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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 20, 2018

Contact: Lori Wells, Manager

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Subject: History of Boating

Traverse City – All the earliest Great Lakes' craft were brigs, schooners or sloops of traditional European design. After the War of 1812, schooners became the predominant vessels on the Lakes. Most of the merchant ships between 1800 and 1830 were two-masted schooners. Another type of sailing vessel, which became popular on the Lakes, was the scow schooner. Scows were introduced around 1830 and were used in the lumber, cordwood and tanbark trades. In the mid-1800s, the people streaming into the Midwest and lumber, iron and grain products pouring out, created a substantial maritime industry across the Great Lakes, including the Grand Traverse Bay area.

Learn more about passenger service on northern Lake Michigan from 1850 to 1950 by joining the Maritime Heritage Alliance's presentation by author Steve Harold on Wednesday, April 4, 3:30 p.m., at the Traverse City Senior Center, 801 E. Front Street.

The Maritime Heritage Alliance dates back to the early 1980s with Bob Core and Rich Brauer. Their interest in classic wooden boats, along with a desire to preserve the heritage of historic boats significance to the Grand Traverse Bay area, developed into an organization that today preserves, shares and interprets the maritime heritage of the Great Lakes.

The presentation by the Maritime Heritage Alliance is free, but advance registration is required

For more information and to register, email dmikowski@grandtraverse.org or call 231-922-2080.

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