

# NEWSLETTER

# HISTORY



BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SPRING 2016

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doug Hartle - President  
Joe Rahn - Vice President  
Linda Wearn - Secretary  
Sandy Birdsall - Treasurer  
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Sally Fogg  
Charlie Donaldson  
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Sherry Timsak  
Garrett Cole  
Johnny Runberg - Honorary  
Alvin LaFreniere - Honorary

## STAFF

Executive Director  
Kitty McNamara

Administrative Assistant  
Krys Lyle

## OUR MISSION

The purpose of the Society shall be to foster the collection and preservation of materials concerning the history of Beaver Island; the dissemination of information concerning historic events and places relating to Beaver Island; the procurement and preservation of historical relics and places; the owning, leasing, furnishing and managing of historic buildings; and the purchase or construction of buildings and property in the furtherance of these purposes for which this Society is formed.

## MUSEUM HOURS

Summer Season Daily 11:00-5:00, Sundays Noon – 3:00. Shoulder Seasons Friday & Saturday 2:00-4:00.  
Print Shop Museum  
26275 Main Street  
231.448.2254  
bihistory@tds.net  
www.beaverislandhistory.org  
Marine Museum  
38105 Michigan Avenue  
231.448.2479

## NMU ARCHEOLOGY STUDENTS RETURN TO BEAVER ISLAND

Northern Michigan University students led by Dr. Scott Demel will be on Beaver Island this spring to investigate the island's early history and prehistory. They will be returning to what they call the MPS-Isle de Castor Site. According to the NMU website "This multi-component site is situated behind the Beaver Island Historical Society building in the town of St. James. We are expanding our 2012 test excavation area to learn more about the and prehistory of the lo-components include a with trade goods, and camp where hunters pro-and cooked fish in large will also learn how to probes and surface sur-archaeology lab methods.



interesting history, cation. Two of the proto-historic level a Late Woodland cessed beaver skins pits." The students conduct shovel veys and will learn

The Archaeology Summer Field School is run by Dr. Scott Demel, archaeologist in the Anthropology component of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at NMU. NMU staff and students have done similar work on island in the past: 2012 and 2014 Beaver Island - Mormon Print Shop & Isle de Castor Site; 2010. Beaver Island - Cable's Bay Fishing Village; 2010. Beaver Island - Burke Farm.

## SAVE THESE DATES!

**Saturday, June 18** Open House – visit both museums from 1:00-3:00pm.

**Wednesday, June 29** Ladies of the Lights – enjoy Dianna Stempler's program about women lighthouse keepers.

**Monday – Saturday July 17-24** Museum Week – see our website for more information on the 36th annual museum week.

**Friday, August 12** House Party – enjoy lively island music and dancing at McCafferty's Place.

## NEW DISPLAY TO SHOWCASE IMPORTANCE OF MUSIC TO ISLANDERS

BIHS is working on a new display for the Print Shop Museum to help visitors understand the importance of music to the island community; specifically to its Irish-American community. The display will likely include artifacts and sounds of well-known musicians, song writers, ballads, instruments, house Parties, current musicians and festivals and documentation of the island's traditions by off-island musicologist and folklorists. If anyone has artifacts they would like to donate or loan for this display, please contact us. Islander Rita Palmer and folklorist, Laurie Sommers are assisting with this display. See back page for a few links reflecting Beaver Island's music heritage.

# TRIBUTE TO BARRY PISCHNER



Barry had a strong commitment to the Beaver Island Historical Society, as trustee and even vice-president for many years. He was interested in all aspects of Beaver Island history, but his passion was for the work of the Marine Museum. Barry built at least three boat models for display at the museum including a model of the Coast Guard Patrol Boat #1 on which his father worked. He was also instrumental in bringing together the displays on Island boat captains, the Carl D. Bradley display, and even the display boards themselves. He helped Emmet Martin, Stevie Kenwabikise and Jude Martin with shoring up and stabilizing the building. Barry was a man of ideas and vision for the museum and many of those who worked with him fondly recall that they sometimes ended up picking up the pieces on a project because his mind would already have moved on to the next idea before the first was fully implemented.

The BIHS community mourns the loss of Barry Pischner, Islander, musician, husband, father, grandfather, furniture designer, sailor, historian, tinkerer, storyteller, ballad writer, friend... the list can go on forever. For those of you who didn't know Barry and his connection to the island and its history; his whole being resonated all that is best about Beaver Island. He grew up in Charlevoix, but both parents were born and raised on the island and he spent much time here soaking up the stories and music. Much of his time was spent with his uncle Jewell F. Gillespie, who was awarded a State of Michigan Heritage Award in 1993 in honor of his long musical career and the Island traditions that he helped to shape. Barry certainly helped to carry Jewell's legacy forward.

Following the death of Barry Pischner in February of 2016, his family, his many friends, relatives and acquaintances made generous donations to the Beaver Island Historical Society. Over \$8,000.00 has been donated and most will go toward improvements at the Marine museum including improved displays and signage, refinishing exterior railings and decks and improving the visitor entry area. Many thanks to Barry's wife Mary Lee and daughters Tammy McDonough, Marnie Byers and Melissa Stull for directing memorial contributions to BIHS.

Barry wrote many ballads reminiscent of the older generations of islanders who put stories to music and reinforced the rich oral traditions of the island. He wrote songs about ship wrecks (The Marold and the Big Bradley), Irish Heritage (When the Beavers Was Irish) and celebrations (The Christening of the Emerald Isle). He also sang many of the old island songs and Irish songs that were so loved here. According to life-long friend and Islander, John Runberg, Sr., "He was a friend to many and the finest nonprofessional singer in the memory of all who knew him." He was honored by folklorist Laurie Sommers as many of his songs were recorded on her CD Beaver Island House Party.



# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS

Maureen Abele  
Carol Aram  
Judy & Jack Bailey  
Elwood & Phyllis Baker  
Beaver Island Boat Company  
Vince & Audrey Beilman  
Larry & Deb Bellor  
Karen Bengtson  
Nishta & Naren Bhatia  
Lynn McNamara Blue  
Ann Broder  
George Broder  
Joshua & Karen Broder  
Michael & Robin Broder  
Jan Boylan  
Jane Boyles-Visel  
Janet Burgess  
Raymond & Frances Carnes  
CCCF Helen Hoffman Collier  
Charlevoix State Bank  
Jim & Judy Connelly  
Annette Dashiell  
Bill & Mary Dean

Joann & Charles Denko  
Dan & Deb Doyle  
John Fiegen  
John & Barb Fiore  
Michael & Patricia Fogg  
Bill & Janice Freeman  
Jim & Taffy Raphael Gavelek  
Lisa Gillespie  
Paul & Anne Glendon  
Jeanne Graham  
Robert & Linda John  
Michael Green & Kathleen McNamara  
Chip & Colleen Halloran-Vanderwier  
Doug & Kay Hartzler  
David Haugan  
Therese Hodges  
Ruth & Peter Igoe  
Dale & Terry Keyes  
Lars & Doris Larson  
Richard Larson  
James & Caroline Latta  
Jonathan & Cynthia Lewis  
Dr. Robert List  
LVG

Martin & Jane Maehr  
Joseph & Terry McDonough  
Seamus & Eileen Metress  
Raymond Murray Family  
Michael & Susan Myers  
Julie Nathe  
Florence Neumann  
Robert Lockhart & Karen Petersmarck  
Edwin & Sheila Peterson  
Tony Eliassen & Martha Radcliffe  
Joe & Barb Rahn  
Cloyd Ramsey  
Charles E. Ruth  
Raymond & Ann Stanhope  
Evan & Suzy Steger  
Robert Sterritt  
Ken & Judy Taylor  
John & Linda Teutsch  
Robert & Sharon Toms  
Theodore & Rosemary Townsend  
John & Barbara Wayne  
Linda Wearn  
Bob & Sue Welke  
Michael Wilson

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Appreciation must be showered on the many volunteers and docents who take the time to make BIHS a strong organization. Without the countless hours donated there is no way our museums would be of the caliber they are, let alone even open on such a regular basis. Many small town museums are only open on weekends or special occasions. Because of our dedicated volunteers, our museums are open daily during the busy tourist season, weekends during the shoulder season and on request when the weather permits. Volunteers also help in so many ways:

❁ Dick and Amy Burris quietly take care of making sure water at the Print shop museum is working at the beginning of the season and drained at the end. This year they also arranged to have Jean Wierenga's crew clean and trim the yard there.

❁ Sandy LoDico annually makes sure that both museums get a good spring cleaning.

❁ Alan Vicstein took time last fall to record our retail inventory of books and other items to allow us to keep better track and make better decisions

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Two new board members were appointed to the board of trustees at the April 21, 2016 Regular Board Meeting. After expressing an interest and being interviewed by Membership Committee members Linda Wearn and Mike Weede, Garrett Cole and Sheri Mooney Timsak were appointed as trustees and will seek reappointment at the Annual Meeting in August. Sheri is a long-time island resident whose parents both grew up on the island. Sheri has been supportive of the society's work and has helped out with Music on the Porch and the House Party. Garrett Cole will bring his interest in and knowledge of the fishing industry and Native American culture to benefit the society. Garrett grew up on the island and his family was one of the last non-native commercial fishing families.

## LIFE TIME MEMBERS

Agnes Allen	James M. Dunbar	Ron & Suzie Jakubas	Virginia Rountree
Bruce & Edie Allen	James F. Egbert	Thelma Johnson	Fred Schoonbeck
Robert & Alana Anderson	Ross & Laura Elliot	Marie Keidel	Thomas Sell & Patricia Kuzma Sell
Judy & Jack Bailey	Phyllis Fitzpatrick	Ruth & Jack Kelly	Sellman Brothers Inc.
Dennis Banks	Glenna Fogg	Scott & Gilda Kemp	J. E. Siudara
Joyce Bartels	Jon & Sally Fogg	Robert & Cordelia Kohrman	Leonard Siudara
JoAnne Bisbee	Mark & Jeannie Folkening	Island Airways	Doris Larsen-Souter
Glen & Betsy Borre	Barb & Bill Fox	Eleanor LaFreniere	Evan & Suzy Steger
Neal & Connie Boyle	Floss Frank	Donovan & Amy Langford	Hans & Davi Stein
Dale Boyles	Frank Galati & Peter Amster	Jack Edward Lighton. Jr.	Ron Stith
Elva & Vernon Boyles	Judy & Jack Gallagher	Thomas Loeb	James Jesse Strang
Janee Boyles	Jan Gerson	Jackie Madigan	Ann & Jim Sunkes
David & Ann Broder	Shirley Gladish	Jackie Martin	Ken & Judy Taylor
Max & June Bunin	Rich & Laura Gillespie	Ed & Shirley McCauley	Bill & Eula Thomas
Bill Burg	Paul & Anne Glendon	Sheila McColley	Robert & Sharon Toms
Raymond & Frances Carnes	Bud Grace	Ken & Deb McDonald	Dyanne Tracy
Charles & Jean Carpenter	Tom Graham	Rodney & Marilyn McFarland	Dr. Bart Tyrell
Ann Cavanaugh	Kevin & Snowe Green	Seamus Metress	Eric & Nella Uitvlugt
Joseph Cavanaugh	Stephen & Eleandre Hagerman	Mrs. Caroline Moody	Gary & Shirley Voogt
Tom Child	John Haggard	Paul Nelson	Daniel L. Wardlow
Harold T. Child	John Hajicek	Paul & Florence Neumann	Bob & Sue Welke
Don & Carol Coggan	Harold & Geraldine Hart	Mark & Ellen Newman	Ed & Willie Welter
Phil & Dennise Hoffman	Bess Haynes	Paul & Liz Niehaus	Patricia A. Wickering
Roy Dalhamer	Chuck & Lois Heckman	Chris and Bill O'Banion	Walter Wojan
Frederick & Katherine Deane	Mark & Laurie Hoogterp	Joe O'Donnell	James & Karen Wojan
Retha Chase Doane	Jewel House	John O'Regan	John & Trudy Works
Al Doebler	Allen & Cynthia Hunting	Jill & John Pichu	Cynthia Wunderlicht
James Duncan	Bridget & Patrick Huver	Deb & Peter Plastrik	

*Thanks to all of our Life Time members for their ongoing support. Thanks also to our 2016 Members whose names will appear in the next newsletter.*

## BARRY PISCHNER MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Robert & Judith Abbott	Kitty McNamara & Michael Green	Joe & Barbara Rahn
Raymond & Katherine Abraczinskas	James & Barbara Haveman	David & Nancy Rauch
Donald & Alison Alguire	Gerald & Marilyn Hekker	David & Nancy Rauch
Thomas & Sandra Armstrong	William Hirschey	PetDouglas & Betsy Reynolds
Glen & Toni Arnold	Craig Hoffman	Spectrum Health Center
William Bass	Bruce C. Kenat, Sr.	Thomas & Joan Swanson
Donald & Carol Bastianello	Jacqueline Madigan	Jeffrey Traudt
David & Sharon Blanchard	Martin & Jane Maehr	Ed & Linda Troutman
Glen & Elizabeth Borre	Magmun Electric	Deanna J. Van Derveer
Denny & Mary Cook	John & Cyndi Martin	Dan & Arlene Vanhaften
Dale & Nancy Cull	Kyle Marvin	Richard Vanhaften
Kenneth & Jane Darwin	Medical Leadership Operations Group At Priority Health	Alan & Bev Vicstein
Henry & Cathy Deane	Charles & Nancy Miller	Gary Voogt
Paul Delongpre	Belinda Nawrocki	Michael & Lisa Warren
Joanne Denko	George & Irina	Linda Wearn
Gregory & Cathy Dodge	Pepper Family	Weck Chartible Trust
Norman & Shelly Flanagan	John & Jill Picha	Tom & Betty Williams
James & Lynne Flanagan	Pete & Debra Plastrik	Audrey Witham
Raymond & Carol Geskus		Seth Wolk

*If your name has been misspelled or omitted, please contact us and we will correct the error. Thank you!*

# 36TH ANNUAL MUSEUM WEEK

## JULY 17-23 2016

**Monday July 18 @ 1:00 PM at CMU: AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PRESENTATION** “Lessons from an on-going Great Lakes native fish spawning reefs restoration program” by Dr. Lindsay Chadderton, The Nature Conservancy. James C. Gillingham Academic Center at the CMU Biological Station

**Monday July 18 @ 1:00 PM at Protar Home: PROTAR HOME OPEN FOR TOURS**

Talk about Protar with expert Antje Price, author of the popular pamphlet on Protar sold at the museums. Antje brings to life the story of Protar. Find out who he was and why he was so beloved by Islanders that they designed a tomb for his grave with a metal engraving. 1 to 3 p.m. Sloptown Road

**Monday July 18 @ 7:00 PM at Print Shop Museum: MUSIC ON THE PORCH** Bring the family, lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy an evening of Island musicians and storytellers. Performers who want to participate should contact Sheri Timsak, at 448-2510 by Saturday, July 18.

**Tuesday July 19 @ 10 AM - 3 PM at Whiskey Point: CMU BOATHOUSE & BOAT TOURS** Tour the newly updated boathouse which houses the Mesocosm Facility and the research vessel MV Chippewa. Researchers, CMU staff and Director Don Uzarski will be onsite to answer questions. Kids activities will be part of this education museum week event. Learn about current Great Lakes projects and newest monitoring tools.

**Tuesday July 19 @ 1 PM at Heritage Park: GAMES AND ACTIVITIES OF BYGONE DAYS** Kids can try butter churning, goat milking, cross cut sawing, starting a fire with flint, building a split-rail fence. They can play a variety of games from their parents’ past, such as old-time contests like sack races and learn some of the ditties that accompanied jump rope. 1p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Outdoors /Heritage Park

**Tuesday July 19 @ 7 PM at BI Community Center: INTRODUCTION TO ODAWA PORCUPINE QUILLWORK** Yvonne Keshick will speak about her work as a quill artist and the cultural importance of this art form to the Odawa people. Keshick began making porcupine quill boxes in 1968, learning from her aunt and from artist Susan Kiogima Shagonaby. A 2014 NEA National Heritage Fellow, Keshick’s quillwork is some of the best in the nation. Her work depicts natural images as well as cultural symbols of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa tribe. Program will include hands on portion where audience can see and touch raw materials used in quillwork.

**Wednesday July 20 @ Noon - 4:00 at Gregg Fellowship Hall: OPENING OF THE ANNUAL ART SHOW** Enjoy the works and talent of local artists, painters, photographers, woodworkers. Most works displayed are offered for sale and a portion of the proceeds of the show benefits the BIHS. Be one of the 500+ who visit every year to see what amazing bursts of creativity have exploded from the Beaver Island Art Scene!

**Wednesday July 20 @ 7:00 PM at Beaver Island Community Center: ANTIQUES APPRAISAL EVENT** Chuck and Ward return to Beaver Island to conduct another “Road Show” type event at the community center as a entertaining community event and a fund raiser for the museum. The “show” takes about 2 1/2 hours. These knowledgeable and fun appraisers will accept approximately 40 items to be appraised at a cost of \$10.00 per item. Watch for more information.

**Thursday July 21, 2016 @ 9:00 AM at CMU Biological Station: CHILDREN’S FIELD TRIP** This popular trip led by John Gordon and Dave Schuberg continues as part of museum week. Children of all ages are welcome. Young children should be accompanied by a parent/adult. **\$10 per participant.** Reservations available for 24 participants. Call Pinky Harmon for reservations at 231-448-2461. 9 a.m. to Noon, Meet at CMU.

**Thursday July 21 @ Noon-4:00 PM at Gregg Fellowship Hall: ART SHOW CONTINUES**

**Thursday July 21 @ 1:00 PM at Print Shop Museum Grounds: LIVING HISTORY REENACTORS FROM COLONIAL FORT MICHILIMACKINAC** Trained Native American and French Colonial Voyagers will set up a Living History Display to interpret life in northern Michigan during the 1700s. The reenactment will include period clothing and artifacts, musket firing, hearth cooking, crafts and games. Many thanks to the staff at Colonial Michilimackinac in Mackinac City for bringing this event to Beaver Island.

**Thursday July 21 @ 7:00 PM at BI Community Center: BEAVER & ARRANMORE ISLAND CONNECTION** Enjoy a multi-media presentation describing the unique and important connection between Beaver Island and Arranmore Island in County Donegal, Ireland. The presentation will include slides, photos, music, video, lecture and question and answer time

**Friday July 22, 2016 @ 9:00 AM at CMU Biological Station: CHILDREN’S FIELD TRIP** This popular trip led by John Gordon and Dave Schuberg continues as part of museum week. Children of all ages are welcome. Young children should be accompanied by a parent/adult. **\$10 per participant.** Reservations available for 24 participants. Call Pinky Harmon for reservations at 231-448-2461. 9 a.m. to Noon, Meet at CMU.

**Friday July 22 @ Noon-4:00 PM at Gregg Fellowship Hall: ART SHOW CONTINUES**

**Friday July 22 @ 1:00 PM at Protar Home: PROTAR HOME OPEN FOR TOURS** Talk about Protar with expert Antje Price, author of the popular pamphlet on Protar sold at the museums. Antje brings to life the story of Protar. Find out who he was and why he was so beloved by Islanders that they designed a tomb for his grave with a metal engraving. 1 to 3 p.m. Sloptown Road.

**Friday July 22 Doors Open at 6:00 Rules at 6:40 and Games begin @7:00 PM SHARP at Holy Cross Hall: BINGO.** Humorist, long-time summer visitor, and new year round resident, Sue Turner Snow will keep you laughing while you compete for a chance to win lots of great bingo prizes and door prizes. Admission is \$20. Doors open at 6:00 and play begins immediately at 7:00. Concessions available.

**Saturday July 23 @ 9:00 AM at CMU Biological Station: ADULT FIELD TRIP, FILTERED LAKES: CLEARER WATERS LEAD TO DIRTY BOTTOMS** Dr.Daelyn Woolnaugh and Dr. David Zanatta, CMU will guide participants through the history and mechanisms driving the great diversity of the Island’s different Inland Lakes which vary widely in their chemical, physical and biological make up. Dan has vast knowledge of the natural and cultural history of the Archipelago and it’s a great trip for both new and returning participants. **Fee is \$25 which includes lunch at CMU.** All proceeds are donated by CMU to the Beaver Island Historical Society. Call Pinky Harmon for reservations at 231-448-2461

ALL MEMBERSHIPS RUN FROM JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31 OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR. YOU MAY ALSO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE! PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT (231) 448-2254.

P.O. Box 263  
Beaver Island, MI 49782  
bihistory@tds.net  
231.448.2254  
www.beaverislandhistory.org

We would like to help the Beaver Island Historical Society in its mission of **Keeping Island History Alive** by becoming members at the indicated level:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Student/Senior \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/>    | Couple \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Good Will \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/>      | Contributing \$100.00 <input type="checkbox"/> | Life \$250.00 <input type="checkbox"/>  |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_



## GREAT LAKES INTERNATIONAL REGATTA ON BEAVER ISLAND?

Apparently there was an 8-man crew sailing regatta in Beaver Island Harbor in 1967. Anyone with information or memories of this event are asked to let us know...if you have pictures, even better. Let us know at [bihistory@tds.net](mailto:bihistory@tds.net) or check out our Facebook page to add your comments. A worn and vintage shirt was found at the Marine Museum last year and will be reproduced for sale there this summer.

## A FEW LINKS REFLECTING BEAVER ISLAND'S MUSIC HERITAGE

[http://museum.msu.edu/s-program/mh\\_awards/awards/1993JG.html](http://museum.msu.edu/s-program/mh_awards/awards/1993JG.html) Michigan Heritage Awards, Jewell Francis Gillespie.

<http://www.michiganirishamericanhalloffame.org/michigan-irish-american-hall-of-fame/2015-hall-of-fame-inductees/> MI Irish American Hall of Fame, Patrick Bonner.

[http://www.culturalequity.org/rc/ce\\_rc\\_lessons\\_gallagherboys.php](http://www.culturalequity.org/rc/ce_rc_lessons_gallagherboys.php) Lesson Plans for Grades 3-5, 6-8, 9-12  
The Gallagher Boys – the Story of a Great Lakes Ballad.

