

Where  
the past  
is present

# DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Upcoming Events
- HP Tour Schedule
- MT Tour Schedule
- Special Programs
- Behind The Scenes

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

April Calendar 2

May Calendar 3

Coordinator's Corner 4

### CURATOR'S CORNER

This week we got an email from volunteer and docent Tom Coles. He mentioned he read in the book *Forgotten Landmarks of Detroit* by Dan Austin that the "Real McCoy" term comes from a world-renowned boxer who committed suicide in the Tuller Hotel in 1940.

**What? Isn't the "Real McCoy" term all about Detroit's own Elijah McCoy, inventor of the self-lubricating cup?**

His email sparked a discussion. I had heard that the "Real McCoy" referred to a Florida rum runner who smuggled Caribbean rum into the states, which made his goods the "Real McCoy" instead of the bathroom gin variety. Joel said he'd heard the term referred to a Scottish whiskey maker with no connections to the USA at all.

The fact of the matter is this: More and more historians are coming to the conclusion that the Elijah McCoy "Real McCoy" story is a myth and a legend, and not an actual true story. Because of the "controversy," we didn't include any reference to the story in his panel in the Gallery of Innovation exhibit. While there are certainly worse "lies" to share with visitors, you may want to consider sharing these tidbits on your next tour. I think our guests would enjoy hearing the competing theories, and they will learn a little something while they are at it.

Tobi Voigt  
Chief Curatorial Officer

### Join us for Volunteer Enrichment

On Monday, April 15, we will meet in the Depot (formerly the Café) of the Detroit Historical Museum at 10:00 am to learn about the many changes at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle.

Tobi Voigt will present the designs and layout of the Dossin and answer any questions about the Maritime Tours and Great Lakes Transportation activity given at the Dossin.

Please RSVP to Rosanne rjamieson@detroithistorical.org or 313.833.1419 for the talk and for the lunch.

Also, we will discuss some of the questions that have come up since the Re-Opening of the DHM and learn about some of the objects being placed in the bin in Frontiers to Factories.

See you then!



# April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 <b>9:30 BTS:</b> Detroit Media Partnership <b>1 Volunteer needed</b>
7	8	9 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Sequoyah Elem/ 56 3rd graders 8 adults	10 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Sequoyah Elem/ 84 3rd graders 27 adults	11 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Crissman Elem/94 5th gr 13 ad <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Chandler Park Acad/85 4th gr/13 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Imm. Conc. Sch 21 3rd gr/3 ad	12  <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Burns Elementary 35 4th graders/ 5 adults	13 <b>9:30 BTS:</b> T-Plex  <b>9:30 BTS:</b> Fisher Building  <b>10-5 DHS</b> Guild Flea Market <b>4 Volunteers</b>
14 <b>DHS Guild Flea Market</b> Historic Fort Wayne 10—5:00 pm <b>4 Volunteers needed</b>	15 <b>10:00 Volunteer Enrichment</b>	16 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Pace Academy 104 7th graders 14 adults  <b>12:30 History Detective</b> David Ellis Academy/ 26 7th graders/ 4 adults	17 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Foote Elem/60 3rd gr/8 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Marshall Sch/25 3rd gr/2 ad <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Marquette Elem/ 90 3rd gr/12 ad <b>4:30-8:00 pm</b> <b>Scholar Series:</b> <i>How I Survived World War II</i> 1 <b>Volunteer needed</b>	18 <b>9:30 History Detective</b> Harper Woods/ 25 6th-8th gr/ 5 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Senior Men's Club of Birming- ham/50 adults <b>10:30 HP Tour</b> Country Oaks 52 3rd gr/7 adults	19 <b>10:30 HP Tour</b> Country Oaks El/ 78 3rd graders/ 11 adults	20 <b>10:00 BTS:</b> Redford Theatre  <b>11:00 HP Tour</b> Links Inc./ 15 9th-12th graders/5adults
21	22	23 <b>10:00 Trading Posts &amp; Animal Pelts</b> Detroit Leadership Acad/ 40 3rd gr/ 6 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Henderson Elem/ 20 4th gr/ 4 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Thirkell Elem/80 4th graders/11 ad	24 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Marshall Upper Elem/26 5th gr/ 4 adults <b>10:00 Tour</b> United Oaks Elem/50 3rd gr/5 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Marshall Upper Elem/26 5th gr/ 4 adults	25 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Greenfield Union Elem/20 preK/ 20 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Hillel Day Sc/52 3rd gr/8 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Robeson/ Malcolm X Acad/84 3-4th gr/12 adults	26 <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Palmer Park 70 3rd-4th gr/10 ad <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> N'Western 17 5- 8th graders/6 ad <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Greenwood Elem 56 3rd gr/14 ad <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Dearborn Hgts. Sr. Ctr.20 adults	27
28	29	30 <b>10:00 Trading Posts</b> St. Anne School/ 28 3rd graders/ 4 adults <b>12:30 Trading Posts</b> St. Anne School/ 28 3rd graders/ 4 adults				

## May



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1 10:00 HP Tour</b> American Int'l Academy/ 100 3rd-5th gr/16 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Disc. Arts & Tech Acad/26 7th-8th gr/ 6 adults	<b>2 10:00 HP Tour</b> Woodward Acad/ 17 7th gr/3 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Pleasant Ridge 56 3rd graders/9 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Gill Elem/75 3rd/11 ad	<b>3 10:00 HP Tour</b> Gill Elem/ 50 3rd graders/7 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Pleasant Ridge Elem/56 3rd graders/10 adults	<b>4 9:30 BTS:</b> Packard Proving Grounds <b>1 Volunteer needed</b>
<b>5 9:30 am—4:00pm</b> DHS Guild Teddy Bear Etiquette Tea <b>4 Volunteers needed</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7 10:00 HP Tour</b> Helen Keller El/ 50 3rd /6 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Jane Addams 38 4th graders/ 6 ad <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Courtyard Manor 10 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Princeton Elem/31 5th gr/ 4 adults	<b>8 10:00 History Detective</b> Four Corners Montessori 32 6th gr/4 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Four Corners Montessori/109 4th-6th graders/16 adults	<b>9 10:00 HP Tour</b> Roosevelt School 50 3rd graders/ 7 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Greenfield Union 35 5th-8th graders 4 adults	<b>10 10:00 HP Tour</b> Roosevelt School 50 3rd gr/ 7 ad <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Cranbrook MS 59 7th gr/5 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Quarton Elem/90 2nd gr/13 adults	<b>11 9:30 BTS:</b> Masonic Temple <b>1 Volunteer needed</b>
<b>12 Happy Mothers' Day!</b> 	<b>13 10:00 HP Tour</b> Jewish Federation of Michigan 100 adults	<b>14 10:00 Trading Posts</b> St. John School/27 4th – 5th graders/5 adults <b>12:30 Trading Posts</b> Holland Elem/40 3rd gr/ 10 adults	<b>15 10:00 Trading Posts</b> Brookfield Academy/32 3rd graders/6 adults  <b>4:30 Scholar Series</b> <i>Once Upon A Car</i> , Bill Vlastic	<b>16 10:00 HP Tour</b> Cherokee Elem/ 40 4th gr/ 6 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Oak Ridge Elem/ 28 3rd gr/9 adults <b>12:30 Trading Posts</b> Kerby Elem/ 19 3rd graders/6 adults	<b>17 10:00 HP Tour</b> Cherokee Elem/ 60 4th gr/8 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Oak Ridge Elem/ 28 3rd gr/8 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Turrill Elem/83 3rd gr/12 adults <b>DGLM Re-Opening Gala</b> 12:00-9:30 pm	<b>18 8:00 am DGLM Members Re-Opening</b> <b>3 Docents/2 Volunteers needed</b>  <b>9:30 BTS:</b> Bartlett-Travis House
<b>19</b>	<b>20 10:00 HP Tour</b> Presbyterian Village/ 125 adults	<b>21 10:00 HP Tour</b> Maples Elem/ 50 3rd graders/ 6 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Friends of WSU School of Medicine/ 20 adults	<b>22 10:00 DGLM GL Transp.</b> St Linus/16 3rd gr/9 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Webster Elem/ 100 3rd –4th gr/14 ad  <b>12:30 MT Tour DGLM</b> Trinity Luth/ 43 3rd gr/12 adults <b>12:30 Trading Posts</b> St Linus/16 3rd gr/9 adults	<b>23 10:00 HP Tour</b> Det. Edison PSA 50 3rd gr/7 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Maples Elem/50 3rd gr/6 adults <b>10:00 MT Tour DGLM</b> /Hillel Sch. 40 4th gr/6 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> Det. Edison PSA 71 3rd gr/10 adults <b>Volunteer App. Dinner –DGLM</b>	<b>24 10:00 HP Tour</b> Gompers Elem/ 60 3rd gr/9 ad <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Huntington Elem/ 50 3rd gr/8 adults <b>10:00 MT Tour DGLM</b> GP Acad/ 18 3rd gr/ 4 adults <b>12:30 HP Tour</b> GP Acad/ 18 3rd gr/ 4 adults	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27 Memorial Day Society Offices Closed</b>	<b>28 10:00 HP Tour</b> Bradford Acad/50 3rd gr/8 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Hutchinson/ 60 4th 5th gr/9 adults	<b>29 10:00 HP Tour</b> Pierce Elem/80 2nd graders/12 adults	<b>30 10:00 HP Tour</b> Legacy Charter Ac 90 3rd gr/6 adults <b>10:00 HP Tour</b> Woodward Acad/ 17 5th gr/4 adults	<b>31 10:00 Trading Posts</b> Kerby Elementary 21 3rd graders/ 6 adults	

**VOLUNTEER  
NEWSLETTER**

WE'RE ON THE WEB  
WWW.DETROITHISTORICAL.ORG

Detroit Historical Society  
5401 Woodward Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48202  
313-833-1419  
www.detroithistorical.org

**COORDINATOR'S CORNER**

Dear Volunteers,

For those of you who would like an emailed copy of future Volunteer Newsletters, we will be sending the next newsletters by email to anyone requesting the email copy by providing us with your email. Please send me the current or new email you'd like to have receive the PDF copy of our Volunteer Newsletters. This will help printing and mailing costs. We will continue to send the newsletter by mail to anyone not receiving an email copy.

Please plan to attend our April Volunteer Enrichment. Tobi Voigt, Chief Curatorial Officer, will present the changes to the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle. We will meet in the Depot at the Detroit Historical Museum at 10 am on Monday, April 15. Please RSVP for lunch and the presentation.

Thanks to all of you for your continued service to the Detroit Historical Society! We appreciate your continuing volunteer hours and your patience when the museum gets very busy with added tours and many happy visitors.

As always, we thank you, our volunteers, for all you do. See you at the Museums!

Rosanne Jamieson

Volunteer & Education Coordinator

313.833.1419 or [rjamieson@detroithistorical.org](mailto:rjamieson@detroithistorical.org)