

SPRING
2014



POCO muse LETTER

Valparaiso Central Neighborhood Home Tour Provides Insight into Historic Homes

The Porter County Museum is happy to announce the first ever Valparaiso Central Neighborhood Home Tour. The Museum's award-winning *Central Stories Project* provided a look at this historic neighborhood through oral histories, memories, and stories from its residents both past and present. The Central Neighborhood Home Tour will continue to give insight into this historic community.

The Home Tour will bring together both architectural information and oral histories of residents past and present. Learn the about the renovations, restorations, and unique architecture of each home, as well as the people who lived there.

Seven homes will be open to the public on May 3 and 4, 2014 from 12-5p. Visitors to the homes will be provided with a tour, an informational brochure highlighting the history and architecture of each house, as well as light refreshments. Tickets are on sale for \$17 in advance, and for \$20 at the door. Be sure to keep an eye on the Porter County Museum

Facebook page and pocomuse.org for more details and previews of the homes as the tour approaches.



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POCO muse LETTER

The PoCo Muse Letter is a quarterly news publication of the Porter County Museum.

SPRING 2014

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FROM THE CHAIR

Wow! The Museum is healthy and happening! Our schedule of exhibits and programs is filling up quickly and promises to be the best ever.

A special exhibit for me is *Making Her Place*. As a former teacher of gender studies, it is exciting to discov-



er some of the special and courageous women who joined the struggle to advance not only women's rights, but human rights. The featured women's stories encompass social and political advancement within a national context. The women of Porter County were truly movers and shakers.

Our quilt project welcomes you to add the names of important women in your life to our ongoing project. Come and celebrate women.

Joanne Urschel
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Joanne Urschel

POCO MUSE NEWSWORTHY

History of Wheeler Display Open

In March, Wheeler High School Intern, Darrel Liebl, completed his *We Are Wheeler* display. Darrel's display touches on the founding of Wheeler, its development, and the history of schools in the area. *We Are Wheeler* complements the continuing exhibit *We Are Porter County*.

We Are Porter County Series First Thursday of Every Month

The PoCo Muse is excited to announce a new program series in conjunction with the exhibit, *We Are Porter County*. At 5:30p on the first Thursday of every month, come to the Museum for a program highlighting Porter County history. The first event

was a screening of the award-winning documentary, *Everglades of the North*. April's WAPC will feature Richard Brauer, Museum member, discussing the art and architecture of Northwest Indiana. Keep an eye out for more *We Are Porter County* series programs!

Extended Summer Hours

In addition to the Museum's normal hours, Wednesday through Saturday 9a-5p, the PoCo Muse will be open Thursdays until 8p from June 22 until September 1. During these extended hours enjoy even more special events and programs!

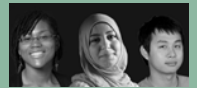
THE MORE THE OBSTACLES FALL BETWEEN US

AN EXHIBITION AND PERFORMANCE OF THE WELCOME PROJECT

At the Welcome Project, co-directors Liz Wuerffel and Allison Schuette believe in the power of stories to make a difference, and with the help of Valparaiso University students, faculty and staff, they've been collecting stories in our region for four years. These stories illuminate at a personal level what it means to belong to a community—or not. In some cases, the stories are painful, in some, triumphant; in some, humorous; in some, touching. Through their exhibition at the Porter County Museum, Liz and Allison invite

us into the intimate art of listening. Stories, after all, don't become stories until they are heard. Come, take a seat, alone or with a friend, grab a set of headphones and give a listen.

On Sunday, April 27th, at 2 p.m., Liz and Allison also invite you into a deeper exploration of the central themes they've encountered while collecting stories and facilitating conversations both on campus and in the city. This hour-long dramatic performance will provide a feel for the methods of the Welcome Project, an appreciation for the complexity of living together in increasingly diverse communities, and a context for ongoing conversations with our neighbors.



APRIL
27

WELCOME PROJECT

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Spring is officially here and *Making Her Place* is open to the public. Many thanks to the more than two hundred people who made the members' preview and public opening successful. Take advantage of the nicer weather to visit and learn about the incredible women who have made a difference in Porter County.

I am excited to announce that this year's spring appeal focuses on the preservation and care of the Broncho John Sullivan Collection. Sullivan entrusted the PoCo Muse with his belongings so future generations could learn about the West.

Pete Crance will be demonstrating ways to stabilize artifacts from Broncho John's collection on Saturday, April 12. Crance is an avid western collector who is incredibly knowledgeable about preservation techniques. A small

demonstration will take place at 1p, with a guided tour of the Museum at 2p. Look for the spring appeal to arrive via mail in May.

Finally, I would like to welcome Bjarne Henderson, Kevin Kerr, and Jon Miller as at-large representatives of the Museum Advisory Board. All three appointees are eager to work with the Porter County Museum Foundation Board of Trustees to continue the great work happening at the PoCo Muse.

Kevin Matthew Pazour
Executive Director

Kevin Matthew Pazour

APRIL
12

PETE CRANCE
DEMONSTRATION

"April, May, and June are shaping up to be incredibly busy months. There is no better time to renew your financial commitment to the Museum. If your membership has lapsed, renewal letters will be arriving shortly."

-Kevin Matthew Pazour

The Stories Project is a series of collaborative oral history projects preserving and sharing the stories of Porter County. The Stories Project aims to connect residents past and present to one another, reinvesting the place our lives are lived with meaning.



OGDEN DUNES STORIES PROJECT
Ian Roseen
Emily Royer



AWARD-WINNING CENTRAL STORIES PROJECT
Jacob Just
Emily Royer

LIFE IN THE HOUR GLASS

Stop by the PoCo Muse on June 22 for a glimpse of life as it was lived by two of Ogdun Dunes' most iconic early residents—O.D. and Tillie Frank. O.D. Frank, an environmentalist who worked at the University of Chicago, was a beloved fixture in Ogdun Dunes for combining his knowledge of the natural world around him with an enthusiasm for helping neighbors of all ages to appreciate the landscape they all shared.

The Franks' cottage home—the Hour Glass—was a place of fellowship and community to residents who met there for nature walks or conversation in front of the grand, two-story fireplace. The highlight of the exhibit will be a replica of the "Friendship Fireplace,"

a heath made of a variety of stones donated by friends of the Franks traveling the world.

In addition to telling the Franks' story, the exhibit will carry on O.D.'s tradition of educating visitors on the plant life and landscape of the Duneland region. Aspiring botanists of all ages are invited to touch and explore, learning what makes the natural world of Porter County so special.

So join the Porter County Museum for year two of the Stories Project, as this significant story from Ogdun Dunes' past is rediscovered. Step into *Life at the Hour Glass*, and experience the world of Ogdun Dunes through the Franks' eyes.



HR GLASS MUSEUM

The Hour Glass Museum - formerly the home of O.D. and Tillie Frank - is located at 8 Lupine Lane in Ogdun Dunes.

BLOCK PARTY

The PoCo Muse will kick-off summer once again on June 22 with its annual summer block party. Join neighbors and friends at the Museum for the opening of *Life in the Hour Glass*, the second part of the two-part Ogdun Dunes Stories Project. The exhibit will open to the public from 1-4p. The annual block party marks the beginning of the summer season at the Porter County Museum. That means extended hours, more programs, and more fun! Join the celebration of places and summer at the PoCo Muse!



OGDEN DUNES STORIES PROJECT

Spend your summer at the Lake as the PoCo Muse and the Ogdun Dunes Historical Society celebrate the opening of the *Ogdun Dunes Stories Project* on July 20th.

Nestled along Porter County's lakeshore, Ogdun Dunes is a residential community that has had an active social life and vibrant story since its formation in the mid-1920s. Throughout its history, residents have passionately given back to their community through involvement in social clubs and programs that have only enhanced quality of life in this area of great natural beauty.

Stories Project researcher, Ian Roseen has spent the last year collecting stories from residents both past and present about every day life in Ogdun Dunes. The real stories of residents interviewed for this project shine a personal light on life in Ogdun Dunes—from being part of a longtime bridge group, to the childhood thrill of sledding down

"Suicide Hill," to jumping on the South Shore Line to visit Chicago or the bus to attend public schools in Portage.

The *Ogdun Dunes Stories Project* invites you to take a closer look at both the town of Ogdun Dunes and the place you are from. What are its strengths? What are its challenges? How can a town like Ogdun Dunes maintain its unity, its spirit, and its rich history in the years to come?



THE HOUR GLASS MUSEUM
8 Lupine Lane
Ogdun Dunes, IN 46368
219.762.1268

MAY 18
"VOICES OF OGDUN DUNES"
Sundays @ PoCo Muse

The Ogdun Dunes Stories Project invites you to take a closer look at both the town of Ogdun Dunes and the place you are from. What are its strengths? What are its challenges? How can a town like Ogdun Dunes maintain its unity, its spirit, and its rich history in the years to come?

Life in the Hour Glass
JUNE 21 MEMBER'S PREVIEW
JUNE 22 BLOCK PARTY

calendar

HOURS WED-SAT, 9a to 5p

SPRING 2014

2014 SPRING

calendar

HOURS WED-SAT, 9a to 5p

APRIL 2014

1	2	3	4	5	6
TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
7	8	9	10		
MON	TUES	WED	THURS		
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TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
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SUN	MON	THURS	WED		

APRIL 3
WE ARE PORTER COUNTY
RICHARD BRAUER: ARCHITECTURE IN PORTER COUNTY
Mr. Brauer's talk will focus on the art and architecture of Porter County, giving unique insights into our communities and how they have evolved and changed in the past fifty years. Thursday, April 3, 5:30p

APRIL 27
THE WELCOME PROJECT/ SUNDAYS @ POCO MUSE
The Welcome Project at Valparaiso University is a multimedia story collection project aimed at fostering conversation about diversity and inclusion. Sunday, April 27, 1-4p with performance at 2

MAY 1
WE ARE PORTER COUNTY: REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.
Celebrate Earth Day and May Day by reusing your recycled materials. Unsure how? Stop by the PoCo Muse for inspiration! Robots made by the students at Smart Start Preschool in Chesterton will be on display from April 15-May 3. Bring in recyclables and make your own robot on Thursday, May 1, at 5:30p.

APRIL 12
MEMBER TO MEMBER TOUR
Museum member and former Director of Exhibits at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry, Ted Swigon, will give members a taste of what's involved in designing an exhibit at 2p. Join him for his Member-to-Member tour and hear stories about the design team and his thoughts about the future of exhibits at the PoCo Muse. Saturday, April 12. Tour begins at 2p.

FIREARM RESTORATION WITH PETE CRANCE
Get a behind-the-scenes look at the conservation and exhibit process on April 12. Firearm restorer, Pete Crance from Kalamazoo, MI, will discuss the process involved in preserving Winchester Rifles similar to those in Broncho John's collection at 1p. Saturday, April 12, 1:00p

MAY 3/4
HISTORIC HOME TOUR
Seven homes will be open to the public for visitors of the Valparaiso Central Neighborhood Home Tour. Experience the iconic homes of this historic neighborhood from the inside with the Museum for the first time. Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4, 12-5p.

MAY 2014

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THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
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WED	THUR	FRI	SAT		
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SUN	MON	TUE			
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WED	THUR	FRI	SAT		

MAY 18
SUNDAYS @ POCO MUSE: VOICES OF OGDEN DUNES
Voices of Ogdun Dunes looks at the early years of Ogdun Dunes. Readers bring to life the personal stories from early residents and share thoughts and reflections on some of Ogdun Dunes' most famous myths, legends, and characters. Sunday, May 18, 1-4p. Performance at 2p.

MAY 10
MEMBER TO MEMBER TOUR
Share your enthusiasm! Members of the PoCo Muse have a diverse range of interests and backgrounds, but each shares a love for history. The staff will train each tour guide in the basic facts of the exhibits but the guide is invited to share what fascinates them most in each room. Saturday, May 10, Tour begins at 2p.

WOMEN'S BASEBALL FIELD-DAY
Join the professional women's baseball team on the lawn of the PoCo Muse. Saturday, May 10, 12-5p

JUNE 5
WE ARE PORTER COUNTY SERIES: FUNNY LADIES
Four female cartoonists talk about breaking into their unique artistic world in this documentary featuring Porter County's Dale Messick. All four women talk about handling delicate self-esteem, political, and gender issues in their cartoons. Thursday, June 5, 5:30p

JUNE 2014

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	
27	28	29	30		
FRI	SAT	SUN	MON		

JUNE 14
MEMBER TO MEMBER TOUR
Share your enthusiasm! Members of the PoCo Muse have a diverse range of interests and backgrounds, but each shares a love for history. The staff will train each tour guide in the basic facts of the exhibits but the guide is invited to share what fascinates them most in each room. Saturday, June 14. Tour begins at 2p.

JUNE 22
LIFE IN THE HOUR GLASS/ BLOCK PARTY
Join neighbors and friends at the museum for the opening of *Life in the Hour Glass*, the second part of the *Ogdun Dunes Stories Project*. This annual event marks the beginning of the summer season at the PoCo Muse. Sunday, June 22, 1-4p, presentation at 2p

THE COLLECTION

For each quarterly newsletter, the Porter County Museum will feature an artifact from the collection.

For more information regarding the Museum's collection, please visit: pocomuse.org

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY: 1914

April 2, 1914
Students on Rampage

Members of the Pharmic and Medic classes of the University clashed Tuesday evening with the Scientifics and Lawyers of College Hill. The Pharmics and Medics placed a flag on the Science Hall and the two latter classes tried to force their way through the doors to take it down. One of the doors was torn from its hinges in the

attempt. Students in the building rained bottles, acids and other things on the attacking hosts. Prof. Timmons secured the flag and threw it in the flue. It was recovered by a lawyer and cut into bits and distributed as souvenirs. In the rush several students were hurt and are carrying their arms in slings as a result. The students state that the rush will be resumed this week.



May 14, 1914
Chamber of Commerce Meeting

The Chamber of Commerce at its meeting last night made plans for a great "Home Coming" week, to be held during the second week of September. Every citizen of Valparaiso will be asked to assist in making the event an entire success. Letters are to be written to persons who have lived here and gone elsewhere, and with three months untiring work it is expected that more than ten thousand people will be induced to pay a visit to "their former home."

June 25, 1914
Valparaiso is Growing

The hard times that are so bitterly felt in practically every other city in the United States, are hardly known in Valpo. Except when some visitor comes in and tells of the stagnation of business in other places little or nothing is ever heard of it in Valpo.

Not that we are experiencing a boom, or anything approaching boom time. It is a solid substantial growth founded upon conditions that bid fair to make it permanent for years to come. Every contractor has all the work he can do; every laborer has a good job at wages that yields him something more than a comfortable living. The building operations now under way in Valpo are greater than ever before in our history. So numerous are the jobs that practically every contractor has from two to six buildings under way, and is obliged to transfer his men from one job to another as the work progresses in order that the demands of his customers may be appeased. There are no less than thirty or forty substantial dwellings under process of construction. The growth is confined to no one particular section of town but embraces the whole place.

The three stories above have been taken from the Vidette Messenger, 1914. For more stories from 1914, follow along at pocomuse.

MATERIAL CULTURE WORKSHOP

Collection items from the Museum will take the spotlight in a Valparaiso University class taught by board member, Gretchen Buggeln. Prof. Buggeln's seminar on Material culture is part of the honor's college at VU. Students will select an approved artifact from the collection, study the history behind it and learn how to understand that artifact's place in the wider culture.

- Abigail Bray
Underwood typewriter
- Rachael De Vries
19th century surgical kit
- Zach Gronewold
Square piano
- Tyler Ingersoll
Rifle
- Rebekah Koehn
Dentist chair
- Andrew Mueller
Mickey Mouse doll
- Grace Nelson
Painting of man with fish
- Emily Robinson
Parlor organ
- Samantha Schmidt
Ration book
- Eric Smith
Voting machine
- Nichi Smith
G.E. radio
- Alison Whalen
School desk

FROM THE COLLECTION COMMITTEE

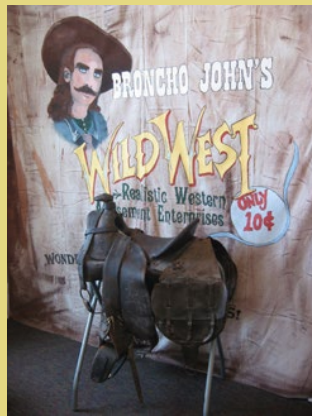
Plans for renovating and refreshing the Broncho John Room are underway. Items so generously donated will be featured in interesting, new ways that honor Broncho John's intent that his personal belongings be used to teach future generations about the life of a cowboy and the equipment and gear that were so important to him

One of the most important pieces of equipment for the cowboy was his saddle. Broncho John wrote in his book *Life and Adventures of the Genuine Cowboy*, "Our saddles are not made for pleasure. We have to do very heavy work with them, and many times our lives depend upon them. When we are roping cattle, the saddle must be very strong and made of very good material."

Pictured here, in front of the painted canvas entrance to the Broncho John Room created by Zachary Gipsan several years ago, is one of the sturdy, leather saddles that Broncho John used during his life as a cowboy and showman of the Wild West. Please, look for the saddle in the Broncho John Room.

Helen Arvidson
Chair of the Collections Committee

Helen Arvidson





SUNDAYS @ THE POCO MUSE

Robert Cain Gallery

The opening of the Robert Cain Gallery on February 16 brought over 100 art enthusiasts, educators, and former students of Robert Cain to the PoCo Muse. Mr. Cain's humorous, insightful, and moving talk about his life and career allowed visitors to better understand his inspirations, methods, and beliefs about the role of art in our lives.

"I think we all have an art component in us and I've decided that's probably predicated on the fact that life's so fleeting. That we want to somehow hold on to the things that just transpire. I mean, your youth slips away from you or last night's sunset has come and gone... It's not with you anymore, so you try to capture and preserve that in some way...You're in some way trying to bring into your life a memory that you hold in fondness."

The Robert Cain Gallery, now a permanent art space for a portion of each year, will display Mr. Cain's artwork through May 31. He works solely from his imagination, without a model or photograph. His figures – human and animal – emerge from memories of his childhood and the places he has experienced. His papier-mâché sculptures incorporate found objects, transforming and incorporating these objects into figures of horses and humans. His work shows a unique imagination made material, rendered

through intricate pen and ink drawings and complex sculptures.



Making Her Place

Our March 16 Sunday @ the PoCo Muse event celebrated Porter County women with the opening of our new permanent exhibit, Making Her Place.

From temperance supporters in 1870's Chesterton, to the ongoing work of the Valparaiso Woman's Club, to Hebron suffragettes, to Ogden Dunes activists and entertainers, women throughout Porter County's history have spoken through their actions. They have worked tirelessly to make our communities better places for us all. These stories were shared with 200 visitors to the Museum over the course of the opening weekend, including the families of women featured in the exhibit. The Great Lake Sound Chorus performed a selection of songs for visitors, before inviting the audience to join in with a song celebrating women's suffrage.

MEMBERSHIP

As a member of the Porter County Museum, you will join us in educating, enriching and inspiring others as we share Porter County's rich story.

Museum. If your membership has lapsed, renewal letters will be arriving shortly.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

April, May, and June are shaping up to be incredibly busy months. There is no better time to renew your financial commitment to the



SPRING APPEAL

This year's spring appeal focuses on the preservation and care of the Broncho John Sullivan Collection. Sullivan entrusted the PoCo Muse with his belongings so future generations could learn about the West.

THE MUSEUM STORE

The Museum Store is doing well and growing! New items in the store include Just Call Me Orville: The Story of Orville Redenbacher by Robert W. Topping as well as a new collection of Civil War figurines from King and Country. These figures truly need to be seen to appreciate the detail and authenticity.

CL Designs, jewelry by Cinda Urschel, has new sterling silver and beaded designs for spring. Stop by and shop our unique items while supporting the PoCo Muse.



POCO MUSE DONORS FALL 2013

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for supporting the Museum Foundation and its mission by becoming members this past quarter.

PoCo Muse Partners

- INSPIRE Sharon & Tom Swihart
- EDUCATE Jeremy & Marjorie Blum
- Friends of the Museum
- SUSTAINING FRIEND Helen & John Arvidson
- CONTRIBUTING FRIEND Cinda Urschel

- FRIEND Elizabeth & Michael Allen, Robert & Sue Cain, Lief & Deana Erickson, Makine Gruel, Judith DeGrazia Harrington, Laura Mae Harting, Kevin Kerr, Ken Martin & Curt Winkle, Daniel Trimm

Becoming PoCo

- INDIVIDUAL Patricia Wisniewski, John D. Wolf
- ORGANIZATIONAL American Legion Post #94

MEMORIAL

Charles Welter made a gift in memory of William Mullins.

- Upcoming Sundays
- APRIL 27 THE WELCOME PROJECT
 - MAY 18 VOICES OF OGDEN DUNES
 - JUNE 22 BLOCK PARTY



APRIL

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SERIES: RICHARD BRAUER
THUR

12 MEMBER TO MEMBER
SAT TOUR

27 THE WELCOME PROJECT
SUN

MAY

1 WE ARE PORTER COUNTY:
REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE
THUR

3/4 HOMETOUR
SAT/SUN

18 VOICES OF OGDEN DUNES
SUN

26 OGDEN DUNES
MEMORIAL DAY
SUN

JUNE

7 WE ARE PORTER COUNTY
SERIES: FUNNY LADIES
SAT

14 MEMBER TO MEMBER
SAT TOUR

22 LIFE IN THE HOUR GLASS
SUN BLOCK PARTY



POCCO muse LETTER SPRING 2014



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EMAIL info@pocomuse.org
CALL 219.465.3595
VISIT pocomuse.org

We engage Porter County's rich past with its evolving present to educate, enrich, and inspire our communities.

POCCO muse LETTER

153 S Franklin Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

porter county
museum
of history

