

Where  
the past  
is present

DETROIT  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

SPRING 2013

# MAKINGHISTORY

A QUARTERLY GUIDE TO EXHIBITIONS, EVENTS, TOURS, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

## Set Sail with Us!

Dossin Great Lakes Museum Grand Re-Opening: May 18, 2013, Noon



*Passengers on the Detroit River ferry Cadillac in the 1950s*

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# DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**MAKING HISTORY** is the official quarterly newsletter of the Detroit Historical Society, published each winter, spring, summer and fall. Questions and comments may be submitted to Bob Sadler at [bobsadler@detroithistorical.org](mailto:bobsadler@detroithistorical.org).

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## Letter from the Executive Director Bob Bury

### Taking the next step

*Exceeding expectations.*

That's both a statement of fact — and a goal — as the Detroit Historical Society moves into 2013. We're fresh off the very successful Grand Re-Opening of the Detroit Historical Museum, and we are working diligently toward an encore performance in May as we complete the transformation of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum!

How successful have things been at the Detroit Historical Museum? We've exceeded many of the goals we set for ourselves and based on the input received from our friends and visitors, we've exceeded your expectations as well!

At the time of this writing, we have seen an attendance increase of more than 100% over the same three-month period in past years. More schoolchildren, more tour buses, more families, adults and children are experiencing all we have to offer than at any time in our history. They are also showing their appreciation by being generous with their donations, by shopping in our new Museum Store, by joining as members and by supporting our annual fund.

As you enjoy this edition of *Making History*, our team is putting the finishing touches on all the new attractions and changes at the Dossin, including the new signature exhibit, *Built by the River*. We look forward to, once again, exceeding your expectations beginning with the upcoming Grand Re-Opening events starting on May 17. You can read all about what's new at the Dossin on pages 10–11 of this issue of *Making History*. All the details of our Grand Re-Opening Gala and Member Preview events are on the facing page.

I want to express my appreciation for everyone who has contributed their time, talent and resources to transform both of our amazing museums — from our board, staff, volunteers and contractors to all of you who supported our *Past>Forward* Campaign, which has made all of this possible.

Though our major projects are nearing completion, know that we remain committed to exceeding your expectations every day — and that your continued encouragement and support is more important than ever before.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Bury

Executive Director & CEO  
Detroit Historical Society

# DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

## Society Names Tobi Voigt Chief Curatorial Officer



Tobi Voigt, previously Director of Education & Interpretation, has been named Chief Curatorial Officer by Society Executive Director & CEO Bob Bury. Reporting to Bury, Voigt is responsible for the articulation and implementation of strategies for the Society's curatorial, exhibits, collections, educational and programmatic initiatives.

Prior to coming to the Society in November 2010, Voigt spent more than five years at the New York State Historical Association in Cooperstown, four of those years in the position of Manager of Statewide Programs. While

there, she handled the National History Day in New York program, created professional development programs related to museum collections and exhibitions, and put together online and printed curriculum materials.

Before moving to New York, Voigt started her museum career at the Rochester Hills Museum, where over three years she worked with educational staff as an interpreter and program developer, assisted curatorial staff on exhibit development, oversaw the museum's collections, managed the gift shop and served as volunteer coordinator.

A metro Detroit native and current Berkley resident, Voigt grew up in Troy and graduated from Athens High School. She holds bachelor of arts degrees in history and psychology from Oakland University and a master of arts in history museum studies from the Cooperstown (NY) Graduate Program.

## Dossin Great Lakes Museum Member Re-Opening

### Society Membership has its benefits!

After extensive renovations, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum will be re-opening for a special *members-only* preview on Saturday, May 18th from 8 a.m. to noon.

Mark your calendars and be sure to join us!

To RSVP or get more information, please contact Alanna Shahly at (313) 833-0158 or email [alannas@detroithistorical.org](mailto:alannas@detroithistorical.org) by Friday, May 10.



## Dossin Great Lakes Museum GRAND RE-OPENING GALA

*Friday, May 17, 2013 • 6-11pm*

Celebrate the Grand Re-Opening of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum with a fabulous evening of Great Lakes-inspired cocktails, cuisine and entertainment!

### *Schedule of Events*

#### 6:00PM BENEFACTOR ARRIVAL

*\$600 per person*

Cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception  
in the Gothic Room  
VIP ribbon cutting ceremony

#### 7:15PM PATRON ARRIVAL

*\$300 per person*

Passed hors d'oeuvres in the Great Lakes Galleries  
Seated dinner on Detroit's riverfront

#### 9:00PM FRIEND ARRIVAL

*\$100 per person*

Dessert and dancing afterglow in DeRoy Hall  
*Speakeasy* beer and bourbon bar

#### 11:00PM EVENING CONCLUDES

### *Gala Co-Chairs*

Maggie & Bob Allesee  
Marlene & John Boll  
Diane & Doug Dossin  
Bobbi & Stephen Polk

*For information about Gala sponsorship packages or to purchase Gala tickets, please contact Kristin Rossi at [kristinr@detroithistorical.org](mailto:kristinr@detroithistorical.org) or (313) 833-1980.*



100 Strand Drive • Belle Isle

## THE RIDING RAILS

Now Open in Booth-Wilkinson Gallery

### Riding the Rails: How Rail Transportation Helped Build Detroit

Through the 19th and early 20th centuries, vehicles that operated on steel rails were instrumental in Detroit's development from frontier outpost to bustling metropolis. At the turn of the 20th century, Detroit had the largest regional mass transportation network in the United States with its railroad, trolley and interurban system. For over a century, rail transportation was part of the fabric of Detroiters' lives — how they got to work, how they spent Sundays, how they got their food and even how they were buried.

However, as transportation methods changed in the 20th century, the popularity of rail transportation decreased. The automobile became the vehicle of choice for the freedom it gave to individuals. Henry Ford's Model T made it possible for Americans of all backgrounds and socio-economic statuses to own an automobile.

The Detroit Historical Society's exhibition, *Riding the Rails: How Rail Transportation Helped Build Detroit*, presents the history of rail transportation around the city,

providing fascinating and enlightening context to a modern discussion on the best way to lessen our dependence on the automobile and provide safe and reliable mass transportation for citizens.



Supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.



## NEW to the COLLECTION

### New To the Collection

As stewards of our city and region's rich history, the Detroit Historical Society cares for and preserves more than 250,000 objects, documents and images.

Long after memories fade and perspectives change, these artifacts will remain to document the past and contribute to a broader understanding of the individuals, places and events that helped shape metro Detroit.

The Detroit Historical Society relies on the generosity of donors to enhance its collection. The *New to the Collection* showcase features a small selection of the hundreds of donations the Society receives each year.



Now Open in the Allesee Gallery of Culture

### Center Stage: Days That Defined Detroit

History is often defined by pivotal moments, turning points that mark an instant in time when things were never the same again. As great moments or simmering conflicts gain momentum, it is often a single event that tips the balance and redefines an era. This exhibit explores six Detroit events that changed the course of 20th century history in the city. Their impacts often reverberated through the nation and world.

**AUGUST 12, 1908** — Ford Motor Company Debuts the Model T

**MARCH 26, 1937** — The UAW and Ford Motor Company's "Battle of the Overpass"

**MARCH 22, 1954** — Northland Center, the World's Largest Shopping Mall, Opens

**APRIL 14, 1960** — Berry Gordy, Jr. Launches Motown Records

**JULY 23, 1967** — The Worst Civil Disturbance in Detroit History Begins

**NOVEMBER 6, 1973** — Coleman A. Young Elected Detroit's First African American Mayor



March 16 – June 16 in the Community Gallery

## A Cultural Thread...The Enduring Ukrainian Spirit

This exhibition from the Ukrainian American Archives and Museum brings to life the history of Ukrainian immigration to the United States and its impact on American culture over the

years, in particular to the communities of metropolitan Detroit.

The earliest Ukrainian immigrants established ethnic neighborhoods that served as harbors for later waves of immigrants who preserved Ukrainian culture and traditions and who assimilated into contemporary American society. Locally, nationally and internationally, Ukrainian-Americans have thrived in politics, law, business, entertainment, sports, journalism and more, enabling them to make a positive impact on American culture.

The exhibition features traditional art that Ukrainian immigrants brought to America, including regional styles of costumes, sculptures, paintings, over 1,000 Ukrainian Easter eggs (pysanky), ritual cloths which were used during life passages, pottery, woodcarvings as well as large scanned historical photographs of Ukrainian settlers and famous persons of Ukrainian descent.

The exhibition also provides background on the Ukraine's geography and history, which will be enhanced by live demonstrations by local artists who will be on hand to show how Ukrainian Easter eggs are painstakingly created and decorated. References explaining symbolism and motifs will be displayed throughout the gallery.

For special group guided tours with a speaker, please call the exhibit curator, Dzvinika Hayda, at (313) 366-9764 for reservations or further information.



Supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

## Visit our new permanent exhibits:



Allesee Gallery of Culture



Kid Rock Music Lab

SPRING 2013

# BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS

\$20 Detroit Historical Society members • \$30 Guests (unless otherwise noted)

Sponsored by



Advance reservations required. Tour registrants receive directions to the tour location, a map and additional information 1–2 weeks after payment is received. Tours typically last 90 minutes to two hours. No refunds or tour credits will be given. You may choose from three options to sign-up:

1 Fill out and send the form on page 14 2 Register online at [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org) 3 Call (313) 833-1801 to register by phone

## Detroit Media Partnership Fort St. Newsroom APRIL 6 – 10 A.M.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

In 1987, the *Detroit News* and *Detroit Free Press* entered into a Joint Operating Agreement whereby the papers agreed to combine business operations but maintain separate editorial staffs. Each paper now publishes separate editions six days a week, with Sundays belonging to the *Freep* with a *News* editorial page. See where the stories you read take shape as you tour the building in which journalists and editors for both papers work.



## T-Plex APRIL 13 – 10 A.M.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Before there was Highland Park or “The Rouge,” there was Henry Ford’s first Model T plant in Detroit’s Milwaukee Junction

district. Planning for construction of the factory began even before the Model T had celebrated its first anniversary, with plans being drawn by the Detroit firm of Field, Hinchman & Smith. Walk the factory floor where Ford experimented with the assembly line method of auto production and admire the workmanship of antique automobiles from the era.

## Redford Theatre Tour and Movie APRIL 20 – 11 A.M. – 4 P.M.

\$30 members/\$40 guests

Join us for a unique day at the theatre! Following lunch at Sweet Potato Sensations, you will take an in-depth tour of this amazing theatre before hearing a live organ performance. Your tour fee also includes admission to the film “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.”

The Redford Theatre opened on January 27, 1928 as a neighborhood movie house. It was billed as “America’s Most Unique Suburban Playhouse.” The theatre, with its three-story grand foyer and full-size stage, has been in continuous operation ever since. Sweet Potato Sensations was incorporated in December of 1987, and is located across the street from the Historic Redford Theatre. With a continually growing line of sweet potato goodies and a great lunch menu, you will be starting your day off right

with Sweet Potato Sensations before your tour and movie at the Redford Theatre!

APRIL 27 • NO TOUR SCHEDULED

## Packard Proving Grounds MAY 4 – 10 A.M.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Dedicated in 1927, the buildings at the Proving Grounds in Utica were designed by Albert Kahn, and the oval test track was so well-engineered that drivers could travel around the banked curves in excess of 100 mph without holding the steering wheel. Come explore the lodge building and garage as you learn about the many ways the grounds have been used throughout their history.



## Masonic Temple MAY 11 – 10 A.M.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Dedicated November 25, 1926, this 1,037-room, 14-story building was unique among Masonic buildings because all of the various Masonic bodies were housed in the same structure. There are some 12 million cubic feet of space, making it the largest and most complex building of its kind in the world. It includes seven Craft Lodge Rooms, each with different decorative treatments, the motifs of decoration being taken from the Egyptian, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, Italian Renaissance, Byzantine, Gothic and Romanesque traditions. All of the artwork throughout the building, especially the beautifully decorated ceilings, was done under the personal direction of famous Italian artists.



## Bartlett-Travis House, Canton, MI MAY 18 – 10 A.M.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

The Bartlett-Travis House was originally constructed in 1838 in Greek Revival style with post and beam construction. Additions from 1876–1880 feature Italianate details. In 1919, a Queen Anne wraparound porch was

added by William and Martha Travis. The house was once home to many prominent Canton families. In 1988, the house was donated to Canton Township and carefully moved to its current site in 1989. During the 1900s and early 2000, many individuals and groups worked to lovingly restore the home to reflect its original heritage.

MAY 25 • NO TOUR — MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY OBSERVED

## David Whitney Building JUNE 1 – 10 A.M.

\$40 members/\$50 guests

Special “Under Construction” Tour  
\*Includes Lunch

David Charles Whitney selected Daniel Burnham and his firm to design this 19-story building. Done in the Chicago skyscraper style and completed in 1915, the David Whitney Building was designed with a five-story atrium area where shops could be located. The atrium was done in white tile, terra cotta and marble in the Italian Renaissance style. The public corridors in the building had Italian marble floors and walls. For several decades, the Whitney was a prestigious location for medical offices. Through several decades of changes and additional years of vacancy, the building has remained full of potential. This tour will take you inside while it is being remodeled to allow you to learn the history and see the next era of change in progress. Lunch at Angelina Bistro will round out your Grand Circus Park experience!

## Mt. Olivet Cemetery Walking Tour JUNE 8 – 2 – 4 P.M.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Since 1888, Mt. Olivet Cemetery has been a comforting and stable presence on Detroit’s east side. Today, Mt. Olivet is the largest cemetery in Detroit, consisting of more than 300 acres of carefully tended lawns and gardens that create a peaceful oasis in the city.

Dozens of private family mausoleums can be seen throughout the grounds, interspersed with towering oaks and maples. Many of them honor multiple generations of Detroit area families. Visitors to Mt. Olivet will also see an impressive assortment of individual memorials erected from the 19th century through the present day.

SPRING 2013

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## Historic Detroit Tour JUNE 15 – 9 A.M. – 4 P.M.

*\$70 members/\$80 guests  
All day tour includes lunch  
and resource materials!*

The “Historic Detroit” tour is led by Society volunteers Jim & Annette McConnell. Ride in the comfort of a Bianco motorcoach as you hear stories from Detroit’s past and view key historic sites in our community. Travel to downtown Detroit to walk the grounds where Cadillac founded the city in 1701, learn about the Great Fire of 1805, and see how the Woodward Plan shaped the modern city. Other tour highlights include seeing some key locations from the early years of Ford Motor Company and driving through Detroit’s entertainment and sports areas. We will also visit the New Center area, Historic Corktown, Midtown and the vibrant Cultural Center. Areas of special interest include the birthplaces of Motown and the Model T. Guests will enjoy lunch at Sindbad’s on the Detroit River.

## Lawrence P. Fisher Mansion JUNE 22 – 10 A.M.

*\$20 members/\$30 guests*

Lawrence Fisher was the most flamboyant of the seven very prosperous Fisher Brothers. C. Howard Crane, the great theater architect, was selected to design a magnificent house



interior floors of rosewood parquet, black walnut paneling, numerous marble columns and several walls covered in hand-painted leather. This tour will provide you with information about the house, Lawrence Fisher’s expensive tastes, and the transition of the house to its current use as a cultural center for the Hare Krishna movement.

## Boston Edison Walking Tour JUNE 29 – 10 A.M.

*\$20 members/\$30 guests*



The Boston Edison Historic District consists of over 900 houses, no two of which are alike; each was custom designed and provides an unique interpretation of its chosen style. Styles including English Revival (Cottage, Tudor, Renaissance), Roman and Greek Revival, French Provincial, Colonial Revival (Georgian and Dutch), Italian Renaissance, Prairie and Vernacular are found here.

for him. The result is a 22,000 square foot home situated on four acres of gardens. Hundreds of European craftsmen created

The majority of houses were constructed between 1905 and 1925, and each home reflects the high level of craftsmanship and quality of building materials typical of the time.

This highly popular tour will walk you through the district with a guide knowledgeable about both the history and architecture contained on these streets.

## Reserve Your Spot Early for Detroit and Windsor: A Bootlegging Tour

**Wednesday, September 25  
5:30 - 8 p.m.**

*\$55 Detroit Historical Society and  
Preservation Detroit members; \$60 guests  
Includes narrated tour and dinner aboard  
the Diamond Belle on the Detroit River*

The tour, brought to you by Preservation Detroit & the Detroit Historical Society, will depart at 6 p.m. and return two hours later. Check-in begins at 5:30 p.m.

All registrations must be received by September 7th, but this one usually fills up fast! Call (313) 833-1801 for tickets or additional information.

## Historic Houses of Worship Tours

Since 1972, the Historic Houses of Worship tours have acquainted metro Detroiters with the contributions religious institutions have made in the development of our community. These tours are sponsored by the Detroit Historical Society.

*The cost is \$40 for Detroit Historical Society members and \$50 for guests.*

Your tour fee includes transportation with docent commentary, historical presentations at each tour stop, lunch and donations back to each location. Tours now feature comfortable motor coaches, providing you with a relaxing view of our architecturally unique city!

All tours run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and depart from and return to the Detroit Historical Museum (unless otherwise noted).

**NOTE:** Due to the popularity of these tours, it is recommended that you make reservations well in advance. No group or individual reservations will be held without payment in full.

### Special Offer!

In *Detroit’s Historic Places of Worship*, authors Marla O. Collum, Barbara E. Krueger and Dorothy Kostuch profile 37 architecturally and historically significant houses of worship that represent eight denominations and nearly 150 years of history.

For a limited time, when you purchase a ticket for one of our Historic Houses of Worship tours, you can purchase a copy of *Detroit’s Historic Places of Worship* for only \$30 (retail value \$39.95). This option will be available by phone and on our website.

### MAY 6, 2013 (Wyandotte Churches)

St. John United Church of Christ  
First Congregational  
St. Stephen’s Episcopal  
First United Methodist  
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

### JUNE 3, 2013

The Historic Little Rock Baptist Church  
St. James Ferndale  
Ferndale First United Methodist Church  
St. John Central United Methodist  
St. Peter & Paul American Orthodox Cathedral



Supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Some events require registration. Unless otherwise noted, you may choose from three options to sign up:

1 Fill out and send the form on page 14 2 Register online at [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org) 3 Call (313) 833-1801 to register by phone



Supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

## Scholar Series

The Detroit Historical Society Scholar Series is an academic approach to Detroit's history. Offered monthly, presenters cover the causes, meanings, outcomes and possibilities that surround events and places in our community's past, present and future.

Admission is FREE for Society Members and \$10 for Guests. RSVPs are requested but walk-ins are welcome.

### Wednesday, April 17

Detroit Historical Museum  
Colonel Alexander Jefferson,  
"How I Survived World War II!"

College graduate Alexander Jefferson, having enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves, was turned down when he first applied for flight training in the Army Air Force during World War II. In 1943, though, the Army assigned Jefferson to the 332nd Fighter Group of the black "Tuskegee Airmen," based at Tuskegee Army Airfield in Alabama. The 332nd, which flew distinctive "Red Tail" P-51 Mustangs, escorted bombing raids and provided air support for ground troops.

During his presentation, Colonel Alexander Jefferson will show a brief video and then explain how being a Tuskegee Airman helped him survive World War II. In addition, he will discuss how his Tuskegee Airman status contributed to his life during the Civil Rights era.

### Wednesday, May 15

Detroit Historical Museum  
Bill Vlasic, *Once Upon A Car*

*Once Upon a Car* is the brilliantly reported, inside-the-boardrooms-and-factories story of Detroit's fight for survival, going beyond the headlines to chronicle how the country's Big Three auto companies teetered on the brink of collapse and pulled themselves together under new leadership at Ford and government assistance to General Motors and Chrysler. In this riveting true account of an iconic industry in crisis, Bill Vlasic takes readers

from the gleaming corporate skyscrapers, massive auto plants, and union halls to the U.S. Congress and into the Oval Office, introducing a cast of memorable characters, many of whom are speaking out for the first time. *Once Upon a Car* is a uniquely American tale of success, failure, and redemption, chronicling a vitally important chapter in an astonishing story that is still unfolding — a story no one is more qualified to tell than Bill Vlasic.

An award-winning business reporter with more than 15 years of experience specializing in the automotive industry, Bill Vlasic is currently the Detroit bureau chief for the *New York Times*. The coauthor of *Taken for a Ride*, Vlasic is a winner of the Gerald Loeb Award for excellence in financial journalism and has been recognized for his reporting and investigative journalism by the Associated Press and the Society of American Business Editors and Writers.

### Wednesday, June 19

Detroit Historical Museum  
Bill Loomis, *Detroit's Delectable Past*



Join local food aficionado Bill Loomis on a look back at the appetites, tastes, kitchens, parties, holidays and everyday meals that defined eating in Detroit, from the earliest days as a French village

to the start of the twentieth century. Whether it's at a frontier farmers' market, a Victorian 12-course children's birthday party replete with tongue sandwiches or a five-cent-lunch diner, food is a main ingredient in a community's identity and history. While showcasing favorite fare of the day, this book also explores historic foodways — how locals fished the Detroit River, banished flies from kitchens without screens and harvested frog legs with minuscule shotguns. Wedding feasts, pioneer grub, cooking classes and the thrifless '20s are all on the menu too.

## Film Series

The Detroit Historical Society Film Series screens documentaries that cover a range of Detroit history subjects. Films are screened at 1 p.m. each day and are FREE.

### The Story of Willow Run

April 13 & 14  
Running Time: 35 minutes

The idea for the Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant was conceived by Henry Ford, who told the United States government that he could support the aircraft production needs for the coming world war by building B-24s on a production line the same way Ford Motor Company built automobiles at "The Rouge." By the end of production, the sprawling Willow Run plant was rolling out one B-24 every 55 minutes, 24 hours a day. This is the story of that accomplishment as filmed by the Ford Motor Company in this original, 1945 black and white documentary.

### The Rouge

May 11 & 12  
Running Time: 46 minutes

From its first years as a model of integration for its time to Ford's using cruel force to crush organized labor, the Rouge plant indelibly shaped the history of Detroit and the world. Early footage, photographs and interviews share this intriguing story.

### Typeface

June 8 & 9  
Running Time: 60 minutes

"Typeface" explores the twilight of an analog craft that is freshly inspiring artists in the digital age. The Hamilton Wood Type Museum in Two Rivers, Wisconsin personifies cultural preservation, rural re-birth, and the lineage of American graphic design. But the museum's future is unclear. What is the responsibility of artists and historians to preserve a dying craft?

Following each screening of "Typeface," you will be able to visit our print shop in the Streets of Old Detroit exhibit and talk with Ralph Rinaldi, who runs our printing press.

## 31<sup>ST</sup> Annual Historic Fort Wayne Flea Market Returns April 13–14



Antique and bargain hunters will find collectibles, contemporary treasures and a variety of arts and crafts at the 31st annual Historic Fort Wayne Flea Market, taking place Saturday and Sunday, April 13–14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 6325 W. Jefferson (at the foot of Livernois). The event is co-presented by the Detroit Historical Society Guild and the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition.

Returning by popular demand, tours of the Historic Fort Wayne complex will be offered each day. The guided tours will include the Star Fort built in the 1840s and the Spanish-American War Guard House.

The Glancy Trains Modular Railroad Club also returns with their amazing toy train layout and will be promoting the newly-renovated *Glancy Trains* exhibit at the Detroit Historical Museum.

Secured parking is \$5 per vehicle, admission is free for the flea market and the tours are priced at \$3 per person. Refreshments and baked goods will also be for sale. Vendors can purchase tables for only \$30 or three tables for \$75.

For more information on the flea market or to purchase a table, call Shirley Hartert at (313) 882-6107.

## The Detroit Historical Society Guild presents a Teddy Bear Tea May 5

The Detroit Historical Society Guild is pleased to host a Children's Teddy Bear Tea and Etiquette Party at the Detroit Historical Museum on Sunday, May 5, from 1 – 4 p.m. This unique event is presented for boys and girls ages five to 12 and their accompanying adult.

Guests will enjoy tea or lemonade and desserts, followed by an interactive, fun etiquette lesson that includes table manners, table setting, introductions, greetings and addressing adults. Children will also have the chance to win a door prize. Bring your favorite bear, and enjoy the fun!

The cost is \$15 per person, plus your Museum parking.

For information and reservations, please call (313) 882-6107 during the day or (586) 791-7533 evenings by April 21st. Sorry, no tickets will be sold on the day of the event due to limited seating.

## See the Glancy Trains Modular Railroad Club at Greenfield Village during "Day Out with Thomas"

Kids of all ages can see the Glancy Trains Modular Railroad Club's extensive Lionel Trains traveling exhibit on display at this year's annual "Day Out with Thomas" weekends at Greenfield Village in Dearborn. The exhibit travels to many events around the region annually, promoting the popular *Glancy Trains* exhibit at the Detroit Historical Museum and other Society programs.

Featuring appearances by the popular railroad-themed PBS kid show character Thomas the Tank Engine, "Day Out with Thomas" takes place at Greenfield Village on the weekends of April 27–28, May 4–5 and May 11–12.

## War of 1812 Historic Sites Tour set for Sunday, Oct. 13th

On Sunday, Oct. 13, 2013, the Michigan War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, in cooperation with the Detroit Historical Society, offers a special tour of key War of 1812 historic sites in southeast Michigan. The tour will depart from the Detroit Historical Museum at 10 a.m. and return at 4 p.m.

Key locations to be visited include the River Raisin National Battlefield Park (America's newest National Park), sites of the Battles of Brownstown and Monguagon, Hull's Trace Historic Site, Brock's Landing Site, Hull's Invasion Site, and Fort Detroit. Registration details and pricing are posted at [www.michigan.gov/war1812](http://www.michigan.gov/war1812).

The cost is \$70 for Society members and \$80 for guests and includes all admissions, an informative historical packet, lunch at McGeady's Town Pub in Monroe, taxes and gratuities.

On the next day, Monday, Oct. 14th, an 1812 Symposium "Remembering the Forgotten Conflict: Reflections on the War of 1812" will convene at the Detroit Historical Museum from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Presentations include:

- Don Hickey, "What You Should Know about the War of 1812";
- John Grodzinski, "War on the Niagara";
- Christopher George, "War in the Chesapeake";
- Jeff Seiken, "War on the High Seas";
- And Gene Smith, "War on the Gulf Coast."

Updates and registration materials can be found at [www.michigan.gov/war1812](http://www.michigan.gov/war1812). For more information on either event, email Annette McConnell, registrar, at [jam11776@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jam11776@sbcglobal.net).

## Built by the River

In the John A. and Marlene L. Boll Foundation Gallery

### BUILT BY THE RIVER

IN THE JOHN A. AND  
MARLENE L. BOLL  
FOUNDATION GALLERY

Detroit's growth and development into one of the nation's leading metropolitan regions is undeniably linked to the river that shares its name. The Dossin Great Lakes Museum's new core exhibition — *Built by the River* — will highlight the ways in which Detroiters have long used the river and lakes around us to build our industries, engage our neighbors and pursue our recreational passions.

As the "City on the Straits," the river's impact on the social, economic and ecological development of metropolitan Detroit is indeed undeniable. Early history will examine Detroit's place at the center of the fur trade, and how its geographic placement made it a strategic spot for the French, British and American armed forces. Later, its location on the river made Detroit a center of industrial development, manufacturing capital and marine transportation. For decades, the Detroit River was the busiest commercial waterway in the world, and Detroit shipyards built more vessels than any other city in the region.

Today, the river, as a link to the Great Lakes, is an important part of the region's economy and identity. From a recreational standpoint, Belle Isle is home to the oldest rowing club — the Detroit Boat Club — in the country. A century ago, a relaxing cruise along the river and lakes was as common as a Sunday drive. Today, powerboat racers annually vie for the Gold Cup — motor sports' oldest trophy — and fishing in the region is considered superb.

Our heritage is also intertwined with our friends in Canada, as Detroit's status as an important international border crossing has helped shape its destiny. From enslaved people escaping to Canada on the Underground Railroad to bootleggers thwarting Prohibition-era regulations against importing alcohol, the Detroit River has been home to countless stories of triumph and tragedy.

These stories will be showcased in ways that are both educational as well as interactive. This exhibition, which will be aligned with Michigan science and social studies curriculum standards, will inform visitors and students alike about the social, industrial and ecological history of Detroit and the region. It will also inspire them to look at our environment in a new way.

This exhibition will trace hundreds of years of Great Lakes maritime history, with an emphasis on the development of southeastern Michigan.

Key exhibition aspects will include:

- Hands-on interactive exhibition elements that engage younger visitors;
- A large display simulating a speedboat racing down the Detroit River, giving visitors a chance to experience the thrill of racing;
- An 18th century re-creation of a canoe, enabling visitors to climb in and experience what early settlers felt upon arriving in the region.



Supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.





SPRING 2013

# DOSSIN GRAND RE-OPENING

## The River's Roar

May 18, 2013 – April 2014

Coming soon to the Dossin Great Lakes Museum's Great Lakes Gallery



This exhibition will be an exciting overview of the history of hydroplane racing in Detroit. For more than 100 years, the Detroit River and Belle Isle have featured some of the finest racing

in the country. The course has hosted the "superbowl" of power boat racing — the Gold Cup — more times than any other venue. The Gold Cup is the oldest trophy in motorsports. It was also a long-running home track for the British Harmsworth Trophy.

This exhibit will bring the roar of the River back to the museum. Visitors will see some of their favorite boats, and revisit the legendary days of Gar Wood, Guy Lombardo, Wild Bill Cantrell, Fred Alter, Bill Muncey and Chip Hanauer. Everyone can learn about these sleek and fun speed boats with names like *Tempo*, *Skipalong*, *Such Crust*, and *Miss Vernors*. With such wonderful history, exciting artifacts and program possibilities, *The River's Roar* is sure to please racing fans of all stripes.

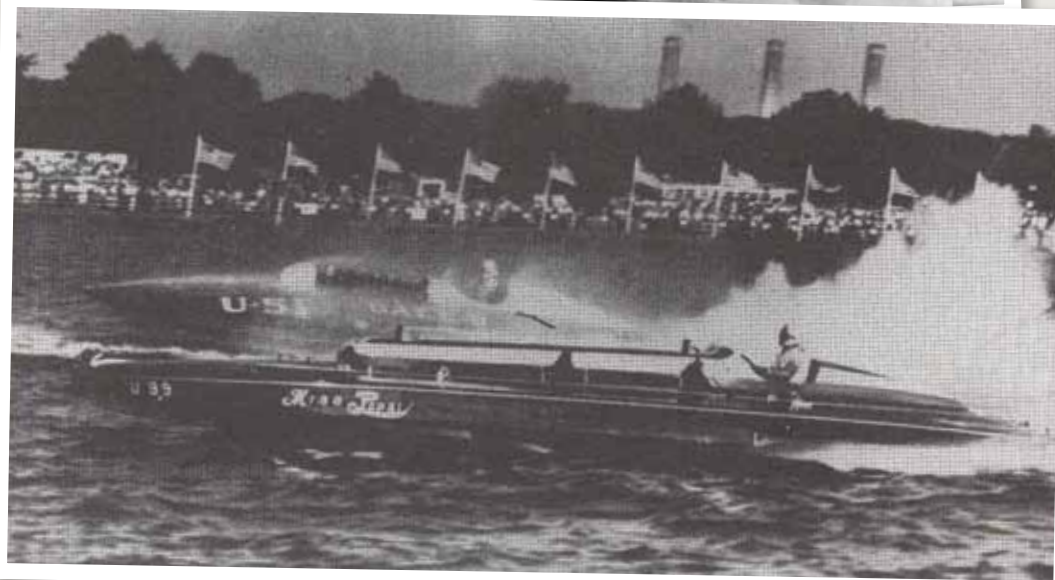
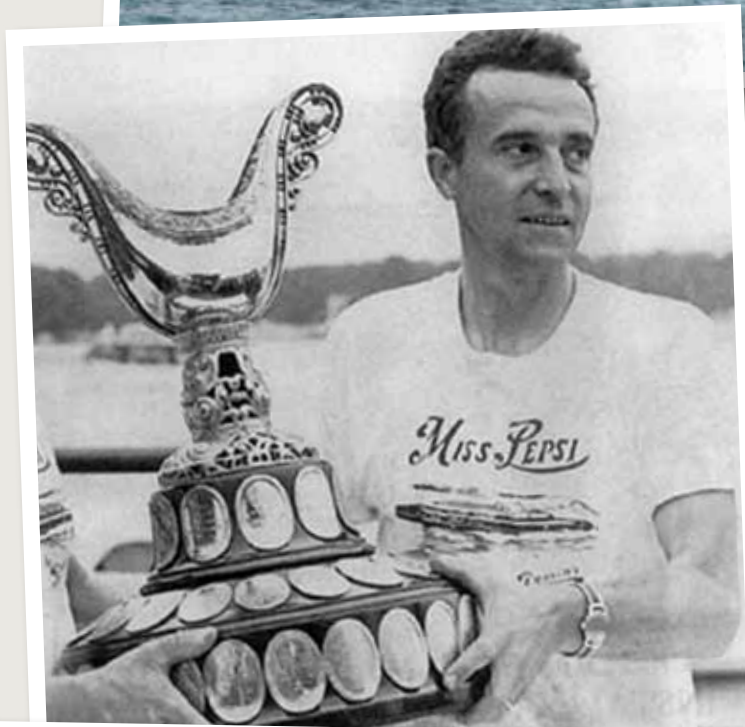
Also, enjoy our other refreshed Dossin attractions:

# MISS PEPSI

## Ship Model Showcase



William Clay Ford  
Pilot House



A modern hydroplane races past the Detroit Yacht Club (top); Ernie Dossin accepts the Gold Cup trophy on behalf of the Miss Pepsi team (middle); and the Miss Pepsi competes in the Gold Cup (bottom).



## Spring Days of Detroit

**MARCH 26, 1944** — Singer Diana Ross was born in Detroit.

**APRIL 8, 1879** — Belle Isle was purchased by the City of Detroit with the intention of creating a public park.

**APRIL 14, 1960** — Berry Gordy, Jr. incorporated the Motown Record Corporation.

**APRIL 16, 1895** — The name “Tigers” was first applied to Detroit’s baseball team.

**MAY 6, 1968** — The *Detroit Free Press* was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for its coverage of the July 1967 insurrection.

**MAY 8, 1959** — Mike and Marian Ilitch opened their first Little Caesars Pizza Treat restaurant in Garden City.

**JUNE 2, 1701** — Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac left Montreal to found a settlement on the Detroit River.

**JUNE 16, 1903** — The Ford Motor Company was incorporated.

**JUNE 23, 1963** — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. first gave his “I Have a Dream” speech at Cobo Hall.

*The main gallery of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle in the 1960s.*

SPRING 2013

# COLLECTIONS CORNER

Here's another in our continuing series of stories profiling interesting artifacts in our collection.

## Making Money

Detroit is famous for manufacturing cars, stoves, ships and snack foods, but what about money? There has been a long tradition of printing currency in Detroit. The Detroit Bank was chartered in 1806 and lasted for only two years. The \$5 bank note (below) from October 24, 1806 is the oldest Detroit currency in the Detroit Historical Society collection and is signed by bank president Augustus B. Woodward — yes, the namesake of Woodward Avenue.

The Detroit City Bank opened in 1837 and also operated for only two years. This highly decorated \$5 note from 1837 (pictured below) shows a rare view of the city from the river. Several more banks opened and closed over the years, creating notes of various denominations that were exchangeable for goods and services.

During the Great Depression, Detroit and many other cities across the country struggled to keep an active economy due to the closing of banks. These locally-printed and issued notes from Detroit, Hamtramck and Lincoln Park (pictured at the top left) all date to the early 1930s. The punched holes denote redemption of the notes for federal currency, thus taking the local notes out of circulation.

During the recent economic crisis of 2008, three local businesses — Foran's Grand Trunk Pub, The Park Bar and Motor City Brewing Works — joined together to issue local currency known as Detroit Community Scrip or "Detroit Cheers." Each establishment had their own version of the \$3 notes (pictured at the lower left), all of which featured the famed "Spirit of Detroit" statue. With other local businesses participating, the "Detroit Cheers" movement helped to keep local money flowing in the city.

With over 200 years of printed money in Detroit, we can see that history indeed repeats itself. So, what will the next Detroit money look like? One thing is for certain, when it comes out, the Society will add it to its growing collection of historic Detroit currency.



# TOURS & SERIES REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Please call (313) 833-1801 to confirm availability before mailing.**

Make checks payable to: Detroit Historical Society

If paying by:  VISA  MasterCard  Discover  American Express

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** Attn: Tours, Detroit Historical Society, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI, 48202

## Behind the Scenes Tours

**\$20 DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS • \$30 GUESTS (UNLESS NOTED)**

					# OF TICKETS	SUBTOTAL
Sat., April 6	10 a.m.	Detroit Media Partnership Fort St. Newsroom	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., April 13	10 a.m.	T-Plex	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., April 20	11 a.m.	Redford Theatre Tour and Movie	<b>\$30 Members</b>	<b>\$40 Guests</b>		
Sat., May 4	10 a.m.	Packard Proving Grounds	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., May 11	10 a.m.	Masonic Temple	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., May 18	10 a.m.	Bartlett-Travis House, Canton, MI	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., June 1	10 a.m.	David Whitney Building	<b>\$40 Members</b>	<b>\$50 Guests</b>		
Sat., June 8	2 p.m.	Mt. Olivet Cemetery Walking Tour	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., June 15	9 a.m.	Historic Detroit Tour	<b>\$70 Members</b>	<b>\$80 Guests</b>		
Sat., June 22	10 a.m.	Lawrence P. Fisher Mansion	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., June 29	10 a.m.	Boston Edison Walking Tour	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		

## Historic Houses of Worship

**\$40 DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS • \$50 GUESTS**

Mon., May 6	10 a.m.		\$40 Members	\$50 Guests		
Mon., June 3	10 a.m.		\$40 Members	\$50 Guests		

## Scholar Series

Wed., April 17	6 p.m.	Scholar Series	FREE Members	\$10 Guests		
Wed., May 15	6 p.m.	Scholar Series	FREE Members	\$10 Guests		
Wed., June 19	6 p.m.	Scholar Series	FREE Members	\$10 Guests		

## Detroit and Windsor: A Bootlegging Tour

Wed., Sept. 25	5:30 p.m.		\$55 Members	\$60 Guests		
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**GRAND TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

## Detroit Trivia Nights at the Hard Rock Café Detroit!

Coming the following Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.:  
April 3, May 1 and June 5

\$10 suggested donation per person; form your team of 3–5 people and compete for prizes!

Look for more details at [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org)!

Where  
the past  
is present

**DETROIT  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**



# MEMBERSHIP

## The Detroit Historical Society's new membership levels and benefits

**Researcher \$25**

- Access to the Society's online database of high-resolution digital images

**Collector \$45**

*Researcher Benefits and*

- Subscription to Making History quarterly newsletter
- Free parking when visiting the Detroit Historical Museum
- 10% discount at both Museum stores
- Reciprocal membership at over 200 historical museums across the country
- Discounted ticket for cardholding member to all Society programs and tours

**Ambassador \$65**

*Collector Benefits and*

- Ability to purchase up to three (3) additional discounted tickets to all Society programs and tours

**Patron \$150**

*Ambassador Benefits and*

- Free ticket for two (2) persons to one Behind the Scenes tour per membership year\*
- One annual subscription to Michigan History Magazine

**Benefactor \$300**

*Patron Benefits and*

- Complimentary one-year gift membership at the *Ambassador* level for one of your family, friend or business contacts

**Historian \$500**

*Benefactor Benefits and*

- Reduced rates for museum facility rentals and group tours
- Private VIP guided tour of the Detroit Historical Museum or the Dossin Great Lakes Museum for you and up to five (5) guests

\*tour registration subject to availability

**Dossin Maritime Group \$20**

In order to be a member of the Dossin Maritime Group, you must be a member of the Detroit Historical Society at the *Collector* Level or above.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Detroit Historical Society  
If paying by: [ ] VISA [ ] MasterCard [ ] Discover [ ] AMEX

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**SELECT MEMBERSHIP LEVEL**

- Researcher \$25
- Collector \$45
- Ambassador \$65
- Patron \$150
- Benefactor \$300
- Historian \$500
- Join the Dossin Maritime Group (\$20 fee in addition to regular membership dues)
- Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** Attn: Membership, Detroit Historical Society, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** call Alanna Shahly at (313) 833-0158, email [alannas@detroithistorical.org](mailto:alannas@detroithistorical.org) or visit [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

### Spring Specials at our Museum Stores

**April:** Local history buffs can save 10% on all our titles from Arcadia Publishing and Wayne State University Press.

On Opening Day Weekend, April 5–7, take 20% off all baseball and Detroit Tigers merchandise at the Detroit Historical Museum Store.

**May:** In recognition of the Grand Re-Opening of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, all logo merchandise, including coffee mugs, tote bags and water bottles, will be an additional 20% off at both our Museum Stores and online at [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

**June:** Summer kickoff clearance event: 10–20% off selected Made in Detroit apparel, Carhartt, artwork, books and more! You have to see it to believe it! Offer valid for in-store purchases only.

Where  
the past  
is present

# DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

5401 Woodward Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48202

[www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org)

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ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE ARTS

5401 Woodward Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48202  
(313) 833-7935  
[www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org)

## MISSION

To educate and inspire our community and visitors by preserving and portraying our region's shared history through dynamic exhibits and experiences.

## VISION

To create a shared sense of community and pride by celebrating the history and the unique culture of our region.



5401 Woodward Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48202  
(313) 833-1805

## HOURS

Tues – Fri: 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Sat & Sun: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Closed Sunday, March 31

Special Spring Break extended  
hours: 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. each day  
from Monday, April 1 through  
Sunday, April 7

## ADMISSION

Admission is FREE.



## PARKING

Parking is \$5 at all times.

## GROUP TOURS/HOST AN EVENT

Call (313) 833-1733 to schedule a group tour or to host an event at the Detroit Historical Museum.

## VOLUNTEER

Call (313) 833-1419 to volunteer at the Detroit Historical Museum.



100 Strand Drive, Belle Isle  
Detroit, MI 48207  
(313) 833-5538

The Museum re-opens to the public on Saturday, May 18 with weekend hours from noon - 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Effective Saturday, May 25, the Museum's hours will be:  
Saturday & Sunday: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Due to the Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix and the Orion Music & More Festival, the Museum will be CLOSED on the following weekends: June 1–2, 2013 & June 8–9, 2013



## ADMISSION

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