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**POSTCARDS' ROLE IN AREA PROMOTION TOLD  
AT MARCH 11 HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM**

DOUGLAS (MI), FEB. 27, 2015 -- Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society's next monthly program will look back at how picture postcards helped to build our community and recreational reputation, starting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, in the Old School House History Center, 130 Center Street, Douglas. Admission is free and open to the public.

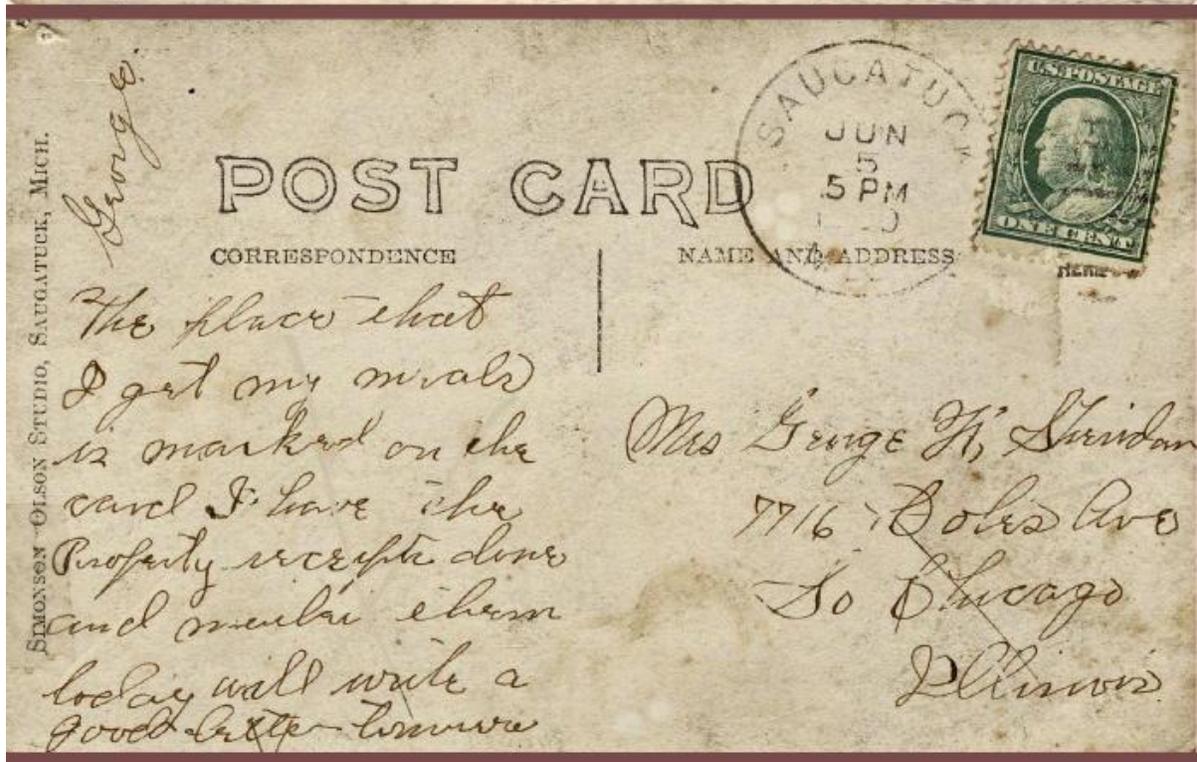
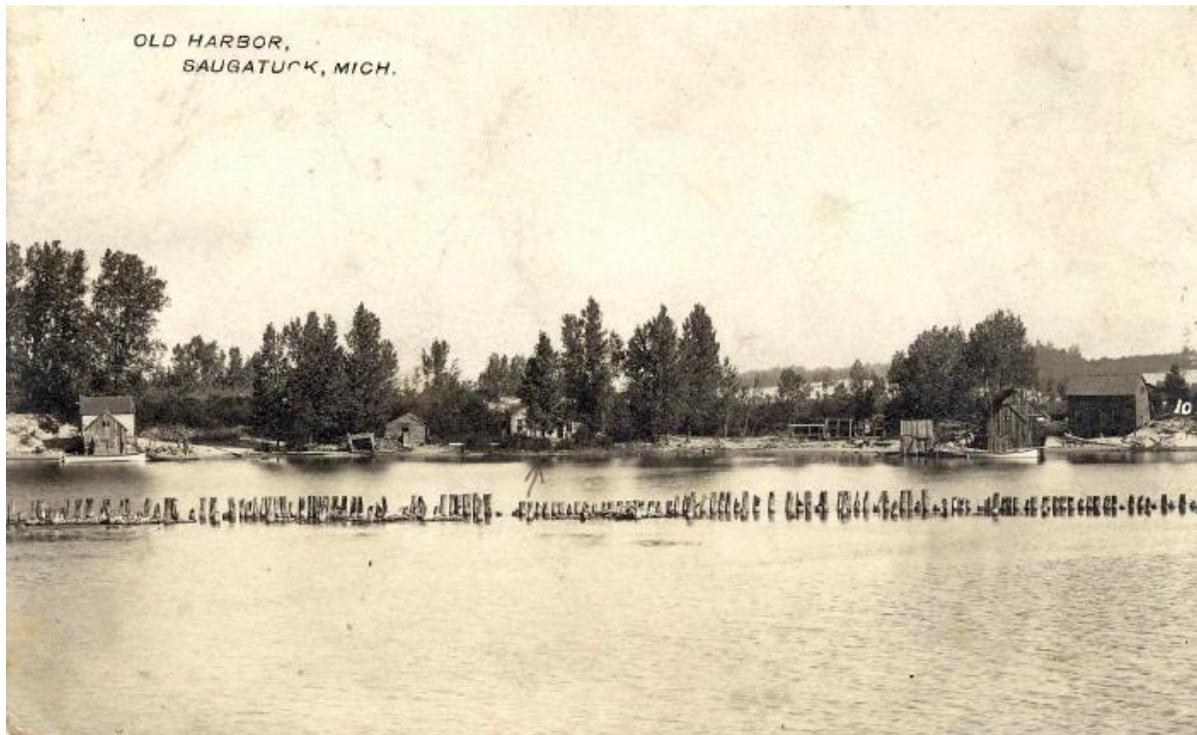
Presenter Jack Sheridan, longtime S-DHS volunteer archivist, will show and discuss a selection of postcards culled from the Society's archives. Carrying messages from vacationers and residents alike over more than a century, the cards also served to promote the area's attractions far and wide.

One of the cards Sheridan discovered turned out to have a surprising personal connection: a card sent June 5, 1909 by his grandfather George Henry Sheridan to his grandmother Sarah Unwin Sheridan. It was written a few days after George arrived here to become Kalamazoo Harbor's lighthouse keeper. During his move from Michigan City, Sarah was temporarily living with her parents in South Chicago with their newborn son -- Jack's father James -- and his uncle Joe, age three.

Program attendees are invited to bring postcards from their family collections, which Sheridan offers to scan for digital addition to the S-DHS archive and return to their owners.

For general information about the Historical Society, its History Museum in Saugatuck, Old School House History Center in Douglas, social activities and volunteer opportunities, visit [www.sdhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.sdhistoricalsociety.org).

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Digital archive image combines both picture and message sides of this 1909 postcard, sent by then-new lighthouse keeper George Sheridan to his wife; picture views the north bank of the Old Harbor (with lighthouse just out of photo to the left) showing Fishtown homes and riverbank shanties of that day.