149th Annual Meeting and MICHIGAN HISTORY CONFERENCE
Roscommon-Grayling
September 22-24, 2023

REGISTER TODAY AT www.hsm.pub/mhc2023, calling (800) 692-1828, or by scanning the QR code
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Check-In and On-Site Registration
RAM Center, 104 Conservation Drive, Roscommon, MI 48653

Open House: Roscommon Area Historical Society
404 Lake St, Roscommon, MI 48653

Spend the morning with the Roscommon Area Historical Society learning about the lumber and rail town established in 1872. The society works to preserve the Gallimore Boarding House, Richardson Schoolhouse, and the Silsby-Jacobson building.

9:00–11:30 A.M.

Workshop: Exploring the Higgins Lake CCC Camp
Julie Crick & Hillary Pine, MSU Extension & Michigan History Center
RAM Resource Center (Main Entrance)

Visit the site of the original Higgins Lake Civilian Conservation Corps Camp. There, participants will compare historic maps and photographs with remnant structural foundations and ornamental vegetation, learning how to create an image of the landscape's past.

9:00–11:30 A.M.

1:00–4:00 p.m. Tours or Afternoon Session (see next page)
Tour departure information varies. More information will be provided at check-in.

The CCC and Me Tour
$20
Enjoy a guided tour of Hartwick Pines’ Logging Museum, then travel to the Civilian Conservation Corps Museum and Higgins Lake Nursery.

Living History: Wellington Farm Park
$10
Experience life in a midwestern farming community during the 1930s and visit historic interpreters in the blacksmith’s shop, gristmill, and more.

Downtown Grayling Walking Tour
$10
Step into the past and explore historic Grayling. Visit houses of influence, pioneers of industry, and an 1800s homestead along the river.

SELF-DRIVE TOUR
SELF-DRIVE TOUR
BUSSED TOUR
Friday Afternoon Session

Moving at a Glacial Pace: Carving Out Michigan
Randall Schaetzl, Michigan State University
RAM Center

The ice sheets that flowed out of Canada about 40,000 years ago dramatically shaped Michigan’s landscape, leaving behind both landforms and economic resources. Join the presenter to follow the floes in Michigan’s glacial story.

1:00-3:00 P.M.

Friday Evening Meal

Enjoy a casual, family-style dinner in the rustic interior of the RAM Center.

5:30-6:30 P.M.

Awards Ceremony

2023 State History Awards Presentations
Historical Society of Michigan

Join the Historical Society of Michigan for the presentation of this year’s State History Awards. With numerous categories and awardees, this event celebrates the work of individuals and organizations throughout Michigan.

6:30-7:30 P.M.

Evening Reception

Night at the Museum
Crawford County Historical Museum

Celebrate history with a special evening event! Explore local railroad, pioneer, and logging artifacts housed in a historic railway depot. Dessert and refreshments will be available while milling through the museum.

8:00-9:00 P.M.
Saturday Opening Keynote

An Outdoor Army:
The CCC in Michigan

Hillary Pine, Michigan History Center

In the 1930s, a tree-planting army invaded Michigan. 100,000 men from the Civilian Conservation Corps occupied more than 120 camps throughout the state. They fought forest fires, built state parks, and planted 484 million trees—while sending much-needed money home to their families. Learn how this Great Depression-era program transformed Michigan’s landscape and natural resources in ways that can still be seen today.

Join HSM for History Hounds!

Free for all HSM members and only $7/person for newcomers, our weekly lectures are the best way to dip your toes into the Historical Society of Michigan’s (HSM) programs.

Learn more at www.hsm.pub/historyhounds

This conference is sponsored in part by

THE MEIJER FOUNDATION
**The North Woods Call: The Life of Marguerite Gahagan**  
Kalsa Parker Browning, Gahagan Nature Preserve

Marguerite Gahagan was the woman behind the highly regarded conservation newspaper, *The North Woods Call*. Learn about this writer, conservationist, and lover of nature and her enduring impact on the protection of Michigan’s natural resources.

**Ghost Towns of Crawford and Roscommon Counties**  
Laura Cherven, Roscommon Area Historical Society

Railroads, logging, and agriculture led to the rise and fall of many small towns in Crawford and Roscommon counties. Learn about the creation and extinction of a few towns through the story of the presenter’s family.

**Chief Shoppenagon: Celebrated Ojibwe Guide**  
William E. Tudor, Author

In the late 19th century, as white settlers pressed into Michigan’s lumber-rich lands, Native Americans were forced to choose between two ways of life. Some, like Chief David Shoppenagon, learned to live in both worlds, taking advantage of local industry.

**A River Runs Through It: Michigan’s Au Sable**  
Thomas A. Buhr, Anglers of the Au Sable

The legacy of the Au Sable Valley spans centuries—from indigenous peoples through the fur trade and eras of lumbering to the restoration of barren forests and rise of tourism. Explore the story of the Au Sable and examine its influence today.

**Workshop: Creating a Rail-Depot Resource**  
Bryan Whittle, Clarke Historical Library

In 2019, the Clarke Historical Library set out to provide access to thousands of images of Michigan rail history. After four years, they completed their journey with an interactive map of many of the state’s historic rail depots.
Camp Grayling was founded in 1913 after local lumber baron Rasmus Hanson donated more than 13,000 acres to the state of Michigan for military training. The infantry training center quickly evolved into the largest military installation east of the Mississippi River. Join the command sergeant major of Camp Grayling to learn the history of the camp and explore the role it has played in wars and conflicts, past and present.

The Historical Society of Michigan’s annual raffle event will take place following lunch. Join in on the fun, win prizes, and support Michigan’s history!
Paddle Hard! 50,000 Years of Dugout Canoes
James Renn, Gray & Pape, Inc.

Go back 50,000 years to the beginning of watercraft history with this presentation about humankind’s first: the dugout canoe. This session will cover the years of experimentation and craft that produced these historic boats.

On Target: The Fred Bear Story
Pete Kocefas, Bear Archery Collector

“Fred Bear” is legendary in the world of archery and synonymous with the city of Grayling for those who bow hunt. Explore the influence of his advertising and how it put Grayling on the map.

Madeleine LaFramboise on Mackinac Island
Theresa L. Weller, Author

In a world dominated by men, Madeleine LaFramboise—an Odawa woman and entrepreneur—built a fur trading business and a grand home. Examine the legacy of this trailblazer of Mackinac Island and icon of Michigan women’s history.

Apples, Berries, and Peaches—Oh My! A History of the Fruit Ridge
Jayson D. Otto, Michigan State University

Located northwest of Grand Rapids is an 8-mile swath of land ideal for growing fruit trees. Explore the ecology, technology, and people that have impacted the region over the last few centuries.

Workshop: Virtual Educational Programs
Hillary Hanel Rose, Girl Museum

Discuss online learning and how to transform your existing programs or lessons into engaging virtual experiences that will reach wider audiences. Attendees will explore tools and platforms to help them get started.
Up-North Crime: Outlaws Above the 43rd
Tobin T. Buhk, Author

From serial poisoner Mary Murphy McKnight to notorious train robber Reimund Holzhay and the Black Widow Jenny Flood, learn about infamous criminals and their historic crimes north of the 43rd parallel.

Gwen Frostic: An Industry Unto Herself
Debra Ball Johnson, AIA, Historic Architect, Architectural Historian

Despite physical limitations, artist Gwen Frostic ran a successful printing business from her studio—a combined production facility, residence, and store—in Benzonia. Her design inspiration was nature in Northern Michigan.

Keeping Traditions: Mennonite and Amish Settlers in Oscoda County
Laura Dube, Family Historian

After the Loud Timber Company timbered off much of the virgin pine, Amish and Mennonite families settled in Oscoda County. Hear the stories of three 1900s families lured north by inexpensive land.

Ezra Pritchard: The Hermit of Higgins Lake
Ethan Brand, Roscommon Area Historical Society

Branded a Civil War deserter, Ezra Pritchard spent his later life in self-seclusion on Flynn Island as rumors swarmed of his supposed buried treasure. Join us to separate the fact from the fiction in the life of a man surrounded by myth and misfortune.

Workshop: Tough Tall Tales
Thomas Trombley, Castle Museum of Saginaw History

Using case studies from his community, the presenter will explore resources used to evaluate the historic accuracy and value of museum artifacts and historic structures. Methods of “reading” these objects and buildings will be discussed.
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Elmwood Cemetery Walking Tour
907 W North Down River Rd, Grayling, MI 49738

Join members of the Crawford County Historical Society as they lead you through Grayling’s Elmwood Cemetery.

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET
Great Lakes’ Greatest Hits: Michigan’s Rock and Roll Legends
John Thiel, Kirtland Community College

Many rock ‘n’ roll icons came from, or lived in, Michigan—taking their experiences in the Great Lakes State with them as they chased stardom on the road and introduced their sounds on a national stage. Take a musical trip through Michigan’s past in this closing keynote, and rock out to the music of some of the greatest bands and solo artists who have called Michigan home.

5:30-7:30 P.M.

RAM CENTER, 104 Conservation Drive, Roscommon, MI 48653

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Hotel Information

**RAM CENTER LODGINGS**

There is a room block available for on-site lodgings. The RAM Center is a DNR property with unique accommodations. HSM does not recommend this venue for those with accessibility requirements.

To join the conference room block starting at $43+/night, call (989) 821-6200, visit [http://igfn.us/form/qLDQWA](http://igfn.us/form/qLDQWA), or scan the QR code.

**DAYS INN LODGINGS**

There is a hotel room block available at the Grayling Days Inn for the Michigan History Conference.

To join the room block for the conference rate of $110+/night, call (989) 344-0204 and mention the Historical Society of Michigan and/or Michigan History Conference.

**BOOK YOUR ROOM**

Book your room by calling the RAM Center at (989) 821-6200 or by scanning the QR code on the right.

Book your room by calling the Days Inn at (989) 344-0204 or by scanning the QR code on the right.
**MEMBER REGISTRATION**

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<th>Early-Bird Registration</th>
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<th>Walk-In Registration (no meals)</th>
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<td>Saturday-Only Conference</td>
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**NONMEMBER REGISTRATION**

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I would also like these paid add-ons...

- **Friday Morning Workshop** $25 $
- **Friday Afternoon Tour** (Select One)
  - CCC and Me Tour $20 $
  - Wellington Farm Park Tour $10 $
  - Grayling Walking Tour $10 $
- **Saturday Evening Banquet** $29 $

**Total Enclosed** $________

**Crawford and Roscommon County residents apply $10 discount.**

Full conference registration includes the open house, luncheon, Night at the Museum, and the Friday evening dinner and awards presentation.

*The Saturday Evening Banquet will not be available for registrations placed after this date; no refunds after this date.*
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