

LAKE HURON LORE

News Letter



MEETING : DATE: SATURDAY
APRIL 7TH
1979; 7:30 P.M.
PLACE: MUSEUM OF ARTS & HISTORY
6TH STREET, PORT HURON

Editor: Frank R. Crevier, Algonac, Michigan, 794-3466

Fifty Year Mystery Pictured

STEAMER KAMLOOPS WANDERED OFF COURSE IN TERRIFIC STORM AND
WAS HOLED ON ROCK LEDGE ON THE COAST OF ISLE ROYALE....BODIES
FOUND IN FISHERMEN'S NETS WAS FIRST CLUE TO LOCATION OF THE
PACKAGE FREIGHTER...THERE WERE NO SURVIVORS

THANKS TO BILL JONES

This edition of your news letter concludes the second year that we have been able to send out to the membership an illustrated and well printed news letter. It has been made possible through the not small contribution of Bill Jones, owner of the Independent Printing Company of St. Clair.

SHIPMASTERS EXHIBIT
MARKS 91ST YEAR OF
LODGE #2, PORT HURON

Recently while gazing out at the ice floes in the St. Clair River, drinking coffee, and settling all the major problems of the world, Capt. Sherwood Anderson, Capt. Ted Richardson and the writer discussed the vast numbers of ships and shipmasters continued on page 2

The year was 1927 and the prosperity preceding the great depression of 1929 was at its height. One more trip up the lakes and back after the first of December, the traditional closing time for upper lakes shipping would look good on the balance sheet. So a large number of the lake fleet was in Lake Superior when that roaring blizzard with its blinding snow and falling temperatures was spawned on the western plains and blew out of the northwest into the Great Lakes. The first reports on ships of great local interest because they carried so many river district men in their crews began to appear on the telegraph wire services. The Port Huron Times Herald of December 9th reported: "The Steamer KING, of the Minnesota-Atlantic Transit Company fleet is safe in shelter at Isle Royale, Lake Superior, the company learned by telegram."

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LAKE HURON LORE MEMBER BOB MC GREEVEY
ILLUSTRATES POSITION OF KAMLOOPS ON
ROCK LEDGE ON ISLE ROYALE, L. SUPERIOR

Bob McGreevey, style designer for Chrysler Corporation and builder of excellent ship models, has illustrated the position of the Str. KAMLOOPS and shows how she collided with the rocky shore of Isle Royale and then slid down the bank to a rock ledge where she rests today. This drawing will be on display the evening of the program...

SHIPMASTERS
EXHIBIT

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that plyed the lakes at the turn of the century compared to today... and also not today...and also noted that the Port Huron Lodge of Shipmasters was 91 years of age. Capt. Anderson said that he was looking at the charter...quite an elaborate affair granted by the Grand Lodge of Shipmasters. He said that Lodge #2 was the oldest of the IS M A lodges to operate continuously. I asked about Buffalo #1...It seems that Buffalo withdrew and was reinstated at a later date...hence #2's record.

The suggestion was made that we might display the charter in the Museum of Arts and History....along with any other artifacts that might be brought to light. The writer has the ballot box and gavel from Algonac Lodge #11....

which was founded on Feb. 5, 1909 and was later disbanded. Each member had a pennant with his number inscribed and we wonder if any of these old pennants might still be in existence....if so we would appreciate hearing from you.

The members of Lodge #2 have been invited to be the guests of Lake Huron Lore at the next meeting on April 7th.

FIFTY YEAR MYSTERY
OF STEAMER KAMLOOPS

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From Sarnia the Northern Navigation Company reported that their package freighter and passenger ship HAMONIC had left Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, for the lakehead, but had docked at Pointe aux Pins, in the upper St. Mary's River on account of the storm.

Another ship, not so fortunate, but her crew had managed to save themselves, was the AGAWA. The ship was stranded on Manitoulin Island, but her crew was safe on shore.

The ship that our story is involved with was still unreported. The KAMLOOPS was not to be heard from. The first report of search in the papers was under date line December 15.

MOVIES OF THE DUNDERBURG WILL BE SHOWN
AT MEETING ON APRIL 7TH ALONG WITH THE
KAMLOOPS...SUNK OFF HARBOR BEACH..1868

In addition to the pictures of the KAMLOOPS, Larry Caplan will show the old lake Schooner DUNDERBURG on the bottom of Lake Huron off Harbor Beach. The DUNDERBURG was a three masted schooner that was sunk in 1868 following a collision with the Propeller EMPIRE STATE. The schooner at the time of her loss was carrying 40,000 bushels of corn. One life was reported lost in the accident.

...."Houghton, Michigan: Search of the coast of Keweenaw Peninsula and Manitoulin Island (This was in error and the island was probably Manitou which lies off the end of the peninsula-Editor) by the Eagle Harbor Coast Guard for the Canadian package freighter KAMLOOPS, missing since Tuesday, today awaited the cutting of a channel from the harbor station to the open lake where the boat can be launched."

The Duluth News-Tribune reports that the lifeboat crew from Eagle Harbor, when it was impossible to use a boat, donned their snowshoes and walked the length of the peninsula and around into the bay in the hope that some trace could be found of the ill-fated KAMLOOPS, and that the crew members could have been stranded on that uninhabited Michigan shore. There were no signs of either ship or crew. Lake Superior then closed in for the long winter.

The following May and June the Coast Guard

FIFTY YEAR MYSTERY OF THE KAMLOOPS PHOTOGRAPHED

(cont'd from page 2)

Cutter CRAWFORD was called to Isle Royale to identify bodies being found in the nets of fishermen in the vicinity. Apparently the KAMLOOPS disaster occurred many miles from where she should have been as the bodies that were found were identified to be those of the crew of the KAMLOOPS.

Again Lake Superior closes in over the mystery of the KAMLOOPS. This time for a period of fifty years.

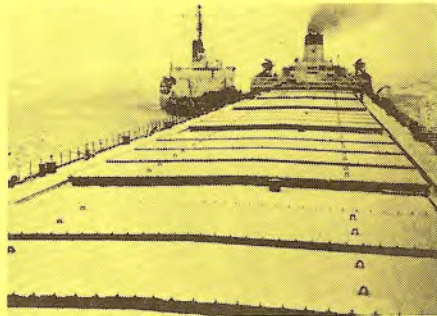
This brings us up to the subject of the April 7th meeting of Lake Huron Lore when we will have Larry Caplan of Flint with us to show some of the most remarkable underwater pictures I have ever seen.... taken in the deep, cold, clear water of Lake Superior, off Isle Royale, where the KAMLOOPS was discovered.

The latest chapter in the long mysterious disappearance of the Canadian package freighter Kamloops is best told by Larry and his moving pictures.

LAKE HURON LORE MEMBER WALLY WALLIN SENDS SOME WINTER SCENES
TAKEN ABOARD THE STMR. ROGER BLOUGH...ENOUGH OF WINTER NAVIGATION!!!



Copter lands on deck to take Skipper over lake to observe ice conditions...Detroit River in January.



In the Ice in the Livingstone Channel during the heavy freeze up in February.

NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR LAUNCH AT COLLINGWOOD

About 60 people signed the list that they would like to meet at Collingwood at the time of the launch of the new Algoma ship in May. As of this date there has been no firm date set. Those on the list will be notified.

NEW MEMBERS OF LAKE HURON LORE

The following have recently become members of Lake Huron Lore: Mrs. Marcia Haynes, Mrs. Viola Bell, Bayfield, Ont.; Capt. Sherwood Anderson, Marysville; Eugene Buel, Marine City; Walter Pearson, St. Clair; John Phillips, Sarnia, Ont.; Ed Cameron, Warren, Michigan. We welcome these new members and hope that they will be able to attend our programs and take an active part in the society.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 19, at 1:30 in the Museum, Lake Huron Lore will meet with Detroit Marine Historical Society. Program by the Detroit Group. As this is the last letter of the season no further notice.

CHRISTOPHER TABOR AMONG CREW OF HISTORIC COAST GUARD SHIP



RM3 Christopher James Tabor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tabor of St. Clair is part of the crew of the USCGC TANEY, which was recently on cruise duty with officer candidates. The TANEY is one of seven high endurance cutters built for the Coast Guard in the Mid-thirties and named after former Secretaries of the Treasury. TANEY and her sister ships represented the finest in naval design and construction during that period. Indeed the secretary class is considered by many to be the most beautiful ships of their type ever built. Designed primarily to perform search and rescue and other missions under adverse weather conditions at sea, TANEY is a most able and seaworthy ship.

TANEY is 327feet in length and displaces over 2700 tons fully loaded. Powered by two 3,100 h.p. double reduction geared steam turbines, her twin propellers can drive the ship at speeds of over 20 knots. TANEY' cruising at 15 knots is more than 8,000 miles.

Throughout her career, TANEY has compiled an enviable record in both peace and war. Originally homeported in Honolulu, TANEY first saw combat during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. Today TANEY holds the distinction of being the last ship still in commission that fought to repel the Pearl Harbor attack. Two years later on the other side of the world, 1943 found TANEY escorting merchant ships in the North Atlantic.

Mr. and Mrs. Tabor are both active members of Lake Huron Lore and are picture taking fans.

AERIAL VIEW OF LOWER SOUTH CHANNEL IS PICTURE OF THE MONTH

The picture of the month is an areial photograph by the Corps of Engineers and loaned through the kindness of William Roose, Engineer in charge of the St. Clair River office located at Roberts Landing, Michigan. It is interesting that it shows all three channels that have been used for lake shipping since the sailing vessels gave up the north Channel with the advent of steam. Behind the Old Club may be seen the first channel with its old lighthouses still standing. Next to the east is the South Channel, where one time stood the wood piers; and the elimination of of the southeast bend by the latest of the channels, known as the cut-off channel. GO UPSTAIRS AND SEE IT!!!