Dear Mrs. Rodebaugh,

I read your piece about the carferry's sinking. I want to tell you this. My father was overseer of the property of the Carnegie Land Co. but owned by the Steel Company. We lived on the bank of the lake about 1 ½ to 2 miles east of the Ohio & Pennsylvania state line road. On the night the carferry went down we heard the whistle. It keep blowing and Dad says that boat is having trouble. We did not know then until we heard the news. But that whistle keep blowing until it went under water.
I just had to write and tell you, I am 93 years old and I can still hear that whistle.
So this is my story.

I am confident that some day the answers to this tragedy will come, but for now we take solace in the knowledge that the families that were left behind are now with those that were lost.

Patrick McLeod - great-grandson of John McLeod, First Mate of the MARQUETTE & BESSEMER NO.2.

Balladeer Lee Murdock

Following the outdoor ceremony, guests moved into the museum past a memorial to the MARQUETTE & BESSEMER NO.2 which included photographs and blueprints of the ship. Once seated in DeRoy Hall, balladeer Lee Murdock entertained everyone with a program of chanties and lake songs. Elements of the performance were light, but Mr. Murdock instilled the seriousness of the event by closing his segment with a beautiful instrumental rendition of the Navy Hymn.

Master of Ceremonies Malcolm McAdam called forward the 2009 Lost Mariners Honor Guard for the wreath laying ceremony. They were led by Pipers Paul Maudsley and Al Robinson of the Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner's Own OPP Pipes and Drums. This year's participants included Chief Warrant Officer Jay Field of the United States Coast Guard Station Belle Isle, Captain Sondi Ryersee of the Canadian Coast Guard Amherstburg, Captain Jack Callahan of the International Shipmasters Association Lodge 7 Detroit, Constable Steve Lloyd of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Mr. Robert McLeod of St. Clair, Michigan.

The Honor Guard delivered the wreath to the breakwall where it was taken by patrol craft to the center of the river and released. As the wreath floated downriver, it was saluted by a flotilla that included the US Mail Vessel J.W. WESTCOTT II, a Canadian Coast Guard cutter, a United States Coast Guard cutter, an Ontario Provincial Police