2017 season.



Vikings Invade the MMM

Right: The MMM was besieged by Vikings when Draken Harald Hårfagre came into port. 2014/2015 FGW captain Corey Young was among the Draken crew that sailed across the Atlantic to the Great Lakes and is to thank for their 3-day stop in South Haven. While Draken was in port, the Museum had over 700 visitors lining up to board the replica Viking long boat.

FGW Goes to Chicago

Left: Friends Good Will voyaged to Chicago this past July for the Chicago Tall Ships Festival. While other visiting vessels only offered deck tours, our amazing crew of volunteers conducted multiple daily public sails for festival goers. Navy Pier was packed with visitors enthusiastic to climb aboard a number of exciting vessels. The MMM was proud to have FGW among them. Thank you to our volunteers for being such wonderful ambassadors for the Museum. (photo credit: Sarah Stryd)



Gov. Rick Snyder Visits the MMM

Left: We were honored by Governor Rick Snyder when he stopped by the Museum for a brief visit this October. Governor Snyder had a small tour of the Museum and was thrilled to get the chance to step on board Disney's The Finest Hours star USCG Motor Lifeboat 36460. Thank you Gov. Snyder for your visit. Come back next year and bring the whole family!

Haunted Asylum & Kids' Trick-or-Treat

Right: This year's Haunted Asylum Halloween event saw nearly 1200 attendees. The Museum was able to raise close to \$11,000 dollars during this Fall fundraiser. We also held a free kids' Trick-or-Treat event on Halloween that had about 200 little ghouls and goblins collecting candy all around our campus.

Thank you to all of our spooky volunteers who made these events such a huge success. A special thanks to Museum members Ruth & Ron Wiser for the loan of some of their vast Halloween props that really made these events special.

