

PRESS RELEASE

ATT: Feature, travel and outdoor writers; radio and TV producers: community calendar.
WHAT: 7th Annual Whistles on the Water (*a steam whistle event*)
WHERE: Palmer Park, downtown St. Clair, Michigan
WHEN: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Saturday, September 26, 2015
COST: Free
PARKING: Throughout the city

CONTACT: Dave Michelson, Whistles on the Water, (586) 725-6276

The Whistles on the Water Committee is excited to announce that the Dossin Great Lakes Museum will bring the steam whistle from the excursion boat PUT-IN-BAY to this year's event. The PUT-IN-BAY was built at the Detroit Ship Building Company's shipyard in Wyandotte, Michigan in 1911. It was burned as a spectacle on Lake St. Clair in 1953 after ferrying passengers to Put-In-Bay Island for over 40 years.



Sinker-Davis horizontal whistle being blow at Whistles on the Water

Whistles on the Water recreates the time when steamships were the “*Royalty*” of the Great Lakes. During the 19th century steamships ruled the Great Lakes. Ship captains would tune their steam whistle to create a unique sound so that their ship could be identified before it could be seen. The whistle's unique sound allowed another ship captain to identify the ship in the fog or in a storm and let people on shore know which ship was docking.

This is rare opportunity to hear these whistles as they were heard during the “*Golden Age*” of steam.

For additional information about Whistles on the Water and to get a registration form to register your steam whistle for the event, go to the event's website: <http://stclairontheriver.com/whistles-on-the-water-2>

Another event in St. Clair that day is the St. Clair Art Association's “*Chalk the Walk.*” Featured artists and the public are invited to use chalk to create their artwork on the sidewalks of downtown St. Clair. Registration is at the Association's office in the Riverview Plaza at 201 N. Riverside Ave. from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. There is no cost to participate in the event; registration entitles the participant a sidewalk space and a box of chalk.

For additional information about “*Chalk the Walk*” call 810-329-9576 or www.StClairArt.org

SOME QUICK FACTS ABOUT ST. CLAIR:

- St. Clair was the fifth English speaking settlement in Michigan.
- In 2014 the City celebrated the 250th anniversary of building of Fort Sinclair in 1764.
- The community of about 5,200 residents was the original county seat of St. Clair County.

- Palmer Park in St. Clair has nearly a half-mile of frontage along the St. Clair River. A sandbar in the middle of the river forces shipping traffic close to the U.S. shore, making it an ideal spot to watch lake and ocean-going freighters.
- The city is about 40 miles northeast of Detroit; 12 miles south of Port Huron; 48 miles east of Pontiac; and 60 miles east of Flint.