Bottled Goodbyes
A Ric Mixter Lecture

Bottled messages have been discovered on shore nearly as long as glass containers have been invented. They bring tidings from ocean voyagers, invitations for pen-pals, tragic attempts for rescue and floating farewells from long lost souls.

Based on Ric Mixter's new book, *Bottled Goodbyes* chronicles the most famous messages ever recovered, including three bottles found after the *Titanic* disaster. One of those messages was allegedly from a White House aide who served two U.S. presidents!

Ric also investigates five messages that floated ashore from the Great Storm of 1913 and shares in-depth information on the barge *Plymouth* and *Lightship 82* notes. Both ships were lost with their entire crews, so the messages recovered made national headlines.

Each of the Great Lakes are highlighted, making this a lecture that can be shared anywhere on the inland seas. Of particular interest are the near crashes of Balloonist Washington Donaldson in lakes Ontario and Michigan and the final flight that took his life off the Michigan coast in 1875.

Ric also investigates the development of radio on the Great Lakes and how that led to a decrease in bottles recovered. The rescue of the Pere Marquette 18 Carferry is specifically highlighted as an example. That ship was discovered in the summer of 2020 in 500 feet of water off the coast of Wisconsin.

Total time is about an hour with time for questions and answers. Ric needs a projection screen but will provide his own projector and amplification for the video. Larger audiences (over 75 patrons) may require use of amplification such as a microphone, amp and speakers of which your facility would be responsible for. In this case, Ric would like to plug into your system using a MAC computer with earphone output for your amplification.

Lecture cost is $300 plus travel costs from Wixom, MI. Virtual options exist and hotel room and meals are required if more than three hours drive from Oakland County, MI.

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