

SEPTEMBER

VOL. 24

ISSUE 3

2024

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

















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# **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Expressing Our Gratitude

This issue of the newsletter is all about expressing our gratitude. While I reflect on the past year, there is so much for which I am thankful.

We successfully fundraised for a new turret on the Scolnik House of the Depression Era, received a generous donation that allowed us to remake the Fire Barn doors and also replaced the Fire Barn roof.

Howmet Aerospace awarded us a \$30,000 grant that gave us the opportunity to update the STEM Center and launch new programs at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry and the Muskegon Museum of History & Science.



Fire Barn Doors



STEM Center

We continued our partnership with the Greater Muskegon Service League who support our Time Well Served program for mothers who are at the Muskegon County Jail, and their children, with grant funds (\$2,300). The LMC was also a recipient of a Michigan Non-Profit Organization Grant of \$25,000 and a Michigan Arts & Culture Council operations grant of \$22,000.

I am also extremely grateful for a \$50,000 capital improvement grant from the Michigan Arts & Culture Council, coupled with a private donation, that allowed us to get started on the Hackley House roof.

Thanks to securing a State Appropriation, we completed the Hackley roof project in August, and now the Hume House and City Barn roofs are scheduled for next year. Addressing these facility concerns has been crucial, and it's a huge relief to check so many items off our list.

# Being able to create sustainability for this amazing organization is what I am most thankful for!





Depression Era House Turret



Hackley House Roof Replacement

# **COLLECTIONS** & ARCHIVES

## Contributing to the Collection



## 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. We are grateful to our donors for their ongoing contributions to the Muskegon County Archive & Collection.

Between May & August, donors offered the LMC 280 objects. The following objects were accepted into the collection.

## **Photographs:**

 Family photographs of the Helene Boyer (1907-1997) family, circa 1910. Helene's father was Edmund Warren Boyer (1867-1940). He worked at National Lumberman's Bank. The family lived at 1305 S Terrace St.

#### **Archives:**

- Brochure, program, and invitation for the dedication of One Drop in 2021 from the Women's Division Chamber of Commerce
- · Visitor badge from S.D. Warren
- The Who's Who of Muskegon Lumber Era Pioneers Volumes 1-7 by William Hansen
- Letter from Isaiah Davis McKee (1835-1920) to Frank McKee (1877-1952) dated September 9, 1920
- · Letterhead from Damm Hardware Company
- Partial ream of paper manufactured by S.D. Warren, ca. August 1965 (given to employees going off to college)

## **Objects:**

- A child's size rocking chair made by Willard Ashley (1834-1912), circa 1870 (The rocking chair was used by his daughter, Marian, and son, Charles. Willard worked as a wagon maker and cabinet maker. His great granddaughter, Marian Fagan, donated the chair.)
- Quality Farm & Fleet uniform & nametags used by Jeffrey Plymale
- Transit owned by Elden J. Nedeau (1917-2002). Elden worked in real estate for Harvey I Nedeau Inc.
- Hand-painted plate made by Anna M. Root (1863-1898), dated 1896. Anna went by the name "Byrde." She was married to Russell Lee Root (1858-1897). Root Memorial Park, at the intersection of Muskegon and Apple Avenues and First Street, was given to the city by Anne G. Miller in honor of her daughter Byrde.

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# WHAT'S ON VIEW?

What's New This Summer



## Muskegon Museum of History & Science



Earlier this year, we had the opportunity to update the STEM Center at the Muskegon Museum of History & Science thanks to a grant from the Howmet Aerospace Foundation. The grant allowed us to reconfigure the STEM Center gallery to improve congestion issues and develop new activities.

In addition to refreshed and revised interpretive graphics, the Exhibits team designed and developed a one-of-a-kind racetrack exhibit and a magnetic wall for experimenting with simple and complex machines. The grant also allowed us to create a new Maker Space and improve the Stream Table and Sand Table exhibits. Without the support from Howmet, we would not have been able to make all these updates at once.

Over the summer, we have hosted perhaps our most popular traveling exhibition in recent years, *Dinosaur Bones with Paleo Joe*. Traveling exhibitions allow us to present topics to our visitors that are not represented enough in the Museum's Collections and Archives to develop in-house. Sometimes, we add our own content to traveling exhibitions to connect the topic more directly with our specific location and community. Traveling





exhibitions tend to cost more than the temporary exhibitions.







Unlike some museums, the Muskegon Museum of History & Science does not charge an additional admission fee to offset the costs of traveling exhibitions. Instead, we rely on sponsors and donors who help make it possible for us to continue providing these exciting, educational, and often handson exhibitions.

A special thanks goes to The Mart Dock, Evelyn Geile, and Irmgard M. Cooper with IMC Products for supporting Dinosaur Bones with Paleo Joe.

## **HELPING PRESERVE HISTORY**

Welcome to The Muskegon Historic Sites

## Hackley House Shingle Signing Party Success

The Hackley House Shingle Signing Party on July 25 was a resounding success, and we owe it all to you—our incredible donors and supporters! Your enthusiasm and generosity have brought us one step closer to preserving the historic Hackley House and maintaining the rich heritage of Muskegon.

The event, held at the picturesque Hackley & Hume Historic Site, was more than just a fundraiser. It was a celebration of community, history, and the power of collective effort. We were thrilled to see so many of you—over 126 guests—joining us for an evening filled with joy, music, and historic significance.

Thanks to your support, we raised over \$6,000 from the sale of cedar shake shingles. Each shingle, personalized with names, messages, and memorials,

will be a lasting testament to your dedication. These shingles were installed on the Hackley roof in August, where they will remain for over 25 years, symbolizing your role in preserving Muskegon's architectural legacy.







The evening's festivities were enhanced by the delightful melodies of local pianist Kathy Casazza, delicious treats, and engaging historic lawn games. The condensed-themed tour of the Hackley House offered a glimpse into the past, reminding us all of the importance of preserving these historical treasures.

A special highlight of the evening was the announcement by Michigan State Representative Will Snyder. We are thrilled to share that Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed the state budget, which includes a \$2 million Enhancement Grant for the Hackley and Hume Houses. This significant funding will support not only the roof project but also essential work on the porches, ensuring these historic sites remain pristine for future generations. This achievement was made possible through



the collaborative efforts of Representative Snyder, Senator Jon Bumstead,

State Representative Greg VanWoerkom, State Representative Luke Meerman, and Representative Curtis VanderWall, all of whom have shown unwavering support for this project.

The Hackley & Hume Historic Site is more than just a collection of old buildings; it is a living testament to Muskegon's rich history and the pioneering spirit of its most famous lumber barons. Your contributions help maintain the authenticity and charm of these structures, ensuring that future generations can appreciate and learn from them.

As we move forward with the reroofing project, we are reminded of the powerful impact of community support. Your generosity not only aids in preserving our history but also makes you a part of it. Together, we are safeguarding Muskegon's heritage, one cedar shake shingle at a time.

# **MUSEUM PROGRAMMING**

Muskegon Museum of History & Science



## We Could Not Do It Without You

Making the programming department run smoothly is a team effort. Not only do we need great staff to accomplish our goals, but we also rely on our community to make a visit to the museum a great experience.

Without help from community members donating money we would not be able to stock our STEM Center and have supplies for the various challenges and school programs. Without help from our volunteers, we would not be able to provide an interactive experience for those coming into our spaces.

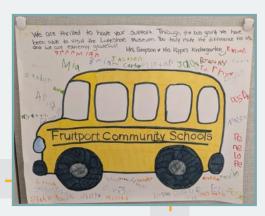
Howmet Aerospace foundation is a transportation partner with a grant that gives schools and organizations the busing money they need to be able to visit our sites. In addition to the Howmet bus grant, the museum has a general bus grant for schools to use. This eliminates a cost barrier that might prevent access to the museum.



Through the generosity of donors, we are able to not only bring learners of all ages to the museum, but also provide them with free materials and programs. You help ensure that learning is truly an equal opportunity for all.

Patrick Horn, Program Manager





Thank you!



\$11,700 spent for bus grants



# YOUR **COMMUNITY**

Passion and Pride



## A Huge Thanks to You!

Thank you! Since you are reading this newsletter you number among our most passionate supporters. We couldn't open our doors, turn on our lights, or share Muskegon County's amazing stories without you. A special thanks goes out to all those that direct your membership dollars toward the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry (MHMB&I) fund within the Lakeshore Museum Center budget. Those earmarked resources highlight your support for sharing the tale of entrepreneurship, innovation and resourcefulness.

Our thanks go out to the voters and taxpayers of Muskegon County who continue to show their support for the Lakeshore Museum Center through an operating millage. Those tax dollars help provide a crucial portion of the budget for the entire museum group. We now offer free admission to MHMB&I for all Muskegon County Residents every Saturday in October.

We would also like to thank the 2024 Community Day sponsors: Hines Corporation, RENK America, Swanson Pickle, and the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce. Their generous contributions have made it possible for us to once again offer free admission on the first Saturday of each month. Our theme for September 7th is the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade. The October 5th date focuses on Agriculture: Then & Now.



Be on the lookout for a piece featuring the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry on *Discover Michigan* on your local PBS station this fall. A crew from the show recently spent the morning exploring the museum. Watch our social media for updates on the air date.

We are open Wednesday through

Saturday from 11am to 4pm and when the Pearl Mist, Le Dumont d'Urville or Le Bellot cruise ships are in port. Come out and explore

the museum before the 2024 Season winds to a close on Thursday, October 31st. Even though our last day is on Halloween, our annual Tiny Tots Trick or Treat program is scheduled for Saturday, October 26th. Drop in for a tour that day and sample some of the candy we're handing out. There's always something new to learn, see, or do at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry. We look forward to seeing you!













# WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS

Because of You!



## Three Cheers for our Volunteers!

We would never survive our summer season without our AMAZING volunteers! At the end of June, our volunteers had already given over 3,000 hours to our organization in 2024. To say that we appreciate our volunteers would be an understatement. They are the life of our organization, celebrating with us in our successes, sharing our story with their friends and community, and bringing new energy to our endeavors.

# While ALL of our volunteers are irreplaceable, we wanted to share with you our 2023 Volunteer Award Recipients:

Vivian Witmer – Winner of the George Hilt Award, Vivian is currently serving her 4th season as a Junior Museum Professional. As a JMP, Vivian is committed to serving our organization in a variety of ways, including contributing her artistic skills to Moxie's Birthday event, helping at Play



Vivian Witmer

and Learn, and participating in outreaches. Our JMP program brings a lot of fun to our summer at the museum!

**Dick Didrickson** – Winner of the Anne & Allan Dake award. Dick volunteers at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry. Dick is a wonderful addition to our MHMB&I volunteers, always enthusiastic and ready to help out. Serving over 200 hours in 2023, we appreciate his dedication to our organization.

## Harry & Jane Thomasma -

Winners of the Margaret Hume Award. Harry and Jane both volunteer at the Hackley and Hume Historic Sites. A dynamic duo, Harry and Jane are longtime volunteers and members of the museum. We are so grateful to have Harry and Jane on our Historic Sites team!



Harry and Jane Thomasma

**Roger Knopf** – Winner of the Dorothy Hammer Award. The Dorothy Hammer Award embodies the spirit of being an LMC volunteer, always willing to go above and beyond for our organization. Roger volunteers in the STEM Center, building in the Maker space, racing cars, and helping with Moxie Creator Club challenges.

# The Paleontology Party of the Year: Oct 5, 2024

This fall, we invite you to join us for the paleontology party of the year - *Lumber Barons Ball: Jurassic Museum*! On October 5, 2024, the Muskegon Museum of History and Science will be transformed to a Land Before Time – the Mesozoic Era! With delicious dishes from Savory and Spice Catering, a Bedrock Bar, and an Asteroid Attack Nightclub, this is one party you won't want to miss.

Get your tickets by scanning the QR code.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or silent auction donor, email

marci@lakeshoremuseum.org.

If you are interested in volunteering at any of the Lakeshore Museum Center sites, apply online or email marci@lakeshoremuseum.org.

Thank you, volunteers!!



Marci Dalm, Volunteer & Event Coordinator

Because of Your Support



## **Humbled & Thankful**



I know I sound like a broken record sometimes, but I don't get tired of saying that we could not do the work we do without your support, and I am always humbled and thankful for you. Below is a list of our members as of July 29th, 2024.

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All our members get to enjoy 10% off all purchases in our gift stores; we are always adding new merchandise, so be sure to check it out on your next visit to our museums.

I love all the messages you send me telling me stories of the places you visited for free using your LMC membership card, keep them coming!

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.

Graciela Alberino-Stidham, Guest Relations Manager

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 donors from July 21, 2023 - July 20, 2024.

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Thank you for all of your support this past year. Whether you are a volunteer, member, donor, or visitor, by supporting our mission you are helping ensure the **Future of History in Muskegon County.** Thank you!

Melissa Horton, Executive Director



# **PLAN YOUR VISIT**

## Calendar/Upcoming Events



## **Fall Events**

September 2

All Sites Closed

September 6

Clue: LIVE! 6:00pm & 7:30pm

September 6

After Dark Tour 9:00pm

September 7

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

September 7

Clue: LIVE! 6:00pm & 7:30pm

September 12

Play & Learn:

Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am

September 13-15

Lakeshore Museum Center hosting Wee Ones at MI Irish Music Festival

September 13

All Access Tour 7:00pm

September 17

MMH&S @ Holton Library talking on Women's Suffrage 6:00pm

September 19

Homeschool Day: The Great Depression 10:00am

September 20

MMH&S @ Montague Library talking on Women's Suffrage 6:00pm

September 20

Hackley Attic Escape Room 5:00pm

September 21

Play & Learn: Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry

KEY:

September 21

Hackley Attic Escape Room 5:00pm

September 26

Play & Learn: Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am

September 27

Hackley & Hume Classic Card Game Night 5:00pm

September 28

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

September 28

Paleo Joe Presents Dinosaur CSI 6:00pm FREE with Admission

September 28

Hackley & Hume Classic Card Game Night 5:00pm

**Weekends in October** 

FREE Tours for Muskegon County Residents

**Saturdays in October** 

FREE Admission for Muskegon County Residents

October 4

After Dark Tour 9:00pm

October 5

MMH&S Closed

October 5

FREE Community Day Agriculture Then & Now 11:00am-4:00pm

October 5

Lumber Barons Ball presents Jurassic Museum 6:30pm-10:00pm October 10

Play & Learn: Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am

Muskegon Museum of History & Science Hackley & Hume Historic Site

October 12

Flashlight Tour 8:00pm & 9:30pm

October 15

Homeschool Day: Dinosaurs 10:00am

October 16

Uncovering the Clapp Family Mastodon Presentation 6:00pm

October 17

Blood Drive 12:00pm-7:00pm

October 18

FFFN: Smashing Pumpkins 5:30pm-7:30pm

October 18

Obituary Tour 6:30pm & 8:30pm

October 19

Obituary Tour 6:30pm & 8:30pm

October 19

Play & Learn: Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am

October 24

Play & Learn: Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am

October 25

Hackley Attic Escape Room 5:00pm

October 26

Tiny Tots Trick or Treat 11:00am-4:00pm

October 26

Hackley Attic Escape Room 5:00pm

October 31

Last day of regular touring season, Hackley & Hume Historic Sites and Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry

November 2

MMH&S Closed

**November 14** 

Play & Learn: Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am

November 15

FFFN: Dinosaurs 5:30pm-7:30pm

**November 16** 

Play & Learn: Fall Session - FREE 10:00am - 11:00am

**November 19** 

Homeschool Day: Immigration 10:00am

November 28

All Sites Closed

November 30

Holiday Tours Kick-Off Event 3:00pm & 7:00pm

December 7

Holiday Tours 3:00pm & 7:00pm

Visit our website calendar at www.lakeshoremuseum.org for more details.



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

















