



# Shipshape

First Quarter, 2016- A Quarterly Publication of the S. S. Milwaukee Clipper Preservation, Inc.

# S.S. Milwaukee Clipper®

A National Historic Landmark

*Annual Benefit*

# AUCTION

*"The Queen  
of the  
Great Lakes"*

*"Your  
Host  
Afloat"*



*Muskegon Country Club*

**Sunday - May 22, 2016**

**Brunch Served 11 AM - 1 PM**

**Live and Silent Auctions 11 AM - 3 PM**

**AUCTION ITEMS:**

Generator, WBLU day sponsor, African Safari, The Grand Hotel,  
Kayak, Lake Express Tickets, Power Scooter,  
West Michigan Symphony Tickets, Port City Princess Cruise  
Tim Fitzsimmons - Midwest Auctions

*Door Prizes - Raffle - Cash Bar  
\$30 per Person - Casual Attire*

Tickets Available by Calling  
(231) 722-2375 or (231) 744-5101



Free services provided by the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District

**Tours? What tours?**

**Who's doing the tours?**



# A Perfect Way to spring into Spring

By Jim Plant



As I write this, it's March in Michigan and for a few days here and there it feels more like May. That follows a very easy winter. It is easy to transition into one of those great Michigan summers because of a "mild" winter. Before that occurs, we always look forward to the annual spring Clipper brunch/auction. Always much fun with a good time had by all who attend. The brunch put on by the Muskegon Country Club features made to order omelets with a variety of "stuffing's" to make the most delicious breakfast eggs possible.

During the brunch starting at 11am, everyone has a chance to look over the silent auction tables overflowing with colorful baskets offering goodies to interest the most discriminate tastes. After brunch Tim Fitzsimmons, our long-standing auctioneer, will start the live auction in his own inimitably entertaining way.



Sunday afternoon, May 22, 2016, from 11am to 3pm, or so, is our largest fundraiser of the year that helps MCPI obtain supplies for the volunteers' summer projects. Mark your calendar. \$30.00 tickets are available by calling 231-744-5101 or 213-683-1590, or any Board Member. Please, help us make this event a wonderful success. We invite you to join the fun. You will be glad you did.

We are looking forward to another exciting tour season on the Clipper starting with Memorial Day. Tours are every Saturday and Sunday from 1pm to 5pm until Labor Day. The tours cover four of the six decks on the ship and takes about an hour (unless your tour guide gets long winded. Then it can take longer). Experienced volunteers who can answer all your questions, guide all tours. Stop by the on-board museum store and check for new and old favorite Clipper memorabilia.



"S.S. Milwaukee Clipper, An Illustrated History" is also available for \$50.00. All proceeds from the sale of the book go directly to the restoration the ship.

Our very industrious and talented museum curator, Ray Hilt, has been hard at work creating a first class exhibition on the Clipper. This year the tour will include a special surprise. Even if you have toured the Clipper before come again to enjoy the surprise, plus enjoy a treat from years past.

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More items for the auction: donated by **Babbitts Motorsports**, Muskegon, MI.  
Black Honda Ruckus Scooter,      Pink Polaris Outlaw 50 ATV,      Kawasaki Brute Force 300



Thank you Babbitts

Note from Gene Fethke,  
Chairman of the Auction Committee

*The Auction/Brunch at Muskegon Country Club, Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> is the day for good food and an enjoyable live and silent auction to support the Milwaukee Clipper Restoration efforts. The proceeds will be used for the upkeep and repair of the ship. There will also be a raffle for a beautiful handmade quilt and 50/50 drawings. For tickets contact any member of the Committee or board member or call **Gene Fethke at 722-2375**. Below is a very small sampling of the items that were donated for the success of the auction. Most of these are the "Live" Auction items, but we have many more exciting things in the "Silent" Auctions as well. Thanks go out to our very generous businesses in the West Michigan area and throughout all of Michigan and beyond.*

### I pad

Port City Princess dinner cruise for two

Lake Express round trip for 2

Amtrak Round Trip for 2 to Chicago

Canoe or Kayak

donated by K.L. Industries

African Photo Safari

2 round trip tickets on the Arnold Line to Mackinac Island

*Overnight stays at both, the Grand Hotel*

*and Iroquis Hotel on Mackinac Island*

Tickets to local football games

(Big Reds, Catholic Central, Mona Shores)

2 tickets to tour the Cutter Mackinaw

Round trip on the Badger

2 tickets to the Wisconsin Maritime Museum

4 tickets to Gilmore Car Museum

Dinner for 4 at Hilt's at Christmas time

Rumble seat ride in Hilt's Model T

Dinner cruise for 4 on Hilt's Trawler " Gulliver"

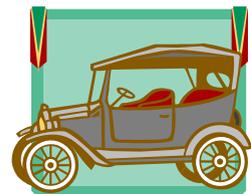
Stay at Beaver Lodge on Beaver Island

Creative Edge gift basket

Westshore Symphony & Civic Theatre Tickets

Various Golf Packages

And Many More !!!



Tours? What Tours?





## Article from Ray Hilt

As I have reported in the last newsletter, the Alabama Room is all painted, but we now need to put in the baseboards around the room. Bill Thunfors and I met on the ship today, March 28, and he took measurements for how much is needed, and we threw out all the protective plastic and the old baseboards. The room has been sealed off, and the heat is on to bring the room up to temperature so the glue will set. Next time we will put in the baseboard and get the room all cleaned for the big model. I am calling Muskegon Glass Co. to get the glass ordered, and the plan is to move the model in the middle of April. The glass will be installed shortly after that. Tim Fitzsimmons, our auction/brunch auctioneer, is going to supply the large covered trailer to move the model and the little showcase he donated to the ship. We can then begin to fill the room up with all the artifacts and photographs we have collected for the display.

Speaking of artifacts, I am now in possession of the last of two Alabama portholes taken from the ship. The other one will be on display in the White River Lighthouse. It is a large porthole, very similar to the Clipper portholes, and like those, is solid bronze. It also weighs a ton or two. It will be on display in the Alabama Room with many other items from the original ship.

I met with Terry Judd this past week to try in the flagstuffs and flags I have made for the model. They look just fine, and add the finishing touch to the big model. The flag is 46 stars, as it was when the Alabama was launched in 1909, and the ensign flying off the bow also has 46 stars. We will mount them permanently when the model is moved.

We are going to have a few new things for people to buy at the auction, and also when on board. We have two puzzles, one is a previously unpublished picture of the Clipper coming into Muskegon in heavy fog. It is a beautiful spooky photo and makes a challenging puzzle to work. I know, I just took two days to work it. The other is a magnificent aerial photo by Marge Beaver I have titled "The Queen in Winter"/ Hope you will like them also.

Mike Krivitzky, Bill Thurlow and I met earlier this month at the B C Cobb Plant to look at things they might be interested in donating to the Clipper, and to photograph them. We have had a positive result, and we are meeting at the B C Cobb Plant this Thursday, March 31, to remove items we have asked for. These are all items we can use in the continuing restoration of the ship. There is quite a lot of equipment we will be getting.

The Clipper has joined an organization called Muskegon's Amazing Museums. (M3). This organization started late last year to promote Muskegon County's 13 museums. Most people do not know Muskegon County has 13 museums, but we do. We have put out a brochure, with a location map for each of us. This year we are having a promotion that involves how many museums a person can visit. If somebody tours 8 of the 13, they are eligible for a drawing to be held mid July and mid November for prizes donated by the museums. There is also two free tour days, May 21, and May 28. Museums open early are listed on the May 21 day, and museums opening later, such as the Clipper, will be on May 28.

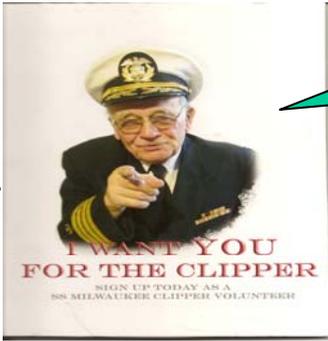
Put the date down, a free tour of the Clipper is on May 28. Come and see the model displays, and tour the all new Alabama Room with it's magnificent model. In addition, you can see what a magnificent old ship the Clipper really is. When touring the ship, it is sometimes hard to believe it is really 112 years old.

Join us for fun at our annual auction/brunch at the Muskegon Country Club on May 22, and come see what is going on onboard the Queen of the Lakes, the last American passenger steamship left. Period.

Ray Hilt

Board Member and Museum Curator

The Captain is still enjoying the warm weather in Arizona, But does have a message.....



I want you for the Clipper



The Captain also is looking forward to seeing you when you make that tour of the ship. **Tours** - Memorial Day and Labor Day are bookends for our tour season! Every Saturday & Sunday from Memorial Day thru Labor Day. Hours are 1pm til 5pm with last tour starting at 4:15. \$7.00 adults \$5.00 children. Come down enjoy an afternoon on a National Historical Landmark and learn about local history which has a sweet surprise for each.

**Tour Guides needed! No experience required – in house training free of charge.**



This beautiful quilt was handmade by JoAn Pietila, especially for the Clipper Auction/Brunch fundraiser.

Tickets are 2 for \$5.00.  
Grand Prize \$500 quilt  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$100.00 3<sup>rd</sup> prize \$50.00

You can get them by calling 722-2375 or from any Board member.

Drawing will be the day of the auction.



TOURS? WHAT ABOUT TOURS?

**NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**



I'm still in need of e-mail addresses. We have way too many snail mail addresses. If you don't have e-mail, send me a quick note or call (231-798-4231) so I can make a note next to your address (no computer). Also, PLEASE put something in the "Subject" line. I don't open up e-mails without subjects.

Thank you for your cooperation. dpfol@earthlink.net Sandra Ferski, Editor





Thank you to our sponsors!

If you have any of the items listed below, that you would be willing to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.



Remember all items donated are tax deductible, we are a 501(c)(3) organization.




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  - \* Portable Band Saw
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  - \* 5.8 hp or more portable Air Compressor w/hoses & hammers
  - \* Funding for Marine Paints
- \*(\*) VOLUNTEERS!  
All shapes, ages & genders !

What does Memorial Day and Labor Day have in common besides the National Holiday celebrations????

Hint! Hint!  
(read the Captains article)



**Thank you - Blarney Castle Oil Co.** for the drums to provide proper handling of the restoration waste products.

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SPECIAL THANKS to some of our local businesses, who help behind the scenes: **MICRGRAPHICS**, who prints the Newsletter and does the mailings; and **LAKESIDE EMPORIUM**, who supports our efforts by displaying a canister for donations, and has a supply of newsletters for distribution;

You can always get a copy of the newsletter at **The Convention and Visitors Bureau**. Not to leave out all the other local businesses who support the Spring Auction. We always have multiples of businesses who donate items for the fundraiser.

Thanks to all.

**We Support the Milwaukee Clipper!**



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**Support the restoration and preservation of the S. S. Milwaukee Clipper – A National Historic Landmark!**

The *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* Preservation Inc. is a 501(c)3 non profit organization. All donations are tax deductible! Donations will be anonymous unless otherwise requested.

Please accept the enclosed donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in support of the efforts of *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* Preservation, Inc. in memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_.

Earmark these funds for the following project(s): \_\_\_\_\_ (Call for suggestions)

Please place my name and address as listed below on the mailing list for *Shipshape*, the quarterly newsletter.

I would be willing to volunteer my time to the following *Clipper* activities:

- |                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Fundraising                       | Publicity        |
| Working on the newsletter         | Maintenance      |
| Museum/Gift Shop assistance       | Restoration work |
| Security at the Clipper dock site | Other _____      |
| Archiving                         |                  |

I would like to volunteer ! Please contact me at the address below with more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form to:

S. S. Milwaukee Clipper Preservation Inc.  
PO Box 1370  
Muskegon, MI 49443-1370  
OR

Send the above information via email to: [milwaukeeclipper@gmail.com](mailto:milwaukeeclipper@gmail.com)

The *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* Preservation Inc, a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation, was organized in April, 1997 for the sole purpose of restoring and preserving the steamship *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* and to create an on-board Great Lakes Maritime Museum to educate and inform the public about our Great Lakes maritime heritage.

Your continuing donations and volunteerism will ensure our success!

Thank you for your support!



SS Milwaukee Clipper Preservation Inc  
P.O Box 1370  
Muskegon, MI 49443  
(231) 683-1590

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**SHIPSHAPE is written by members and friends of the Board of Directors. It is edited by Sandy Ferski of Muskegon, MI. You may email the editor at [dpfol@earthlink.net](mailto:dpfol@earthlink.net)**

1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2016

March 2016

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Muskegon, MI 49443

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