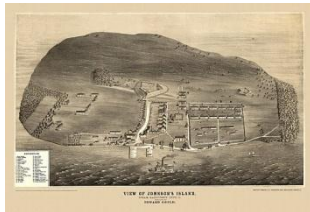


EVENTS – You might have noticed that we are finally getting our momentum back and revisiting our roots: promoting history in Erie County. Thanks to our online wizard, we now have a page called [EVENTS](#) that serves as a one-stop calendar for events from our local history museums, societies, sites etc. As we find them, we add them. There is no reason to be bored because now you can discover new ways to have fun every week.

So, what do WE have planned? We have partnered with the Sandusky Library to hold three spring presentations (they have the best meeting area):



March 24, 2023 - 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Randy Koch presents: **The ‘Great Escape’ That Never Happened, the Story of the 1864 Attempted Escape From Johnson’s Island** at the Sandusky Library Center for Lifelong Learning.



April 29 - 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Program: “The Life of President Rutherford B. Hayes” at the Sandusky Library, with Mike Gilbert presenting. Mike is a retired teacher, having taught at Fremont Ross High School for 38 years and at Terra Community College with Lifelong Learning for 10 years. Mr. Gilbert hosts the History Roundtable series of presentations with the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums where he shares stories of both local and national history, and he published his first book *Double Down* in February of 2022.

May 24 - 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. “The 1819 Murder of John Wood and George Bishop by three Ottawa Indians, their Capture, Escape, Recapture, Trial and subsequent Execution in Norwalk Ohio” presented by our own Lou Schultz at the Sandusky Library. Lou has used his extensive collection of rare books, maps and early documents on the early history of Sandusky and the Firelands in numerous presentations to local groups. His collection includes the 1819 papers of the Justice of the Peace in Danbury Township relating the murder of Wood and Bishop and the diary of an eyewitness to the execution of the perpetrators that he will feature in his presentation.



ANOTHER BOAT TOUR – One thing we all agreed on is that we want to do another boat tour aboard the *Goodtime I*. Looks like Thursday, September 21 is the date for a Sunset Cruise of Johnson’s Island, Cedar Point, and Marblehead & Lakeside. Details will be posted on our website and we will be sending out information by

email and Facebook.

You never know what you will find when you visit the Erie County Fair. Here is a great display from Loris Printing. What a great old printing press. Hard to imagine how much work it was to print out a paper. Loris Printing does all our printing work.

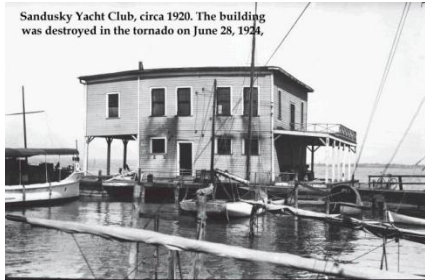


OUR 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

– Sure it was a meeting, but oh how we feasted! The amazing Commodore Buffet did not disappoint. House salad, dinner rolls, coffee, hot tea, iced tea, carved top sirloin, seafood scampi, green beans almondine, roasted redskins, and veggie pasta with bread pudding for dessert. In 1924, downtown Sandusky was struck by a tornado. Jeremy Angstadt of the Sandusky Library did a wonderful presentation which followed the path of the tornado in pictures, identifying the businesses that were damaged, and the immediate aftermath of the storm in town. The hardest hit area was right downtown, including the Sandusky Yacht Club which hosted our meeting. The clubhouse was demolished during this tornado. There are lots of photos on our website.



The Sandusky Library has over 120 photos of this event, which lasted just minutes before moving on to Lorain. The first casualty was the *Columbus*, a car ferry towing an automobile barge. It was near the dock with 70 people aboard. All 70 people were rescued and work began to pull all the cars out of the dock area. Jeremy followed the path of the tornado eastward, noting the complete destruction of the Sandusky Yacht Club, the waterworks, cooperage shops, multiple shoreline buildings, and the partial destruction of the Mack Iron Works. Several of these businesses tried to rebuild, but within 6 years, went out of business. Since this occurred on a Saturday when most businesses were closed, only 4 people were killed. Residents of Lorain were not so lucky. The Sandusky Library has a great summary of this event on their [Blog](#).



Sandusky Yacht Club, circa 1920. The building was destroyed in the tornado on June 28, 1924.



Thanks to everyone who attended the Maritime Lecture Series at the Sandusky Maritime Museum. John Hildebrandt presented “Sandusky Bay: A Sense of Place.” John serves on the ECHS Board and is very active in community events. He even authored several books!

HISTORIC MARKER UPDATES - You can view all the historic markers in Erie County [HERE](#). What a great bucket list item visiting each one on this list would be. AND be sure to view the photos from this dedication. About 40 people

attended on what was a beautiful day for this dedication. And look who showed up – Chuck Ruggles, standing with Board Member Lou Schultz.



OLD NEWS – June 20, 1862 – Wanted Immediately, 12 or 15 men to chop 2,000 cords of wood, thinning out and underbrushing the woods on the Island. Will pay 5 shillings per cord, and furnish good board and martial music at \$2 per week. Apply to the subscriber in Sandusky or on the Island L. B. Johnson.

CHANGES TO OUR BOARD - We reluctantly accepted the resignations of Lou Schultz, Chris Gasteier and Bill Monaghan. Remarkably, Lou has served on the Board for 10 years! This brings us down to a more manageable board size of 14 members. Each of these men gave us their all while trying to balance changing work and family obligations. In each case, they also serve on other boards, support other historic organizations and are very active in the community. We are pleased that each one offered to continue helping us achieve our goals.

OLD NEWS - July 1888 – Canada soldiers – What they are and where they come from – With the millions of Canada soldiers, or more properly, June flies, that visit us every summer, often times comes the question, “What is their origin and where do they come from?”



The question answered properly is, from the water. This is not always believed, but it is so, however, and a Cleveland bugologist having made the matter a study, writes the following to the Press: “Those bugs or flies have no more to do with Canada than you have. I have been studying them up. They are what scientists call ‘ephemera,’ and a jolly bug they are. Down in the waters of the lake are millions of little worm like creatures invisible almost to the naked eye. Why, man, your stomach may be full of these embryo ‘soldiers’ at this moment, taken in in your drinking water. Well, when these worms become ripe, they wiggle to the surface of the water. Their hides become hard. Pretty soon myriads of little shell-like forms are dancing on the waves. A warm night opens the shells. A light wind lifts up your soldier and ashore he comes by the billion.

His average life is 24 hours. By day he sleeps behind your window blind, beneath a leaf, or under the lapel of your coat. He’d sleep in your ear if you’d let him. At night he is out on a lark. Up and away he sails in the air. In the midst of his aerial dance he finds his partner, and I have an idea that he finds a great deal to eat. I’ll tell you why. He is a ‘soldier.’ You see, when I tear his abdominal part away from his thorax, that there is considerable substance to him. Here is a little pouch that looks like a bladder. Here is a set of entrails that in their perfection of construction would not do discredit to an alderman. But I want you to notice the eyes. They take up about all his head. Moreover they are actually one lens upon another and capable of magnifying many hundred diameters. What’s the reason for so much eye in the beast? Why, he lives on the finest particles in the atmosphere. You will always find these flies thickest over trees and other objects that retain moisture during the day or those that give moisture off most copiously during the night. It is not strange that electric and other lights attract such eyes, is it? Now, if I am right about the way these soldiers feed on the miasma and unhealthy atmospheric moisture of the heated weather, are they not a positive blessing to humanity?”

Years later - June 5, 1902 –It is now certain that Cedar Point has been opened and that summer is here. The June Bugs have arrived. The advance guard of the army of Canadian soldiers arrived Tuesday evening, and the delightful music of the cracking on the pavements and as the juicy bodies were crushed beneath the shoes of pedestrians and the wheels of vehicles, proclaimed their coming. In a few days, they will be on hand in full force. The new street lamps will have one good effect at least. The bugs cannot get inside the globes, and there will be no more funeral pyres, smoldering, and giving off the odor of burning fish. That is something that was not figured out when council arranged for extending the contract and having the new system installed.

QUESTIONS WE ANSWERED: One of our best resources is our Facebook page! You can’t imagine the number of people who take the time to help out by finding old newspaper articles, photos, or other items of interest. Here’s a sample of what we have received: Donation of old postcards and books: Our city Sandusky 1824-1924, 1903 What Book-Souvenir of Sandusky, Peeke History of Sandusky (Edison Birthplace Museum took it). Info on a group panoramic photo, Lee Keaney & Battle of Midway, the Streng family of Perkins Twp, Carrie Ella (Barney?) photo, Anna Perkins–children’s book author, Kewpee Hotel. Picture info-Pascoe, Wells, Broderson & Klem families, Map query – Brown Industries location.

SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS



adventure! info@firelandsadventuretours.com

FIRELANDS ADVENTURE TOURS - Seasoned tour guides pick you up at Jackson Street Pier, the heart of downtown Sandusky's vibrant waterfront neighborhood, where your journey begins. Discover the hidden truths of the Underground Railroad and learn about the significant role that Sandusky, Ohio played in the lives of so many freedom seekers. Enjoy the Firelands area, Sandusky Bay, and Lake Erie in the comfort of a 20 passenger bus. Discussions include museums, historic landmarks, and beautiful vistas of our area. Life is an



THE GOODTIME I – A Great Lake Day, begins with a cruise aboard The *Goodtime I* – a family owned business, providing luxury cruises along the Sandusky Bay, to Kelleys Island and to Put-in-Bay. They offer both public cruises as well as private events, to help make your summer on Lake Erie everything you could imagine, and more!

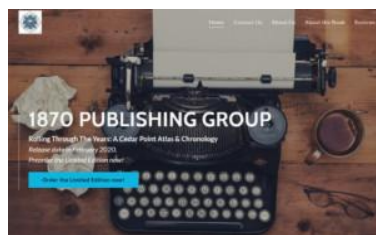
info@goodtimeboat.com



HURRICANE MARINE TRANSPORT INC. – your boat transportation experts. 877-657-9049 - Operating from our home base along the south shore of Lake Erie, from Toledo to Port Clinton and Sandusky to Cleveland and on to Conneaut, our customers have made us the premier marine transportation provider for the entire Great Lakes region. We understand the great stress that accompanies the decision to move your boat from Point A to Point B. It can also be very confusing, with all the options and details that need to be considered. We not only transport boats for a living, but we also are boat owners and “live to boat” ourselves. We will treat your boat as if it were our own, making the experience easier on you.

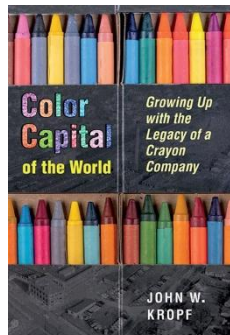


SHORES & ISLANDS OHIO - A place where time moves a little slower, loved ones feel a little closer and there's a Great Lake between you and your worries. From island hopping to bird watching, record-breaking roller coasters to water parks, wineries to dockside dining, plus hidden gems that keep the fun going all year long. However you like to coast – you'll find it here; event lists, places to explore, and lots more. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shoresandislands/>



THE 1870 PUBLISHING GROUP - If you go back in time a hundred years ago, the roller coasters were an afterthought. Cedar Point in the early days was all about getting away to the beach, catching a live show in the Ballroom, socializing on the Hotel Breakers porch, or having a fine picnic with your co-workers. **Rolling Through The Years** is a look back across time at the development and changes at the Worlds' Greatest Amusement Park. Author Ken Miller has spent the last seven years exploring the history of the resort. Over 75 historical

maps of the peninsula and over 1200 images are included in the book. Click [HERE](#).



COLOR CAPITAL OF THE WORLD (THE AMERICAN CRAYON COMPANY) – John Kropf has written a great book about a bit of Sandusky's history. Color Capital of the World – Growing up with the Legacy of a Crayon Company. The story of the American Crayon Co. brings together three innovative families who created a high-successful crayon company to make the city of Sandusky into the Color Capital of the World. 140 pages, several color photos.