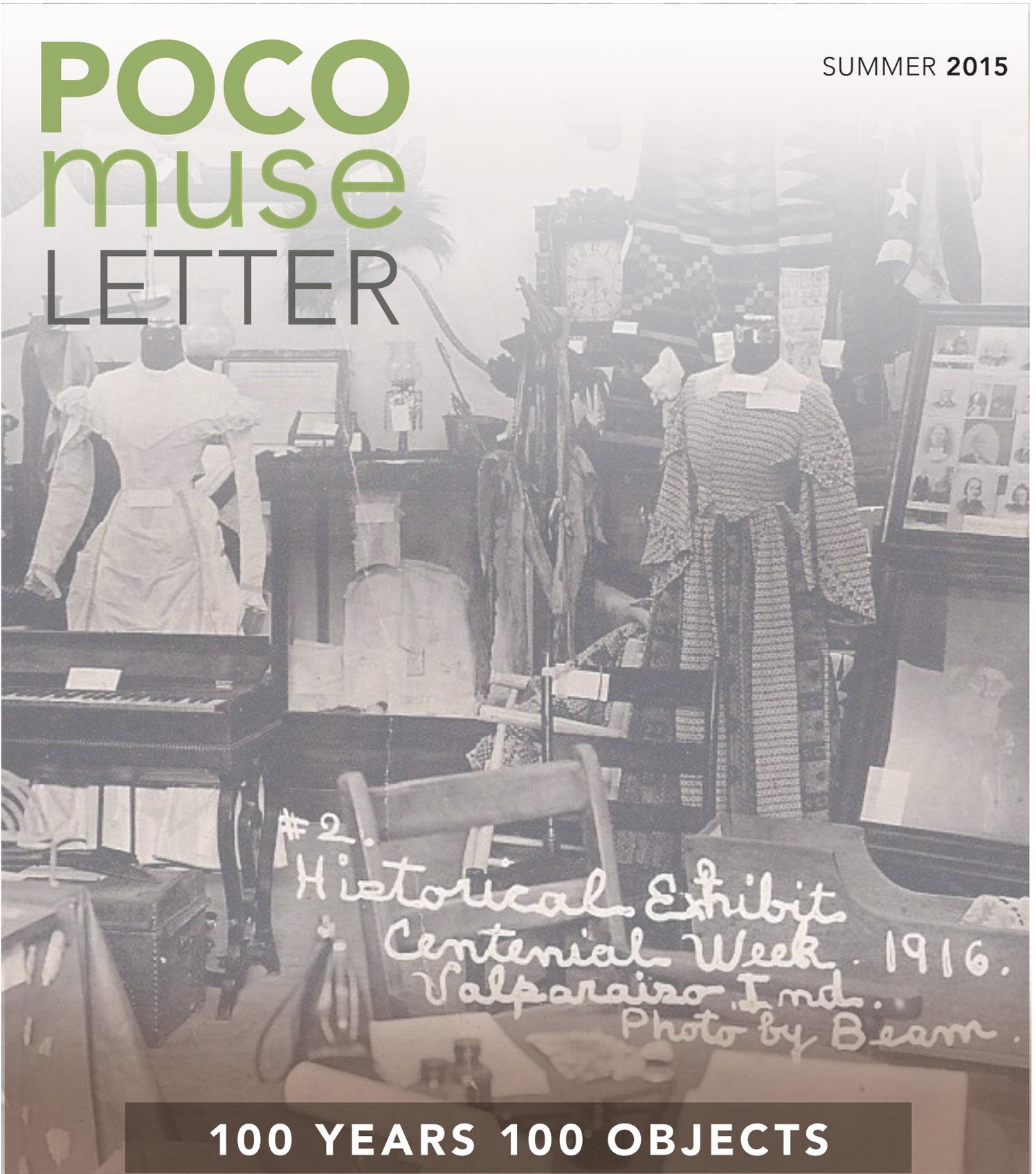


# POCO muse LETTER

SUMMER 2015



**100 YEARS 100 OBJECTS**

100 YEARS OF THE MUSEUM COLLECTION

PORTER COUNTY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

# POCO muse LETTER

The **POCO** MUSE LETTER is a quarterly news publication of the Porter County Museum.

SUMMER **2015**

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POCO MUSE  
The Annual Block Party

## POCO muse NEWSWORTHY

### HOME TOUR BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER TO TOUR HISTORIC VALPARAISO HOMES

Thanks to everyone who made the 2015 Historic Valparaiso Home Tour a huge success! On May 9, over 250 attendees toured seven storied homes in the historic residential neighborhoods of downtown Valparaiso. From the inside of these iconic homes, tour-goers learned the history of three distinct Valparaiso neighborhoods- Hilltop, Banta, and Central. The Home Tour would not be possible without the hospitality of the homeowners and the dedication of over forty volunteers. Thanks to the homeowners, attendees, and volunteers who helped us celebrate historic homes in Valparaiso! See you during the 2016 Home Tour!

### NEW DISPLAY HIGHLIGHTS PORTER COUNTY'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE CIVIL WAR

Recent visitors to the PoCo Muse have probably noticed some big changes in the current exhibit offerings at the Museum. For more than five years, the *Porter County and the Civil War* exhibit helped visitors and school groups understand local connections to the historic events of the 1860's. Unfortunately, we said goodbye to this exhibit early this year.

The new *Porter County and the Civil War* display in the bullpen of the former jail opened on Memorial Day. The display showcases the most unique Civil War artifacts of the Museum Collection. In addition, first-hand accounts from Porter County residents help visitors today understand the impact of Fort Sumter and Lincoln's assassination on Porter County's communities. These stories and artifacts will be on display through December, so be sure to stop by the Museum to learn more about Porter County's connection to this historic, tragic war.



### SCHEDULE CHANGES @ THE POCO MUSE

With the advent of a new fiscal year this July, the Museum is taking the opportunity to make some changes for 2015-2016. The upcoming year promises to be one of the busiest in the history of the Museum. Note that the date of the Annual Block Party has been changed to coincide with the beginning of the fiscal year. Additionally, after a great run, the Sundays @ the PoCo Muse program series is moved from the third Sunday of every month to the third Saturday of each month. The new Saturdays @ the PoCo Muse will feature exhibit openings as well as presentations highlighting the unique history of Porter County.

## FROM THE CHAIR

Downtown Valpo has come alive with activities now that warm weather is back in town! The Museum lawn was filled for the Sons of The Union Veterans Memorial Day Commemoration Program. The Valparaiso Farmers Market is growing, sunny days find the splash pad at Central Park hopping, and Chalk the Walk drew artists and crowds of admirers to downtown Valparaiso.

The Porter County Museum is bustling with visitors, tour groups, and families. Old exhibits are coming down and new ones are being installed. The Ogden Dunes Stories Project garden has survived the winter and is lush and full of plants native to Porter County. The expansion to 16 Indiana is moving along on schedule. Artifacts stored there have been moved for safekeeping during demolition and construction.

The Director, staff, Board of Trustees, and volunteers are eager to show the county what is happening and what we all have been doing. So let's get together on Saturday, July 18, from noon to four o'clock for our annual PoCo Muse Block Party. We are serving a picnic lunch free of charge. And as always admission to the Museum is free!

The Museum a new permanent exhibit featuring 100 artifacts to celebrate our centennial in 2016. Come and see how many of these unique artifacts you can identify and remember. We're 100 years old and we are still growing. The next century is sure to see the Museum finding new ways to educate, enrich, and inspire our Porter County communities!



Joanne Urschel

Chair of the Board of Trustees



Last year over 200 people came out to enjoy a cookout during our second Block Party! Join us this year, on July 18 from 12-4p, for another day of food, games, and new exhibits.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



As the PoCo Muse prepares to begin its tenth decade as a museum, I am reminded that July marks the beginning of my eighth year as Executive Director. The institution has progressed and the Foundation has strengthened considerably in that time, but a great deal more has yet to be accomplished. In similar fashion to the foresight of the twenty-eight founding members of a century ago, we look to add value to the Porter County communities we serve as we plan for the future.

I would like to share the proposed core values of the Porter County Museum that our Foundation's Board of Trustees will be voting to adopt at the July meeting:

**Lifelong Learning & Creativity:** Promoting Education, Imagination, and Discovery

**Welcoming & Inclusive:** Fostering Collaboration, Appreciation, Diversity, and Conversation

**Innovation & Passion:** Encouraging Ingenuity, Adventure, and Story-telling

**Trust & Responsibility:** Committing to Stewardship with Integrity, Accountability, and Professional Standards

Help us continue to grow and prosper as we begin the next chapter of the Porter County Museum. Empower the people who carry out our mission to educate, enrich, and inspire by investing in building a 21st Century Porter County Museum with engaging exhibits, exciting programs, and artifacts that preserve our local heritage. At the very least, take time to visit this summer and spread the word about the change on the horizon.

The next issue of the PoCo Muse Letter will focus on the transformation of 16 Indiana and the proposed updates to 153 Franklin. Until then, enjoy this sneak peek of the north elevation rendering of the Museum's expansion—a century in the making!



Kevin Matthew Pazour  
Executive Director

## THE ENCLAVE PROJECT

LOCAL PROJECT SUPPORTS THE ARTS  
THROUGH EDUCATION AND EXHIBITIONS

JULY  
**10**  
ENCLAVE  
PROJECT  
OPENING



Early in 2014, two local artists, Phillip Herrold and Deanna Abner, began the initial planning for a living, breathing art gallery in Valparaiso: The Enclave Project. Beyond the goal of exhibiting art, Phil and Deanna desire the Enclave Project to become a non-profit corporation serving the community by integrating education and the arts. As Indiana loses more art educators in public and private school settings, The Enclave hopes to foster the re-integration of art into the classroom. In addition to working with schools, The Enclave has developed a series of workshops and after-school activities for Porter County residents. Educational activities where students are challenged creatively not only develop students' knowledge of the elements and principles of art and design, but also provide students with the moments in time needed to decompress and express themselves.

The Enclave's goal for 2015 is to help 200 students participate in weekly scheduled activities starting in August, with these numbers growing through the coming years. Because of generous sponsors, donors, and members, The Enclave is off to a promising start, but still needs the support of the community to achieve its goals. The Porter County Museum is happy to foster this project by hosting an exhibit, *PHASES*, from July 10-August 31, 2015.

During the opening on Friday, July 10 from 6:30-9p, enjoy refreshments and chat with the artists while younger visitors are invited to create art of their own. The exhibit at the Porter County Museum calls artists to investigate the idea of phases:

*"A phase is a distinct period or stage in a process of change or forming a part of something's development. Phases envelop our every day lives. Do you think of metamorphosis in nature, mathematical theory, lunar eclipse, developmental stages, or time? We want to see your best interpretation of a Phase you've experienced or can imagine."*

Learn more about The Enclave Project by visiting [www.enclavegallery.com](http://www.enclavegallery.com).

JULY  
18  
BLOCK  
PARTY

## 100 YEARS 100 OBJECTS

### NEW EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS 100 YEARS OF THE PORTER COUNTY MUSEUM COLLECTION

In 2016, the Porter County Museum will celebrate its 100th anniversary. To commemorate the event, the Museum will open the exhibit *100 Years 100 Objects* on July 18, 2015 during the annual PoCo Muse Block Party. The Museum has been collecting artifacts for 100 years, since Indiana's Centennial Celebration in 1916, and this unique exhibit gives the public an inside look at 100 of the objects that make up the Museum's varied Collection.

Objects reveal the beliefs, values, ideas, behaviors, and attitudes of the people who made and used them, which is why museum collections are vital to the understanding of history. Individual people pass, stories fade, but objects live on as material manifestations of past lives and cultures. Encountering a historical object first-hand allows us to re-experience the past in a way no story or textbook ever could. Generations are connected through objects as we look on them and imagine those who handled and used them before us. We look on the objects of our current world differently, as historically created, and wonder about what future generations will think of our behaviors and beliefs.



*100 Years 100 Objects* at the Porter County Museum shines light on artifacts in the Collection that have been in storage for many years, or have never been exhibited previously. In 1916, an exhibition of artifacts from throughout Porter County was held for Indiana's Centennial celebration. When residents neglected to pick up their objects, the Museum Collection was born. For a century, Porter County residents have been donating objects to the Museum to educate future generations about the past of Porter County. This exhibit is a testament to the importance our predecessors placed on history and their desire to tell their stories to us.

Finally, *100 Year 100 Objects* provides a behind-the-scenes look at the Collections process. From accepting a donation, to processing, cleaning, restoring, storing, and finally exhibiting, visitors will understand how museums preserve the objects entrusted to them, and how they use objects to connect past, present, and future generations.

## CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE REGION EXHIBIT UPDATES

Things never go quite as planned when renovating a historic building. Due to progress made at 16 Indiana, the future expansion of the PoCo Muse, some changes were made to the 2015 exhibit schedule. The *Civil Rights in the Region* exhibit will open during the fall of 2015. Visit [www.pocomuse.org](http://www.pocomuse.org) or the Museum's Facebook page for updates on the exhibit's development!

SEPT  
26  
EXHIBIT  
OPENING

# JULY



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## AUGUST 6

**WE ARE POCO SERIES:  
SHIRLEY HEINZE LAND TRUST**  
Join representatives from the Shirley Heinze Land Trust for a presentation on the history of this environmental preservation organization. Learn about what community projects are going on right now, and find out how you can get involved.  
**PROGRAM BEGINS @ 5:30P**

# AUG

SUN	MON	TUES	WED
2	3	4	5
9	10	11	12
16	17	18	19
23	24	25	26
30	31		

### JULY 2

**WE ARE POCO SERIES:  
LINCOLN HIGHWAY HISTORY**  
Join the Indiana Lincoln Highway Association for a presentation on the history of this storied road, and the initiative to make the route into a scenic byway.  
**PROGRAM BEGINS @ 5:30P**

**JULY 3 & 4  
MUSEUM CLOSED**

### JULY 10

**THE ENCLAVE PROJECT OPENING**  
Celebrate the arts during the PHASES exhibit opening. While you're at the Museum, enjoy refreshments, kid's art activities, and the opportunity to chat with artists and art supporters in our communities.  
**MEMBER PREVIEW @ 5:30P  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 6:30-9P**

### JULY 11

**JOSEPH BAILLY & EARLY PORTER COUNTY HISTORY**  
Join Professor Randa Duvick of Valparaiso University as she presents her research into Joseph Bailly's account books, and what these accounts reveal about Porter County's early history.  
**PROGRAM BEGINS @ 2P**

### JULY 18 POCO MUSE

**ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY**  
Join the PoCo Muse for a cookout on the front lawn of the Porter County Museum. While you visit with friends and neighbors, explore the 100 Years 100 Objects exhibit.  
**MEMBER PREVIEW 10A-12P  
EVENT FROM 12-4P**

# SEPTEMBER



## AUGUST 15

### MODEL A CLUB

Join the local Model A Club for an antique car show at the Porter County Museum! Come learn about the important features of the Ford Model A and what cars tell us about the history of U.S. automobile production from this passionate group of local collectors.

PROGRAM FROM 12-4P

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

# U

ED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1
5	6	7	8
2	13	14	15
9	20	21	22
6	27	28	29

## SEPTEMBER 3

### WE ARE POCO SERIES: HISTORY OF POPCORN FEST PANEL

Join past Popcorn Fest organizers as they tell stories of Popcorn Fests past, and discuss the legacy of this Valparaiso tradition.

PROGRAM BEGINS AT 5:30P

## SEPTEMBER 12

### POPCORN FESTIVAL

Stop by the PoCo Muse during Popcorn Fest for fun games and activities. Younger visitors are invited to put on their detective caps as the Museum celebrates its 40th year in the former Porter County Sheriff's residence and Jail.

MUSEUM OPEN 9A-4P



## SEPTEMBER 19

### FRANK DUDLEY PRESENTATION

Join Gregg Hertzleib of the Brauer Museum for a talk about Frank Dudley, a famous painter of the Indiana Dunes. Take a closer look at the Porter County Museum's Dudley painting and learn more about Dudley's other works, many of which are cared for by the Brauer Museum at Valparaiso University.

PROGRAM BEGINS @ 2P

## SEPTEMBER 25

### ANNUAL HERITAGE DINNER

## SEPTEMBER 26

### CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE REGION OPENING

Visit the Museum to get a first look at the *Civil Rights in the Region* exhibit and talk with the exhibit development team about the creation of this important new exhibit.

EVENT FROM 1-4P

## FROM THE COLLECTION

The people of Porter County have shown great generosity in sharing the objects of their lives since the establishment of the Museum nearly 100 years ago. Most of these objects have been in storage out of the public eye. When *100 Years 100 Objects* opens this summer, some of them will come out into the open. Visitors will be able to view and reflect on the wide range of objects that reveal so much about the people who settled this county.

Some objects in the exhibit are common and can be easily identified. Playing cards from the Lembke Hotel, for example, are likely to be familiar to local residents and may even conjure up memories of leisure activity from not so long ago. Catalog No.7 from the Philley Manufacturing Company, on the other hand, may be more of a curiosity. Memories associated with this object will be different. Women who were employed as cutters and seamstresses at this Home of Sweetheart Aprons in Valparaiso might be reminded of work rather than leisure.

A trunk that belonged to early settler Joseph Bailly is one of the objects to be featured in *100 Years 100 Objects*. The photo here provides a close-up view of the materials and craftsmanship that went into the making of the trunk even as it documents the deterioration that has occurred over time. One of the goals of the Collections Committee for the new fiscal year is to take a good look at all of the objects in the Collections to evaluate which ones could benefit from restoration. The work is beginning. Watch for the return of Daisy, the dog!



*Helen Arvidson*

**Helen Arvidson**  
Chair of the Collections Committee

## DO YOU KNOW WHAT THESE ARTIFACTS ARE?



Objects that do not advertise a business or carry the name of a manufacturer provide more mystery. What is this tall, metal object shown here in storage? What did it do, and where did it do it? This object can be associated with both work and leisure. What about the small crescent-shaped object? What is it? When was it common? Has the passage of time made it less identifiable?

Visit the 100 Years 100 Objects Exhibit Opening on July 18 from 12-4p to learn the stories behind these objects!

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY: 1915

The following stories were selected, transcribed, and summarized by PoCo Muse volunteer Kathy Evans.

### JULY, 1915

The Second Annual Mardi Gras, a week-long affair sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, was held in downtown Valparaiso. Activities included a variety of daily races for men, women and children—potato, egg, wheelbarrow, sack, bicycle, running, & fat man—costume contests, hot air balloon ascensions, musical concerts, a community-wide dance on Main Street, and “the biggest parade ever.” The parade featured floats by individual citizens/businessmen—LaPell Furniture, Cain’s Harness Shop, Wark’s Grocery, Lowenstein’s, McMahon Bros., Horn Bros., Thune & Meagher’s Drugs. (Names well-known in the Valparaiso business community for many decades.) The tail end of the parade was made up of three stage coaches “drawn by real western ponies,” property of Broncho John Sullivan.

### AUGUST, 1915

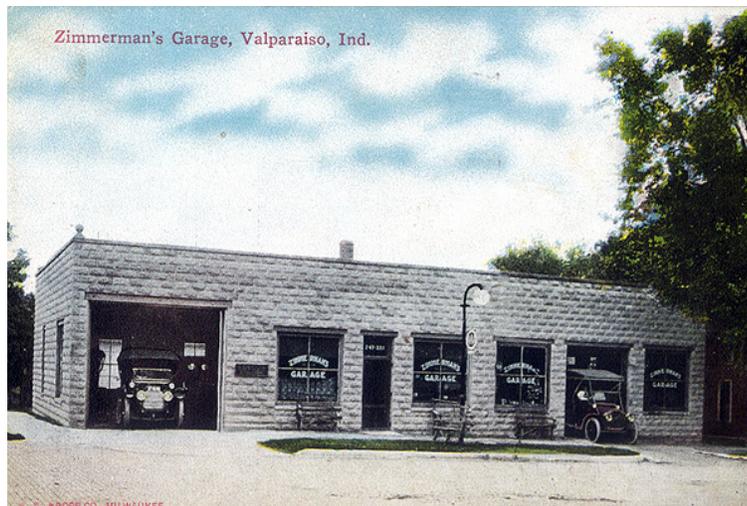
Zimmerman’s Garage on West Main Street (Lincolnway) began the manufacture of auto attachments, “a new industry.” This enterprise was described as very promising, although not well known to local people. Some of the “attachments” to be manufactured were tow line shock absorbers, automatic clutch releases, gasoline tank gauges, and self-starting chokers. It was predicted that Porter County residents would no longer have to travel to Chicago for auto parts and this Valpo plant was due for a rushing business.



Hunt Library  
ca. 1910-1915

### SEPTEMBER, 1915

On September 28, 1915, a joint meeting of the Valparaiso School Board and the Library Board was held to discuss the future of the Hunt Memorial Library Building. The building had been the residence of Hubbard and Finnette Hunt and was bequeathed to the City in 1899 for use as a public library. It was located at 77 North Washington Street on the west side of the first block north of Lincolnway. The contents of the library were soon to be moved to the newly constructed Carnegie Library located on the northwest corner of Jefferson Street and Michigan Avenue. It was decided, in accordance with the terms of the Hunt’s will, that the building would continue as a public library but would house only the public school materials. The care of the building would be returned to the School Board and the majority of the contents would be in the new Carnegie Public Library. The decision seemed to satisfy the need to keep the Hunt building “public” and also take advantage of the spacious modern new building.



Zimmerman's  
Garage  
ca. 1910

# saturdays @ POCO muse



## SATURDAYS @ THE POCO MUSE

### JULY: BLOCK PARTY

The second annual PoCo Muse Block Party will take place **July 18, 2015** from **12-4p**. For three years, the Block Party has brought together neighbors from across the county for a cookout on the front lawn of the Museum. Enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers, and games as we celebrate the opening of a new exhibit, *100 Year 100 Objects*. The Block Party is free and open to the public, so spread the word!



### AUGUST: MODEL A CLUB

On **Saturday, August 15**, from **12-4p**, join the local Model A Club for an antique car show at the Porter County Museum! Model A Fords, produced from 1927-1931, followed the success of the Model T. Come learn about the important features of the Model A and what they tell us about the history of U.S. automobile production from this passionate group of local collectors.

### SEPTEMBER: FRANK V. DUDLEY

On **Saturday, September 19** at **2p**, join the curator of Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum, Gregg Hertzlieb, for a presentation on Frank V. Dudley. Dudley, a renowned landscape painter, kept a studio in the Indiana Dunes. In addition to creating a remarkable collection of paintings documenting the ecology and community of the Dunes, his efforts were also instrumental in preserving the Dunes for future generations to enjoy. Join Professor Hertzlieb as he discusses the Porter County Museum's own Dudley painting on permanent display in the *We Are Porter County* exhibit as well as the beauty and legacy of Dudley's work.

*Right: Frank V. Dudley at the Prairie Club Memorial on May 30, 1932. Courtesy of the Calumet Regional Archives.*



## MUSEUM STORE

The new merchandise just keeps coming in! The book selection is expanding, highlighting the unique histories of Porter and Lake Counties. Potato Bug Designs has a new selection of summer jewelry. Melissa Washburn, a local artist and CSA Valpo organizer, has brought more of her art. We continue our support of local artists by offering these unique pieces in the Museum Store.

This summer, we also have an exciting new item for sale-- the Lake Michigan in a Dugout Documentary! Amy and Mary's inspirational story of circumnavigating Lake Michigan in dug out canoe has been made into a feature-length documentary. Stop by the Museum Store this summer to pick up your copy!

Purchases made in the Museum Store not only support local artists and individuals, but also the efforts of the Museum to continue its mission- educating, enriching, and inspiring our Porter County communities.

## NEW FACES @ THE POCO MUSE



### WELCOME TORI TO THE POCO MUSE!

Tori Binelli has been volunteering at the Porter County Museum for almost two years, and has had a hand in almost every area of Museum life, from collections, to membership, to programming and exhibits. Luckily, she has become our latest AmeriCorps member to serve at the PoCo Muse! Tori is entering her senior year at Valparaiso University, majoring in history with minors in business and art. She is working toward a career in museum studies.

Having taken part in Professor Heath Carter's Hands on History class, Tori is currently working on research for our upcoming *Civil Rights in the Region* exhibit opening this September. Next time you're at the PoCo Muse, be sure to welcome Tori!



#### POCO MUSE DONORS SPRING 2015

We would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations for supporting our mission by becoming members of the Museum's Foundation this past quarter.

#### PoCo Muse Partners

##### EDUCATE:

Jeremy & Marjorie Blum  
Sharon & Tom Swihart

##### Friends of the Museum

##### SUSTAINING FRIEND:

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##### CONTRIBUTING FRIEND:

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Bjarne Henderson  
Terry & Roland Albrecht  
Michael & Nancy Anton  
Joan Fischmann  
Norman Grieger  
Dawn & David Moore  
Jan Stump

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Randa Duvick & Dave Grosnick  
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Gary & Joyce Hicks  
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Ken Martin & Curt Winkle  
Jan Dick  
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Tori Binelli

# JULY

**2** WE ARE POCO SERIES:  
Lincoln Highway

**10** THE ENCLAVE PROJECT  
OPENING

**11** JOSEPH BAILLY & EARLY  
PORTER COUNTY

**18** POCO MUSE BLOCK PARTY

**POCO**  
muse  
LETTER  
SUMMER 2015



/pocomuse

# AUGUST

**7** WE ARE POCO SERIES:  
Shirley Heinze Land Trust

**15** SATURDAYS @ POCO MUSE:  
Model A Club

EMAIL [info@pocomuse.org](mailto:info@pocomuse.org)

CALL 219.465.3595

VISIT [pocomuse.org](http://pocomuse.org)

POCO  
muse  
LETTER

# SEPTEMBER

**3** WE ARE POCO SERIES:  
History of Popcorn Fest

**12** POPCORN FESTIVAL

**19** SATURDAYS @ POCO MUSE:  
Frank Dudley

**25** HERITAGE DINNER

**26** CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE  
REGION OPENING

PORTER COUNTY MUSEUM  
153 S. FRANKLIN STREET  
VALPARAISO, IN 46383

