## 2005 Season In Review This season marked our 35th year as an annual reunion of

former islanders, and or 17th year as a formally chartered nonprofit organization. The reunion is as old as the

Lakeshore itself. The whole idea in the beginning was to bring former islanders together once each year, to renew acquaintances, nourish longtime friendships and keep in touch with shirttail relatives (almost everyone was related in some way.) Seventeen years went by, during

which the Lakeshore bought up most of the property on the islands. Although the main cemetery on South Manitou was officially still owned by Glen Arbor Township, nobody had been caring for the place, and the years had taken their toll. The fence was down, and nature was encroaching, with junipers, sumacs and young

maples rapidly reclaiming the property. At that point, the reunion group decided to take on the project of perpetually caring for the cemetery where so many of their relatives lay buried. This was our first cooperative venture with the Lakeshore, which then took title to the property. In 1989 we Cemetery Association".

voted to organize more formally as a nonprofit "South Manitou Born about the same time as the National Lakeshore, many of our original members, if not all, were caught up in the trials and tribulations that attended the creation of the Park, and the acquisition of property that had been held in some families since originally homesteaded by their immigrant ancestors. It is no secret that our relations with the Park were initially somewhat strained.

But time heals all wounds, and over the intervening years attitudes adjusted, on both sides. We've grown in numbers, and as our mission broadened we became the "South Manitou Memorial Society", then the "Manitou Islands Memorial Society". We're now best described as a special "Friends of the Park" group; one with a particular focus ... the Lakeshore's "Islands Unit". Meanwhile, the National Park Service in general, and the Lakeshore in particular, has developed a very felicitous spirit towards working with partners. This season's

success is a testament to what can be accomplished when everyone's hearts are in the right place. In celebration of that spirit, here's a summary of this year's activities and accomplishments ...

Manitou Islands Memorial Society

Ever true to our original founders' agenda, MIMS volunteers completed several cemetery-related projects. Two new crosses were erected on unmarked graves in North Manitou's cemetery. Routine maintenance was accomplished at the main cemetery on South, and two new headstones were place on

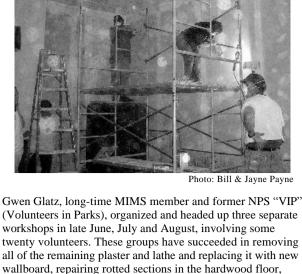
### This was our most ambitious undertaking for the season. Built in 1899, the homely little schoolhouse served island families

South Manitou Island Schoolhouse

for over a half century, not only educating their children, but also as a gathering place for meetings and social activities. It is one of South Manitou's most enduring landmarks. Like most other structures on the island, it had seriously deteriorated from abandonment. After taking over the island, the Lakeshore saved the structure from further damage through stabilization projects, and NPS volunteers did what they could from time to time to improve its appearance. In a cooperative effort, the Memorial Society teamed up with the Lakeshore to finally restore to schoolhouse over the 2005

Fall/Winter2005

and providing volunteer teams, while the Lakeshore is providing transportation, housing, technical direction and logistical support. The plan is to bring the place back to the condition is was in at the time of its closing, in the 1930's. Interpretive displays will be added, with the hope of opening this place as a featured attraction on island motor tours.



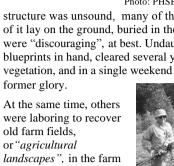
way to accomplishing the goal of completing the project by the Page 2 of Karlin (near Interlochen), then transported to the island aboard the Namaha, the Lakeshore's 41-foot Munson landing

wallboard, repairing rotted sections in the hardwood floor, repairing chimney stack fittings, and generally cleaning and organizing the interior of the building. They're well on their

craft. The Memorial Society granted the funds to pay for the milling and provided volunteers to help with the project. Four-Way "Partnership" Restores the Conrad Hutzler Chicken Coop and Clears Landscapes The Michigan Historical Center, the Lakeshore, Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear and MIMS joined forces to accomplish some much-needed work on South Manitou Island. PHSB

## by PHSB staff and volunteers, with the Lakeshore supervising,

providing logistical support and furnishing equipment. The chicken coop on the Conrad Hutzler farm had pretty much "had it". There really wasn't much Photo: PHSB to work with. The



to some as "The Lodge". Perhaps Mother Nature sometimes doesn't like to be messed with. PHSB Project Coordinator Michael Matts reports that she awarded liberal doses of poison ivy, all due protective precautions notwithstanding.

#### busy passing out baggies. (The transparent bags were a big hit with some of the kids!) Once back on solid ground, stomachs soon settled as everyone enjoyed a catered picnic lunch on the lawns around the old

Coast Guard Lifesaving Station. The entourage then repaired to

Mark Cross

Warren McFerran

**Edward Riker** 

Esther Riker

Robert J Roy

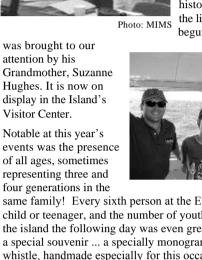
Adm. Willard D Smith

Harriet Smith

the island's main cemetery for the annual "All Saints'

memorial service. This year the bell rang for ...

presentations ... to this year's winner of the Gerald E Crowner Memorial Scholarship, Molly Maxbauer, and a Special Achievement award to Christopher Ek for hias hand-made model



(also known as "The Lodge") Of all the remaining structures on South Manitou, "The Lodge" (see also the article on the last page) is one of the most sentimental favorites. Some say this particular venue offers the finest scenic vista on the Manitou Passage. The farmhouse, built in the 1870's, was originally the home of

Stabilization of the Theodore Beck Farmhouse

very productive farm at the site. He died in 1910;

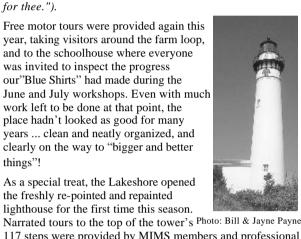
operate the farm on her own until Photo: Paul Rocheleau her death over

Photo: Paul Rocheleau Port Oneida Fair In our second

Lynn Roe offered doll-making/repairing demonstrations, featuring the classic Raggedy Ann and Andy, which proved

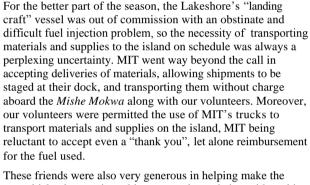
Photo: MIMS Participating in this years observance were Rev Kirby D Smith, of Lansing's Westminster Presbyterian Church, Gwen Glatz of Muskegon, who played traditional hymns, bell-ringers Matt hilip Champion of Kalamazoo, and Patty Kelly of Hol who read an excerpt from John Donnes centuries old meditation Devotions upon Emergent Occasions ("And

therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls



The Memorial Society has been invited to participate as one of the official "partners" for the 2006 edition, which involves assisting with the tasks of organizing and promoting the event, an overture the Board has proudly accepted "Thank You" Manitou Island Transit The generosity and willing support of Manitou Island Transit ... Mike Grosvenor, Michael and Sarah Grosvenor, and Jimmy and Megan Muñoz ... figured into almost every one of the

above projects and events.



time Memorial Society members, and we are indeed fortunate

"Thank You" from Molly Maxbauer

to have their continuing support. a

Dear Members,

generously made possible for me. As I embark on my college journey in Minnesota, I will always have a specia place in my heart for Northern Michigan more so now because of the wonderful history you all have shared with me. Thank you again for your generosity. Sincerely Molly Maxbauer

The following data is current to November 15, 2005. Our fiscal year is August 1 through July 31. "Interested Third Parties" are government officials, NPS staff, other organizations, vendors, etc. "Receipts" include only funds received by mail and

the wonderful scholarship you have

I would like to thank you all for

# electronically through our online payment processor. Donated expenses or contributions that might have been tendered in Fiscal Year to date:

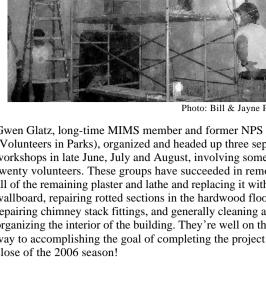
Secretary's Notes ...

to give of their time and treasure to spend a few hours or a long weekend doing "the heavy lifting". The accomplishments of this season's crews will benefit island visitors for years to come. They included ... Damien Allen Emily Korpi Lucy Korpi

Hi Folks, How nice to know someone is interested in reviving the "Crib". I lived on her the season of 1966, the year of the great November storm that broke down the sea door. I'll never forget that place, nor my good friend, now deceased, George "Red" Gauthier of Cedar who was the Chief at the time. I was the assistant station engineer, Petty Officer Engineman Third. At the time the USCG was under the Treasury Department and I was also a Federal Boarding Officer. 1966 was the year we converted from DC power to AC, and the good old air fog horn to the electronic fog horn. So, if you can call it lucky, I saw and lived in both worlds.

Preservation Project

and 2006 seasons. The Memorial Society is funding the project



on page 1).

Cemetery Maintenance Projects

The little cemetery near South Manitou's old dock was also spruced up, and MIMS volunteers helped install new staves, which were custom-made by the Lakeshore, in the antique fences surrounding some of the burial sites. Haas Shanty Restoration The picturesque, but dilapidated, structure behind the Harrison Haas house (Jenks/Hughes cottage), has been completely

restored. The original purpose of the little building, which appeared to be two separate shanties that were merged at some time or another, remains a mystery.

and Barbara Seipker, Laura Quackenbush, and members of the Leelanau Historical Society, were on hand to scan those items

of the South Manitou Island Lighthouse. appeared in the

Theodore and Alvina Beck, who operated a

**Manitou Islands Memorial Society** 

The first issue was published over 16-years ago, on July 1, 1989. It took the form of personal letters, one written by Glenn Furst followed by another from Johanna DeKok. Glenn, who was our first President, talked about having spent the previous fifteen years doing what he could to preserve island burial sites, then finally tackling the island's main cemetery: The cemetery had to be cleaned up. Trees 6" in diameter, juniper bushes, and Sumac 6' - 8' in height were growing everywhere. With a bulldozer, and a chainsaw, a 7 person work party, consisting of the Taylor family, Leslie Furst, N.P.S. Ranger, Pete LaValley, George Hutzler and myself, worked for a period of three days. Later, Fred Burdick organized a Youth Conservation Corps (Y.C.C.) group, sponsored by the N.P.S., to fill in sunken graves and

Tony simply called the publication the "Newsletter". That's what it has been called since. Is it time for more imagination? "LeeMuse" from the Leelanau Historical Society & Museum, "The Clapboard" from Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear, "Drifting Sands" from the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes, and

members and guests accompanied Coast Guard ATON personnel Photo: MIMS to the crib to inspect the

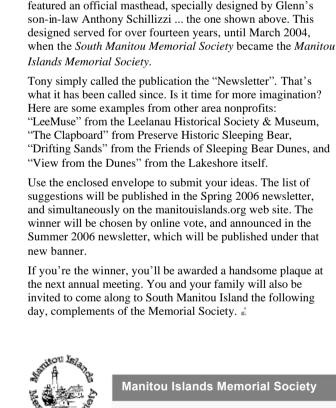
There were several farm families living on the island but no other kids. The Jamaican cherry pickers were some of the others on the site and stayed in lodges with bedding of ticking during the harvest. One of my jobs was loading and unloading lugs of cherries aboard Tracey's boat for shipment over to the Morgan cannery in Traverse City. After the harvest, my father and J. Lee Barrett arrived to take me off the island, following the harvest, leaving the delivery of ice, clean up of the cattle barn and making hay to someone else. The mail boat stopped at South Manitou Island and while there they decided to investigate some property for sale owned by the Beck family. Augie Warner gave us one of his famous rides over the ruts of the island and we did our sightseeing and touring that most others would turn down. In any case we missed our return to Leland, opting for a bunk in a fisherman's shed near the dock. Late that afternoon, Paul Humphry's daughter (Paul was the mechanic on the big island) rode in on her horse to advise the Coast Guard on the death of one of the older island inhabitants. As it turned out, we were able to ride back to Frankfort courtesy of the C.O.

then college (MSU '51) and the Air Force tour in Texas and England. During this time Dad and Lee Barrett talked up the idea for owning the Beck farm with other members of Rotary meantime, Dad bought the Huzler farm, hired Ed and Esther Riker and spent several happy summers roughing it on South Manitou. (The poker game was over when the fuel ran out for

the generator.) Good luck with your activities on the Manitou Island projects.

structure. Onboard in addition to MIMS board members were Joann Papenfuss, representing Sen Debbie Stabenow's Traverse City office. Bob Zieman and his crewman from Enterprises, a contractor experienced in the restoration or offshore lighthouses, Rick Lahman, representing

PO Box 177 Empire MI 49630-0177



some other way might not be included below. New Members: ......11 Other Contributions: ......22 Cash Receipts: ..... \$1,130.50

#### Tamera Anderson Anna DeCoster Carl Luther Deb Dekker Jeff March Camille Garber Bill Payne Gwen Glatz Jayne Payne John Hardy Mike Rocheleau Janet Helmer Paul Rocheleau

Patty Kelly Page 6

William W. Slocum was reclining in a hammock. William G. Boales was busy preparing lunch in the farmhouse kitchen. Yes, the Detroit promoter explained, everyone had been busy fixing up things. Union plumbers were forgetful you know, and the island was miles off the mainland. So the Detroit businessmen had been wielding a paint brush, hammering nails, sawing wood and installing plumbing. Gradually the farmhouse was being transformed into a snug lodge. The barn was to become a clubhouse. A stones throw from the farmhouse was a beach of Lake Michigan strewn with driftwood. The lake breeze was invigorating. Wild raspberries grew nearby in profusion. We beheld the farm scene with its happy city colony and we marveled at the zeal of these Detroiters who were reveling in the isolated

pastoral simplicity of a half-century ago. No telephones, no

automobile traffic, no factory or railroad whistles, no gadgets, no evening papers with black headlines. Yes, this could be an impelling attraction – man's protest against modern complex living. Barrett smiled in contentment. South Manitou, Robinson Crusoe haven of nostalgia, had waited years for him. The Island was his answer, in complete reverse, to a promoter's prayer

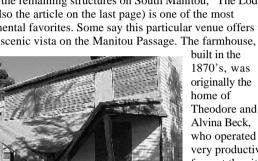
1948 Michigan Mirror Clip Submitted by William G Boales jr



Photo: Bill & Jayne Payne

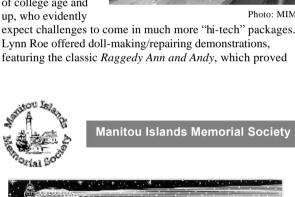
permanent collection. (LHS is our official "collection agent".) Shown here are the most senior members who came to this





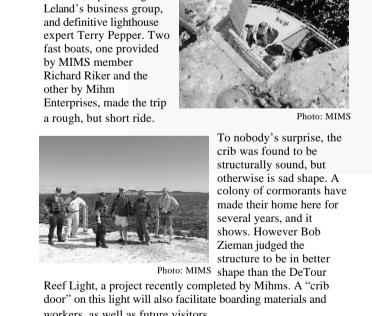


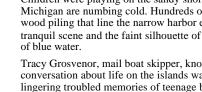
up, who evidently



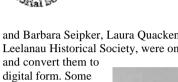
make other improvements. The one acre plot once again looked like Johanna, who was the Secretary/Treasurer, wrote about the progress being made in organizing the newly formed

and simultaneously on the manitouislands.org web site. The winner will be chosen by online vote, and announced in the Summer 2006 newsletter, which will be published under that If you're the winner, you'll be awarded a handsome plaque at





uchiqan



may be featured in

collection was also

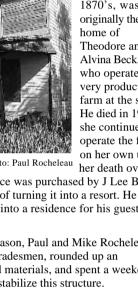
come part of the

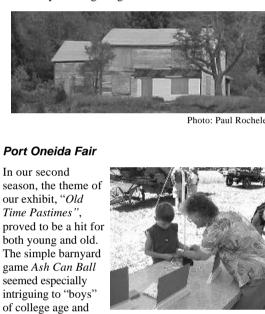
books. A large

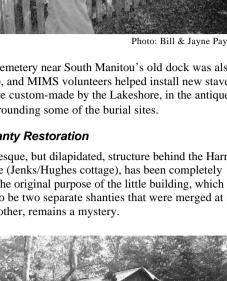
one of Barbara's new

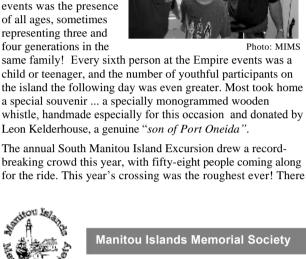
donated to LHS to be



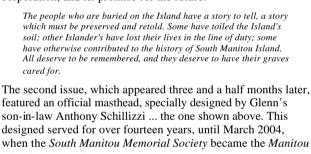


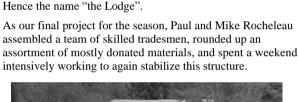


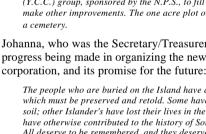




The newsletter has never had a name other than "Newsletter".

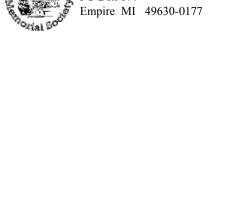




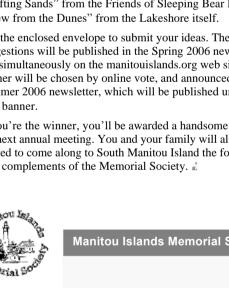


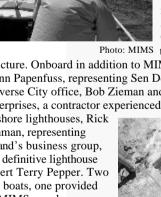
Name the Newsletter

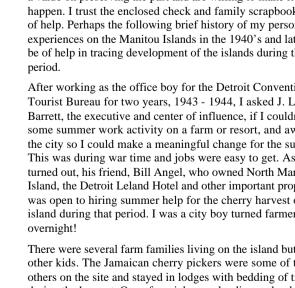
Tourist Bureau for two years, 1943 - 1944, I asked J. Lee Barrett, the executive and center of influence, if I couldn't find some summer work activity on a farm or resort, and away from the city so I could make a meaningful change for the summer. This was during war time and jobs were easy to get. As it turned out, his friend, Bill Angel, who owned North Manitou Island, the Detroit Leland Hotel and other important properties was open to hiring summer help for the cherry harvest on the island during that period. I was a city boy turned farmer overnight!





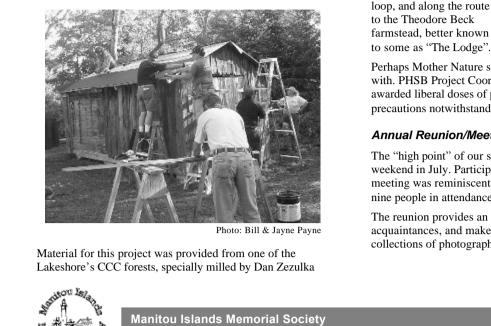


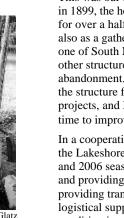


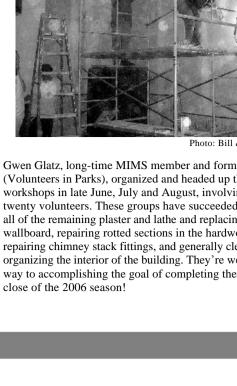


The war ended and I returned to two more years of high school. in Detroit. They incorporated, and hosted various parties. In the William G. Boales, Jr.

gratified in knowing there are people, like yourselves, who put a value on preserving the past and are willing to make it happen. I trust the enclosed check and family scrapbook will be of help. Perhaps the following brief history of my personal experiences on the Manitou Islands in the 1940's and later will be of help in tracing development of the islands during this After working as the office boy for the Detroit Convention and





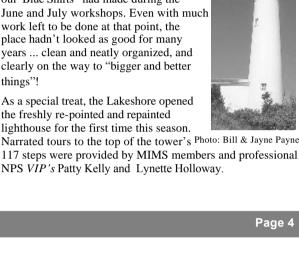


received an \$8,000 preservation-interpretation award from MHC in April. The 50% match was provided, in part, by \$3,400 from the Memorial Society, making a total of \$12,000 available to these island projects. The work was accomplished structure was unsound, many of the boards that had been part of it lay on the ground, buried in the overgrowth; its prospects were "discouraging", at best. Undaunted, PHSB arrived with blueprints in hand, cleared several years of encroaching vegetation, and in a single weekend restored the building to its

Annual Reunion/Meeting & Island Excursion The "high point" of our season happens each year on the last weekend in July. Participation in this year's reunion and annual meeting was reminiscent of "the old days", with some seventynine people in attendance, the best turn-out in many years. The reunion provides an opportunity for everyone to renew old acquaintances, and make new friends. Members brought collections of photographs and other memorabilia to share,



Page 3



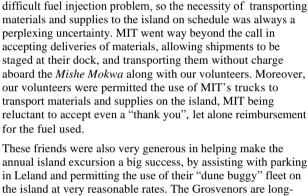
an interesting draw for boys and girls alike. An assortment of

other games, "brain teasers" and activities were also featured.

The annual Port Oneida Fair, billed as "A Celebration of Rural Culture and Arts" and now going into its fifth year, has proven

to be one of the Lakeshore's great success stories. It's free and

great family entertainment for a warm August afternoon in the



Page 5

Database Statistics Total Members ......418 Removed by Request.....0 Recently Deceased ......0 Interested Third Parties......52 New Members: Rick Lahmann Linda Ann Wolf

**Erwin Stammers** 

Phillip C Schoen 1st Lt Claude & Alissa Lambert

Alma R Dunham

Charles A Hannert

William & Charlotte Boales Jr

Tammy Scott al

Successful projects and activities involve a lot of planning and

coordination between all concerned, but the outcome ultimately depends upon volunteers ... hardy individuals who are willing

2005 Volunteer Honor Roll

Jim Hicks

Josie Hicks

Steve Hicks

Isaac Wendt Lynette Holloway Steve Hope Sarah Wendt Katy Jenks Shawn Williamson Dan Zezulka Peter Jenks

Sue Rocheleau

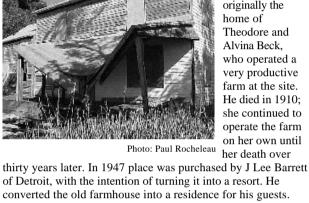
Doug Shoemaker

Warren Tuardek

Page 7

Manitou Islands Memorial Society were lots of ashen faces, and the Mishe Mokwa's crew was kept





Manitou Islands Memorial Society Dear Friends: My good friend and brother-in-law, Tom Persing has sent to me a copy of your newsletter for the summer of 2005 and I'm

the next annual meeting. You and your family will also be invited to come along to South Manitou Island the following **Manitou Islands Memorial Society** Board Members Visit "the Crib" The Manitou Islands Memorial Society is studying the feasibility of signing a historic preservation lease with the Coast Guard and GSA, as stewards of the North Manitou Shoals Light Station, better known to most old timers as "the Crib". On Wednesday, July 27th, MIMS board

photographer Terry Pepper can be viewed at www.manitouislands.org. How much will the restoration project cost? Probably between one and two million. Board members will be attending a state-sponsored grants workshop in Traverse on the 11th of November. a Photo: MIMS

**Manitou Islands Memorial Society** 

fishermen's weatherworn docks and shacks. A baldheaded man, bronze with tan, had set up his easel to paint. A family was having a picnic in the village park where a charcoal iron smelter once stood. Children were playing on the sandy shore, for the waters of Lake Michigan are numbing cold. Hundreds of gulls swarmed noisily about wood piling that line the narrow harbor entrance. Between this tranquil scene and the faint silhouette of South Manitou are 18 miles Tracy Grosvenor, mail boat skipper, knows the Manitous. His conversation about life on the islands was a pleasant relief from lingering troubled memories of teenage boys undergoing military training at Grayling "Back in 1908, my father was a logger on North Manitou" said Tracy, at the wheel. "Before then, the island had a popular summer lodge for

Chicago tourists. Many times the dining room served 100 people.

cherry farm.

pick up two lugs of cherries for the Coast Guard. Thence we

When the lumbermen came in 1908 for a

second timber harvest, the tourists left. Years

Motor Company of Detroit and Muskegon, and

later the island was acquired by William R.

Angel former President of the Continental

Roger Sherman a Chicago attorney. They

operate it now as a sportsmen's club and

We stopped at North Manitou to deliver parcels of food and to

journeyed on to South Manitou, whose natural harbor, curved like a

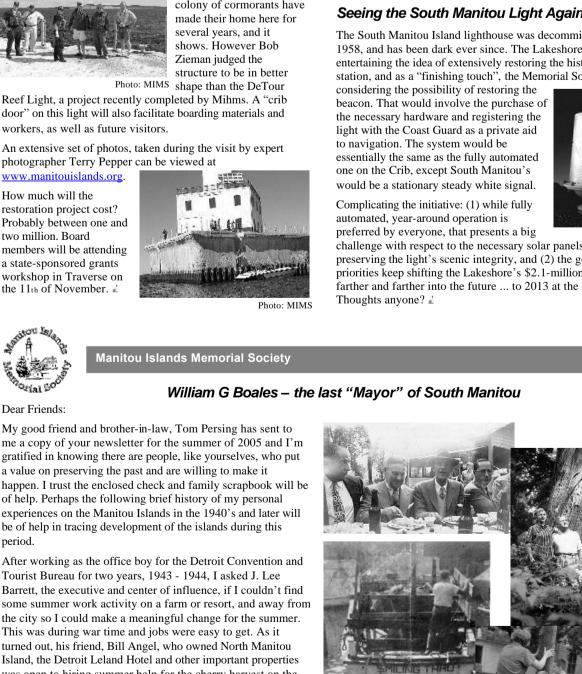
August 26, 1948 – LELAND This is a tale of nostalgia. It is a story

about J. Lee Barrett, Detroit's suave No. 1 ambassador and promoter

of civic superlatives - manager of the Detroit Convention and Tourist

We viewed the distant outline of the Manitous, North and South, from a window of Detzer's print shop here at Leland. In the foreground are

Bureau, and his vacation retreat on South Island on Lake Michigan.



That place was something else I'll tell you, but it is a big part of my life and memories. They took our picture the day we departed that spring of 1966 as we were going out with George Grovsner on his boat "The Manitou I sle" to open the crib for the season. One of the last times I was over that way, I talked to several business owners in the area and most of them had never even heard of the Crib. I was absolutely stunned! They didn't even know it was there. Ĭ wanted so much to go out there once more, to be back "home for just a while. Maybe I'll have the opportunity yet. Your organization was recently brought to my attention when a friend came to visit for the weekend and brought an article from the August 4 edition of the Leelanau Enterprise. Thank you all for what you are doing for the Crib. If there is anything I can do to help bring your efforts to fruition please let me know. Sincerely, and May God Bless! My name is Charlie Hannert UŠCG Serial No. 350-812 Seeing the South Manitou Light Again? The South Manitou Island lighthouse was decommissioned in 1958, and has been dark ever since. The Lakeshore has been entertaining the idea of extensively restoring the historic light station, and as a "finishing touch", the Memorial Society is challenge with respect to the necessary solar panels, and preserving the light's scenic integrity, and (2) the government's priorities keep shifting the Lakeshore's \$2.1-million project farther and farther into the future ... to 2013 at the moment.

new moon, is praised by sailors as being the best on Lake Michigan.

The boat trip from Leland was slow, two hours and a half. August

Warner, Deputy Sheriff, met us at the South Manitou dock. We climbed aboard his 1928 Model A Ford. The chugging ride up a neglected two mile trail was reminiscent of grandfather's time. We paused at a rustic gate and then drove past an ancient barn to a small farmhouse. The Detroit publicist, usually immaculately attired,

resembled a beachcomber. He introduced us to two of his associates in the Lee Island Company, Inc., which was financing the venture.