

LEGENDS OF ALGONAC



If you haven't heard of Herb Pocklington, you're going to—soon. Herbert L. Pocklington—native of Algonac, Michigan and the oldest living senior executive of Chris-Craft Corporation during the Golden Years—is on still another mission. This time he will help create a life-sized memorial to both Christopher C. Smith and Garfield A. Wood in a park beside the St. Clair River, where pleasure-boat building and racing began. A secondary, but no less important mission, involves creation of a Memorial Hall of Fame, to expand the existing Museum in documenting the history of these men and their industries and to offer opportunities to view an ever-increasing collection of films, historical documentation, and pleasure-boating artifacts—including boats, themselves.

"We can no longer give a tour of the Smith or Wood homes, much less their factories," Pocklington declares, "but we can welcome people to an expanded

Algonac Museum in a 'Legends of Algonac Park' where they can view films and photos as well as read about these World-famous citizens in the place where unique visions created an industry that reached around the world, provided thousands of good jobs, developed new technologies, and gave birth to an exciting, competitive sport that continues to thrill millions.

Specific objectives of Pocklington's overall concept include: (a) enhanced information exchange among all boating organizations through specialized communication links within the Center, (b) provide specialized facilities where both American and international boating associations can interact in an atmosphere of sharing and cooperation, and (c) better inform the general public about the importance the boating industry has played—and continues to play—in promoting honest, clean recreation for everyone.

With a target audience reaching a world-wide boating community, Pocklington's funding plans begin with major local support in Algonac itself, but reach well beyond the city limits, promoting the Center's new capabilities to various planners and their groups, scheduling boating meetings, rendezvous, and conventions. "Naming rights" for the building will be considered but not actively sought.



Based on the best available information, completion of the Memorial is anticipated for July 1, 2010 and the new building for September 1, 2010. Big plans, indeed, but Herb Pocklington's life is all about big plans—and their successful completion. He began his career as a factory worker unloading box-cars at Chris-Craft Corporation. Later, he served as a buyer, Public Relations Director, Advertising Manager, Director of Product Planning and Styling, and CEO of International Operations, residing in Switzerland. His Overseas manage-



ment experience includes service as Chairman & CEO of Chris-Craft S.A. (Switzerland) and Chris-Craft Italia. He has traveled to 66 countries and

established manufacturing operations in Australia, Chile, Italy, Netherlands & Uruguay. He Retired in 1992 as President of Hatteras International, a multinational boat manufacturer, and has continued to achieve worldwide fame as a man who can be counted on again and again, to make good things happen for good people

Pocklington resides on Merritt Island, Florida, and can be reached at hlpocklington@aol.com. 📧