

The Marine Historical Society of Detroit THE DIRECTION FINDER

An update on the mission of the Marine Historical Society of Detroit

VOLUME 1

FALL 2022

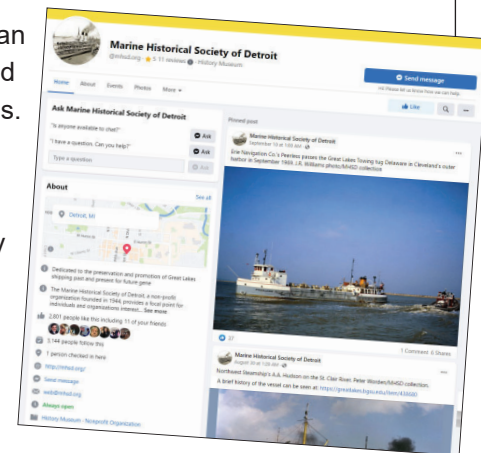


Welcome to The Direction Finder, an update to Marine Historical Society of Detroit (MHSD) members intended to provide updates on the many initiatives the Society is managing. We hope The Direction Finder will become the place to learn how the Society is investing your dues, get updates on historical preservation initiatives and learn about social opportunities.

INITIATIVES

The Marine Historical Society of Detroit is working on multiple initiatives that take time and financial resources. Among them:

- ▶ **Image Scanning** - Our Society has made the preservation of historical images initiative #1. Since this initiative started, we have acquired the collections of Jim Bartke, John Poole and others. In addition, Skip Meier, Jim Hoffman, John Coulter and Dick Wicklund have donated their collections to MHSD for scanning. Our dedicated board and volunteers spent hundreds of hours in 2022 scanning the images and creating a searchable database.
- ▶ **Image Database** - What good are scanned images if they can't be accessed? MHSD's board is finalizing the structure and architecture of a searchable database that can be easily accessed by our members.
- ▶ **Manuscript Collection** - MHSD's board is having initial discussions about creating an electronic logbook/corporate records database. The idea is to digitize the content and make it available to its members, for historical research or to help fill in family records.
- ▶ **Social Media Presence** - Many of us scroll through Great Lakes social media posts on web apps such as Facebook. Have you taken time to consider that MHSD posts unique content and interesting photos almost daily? Social media has more flexibility than the printed newsletter, and this content continues to create member engagement. We like to think of this content as supplemental to The Historian. Like us at facebook.com/mhso.org



▶ Developing Social Events

You probably have engaged other members through our social events. Throughout 2023, keep an eye out for invitations to events focused on Great Lakes history, including Engineers Weekend at the Soo, sight-seeing trips aboard Diamond Jack River Tours (such as the one recently concluded) and maritime flea-markets.



We will keep everyone informed about our social events in The Historian and via our Facebook page.

HOW CAN MHSD MEMBERS HELP?

There are several ways to help MHSD achieve its mission:

► **Share Your Story with Others** - A significant member benefit is receiving our award-winning monthly newsletter *The Historian*, as well as our annual, full-color wall calendar featuring historic vessels. Since our Society is dedicated to individuals sharing an interest in the history of the Great Lakes, it is important that we provide relevant, informative and accurate stories each month. We know that many members have stories our other members would like to hear. Feel free to provide articles, letters, pictures or even an entire article that you have developed. MHSD has gifted writers who can take your idea and craft it into a publishable article. If you have an article or a relevant topic that we should consider, please email Roger LeLievre at roger.MHSD.com to discuss topics for *The Historian*.



► **Share your collection with others**

- Readers of *The Historian* have seen the historically valuable images that have been scanned and presented in *The Historian* and online. Don't assume that your "snapshots" or old "family papers" have no value. These are the keystones of history, and the MHSD has individuals who understand the historical value of old steamship photos and other materials.



FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE DIRECTION FINDER

To provide updates in the most timely way, ***we need your email address***, which you can send to our secretary, Sam Hankinson, at sam@MHSD.org. Thank you!

Roger LeLievre, MHSD President

