



NEWSLETTER



The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center prides itself on being a largely volunteer run organization, and we need YOU!

Help us run our two museum in Downtown Douglas and Mt. Baldhead, including the gift shop. Without volunteers, we cannot operate these two buildings and our community and visitors miss the opportunity to learn about our region, history, and the important work we have all done together at the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center.

Volunteering gives you a chance to interact with visitors from all over. [Sign up today!](#)

Questions? Email Executive Director Eric Gollanek (director@mysdhistory.org). For more information, visit our [Volunteer Information page](#), found on our website.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

With Labor Day on September 7th this year, we sit in the liminal space between summer and the unofficial start of autumn. This newsletter looks back on summer fun and offers a preview of the fall events that give everyone a reason to stay at the Lakeshore just a bit longer.

Upcoming events include the return of the Cruise Through History with the Star of Saugatuck on September 30th, the History Center's Member Picnic on October 1st, the 2nd annual Riverside Cemetery Comes Alive event on October 15th, and the 4th annual Party before the Parade on Halloween!

We're also finishing an important, if unglamorous project: the re-painting of the Douglas Union School building.

We take a lot of pride in our Downtown Douglas home. The Douglas Union School welcomed its first students in September of 1866, making it 160 years old this month. It is the last of its kind as the oldest multi-room school house in Michigan, listed on the Michigan state and National Register of Historic Places.

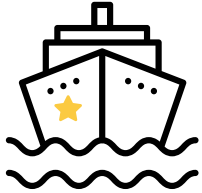
We want our building to look beautiful and well maintained, reflecting the love we hold for it, for our organization, and our community. This year was our year to paint so retroactively, please pardon our (paint) dust and look forward to some extraordinary Halloween colors on the new surfaces in October!

Painting the building is a critical need and ongoing expenditure. [We would be deeply appreciative of any help you could contribute - whether that's \\$5, \\$50, or \\$500.](#)





SAVE THE DATES



Cruise Through History on the Star of Saugatuck

Wednesday, September 30th
11 AM departure

All aboard for the fall tour! Join the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center on the Star of Saugatuck for a guided historical boat tour along the Kalamazoo River, exploring the history of Singapore.

Tickets available [online here](#) or visit our website for more information.

Annual Member Picnic

Thursday, October 1st
5 - 7 PM

Join us at the History Center in Downtown Douglas to celebrate YOU! History Center awards and volunteer thanks. Look out for a separate email with more information!

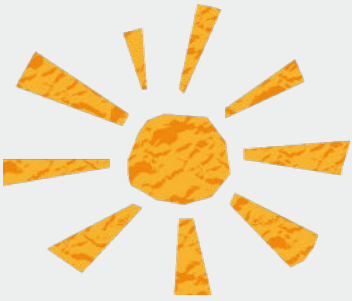


October 15th
5 PM - 7 PM

PARTY BEFORE THE PARADE

October 31st
6 PM - 10 PM





SUMMER MEMORIES

It's been a great summer!

We hope you enjoy these photos of people engaging with our exhibitions and our events.



Grandparents enjoy being "at the top of Mt. Baldhead" with their granddaughter.



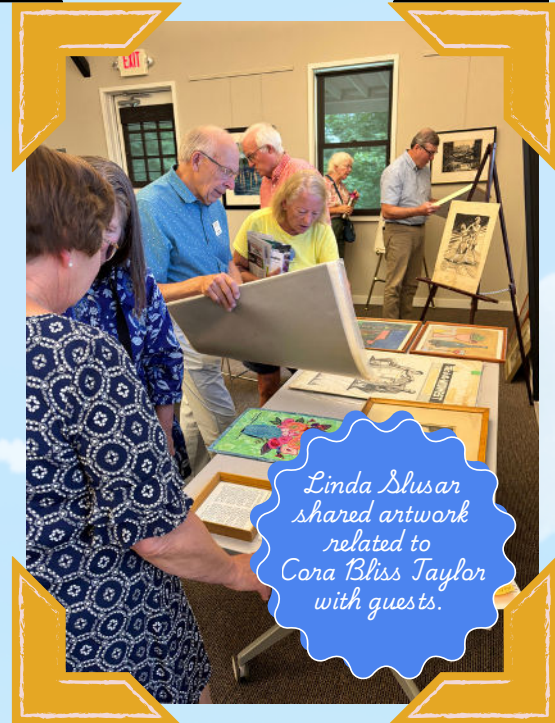
A family explores "A Century of Progress"



A guest takes photos in the art gallery.



A mother reads one of our History Lives Here markers to her son.



Linda Slusar shared artwork related to Cora Bliss Taylor with guests.





LIFETIME MEMBER PARTY

More than eighty Lifetime members enjoyed an evening of delicious treats, live music, and good company to thank them for their support of the History Center. Many thanks to our hosts, Lauri and Jim Sullivan, who welcomed us into their Carl Hoerman designed Lakeshore home and gardens for this event.





WHAT A BLAST AT THE BACKYARD BASH!!

On August 13th the History Center welcomed more than one hundred people to the Backyard Bash. It was so much fun to see people dancing, kids playing, and friends enjoying their evening together! Special thanks to the Saugatuck-Douglas District Library as our partner for the event series. Also thank you to Douglas UCC for food and the Outdoor Discovery Center for creature features! Finally, thank you to the Holland Doctors of Jazz and sponsor, David Islijamovski of Century 21 in Douglas.





KID TAKEOVER AT THE MUSEUM

Every year, the Ottawa County ISD asks local organizations to provide a space for elementary and middle school students to practice design thinking. Their goal is to provide students an opportunity to consider a real world problem and work together to create potential solutions. This year, we had two students from Douglas Elementary School and about ten students from grades 2-5 who spent four days at the Museum at Mount Baldhead.

The students' driving question was "How might we create a fun and sustainable scavenger/treasure hunt at the Museum of Mount Baldhead?" This question was similar to last year's, and the teachers shared the work that was done last year so that the students had a strong foundation to build on this season. They also specifically focused on ways children and families can engage with our space when our building is closed. The goal was to actually create a fun scavenger hunt for kids, by kids.

The younger students created a scavenger hunt for children ages 3 - 7. They provided 10 items for other children to find, such as insects, plants, and boats. The older group of students created ten QR codes they hid around outside of the building. Finding and scanning the QR code reveals facts about the Museum, the natural environment, and the history of the area. The students used the *Lure of Mount Baldhead* exhibition to help create their scavenger hunt facts.

