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**SAUGATUCK WOMAN'S CLUB HISTORY AND ART COLLECTION
FEATURED IN S-D HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S MAY 11 PROGRAM**

APRIL 29, 2016 -- The origin and growth of Saugatuck Woman's Club and its little-known art collection will highlight Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society's next monthly program on Wednesday, May 11. The program begins at 7 p.m. in the SWC hall, located off the northeast corner of Hoffmann and Butler Streets in Saugatuck, behind *The Owl House* shop at 303 Butler. Admission is free and the public is invited.

SWC members Peg Sanford and Donna St. Andre will explain the 1904 genesis of SWC, a nonprofit social and community service organization open to all women. It was community's first woman's organization, was instrumental in the development of the Saugatuck-Douglas Library as well as the community's first museum, and for a while housed Saugatuck's first Post Office. The presenters also will overview other activities that kept SWC vital and relevant to the community through the rest of the 20th century and into recent years.

Ken Kutzel, S-DHS volunteer art collection manager and "honorary SWC member", will review SWC's art collection, which comprises works by at least 25 artists, some not usually on display. Kutzel, former Social Studies Dept. Head for the East Detroit Public Schools, earlier studied Art History at Oakland University and Wayne State University.

After the presentations, guests will have time to tour the SWC and its "back room" for a closer look at the Club's artworks and artifacts, and to tour the adjoining Breuckman House, built in the 1860s. Owned by SWC, the house is rented to *The Owl House* shop, with rental proceeds benefitting the Club's expenses and activities. The meeting will conclude with refreshments provided by the women of SWC.

For more information about the Historical Society, its Museum and its Old School House History Center, visit www.sdhistoricalsociety.org.



Among the SWC's artworks to be discussed at the May 11 SDHS program is this W.C. Greason painting of the Saugatuck-Douglas Swing Bridge, done in the early 1930s.