THE FUTURE OF HISTORY

Our mission is to tell the story of Muskegon County by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of its people and natural environment.
MUSEUMS MAKE YOU CONNECT.

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HISTORY OF SUMMER IN MUSKEGON COUNTY

The history of summer in Muskegon County is intertwined with the rich heritage that comes with living by the lakeshore. One of the ways that the Lakeshore Museum Center serves the community is by collecting and telling the stories of summers gone by. From fishing and shipping to festivals and pageants, Muskegon has a lot to preserve.

This summer, the museum is excited to be part of the hometown premiere of *Buster Keaton: Home*. The documentary will be shown free to the public on June 9th at 3:00pm at the Frauenthal Center. Buster and his family spent their summers in Muskegon, and this film speaks to those times. Below is an image of the Keaton family with their boats on Muskegon Lake. I hope that everyone can join us to see this film.

The Lakeshore Museum Center and all of its sites are ready for you to visit. We want to be part of your summer memories!

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*Advertisement for Home*

*From the LMC collection (P89-350C): Fleet of boats from the Theater Colony Yacht Club looking east across Muskegon Lake with Keaton family members.*
2024 Acquisitions in Review

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 for the LMC to care for the objects.

Between January to April, the LMC was offered 192 objects. The following objects were accepted into the collection.

Brenda Nemetz, Collections Manager and Registrar

Photographs:
- Muskegon Community College All Greek Mixer beer baseball game, Spring 1969
- Muskegon Community College All College Week rope pull, dated 1969
- Pioneer Park, circa 1930s
- Photographs of Wolf Lake, Meinert Park, Twin Lake, Patterson Park, Blue Lake, and Pioneer Park

Archives:
- Postcard, View from Grand View Cottage Wallace Beach, Twin Lake, dated 1911
- Postcard, Boating, Twin Lake, Michigan, dated 1911
- Book, The Virginians by Thackeray, owned by Thomas Hume

Objects:
- One complete AVDS 1790 cylinder and one cut away cylinder manufactured by RENK
- Castings from Westran, circa 1970s
WHAT’S ON VIEW?
What’s New This Summer

Muskegon Museum of History & Science

**Dinosaur Bones with Paleo Joe**
Visitors will be able to see dinosaur bones and models, become paleontologists, reconstruct a dinosaur skeleton, and learn about the fossil record. Check out our events calendar to see when Paleo Joe will visit the Museum to demonstrate fossil preparation.

**New Deal, New Museum: WPA Artists and the Muskegon County Museum**
As a newly formed museum in 1937, the Muskegon County Museum employed artists and writers to create exhibits under the Works Progress Administration Federal Art Project. View a selection of projects created by these artists.

**Muskegon Streetcar Riot**
On August 5, 1919, a riot broke out in Muskegon of the Muskegon Traction and Lighting Co. streetcar service. Learn about the events of the riot and view photographs of the damage that it caused.

**Fossil Projects from Mrs. Droski’s class in Reeths-Puffer Central Elementary**
Mrs. Droski’s class studied fossils and created projects based on what they learned.

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Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry

**Fisher Steel and Supply: A Family Business**
Learn about a local, three-generation family business dealing in steel and scrap metal.

**RENK HMPT-800 Transmission**
This transmission is manufactured in Muskegon and is used in several U.S. Military vehicles.

The Mount Garfield Hill Climb
In celebration of Muskegon Bike Time, learn about the history of the Muskegon Motorcycle Club and the Mount Garfield Hill Climb.

Coming Soon
Keep an eye out for updates in Coming to the Lakes this summer.

Chani Collins, Exhibit Designer
Of course, Muskegon and The Muskegon Historic Sites have so much to do over the summer months. One activity you may not have thought of for summer is watching the progress on exterior projects at the five historic buildings, including the Hackley and Hume Historic Site, Fire Barn Museum, and the Scolnik House of the Depression Era.

In March, the Fire Barn doors were restored and rebuilt, so you might see them open for visitors throughout the summer. Also, the Scolnik House of the Depression Era turret was rebuilt and will be getting a fresh coat of paint thanks to the generous donors to our 2023 Annual Appeal.

Finally, beginning in August, you will also see the Hackley Reroofing Project. Be on the lookout for our July fundraiser, where you can purchase a cedar shake shingle, attend our event to sign your shingle, and learn more about the process. The signed shingles will be added to the roof, and your legacy will be part of the project. See our website or Facebook page for more details on the Shingle Signing Party.

Other projects will continue throughout the summer, such as completing the exterior painting on the Scolnik House of the Depression Era on the south and west sides of the building, repainting the west side of the Fire Barn Museum, and applying new exterior paint on the south side of the City Barn at the Hackley and Hume Historic Site. Please drive by or stop in to chat more about the ongoing summer projects!

Erin Schmitz, Historic Sites Director

Summertime is the best time to get out and see what Muskegon has to offer! The Muskegon Historic Sites has a lot to see, inside and out. If you are able to take a tour of the Hackley & Hume Historic Site, you may notice that inside the houses, some things have been moved to different locations.

This past winter, which is the off-season for the Historic Sites, the staff was able to take the time to reset in the Hackly and Hume houses. This effort is made to highlight different pieces in the houses and make them “new” for people who visit the sites regularly.

Many people who go through the houses say that they see something new every time they visit. Stop by this summer and you will be sure to see something new at the Hackley & Hume Historic Site.

Hannah Erdman, Historic Sites Program Assistant
Let’s Head to the Lake!

Prior to air conditioning, one way to stay cool in the hot summer was to go to the lake. The cool breezes of Lake Michigan and Muskegon County’s many smaller lakes and resorts made the Muskegon area a popular destination for a summer getaway. However, where exactly did you stay and what was there to do in Muskegon during the summer? Check out our podcast Muskegon History and Beyond with the Lakeshore Museum Center for your essential summer listening list.


Patrick Horn, Program Manager

Summer Walking Tours

Summertime at the museum means the return of Downtown Muskegon Walking Tours. This year, we are offering two tours: Historic and Legends & Lore. The Historic Tour is one that we offer every summer. It provides tour participants with an overview of Muskegon’s history from the lumber years to modern day and all the changes in between. Stops on this tour include Hackley Park, Western Ave., the Amazon building, and more.

The second tour is one that usually appears later in the fall: Legends & Lore. The Legends & Lore Tour will provide an exciting look into some of the crazier stories of Muskegon’s past. What happened when a Muskegon detective met a gangster on the run? Who was planting bombs in downtown Muskegon? What caused a massive lumbering strike and a near deadly confrontation between workers and a mill owner? This tour will seek to uncover the facts and answers to some of Muskegon’s most interesting stories.

Tours will be offered in the morning and afternoon on June 18 & 21; July 9, 12, 16 & 19; August 6, 9, 20 & 23. Tours last approximately 90 minutes and cover a total distance of one mile. Tours stay on downtown sidewalks with minimal elevation changes. The tours can accommodate any type of mobility device or stroller.

10:00-11:30 for AM Tour:
In June and August, this will be the Legends & Lore Tour. In July, the AM tour will be the Historic Tour.

1:00-2:30 for PM Tour:
In June and August, this will be the Historic Tour. In July, this will be the Legends & Lore Tour.

Jennifer Reeths, Assistant Program Manager
Summer in Muskegon County

Muskegon County has long marketed itself as a premier summer getaway destination on the Great Lakes. Its beaches, dunes, lakes, rivers, and forests have offered boundless opportunities for the outdoor minded enthusiast. Page 56 of Muskegon and Its Resources, published by the Muskegon Board of Trade in 1884, discusses fishing and boating opportunities:

_The summer resorter who is in search of cool breezes, fine fishing and good boating facilities, with sufficient seclusion, and yet does not wish to get out of reach of civilization, will find his heart’s delight about Muskegon and the beautiful lakes referred to in her vicinity. The locality, though less advertised for these purposes, is not surpassed in the state. Bear lake is one of the finest rowing grounds in the state._

We thought we would share three images from the collection to help get you in the mood for summer. Each of these snapshots were taken on Muskegon area beaches in the late 1880s, 1910s, and 1950s.

Helen Garber, George McComb, Roy W. Augustine, and Josephine L. Wood enjoying a picnic on the beach, Labor Day, September 6, 1889. Object ID #2011.008.005

Theodore Vanderwall and Gladys Swanson, in the front, and two unidentified females sitting on the beach at Lake Michigan Park, circa 1910-1924. Object ID #P83-726

Unidentified people having a picnic at Pere Marquette Park. Stamped on the back is June 18, 1957, and "Property of the Muskegon Chronicle." Object ID #2009.010.001

Today, the Leisure and Hospitality sector accounts for a little over 9% of the economy here in Muskegon County. The beaches remain a major draw for out of town guests and hometown tourists alike. Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry will be hosting 14 cruise ship ports of call this season. There will be a few Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays added to the regular Wednesday through Saturday schedule. If there is a ship in port, our doors might just be open. Extra guests are always welcome!

Editor’s Note: There is one correction from the MHMB&I March contribution. A third copy of the West Michigan Pike marker was produced and given to the White Lake Chamber of Commerce. It is on display along the pedestrian path between Whitehall and Montague.

Kirk Bunke, Site Manager, Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry
The summer season always brings a flurry of activity to the Lakeshore Museum Center. While our sites reopen from their winter hiatus, our seasonal volunteers return from warmer climates, and we look forward to a season of excitement, discovery, education, adventure, and outreach.

One of my favorite parts of summer at the museum is the return of the Junior Museum Professionals program (JMPs). This year, we are excited to welcome back a few familiar faces from our 2023 season as well as five new JMPs. We are also thrilled that three of our former JMPs will join us again, mentoring new JMPs and working with us to pilot a program that will bridge the gap between our current JMP program and adult volunteering. The JMP program offers unique learning experiences throughout the summer, working behind the scenes with museum professionals and participating in museum and community events.

Community outreach is a large part of both our JMP program and our summer programming. This summer, you can find museum staff and volunteers hosting and participating in a variety of community events including Hackley Day at the Hackley & Hume Historic Sites, Taste of Muskegon, Literacy Carnival, Country Dairy’s Dairy Days, Enviroworks day camp at Muskegon Museum of History & Science, Community Days at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry, Sportsmen for Youth, the WeeOnes tent at Michigan’s Irish Music Festival, and much more. Visit our website or follow us on social media to stay up to date with all of our community events.

**Dinosaur Bones Events**

Prepare to join us this summer as we unveil our latest temporary exhibit: *Dinosaur Bones*. From June 1 – December 30 2024, take a step back in time to when these colossal creatures roamed the earth. Featuring Michigan’s own Paleo Joe, *Dinosaur Bones* promises to ignite imaginations and spark fascination into the wonders of the world of paleontology.

While *Dinosaur Bones* will excite even the youngest visitors, we invite our adult dinosaur enthusiasts to join us for one night only as we leave behind the modern and enter the Mesozoic Era. On October 5, 2024, the Lakeshore Museum Center’s annual Lumber Barons Ball presents: Jurassic Museum – featuring special guest Paleo Joe, drinks at the Tree Star Bar, local cuisine, and a Velociraptor experience that promises to be unforgettable.

If you are interested in sponsoring or donating to Jurassic Museum, please email marci@lakeshoremuseum.org or call 231-724-5544.

Tickets for the event will be available soon!

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Marci Dalm, Volunteer & Event Coordinator
Summertime in Muskegon

Summer is my favorite time of the year in Muskegon. The beach, the lake, the cruise ships, Saturdays at the Farmer’s Market, all the festivals, interacting with our out-of-town museum guests... I just love it!

I have some exciting news for you. Our Guest Relations Department has expanded this spring, so now you'll have the pleasure of meeting Bri and Mickey at our Admissions and Gift Stores, in addition to LaKesha, Chelsey, and myself. We can't wait to welcome you to all our amazing sites!

Gift Store

Our museum stores are fully stocked with the most wonderful gifts. You'll find an entire Jane Austen collection of souvenirs at the City Barn, and the History & Science Museum shop has all the dinosaur goodies you can imagine. Don't forget to swing by the Business & Industry Museum's retail space – they have everything from pickle gifts to useful tools and home decorations.

Membership Perks

Now, here's a little insider tip for you: make sure you take the time to explore our membership reciprocal partners this summer. In June, you can visit the Sandcastles Children's Museum in Ludington and the Blandford Nature Center in Grand Rapids. July is all about our partnership with the Holland Museum, where our members are not only welcome to explore the museum but also their historic sites, the Settlers House and the Cappon House, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2024. In August, you'll enjoy free admission to both the Grand Rapids Public Museum and the Grand Rapids Art Museum.

JUNE
- Sandcastles Children's Museum
- Blandford Nature Center

JULY
- Holland Museum
- Settlers House
- Cappon House

AUGUST
- Grand Rapids Public Museum
- Grand Rapids Art Museum

If you have any questions or comments about your membership, or to request a new membership card, feel free to reach out to me at graciela@lakeshoremuseum.org. I'm always happy to connect with our amazing members. Have a fantastic summer!
Plan Your Visit
Calendar/Upcoming Events

Summer Events

June 7
After Dark Tours - $  
9:00pm - 10:00pm

June 8
Taste of Muskegon Historic Games in Hackley Park  
12:00pm - 4:00pm

June 13
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

June 14
All Access Tour - $  
7:00pm - 8:30pm

June 14
Printing - $  
8+ Recommended

June 15
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

June 18
Father's Day - Free Tours to Muskegon County Dads  
1:00pm - 4:00pm

June 20
STEM Workshop - $  
Rollercoasters  
9:00am - 12:00pm

June 22
Roaring 20s Tea Event - $  
1:00pm - 4:00pm

June 27
STEM Workshop - Foundries - $  
9:00am - 12:00pm

June 28
Hackley Attic Escape Room - $  
5:00pm - 6:30pm

June 29
Sensory Saturday Magnet Science - FREE  
12:00pm - 2:00pm

July 4
All Sites Closed

July 5
After Dark Tours - $  
9:00pm - 10:00pm

July 6
Community Day: Big Business on the Water - FREE  
11:00am - 4:00pm

July 11
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

July 12
STEM Storytime - FREE  
5+ Recommended

July 20
Play & Learn: Summer Session - $  
10:00am - 11:00am

July 22 - 26
Summer Camp Enviroworks - $  
9:15am - 11:45am

July 25
Play & Learn: Summer Session - $  
10:00am - 11:00am

July 26
Paleo Joe at the Museum - Fossil Prep Day  
FREE with Admission

August 2
After Dark Tours - $  
9:00pm - 10:00pm

August 3
Community Day Bonus Fund - FREE  
11:00am - 4:00pm

August 8
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

August 9
Knitting and Machines  
8+ Recommended  
FREE with Admission

August 17
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

August 22
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

August 30
Paleo Joe at the Museum - Fossil Prep Day  
FREE with Admission

September 2
All Sites Closed

September 7
Community Day Chamber of Commerce - FREE  
11:00am - 4:00pm

September 12
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

September 21
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

September 26
Play & Learn: Summer Session - FREE  
10:00am - 11:00am

September 28
Paleo Joe at the Museum - Fossil Prep Day  
Paleo Joe Presentation 6:00pm  
FREE with Admission

Walking Tours - $

Walking Tours - $  
June 18 & 21  
Legends & Lore Walking Tour  
10:00am - 11:30am

History Walking Tour  
1:00pm - 2:30pm

July 9, 12, 16, & 19
History Walking Tour  
10:00am - 11:30am

Legends & Lore Walking Tour  
1:00pm - 2:30pm

August 6, 9, 20, & 23
Legends & Lore Walking Tour  
10:00am - 11:30am

History Walking Tour  
1:00pm - 2:30pm

Come let our museums make you smile!
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

Summer Solstice Sunset Cruise
June 20, 8-10 pm
Help raise funds for learning and community initiatives.
Private party cruise features cash bar, live musical entertainment and small bites, catered by The Hearthstone Bistro.
$65 per person
Tickets here >>>

WESTMICHIGANSYMPHONY.ORG

Teen Summer Intensive is for young performers ages 13-21.
Auditions: June 17-18
Rehearsals begin: July 15
Performances:
August 2 7pm
August 3 2pm & 7pm
August 4 2pm
Location: Beardsley Theatre

muskegoncivictheatre.org

Lounge and relax at Hackley Public Library!
hackleylibrary.org

WESTMICHIGANSYMPHONY.ORG

MUSK&KAY OF THIST POPresent
JOHN STEUART CURRY
WEATHERING THESTORM
MAY 23 - SEPTEMBER 2

MUSKEGON MUSEUM OF ART