

# SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORY CENTER

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## LOCAL ARTISTS OF PAST AND PRESENT COMPARED AT JULY 23 "TUESDAY TALK"

JULY 12, 2019 -- A comparison of works by current area artists paired with works by past area artists will be explored at Saugatuck-Douglas History Center's "Tuesday Talk" on July 23, in the Old School House, 130 Center Street, Douglas. The one-hour program begins when the school bell rings at 11 a.m. Public attendance is invited and audience participation is welcomed to enrich the discussion.

Maryjo Lemanski, artist and former owner of Water Street Gallery in Douglas, will present "Local Art: Then and Now", reviewing paintings carefully selected with specific attention to color, composition and brush work, noting characteristics of the times in which the works were done.

"The phrase 'now and then' has a couple of different meanings," Lemanski explains. "As a common expression it refers to something done occasionally, but I can guarantee that the artists featured in this interactive presentation painted more often than every now and then. As we look at how those artists painted then and how their counterparts work now, some interesting discoveries unfold."

Lemanski points out that her theme has a special personal meaning: after leaving Water Street Gallery two years ago, her "Then" -- the many years she was a full-time artist represented by several galleries around the country -- became her "Now", as she again spends most of her time in her Saugatuck home studio, and painting is no longer a distant memory but a big part of everyday life.

On yet another level, her talk enlists artworks to extend the theme of this year's Saugatuck History Museum exhibit, also titled "Then and Now", which highlights a similar type of past/present contrast through the medium of personal photography.

A summer tradition since 1996, SDHC's weekly Tuesday Talks present entertaining and informative insights into local community life throughout July and August. This week's Talk is sponsored by SDHC member Pat Denner.

Tuesday Talks' increasing popularity puts limited seating on "first-come, first-served" basis. While admission is free for current SDHC members, non-member guests are encouraged to attend with a donation of five dollars, or to become new members at the Talk.

For more information about the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center, its Museum in Saugatuck and Old School House in Douglas, or its activities planned for the months ahead, visit [www.MySDHistory.org](http://www.MySDHistory.org).

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TWO PHOTOS ATTACHED SEPARATELY (see jpegs "Berg1950s" and "Westerfield2018")

Caption (for paired photos): SDHC's July 23 "Tuesday Talk" compares local artist's techniques in "Then and Now" pairs, such as "Sunshine and Shadows" by Muskegon's Wally Berg (1950s) and "Bright Light" by Grand Rapids' David Westerfield (2018)

*EDITOR NOTE / optional artist information:*

*Wilfred (Wally) Berg (1908-2002) -- Photo shows his watercolor on paper titled "Sunshine and Shadows". Berg was known as Muskegon's premier artist. He was born in Muskegon and live there his entire life. In the 1950's Berg spent time in the Saugatuck area sketching and painting.*

*David Westerfield -- Photo shows his oil on panel titled "Bright Light". Recently retired as a graphic designer and illustrator. He currently lives in Grand Rapids and the Glen Arbor area. In 2006, he began to move away from commercial art and renewed in interest in painting. He paints both in the studio and on location. He frequently visited the Saugatuck area painting the dunes, which is one of his favorite subjects. David is currently represented at Water Street Gallery in Douglas.*