

# Historical Perspectives

PORT WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org

VOLUME 25, ISSUE I WINTER 2014

### PORT WASHINGTON'S FIRESIDE CHAT

Mary Flierl

What happened to the seven hills of Port Washington? How many grocery stores and meat markets were there in our city? What were the North Side and West Side Boosters? What was on the Canada side? Swimming pool—there was a big one called Lake Michigan!!!

What occurred at the Community Hall? Who were the town characters? A street car on Grand Avenue and Franklin Street? These are some of the topics that will be discussed at the "Fireside Chat" at the Wilson House on Saturday, January 18, starting at 1:30 pm.

There are many members who could lead a panel discussion on topics recalling the days in the past in



Preparing for the Fireside Chat (left to right): Leroy Bley, Paul Hansen, Marion Huiras, Marge and Wayne Hoffmann, Marvin Huiras. Missing from the photo are Jim Lorge and Lloyd Smith.

Port Washington. Paul Hansen, Marion and Marv Huiras, Leroy Bley, Marge and Wayne Hoffmann, Lloyd Smith and Jim Lorge agreed to share their memories at the Quarterly Meeting at the Wilson House. As past Port Washington paper boys, Paul, Leroy, Wayne, Jim, and Marv had an inside story of early Port.

Audience participation is encouraged because there may be many members who will be able to contribute stories and memories to the discussion.

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#### Light Station Museum

Rick Smith, Director Kathie Gordon, Assist. Director Linda Nenn, Assist. Director 262-284-7240

#### Newsletter

Michele Weiland

#### Quarterly Programs

Mary Flierl

#### Membership

Ann Flierl

#### Contact information

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#### Website

portwashingtonhistorical society.org

#### Historical Perspectives

is published four times a year by the Port Washington Historical Society

#### Membership

\$20 Individual

\$30 Household

\$10 Student

\$50 Business

\$50-\$500 Enhanced

## President's Message

Dear Members,

With the close of 2013 we look back at a year that brought us the goal of a home for the Society and a focus on development of a community museum to engage residents and visitors.

For more than two decades the Society moved from location to location, often sheltered by the



generosity of members Mike Ansay and Shirli Flack. This past year that need was filled with the renovation of the historic 1852 Blake building and establishment of the Society's Resource Center. The Center provides research and archive areas, office space, gift shoppe, and several exhibit areas.

With a move to the building in January, the Franklin Street location has brought more awareness of the Society with weekly visitors and research requests. It has also provided the ability to be open four days a week for much of the year.

Last fall the east façade restoration was completed which now sports a 1900s storefront look. Stop in and check out the current exhibits for this winter. Renovation will begin this winter on the west entrance to the building.

The 1907 Henry & Hill building was acquired in Spring 2012 through the generosity of a family who desired that the city of Port Washington have a local history museum. Planning and the creation of a Museum Advisory Board have brought the Society to the renovation stage for the building. Work began in late 2013 with a projected completion goal of Fall 2014. The Port Exploreum will be a wonderful venue to showcase the history of the area and give another reason to visit the downtown.

Volunteers and the generosity of members and friends are what achievements are about. The Society could not have achieved these accomplishments without their dedication and support. Whether helping at the Light Station, Resource Center, or bringing about the realization of a local museum, volunteers and supporters make it happen. Over a hundred volunteers contributed time to the Society this past year. Our thanks to all who give of their time, talents and resources.

Sustaining the Light Station, Resource Center, and Museum will be an ongoing goal. We thank those who have so generously given to the annual fund drive, taken out a 2014 Society membership, and who will help in 2014 to make the museum happen. Fundraising efforts are a part of the sustaining drive of the Society. We thank you.

Jackie Oleson, President PW Historical Society Board of Directors

# WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY

Would you like to know about a way to make a very significant difference in the future of the Port Washington Historical Society? A powerful way is to make a bequest to the Port Washington Historical Society in your will.

The Port Washington Historical Society is a thriving organization that is dedicated to preserving the historical significance of the community and the stories of its people. You can help assure a strong future for the Society by remembering it in your will.

You can be queath to the Port Washington Historical Society a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or all or part of what remains after other bequests are distributed. Your attorney or other qualified estate planner can help ensure that your promise to the Port Washington Historical Society is fulfilled by appropriate instructions in your will.

If you already have a will, it can be updated with a simple amendment called a codicil.

A bequest of any amount is important to the Society's future. Indeed, where there is a will, there is a very significant way to remember the Port Washington Historical Society.

For further information, please call Board President Jackie Oleson at 262-268-9150.

# THE FUTURE OF PORT WASHINGTON'S MARITIME HERITAGE FESTIVAL

This August festival has become a beautiful reflection of our city's rich maritime heritage. This heritage began with private piers and schooners that brought in supplies and the settlers of this area. Our fishing industry spanned many years and is a story all its own. Through the years this heritage festival has reminded us of our past while providing a variety of seafaring vessels for viewing, touring, and sailing.

The festival originated with strong support from many entities throughout the community. The budget to produce this festival is always a serious consideration, and volunteer support is a key component to its success.

Festival planners have always faced many challenges throughout the history of the festival, and this year will be no different. In the past the festival received generous sponsorship from Main Street and the Tourism Council. That will not happen in 2014 due to the issues that Main Street has encountered over the past year or so.

What would a Port Washington August be like without a Maritime Heritage Festival? So now the question is how to make it happen. Past volunteers have stepped forward, and we know PWHS volunteers will contribute, but more is needed. Financing is the key. The Tourism Council has always supported the event. The city has the option to support the festival with financing. With those two entities lending financial support, the festival could move forward. The event needs to be embraced by the city and all of us who live here who want to see a weekend of our maritime heritage celebrated. Your comments to your city council can help determine the fate of the 2014 Maritime Heritage Festival.

With our new location at 205 N. Franklin Street in the heart of the downtown, we have a unique opportunity and responsibility to promote our maritime heritage. Let's make it happen.

Geri Zehren, Maritime Heritage Festival Chair



### **MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD REPORT**



Recently, I asked Bill Schanen to develop an ad for our new museum. Although the ad has not yet run, I wanted to share this copy with all Society members.

The stories of our community, its generations of families, the achievers, entrepreneurs, athletes, warriors, farmers, fishermen, seafarers, all who left their mark on our area's history, are about to get a home in downtown Port Washington.

That home is the museum being created in the historic Businessmen's Club building on Franklin Street. Far more than a repository of historical objects and records, it will be one of the most innovative institutions of its type in America.

In it, history will come alive through interactive displays, traveling exhibits, dramatic graphic presentations, and a children's museum featuring cutting-edge technology, all in a three-story building with a ship-like deck overlooking Lake Michigan.

Dedicated to preserving the stories of Port Washington and the surrounding communities, the museum will offer the means for us to preserve our family stories. Once these stories are lost, they are gone forever. But they can live on in the museum named the Port Exploreum.

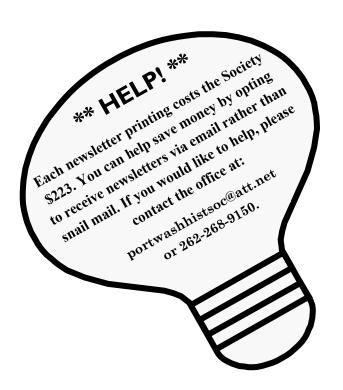
We invite you to join us in this great adventure. Learn about the Port Exploreum. Learn why you belong here.

You Belong Here Port Exploreum

### **Recent Highlights**

- Patty Ruth joins the Advisory Board as Volunteer Coordinator
- Museum qualifies as a finalist for a Wisconsin Coastal Management grant
- Interior demolition of Businessmen's Club almost completed – new windows and doors are on order
- In the next weeks, the Museum Capital Campaign Cabinet and the Honorary Campaign Cabinet will be established
- Melissa Suddendorf will Co-Chair the Capital Campaign

Bill Moren Museum Advisory Board Chair



# HISTORY OF THE BUSINESS MEN'S CLUB BUILDING

1907 George Henry & Clarence Hill construct the BMC building

1909 First National Bank is chartered

1910 George Henry leaves Port Washington for Riverside, CA

First National Bank is built

1911 Bids are taken for the sale of the BMC bowling alley

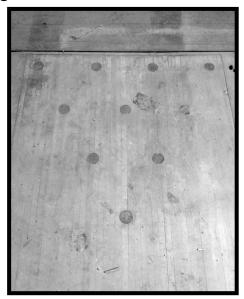
**1960s** Bank bought building from the Tillie Donalbauer estate

Mollitor Grocery Store in operation

Stairway in rear

Front door was still in the SW corner of the building

Bank put in dropped ceiling



Bowling pin markers on floor are still visible



Don Sauer's office at the front of the building White tile panels were added to the exterior

1980s Remodeling done

Floor raised

Retail lending located at the front of the building

Board Room located in the middle Bookkeeping is located in the back

Stairway in back is removed

2012 BMC acquired by the PW Historical Society

### **LIGHT STATION NEWS**

Rick Smith

The light station has been cleaned from ceiling to floors including woodwork. The floors have been cleaned and polished in anticipation of our next season. There is some painting to be done on the upper floors and the lantern, but that will have to wait until warmer weather. Alice Horton donated a Bolens snow blower which is certainly coming in handy this winter.



Donor plagues at the Resource Center

# DONATIONS & MEMORIALS



#### ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Ardyce Ahsmann

Dan and Karen Becker

Greg and Patti Cisler

John and Sara Dahmen

Rita S. Decker

Marc Dybdahl

Sally and Paul Ehrlich

Betty J. Ewig

Mary Flierl

Wayne and Marge Hoffman

In Memory of Mary Ellen Holt

Bryon and Gwen Johnson

Judy Jones

Jacqueline Jushka

Gary and Trudie Kelly

Chris and Brigitt Kincaid

Bonnie Knaub

Kaye Y. McCullough

Doug and Vicky McManus

Mark and Barbara Matera

Mark and Kathy Mitchell

Bill and Pat Moren

Erik and Carol Moeser

Eric and Jackie Oleson

Jack Roonev

Don and Nina Ryer

Bill and Jean Schanen

Mark and Cathy Schowalter

Paul and Diane Singer

Dan H. Smith

Richard D. Smith

A Lu Steinert

Dr. Michael and Karen Weber

Holly and Bob Wilke

Roy and Geri Zehren

Zing Boutique

Barbara & Mark Zyvoloski

#### **SOCIETY DONATIONS**

Pat and Barbara Foss

James and Jeannine Horstman

Ronald and Elizabeth Schowalter

John and Gina Taucher

#### **GIFT SHOPPE**

Jim Fowler Lonie Ross

#### LIGHT STATION

Dan H. Smith

#### ANNUAL DINNER DONATIONS

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Between the Greens

Centofanti Law, S.C.

Didier Appraisals

**Eernissse Funeral Homes** 

Ozaukee Press

Port Washington State Bank

Sharbuno Jewelers

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY

**DONATIONS** 

Byron and Gwen Johnson

Lonie Ross

Bill and Jean Schanen

Rick and Jo Ellen Schlereth

Dan Smith

Charles and Mary Smittkamp

DONORS OF PRODUCTS OR

**SERVICES** 

Sue Ahner

Amy's Wine Cellar, Lakewood

Anchor Men's Wear

Anvil Pub and Grille

Armbruster Jewelers

**BMO** Harris Bank

Baehmann's Golf Center

Baltica Tea Room

Bayside Garden Center

Beanies Mexican Restaurant

Barbara Beatty,

Keller Williams Realty

Belgium House Restaurant

Bella Lei Salon

Bernie's Fine Meats

Jim Biever

Biever Travel

Amy Blev

Broadway Popcorn Co.

Paul and Julie Carufel

Cedar Creek Winery

Chocolate Chisel

Country Inn & Suites

Cousin's Subs

Cream & Crepe Café

Critic's Corner Pub

Dockside Deli

Pete & Pat Didier

Drews True Value Hardware

Duluth Trading Co.

Marc & Grace Eernisse

Bonnie Ewig

Ewig Bros. Fish Market

Faith & Giggles

Fireworks Popcorn

Ann Flierl

Mary Flierl

Gene Fransee & Son

Nursery & Landscaping

Don and Barb Gilmore

Todd and Kathie Gordon

Gordon & Ramzyk Design

Group

Gordon's Antiques

Grand Avenue Saloon

Grand Photo & Design

Shirley Schanen Gruen

**Harbor Temptations** 

Harry's Restaurant

Holiday Inn Harborview

Wayne and Joan Houpt

Jane's Handy Sewing &

Gift Shop

Randy Lallensack

Larry's Brown Deer Market

Fr. Tom Lijewski

Memories Ballroom

Messina Restaurant

Mayor Tom Mlada

Bill and Pat Moren

Jeff & Rose Morgan

Linda Nenn

Jim and Deb Neulreich

Newport Shores Restaurant

Nicolet Pharmacy, Lakewood

Nisleit's Country Inn

Eric and Jackie Oleson

Olsen's Piggly Wiggly

Kevin O'Meara – Robt. W.

Baird & Co., West Bend

Ozaukee Dairy Promotion

P&R Carpet & Furniture

Cleaning P&R Premiere Auto Detailing

Pasta Shoppe

Portico Gift Shop

Pear & Simple

(Continued on page 7)

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### The Society welcomes the following new members...

#### **ANNUAL**

Barbara Bichler Mike & Judy Dow Lauren Federspiel Mike & Kathy Furlott Cindy Goebel David & Kay Kasun Tony Matera Rich Mah Family Daniel & Allyson Olivier Paul & Claire Sullivan Fredlyn Wiggins Gene & Lyn Wiggins

#### **ENHANCED MEMBERSHIPS Member Plus**

Robert & Bernadine Bretl Ken Bruner

James & Mary Burmesch James & Jackie Dix Caffee James & Angela Fowler

Carol Heinen

Wayne & Joan Houpt

Judy Jones

Thomas Klein

Mark & Barb Matera Patricia Steinert Otto

William H. Provis

Paul Steinert

Roy & Geri Zehren

#### **Premium Member**

Bill & Pat Moren Bill & Jean Schanen Paul & Diane Singer

### **Supporting Member**

Lynde B. Uihlei

#### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

Renewal notices were sent out in December to all members. The membership year is from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please take time to renew your membership at this time if you have not done so. Can't recall your membership status? Check the mailing label the type of membership and expiration date is included on the label. i.e. John Doe Charter/Life/ EXP 12/31/13. Members who receive newsletters via e-mail also were sent renewals in December. Your quick response will be appreciated.

#### (Continued from page 6)

Port Hotel Restaurant & Inn Port Washington Fire Department Port Washington Historical

Society

Port Washington Historical Society Board of Directors

Port Washington Police

Department Portico Gift Shop

Primrose Cottage European

Chic

Sanfilippo's Sentry Foods

Jenny Schlenvogt

Lee & Pam Schlenvogt

Sculpture Salon Shopko Express

Suburban Motors Harley-

Davidson

Tello's Grille & Café

Twisted Willow Restaurant

George Watts & Son, Inc.

Watts Tea Shop

Worzella Photography

Clyde Weiland

Jeff & Liz Wick

Wind in the Rigging Roy & Geri Zehren

Sally Ziegler

Zing Boutique A-Z Accessories

#### PHOTOS/NEWSPAPER **CLIPPINGS**

Carol Heinen

Dr. and Mrs. William Klein

Ruth Scholz Pelican

Susan Rafferty

Tillie Prom

Geri Zehren

#### **BOOKS/PAPER/PAMPHLETS/** ABSTRACTS/MAPS

Cheryl Anderson

Foster Dunwiddie

Jim Fowler

Ned Huwatschek

Dr. and Mrs. William Klein

Merton Lueptow

Ruth Scholz Pelican

Patrick Poole

Ken and Barb Wardius

Geri Zehren

#### ANTIQUE METAL/WOOD/ **GLASS/FABRICS**

Richard Fowler

Kathie and Todd Gordon

Carol Heinen

Luxembourg American Cultural

Society

Jackie Oleson

Gina Taucher

Lenys Walden

#### **FURNITURE**

Kathie and Todd Gordon

Ned Huwatschek

Jackie Oleson

#### IN KIND

Donald V. Cohen

Mike Didier

Grace and Marc Eernisse

Ann Flierl

Alice Horton

Jackie Oleson

Roy and Geri Zehren

## **RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE**

With renovation of the east façade of the Resource Center completed in November of 2013 and a general cleaning done, exhibits were returned to the front of the



first level. Currently, during the winter months, the exhibits are: Smith Bros. Restaurant, Smith Bros. Commercial Fishing, and the Wisconsin Chair Company and Paramount Records.



Smith Bros. Restaurant display

Volunteers Kathie Schaefer and Irene Taylor worked to create storyboards of text and photos to tell the stories of the exhibits. Ron Voigt assisted.

These exhibit areas will change later in spring to reflect a maritime theme for the summer and fall months.



Paramount Records exhibit



Smith Bros. Commercial Fishing exhibit



Blake Family display

The Blake corner will continue to tell the story of the Blake family and their impact on the community.

Members and visitors are invited to come and view the displays.

#### PORT WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2014 MEMBERSHIP FORM

#### **REGULAR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS**

#### Individual \$20 Household \$30 Student \$10

- Voting privileges at PWHS membership meetings
- Quarterly Historical Perspectives newsletters
- Free admission to Research Center at the Luxemburg American Cultural Center in Belgium
- Use of Resource Center at 205 N. Franklin Street, PW
- Free admission to 1860 Light Station Museum
- 10% discount on PWHS gifts, excluding publications

#### **Business \$50**

- Advertising in quarterly *Historical Perspectives* newsletters
- Designated person voting privileges at PWHS membership meetings
- (All benefits of Regular Membership for designated person)

Note: Business memberships run from April 1 to March 31

#### **ENHANCED ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS**

#### **Member Plus**

- Individual \$50 or Family of two \$100
- All benefits of Regular Membership
- Complimentary invitation event

#### **Premium Membership**

- Household \$200
- All benefits of Regular Membership
- Complimentary invitation to Annual Dinner

#### **Supporting Membership**

- Household \$500
- All benefits of Regular, Member Plus and Premium Member
- Special Recognition in newsletter
- Private tour of Light Station for 8 guests

#### Please cut and return completed form

#### PWHS MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

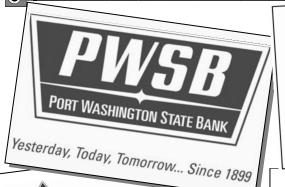
Type of Membership:	Gift Membership:
Regular (\$20/\$30/\$10) Business (\$50) Member Plus (\$50/\$100) Premium Member Household (\$200) Supporting Member Household (\$500)	Regular (\$20/\$30/\$10) Business (\$50) Member Plus (\$50/\$100) Premium Member Household (\$200) Supporting Member Household (\$500)
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City State Zip:	City State Zip:
Telephone:	Telephone:
e-mail address:	PWHS will send a gift card to above person/s
	eive updates on upcoming events and newsletter, Historical Perspectives
I would like make a donation to the Society at this time in	n the amount of \$
Date:	Amount enclosed: \$
Please charge to my Master or Visa Card:	
Card No.	Exp. Date:
Amount: \$	Signature:

Annual memberships expire December 31, 2014

Please note: When charging with credit card, it is necessary to use the address and zip code where credit card is billed

Port Washington Historical Society 205 N. Franklin Street P. O. Box 491
Port Washington, WI 53074-0491
Telephone: 262-268-9150 e-mail: portwashhistsoc@att.net
Web: portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org

# PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE BUSINESS MEMBERS TO SHOW OUR SUPPORT



# Shirley Gruen Studio & Gallery

303 North Franklin St.
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-284-2273

### Sharbuno Jewelers

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Third Generation Jeweler Established 1950



# PROM-EL TAX & ACCOUNTING SERVICES

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136 W. Grand Avenue Port Washington, WI 53074 262-284-3401

## Holiday Inn

135 East Grand Ave Port Washington, WI 53074 262-284-9461



## BMO Harris Bank

623 West Grand Ave.
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-284-1000

# **Eernisse Funeral Homes**& Cremation Service

Port Washington Belgium Cedarburg 1600 W. Grand Ave., Port Washington 262-284-2601

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75 Maritime Drive Manitowoc, WI 54220 (920)684-0218 Open 9am-5pm Daily www.wisconsinmaritime.org

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114 N. Franklin Street
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Daily Drink Specials
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262-387-1001 artistgroupadvertising. com

# Ewig Bros.. Inc.

121 S. Wisconsin St. Port Washington, WI

FRESH, FROZEN and SMOKED FISH Open Daily 8AM to 5 PM Closed Sundays 262-284-2236



## **2013 VOLUNTEERS — THANK YOU!**

Alice Horton

Allyson Olivier

Andy Bretl

Angie Cope

Ann Flier

Ardie and Doug Ahsmann

Bea Funke

Bill and Pat Moren

Bill Schanen

Bim LaMahieu

Bob and Holly Wilke

Bob Bergshultz

**Bob Bretl** 

Bonnie Knaub

Carol Heinen

Carolyn and Craig Heatwole

Cindy Sieklik Dan Benson Dan Wundrock Dean Shaver

Diana Gutzman

Diane and Lefty Fowler

Don and Barb Gilmore

Donna Nehrbass Dr. Mike Weber Elaine Nault

Eric and Jackie Oleson

Geri Zehren **Greg Cisler** Heidi Janous

Howard and Marcia Vrankin

Ina Wenzler Irene Taylor Jackie Jushka Jay Blumenberg Jean Schanen Jeff Morgan Jerry Kisow

Jim and Angie Fowler Jim and Deb Neulreich

Jim Vollmar Joan Hanson

JoAnn Stade

Joe and Joan Groh

JoEllen Schlereth

John Enright

Joyce Trepel Karen Morris

Karen Vollmar

Karen Weber

Kate Brown and David

Kathie and Fred Schaefer

Kav Goodwin

Ken and Sue Bruner

Laura Goeden Leroy Bley Linda Coulson

Linda Nenn

Linda Verhey

Lonie Ross

Lu Steinert

Lynde Uihlein

Marc and Grace Eernisse

Mark Dybdahl Marlene Richart Mary Downing Mary Flierl

Mary Smittkamp Melissa Suddendorf Michele Weiland

Mike and Lora Sauer

Mike Didier Mike Keller Nancy Haacke

Pam and Lee Schlenvogt

Pat and Pete Didier

Pat Baganz

Paul Carufel

Phil Block

Ray Wagner

Rick Smith

Ron Voigt

Rosemary Weyker

Ruth Cook

Sally Ziegler

Sarah Smith

Tammy Lorge

Tim Lewein

Todd and Kathie Gordon

Trudie Kelly

Wayne and Marge Hoffmann

Wayne Chrusciel

#### If anyone has been inadvertently forgotten, please let us know.

We are immensely grateful to everyone for all that you do to help the Society be successful, whether it is guiding at the LS, folding newsletters, working with the archives, producing the newsletter, helping at an event, or any number of other tasks. Small organizations as ours exist only through the efforts of many. We thank you. If you have not volunteered and would like to, please call the office at 262-268-9150. We would love to have you join in.



#### PORT WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 491 Port Washington, WI 53074-0491 www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org

# **Upcoming Events**

# QUARTERLY MEETING Saturday, January 18 1:30 p.m.

The Wilson House Community Room

**RC Extended Hours to Fri. & Sat.** Friday, April 4

**Light Station Open for the Season** Friday, May 16

**City Wide Rummage Sale** Saturday, May 31

**Membership Appreciation Day** June TBA

