

# **Pentwater Historical Society**

## **Annual Report**

**2024**

### **Mission Statement**

Pentwater Historical Society seeks to connect people to the history of Pentwater by collecting, preserving, and sharing information and artifacts.

### **Vision Statement**

The vision of the Pentwater Historical Society is to enrich lives through access to local history, engaging members, residents, and visitors alike.

### **Goal**

Our goal for the Museum is to establish and maintain a place and institution that:

- Is a welcoming place where people are drawn together to share their passion and interest in our history and sense of community.
- Creates and maintains educational programs and exhibits that are professionally presented and inspiring.
- Has collections that provide a continuing source of inspiration and learning.

### **2024 Overview**

The past year proved to be a busy time for the museum and our patrons. We focused our efforts this year on improving the museum and our programs. The board visited three similar museums around Michigan to observe and get advice on potential improvements in our museum's displays and archives.

A highlight of the year was the completion and unveiling of the scale model of the USS Sequoia in June. You may recall that the Sequoia, the presidential yacht from 1933 to 1977, visited Pentwater in 1984 to great fanfare. (See our newsletter article, Fall of 2020.) An unfinished model of the Sequoia was donated to the museum and stayed in storage for several years. A model builder was found and contracted to complete the model of the Sequoia. The finished model was put on exhibit in the museum after the unveiling event and celebration.

We hosted our annual spring and summer dinners at the AgBio Research Center on Oceana Drive. Both programs presented at the dinners were enthusiastically received. At the spring dinner, board member Dan Girvan gave a travelog of boating around the Great Loop waterways of the eastern US. At the summer dinner, Valerie Van Heest described her team's efforts to locate and explore Lake Michigan shipwrecks.

The June garage sale was manned by many volunteers and raised a record amount of funds for the museum.

Behind the scenes, work continued on documenting the museum's collection of artifacts and scanning and digitizing paper artifacts using our new scanning and digitizing equipment. More

volunteers have come forward to assist in the effort of archiving our document artifacts. This work will continue for the foreseeable future.

Work on expanding the museum is still advancing, and fundraising has reached over \$750,000.

2025 promises to be an eventful year for the museum. We look forward to making new history with our members and friends, and we encourage more involvement by all who are interested in Pentwater's history. Thank you to our members, sponsors, volunteers, and donors for their support of the museum and the society.

Sincerely,  
The PHS Board

### **Board Members**

President -- Richard Warner  
Vice President – Bart Zachrich  
Secretary – Dan Girvan  
Treasurer – Mike Waidelich  
Museum Director – Dan Hoekstra  
Director of Membership Services – Beth Russell  
Director of Development – Bob French  
Director of Marketing – Jim Lambrix  
Director of Events – Karen Way  
Expansion Project Manager – Norm Shotwell  
Newsletter – Amy Vander Zwart

### **Volunteers**

Thank you to our faithful volunteers! We could not do what we do for the community without all of you!

4 History Cruise volunteers  
2 Pirate Cruise volunteers  
1 Audio Tour voice volunteer  
31 Museum Docents  
23 Garage Sale assistants  
34 Special Event Volunteers

### **Number of Visitors**

Museum: 1465  
History Cruises: 65 passengers  
Audio History on Hancock Tour: 107 callers  
Architectural Tour: 10

### **Number of Members**

Active Members: 338  
New Members: 27

### **Events**

Community-Wide Garage Sale  
Guide by Cell  
Water Taxi History Cruise  
History Tour on Your Boat  
Pirate Cruise  
Architectural Walking Tours  
History on Hancock  
History on the Green  
Spring and Summer Dinners  
USS Sequoia Exhibit Unveiling and Dinner Event

### **Donations**

Tribute donations, In Honor Of: 3 donations totaling \$100,600  
Tribute Donations In Memory Of: 16 donations totaling \$5,550  
Artifact donations: several

### **Statements of Financial Positions and Financial Activities**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 63,387</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 43,810</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 19,577</b>

#### **INCOME SOURCES:**

Donations by Individuals	\$ 30,589
Grants	\$ 12,000
Corporate Sponsorships	\$ 5,325
Memberships	\$ 6,709
Garage Sale	\$ 5,601
Dinners	\$ 412
Special Events	\$ (2,328)
Merchandise Sales	\$ 1,728
Investment Income	\$ 3,330
Other	\$ 21

#### **ACCOUNT BALANCES**

Checking	\$ 19,081
Savings	\$ 82,842
Oceana Community Foundation:	
Endowment Fund	\$ 56,880
Building Expansion Fund	\$758,223
(including \$317,780 in contributions during 2024)	