



Mackinaw Area Historical Society eNewsletter June, 2015

Glimpses of Summer weather have arrived at Heritage Village and the summer tourist season has begun! Our docents are meeting a lot of visitors out at the Village. If you have time for just one afternoon to be a docent, please call Joann Leal at 231.436.5626 to offer your help on any afternoon from Friday through Monday. Our visitors do really enjoy hearing the stories about the Village.

In the summer with school being out, Northern Michigan young people need a place to be. So this year MAHS partnered with the Mackinaw City Area Arts Council to put on a camp in June for 4th-8th graders. We had 20 campers who learned about art, history and science.

Each day the campers made weather predictions using a wind sock, a barometer, a temperature gauge, a compass and cloud sheets. Also, every day they tracked a freighter in the Great Lakes and found out what it was carrying and where it was going. And, at the end of each day, they kept a journal about their experiences for that day.

The first day of camp they made boats out of natural materials and learned about the stars with Mary Stewart Adams. The second day they were in St. Ignace learning about bridges and freighters and finding out if their boats they made the day before could actually float. The next day they learned about the Native Peoples and their culture. Thursday they were at mill Creek and learned to play the harmonica and the last day they toured the archeological site and the archives at Fort Michilimackinac.

We heard comments like "This is so cool." "This is better than video games." "We should do tis more often." Based on statements like that, I think the campers had a great time. We want to thank all the people who did planning and worked as volunteer leaders. Without their time and effort, the camp would not have been the success that it was!

In the meantime, organizations have scheduled a few picnics for their members in our Pavilion. So lots of people are using our facilities and enjoying themselves using the horse shoe pits and eating under the Pavilion.

And lastly this month, we had our first lecture to 36 Road Scholars who wanted to learn about the history of the Straits of Mackinac. We will have six other tours with Road Scholars this summer.

And don't forget our lecture series on July 13 at Pinecrest at 7:00 p.m. Two of our senior citizens will share their memories of growing up in the Straits area. We hope to see you there and/or out at Heritage Village as well!

Put a save the date on your calendar for July 31 and August 1 for our Historic Festival. Stay tuned for next month's eNewsletter that will have all the details of that great event.

Sincerely,

Susie Safford

Susie Safford, MAHS President

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