Our mission is to tell the story of Muskegon County by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of its people and natural environment.
This newsletter is dedicated to saying THANK YOU to those who have helped the museum to be successful and stay true to our mission throughout the year. I want to start by saying thank you to a volunteer who made me realize that we had a major gap in our development program.

In February, the Lakeshore Museum Center community lost a wonderful volunteer, John Augustin. We were honored that his friends and family made contributions in his memory to the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry.

As a new Executive Director, this was my first time experiencing this. I was honored that he would continue his legacy this way. It also made me realize that we don’t have a planned giving program at the museum.

But, thanks to John, we will soon.

The staff and board are currently putting together a legacy club where we can celebrate gifts with those that give them while they are still here. Planned Giving is a way to ensure that the museum will always be part of the fabric of this community and that the multiple museum sites that make up the Lakeshore Museum Center will continue to collect, care, and teach with the items that tell the amazing history of Muskegon County.

Planned Giving can come from anyone. You don’t have to be rich, and even small amounts can make a huge impact on an organization.

You can leave a percentage of your Life Insurance Policy, IRA/Retirement Accounts, or simply leave a bequest of a set amount or percentage in your will or trust. If you are interested in making a planned gift to the museum or would like to learn more, please contact Melissa Horton at 231-724-5529.

Thank you to the Michigan Arts and Culture Council and the National Endowment for the Arts for awarding us an Operations Grant that helps support general operations at all our sites.
Thank you from the Muskegon County Archive & Collection!

1. Your host, “Sam”, thanks you for your patronage on this cocktail napkin from the Muskegon Hotel Cocktail Lounge.

2. A collection of thank you notes written to the Canada Corners Mothers’ Club of Casnovia, Michigan. The cards date to about the mid-1950s. Mothers’ Clubs provided essentials to new mothers.

3. This thank you note was given to staff members of the Muskegon County Museum in acknowledgement of their help with the 2004 Muskegon Main Street Program Spring Cleanup. The staff of the Muskegon County Museum assisted with cleaning the statues in Hackley Park.

4. Muskegon companies would produce promotional gifts thanking people for their business. This small screwdriver was a promotional item from Certified Concrete, Inc. of Muskegon Heights.

5. A pre-printed thank you issued to Edward J. Meier and signed by President Harry Truman. The letter thanks Meier for his service in the United States Army during World War II.

6. Jacobsen & Son Building Contractors of Muskegon provided a pencil as a thank you to clients.

7. Yard signs like this one were issued during the COVID-19 pandemic to show support for health care workers. This one was issued by Mercy Health and was on the lawn of a neurosurgeon in Muskegon.

Jeffrey Bessinger, Exhibits and Collections Director/Archivist

Recent Acquisitions

The Lakeshore Museum Center actively collects objects and archival material relevant to Muskegon County’s natural and cultural history. These items are reviewed by the Acquisitions Committee and the Board of Trustees for their relevance to Muskegon County, condition, and the ability of the LMC to care for the objects.

In the first half of 2023, the LMC was offered 964 objects. The following objects were accepted into the collection in June 2023.

Photographs
- Photo negatives of Wilber Paul’s orchard on E. Ellis Road, Norton Shores
- Photographs of Orlin and Orpha Royce and their daughters, Helen and Marjorie, of Muskegon
- Photographs of Harry Casper and Helen Crankshaw Waters of Muskegon, including high school portraits and wedding photographs

Archives
- Central Paper Company stock certificates
- Audiovisual materials used in advertisements for Pleasure Island
- Central Paper Company stock certificates
- Muskegon Training School Kindergarten graduation certificate
- Two scrapbooks compiled by Helen Crankshaw Waters of her high school years at Muskegon High School and commemorating her wedding to Harry Casper Waters
- The Bridge’s Book of Plans filled in by Helen Crankshaw Waters
- North Muskegon High School diploma issued to Harry Casper Waters, 1945
- Dance card for the Junior-Senior Reception at North Muskegon High School, 1945
- Graduation tassels from North Muskegon High School
- Wedding dress worn by Helen Crankshaw Waters and made by her mother Dorothy Crankshaw

Objects
- Red Carts brand golf bag cart made by Noren Pattern and Foundry in Fruitport, ca. 1952
- U.S. Navy insignia owned by Harry Casper Waters
- Chenille patches from Montague High School, ca. 1943

Brenda Nemetz, Collections Manager & Registrar
If you haven’t visited the Urban Renewal exhibit, be sure to stop by and visit with Kris Moose!

Have you visited Coming to the Lakes recently? If so, you may have noticed the entrance and exit feels a little lonely. During our last routine cleaning and inspection of the displays, we discovered the mannequins, which have been on display for over 20 years, are ready for a relaxing retirement. The staff are currently working to plan new introductory and closing displays. Stay tuned for updates!

We are grateful to Parkland Properties of Michigan for supporting the Urban Renewal exhibit at the Muskegon Museum of History and Science.

Chani Collins, Exhibit Designer

Visit the second floor to view a refreshed Amazon Knitting Company exhibit. The exhibit explores the history of the Amazon building on Western Avenue. It includes updated information about the building’s current use, and some new photos.

A Special Thank You

Thank you to our winter volunteers at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business and Industry, who built new step stools for our younger visitors at the Museum of History and Science. The MHMB&I volunteers also helped build elements for the Muskegon’s Urban Renewal exhibit at the Museum of History and Science, including temporary walls and the framework for the fountain.

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This allows us to do research in just a few seconds that previously would have taken days. So far, this database contains information from 3,322 receipts!

Joining our returning group of thirteen veteran volunteers, we were lucky enough to have three new volunteers join us this year. This season we’ve welcomed Bill Rafaill, Katherine Jawor, and Olivia Cox to the Historic Sites team.

Many Thanks from the Historic Sites

With so many tours, programs, and events that happen at the Historic Sites, it’s no surprise that we rely on our volunteers to provide the best possible experience for our visitors. Although we’re only halfway through our open season, the help of our volunteers has already made a huge difference this year. Since May, our Historic Sites volunteers have already put in 367 hours!

While we have a terrific group of part-time staff, our volunteers help to fill out our day-to-day schedule by taking tours at the Hackley and Hume Houses and welcoming visitors at the Fire Barn Museum and Scolnik House of the Depression Era. In addition to helping with our regular visitors, a number of our volunteers help with the Pearl Mist cruise ship excursions and other group tours that visit our Sites. Volunteers help also played a huge role in our Hackley Day Community Celebration on May 20. Our Site welcomed 168 visitors in a three-hour span, and our Site volunteers, along with the LMC Junior Museum Professionals (JMPs), lent a hand with our walk-through tours, hands-on activities, and crafts. The JMPs and Site volunteers also helped with our annual Roaring ‘20s Tea on June 17.

Our volunteers have been hard at work on a database project that is revolutionizing our research about the Hackley and Hume families. Since 2021, our volunteers have entered information from original Hackley and Hume family receipts, which we can then search by date or keyword.

I often say that we couldn’t do what we do without our volunteers and that has never been more true. Please join me in thanking our volunteers for their amazing dedication and love of the Historic Sites!

Aaron Mace, Historic Sites Manager
This summer the Lakeshore Museum Center welcomed our eighth cohort of Junior Museum Professionals (JMPs). We have been fortunate to have had 42 students move through the program since it started in 2015. It has been great to get to know the young people in this talented group.

We have now gotten to the point where, some of our first JMPs are actually in college! Our JMP program is designed to give young people a taste of the museum field while also learning skills such as presenting information, working as a team, creating programming, and working with people of all ages.

As a whole, they have brought a wonderful sense of energy and a lot of creativity to the Museum.

This year we have welcomed Elias Sybenga, Penelope Stidham, Rowan VanWoerkom, and Christopher Rash to the team, and we have 15 young people serving this summer.

The big project for the group this year has been to organize a 4th Birthday Party for Moxie the Mastodon in August. This included making an event worksheet, taking a trip to Revel to learn about marketing, and even asking for in-kind donations.

If you see any of our JMPs out and about be sure to let them know how much you appreciate their hard work!

We recently created a virtual session on our JMP program for the Midwest Museums Association Conference, and it was really great to look back at how the program has grown and changed. As a part of that session, I reached out to former JMPs to talk about their experience. I will leave you with some thoughts from one of the two alumni from the original group of young people.

“My name is Natalie Horton, and I am now a junior at Michigan State University studying pre-med. I was at the Heritage Park from 2015-2017. One thing I learned while participating in this program was how to better communicate with adults and the public.

I am still to this day thankful for this program teaching me to better communicate and share information with those around me. My favorite part of participating in this program was how much I got to learn about Michigan’s history too! I learned something new every day I volunteered!}

Wendy VanWoerkom, Program Specialist

For any school or group looking to visit one of the sites of the Lakeshore Museum Center, finding andaffording transportation is often the hardest part. To help make sure all student learners have an opportunity to visit the museum, we have for several years offered a $100 bus grant. This small grant helps cover the cost of a trip and can make the difference between classroom learning and experiential learning. We are only able to offer this grant thanks to the generosity of donors who graciously give to our bus grant fund through our website, special fundraising events, and donation boards. Special thanks in particular to Susan McGarry, wife of former museum director John McGarry, who has donated in her late husband’s honor to bring kids to museum, one of John’s passions.

Thank you donors!

Last year through the generosity of the Howmet Aerospace Foundation, we were also able to offer $200 per trip to fund STEAM-related field trips, not only to the Lakeshore Museum Center but also to the grant’s other partner organizations: The Fab Lab, Muskegon Museum of Art, Hackley Public Library, USS Silversides Submarine Museum, and Annis Water Resource Institute. Through this grant in the upcoming year, we will be able to offer $400 for field trips to help make sure there are no barriers keeping Muskegon County youth from getting out of the classroom and into all the great resources downtown Muskegon has to offer.

Thank you, Howmet, for taking a role in developing our youth and showing them all Muskegon has to offer.

Patrick Horn, Program Manager
Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry Thanks You!

The Fall Newsletter is always dedicated to sending our thanks to an individual, group, or organization that has impacted the museum in a positive way.

This year, we have had an outpouring of financial and material support that has helped further our mission to tell the story of Muskegon County by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of its people and natural environment.

A big thank you to the following donors:

**Community Day Sponsors:** RENK America, C W March, Eagle Group, Hines Corporation, and Swanson Pickle Company

**CFFMC Wish List Donors:** funded two maintenance equipment upgrades for the Heritage Museum—a set of modern mechanic’s hand tools like sockets, wrenches and ratcheting wrenches; and mechanic’s equipment including a portable toolbox, wheeled storage stool, and a mechanic’s creeper


Come out and explore the museum before the 2023 Season winds to a close. We are open Wednesday through Saturday from 11am to 4pm and when the Pearl Mist or Ocean Navigator cruise ships are in port. There’s always something new to learn, see, or do at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry.

We look forward to seeing you!

Volunteer Jim Runyan recruited two Whitehall School students to help make springs on their first field trip to MHM B&I this spring.

A special thanks goes out to all those of you that direct your membership dollars toward the MHMB&I fund within the Lakeshore Museum Center. That earmarked money shows how passionately you support our continuing efforts to tell Muskegon County’s amazing story of entrepreneurship, innovation, and resourcefulness.

Kirk Bunke, Site Manager
Volunteer Highlights

With a newsletter theme of “Thank You” it’s hard to know where to begin...

So far, in the 2023 season, 151 volunteers have contributed 4,099 hours to our organization! This includes volunteers behind the scenes in Exhibits and Collections, Interpreters for the Historic Sites and MHMB&I, event volunteers, Junior Museum Professionals, program volunteers, MAISD Students, and Board Members.

These individuals contribute more than just their time; they bring with them skills and resources, new energy, and excitement for our organization. We appreciate not only their time spent with us but also every time they share their experiences with a community member that would not otherwise know all of the wonderful advantages of the Lakeshore Museum.

Volunteer Highlights

Saying "thank you" to our volunteers will never seem like enough, but we appreciate each and every one of them and their contributions!

I also want to thank our Lumber Baron’s Ball Sponsors!


A Special Thank You!

In May, we celebrated our 2022 volunteer season. Across nine sites, 219 volunteers contributed 5,939 hours to our organization in 2022. While we appreciate them all, I want to highlight our 2022 Volunteer Award Recipients.

Isabella Nelson
Winner of the 2022 George Hilt Award. Isabella is currently serving her third year as a Junior Museum Professional. As a JMP, Isabella volunteers throughout the summer planning programs, helping with Play and Learn and learning about museum culture. We enjoy getting to know all of our JMPs throughout the season and appreciate their dedication at such a young age!

Dave Rice
Winner of the 2022 Anne & Allan Dake Award. Dave is one of our “Thursday Guys” at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business and Industry. During the “off season,” the Thursday Guys work on various projects that benefit not only MHMB&I but our other sites as well. Dave also volunteers as our Brunswick expert, keeping our Pinsetter running smoothly throughout the year!

Jim Gerhart
Winner of the 2022 Margaret Hume Award. Jim has been a dedicated volunteer at multiple sites over the years. You could often find him in the STEM Center at the History and Science Museum or at the Fire Barn of the Historic Sites. Jim’s consistent presence was one of the first I noticed after joining the staff as Volunteer Coordinator. He always had a smile (and candy!) to share with the staff and interesting stories to share with visitors.

Linda Potter
Winner of the 2022 Dorothy Hammer Award. Our final volunteer award and THANK YOU goes to Linda Potter. The Dorothy Hammer Award acknowledges Linda’s contributions not to a specific site but to the Lakeshore Museum Center as a whole. From her position as a board member to the countless hours spent doing research for Muskegon’s Urban Renewal exhibit, to the incredible centerpieces created for the 1920s tea, everything Linda does shows the love and dedication she has to our organization.

Jim Gerhart and Executive Director Melissa Horton
A special shout out to Jackie Engel! Thank you for BATMAN!!

Jim Gerhart and Executive Director Melissa Horton

A Special Thank You!

Winners of the 2022 Volunteer Awards.

Marci Dalm, Volunteer & Event Coordinator
1,000 Thank Yous and More

I will never get tired of thanking our members for their continuous support. They are our biggest and loudest cheerleaders and champions! They not only support us through their membership, but also by volunteering, attending our programs, and — quite often — through making our wishes come true.

Sitting quietly in the “Get Involved” tab of our website is the very important Fund A Need page, where museum staff lists not only department-specific wishes but major organization needs. Sometime in 2022, we decided to post an item that has been in many of our minds and that guests have asked for: a bottle-filling station.

Earlier this year, I received notification that one of our members wanted to make the donation that would fulfill this need. I know I wasn’t the only staff member jumping and screaming in joy!

We moved quickly to purchase it, and our Maintenance Department installed it in the hallway next to the Collections Case at the Museum of History & Science.

Since then, it has already refilled over 1,000 bottles!

Although not the most pressing of our needs, it enhances the visitor experience, and it is ecofriendly as it reduces the amount of 1-time use plastic water bottles.

This is just one example of how our members make a difference in the museum’s life. Thank you so much to all of you!

If you have any questions or comments about your membership, or to request a new membership card, please contact me at 231-722-0278 or email me at graciela@lakeshoremuseum.org.

If you would like to check out our wishes, please go to www.lakeshoremuseum.org/fund-a-need

Following is a list of our members as of July 28, 2023.
MEMBERSHIP & MORE

Perks of Being a Member

Members Make a Museum

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Thank you to all the generous donors this past year! Every donation, big and small helps us further our mission. We could not do it without you! Below is a list of donations from July 21, 2022-July 20, 2023.

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Fall Events

**September 9**  
Lumber Barons Ball Presents:  
Back to the Future  
6:30pm–10:00pm

**September 9**  
Sportsmen for Youth

**September 9**  
Closed for  
Fundraiser Prep

**September 14**  
Play and Learn  
Fall Session - FREE  
10:00am–11:00am

**September 15-17**  
Museum at Michigan  
Irish Music Festival Wee Ones Tent

**September 28**  
Play and Learn  
Fall Session - FREE  
10:00am–11:00am

**October 13**  
FFFN: Smashing Pumpkins  
5:30pm–7:30pm

**October 14**  
Your Life in Speech Bubbles  
1:00pm–2:30pm

**October 18**  
Mall Madness  
6:00pm

**October 26**  
Play and Learn  
Fall Session - FREE  
10:00am–11:00am

**November 1**  
Lumbering History Presentation  
at North Muskegon Library  
6:00pm

**November 6-10**  
From Furs to Fire

**November 7**  
Homeschool Days  
From Furs to Fire

Did you know that all sites of the Lakeshore Museum Center participate in Museums for All?

This program provides FREE or reduced admission to families receiving food assistance.  
To learn more visit  
www.museums4all.org
Fall Events

Hackley & Hume Historic Site

- **September 9**
  Lumber Barons Ball Presents: Back to the Future
  6:30pm–10:00pm

- **September 8**
  All Access Tours
  7:00pm–8:30pm

- **September 11**
  Homeschool Days
  10:00am–11:30am

- **September 22**
  Hackley Attic Escape Room
  5:00pm–6:30pm

- **September 29 & 30**
  Game of Life
  Session 1: 6:00pm–7:00pm
  Session 2: 7:30pm–8:30pm

Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry

- **October 6**
  Clue LIVE!
  Session 1: 6:00pm
  Session 2: 7:30pm

- **October 7**
  Clue LIVE!
  Session 1: 6:00pm
  Session 2: 7:30pm

- **October 14**
  Flashlight Tour
  Session 1: 8:00pm
  Session 2: 9:30pm

- **October 20-21**
  Obituary Tour
  Session 1: 7:00–8:00pm
  Session 2: 8:30–9:30pm

- **October 27**
  Hackley Attic Escape Room
  5:00–6:30pm

- **October 30**
  Last Open Day for the 2023 Season

- **November 25**
  Holiday Tours & Kickoff Event
  3:00pm–7:00pm

- **September 9**
  Bowling: Art, Science, & Skill
  11:00am–4:00pm

- **September 16**
  Cruise Ship Port of Call: Ocean Navigator

- **September 18**
  Cruise Ship Port of Call: Ocean Navigator

- **October**
  Muskegon Heritage Museum is FREE on Saturdays for Muskegon Co. Residents

- **October 3**
  Homeschool Days
  10:00am–11:30am

- **October 14**
  Community Days
  "To Provide a Home:"
  The Hume Home for the Aged

- **October 28**
  Tiny Tots
  Trick-or-Treat
  2:00pm–4:00pm

- **October 28**
  Last Open Day for the 2023 Season
Muskegon Museum of History & Science
430 W. Clay Ave. Muskegon
231.722.0278

Hackley & Hume Historic Site
484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon
231.722.7578

Fire Barn Museum
484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon
231.722.7578

Scolnik House of the Depression Era
484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon
231.722.7578

Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry
561 W. Western Ave., Muskegon
231.722.1363

www.lakeshoremuseum.org

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HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:
Timeless Movie Memories
Dec 15
- White Christmas
- Miracle on 34th Street
- Polar Express
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Play With Me  
Child / Caregiver Workshop
10:00 - 11:15am
Sept 27 & Oct 4, 11, 18, 25

Connecting families with community resource professionals on a variety of topics.
FREE - To register or for more details:  hackleylibrary.org | 231-722-8014

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Tiffany Lamps
The Richard H. Driehaus Collection
September 7 – January 14
MUSKEGON MUSEUM OF ART