

**May Newsletter
2011: Issue #5
David L. Miles, Editor**

History of Golf in Charlevoix

Any history of Charlevoix has to include the stories of its golf courses, at one time considered to be among the finest in Michigan and the nation. Both the municipal links and the Belvedere were the creations of renowned course architect Willie Watson, built thirty years apart. The municipal course began as a Chicago Club adjunct in 1896. It is now the oldest golf course in Michigan. The Belvedere was established in 1925 and partially opened in 1926. It has been the site of the Michigan Amateur tournament more times than any other course in the state. Tom Watson claims “My favorite course is Belvedere” and “the 16th is one of the best holes in golf.”

Golf legends such as Watson, Bobby Jones, Walter Hagen, Sam Snead, Tommy Armour, Gene Sarazen and Ken Venturi have all played in Charlevoix, some at both courses.

Join us as Tom Heid, Director of Golf and Grounds at the Charlevoix municipal course, and Steve Braun, retired (2008) pro at the Belvedere, co-founder and now President of the Charlevoix County Junior Golf Association, and assistant secretary of the Golf Association of Michigan, present an illustrated history of the beginnings of the game, its development, and the histories of the first two courses to be associated with Charlevoix. Included will be images of both courses in their earliest days—where the Chicago Club course’s eighteen holes were located before the Club had to relinquish the course to the city for one dollar in 1937 because of the Great Depression, and the city later had to reduce it to nine holes; caddies and their stories; the brand new Belvedere clubhouse; Hagen’s record-setting tournament victories; magnificent color photos of local courses; and much more!

***When: Tuesday, June 7
@ 7:00 p. m.***

Where: The Depot

Light refreshments will be served. No admission charge, but donations supporting the Society’s many activities always appreciated. See you there!

MUSEUM HOURS MAY-JUNE

May and June museum hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The side office door on the alley facing the bank remains, as usual, open those days from 11 a. m. to 4 p. m. for those who need to conduct Society business or make a store purchase during off hours. Beginning Monday, July 4 museum hours will be 1-4 p. m. Monday through Saturday through Labor Day weekend.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members: Please pay particular attention to the list of nominees for the Charlevoix Historical Society Board. You will see there is a happy mixture of people who were born here and those who have chosen Charlevoix as a place to live. Each of them is vitally interested in the history of our community and is willing to devote time to its preservation. This is a very big job; it takes a lot of dedication to give it the attention it deserves. Our history is fascinating and very entertaining; it's well worth it. If you see any of these folks as you're out and about, please express your thanks to them for their generosity with their precious time. They deserve it!

Soon-to-be-Ex President Mona

NOMINEES FOR SOCIETY OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2011-2012 ELECTION TO BE HELD AT ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING IN JULY

President: Denise Fate

Vice-President: Chris Unbehaun

Secretary and Membership Chair: Kay Heise

Treasurer: Steve Paterka

Finance Committee Chair: Mona Bergeon (Ex-President)

Directors:

Term ending 2014: Phyllis Elzinga & Nancy Kline

Term ending 2013: Charles Unbehaun & Virginia Lahde

Term ending 2012: Rudy Scharschmidt & Dr. Jack MacKenzie

The following amendment to the by-laws of the Charlevoix Historical Society, as amended July 6, 2007, will also be voted upon at the July business meeting:

ARTICLE VI, SEC 3: MEETINGS

Current: The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the chair upon adequate notice.

Proposed: The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the chair upon adequate notice. Meetings may be held in person or via telephone or video conference.

RECEPTION FOR UNDINE SETTLEMENT EXHIBIT OPENING

The Historical Society in close conjunction with the Charlevoix County History Preservation Society will be mounting an exhibit called “Undine . . . A Settlement Remembered” on a once-thriving area in Hayes Township between Charlevoix and Horton Bay. (Where is Undine? Past the tip of Susan Lake on the Boyne City Road, watch for the two anchors on the right that mark the entrance to Mike and Rhea Dow’s property, along with the old Undine schoolhouse a few yards away; on the left of the road, in the immediate area, keep a sharp eye out for the little Undine cemetery.) It will be presented in the Heritage section of the Harsha House Museum which held the Earl Young exhibit from May of 2009 to May of 2011. We are working with Patrick McCleary, Georganna Monk, and Gerry Hummel of CCHPS who have gathered an extraordinary amount of information—images, documents, and artifacts—regarding the wonderful Undine history and its residents’ close connection to Charlevoix.

To mark the opening of this exhibit, CCHPS will be hosting a wine and cheese reception at the Harsha House on the evening of Friday, June 24 beginning at 7:00.

The County Society would like to extend an invitation to all the members of the Charlevoix Society to attend this event, to become acquainted with each others’ members and discover how the two Societies are able to work together both now and hopefully in the future to present a rounded history of the Charlevoix area.

EARL YOUNG EXHIBIT PRESERVED

Many visitors to the Harsha House over the past two years have asked that the Earl Young exhibit, one of our best received and most viewed ever, be kept as a permanent installation. Since we don’t have the space to do so, the entire exhibit, both photos and text, is being replicated and will be placed in a binder for future viewing by both those who wish to repeat the experience and those who missed it or want to do research on the man and his works. Information on Earl Young’s creations has now gone out nationwide and overseas. His legacy is increasingly one of the major attractions that Charlevoix has to offer to the world and can only benefit the town.

UPCOMING EXHIBITS AT HARSHA HOUSE

In addition to the Undine exhibit, the Harsha House will have three new exhibits up and ready by summer. Museum co-director Steve Goslee is co-ordinating a pictorial history of Charlevoix's involvement in the Civil War, with the assistance of former museum director Betsy Reynolds and exhibit chair Karen Lewis. Instead of another textile exhibit, this year the textile area will be turned into a display space of antique toys. The family display case will feature Major E. H. Green, severely wounded Civil War veteran and the first lawyer to practice between Traverse City and Mackinac. His 1885 building currently houses the Maison & Jardin store on Bridge Street.

GERANIUM PICK-UP AT DEPOT ON MAY 27

The Historical Society's first geranium sale fund-raising project has gone better than expected! The flowers will be available for pick-up at the Depot on Friday, May 27 between 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. For further information, call Chris Unbehaun at 547-7034 or Nancy Kline at 547-4808.

SUNSET CRUISE SLATED FOR AUGUST 2

The Society has decided to revive the Sunset Cruise we enjoyed for several years in the past decade. This time it will take place on the *Keweenaw Star*. Because the boat has less capacity than the Beaver Island Boat Company's *Emerald Isle II*, we are limited to 100 tickets pre-sale with the possibility of twenty more on the day of the cruise. Therefore, we may offer this cruise only to Society members, not the general public, depending on how many are pre-sold. Ticket ordering information will appear in the June newsletter. There will be a cash bar, and the Society will provide soft drinks and snacks.

Donation (unrestricted) received in April from: *Joyce & Gerald Mullen*
Donations in memory of Beverly Southern for the lighthouse restoration received in April
from: *Mr. Thomas R. Davis; Mr. & Mrs. Mark Whitt; Mrs. Berna Burnham;*
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Doty; Mrs. Jennifer Klambauer; Mr. & Mrs. Scott Kossman;
Mr. & Mrs. Bart Kundert; Mr. & Mrs. Mike Summers

