

### THE SILENT AUCTION

It gives us great pleasure to report that this spring's Silent Auction produced a net income to the Society of \$1,110.74. This will guarantee that no increase in membership fees need be considered for the Society's 1999-2000 fiscal year. We extend our most sincere thanks to all those who donated items for the auction, and also to all those who bid so generously for them.

Another Silent Auction is planned for the spring of 2000, and we already have a number of very interesting items donated for the event. Please commence salivating now, and get those chequebooks all warmed up and ready for the bidding next March and April.

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### MARINE HISTORIAN OF THE YEAR

Once again this year, a longtime member of the Toronto Marine Historical Society has been named "Great Lakes Historian of the Year" by The Marine Historical Society of Detroit. The annual selection process is based on nominations made and votes cast by prior recipients of the award. By our (albeit rough) count, of the 31 marine historians who have been awarded this honour since 1969, at least 24 of them also have been members of T.M.H.S.

The Detroit society awarded its 1999 honour to Alan F. Mann, of Wallaceburg, Ontario, who has been a member of T.M.H.S. almost since its formation. Alan, a frequent contributor of news items and material for "Scanner" features, has succeeded his late father, Frank Mann, as Wallaceburg town historian, and is a leading light in a number of historical groups in his area. He has contributed features to many marine publications, and an article he has penned concerning the loss of NORONIC will soon appear in the pages of "Telescope", for the Dossin Museum on Belle Isle. Captain Taylor, master of the NORONIC at the time of her loss, was a friend of the Mann family.

We extend our sincere congratulations to Alan Mann on the occasion of this most recent acknowledgment of his marine history preservation efforts, and we thank him for his many years of support of the Toronto Marine Historical Society.

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### GLENORCHY REVISITED

In the May issue, our Ship of the Month No. 249 was GLENORCHY, (a) A. E. STEWART (18), the Playfair steamer which was lost by collision with the LEONARD B. MILLER in Lake Huron on October 29, 1924. We agonized about the fact that the Stewart appeared to have been sold to Playfair in 1916, but that she did not receive her new name or Canadian registry until 1918. The answer is provided by John O. Greenwood in Volume Four of "The Fleet Histories Series". We somehow overlooked the reference when we wrote our feature.

"On February 10, 1916... Lake Transportation Company, of Mentor, Ohio, the financial vehicle of both James Paisley and James Playfair, was used to acquire the bulk freight steamer A. E. STEWART from John J. Barlum, of Detroit, Michigan. Because of some tax considerations in the transaction and World War I United States Government prohibitions against foreign ship sales, the vessel remained under U.S. registry through the 1918 navigation season. Lake Transportation served as the 'ship owner in name only' until World War I ended and legal compliance could be made, then the STEWART was registered under the Canadian flag. It may be worth noting that Lake County, in which Mentor is located, provided handsome tax shelter opportunities for early vessel owners. James Playfair managed the STEWART during these years and also arranged for its charter to Messrs. Gooderham and Mathews, of Toronto, Ontario, during parts of those three seasons. In late 1918, the STEWART was registered under the Canadian flag and renamed GLENORCHY."

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