Did your membership just lapse?

The U.S. Mail recently brought all members a renewal statement/contact information update sheet. Now is the time to renew as a member to enjoy a full season of programs, events, and fun. Return the renewal statement with your payment by mail (or download and print this membership form) or click here to renew online and pay by PayPal or credit card. Please renew today!

Join Us At The Members' Season Opening Party!
Saturday, May 26, 5:30pm
Old School House

The season opening reception and annual kickoff to the summer season will take place on the beautiful grounds of the Old School House this year. Come stroll the resplendent gardens awash with spring color, tour the exhibits in the Old School House and see the new research center, and catch up with longtime and new friends. See you there!

B&C Directory

In this edition, enjoy

- New Archive Equipment Arrives, pg. 2
- Spring Program Lineup, 2
- The Value of Volunteering, 3
- Dine Around: June 24, 14
- Join us at the History Harvest, 3
- Garden Happenings/Root Camp, 6
- Wanted: Museum Hosts!, 7
- Notes from the Gallery, 8
- Board Bio: Bill Underdown, 8
- A Lakeshore Diary (1921), 9
- Singapore from the Archives, 10
- Swan Song, 12
- ASK JACK, 13

Thoughts from the Director

By Nathan Nietering, Executive Director

Columns continue, next page
Make your reservation today for a fabulous Trilogy, "Pearls on Park," featuring the Saugatuck homes of Renee Zita, Steve Debbink and Greg Plowe, Guy Ballard and Richard Heriford. Click here for more details and to make your reservation online today!

Special Delivery: Archive & Research Center takes shape

Last month's newsletter featured two photos of equipment being moved off of a large United Van Lines tractor trailer at the Old School House. This was the delivery of the shelving and furnishings for our new Archive and Research Center at the Old School House. These photos chronicle the progress. Click all photos for full-size.

My friends, it seems strange to say, but 2017 is history. Your favorite songs, memories, everything you enjoyed about last year has moved into "the past." Food for thought: in our modern, digital age, what will we wish we had from 2017 fifty years from now? Twenty years? Even five years? How can we proactively do a service to future historians?

Mark Your Calendar!

Our Monthly Meeting presentations are open for free to members and the public and begin at 7:00pm at the Old School House at 130 Center Street in Douglas, unless otherwise indicated below.

June 13, Field Trip to the Saugatuck Woman's Club for a special joint program where local art conservator Kari Miller Fenwood will share techniques for art conservation and discuss recent work undertaken on the Woman's Club art collection.

Sponsored by Michael & Elinor White, Marianne & Michael Giersch, and Dawn Stafford's Peachbelt Studio

July 11, Field trip to Fenn Valley Winery to learn more about the history of wine-making in our region.

Thank You to those folks listed above who have sponsored one of our programs! Multiple sponsors are welcome and encouraged and all will receive billing in future announcements. If you would like to sponsor one of our 2018 programs, please REPLY to this email and we will be in touch. Sponsorships are $150 and help support our high caliber of presentations and field trip activities!

The remainder of the Monthly Meeting and Tuesday Talk programming calendar will be announced in the June newsletter!

From the President

By Board President Steve Hutchins

Columns continue, next page
Installation specialists from The Casper Corporation assemble the new shelving.

After a day and a half of work, all of the new shelving and cabinets are assembled and installed. The wooden cases in the foreground will hold our research book library.

Archival boxes organized in their new home.

We are now in the important stage of getting organized in this new home. If you have research inquiries, we apologize that it may take longer than usual to help you with your research. When this

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in." -Anon

The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center is preparing for another season of outstanding exhibits and programs. We exemplify what a volunteer run-organization can achieve. Fortunately, our community is populated with talented and giving people who allow a small-town museum and a history repository to have state-wide renown.

If you are a volunteer we hope you will continue your participation and if you haven't had the enjoyable experience of being a SDHC volunteer, please consider it. We have opportunities in any number of areas such as: museum docents, exhibit design and construction, gardening, bookkeeping, archiving, facilities maintenance, fundraising, history collection, membership outreach, publications, and more!

If you would like help please contact any SDHC board member, committee member, or the Executive Director.

Oral History workshop attendees.

Columns continue, next page
project is complete, we will have a dedicated research table, better access and storage for our entire collection of materials, and room to grow.

Along with the new space comes room to grow as a resource. We fielded over 75 research requests last year and anticipate that number to increase with our new facility. As part of this project, SDHC is hiring a collections specialist for up to a year to help undertake special archival projects, increase accessibility to our collection both in-person and online, and grow and train new volunteers. Look for more in our next newsletter!

Welcome New Members!
We would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center since the last newsletter!

- Josh Albrecht and Family, Douglas, MI
- Michael Mok and Paul Murphy, Douglas and Grosse Pointe Shores, MI
- Andrew Zolper, Douglas, MI

New Lifetime Members!
With gratitude, we welcome these members to our Lifetime membership circle, acknowledging their lasting commitment to the support of SDHC.

- Arthur Ashley and Darin Reiling, Douglas
- Carl Jennings and Lawrence Gammons, Douglas

Senator Patty Birkholz, 74

Just before our publication deadline, we learned of the passing of former state senator Patty Birkholz. Patty was a a public servant, vocal environmental advocate, and longtime member of the History

Stories of Summer launches in early June with a History Harvest day and the recording of new oral histories focused around the decades of the 1950s-60-70s in Saugatuck-Douglas. We were so pleased to have 21 volunteers participate in an oral history training workshop in early May so we will be ready to collect these stories. Here are the upcoming program details:

Week of May 29 - Oral history interviewers are invited to the Old School House to test out the recording equipment. Specific times will be announced! Details to follow.

June 2 - Community History Harvest at the Old School House from 9AM to 4PM. Members of the community are invited to bring their pieces of history, such as a scrapbooks, photo albums, slides, posters, ephemera, and more to the Old School House to be scanned or digitally photographed "while you wait." Original materials will be returned to owners on the same day. This isn't just an invite to History Center members -- we hope to see people who we've never connected with before who have pieces of local history to share. Tell your neighbors and friends, and stop by to see what we've collected!

Oral Histories will also be collected on June 2 - advance appointments are needed to do an oral history. (contact information below)

June 4, 5, 6 - Oral History collection days from 9AM-12NOON at the Old School House. Advance appointment needed to schedule an oral history. To make your appointment, contact Nathan at info@sdhistoricalsociety.org or call 269-857-5751.

To learn more about the project and print out a flier about the History Harvest events, click here.

Marion Pfaff Britz, 96

Marion Pfaff Britz, 96, granddaughter of Saugatuck Pavilion dance master R. G. Huntinghouse (1861-1954), and great-granddaughter of Saugatuck builder Frederick Pfaff (1838-1904), passed away in Florida on March 4th, 2018. Marion's son Steve Britz has the following memory of his great-grandfather Huntinghouse:
The 7th Annual Saugatuck-Douglas Area Armed Forces Day luncheon will be held Saturday, May 19th at 11 a.m. at the Community Church of Douglas on Wiley Road. This event grew out of a History Center Veterans program held eight years ago by the late Judy Mauger. The "Boogie Woogie Babies" will be featured presenting an assortment of WWII vintage songs. The "Babies" (Mary Rademacher, Barbara Wisse, Carol Black, with Paul Lesinski on piano) have been a West Michigan favorite since their formation in 1993.

Organizational sponsors for the luncheon include the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center, The Rotary Club, Cow Hill Yacht Club, American Legion Post 137, the VFW and Saugatuck Boy Scout Troop 29 which will again provide the color guard. The luncheon will be pulled pork bar-b-que with sides supplied by Blue Star Meats. All funds raised in excess of costs are donated to the West Michigan Veteran Assistance Program which helps vets in Allegan and five other west Michigan counties.

Tickets are available in Douglas at Vicki's Family Diner, in Saugatuck at the Chemical Bank, and "will call" tickets can be reserved or questions answered by calling Chris Yoder at 616-212-3443. As in the past, all veterans eat free (but must get a ticket), other adults $12, and students $6.

"I was 5 when my great-grandfather died. I was staying with my grandmother in Chicago. My grandfather was traveling on business, so she drove with me overnight to Saugatuck when she heard her father was sick. I remember going in the ambulance with him to the hospital in Douglas and sitting by his bedside and then being really surprised when he died. He and I had been picking raspberries behind his house only a few weeks earlier in the summer."

We've received an update from the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, where nearly 10,000 pages of Commercial Record newspaper microfilm from 1959-1969 are currently being digitized. According to Megan Farrell, Reformatting and Imaging Manager at the Clarke, the scanning of our
microfilms is scheduled to conclude next month. It might take some time to put them online but the end product will be a word-searchable catalog of high-resolution scans for the entire 11-year segment. The original microfilms will then be returned to the Saugatuck-Douglas District Library for their continued preservation. We will share another update when we have more information!

_________________

"Tho' an old man, I am but a young gardener." ~ Thomas Jefferson

There is something about this time of year that makes you feel young again! It is so beautiful! Finally, our spring flowers are venturing out! Please take some time to walk through our Daffodil Trail behind the Old School House and enjoy the miracle of spring! Thanks to John, Steve, Mike and Lee our gardens are getting their annual cleaning and will look fresh and beautiful for our upcoming season.

**Root Camp** is filling up fast! Our morning session is almost full and our afternoon session is quickly following. Please sign the "kids in your life" up for a week of fun. Lighthouses, shipwrecks, science experiments, amphibians, and basket weaving will keep them occupied and teach them a thing or two about our amazing history. Thanks to the talent of Joy Meullenbeck, we have a unique and hand-made gift to give our campers this year. If you want to help sponsor a Root Camp program, please call Nathan at the OSH and sign up. Thank you for all your support, we truly appreciate it.

-Garden Club volunteers prep a flower bed at the Old School House (Vic Bella photo)

- The Landscape and **Root Camp** Committees
**Love History? Volunteer as a Museum Host this summer!**

The History Center is in need of museum hosts for the coming summer season!

The *Cold War | Hot Towns* exhibit focuses on the fear and fun in Saugatuck during the Cold War Years. Live music, hot bars, boating and swimming and car culture are set against mob scenes, police protection and motorcycle gangs all under the ever-turning gaze of Mt. Baldhead's radar tower, scanning the skies for possible Soviet attack. In 2017, over 7,000 visitors came to the Museum from at least 27 states and 4 foreign countries.

Interested in the exhibit? Looking for a way to connect with our local history while having the opportunity to meet people from all over the world? Volunteer to be a Museum Host!

Here's a "job description" for a Volunteer Host at the Museum:

**When Are Volunteer Hosts Needed?:** The Museum is open - Noon to 4 p.m. - daily: Saturday, May 26 to Labor Day and then Saturdays and Sundays in September and October. Hosts are scheduled for 2 hours "shifts," either Noon-2pm (Opening Shift) or 2-4pm (Closing Shift).

**What You Do As a Host:** Hosts open (or close) the Museum by following an easy "Hosts' Checklist." During the time you at hosting, you will greet visitors, introduce them to the exhibit, answer their questions and process the sales of Gift Shop merchandise.

Simplified training materials have been developed for your use.

**Training:** If you have not previously hosted at the Museum or need a little refresher, you will be given a one-on-one training and can "shadow" an experienced host.

**Scheduling When You Volunteer:** Some hosts take a specific day and time each week for the entire season or you can choose to be "on call." Both are immensely valuable to keeping our facility open through the busy summer season.

Each week an email listing the hosting openings for the upcoming days is sent to volunteers. You choose which day and time you would like to host! It's easy and fun.

If you are interested in becoming a Museum Host, or want to learn more, please contact Bill Hess at wwh71@comcast.net or call Bill at 312-316-9567.
Notes from the Gallery
By Ken Kutzel, Collections Committee Chair

In 2010, the Saugatuck Douglas History Center, in conjunction with the Saugatuck Center for the Arts, created an exhibit titled: A Passion For Painting. The show featured art created in the Saugatuck-Douglas area and was put together to celebrate Ox-Bow's 100th birthday. Paintings filled the main gallery, but the entry hall was adorned with various prints relating to our area. Two of the works, borrowed for that landmark exhibit, have now become part of our permanent collection.

Carl Hoerman is a well-known name in the Saugatuck-Douglas area, as well in Taos, New Mexico, the two home bases for Carl and his wife, Christiana Ackerman Hoerman, who was also an artist. Best known for his paintings of dunes and deserts, Carl Hoerman was also a competent printmaker.

Sammy Jane Birdsall of Holland, who died recently, wanted to make sure that the two etchings that were borrowed for A Passion for Painting became part of the History Center's Art Collection. She left the two works to us. Though not a formal member, Sammy was always interested in what we were doing, especially regarding our projects with art.

The first, Derelicts of the Dunes, depicts trees no longer surviving the harsh sand environment. The second, Along the Kalamazoo records the "old bridge" and causeway that linked Douglas and Saugatuck before 1936, when the current bridge replaced it.

It is the generosity of our community that has helped to develop both our Art Collection and our Archives. Thank you!

Welcome a-Board, Bill!

Douglas resident Bill Underdown recently joined the History Center board of directors, filling the seat vacated last year by longtime board member Judi Vanderbeck, who moved to the east side of the state. We thought we'd ask Bill a few questions so our members may get to know him a little better.

How long have you been involved with the History Center as a member and what skills do bring to the board?

When I first bought our cottage 14 years ago one of the first events we attended was the History Center's Tour of Ox-Bow. I became familiar with two great local groups from our tour docent, Jim Schmiechen. I became a History Center member and soon decided to become a Lifetime Member. I've enjoyed supporting the internship program and mentoring. I also am a member of the
Douglas DDA and hope to better connect the History Center with community activities and partnerships.

**What interests you most about Saugatuck-Douglas History?**

Local architecture and the art. The history of the agricultural roots combined with the beautiful shoreline that continues to evolve in and inspire locals and visitors.

**What is your background?**

I'm originally from the Detroit Area and lived for a time in Historic Indian Village where we provided historic home tours annually while I worked for Marriott International as a Global Sale Director for the automotive segment. We decided that we wanted to live near Saugatuck, sold the cottage, bought a year-round home and I switched careers to Realtor with David (Geen) creating Hungry Village Tours in addition to Villas and Vines Global Tours.

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**A Lakeshore Diary  -  Part 1**

*By Rev. Laurie TenHave-Chapman*

We had to cancel our worship service on Sunday, April 15-due to freezing snow and ice! What strange times these are, right? Well, maybe not!

According to my great-grandfather Edgar Tharp's Farmhouse Account Log Book, he experienced similar meteorological anomalies in 1921. He and his family spent summers in a farmhouse on Lakeshore Drive in Fennville. Here's a look into his spring planting season of that year (honoring his spelling and punctuation):

- *I arrived at the farm Mar. 19. Weather fine.*
- *Apr. 9  Planted Early Ohio Potatoes*
- *Apr. 15  Turned very cold at night with sleat and snow*
- *Apr. 16  Saturday morning trees completely covered with ice.***
- *Apr. 16  Saturday night froze ice 1 in thick*
- *Apr. 17  Sunday Morning very cold 2 ½ in of snow*
- *Apr. 17  Sun came out at 2PM and began to thaw*

The more things change, the more things stay the same! Or, as the wise preacher in Ecclesiastes wrote, "Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before..."

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*The Tharp Boys at "Kenwood", grandfather John Gilbert Tharp second from left  
2436 Lakeshore Dr., Fennville- Tharp-Tozer Homestead (click for full-size)  

---- story to be continued, See PART TWO in the June 2018 newsletter*
From the Archives

*By Mary Voss, archivist*

Singapore has been in the news again lately, and questions relating to the lost lumbering town are among the most common we receive from the curious public. We wanted to share some relevant information.

In 1999 Betty Watson Mulder donated a number of items that were discovered in the home she shared with Warren at 333 Lucy Street, Saugatuck. The home was originally built in Singapore in 1860, and six years later was transported to its present location via the frozen river. The house originally belonged to Charles Samuel and Mila Dunning, who came to the area from Lake Pleasant, New York. Some of the household items may have come with them during their move. The nails in the photograph are also from that house, which was eventually sold to Betty's mother, Anna E. Jenkins, in 1920. The abstract begins in 1836 with the owner William Butler.

A number of buildings were actually moved from Singapore before the village faded away. Some moved over frozen water to Saugatuck. Portions of at least two buildings were deconstructed and later reassembled in East Saugatuck, toward Holland.
Only one commercial building is known to have been moved, the home of the infamous Singapore Bank. It still exists today as the home of Saugatuck Gallery on Butler Street. Some pieces of brick from this building were also donated to the History Center collection (photo below).

Artifacts from Singapore continue to make the news. As part of the ongoing proposal to develop a portion of the Singapore site with houses and a marina, the Army Corps of Engineers required developers NorthShore of Saugatuck to conduct an archeological survey of the proposed marina area. This was conducted by researchers from the Ball State University applied anthropology laboratories. Their research staff utilized ground penetrating radar and conducted several shovel tests. They also visited the Old School House to examine our own Singapore-related research materials. The final report is comprehensive in nature and discusses the method and the results in great detail. The History Center would like to thank NorthShore of Saugatuck for giving us a copy of this report to add to our permanent collection. You can view the Archeological Survey Final Report here.
Swan Song

By Chris Yoder

Recent news reports have dealt with the Michigan DNR proposal to the Saugatuck Township Board for "removal" of 50 plus mute swans from Tyler Bayou upstream from the Interstate bridge. Local residents have opposed this move as a "swan slaughter".

The first mention of a local swan we could find in the Commercial Record appeared in the Nov. 12, 1880 issue, where it was reported:

"Fred Minier shot a white swan in the marsh above the village last Thursday that measured 6ft. 8in. from tip to tip of the wings and 4ft. from bill to feet. We think this is the first one that has ever been killed in this vicinity, and is a very large one."

From the size of this bird, it could have been either a trumpeter or a mute swan, but in either event, the article seems to indicate that swans were not common visitors at that time.

Fred Minier was a marine engineer born in Ohio in 1856. He died of pneumonia in 1915 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery. His wife Eva died tragically the next year leaving an eight year old daughter.

A DNR pamphlet claims that the mute swan was brought to America in the mid 1800s, and arrived in Michigan in 1919. Wikipedia reports:

The trumpeter was nearly extinct south of Canada by the early 20th century, with less than 100 thought to be south of Canada. Joe Johnson, a biologist for the W.K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, obtained trumpeter swans from Alaska for re-introduction to Michigan beginning in 1986. The population has grown via continued re-introductions and organic growth to 756 birds by 2015. The native swans have benefited from removal of non-native mute swans by the beginning in the 1960s, with a decline from 15,000 mute swans in 2010 to 8,700 in 2015.

The Michigan DNR's goal is to reduce the state mute swan population to 2,000 by 2030.

An on-line listing of the "top 100 ebirders in Allegan County" show that five of these have recorded seeing a trumpeter in the county in either March and April of 2018 (could be the same bird?). Reports are that hunting of swans is allowed (type restrictions not known) in Utah, Nevada, Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota, Virginia or North Carolina during season, and that younger birds are tastier than old ones (which "taste like fishy mutton"). Swan hunting is not allowed in Michigan (unless you are the DNR).

_____________

By Jack Sheridan

Greetings from myself and Chris Yoder, leaders of the History Center Family History Group. Please come to a Family History meeting to see what we are all about and join the group discussion. We share "lessons learned" and a whole lot more about the many tools available for family history research. The SDHC
Family History Group can answer your questions and help you get started!

Note the Family History Group's upcoming meeting schedule below:
**Thursday, May 3**
**Thursday, May 17**
**Thursday, June 7**
**Thursday, June 21**

These meetings are in the Old School House (use the back door) and begin at 3:30pm. Note that your family history does not have to have any connection to the Saugatuck-Douglas area! If you can't attend a meeting, we can still provide by email or phone assistance. The only requirement to participate in Family History is a current membership in the SDHC.

Family History questions/comments/advice/needs - contact:
Jack Sheridan: 269 857-7144, jack.sheridan@gmail.com
Chris Yoder: 269 857-4327, cyoder@tds.net

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**By Jack Sheridan**

This month's question comes from Andy Zolper of Douglas. Andy is my cousin, and shares the Sheridan family interest in local history. He has a great and growing collection of high quality postcards and other Saugatuck memorabilia. Andy has created a Facebook feature entitled *You know you're from Saugatuck when...*. The idea being to get friends to post neat historical observations, memories, photos etc.

He recently posted an image of a historical matchbook promoting the Saugatuck Cafe. The back cover featured a picture of a scantily clad blond bombshell. Of course Andy's inquiring mind was challenged by the artifact.

Andy's post included a request: "I could use some help in understanding what this place was all about."

Turns out the online friends did not come up with much help. A history mystery so it seems, the restaurant and the leggy blonde - hmmm? Attracted by the restaurant portion of the mystery, yours truly applied some research effort attempting to live up to ASK JACK braggadocio.

My result: Close but no cigar! Here is what I have found so far before running into the deadline demands of editor Nathan.

The Saugatuck Cafe was located at 142 Butler St downtown, directly across the street from the Sand Bar, in the Sorenson building. The restaurant was advertised as a family restaurant in the Commercial Record from 1947 to 1952. There were also a few brief news articles indicated ownership as follows: Mike Schweig and Gerry Fischer 1946 and prior, Ben Plummer 1947 - 49, Mr and Mrs Borre 1950 - 1952

I know that 142 Butler was the domicile of the Green Parrot Cafe in the 1930s starting in the Flint building in 1931. The Green Parrot was a family restaurant. I do not know when the Green Parrot went of business. It is likely that the Green Parrot became the Saugatuck Cafe, at least in clientele. I do not know the history of the restaurant - maybe one of our readers can provide clues. How about it folks?
The blond bombshell and grandma with the chicken remain a cultural history mystery!

Click the image below to see the match book, a photo of the Green Parrot, ca 1935, and the building today occupied by the Art Glass Alcove.

**ASK JACk**

**Matchbook - date unknown**  **Green Parrot Cafe ca 1935**  **inset - today**

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**Dine Around 2018**

**A Delicious Series of Dinners and Parties**

All proceeds support the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center

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**Reserve your space today for Pearls on Park**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2018**

4-7 P.M.

**Click Here to Reserve Your Tickets Today**

2018's first Dine Around features a trio of spectacular residences running the gamut from "old school" cottages to a mid-century modern home to a coastal farmhouse, all along scenic Park Street in Saugatuck.

Greg Plowe and Steve Debbink purchased their first cabin in 1995, at 336 Park Street, affectionately naming it "Acorn Landing" because of the sounds the acorns make on the metal roof when they fall from
the surrounding oak trees in the fall. It started as a one-room sleeping cottage; a kitchen and bath were added later on. In 2006 they did a complete remodel/expansion, all the while maintaining its old-fashioned cabin feel. They then built a smaller cabin behind the "Landing" to accommodate guests. They labelled this one the "Artist's Cottage" should a visitor(s) feel the desire to paint while staying there. They incorporated reclaimed, salvaged materials into this building. In 2001 they bought an adjacent cabin "Treetops" which is hidden up in the trees behind the other two. 2009 saw the completion of the entire project through the creation of a back garden/deck area that connects all three.

Built in 2006 by Lakehome Builders, Guy Ballard and Richard Heriford's mid-century-inspired glass house at 30 Park Street has a pond in front that makes you feel as if you are floating on water. Glass walls are accented by high ceilings and warm woods creating inviting spaces in every room. A chef's kitchen is the central gathering area and makes it the perfect spot to enjoy the owners' art collection and their love of music. The ambiance of the pool and terrace create a resort-like atmosphere. The residence and grounds are simple, clean and timeless.

Nestled at the very end of Park Street at number 985 is a newly constructed, modern coastal farmhouse built for Renee Renaldi Zita by Mike Schapp Builders. Renee's family has summered in Saugatuck since 1930, therefore it was an easy decision when she saw this last remaining lot go up for sale just six doors down from the original family cottage which is still occupied by her aunt and uncle. The home features thoughtful design and meticulous attention to detail in every room, including a chef's kitchen, sunroom and master bedroom suite on the first floor with expansive views of the Kalamazoo River.

As always, these homes can be toured in any order you wish and your hosts provide delicious libations and appetizers at each stop. New for this year, tickets can be purchased directly online via the History Center's website at this link: [http://sdhistoricalsociety.org/current/dinearound/reservations.php](http://sdhistoricalsociety.org/current/dinearound/reservations.php) with a major credit card - it couldn't be easier! Reserve your space today!

$100 per person

All proceeds support Saugatuck-Douglas History Center programs and activities

**ABOUT THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORY CENTER**

The Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society was founded in 1986 by a group of charter members interested in preserving and sharing the unique history of Saugatuck, Douglas and the surrounding area. In 2016, the Society was renamed the **Saugatuck-Douglas History Center** to celebrate its growth and to recognize the development of the History Museum and Old School House sites. We are a vibrant organization with nearly 700 members residing in nearby communities, around Lake Michigan, and across the country.

Members are the lifeblood our largely volunteer organization. To join as a member, select from the following categories:

| Individual | $50 |
Household $70  
Premium $300  
Corporate $500  
Lifetime $1,000  
Senior (65+) $30  
Senior Household $45

**It's membership renewal month!** Send check payable to the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center to: PO Box 617, Douglas, Michigan 49406. Click [HERE](#) for a printable Membership Application.

Send items for the newsletter to: Nathan Nietering, PO Box 617, Douglas, MI 49406 or email [info@sdhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@sdhistoricalsociety.org)

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**SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORY CENTER FACILITIES**

The Saugatuck-Douglas History Museum is located at 735 Park Street in Saugatuck, in the historic Saugatuck Pump House building. The History Museum will reopen for the summer on May 26, 2018. View the [virtual Cold War | Hot Towns exhibit](#) on the SDHC mobile app!

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the Museum and recent past exhibits.

The Old School House and Francis Surfboat Exhibit is located at 130 Center Street in Douglas. For group tours of the School House, please contact Nathan Nietering at 269-857-5751 or by email at director@sdhistoricalsociety.org. The Old School House exhibits are open by appointment throughout the spring. The adjoining Back-in-Time Garden and Surfboat Exhibit are open as daily weather allows. Admission is free but donations gratefully accepted.

The History Center's Technology Center is located in the lower level of the Old School House History Center at 130 Center Street in downtown Douglas. Open by appointment.

The History Center Archives office is moving! In our period of transition, we ask everyone to make a research appointment in advance while we relocate our collections to new storage. To reach the archives, call 269-857-7901 or e-mail the archives directly: archives@sdhistoricalsociety.org

History Center main phone: 269-857-5751  
Museum phone: 269-857-7900  
Tech Center/Archives direct phone: 269-857-7901  

Follow us and learn more history on Social Media! Click the logos below.