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**NEW NEW ART EXHIBITIONS INTRODUCED
AT NOV. 9 HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM**

OCT 28, 2016 -- Two new art exhibitions will be introduced at Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society's next monthly program on Wednesday, November 9, starting at 7 p.m. in the Old School House History Center, 130 Center Street, Douglas. Also discussed will be two recently rediscovered Carl Hoerman murals. Admission is free and public attendance is invited.

According to presenter Ken Kutzel, SDHS volunteer art collection manager, "these exhibits were assembled to highlight the phenomenal local-image presence within our expansive art collection. This combination of photos and art works presents a unique look at the past and how the artists perceived and captured the charm of the area."

The Wednesday program highlights the concept of multi-faceted art exhibits, which Kutzel notes "few small museums have the resources to create, but our collections encourage. This capability also helps demonstrate the potential that the Old School House History Center holds for the community", he adds. The evening will conclude with a visit to the Center's East Gallery, for an opportunity to enjoy the works "up close".

One exhibit presents a group of drawings by well-known Muskegon artist Wilfred "Wally" Berg (1908-2002), best remembered for his WPA murals and for easel painting. Done in the early 1950s, these drawings depict various identified Saugatuck-Douglas scenes. The Society has had 14 examples of Berg's work in its collection for about 15 years, and this exhibit marks the first time they have been shown as an entire collection.

The second exhibit offers the Society's first "site-specific" presentation, as all of its art works relate to Saugatuck's Chain Ferry and the "landings" at either side -- including the Ferry Shack on the east bank of the Kalamazoo River and the Ferry Store on the west bank. It combines 14 works by various artists, most owned by SDHS, with some borrowed from private collections and from the Saugatuck Woman's Club.

Kutzel, former Social Studies Dept. Head for the East Detroit Public Schools, earlier studied Art History at Oakland University and Wayne State University, and guides the Society's art restoration activities. As curator of the new exhibition, he usually is available Mondays from 1 through 4 p.m. to provide a guided tour.

SDHS owns some 90 artworks including drawings, paintings, posters and prints, made possible by generous gifts of individual pieces from Society members and friends, and maintained with the help of contributions supporting the proper care and necessary restoration for this one-of-a-kind collection. The Society's longer-term goal envisions building one of the great collections of the Midwest.

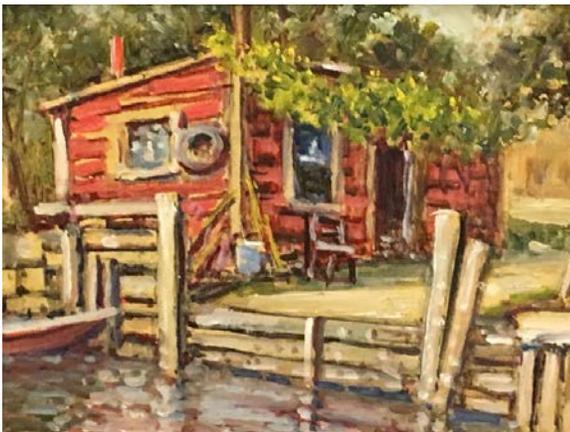
The Historical Society's free monthly programs present entertaining and informative insights into local history and community life. This month's program is sponsored by SDHS Board Member Renee Zita.

For more information about the Historical Society, its Museum and its Old School House History Center, visit www.sdhistoricalsociety.org. Questions or comments about the Society's art collection may be e-mailed to art@sdhistoricalsociety.org

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Representing the Wally Berg drawing collection is this image of the Big Pavilion in Saugatuck, drawn from the west bank of the Kalamazoo River.



The Ferry Landing, by Rolla Taylor (1872-1970) capturing the Ferry shack as it looked in the 1920s. Rolla Taylor is well-known in Texas. This work was done in Saugatuck, when Taylor came to Ox-Bow School of Art to study with Fredrick Fursman.



Done by Francis Chapin (1899-1965), a painting teacher at Ox-Bow School of Art and known as the "Dean of Chicago Painters", this modernist watercolor is a very rare look into the interior of the Ferry Store, where the artists hung-out and purchased their supplies.