Rich Hill's Talk
On January 15, at 7 p.m., local native Richard Hill will speak about

"Working on a Great Lakes Freighter" at Bayliss Public Library. The free talk will be co-sponsored by the Chippewa County Historical Society and the library. Hill will sketch out the makeup of a ship’s crew, the fit-out in the spring, the daily activities of a typical trip down the lakes, and the pros and cons of working on the boats. He will read selections from his new book, Lake Effect: A Deckhand’s Journey on the Great Lakes, including part of the chapter “Winter Sailing.” There will be a short DVD of the UJOM Clemson sailing through a November storm on Lake Erie in 1974. He will have some boat photos and a lake chart on display. His book will be available for purchase and signing that evening and also available for $17.95 through the CCHS Gift Shop. Refreshments will be available for $1 to $1.50 through the CCHS Gift Shop. Materials will be provided for more information on the talk at Bayliss Public Library.

Soo Locks Park
Water Street
CCHS
Portage Avenue

Osborn Trust Project
CCHSS’s Digitization Project is well underway now. Project Director Bernie Arbic reported that he and volunteers Dee Stevens, Bonnie Barnes, Fred and Renee Farmer, Mike Bennett, Gail Ulrich, and Nancy Steinhaus have collectively put in over 800 hours to date on the effort, which is supported by a grant from the city of Sault Ste. Marie’s Chase S. Osborn Historical Trust Fund.

So far, work has been confined to dealing with negatives from the Walter Materna Collection at the Society. Arbic estimates that we have a treasure trove of at least 2,000 such negatives, which range in size from 3 x 5” to 8 x 10” — meaning that high-quality, crisp prints can be made from them.

The process starts with a volunteer viewing a negative using a light-box. Information about the image is recorded on a data sheet, including keywords that describe the content of the picture. The negative is then placed in an acid-free plastic sleeve and sent to Bernie for scanning. Dee, Bonnie, Renee, Gail, and Nancy have assessed over 1,000 negatives in this manner. Bernie has scanned about 325 of them, and Fred and Mike have entered the information into the database after the negative has been scanned. The negatives and data sheets are then filed in archival-quality folders for careful preservation, and efficient retrieval later as necessary.

In the future, if a person comes in seeking a photograph, for example, of ”the gas station that used to be on Portage near Birmingham,” we will be able to determine if we have such a picture (we do) and then display any relevant images on a computer screen. A custom print could then be made.

YEA! I want to be a CCHS Member!

Membership Rates

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Additional Donation $______
Capital Campaign Donation $______

Make checks payable to: Chippewa County Historical Society, P.O. Box 342, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
In the afternoon, CCHS will be open for viewing that day as well. You will also have an additional income. The image is currently being used on thank you cards for donors to the society’s Capital Campaign. It may also be used in the future for osteoarthritis care sold in the gift shop.

New Date

Local high school student Emily Gadzinski was recently commissioned to produce a drawing of the façade of CCHS’s building. The image is currently being used on thank you cards for donors to the society’s Capital Campaign. It may also be used in the future for osteoarthritis care sold in the gift shop.

Karl Hele’s Visit

Karl Hele spoke to about 20 brave attendees on the evening of one of our annual Christmas shopping days and CCHS participated. The shop was decorated for Christmas by Mary Jane and was open extra hours. Visitors chosen for prizes were Sandra Reining (a turkey) and Marie Carter (her name was chosen for the grand prize drawing).

New Display

Emily Gadzinski was recently commissioned to produce a drawing of the façade of CCHS’s building. The image is currently being used on thank you cards for donors to the society’s Capital Campaign. It may also be used in the future for osteoarthritis care sold in the gift shop.

Karl Hele’s Visit

Mary June prepared a photo display of images from our collection to accompany the talk. The display is currently on view at CCHS.

Gift Shop

The Gift Shop was open through Christmas this season. From January through March, the shop will be open by appointment (please call 635-7082) and intermittently when volunteers are working on the digitization project. Regular hours will resume in the spring. Books by local authors and others of regional interest, artwork and crafts by local artists and artisans, note cards, jewelry, and other items make great gift year round. See the insert page included with this newsletter for a list of some of our available books. Items can be shipped and paid for with your credit card.

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