Nothing short of thankful as we look back on a remarkable season at the Lakeshore

Much of early fall looked and felt a lot like summer in Saugatuck-Douglas this year. Until recently the trees retained their green leaves; ideal for garden strolls and outdoor socializing. (Perhaps that explains the delay in finalizing this autumn newsletter!)

With the falling of leaves (and arrival of some snow, too) it's time to drop this newsletter. Here you'll read about the Labor Day opening of *A Century of Progress: 100 Years of LGBTQ History in Saugatuck-Douglas* with a link to photos, SDHC volunteer awards, and collections news.

There's also a sneak peek at the SDHC's newest Holiday Ornament, selling at the SCA's outdoor Holiday Market on December 4th. Plus news of the Holiday Party at Isabel's Market and Eatery on December 5th.

In thanks,

Eric Gollannek
Executive Director

A full house in October for the first indoor Monthly Meeting with director Eric Gollannek presenting on *Saugatuck-Douglas’s Wooden Age: A cultural history of Michigan’s forests and lumbering*

*Did you know you can revisit past programs on the SDHC’s YouTube channel?*

Visit our [YouTube page](https://www.youtube.com) for history on-demand!
Almost sold out!
SDHC Holiday Party on December 5th

The History Center Holiday Cheer Squad has a great event ready to kick off the holiday season!

Join us for a fun event at Isabel's Market and Eatery with great food and drink where you can mingle with your favorite History Center friends.

A ticket gets you two glasses of wine curated by Isabel's sommelier alongside delicious hot and cold appetizers and sweets from Isabel’s kitchen!

Space is limited and the event will sell out.

Click here to order tickets online!

Please contact the office at director@sdhistoricalsociety.org or 269-857-5751 for help with purchasing tickets.

This Holiday event is generously underwritten with support from our sponsors: Renee Zita, Century 21 Affiliated of Saugatuck-Douglas and Isabel's Eatery.

New Ornament for 2021

Just in time for the holidays, Saugatuck-Douglas History Center introduces its newly commissioned collectible holiday ornament commemorating Saugatuck’s iconic Mt. Baldhead. The ornament will have its first public offering exclusively at Saugatuck Center for the Arts’ Outdoor
Holiday Market on Saturday, December 4, open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Priced at $50, this 4-inch-tall hanging ornament is hand-crafted in Poland and continues SDHC’s tradition of celebrating our community’s historic structures as holiday decorations. Fashioned in blown glass and hand-painted in brilliant colors, it depicts Mt. Baldhead and its daunting 303-step wooden stairway, topped with a Cold War era “Early Warning” radar tower wearing its traditional Christmas star.

Available for purchase at the SCA Holiday Market on December 4th and the SDHC Holiday Party on December 5th!

SDHC Awards Announced in September

**Julie Bizzis** and **Randy Dirosa** share Saugatuck-Douglas History Center's top-honor Charles J. Lorenz Award of Achievement for 2021, and **Mike Mok** takes SDHC's Volunteer of the Year.

The Lorenz Award was established in 1997 to honor the memory of Charles “Chuck” Lorenz, who gave generously of his time, talent, money and energy in researching the early history of Saugatuck and Singapore, as well as the formation and development of this organization. The award recognizes distinguished leadership in fulfilling the Center's mission to "help the community understand its past and use its history to shape its future and preserve its quality of life."

The Annual Member Picnic on September 15th provided the setting to announce the SDHC's awards.

The Volunteer Of The Year Award honors outstanding service to the History Center.

**Mike Mok** (pictured above), another recent new-member, was chosen for instigating and managing SDHC's very successful “History Center On The Road” series, which combined three on-site presentations at the Mt. Baldhead Radar Station, Felt Mansion and OxBow art colony, all sell-out events aimed at regenerating community awareness and enthusiasm for these historic treasures. Mike also joined the Century of Progress LGBTQ
The Century of Progress: 100 Years of LGBTQ History in Saugatuck-Douglas exhibit at the History Center’s School House gallery in Douglas opened to the public for Labor Day weekend.

Nearly 1,000 visitors have experienced the exhibit already and Century of Progress will remain open by appointment and for special open house events to be announced this winter. The exhibit will reopen to the general public with expanded hours in June 2022.

Covering over 100 years of history, the exhibit shares the stories of people living in the margins at the Lakeshore in a timeline format with local, state, and national LGBTQ developments included for context. Interpretive panels identify factors that have contributed to the diverse and inclusive nature of these two small Lake Michigan coastal villages alongside historical artwork and artifacts from SDHC collections. The exhibit showcases not only the progress made by the LGBTQ community, but also the challenges it has faced and the setbacks it has endured.
View photos from the Century of Progress opening party!

Thank you to Lara Parent Photography for outstanding photography at the Century of Progress opening. You can view all of the photos from the big day online through this link (or scan the QR code.)

Cofiding with the Century of Progress exhibit is a related art exhibition, History Book: LGBTQ Portraits.

This exhibit includes more than two dozen stylized portraits of LGBTQ pioneers—some local—by acclaimed Chicago artist and designer David Lee Csicsko. Biographical and historical information for the exhibit was developed by LGBTQ historian and author Owen Keehnen. Both Csicsko and Keehnen are inductees of Chicago’s LGBT Hall of Fame.

The exhibit is housed in the second floor gallery space directly above the Century of Progress exhibit.
Thank you to these sponsors who directly contributed to A Century of Progress: 100 Years of LGBTQ History in Saugatuck-Douglas.

The History Center and this project would not exist without the vision and generosity of our many supporters. Thank you to our members as well as sponsors for this exhibit:

The Dunes Resort  
Renee Zita  
George Stoulus & David Heitzman/Edward Jones  
Gregg Smith/Coldwell Banker  
Woodford Schmidt  
Dennis Kanowski & James Kerr - Taste on the Lakeshore  
Dr. Christopher and Anne Wiley  
Gary Kirt & Jonathan Scheur - Hidden Garden Cottages  
Larry Gammons

Mark Davis  
Jim Setzman  
Bob Bavy and Max Matthewson  
Lauren Durham/MV Pond Realty  
New Standard Corrugated  
David Setzke & Ethan Del Stone/Green Koi  
The Farmhouse Deli & Pantry  
Fenn Valley Vineyards  
Saugatuck Brewing Company  
Bill Hess & Mike Mattern  
Ralph Hamilton

Jorge Portela  
John Kerr and Bill Kelleher  
Blue Star Cafe  
Michigan Council for the Arts & Cultural Affairs  
and National Endowment for the Arts  
Michigan Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities  
 Allegan County Community Foundation  
West Shore AWARE

Please visit the exhibit now open Friday-Sunday noon to 4 PM through October 31.

Thank you to all of the generous sponsors who helped make A Century of Progress a reality this year.
The above announcement appeared in the Commercial Record newspaper on September 15, 2021.

In Memoriam

The SDHC recognizes the members who have passed away since the last newsletter.

Peggy Boyce, member  
Link to obituary: https://dykstrafuneralhome.com/obituaries/margaret-a-boyce.137364

Mark Vander Leek, lifetime member  
Link to obituary: https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/holland-mi/mark-vander-leek-10414364

Robert Simonds, member  
Link to obituary: https://dykstrafuneralhome.com/obituaries/robert-simonds.137533

Mike Phillips, member
After two years of steady progress, multiple detours and a global pandemic, SDHC volunteers Linda and Vern Slusar are closing in on a massive effort to collect, organize, catalog, label and shelve the entire SDHC book collection. The results will be a reference library with an electronic “card catalog” on CatalogIt, the history center’s online database.

The November Monthly Meeting celebrated the opening of the exhibit titled *Curator’s Choice: Notable Art from the SDHC’s Collection*. It highlights 30 outstanding artworks spanning over 120 years of history at the Lakeshore. “This new show celebrates the diversity of art produced in our community from painting and sculpture to ceramics, metalwork, and glass,” says art curator and SDHC board member Ken Kutzel. The show also gives the public a chance to see many newer additions alongside longtime treasures from the History Center’s permanent collection.

The exhibit will be open by appointment and during special open days to be announced this winter and spring.

### Local History Research

**I Love Lucy Street!**

*By John Mayer and Tom Rautenberg*

*I Love Lucy Street!* That was the belief of Chicago businessman Adelbert Jenkins who was a regular visitor to Saugatuck in the early 20th century. Adelbert was born in Singapore on April 25, 1863 and was the third child of Charles and Mila (Dunning) Jenkins. After moving to Chicago with his family, he married Anastasia Whyte in 1887. Together they had seven children and at the time of the 1900 census, the family resided at 210 55th St. in Chicago.

Adelbert was a successful businessman and always returned to Saugatuck with his family on vacations, usually camping at the park at the foot of Mt. Baldhead, and in various tourist homes. He had always thought Lucy Street was the prettiest street in Saugatuck, and in 1918, he bought a property on Lucy Street from Moses Naish, a local businessman who had left Saugatuck for Milwaukee some years earlier. The purchase contained two lots: Lot #1 (239 Lucy) and Lot #228 (303 Lucy) of the original Plat of the Village of Saugatuck. The 239 parcel contained a two story house as was noted in the 1907 Warner Maps.
Using the structure on the 239 Lucy site, Adelbert and his sons began a deconstruction and remodeling project that built a second cottage on the 303 Lucy site. These two homes were originally all part of the same structure.

A rafter at 239 Lucy Street stamped with the Jenkins name.

Willard Watson the son-in-law of Adelbert Jenkins at the rear of 303 Lucy St.

The cottage at 239 Lucy can be seen in the background. Notice the similarities of the two structures.

Adelbert wasn’t done yet, he wanted to own all of Lucy Street, so in 1929, shortly before his death, he purchased the home at 333 Lucy Street, from Mrs. H. Lundgren. According to family history, this house was built about 1868 in Singapore and slid down to Saugatuck on the frozen river and placed at it’s present location.

Through the years major renovations have taken place at 303 and 333 Lucy, but the little cottage called Phylamar at 239 Lucy Street, has retained it’s original charm. It is still in the possession of the family of George and Eleanor Manfredo who purchased the home in 1960.

The last relative of Adelbert Jenkins to leave Lucy Street was his grand daughter Mrs. Betty Mulder who sold the 333 Lucy home in 2011, ending nearly 100 years of Jenkins family history on Lucy St.
2021 Membership News

The Board of Directors approved a simplified membership structure in 2021.

- Individual $40
- Household $60
- Business Partner $250
- Lifetime Member $1,000

Become a lifetime member! No annual renewals and special invites to Lifetime member only events!

Click here to renew or make a donation with PayPal today!

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 non-profit 501(c)3 history organization with nearly 700 members residing in nearby communities and across the country.

Members are the lifeblood of our volunteer organization.

To renew or join as a member, visit our website for more information.

The Saugatuck-Douglas History Museum is located at 735 Park Street in Saugatuck, in the historic Saugatuck Pump House building.

The History Center -- Old School House and Francis Surfboat Exhibit are located at 130 Center Street in Douglas.

The adjoining Back-in-Time Garden and Surfboat Exhibit are open daily.

The History Center Archives are available for research by appointment. For more information, e-mail the archives directly at archives@sdhistoricalsociety.org

History Center main phone: 269-857-5751
Archives direct phone: 269-857-7901

The SDHC is supported with a grant from Michigan Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan.

The SDHC also receives operational support from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).