LOCAL 4’S PAUL GROSS EXPLAINS HOW WEATHER MADE HISTORY DURING THE GREAT LAKES STORM OF 1913 AT THE ANNUAL FAIR WINDS FALL GATHERING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 AT THE DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM

Join the Detroit Historical Society’s Dossin Maritime Group at the annual Fair Winds Fall Gathering on Sunday, October 6 starting at noon. Guests will enjoy a luncheon buffet with beer and wine at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, silent auction, raffle and a presentation by WDIV-TV Local 4 meteorologist Paul Gross on the Great Lakes Storm of 1913, a tragic weather event 100 years ago that killed more than 250 people and destroyed a dozen ships.

Tickets for the event are $25 for Society/Dossin Maritime Group members and $30 for guests. For more information or to reserve your spot for this event, call (313) 833-1262, or go to www.detroithistorical.org. Reservations after September 30 will be held at the door.

The winner of the raffle will receive a framed and signed limited edition print of the “S.S. North American at Mackinac Island” by local artist Paul LaMarre II. Raffle tickets are available now for purchase at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

“The Gales of November” are part of local legend and history. The Great Lakes Storm of November 8-11, 1913 is notable for both loss of ships and loss of life. But where did that storm come from and how did such a large area get affected? Paul Gross has long been intrigued by what was – for the Great Lakes region – a “perfect storm.” Both Gross and now-retired Local 4 meteorologist Mal Sillars have researched what was
behind the Great Storm of 1913, and now Gross will share their findings in this exclusive presentation.

Gross was born in Detroit and has spent his entire life and career in southeast Michigan. At the age of seven, he announced to his family that he was going to be a weatherman on television someday. By 1986, Gross was working on the air at three TV stations at the same time. He has researched, written and produced eight 30-minute documentaries for Local 4, partnering with the station’s director of meteorology Chuck Gaidica on some of these projects. His work started earning prestigious awards – and even national attention – when his documentary “Forecast: Overload,” the story about the weather’s impact on D-Day on June 6, 1944 during World War II, was deemed so historically significant that it was added to archives at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library, the British Meteorological Archives, and the permanent collections of the Museums of Television and Radio in New York and Chicago.

The Detroit Historical Society’s Dossin Maritime Group (DMG) is dedicated to preserving our region’s rich maritime history. In addition to all the regular benefits of Society membership, members of the DMG have access to special events and programs at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum and receive a quarterly maritime history publication called Telescope. To become a member of the Detroit Historical Society and the Dossin Maritime Group, call (313) 833-0158 or click on “Membership” from our homepage.

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. Permanent exhibits include Built by the River in the John A. and Marlene L. Boll Foundation Gallery, the Miss Pepsi vintage 1950s championship hydroplane, the Gothic Room from the City of Detroit III, a bow anchor from the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, the pilothouse from the Great Lakes freighter S.S. William Clay Ford, and 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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