



Vol 7, No 6  
June 1994  
Editor, Katherine Wilcox  
857-2716

## JUNE GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 8, 1994

7:30 pm

Saugatuck High School - Media Room

### The Michigan Underwater Shipwreck Preserve

Charles Pistis, Michigan State University

Charles Pistis will talk about the establishment of the Southwest Michigan Underwater Preserve and its effect on the Saugatuck-Douglas area. The Underwater Preserve is a new State of Michigan historical museum that is authorized to protect shipwrecks and has designated a preservation area in Lake Michigan. He will tell us about new discoveries and will show photos and slides. Chuck is a third time return speaker from the Ottawa County Extension Service so we know he will be entertaining and informative.

#### WELCOME NEW AND OLD MEMBERS

Dottie and Bob Berghuis

Roy and Florence Hebert

Mrs. W. K. Holland

John and Joanne Kleis

## CONGRATS TO THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the April general meeting a slate of officers was presented by the nominating committee chair, Peg Sanford. By unanimous vote, the entire slate was elected.

President: Todd Oleson

Director: Kay Krause

Vice President: Isabelle Nicholson

Director: Joan Phillips

Treasurer: Oren Sherman

Director: Katherine Wilcox

Secretary: Ben Ebling

We welcome Isabelle as a new participant on the Board and say farewell to Bob Johnson. For the first year in many, he will not be sitting in on Board business as a director. Bob is a past-president and last year, as VP, he arranged the programs for general meetings and produced the monthly newsletter. Bob hasn't retired from the Society. He is still Chief Engineer of the Museum and when last heard from, he was chasing electricians. Good work, Bob.

## MUSEUM OPENS

Not only is the Museum on Park Street open for the summer, it is fantastic. *The Brightest Spot on the Great Lakes: The Big Pavilion* is a stunning exhibit. We won't spoil it for you, but you MUST see this - and be prepared to be carried back in time.

This little museum (in only its second year) is impressive, due to the professionalism of the Exhibit Committee and workers: Ken Carls, Todd Engle, Caroline Evangelista, Jeff Melander, Todd Oleson, Jim Schmeichen, and Charlie Schreiner. The building has been attended to by volunteers Del Langhorst, Judy Oberholtzer, Chuck Rickett, Nancy White, as well as some paid structural, electrical and painting and contractor work.

Jeff Wilcox, Museum Executive Committee Chair requests that we congratulate ourselves and look to the future. "We've worked real hard, long hours over many months and we've had a ball." Jeff is referring to Executive Committee members Caroline Evangelista, Bob Johnson, Todd Oleson, Arlene Sherman, Oren Sherman, and Dick Wright. "It's not over. We intend to have this exhibit stimulate involvement in the Society and the on-going Museum projects." He invites people to participate in the work of the Museum, and of course, donations are gratefully accepted.

## MUSEUM STORE

On Memorial day alone, sales were brisk in the Museum Store. New inventory includes good-looking mugs, nifty tote bags and practical pencils - all with the Society's logo. Also sold, of course, are afghans and historical literature. Coming soon are the Big Pavilion Exhibit commemorative T-shirts, posters and documentary videotape.

Kay Krause says there are still some slots left for tending the store and welcoming visitors to the Museum. Two volunteers staff the Museum on Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 1 to 4 pm. This is a very pleasant way to spend a few hours - on the waterfront with appreciative visitors to the Museum. Give Kay a call to reserve your dates, 857-4510.

## MUSEUM CAPITAL FUNDRAISING REPORT

Arlene Sherman, Capital Fundraising Committee chair, has great news to report. As of May 1, the fundraising drive has produced \$27,845.99 in cash and pledges from members and non members. A large mailing to property owners in the entire township has brought in about \$3,600 and donations keep coming in. We have received \$1,000 from long-time summer resident William Johnston and recently, \$1,000 from lake shore resident, Dan Reid.

There have been two community-based support activities:

- Following the general meeting last month we trouped to 'Round the Corner Ice Cream for a fundraising "Dip for Dollars" ice cream social. Gary Kott and Kris Clark scooped up \$250 toward the Museum Project in conjunction with Sherman's Dairy.
- Kathy Herrick's elementary school class raised about \$140 in a bake sale for the Museum as part of a local history project. We know that many hours went into doing the bake sale and we are thrilled by the students' interest and support. The class also will be touring the Museum this month.

Henry Gleason, Roy Hebert and Harry Vorys have been developing a financial advisory board and a plan for one-on-one solicitation. Dory Mersbach and Genevieve Drigot have assisted in setting up the tracking system.

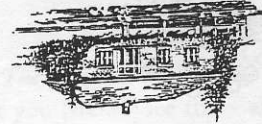
Mark your calendar for July 23. Plans are underway for a Big Pavilion Benefit dance at St. Peter's Parish Hall. Bruce Early's orchestra will be playing music from the eras of the Big Pavilion (1909-1959). Tickets are \$25 and we'll be dressing up. In the spirit of the Big Pavilion's well-remembered parties, pick your favorite period in the Big Pavilion's history and wear it! There will be a cash bar, raffle and great music. Arlene (857-1832) is looking for people who want to put on a dance and assist with this event. There's much to do so see where you can participate a lot or a little.

## ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS THE BIG PAVILION

With grants from the Allegan Foundation, the Historical Society has purchased high quality video equipment for taping oral histories. Working in synch with the Museum Executive Committee, it has interviewed over 50 people and is producing a Big Pavilion Oral History Documentary videotape.

Jane Badamo, Mary Heuvelhorst, Bob Johnson, Marsha Kontio, Arlene Sherman, Oren Sherman, Jeff Wilcox, Katherine Wilcox, and Stan Wilson have created a state-of-the art story of the pavilion, told by the people who knew and loved it. Finishing touches are being donated in part by Leben Productions, a professional video production company in Saugatuck. The raw footage is now part of the Society's historical archives. The edited video will be part of the Museum exhibit and will be sold at the Museum Store. The committee is looking for others who want to dabble in this technology or interview the oracles - call Katherine (857-2716).

Robert & Ellen Johnson  
2297-70th Street  
Fennville MI 49408



MUSEUM  
NOW  
OPEN!

25-3921 2237 060294 DCR2 >>>



Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society  
P.O. Box 617  
Douglas, MI 49406

## DUES ARE DUE

Membership Committee Chair Joan Phillips intends to get 100% membership renewals. She reminds all the sluggards that DUES are DUE. DUES cover the costs for the newsletter and the custom-designed, personalized name tag. DUES pay for honoraria and travel expenses for special program guest speakers, membership in affiliated organizations, Society educational materials, and operating expenses. Support your Historical Society and get your DUES in now.

Consider a sustaining, corporate or life membership. If you are a family, how about individual memberships?

Student	\$6	Family	\$15
Senior (+65)	8	Sustaining	25
Senior Couple	12	Corporate	60
Individual	10	Life	250

Send to Box 617, Douglas 49406

... Or would you rather have Joan track you down?