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**KICK OFF THE CELEBRATION OF THE DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM'S 50TH
ANNIVERSARY AT A MARITIME SYMPOSIUM SATURDAY, MARCH 6TH**

DETROIT - The **Detroit Historical Society** kicks off a year-long observance of the 50th Anniversary of the **Dossin Great Lakes Museum** with a symposium for maritime enthusiasts on **Saturday, March 6** from **11a.m. – 4 p.m.** Guests will have a chance to meet maritime authors, divers and historians.

The event will feature keynote speaker **Robert Schultz**, the author of *We Were Pirates* and *The Madhouse Nudes*, who will discuss Detroit's WWII submarine – the *U.S.S. Tambor*. Schultz has received the National Endowment for the Arts Literature Award in Fiction, Cornell University's Corson Bishop Poetry Prize and the Emily Clark Balch Prize for Poetry from *The Virginia Quarterly Review*.

Other featured guests include **Joe Grimm**, author of *Windjammers: Songs of the Great Lakes Sailors*, and **Patrick Livingston**, author of *Summer Dreams: The Story of Bob-lo Island* and *Eight Steamboats: Sailing Through the Sixties*.

The cost for the event is free thanks to the generous support of the **Michigan Humanities Council**. For more information or to register, please call **(313) 833-1801** or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

The Society is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum throughout 2010! Other upcoming events at the Dossin include the following:

- **New Exhibits Opening event on Saturday, April 24 at 11 a.m.** with former Dossin curator **John Polacsek** appearing from 1 – 3 p.m. The two new exhibits are *Dossin Great Lakes Museum: Celebrating 50 Years!* and *Life on a Long Ship: Great Lakes Sailors*.
- The **3rd Annual Dossin Regatta on Sunday, April 25 at 11 a.m.**, pitting the Detroit Rowing Club against challengers from Toledo, Ohio.
- A **Curator Chat** about the Dossin Museum's two newest exhibits with Detroit Historical Society curator Joel Stone on **Wednesday, June 16 at 6 p.m.**
- **Dossin Great Lakes Museum 50th Birthday Party on Saturday, July 24 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

- **Dossin Ship Spectacular**
 - **Saturday - Sunday, August 21 & 22** from **11 a.m. - 4 p.m.** (tentative)
 - **Saturday - Sunday, August 28 & 29** from **11 a.m. - 4 p.m.** (tentative)
- **Dossin Scholar Series** with Roger LeLievre, editor and publisher of *Know Your Ships* on **Thursday, September 16** at **6 p.m.**
- The Dossin Maritime Group's **Fair Winds Fall Dinner** on **Sunday, October 3**
- **Lost Mariners Remembrance Weekend** on **Saturday-Sunday, November 6 & 7** at **11a.m. - 4p.m.**
- The annual **Lost Mariners Remembrance** on **Wednesday, November 10** at **6 p.m.**

MASCO is the presenting sponsor of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum's 50th Anniversary activities.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is dedicated to preserving and presenting the rich legacy of the Great Lakes. In 1949, the Maritime Museum of Detroit was opened on Belle Isle aboard the landed wood schooner *J. T. Wing*, the last commercial sailing ship on the Great Lakes. Seven years later, this Museum was closed due to the deteriorated condition of the *J.T. Wing*. The Dossin Family, a well-known name in the wholesale food and soft drink businesses, provided the funds for a new maritime museum. The new facility, now named the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, opened on the *Wing's* former Belle Isle site on July 24, 1960, the 259th anniversary of Detroit's founding.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum, located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle, is open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free at the Museum for the duration of 2010 thanks to the generous support of **MASCO**, however, donations are welcome. Permanent exhibits include the *Miss Pepsi* vintage championship hydroplane, a bow anchor from the *S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald*, the pilothouse from the Great Lakes freighter *S.S. William Clay Ford*, and the one of the largest known collections of scale model ships in the world. For more information, call **(313) 833-5538** or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

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