



Sunset Forest Association

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Inside this issue:

Porter Elected	2
State Parks Opening	2
Manor I-IV Election	3
Picturesque Mackinac	3
Lego Competition	3

Mackinac's Own Winter Wonderland...

After the hustle and bustle of the 2005 tourism season Mackinac Island has finally relaxed. The local residents are prepared for their peace and quiet. Many residents were gathered around the town Christmas Tree to sing carols and witness the lighting of the tree. The next few days following the lighting was the town Christmas Bazaar over the weekend of December 2-4. The bazaar had their usual delightful treats and of course all the wonderful auction items.

The Island has been blessed with a beautiful amount of snow for the December season. It made

the holidays joyful to get around on our snowmobiles for all the celebrations.

The elementary and middle school children had a Christmas Play on December 14th with Christmas songs that everyone enjoyed. Ending with an amazing performance in sign language with all the children participating in.

The New Year was celebrated at the local restaurants with music and festivities. The Village Inn, Mustang and Patrick Sinclair's Pub had packed houses and fun was had by all.



An upcoming event will be the Winter Festival on February 3-5. There will be games, auctions, children's activities, snow golf, kite flying, sledding etc... for more information please check with the Mackinac Island Recreation Department or the Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau.

Board Of Directors:

Jim Cretcher
Jeff Dupre
Cindy Frez
Bart Huthwaite
Tom Lockwood
Dennis Reimer
Jim Reitman
Steve Rilenge

2006 Membership Incentives...

By joining Sunset Forest Association, you will have the opportunity to take advantage of several Island discounts throughout the year. Such as: \$5 off dinner & \$1 off drinks at the Inn @ Stonecliffe, 15% Off @ Murdick's Fudge, 15% off

your purchase at Roses and Sadie, 10% off the Lilac Tree and Spa services and products, 10% off dinner and reduced drink prices at the Pink Pony, 10% off at MI Bicycle Shop, 10% off at Horn's and the Yankee Rebel!

Along with informative newsletters of local events and gatherings.

Sunset Forest is building a good foundation over the years of protecting the uniqueness of the Island and it's character.

Mackinac Parks Director Phil Porter Elected President of Michigan Museums Association

Mackinaw City, MI – Mackinac State Historic Parks director Phil Porter was elected President of the Michigan Museums Association (MMA) at its annual meeting held at the Detroit Institute of Arts on October 6, 2005. Porter will serve a two year term as president. The MMA provides a wide variety of services and programs that promote the growth and professionalism of the Michigan museum community and advocates on its behalf.

As director of Mackinac State Historic Parks, Porter helms some of the most prestigious parkland and historic sites in Michigan, including Fort Mackinac, Mackinac Island State Park and Historic Downtown on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Historic Mill Creek, Old Mackinac Point Light Station and Michilimackinac State Park in Mackinaw City. Combined annual attendance for all sites is approximately 1.2 million visitors annually.

Porter is an authority on the history of the Mackinac region, and has authored a variety of books including *A Desirable Station*, *Soldier Life at Fort Mackinac, 1867-1895*, *View from the Veranda*, *Mackinac: An Island Famous in These Regions* and *Fudge: Mackinac's Sweet Souvenir*. Porter earned his undergraduate degree from Kenyon College and a graduate degree in History Museum Studies from the State University of New York, College of Oneonta, Cooperstown Graduate Program. He is on the City of Cheboygan Historic Resources Commission.

The non-profit Michigan Museums Association has over 150 member institutions and is a community of individuals and institutions organized to further the work of the State's museums. From its headquarters in Lansing, MMA works with its members to help make Michigan's museums the best in the nation. MMA disseminates timely information about issues that affect museums and museum professionals through its newsletter and website

(www.michiganmuseums.org). The Association sponsors training workshops for museum professionals and volunteers, a mentoring program, a resource center and an annual meeting.

Mackinac State Historic Parks is a family of living history museums and parks in Northern Michigan's Straits of Mackinac region, and is an agency within the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries. Sites include Fort Mackinac, Historic Downtown and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Historic Mill Creek, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse and Michilimackinac State Park in Mackinaw City. The sites are accredited by the American Association of Museums. Visitor information is located on the web at www.MackinacParks.com and by phone at 231-436-4100.

By Tim Putman

State Park Opening Dates...

State Parks opening dates are as follows:

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2006

Historic Mill Creek

Mackinaw City

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2006

Colonial Michilimackinac

Mackinaw City

Friday, May 5th, 2006

Fort Mackinac

Mackinac Island

Monday, May 15th, 2006

Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse

Mackinaw City



MIPS 8th Grade places in Lego Competition...

Sunset Forest Students from Mackinac Island Public School participated in the state wide "Lego Robotics Finals" in Novi, MI on December 10th.

Jane Finkel, Thomas Rilenge and Jeff Roguska, all 8th graders from Sunset Forest Area. Along with fellow classmates Tymon Horn, Shelbie Mosley, Roby Robinson & Paul Fisher along with teacher Susan Bennett competed

against 72 other regional finalists in a weekend of computer programmed Lego Robotics Competition. The kids did a wonderful job representing Mackinac Island.

By Steve Rilenge



2006 Election for Manors I-IV...

2006 Election results:

Manor I

Laura Eiseler

Jeff Dupre

Dennis Reimer

Manor II

Cindy Frez

Dennis Reimer

Steve Rilenge

Mary McGuire Slevin

Manor III

John Gully

Jim Reitman

Bob Koehler

Jennifer Wohletz

Manor IV

Jim Cretcher

Jeff Dupre

Harold Strayer

Thank you to the Board of Directors for volunteering their time!

Picturesque Mackinac

Mackinac State Historic Parks has a new book of historic Mackinac Island photos now available. The book *Picturesque Mackinac - The Photographs of William H. Gardiner 1895-1916* author is chief curator for Mackinac State Historic Parks, Steven C. Brisson, published by: MSHP.

Brisson introduces readers to Mackinac Photographer William Gardiner, and then devotes the majority of this large, handsome compilation to photos printed from Gardiner's original glass plate negatives. The prints-many never before published-are stunning in detail, revealing the burgeoning tourist destination of Mackinac Island in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The images range from portraits of island workers, residents and visitors to cruise ships, cottages and hotels. Great for Mackinac fans.

In bookstores and on our website at www.MackinacParks.com, \$26.95 (\$34.57 with tax, shipping and handling)

By Tim Putman

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Sunset Forest Mission Statement:

Protecting the unique character of Mackinac
Island.
Promoting public safety for property owners,
their families and guests.
Preserving Mackinac Island's Victorian style of
architecture.
Encouraging neighborly social interaction
between property owners

Calendar of Events

February:

4th— 5th: Mackinac Island
Recreational Department
Winterfest.

4th: Winter games at Turtle Park

5th: Winterfest Brunch

5th: Super Bowl Party at the
Village Inn

17th—19th: Village Inn Winter Fun
Weekend.

Friday night fish fry,
Saturday chili cook off, cross coun-
try ski/walk memento postcard
rally, 11th annual winter ice stone
skipping contest, hayride, Sunday
pancake and sausage breakfast.

March:

1st: Village Inn Pool Championship

2nd: Village Inn Texas Hold'em
Championship

17th: St. Patrick's Day

26th: Easter Sunday