

4th Quarter 2018 Newsletter



ICEBREAKER MACKINAW MARITIME MUSEUM

USCGC MACKINAW WAGB 83

"WE MOVE SHIPS WHEN NO ONE ELSE CAN"

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We're on the Web!

www.themackinaw.org

IMMM Board of Directors

- William Shepler, President
- R.J. Fisher, Vice President
- Randy Powers, Treasurer
- Roger Benter, Secretary
- Chuck Scott, Director
- Tom Spaude, Director
- Bill Marvin, Director

SEMPER PARATUS
SEMPER PARATUS

From the Desk of the Executive Director



Our 12th full summer season is behind us, and what a year it has been! Where do I begin to thank everyone for helping us complete another successful season? To our guests, volunteers, staff, "Friends of the Mackinaw", Business Sponsors and our Board of Directors, I offer my heartfelt thanks to ALL of you. In your own special way, each of you contribute to the success of our museum ship.

As you know, the ship received a comprehensive exterior resurfacing and repainting this past summer. Our sincere gratitude to Sena-

tor Wayne Schmidt who fought hard to obtain funding for the project. We were fortunate to have Seaway Painting, Inc., a top-notch company, do the work for us.

We are busy with plans for the 2019 season. We will hold our first reunion on August 16-18. The group that previously organized the event has disbanded, and we are pleased to carry on the tradition. In addition to former crew, we are inviting all "Coasties," whether veterans or active duty. What a great time for guests to make a visit to the ship! I'll bet that there will be many stories told. Please pass the word to any former crew or Coasties that you know; the more the merrier!

During that weekend we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the commissioning of the ship. She was launched in March of 1944 and arrived in Cheboygan in December of the same year. Since those dates do not coincide with our summer season, we will mark the event while so many former crew are here in Mackinaw City.

Please keep an eye on our website, www.themackinaw.org, as details of all events are unveiled.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2019!

*Lisa Pallagi
Executive Director*

ICEBREAKER MACKINAW MUSEUM SHIP

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT



"The Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum will collect, preserve, protect and interpret the rich maritime and marine history of the Straits of Mackinac and the Great Lakes. The Museum will feature the USCGC Mackinaw WAGB-83 and the important historical and present day contributions of the US Coast Guard on the Great Lakes. The Museum will present the unique maritime history, economy and ecology of the Straits of Mackinac, the Great Lakes and the State of Michigan through engaging and entertaining educational programming and interpretive exhibits."

Remembering the "Rouse Simmons"—The Original Christmas Tree Ship



A 1909 photo of Captain Herman Schuenemann, center, Mr. Colberg, right, and W. L. Vanaman, left, standing among Christmas trees on a ship.



The 3-Masted Schooner, the "Rouse Simmons."



Elsie Schuenemann, who became known as the Christmas tree lady, continued the tradition of her father, Captain Herman Schuenemann.

'CHRISTMAS SHIP' LOST ON THE LAKE WITH 17 ON BOARD

Schooner Rouse Simmons Which
Annually Tied Up at Clark
Street, Missing.

HOPE NEARLY ABANDONED

Wreckage and Holiday Greens Re-
ported Washed Ashore Are
the Only Clues.

November 23, 1912



Snow and ice coat the Rouse Simmons and its cargo of Christmas trees in 1910, two years before it sank off Wisconsin.





Join Us!

Over the past 12 years we have proven that the museum is an exciting and viable attraction for Mackinaw City and the area. Annually, we host over 20,000 tour guests. Our interactive Educational Tour Program has taught over 800 children knot-tying, safety aboard, communications and the history of the ship. And our Overnight Encampment Program allows the unique experience of sleeping aboard an actual USCG Icebreaker.

We need the support of those of you who, as do we, love the *Mackinaw*, to enable us to continue moving “full speed ahead” with these and other programs. Our membership program gives you an easy way to contribute to the museum and also enjoy some great perks. The levels of support and their associated benefits are listed below.

Our Business Sponsorship program gives you an easy way to contribute to the museum and also promote your business. For your \$100 tax-deductible donation, you will receive listing on our website’s “Sponsor” page, in our quarterly newsletters and aboard the ship. We will provide you with passes for 4 people to watch the 4th of July Fireworks aboard the ship, and your employees are always welcome to tour, free of charge.

“Friends of the Mackinaw” Support Program Application

Annual Membership Level:

- ☐ \$50.00 Petty Officer
 ☐ \$100.00 Chief Petty Officer
 ☐ \$250.00 Chief Warrant Officer
 ☐ \$500.00 Ensign
☐ \$100.00 Business Sponsor
☐ \$ _____ Donation

Name _____ ☐ I would like to Volunteer (please contact me)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ CVU _____

Send to:
IMMM
PO Box 39
Mackinaw City, MI 49701

We accept Visa, MasterCard & Discover
4th Quarter Newsletter

IMMM is a Non-Profit 501 (C) 3 Organization

IMMM Levels of Support and Benefits for “Friends of the Mackinaw”

Level	Amount	Inaugural Gift*	Admission Benefits
Petty Officer	\$ 50.00		Unlimited for member + 1 guest, per visit
Chief Petty Officer	\$ 100.00	Lapel Pin or Key Chain	Unlimited for member + 2 guests, per visit
Chief Warrant Officer	\$ 250.00	Icebreaker Mackinaw DVD	Unlimited for member + 3 guests, per visit
Ensign	\$ 500.00	Icebreaker Mackinaw Book	Unlimited for member + 4 guests, per visit

- Inaugural Gift will be presented for first-year membership ONLY unless level of support is increased.
- Cardholders will receive, in addition to the above listed benefits: a 10% discount on Ship’s Store retail items, e-mail receipt of our newsletter and notices of special events and invitation to watch 4th of July fireworks aboard the ship.

*An equal value Inaugural Gift may be substituted due to availability.

Of Course, Donations Are Always Welcome!

We have an endowment fund through the Straits Area Community Foundation! www.cfnem.org/sacf/
OR you can donate directly through our website: <https://www.themackinaw.org/product/donate/>

Your donation is tax-deductible.

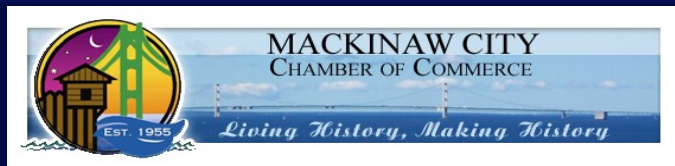


PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS

Alice's Kandy & Korn, Mackinaw City
Citizens National Bank, Cheboygan
Keyhole Bar & Grill, Mackinaw City
Lamplighter Motel, Mackinaw City
Mackinaw Mill Creek Camping, Mackinaw City
Seaway Painting, Livonia
Mystery Spot, St. Ignace
Paws Fur Fun, Mackinaw City
Today's Dental, Cheboygan
Ramsby Well Drilling, Inc., Cheboygan
First Community Bank, Cheboygan
East Lake Resort, Fibre
Kilwin's Quality Confections, Mackinaw City
Straits Area Printing, Cheboygan
Mackinaw City KOA, Mackinaw City
Mitchell Graphics, Petoskey
Wheeler Chevrolet-Buick, Cheboygan
Audie's Restaurant, Mackinaw City
Mama Mia's Pizza, Mackinaw City
Calcite Credit Union, Cheboygan
Seasons of Mackinaw, Mackinaw City
Mackinaw Bakery, Mackinaw City
Mark Mercer, D.D.S., St. Ignace
Habitec Security, Charlevoix

Kilwin's Quality Chocolates & Confections, Petoskey
Pizza Palace, Mackinaw City
Teysen's Gift Shop, Mackinaw City
Spray's Landscape Nursery & Garden Center, Cheboygan
Shepler's Mackinac Island Ferry, Mackinaw City
Pancake Chef Restaurant, Mackinaw City
Mother Mary's Canning Co., Cheboygan
Bernard Building Center, Cheboygan
Kokosing Industrial | Durocher Marine Div., Cheboygan
Jack Pine Lumberjack Shows, Mackinaw City
Clothing Connection, Mackinaw City
Silver Sands Resort, St. Ignace
Tee Pee Campground, Mackinaw City
Straits Area Federal Credit Union, Cheboygan and Mackinaw City
Darrow Brothers Excavating, Mackinaw City
Odawa Casino, Petoskey
Tahquamenon Boat Service | Toonerville Trolley, Newberry
Enchanted Knights, Mackinaw City
Avery Color Studios, Gwinn
Alexander's Plumbing and Heating, Carp Lake
Know Your Ships, Ann Arbor
Big Stone Bay Fishery, Mackinaw City
Hunt's Mackinaw Pastie & Cookie Co., Mackinaw City
Candy Corner | Windjammer Gifts, Mackinaw City

Icebreaker Mackinaw Museum Ship is proud to partner with these wonderful Straits area business community organizations and their members!



JOIN OUR TEAM!

We have a few staff openings for the 2019 season and one just might be perfect for you or someone that you know! The positions include docents/tour guides, ticket sellers and Ship's Store retail clerks.

Our season runs from mid-May until mid-October. We offer extremely flexible scheduling, both part and full-time positions, competitive wages, Ship's Store discounts, free admission for your family and much more!

Being a part of our crew is truly fun and rewarding! For more information please contact Lisa Pallagi at:

lisa@themackinaw.org.



All In A Day's Work—An Edited Excerpt from "USCGC Mackinaw" by Mike Fornes

There were certain benefits to being assigned to the Mackinaw, for the crew never knew from one day to the next what sort of excitement might occur on the ship. James Waesche told a story of the ship's crew being offered the opportunity for some "Northwoods R&R."

"I was assigned to the Mackinaw in 1945," Waesche began. "The ship left Lorain, Ohio, to go on up to Detroit, Lake St. Clair, Lake Huron, and into Cheboygan. This was in late September.

"In early October the ship took off for Lake Superior and had to pass a place between Upper Michigan and Drummond Island known as the DeTour Passage. The skipper, Cmdr. Roland, decided it would be nice for the crew to have a little R&R. This consisted of allowing any of the crew who wished to go deer hunting the next day on Drummond Island the chance to do so.

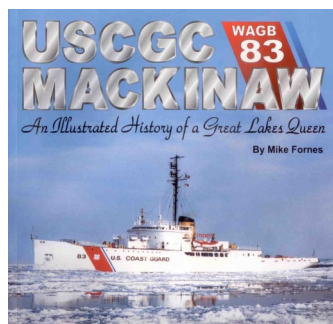
"So the next morning at 0500, a cold and windy 0500, we loaded to motor lifeboats," Waesche continued. "The water was almost coming over the gunnels. I thought we would never make it to the island. We split up into pairs and my partner was the ship's doctor. I was not sure whether that was a good omen or bad omen.

"The rule was you couldn't fire at a deer until sunrise. At sunrise all hell broke loose—there were rifles going off all around us. It was like being in no man's land. Most of these men had never been deer hunting. The doc and I wandered around, seeing nothing, colder than a well digger's clavicle. It was windy, really brutal. I kept thinking about the guys who stayed aboard that must have known something that I didn't.

"Finally, a rabbit jumped out and the doc fired and hit him with a 30.06 dum dum bullet. All that was left was an ear and the tail. At 1600 it was time to head back to the ship. Nobody even saw a deer, but a lot of shooting went on.

"As we neared the ship, we spied something hanging from one of the cranes," Waesche said. "It was a large buck—completely skinned. While we were running around that island conducting our Chinese Fire Drill, a doe and buck came swimming by going to another island. A boat was lowered, and the buck was hit in the head, taken aboard and skinned.

"You can probably guess who ate venison and who ate crow."



If you liked this story, you will LOVE the book!
USCGC MACKINAW

By Mike Fornes

ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!

\$36.00 (Includes sales tax and USPS Shipping)

Call (231)436-9825 for more information

Print Edition of the IMMM Newsletter To Discontinue in 2019



Like most budget-conscious non-profits, we at the Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum have been reflecting on our growing consumption of material resources and the cost for large mailings, particularly our newsletter. Also realizing that the print edition of our newsletter has largely become obsolete, we will begin phasing out the USPS mail edition in 2019.

If you are currently receiving your newsletter via an email directing you to our e-edition—*thank you!* We have your email address and no further action is necessary. However, if your newsletter arrived in the mail, please contact our office with an email address so that you won't experience any lapse in delivery of this publication. You can reach Robin at:

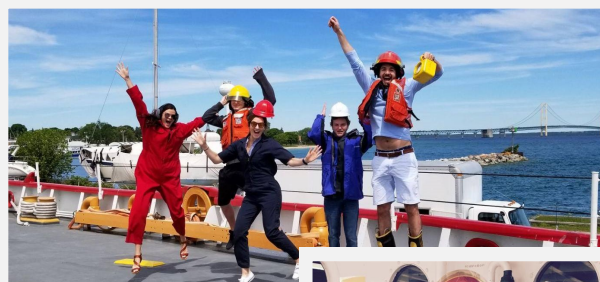
(231) 436-9825 or email officemanager@themackinaw.org.

Thank you!

ICEBREAKER MACKINAW MUSEUM SHIP
P. O. BOX 39
MACKINAW CITY, MI 49701



IMMM SPOTLIGHT: Our Guests, "... And Fun Was Had By All!"



2018

