

# THE LIGHTSHIP

LAKE



HURON

LORE

MARINE SOCIETY

VOLUME XVII: No. 1  
MARCH 1995  
BILL LUKE, EDITOR  
1935 N. RIVER ROAD # 2  
ST. CLAIR, MI 48079

## MEETINGS

MARCH 18, 1995  
7:30 P.M.  
PORT HURON MUSEUM

MAY 20, 1995  
7:30 P.M.  
PORT HURON MUSEUM

The Society will gather at the Port Huron Museum at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 18, 1995 for a slide program entitled "A Postcard View of the Great Lakes." Presenters will be Wayne Garrett and Bob Pocotte, Program Chairman and Treasurer, respectively, of the Marine Historical Society of Detroit.

A second meeting is schedule for the Society at the Port Huron Museum on Saturday, May 20, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. The host that evening will be Society board member Cy Hudson of Sarnia with his slide program entitled "A Marine View Potpourri."

Both of these programs are enthusiastically endorsed by your Society's Directors. Plan to join us as we kick off the new entertainment season.

## 1995 SOCIETY DUES

Dues for 1995 for our Lake Huron Lore Marine Society are being accepted by your Treasurer, Bill Luke. Please remit your \$10.00 to him at the address listed above. Thanks for your continued interest and support.



### SOCIETY MEMBERS REMEMBER STORM DEAD

On November 9, 1994, four members of Lake Huron Lore Marine Society traveled to Goderich, Ontario for a quiet ceremony held at the Mainland Cemetary there. The occasion was the eighty-first anniversary of "The Big Storm of 1913" in which numerous vessels were lost on Lake Huron along with many lives. The bodies of a number of unidentified crew members washed ashore at Goderich and neighboring towns following the storm. Largely through the efforts of our late esteemed Goderich member, Ronald Pennington, a number of grave sites of lost seamen were discovered and given recognition.

The accompanying photo from the Goderich Signal-Star of last November 9th pictures, from left to right, Lenna Pennington of Goderich, Cy Hudson of Sarnia, our Society President, Walter Smith of Marine City, Malcolm McRae of Sarnia, Goderich Mayor Eileen Palmer, Reeve John Doherty and Larry Taylor of Marysville, Michigan.

Walt Smith informs us that a similar trip to Goderich is planned for November 11th of this year.



## STORM OF NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 1913

The ninth day of November last  
Will be remembered long.  
The loss by storm on that day  
Could not be told in song.

On that November morning  
The wind and sleet and snow,  
Increased until the afternoon,  
The storm was fierce I know.

Not only on Lake Huron,  
Lake Erie and St. Clair,  
And also Lake Superior  
Each one received their share.

There loss they will remember  
But who could count the cost,  
Two hundred and seventy sailors  
And thirty ships were lost.

The strongest vessel on the lake,  
Will never reach the shore.  
The bravest sailors on the boats  
Will see their friends no more.

Life boats and life preservers  
Proved that day to no avail.  
They were no use that stormy night  
They could not stand the gale.

Some tried the life preservers,  
No sailor need be told,  
It's better to sink at once  
Than perish with the cold.

And after that eventful night,  
For one full week or more  
There has been many sailors found  
All along Lake Huron's shore.

On one of them a letter from,  
His mother, far away,  
Saying "you will be home at New Years  
Can't I see you Christmas Day."

## HURON\_LIGHTSHIP\_NEWS

Captain Ted Richardson reports that the Huron Lightship concluded its 1994 season with record visitor attendance of just under 14,000...twice the number recorded the previous year. Ted and his crew report the refurbished steam heating system has worked marvelously well this winter. Upon re-opening to visitors in the spring, additional volunteers will be welcomed to host public tours. The vessel will be open Wednesdays through Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Society's Annual Flea Market is scheduled at the Port Huron Museum on June 3rd.

Finally, we tip our hats to the Huron Lightship crew for their efforts this past holiday time at the outstanding display of Christmas lights that adorned the vessel. So attractive was the arrangement that an 8 1/2 " X 7" color photo of the Huron Lightship ran on the front page of The Times Herald under date of December 25, 1994. GOOD SHOW !!

## MARINE\_NEWS

The St. Lawrence Seaway closed December 28th, the Soo Locks on January 15th. Both systems are scheduled to re-open March 25th. For the 1994 season, seaway cargoes of iron and steel were up 117%, grain up 17% and iron ore up 12%. Total seaway tonnage was 36.7 million metric tons, 19% higher than 1993.