



# Manitou Memories

## **Manitou Islands Memorial Society Annual Excursion Saturday, July 26, 2014**

9:15 A.M. Arrival and check-in time at Manitou Island Transit's ticket office. Advance reservations are highly recommended to guarantee space and facilitate MIT. Extra parking fee applies and cars must be parked at remote lot (car pooled from dock to parking and return. Phone MIT at 1-231-256-9061.

10:00 A.M. All Aboard—Miche-Mokwa departs for South Manitou Island

11:30 A.M. Arrival at SMI dock. Assemble on lawn in front of Coast Guard Station for welcoming comments and to enjoy your own packed lunch!

12:30 P.M. Motor tour of the Island departs—a \$10 fee applies for this tour. First 25 attendees tours will be paid by MIMS.

- View the MIMS volunteer efforts at the August Beck Farm and the SMI Schoolhouse.

3:00 P.M. Motor Tour returns to Village. Members may

- Island Museum closed this year
- Lighthouse Tour—learn about the history of the light and view a breathtaking vista.

- Walk the Island's beautiful beaches and go for a swim.
- Tour Haas House Exhibit

4:00 P.M. All Aboard—Miche-Mokwa departs from the Island. Cash bar available.

5:30 P.M. Arrival at Leland dock

## **Manitou Islands Memorial Society Annual Meeting Sunday, July 27, 2014**

10:00 A.M. Arrival and visitation at Empire Town Hall—Bring your photos and Island memories to share.

12:00 P.M. Pot Luck Luncheon—Main Entrees will be provided by MIMS Board. Please bring a dish to share for approximately 15 people and your own table service. Tea, lemonade and water will be provided.

1:00 P.M. Annual Meeting—What is your "Island Connection?" President's Report, Treasurer's Report, Reports on Island projects, and elections for President and Treasurer.

3:00 P.M. Final Announcements and Adjournment

3:30 P.M. Clean-up - Volunteers appreciated

4:00 P.M. Hall Closes

## In Memory of Donald H. Tobin



TRAVERSE CITY – Donald Harold Tobin, 82, of Empire passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at Tendercare of Traverse City. Don was born August 20, 1931 in Empire to the late Harold and Shirley (Denny) Tobin. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy. Don had been employed by Textron Manufacturing in Muskegon. Upon his retirement he returned to Empire. Don loved photography, hunting and fishing and he never missed an opening day of deer season. He was very good to his mother and all of his family.

Don is survived by a sister, Norma (David) Marmie of Traverse City, a brother, John (Dorothy) Tobin of Honor and special friend, Connie Milliron of Traverse City. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews. Don was preceded in death by a sister, Loretta Tobin.

Don's sister, Norma, and cousin, Bonnie (Mae Tobin's daughter) told a few stories.

- Don's name is on the cloakroom at the schoolhouse on SMI.
- Boys had a treehouse in the pines – no girls allowed – boys would pull up the ladder so the girls couldn't climb up.

- Norma said that once the brothers stole some cigarettes from their Grandma Tobin's store, and went behind the icehouse to smoke them. (Did you know there was an icehouse behind the "general store?")
- One time the kids walked to Gull Point where there lots and lots of birds and nests.
- They would pick strawberries on the way to school. They would walk through the woods – pretty scary for the girls because of free ranging cows. There was a creek they had to walk over, and a board was laid across to keep from getting wet. But sometimes Don and the boys would push the girls off, and they would arrive at school all muddy. Their Aunt Iola Tobin (married to Edwin Tobin) was the teacher.
- Don cut his big toe very badly on a piece of glass, and it was very hard to keep Don from walking on it.



### From: the Treasurer's Desk, Rhonda Kruch

Account balances as of  
May 31, 2014:

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Savings Account:           | <b>\$5,274.82</b>  |
| Glenn Furst Account:       | <b>\$10,080.49</b> |
| Haas Account:              | <b>\$265.44</b>    |
| Relight the Light Account: | <b>\$100.33</b>    |
| Checking Account:          | <b>\$1,766.94</b>  |

## Current projects:

- August Beck restoration is scheduled from July 7<sup>th</sup> until July 12<sup>th</sup>. Plans are to complete the main floor for tours by Manitou Island Transit.
- Theodore Beck pumphouse has restored walls and a leak proof roof.



Before

After

- The Haas Cottage Exhibit is completed with the interpretive display being placed by MIMS. Exhibit should be in place by time of the Annual Excursion that will be opened to the public inside the historic home.
- MIMS Board Members are also willing to travel to your home to conduct interviews and scan photos to preserve your Island history.

## From: the President's Desk, Paul Rocheleau



A number of good things have been happening for MIMS. Restoration and repairs have occurred on the Islands, with more to come

this summer. Members have been donating monies for their families and friends to be members of MIMS. New stories of old times are appearing, of which will be printed in future newsletters. Remember our Mission: "MIMS is

dedicated to the preservation of our history in order that we may pass the light of our symbol to the future generations!"

Thank you to Carol (Drew) Sanctorum for her dedicated work as Member-at-Large for 2012 and 2013.

Volunteers are always welcome. If you are interested, contact MIMS at [info@manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org](mailto:info@manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org)

## BRINGING BACK A PART OF THE ISLAND LEGACY

Written by Cindy Heisler

Cynthia (Cindy) Mae (from Grandma Zella Mae Hutzler) Goeman, Heisler

Last September, a trip two years in the planning came true for our daughter, Chris, her husband Brian, their 10 year-old son, Asa, and 8 year-old daughter, Brenna. They invited my husband, John, and me to join them. Chris wanted her children to experience what all those Michigan trips from her childhood were like. From a rented house in Frankfort, we set out to all of the usual haunts. Of utmost importance to the children, after the beach, was actually setting foot in a lighthouse where their great-grandmother had lived and their great-great grandfather had been a keeper. Ancestral occupations have interested Asa since his woodcarving led to him inheriting my grandfather Goeman's woodcarving tools used in Grand Rapids. While they were visiting us at our house in Wheaton in July, he wanted to see my father's Navy uniforms. As I dug through the trunk I came across a similar but older, less sturdy and less well-made uniform. The cap had the initials WAH stenciled inside. The midi blouse and the pants were not made of as substantial woolen fabric as the WWII uniforms. I knew of Walter Hutzler, my grandfather Ernest's younger brother, who joined the Coast Guard during WWI and was assigned to the USS Tuscarora, the name on the ribbon on the hat. The midi blouse had a slit in the back and was very fragile with lots of moth holes.

Since it had come to Ernest Hutzler's possession after his mother, Selma, died, it has been in many attics. He had died of meningitis secondary to catching the "Spanish flu" in the 1917-8 epidemic, never really serving in the Navy, which took in the Coast Guard for the war.

I quickly contacted the park service to see if there was interest in it, finally getting in touch with Laura Quackenbush, who was no longer with Leelanau County Museum, but the park service. It was difficult to set things up with the sequester limiting her hours. In the rush to pack things up and with the uniform so fragile, I never photographed the uniform. I thought I would on the morning of September 13, 2013, when we met Laura at the headquarters in Empire, but then forgot in the process of watching her assess whether it fit their collection needs and could be housed by them in its fragile status. I do not have a good place to store such an item and did not want to take it back home. Our whole family was fascinated watching her assess it. Yes, it was accepted.

We had been to Grand Traverse Light the day before, which was a huge highlight for them. The prospect of the boat trip to the island on Saturday was just intensified, as Laura wanted to know more such as dates. They had spied the lighthouse tower from Sleeping Bear Point Coast Guard Station earlier in the week. Having left the uniform with Laura, we headed to South Manitou on Saturday. Mike Grosvenor, Jr. was the captain that day. I have been with his father and his grandfather in the pilothouse. His great grandparents were witnesses at my grandparents' marriage; his grandfather was age one when he attended my mother's third birthday on North Manitou; but Mike did not know all that as he led us to Lake Florence, where we watched an eagle fly up, and then the schoolhouse. I took a photo of Chris and her children in front of the same window where my mother had been photographed when she was about eight. I had recently found that photo. Ironically, our grandchildren are homeschooled.

When Mike realized that we had a historical family connection he asked if we wanted to go to the cemetery, which I gather is not a normal part of the tour, except when MIMS goes. The rest of the tour group was very interested in doing so. When our son-in-law saw Walter's marker right at the front of the cemetery, he let out an excited shout and jumped off the tour vehicle to look at it. After touring the cemetery we went on to the important business of going to the lighthouse, which they climbed. We followed by checking out the other buildings their ancestors and other relatives had occupied as well. Though our grandchildren had never been on as large a boat or a body of water wider than the Missouri River a few miles from their home, they took to the voyage like the islanders they are descended from. Their family lives with two other families on a 118-acre farm in central Missouri and Brian is a dentist. Getting away for such a long trip is rare for them. I do know they all treasure their island heritage and lighthouse legacy. It was very easy to instill in them as they had seen images of them in our home all their lives.



Leota Violet Hutzler Goeman, daughter of Ernest Hutzler, in front of schoolhouse on South Manitou Island

## Reminder

Just a reminder, your annual membership of \$10 (\$10.58 if paid on PayPal) is due on January 1<sup>st</sup> and runs from January through December. Most of this annual membership is used to mail the newsletter twice a year. It is important to keep your membership current to help with this cost. With our last newsletter, we added a sticky note for those members whose membership has expired. If you would like to receive the next newsletter, please renew your membership. Also consider adding a donation to help fund educational and preservation projects on the islands. We appreciate your help!

[www.manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org](http://www.manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org)

**You are WELCOME to invite your families and friends to become members of the Manitou Islands Memorial Society. \$10.00 per year! Better yet, give a gift and register your family and friends. Tell us your story on how you are related to the Islands.**

## Haas Exhibit Completed

Written by National Park Service and edited by Judy A. Fogle

The Haas House Project has been completed. Eighteen framed photos, tables, and text signage are on display in the Haas House on South Manitou Island.

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Co-Hosted South Manitou Island Exhibit at the Glen Lake Community Library from April 4, 2014 through May 17, 2014.

The Glen Lake Community Library hosted a special exhibit "Footprints in the Sand - Tracing the Path that Led to the Birth of the Village of South Manitou Island" from April 4 through May 17, 2014 at the Library in Empire, Michigan. The exhibit tells the story of the Village of South Manitou Island, within Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, using historical photographs, maps, and narrative. This was the mainland showing of the exhibit before it was moved to the newly restored Haas Cottage in the Village on South Manitou Island. The exhibit is a project of the Manitou Islands Memorial Society (MIMS) with additional support from Lakeshore staff. The display opened with a reception on Friday, April 4, 2014.

The "Footprints in the Sand" exhibit is the final phase of a 2007 grant awarded to the Manitou Islands Memorial Society by the Americana Foundation. These funds were granted for the rehabilitation of the historic Haas Cottage in the Village of South Manitou. With effective management of the Manitou Islands Memorial Society leaders, hundreds of volunteer hours, efficient use of funds, and partnership with the Lakeshore the project was completed under budget. The Americana Foundation then agreed that the remaining funds could be used for interpretive exhibits on island history to be displayed in the restored Haas Cottage.

The rebuilding of the Haas Cottage is one of many projects that fulfill the Manitou Island Memorial Society's goal which is to help "preserve the history and cultural resources of Michigan's Manitou Islands by serving as volunteers and partnering with Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in delivery of rich visitor experiences." Work on the cottage was conducted during the summers of 2008, 2009 and 2010 by MIMS volunteers organized by Gwen Glatz, and with materials and transportation managed by Rhonda Kruch. The

Footprints in the Sands exhibit is the work of researcher and writer Linda Henry and photographer David Fox, with additional support of Lakeshore staff. The original grant to the Americana Foundation was written by Joe and Rhonda Kruch. The Michigan based Americana Foundation supports programs that address the protection and preservation of expressions of America's heritage.

About 45 folks attend the reception on April 4, 2014. Many of the people had a connection to the Islands as Boy Scout leaders or Scouts, visiting their relatives, visiting friends, or had just come to visit the environment.



Rhonda Kruch, David Fox, Linda Henry,  
and Paul Rocheleau

## **MIMS Website**

Check out the MIMS website:

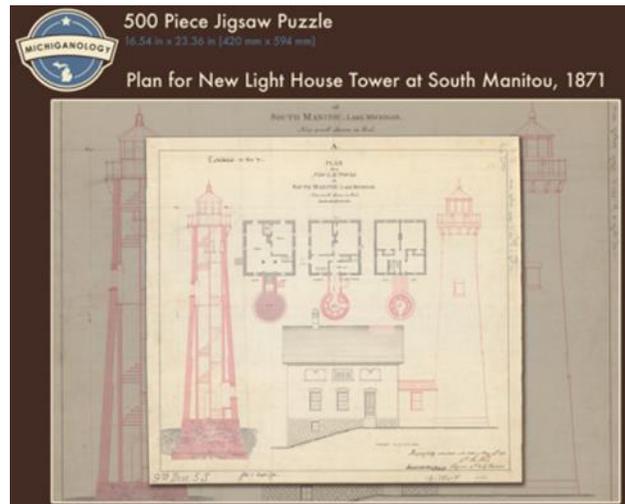
[www.manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org](http://www.manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org)

We are still adding information – PayPal is in place. You will be able complete the Membership Form and Photo Release Form (download and forward online) etc. We are open to suggestions as well.

If you are a member (dues currently paid) – you will be able to read the newsletters, minutes, and view photographs online (soon). You will need to login and give yourself a password. Any problems, contact [judy@manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org](mailto:judy@manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org).

Our thanks to Dhammika Welipitiya of iLeo Technology, Okemos, Michigan, for coordinating our site [www.ileotechnology.com](http://www.ileotechnology.com)

## **Jigsaw Puzzle**

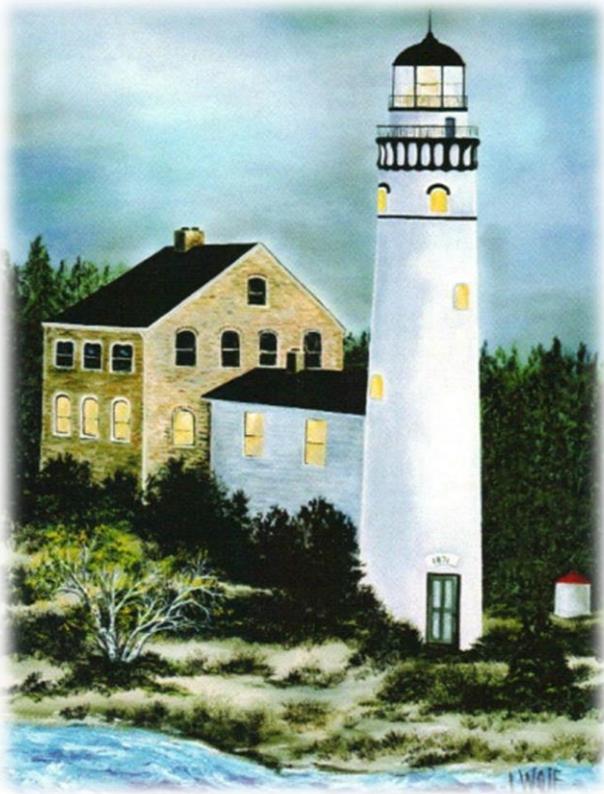


1871 Plan for New Light House Tower at South Manitou Island 500 piece jigsaw puzzle. This is the website (made in Michigan). This puzzle is also available at Schuler's Book Store.

<http://www.michiganology.com/collection/s/puzzles/products/south-manitou-lighthouse-architectural-drawing>

## Opportunities\*

Note: The cards and The South Manitou Story will be sold at the annual meeting for \$10.00 ea.



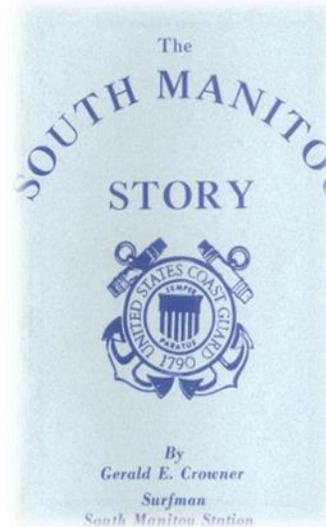
A note card has been donated to MIMS by Linda Wolf entitled "Going Home" South Manitou Island Lighthouse. Linda's mother was Betty Jean Tobin (Hopkins) and her grandparents were Lottie and John King Tobin. The MIMS Board would like to extend our appreciation to Linda for this fundraising opportunity. All proceeds go to Manitou Islands Memorial Society. The note cards with individual envelopes have been packaged in groups of 10 at a cost of \$15 which includes shipping and handling. Please send your order and payment to:

**MIMS**  
**PO Box 177**  
**Empire, MI 49630**

## The South Manitou Story written by Gerald E. Crowner

About the Author:

My father, Gerald E. Crowner, was born in 1905, at Hart, MI. His Grandparents lived in Pentwater near the Life Saving Station where his Grandpa was a member of the crew. It was here that Dad began learning about the life



of a Surfman. At age 15, Dad's family moved to Pentwater where he signed up as a Temporary Surfman, studying the duties of standing watch, signal sessions, and beach cart drills. After graduating from high school, even though he was gainfully employed at a sign company, he inquired

about serving in the Coast Guard at the Tenth District Offices in Grand Haven. Dad signed up, was stationed to South Manitou Island, making the crossing from Glen Haven on December 28, 1926. Thus began a lifelong love of the Island. Memories of adventures on South Manitou Island with my parents and family continue to bring joy to my heart today!

Bio written by: Lynn (Crowner) Roe, July 2012  
 All proceeds go to Manitou Islands Memorial Society. The book is being sold at a cost of \$15 which includes shipping and handling. Please send your order and payment to:

**MIMS**  
**PO Box 177**  
**Empire, MI 49630**



MIMS  
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Vice President: Robert Beck  
Treasurer: Rhonda Kruch  
Secretary: Judy A. Fogle  
Member-at-Large: Jeff Reuteler  
Editor: Judy A. Fogle  
Website: Judy A. Fogle

**The following is a list of membership/renewals and donations since our last Summer 2014 newsletter. Thanks to our generous members.**

Maureen Albright  
Charles and Maudie Anderson  
Robert Bates  
Robert Beck  
Joe Bork  
Pat Carstensen  
Lauren Cribbs  
Ed and Cynthia Dewes  
Denise Elwell  
Duke Fogle  
Gwen Glatz

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Thomas Thompson  
Stanley Yascolt

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